One of the oldest objects on our collection is a large coffee grinder from the Dunstan Brothers’ Store. In the wonderful interior photograph c1909, from the Tacoma Public Library Collection, it is seen at the back of the counter…enlargement at left.

Oliver, William and John Dunstan operated Dunstan Brothers’ General Merchandise on the ground floor of the IOOF Hall (current
site of the Riverside Tavern) from about 1905 until 1929, when the Hall was torn down due to the widening of River Street. The coffee grinder was donated some years ago by Bill Baxter to the Tolt Historical Society and in 2010 came home to Fall City.

For display the heavy tabletop coffee grinder was fastened to a wooden table built for the Tolt Historical Society. Overall height of grinder 26.5", grinding wheels are 19.5" in diameter. On each wheel is written: "SWIFT MILL, LANE BROTHERS, POUGHKEEPSIE, NY." And on the body of the grinder, it says "PAT'D FEB 9 1875." The original lid to grinder is missing, and a WEAR EVER lid, printed red to match, has been substituted. Drawer to catch ground coffee is also missing.

Photo at left was taken in Fall City c1908.

Ad shown above was from the 1909 issue of The Coast magazine.