



FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 293, Fall City, WA 98024

historylives@fallcityhistorical.org

www.fallcityhistorical.org

Lumber Towns: Some times the beginning, ... and the end



Cherry Valley Logging Co. - Cherry Valley, Washington

Cherry Valley Logging Co., Cherry Valley, WA (Duvall)

As Europeans and Americans explored the greater Snoqualmie Valley in the mid and late 1800s, some viewed the landscape with an eye toward financial opportunity: timber and mining topping the list. Rapidly, small mill towns popped up, clearing land and making way for mining and eventual farming. These mills provided employment to many, and the towns around them ranged from a collection of homes to communities with a school, a church and more. Some mill and mining towns have evolved in to the towns and cities we see today like Snoqualmie, Preston and Redmond. Some remain as neighborhoods or areas like High Point and Coal Creek. Others, however, have disappeared from

view, leaving behind only historical records and occasional artifacts. Less commonly known names like Houghton (in Kirkland), and Donnelly and Monohon (shores of Lake Sammamish) are such places.

And some times, towns are renamed and even relocated. The early days of the town of Cherry Valley placed it along The Everett and Cherry Valley Traction Company Railway which ran mostly parallel to current Rte. 203. When the Great Northern Railway Co. purchased the line, it continued building the rail lines, and soon ran in to a problem - the town of Cherry Valley sat squarely in the way of the planned expansion. After push back from the residents of Cherry Valley, in 1909, Great Northern agreed to pay to move the buildings about a half-mile up the hill to a new town site, what was originally the Duvall home-stead. Some of these buildings are still standing today, including the Dougherty House. It took about six weeks to move the town up hill.

Like many towns, mill towns were often named for the owner of the mill, at times replacing an original Native American name for a location. The town of Kerriston, southeast of Preston, opened its post office in 1904 at the Kerry Mill Co. store. At its peak in the 1910s, its population ranged from 400 to 500 people. Japanese workers had their own separate housing in the town, referred to as the "Japanese Village." Today, Kerriston is listed as a Ghost Town Trail on some hiking web-sites, and in the 1950s, hikers found the schoolhouse still had books on the desks.



Northwest Lumber Co. - Kerriston, Washington

Northern Lumber Co., Kerriston, WA. Logging and rail activity ended by 1929, post office closed 1935



FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 293, Fall City, WA 98024 historylives@fallcityhistorical.org www.fallcityhistorical.org



FALL CITY DAY 2023



Thank you to everyone who joined our Nifty Fifties Retrospective!

We enjoyed visiting with you as we remembered and celebrated a decade of poodle skirts, typewriters, hula hoops, rotary phones, and our small town community!



Join Us for a Walking History Tour!

Sunday, July 16, 2023 3:00 - 5:00pm

Meet outside the Masonic Hall.

Fall City ... history lives here

Fall City Methodist Church, built 1899

The church was established in 1893 by "Buster" Mac, a traveling Methodist Episcopal minister. The original part of the present church building (shown, right) was built in 1899 by the Fall City Baptists and an across the street (Main Street, now 1718-30) to the west. The Baptists intended for the church to be used by other groups, and the Methodists gladly shared the building, having lost their earlier church. (See link below for more early history). By 1919, Baptist membership had declined, and the building was sold to the local Methodists for \$250.

About 1927, the Methodists bought the property across the street to the east, and in 1928, the church was moved to its current location and named to keep the entrance on Main Street. In the late 1950s and 1960s, additions and remodeling brought the building to its present configuration.

FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 4

Join us for a walk around downtown Fall City, exploring some of our historic buildings and places. Learn about our Historic Sign Project which now includes 17 signs around town, providing historical summaries and access to more detailed information and photos.

Fall City ... history lives here

Prescott-Harshman House

Built 1908, King County Landmark 1984

The Prescott-Harshman House is a carefully restored remnant of the century's woodwork. Designed to exemplify it has a certain "jean" personality, owing to its roll-over roof with a mock "widow's walk" at the eaves and three tall windows. It was the residence of Martin and Pauline Prescott from 1904 to 1908. In 1912 it became the home of Nelson and Julia Harshman and the office of their business, the Fall City Telephone Company. (The photo above is from 1908).

The Fall City Telephone Company was a vital link among the communities of Carnation, Preston, Fall City North Bend, Newcastle, Cold Creek, and Snohomish, connecting them with the "outside world." When Julia died in 1933, her only child, Gertrude, and Gertrude's husband, George Starbuck, inherited the business. The Starbuck operated the company until Cascade Telephone of North Bend bought them out in 1942. (Scan QR code below for more telephone company history).

FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 4

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

