TAYLOR

The Northern Pacific Railway station that became the town of Taylor was originally named Antelope, and was established in 1881. The name was changed to Taylor in 1882.The first building erected was the station, but soon the settlement consisted of a station, section house, emigrant house and the working crews of the Northern Pacific Railway. The emigrant house provided living quarters for settlers until they could get their own dwellings built.

Mr. Lyman Cary, a Mandan civil engineer and general land agent for the railroad, surveyed and platted the town, with the plat filed Feb. 5, 1883. Mr. Cary was responsible for much of Taylor's development in the 1880s. He named the town in honor of his friend, Mr. D. R. Taylor, superintendent of the Missouri Division of the Northern Pacific.

Taylor became a favorite point for disembarking the train on their way to the rich regions to the north in Dunn County and south in Hettinger County. It became a large shipping point for grain and livestock and its store trade reached many miles north and south.

Source: Stark County Heritage and Destiny
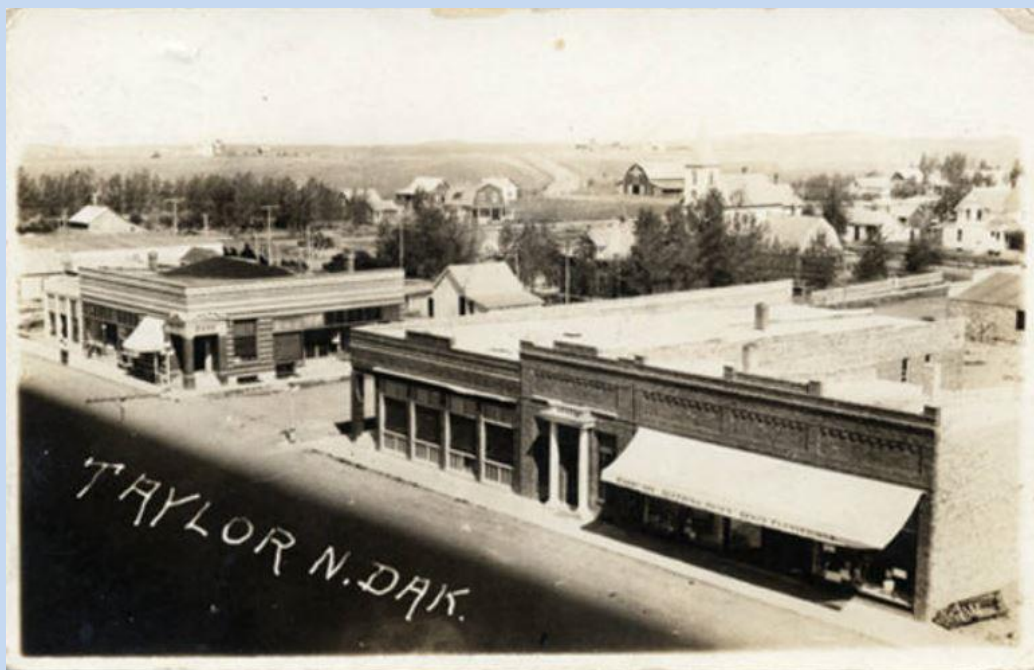

Unloading a steam engine at Taylor, 1901
Photo credit: Loren Myran Collection, Southwestern North Dakota Digital Archive

View of Taylor State Bank, Taylor Post Office and The Golden Rule store in the brick building on the left. Two houses are visible further down the street. A group of people stand beside an automobile parked next to the building. Circa 1910.
Photo credit: Institute for Regional Studies, NDSU, Fargo (2000.483.5)

Elevated view looking down on the business district in Taylor. Several brick commercial buildings are visible including a bank and a store with awning advertising "Hardware, Clothing, Shoes, Gents Furnishings." Circa 1910.
Photo credit: Institute for Regional Studies, NDSU, Fargo (2000.483.1)

This real photo postcard shows the aftermath of a devastating fire
that rampaged through Taylor in April of 1914.
Photo credit: Mike McNamara Collection, Southwestern North Dakota Digital Archive

This view of Main Street in Taylor shows the garage with its Red Trail logos. Circa 1930.
Photo credit: Loren Myran Collection, Southwestern North Dakota Digital Archive

The exterior of the Dick's Station gas station in Taylor, owned by Dick Kickel.
Photo credit: Mike McNamara Collection, Southwestern North Dakota Digital Archive

Population 300, Main Street, Taylor 1950s
Photo credit: State Historical Society of North Dakota (2012-P-035-0030)