EARLY DAY FAMILY: Andrew Derrick

One of the early families in Freewater was that of Andrew Derrick, who purchased 160 acres of land just northeast of the present location of the Federated Church, in 1864, from the U.S. Government. On it, he built a log cabin.

Derrick came from Tennessee, across the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco where he joined the ‘gold rush.’ Tiring of that, he came to Oregon, because a relative, William Derrick, in 1855, had located a homestead on the old Elmer Chastain place in the Fruitvale area. Andrew Derrick lived just 2 years after coming here, and his wife sold the 160 acres for $200.