

JACK'S HISTORY  
OF FALL CITY  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

JACK E. KELLEY  
WITH RUTH PICKERING

IN COOPERATION WITH  
THE SNOQUALMIE VALLEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

PUBLISHED 2009

# FALL CITY MONUMENTS

Several monuments have been erected for a variety of reasons and typically they reflect the civic pride which binds a community together. The following monuments in the Fall City area are a reflection of accomplishments of those who lived or live here and the appreciation of the community:

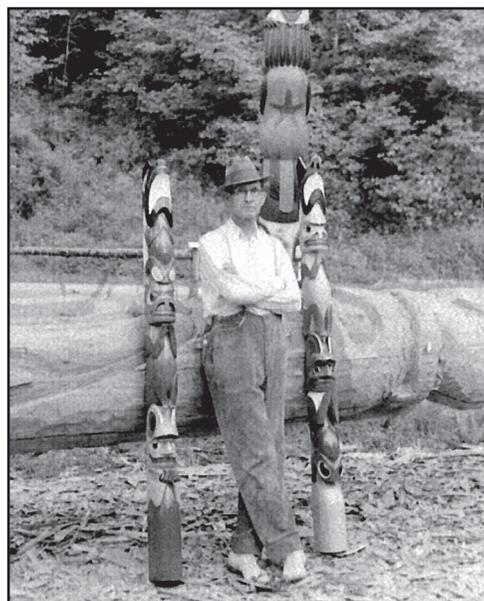
## 1. FALL CITY TOTEM POLE

The Fall City Totem Pole is located on an island formed by Redmond-Fall City Road, SE 42nd Place and 334th Place SE. The Pole was carved by Hugh H. Hinds in 1934. Mr Hinds lived in Fall City and worked as a structural engineer in Seattle. About 1933, he became interested in Native American totem poles and had carved several small ones prior to this one. For reasons long since forgotten, he approached the Fall City Community Club and offered to carve a totem pole of magnificent proportions. His offer was accepted and on March 4, 1934, a team of volunteers trucked a 60-foot Red Cedar off of the Jimmy Chisholm place near Lake Marie, and delivered it to the home of Hugh Hinds. Those who volunteered were Vern Eliason, Walt Carmichael, Dewey Smith, Wylie Gochnour, my uncle Lester Burns, Max Dodge, Jack Ogilvie, Bill Carmichael, Hume Carmichael, Ray Drake and Ed Dodge. The April 26, 1934 edition of the Valley Record ran a picture of Mr Hinds working on the Fall City Totem Pole at his country estate, Riverdale, on the Sunset Highway (Preston-Fall City Road).

*Fig. 27-14 Below, moving the cedar tree to the Hinds place for carving. Right, Hugh Hinds, with Fall City totem pole in background.*



Pat Gochnour



Rowan Chisholm



Les Morton

*Fig. 27-15 Hugh Hinds at work on the Fall City totem pole, with the log suspended for easy rotation as he carved.*

Since free-standing, elaborately carved totem poles are not a part of Native American culture in the Puget Sound region, Mr Hinds drew inspiration from the legends and carvings of the Haida Indians who live along the British Columbia coast.

The Fall City Totem Pole was presented to the Fall City community by Dorothy "Dolly" Gochnour of the Fall City Study Club on December 16, 1934. The ceremony was organized by the Fall City Community Club. The totem pole was dedicated to the memory of Mrs Julia Harshman, who came to Fall

## **Totem Pole Dedication**

**Fall City Invites Every-  
one to Ceremonies to Be  
Held Sunday P. M.**

Prof. Edmond S. Meany will recall pioneer days in the Snoqualmie Valley, at a ceremony at Fall City next Sunday at which the sixty foot totem pole, carved and donated to the community by H.H. Hinds, will be dedicated.

The Fall City Park square has been chosen as a suitable location for this mammoth totem, which is four feet in diameter, and it will be erected and the dedication ceremonies held at 2:00 P.M. December 9.

An interesting program has been arranged by Mrs. Elmer Gochneur of the Fall City Community Club which will include a history of the pole by Mr. Hinds.

