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Charles Semlin and Phillip Parke joined forces in 1865 and bought the Wayside house from James Orr. Over the winter they moved the house from its location near Rattlesnake hill to the foot of the hill on the Bonaparte. They opened for business under "Bonaparte House" Semlin and Parke, Props. Thousands passed through the area on their way to the Big Bend mines and the hotel did substantial business. In 1868 Parke sold his interest to "Boston" Sandford, the firm then became Semlin and Sandford. A couple of years later Semlin bought Sandford out and shortly after traded the hotel to James Campbell in exchange for his ranch.

Above: Bonaparte House, Right: Cache Creek House, Below: 12 Mile House

"Cache Creek House, is situated two miles from the Bonaparte and afford the best accommodation for man and beats. The bar is furnished with the best of wines, liquors and cigars. The table is supplied with best of vegetables grown on the ranch. The services of a first-rate cook have been secured. The stables are furnished with best of hay, barley and oats, and "Boston" the well known proprietor is always on hand to receive his guests" (BC Tribune, May 14, 1866)



In 1893 Cole McDonald built and established the 12 Mile House. It was situated about 5 miles north of Cache Creek on the old Cariboo wagon road. McDonald conducted a very successful and profitable stopping place for teamsters until his death in 1914..

The Ashcroft Museum is open from Monday to Sunday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Come on down and learn some fascinating history about the area.

Located at 151 and 4th Street.

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