

FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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www.fallcityhistorical.org

The classic River Street photo at right comes from a popular postcard of the time. The Model Garage is shown in its original form, before it was expanded by tearing down the Murphy house next to it. The sign “Your Credit is Good” is on the side of the original Oddfellows Hall. In a larger view, other early businesses, including Doc Cheney’s Drug Store, can be seen further down the street. In the far background at the right, one can distinguish the distinctive roof of the Brick School. No date is given for the photo, but it was after 1922, when the “Model Garage” name was adopted.



New photos added to collection

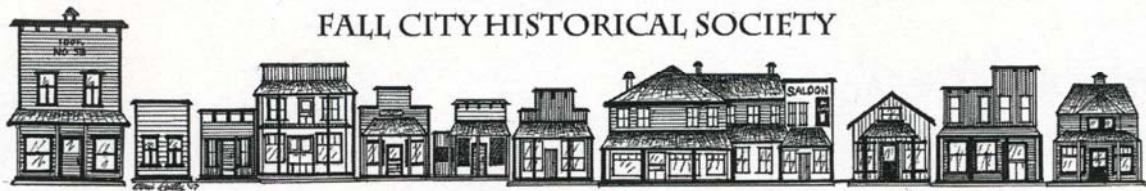
A recent donation from Irene Pike brought several new Fall City photos to our collection. The classic postcard above is one we have seen and are glad to have it “in house.” Several photos of the Brown School (1910-1915) were also included. Two are shown below.



A rare interior view of this early school is shown at left. The resolution is not high enough to tell what the row of pictures is above the blackboard. The hatchet, if it is real, next to the portrait of George Washington, would probably not be allowed today. The school desks are typical of the period and the bare feet of the boy in front are also a common sight in early class photos.

Right: Girls and Boys basketball teams, with teacher Frank H. Bailey, c1914. Names listed (L-R): Doris Parker, Milly Burns, Frank Burns, Alice Totten, Walter Cheney, Fannie Richards, Dewey Smith, Cora Richards, Oliver McCaffree, Charley Hanson, ??, Albert Carlson, Lillian Totten, Edna Richards, Margaret Baxter. (Inserts are early sport emblems for girls and boys.)





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Coming in May

Participating in the **GiveBIG** fundraising day sponsored each May by Seattle Foundation has become an annual event for us. We appreciate the opportunity to invite community members to support our work with an easy online donation, with the added benefit of supplementary funds from Seattle Foundation. More information will be sent out later in April.

This year we would especially appreciate your support for expanding our Historical Signs Project. See article below for more details.






Falls City Masonic Hall, built in 1895
King County Landmark 1994 / National Register of Historic Places 2004

As the tallest and least altered of Fall City's buildings from the late 19th century, the Falls City Masonic Hall has been a visual community landmark for well over 100 years. It has been continuously used for its intended function as Masonic meeting hall and has also served as a venue for a wide variety of Snoqualmie Valley groups and events. See link below for more background.

The Falls City Masonic Lodge No. 66 received its charter in 1890 and held its first meeting on February that year in the hall above Taylor's store on River Street. In September 1894 the store burned, destroying all the property and records of the Lodge. While meeting briefly in the Fall City Odd Fellows Hall on River Street, the Lodge moved quickly to plan and construct the current building, with all labor donated. The first meeting in the new hall was held in January 1896.



FIRST TWO SIGNS COMPLETE

We've chosen as the "first act" of the Historical Signs Project to provide signage for the two Fall City buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings...the Neighbor-Bennett House and the Falls City Masonic Hall, both located on 337th Pl SE. This has involved a lot of time and design expense to develop a template and process which can now be extended to other signs. Each sign will have a QR code which will link to a more detailed report on the building, in a mobile-optimized format for easy reading. Our thanks for support from the **4Culture/King County Lodging Tax Fund** for this work.

This year we plan to do at least one larger sign about the early schools in Fall City. Partial support for this will be provided by a **King County CSA** grant. We would like to do a second sign on schools, if we can generate support for it. And we'd like to start working with local businesses on River Street to provide them with signs showing their rich history.



HISTORIC PHOTOS AVAILABLE...

Katie Kepfer of **Vintage Collectibles** has kindly offered us space to sell historic photos. Look for her article in this issue and plan to stop by. Thanks, Katie!



Support for our work from King County Heritage 4Culture is gratefully acknowledged.