A number of Seattle residents have been invited to witness the ceremony and members of the troops of Girl and Boy Scouts will take part.

The Puget Sound Power & Light Company have very kindly offered the use of their equipment for the occasion and the people of the Snoqualmie Valley are cordially invited to attend this unusual dedication.

*Snoqualmie Valley Record*, Thursday,  
December 6, 1934.

*Fig. 27-16* Valley Record articles announcing the 1934 dedication ceremony and reporting on it the following issue.

## **Totem Pole Dedicated**

**Colorful Ceremony Sun.  
at F. C.—Significance  
of Carvings Told**

A fine crowd attended the ceremonies of the dedication of the mammoth Totem Pole at the Fall City Park last Sunday afternoon. The Totem was presented to the community by H.H. Hinds in memory of Mrs. Julia Harshman, beloved pioneer of the district who passed on not long ago.

The acceptance was made by William Carmichael, president of the Fall City Community Club, who told how the men had cut the cedar tree from the Chisholm place, and with the assistance of county equipment, it was taken from the forest to Mr. Hinds' home to be carved.

Supt. R.J. Schusman of the Snoqualmie schools gave a very instructive talk on the "History of the Northwest Indian." The Totem Pole and the audience faced the snow-covered peaks of the Cascades as Prof. Schusman dramatized the Indian legend of familiar old Mt. Si.

The Girl Scouts sang two very appropriate songs, and Mrs. H.H. Hinds told of the etheology of the pole, and seeing Chief Nestauw Jones, who is a full blood Indian in the audience, called to him and apologized to his ancestors for infringing upon the art of the Haida Indians in trying to depict their mythology on a wooden shaft. Chief Jones stated that the Indians were not carving poles any more, and that the white man had a right to preserve their traditions.

*Snoqualmie Valley Record*, Thursday,  
December 20, 1934.



Les Morton

*Fig. 27-17 Above, Puget Sound Power and Light Company assists in the installation of the pole. Right, December 16, 1934 dedication ceremony.*



Rowan Chisholm

City in 1903, and who was a benefactor of the town until her death in 1933. The totem pole was accepted on behalf of the town by Walt Carmichael, President of the Fall City Community Club.

Seeing Chief Nestauw Jones in the audience, Mrs Hinds apologized to his ancestors for infringing on the art of the Haida Indians by depicting their mythology on a wooden shaft. Chief Jones commented that the Indians weren't carving totem poles anymore and he felt the White Man had a right to preserve the Indian traditions.

## LEGEND OF THE FALL CITY TOTEM POLE

(as told by Mrs Marie Hinds)

In the beginning was Quq the Raven creator, known to the Indians as chief of the gods, who was always wanting to improve the earth. The fishermen had long complained to the great Creator that if they had the moon at night upon Keen-dehl-taen, the River of Mists, they could spear salmon. Quq determined to get the moon, which had been selfishly hidden by Celestum, the God-of-Light, from mortals.

It was a long voyage up the river over the misty falls, so the Raven and Naraat, the old man of the waterfall, built a strong canoe. Before Naraat could venture out onto unknown waters, he must find the magic paddle which he knew to be in possession of the evil spirits. Naraat asked the Raven Creator to change him into a dancing Grizzly bear so he could lure Newtauw from her house and give Harh'as the Flying Frog a chance to rescue the sacred paddle.

Kingfisher, in an effort to save the paddle for Newtauw, rushed down the river and fell upon the head of Naraat and forced him into the water. The old man of the waterfall became very sad and waterfalls streamed down his cheeks, his lips drooped and he would have succumbed to the Kingfisher, had not the Flying Frog wrapped his legs around Naraat's body and pulled him from the jaws of the angry Kingfisher.

Naraat and Harh'as, sitting on each end of the magic canoe, Hrsaw, glided up the River-of-Mists and reaching the headwaters, saw Celestrum, God-of-Light, dressed in his ceremonial yellow robe and holding Moon-Child in his arms. The countenance of the Moon-Child shed a shaft of light on the waters so brilliant that it blinded the intruders. Despite the light, the Flying Frog was too quick for the old man and rushing upon him, held fast to his great head while Naraat snatched the Moon-Child from his arms.

