

Sandon vs. Three Forks

The Tribune, 14 Dec 1893: Three Forks getting to be quite a town. Five stores, two hotels, two meat markets, etc.

The Ledge, 8 Mar 1894: Legal ad outlines Crown grant application for Three Forks by Charles Hugonin and E.C. Carpenter

Nakusp Ledge, 12 Apr 1894: Three Forks lots now \$100 to \$1,000. E.C. Carpenter, agent.

The Tribune, 5 May 1894: H.H. Pitts, a merchant of Three Forks, is down from the 'city' whose pioneers are kicking at the prices asked for lots by the townsite owners.

The Tribune, 12 May 1894: If the owners of the Three Forks townsite would be a little more liberal with the men who have made the town what it is, there would be less talk of moving up the creek. Eight hundred dollars a lot is a pretty stiff price to pay for a small-sized lot in a small-sized town.

Mining Review, 17 Jul 1897: Extension of Kaslo and Slocan and Nakusp and Slocan railways did in Three Forks.

Victoria Colonist, 5 May 1900: Sandon was one of the most remarkable mining towns in the world. It was started as a result of a freeze-out. G.B. Wright held the townsite of Three forks about five years

ago and as a pretty good town had grown up he refused to sell any land. Two men named Harris and Kelly determined to beat Wright and though they had hardly a dollar in the world, they went further into the mountain and staked out this gulch as two mineral claims. They put up two or three frame buildings and started to boom the new town of Sandon. So well did they advertise and so rich did the mineral district turn out that in a few months Sandon was a hustling town of over 1,000 while Three Forks degenerated into a hamlet.

St. Louis Republic, 13 May 1900:

"SPITE" TOWN BURNED

Origin and fate of Sandon, a city built in a ravine

Kaslo, B.C., May 12 — One of the queeriest of all the queer towns in the Western mining district was Sandon, recently almost completely destroyed by fire. It was a "spite" town, originated in revenge against the woner of the townsite of Three Forks, who would not sell his ground ...

Five years ago G.B. Wright owned the land on which Three Forks was situated. Wright thought he saw a good chance to get very rich through holding this land, as Three Forks was becoming quite a pretentious town. So he refused to sell any of his land.

Two men named Harris and Kelly tried to buy from him and were refused. They became angry, and the more they thought of it the angrier they grew. They determined on revenge, and took it in a

queer way. They left Three Forks and went further into the mountains. There they staked out two mineral claims and spent all the money they had in building a few frame shanties. Then liberal advertising of one kind and another drew people to the new town, which they christened Sandon. The mineral that was found at Sandon was as rich as the town's promoters said it was and soon most of the population of Three Forks had left that town and moved to Sandon. Wright was left with a useless townsite on his hands, and harris and Kelly felt that their revenge was complete ...