They placed the little fellow in the sacred canoe and swiftly floated down the river to the house of the Great Creator, the Raven. The Raven lost no time in soaring up to the heavens with Hlawahs dangling from his beak. With one mighty fling of his head, the Moon-Child went sailing into space to shine by night ever after.

(See also Fig. 27-19 for simplified story and identification of characters on pole.)

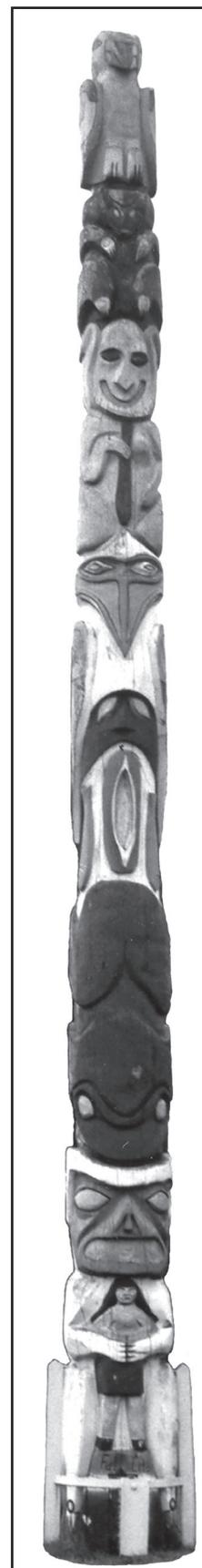
The Fall City Totem Pole blew down in a violent windstorm in 1964 and it was discovered that 30 years of weather had severely rotted the 43-foot Red Cedar. In 1967, after extensive caulking and painting, the totem pole was erected again.

In 1981, it became obvious that the totem pole needed some major restoration and it was taken down a second time. After it was on the ground, it was the consensus of several experts that it wasn't structurally sound enough to just caulk and paint it. The Fall City BPA decided to temporarily store the totem pole in Fred Ambold's barn on the Issaquah-Fall City Road, to allow the totem pole to dry before making a decision whether to repair or replace it.

By 1982, the original totem pole was deemed "non-repairable" and the BPA issued bids to carve a replacement. Herman Williams, a Tulalip Native American, was commissioned in March 1982 to carve a 43-foot replacement totem pole, which would follow the same theme as the original.

In June 1982, the second Fall City Totem Pole, carved by Herman Williams, was erected by the BPA and dedicated to the town. The original totem pole continued to be stored at the Ambold farm.

Meanwhile, the Ambold farm was sold, and the new owner asked that the old totem pole in the barn be removed. In 1989, in an effort to prevent the destruction



Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum, Ruth Pickering

*Fig. 27-18 The second Fall City totem pole, which stood from 1982 to 2001.*

## Legend of the

When local fishermen complained that they couldn't see at night to fish, Quq, the Raven, Chief of the Gods (1), promised he would help by rescuing the Moon Child, Hlawahs (10) from Celestum, God-of-Light (9), who had been selfishly hiding him way up river.

So, Raven and Naraat, the Old Man of the Waterfall (6), built a strong canoe (7). But they needed the magic paddle (4) held by Newtauw, an Evil Spirit (3). Raven changed the Old Man of the Waterfall into dancing Grizzly Bear (2). The dancing Bear lured Evil Spirit away from her house, allowing Nar'as, the Flying Frog (8), to grab the paddle. Then Bear turned back into Old Man and he and Flying Frog began to paddle away.

## Fall City Totem

But before they got far, Evil Spirit's friend, Kingfisher (5), attacked Old Man of the Waterfall, and forced him into the water. Old Man became very sad, and waterfalls streamed down his cheeks. Luckily, Flying Frog wrapped his legs around Old Man and rescued him from Kingfisher.

They continued paddling up river to where God-of-Light held the Moon Child. Working together and quickly, they snatched the Moon Child away and paddled back down the river to Raven's house. Raven immediately flew up into the sky with the Moon Child and flung him into the heavens, where he has shone from that day on.

*(excerpted from the story presented by Mrs. Marie Hinds in 1934)*



Fig. 27-19 A simplified version of the legend of the Fall City totem is told in this sign from Totem Garden Park. The sign also identifies the characters in the legend as they are shown on the totem pole.



Jack Kelley

## New Fall City Totem Pole Dedicated

6/24/82

Fall City's bright, brilliant new totem pole was dedicated Friday in a special ceremony.

Master of ceremonies Jim Johnson thanked all those responsible for getting a new totem pole to Fall City, then he read the history of the pole. After that, he read the mythology behind the pole while Herman Williams, totem pole carver, pointed out the symbolism of each of the pole characters.

Last year, the Fall City Business and Professional Association (BPA) began an effort to preserve the old totem pole. When it appeared that the pole could not be preserved, the group decided to have a new pole carved. The public and a number of groups donated monies to help pay for a new pole.

In his presentation, Johnson

thanked the following people: Dave Jolly, Janice Crouch and Chris Dolanski, all of whom were on the totem pole committee from the BPA; Mary McCarty, former BPA president; Marion Whipp, who spent a great deal of time working to have the old pole salvaged; Weyerhaeuser, which donated the pole; Tom Calvin of Weyerhaeuser, who arranged getting the pole up to and back from the Tulalip Indian Reservation; Leon Wickizer of Buckley, who donated his time to transport the pole and up and back; Mike Tawney of Fall City Welding, who restructured the pole base; Puget Power, which set the pole; and Gert Lamoreaux, who gave permission to have the pole placed on her property. Special thanks went to Herman Williams, who carved the pole at the Tulalip reservation.

Valley Record

Fig. 27-20 Left, installation of second totem pole. Above, article about dedication of second pole.

of the original totem pole, Audrey Schroeder offered to store it in her barn, until such time as the original totem pole could be restored. The Fall City Community Association (FCCA, formerly the BPA) accepted Audrey's offer and the original totem pole was moved from Ambold's barn to Audrey's barn on the Redmond-Fall City Road.

The second Fall City Totem Pole was repainted by George Morris in June 1994, with the totem pole standing upright.

Bobbi Berry, owner of the property where the second Fall City Totem Pole was situated, donated the lot to the FCCA in March 1995. Fall City attorney, Ian Macrae, took care of the paperwork.

1998, Dick Kirby and a team of volunteers from Chief Kanim Middle School began the task of restoring the original totem pole. Eleven months later, in 1999, Fall City Boy Scout Troop 425 stepped in to restore the original totem pole as a community project. Mac Campbell headed the project, along with Assistant Scoutmaster, Guy Falconer, who supervised the 26 Scouts doing the work. Wade Cook, local financier, provided



Valley Record

Fig. 27-21 New paint job by George Morris, 1994.

his barn as a place to store the totem pole and complete the restoration. Wood Care Systems of Kirkland supplied the liquid epoxy and primers. In 2000, the Scouts began the restoration.

It was an auspicious occasion when, on August 30, 2001, the original Fall City Totem Pole was once again erected where it had stood for 44 years. Under the lead organization of the FCCA, the 43-foot symbol of Fall City's community spirit and the memory of Mrs Julia Harshman, pierced the sky once more. The restoration process was another example of the Fall City community pitching in to get something done. See Figs. 27-24 through 27-26 for more details.

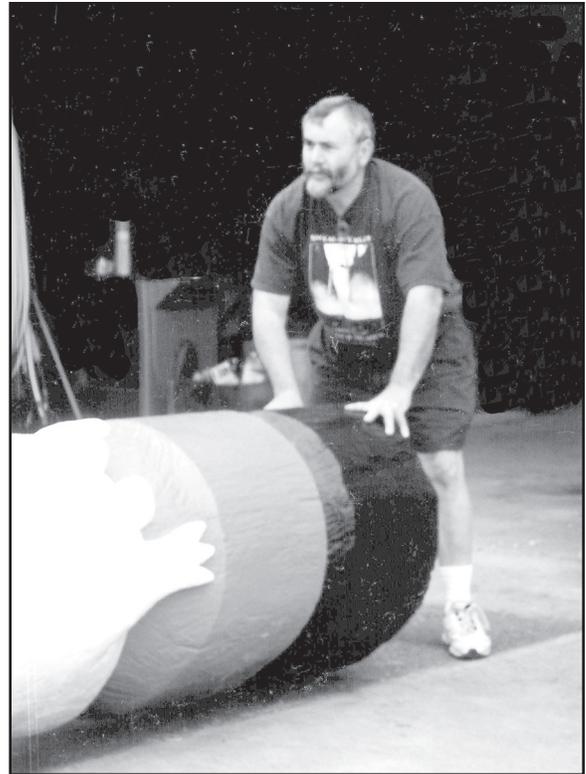
Personnel from Puget Sound Energy erected the original Fall City Totem Pole and Wells' Nursery provided a granite rock base. Electric power was supplied to the lot and lights were installed to illuminate the totem pole at night.

Installation of the second Fall City Totem Pole is planned at the entrance to Chief Kanim Middle School.

## 2. CHARLES V. HANSON MEMORIAL

The Charles V. Hanson Memorial, located at 335th Avenue SE and the Redmond-Fall City Road, was built by the community in 1969. At the east end of Quigley Park is a monument honoring a significant man who gave so much to this community. The monument was built and dedicated to the memory of Charles V. Hanson by the people who were touched in some way by the actions of this benevolent man.

Charlie (as everyone called him) Victor Hanson was born in 1896 on a farm overlooking Patterson Creek to Victor (Billy) and Luann Dooley Hanson. As a young boy, he attended the Patterson Creek School and subsequently graduated from Fall City High School in 1914. He always felt a good education was very important and went to Washington State College for a time. Unfortunately, World War I came along and he was drafted into the U.S Army, where he served in France. Shortly after his return to civilian life, he met and married Hulda



Terri Reilly

*Fig. 27-22 Chief Kanim Middle School teacher Dick Kirby was key in starting the move to restore the original totem pole and was behind the project all the way.*



Judy Kelley

*Fig. 27-23 Charles V. Hanson Memorial.*

Snoqualmie Valley Record

# Around the Valley

## Fall City totem pole to be restored

### Boy Scouts work to preserve story of Raven

By MICHELLE GISI  
Staff Writer

FALL CITY — After 20 years of dormancy, a great legend will rise again.

Because of Boy Scout Troop 425's efforts, the totem pole that towered over Fall City for almost 50 years will soon be put back in its original place: a patch of downtown land near Fall City Elementary School.

The Fall City-based scout troop is restoring the approximate 45-foot-tall totem pole that depicts the Native American story of the Raven creator, Quq, who, according to legend, placed the Moon-child in the sky so fisherman could spear salmon at night.

The pole was carved from old-growth cedar by H.H. Hinds for his sweetheart and erected in 1934. It is unique because it was carved all the way around — totem poles are usually one-sided — and because it was carved by a white man.

"It's really awesome because you can see something that someone put a large amount of work into," said troop member Carlin Faultersack. "In every divot of the wood, you can see what dedication went into it. One person did all this, and it shows how much dedication he had for a beautiful piece of wood.

"And now we can restore it and put it back," he added.

As decades went by, wood rot set in and began to destroy the

pole, so it was taken down in 1982. While town residents started a restoration fund, Tulalip Tribesman Herman Williams carved the new pole that is in place today, which resembles the original except for its shorter height of 30 feet. A dedication ceremony was held for the new pole that same year.

Once the old pole is fully restored, it will go back to its original home, while plans to move the newer pole to Chief Kanim Middle School are under way.

"I think its going to be a neat addition to Chief Kanim, with the library and all its Native American artifacts," said Fall City Community Association Treasurer Laurie Hauglie. The association owns the property on which the totem pole sits and is in the process of approving the newer pole's move to the middle school.

The move will occur after the restoration is complete, which could take place before the summer.

Since it was taken down about 20 years ago, the original pole has been stored in various barns, and plans have started and stopped for its restoration.

Now, the giant piece of wood sits on the concrete floor of a Fall City barn belonging to Wall Street financier Wade Cook, while Troop 425 diligently works Saturdays to refurbish the pole's beauty.

The scouts, age 11 to 13, are excited to be refurbishing something that has historic value for their community.

"The biggest thing is that the boys recognize that they are contributing to an antique," said Assistant Scout Master Guy Falconer.



Bruce Savadow / Snoqualmie Valley Record

**The act of restoration:** Boy Scout Ian Falconer, left in foreground, uses an orbital sander while his troopmate Kyle Schipper, right, applies material to restore the totem pole that stood for almost 50 years in Fall City.

This project earns community-service credit for the boys, an important part of the Boy Scout philosophy, and allows them to use and develop skills, another part of their journey up the ladder of

scout rank.

"It gives them satisfaction in the community that they can come back years later and say, 'I did this,' so it gives them a sense of being part of the community,"

explained Scout Master Mack Campbell. "It's also a lesson to them to say that it's not that difficult to perform community service."

Before the scouts could refinish the pole's exterior, which includes several animals and Native American figures, the wood's insides had to be taken care of. For this, the troop hired Wood Care Systems, a Kirkland wood restoration company. Jim Renfro, company president, said two methods were combined to first stop the wood rot — which he equates to cancer — then reverse damage already done.

A liquid epoxy, similar to one used in the marine industry, was applied to the pole's 38-inch base and was allowed to be soaked up into the trunk. This will prevent water from wicking up and harming the wood. Then, hundreds of borate rods used in European restoration were inserted into the wood to help with the rot and prevent insect invasion. The pole's top, which is Raven's head, was so badly damaged that it's being re-carved by Chief Kanim Middle School math teacher Jim Ullman, who has training in totem-pole carving.

Now that the company is finished with the pole's interior, the scouts, with Renfro's assistance and help from parents, are restoring the exterior. The boys are filling the cracks in the wood with moldable epoxy, which has a texture similar to Play-Doh. The epoxy will bond with the wood and provide a paintable surface. When the totem is finished, it will be painted just as the original work was, and will be completely waterproof to withstand several more decades.

Fig. 27-24 February 2001 article about restoration process.



ELLEN M. BANNER / THE SEATTLE TIMES

## Sky-high success for Troop 425

**Boy Scouts from Troop 425** rejoice as the totem pole they'd worked eight months to restore is mounted on its foundation yesterday in Fall City.

H.H. Hinds carved it in 1934, but rot and lightning strikes had left it structurally unsound, and it was taken down in 1982.

After it was found abandoned in a barn, Troop 425 took it on: Every Saturday, 25 Scouts, plus leaders and parents, labored on the 45-foot, 2-ton work of art.

In the photo at top are, from left: Kyle Tjossem, 12; Bryce Tjossem, 14; Ryan Dix, 11; Colin Falconer, 11; and Kyle Johnson, 11; all of Fall City. They were watching from across the street — for safety.

In photo at right are, from left: Guy Falconer, assistant scoutmaster; Mac Campbell, scoutmaster; and Dick Kirby, a middle-school teacher and board member of the Snoqualmie Valley Historical Museum.



Seattle Times

Fig. 27-25 Seattle Times article about restoration of totem pole, 2001.

**Special thanks to:**

Richard Kirby of Snoqualmie for resurrecting this Totem Pole for the Fall City community.  
Terri Reilly – Artist for her vision and enthusiasm and help to finish this Pole For the Staff @ Chief Kanim Middle School  
Wade Cook and Family – Providing working space (barn) for the Totem Pole  
Greg Mason – Totem pole transport and installation  
Bill Aggenbach – Electrical installation  
Joe Pekara – Electrical Installation  
All the Scouts of BSA Troop #425 for their Herculean efforts;  
Erik and Colin Alexander Andre Jensen  
Stephen Bach Donny Lovell  
Nick Cain Josh Lowman  
Ryan Dix Michael Murphy  
Tyler Emsky Chris Nelson  
Ian and Colin Falconer John and Michael Perry  
Carlin Faultersack Kyle Rosenbaum  
Mathew Fujimoto Kyle Schipper  
John Hindmarch Kevin Scott  
Kenneth James Bryce and Kyle Tjossem  
Kyle Johnson Cody and Casey VanWinkle

Parents of the Scouts that helped;  
Mac Campbell – Troop #425 Scout Master  
Guy Falconer – Troop #425 Assistant Scout Master  
Reid Cain  
Terry Dix  
Ken James - Constructed/coordinated the foundations  
Ron Johnson - Photographer and provided Cedar round for TP head  
Dave Lowman - Landscape Architect/Designed Foundations & Rockeries  
Melody Tjossem  
Kevin Murphy  
Dave Jensen  
Roger VanWinkle – Tractor Work at the site  
Jim Renfroe – Wood Care Systems, Kirkland – Wood restoration materials  
Jim Ullman – Wood Carver for the head reconstruction  
Kingsley D. Drake – Professional Engineer  
Cheryl Austin – Artist who help finish this Pole  
Kevin and Lori Hauglie  
Al Renner - Welding  
Ralph Wells Landscaping & Rockery – Rockery @ the base  
Fall City Garden Club – Plantings and landscape maintenance  
Wayne Davidson/Davison’s Sawmill – Donated the wood round for the new head  
Robert Morris – Tractor Work at the site

Materials Donation:  
Moongate Nursery – Donation of plantings  
JB Sod – Donation of Grass Sod

Publicity:  
Snoqualmie Valley Record Newspaper – Jim McKiernan, Editor  
Snoqualmie Valley Record Newspaper – Michelle Gisi - Reporter  
Snoqualmie Valley Record Newspaper – Bruce Photographer  
Seattle Times – Sherry Grinderland, Reporter  
Seattle Times – Alan Berner - Photographer

**Special Recognition**

This project would not have been possible with the following people and business associations.  
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2001 Fall City Community Association  
H.R.H. Family Foundations  
Snoqualmie Valley Record Newspaper  
Fall City Days Committee  
Kenny and Lori Kemp  
All the individuals who contributed to this project during the 2001 Fall City Days  
King County Historical Society

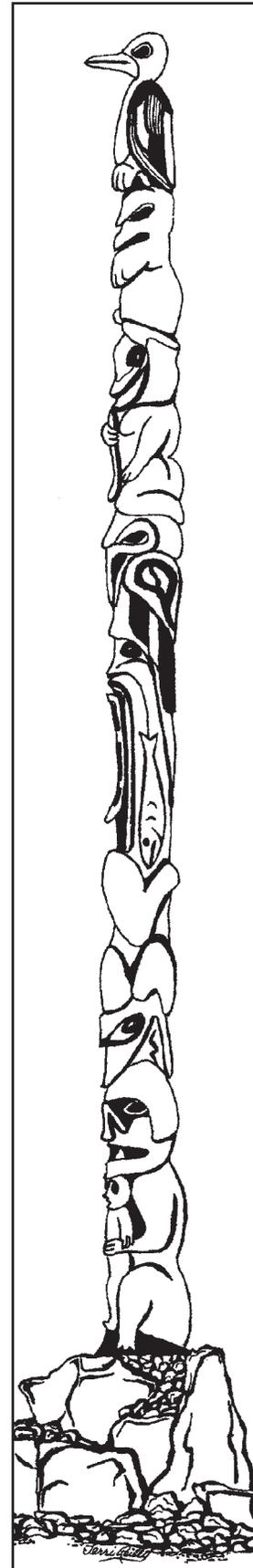


Fig. 27-26 Community involvement in totem restoration, from list in commemorative scrapbook made by Terri Reilly. Drawing at right by Terri.