



FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Pop Up Museum March 25 - April 4

Join us at the Opening Night Gala!

Gala: March 25, 6:30-7:45pm * Pop Up Museum: Mon-Sat, 12pm - Closing

We are excited to welcome you back for another Pop Up Museum at the **Fall City Library!** This year, come explore information and artifacts from the Hops Craze, as well as many other items from our collection. We will also be hosting demonstrations of spinning and weaving.

Join us for refreshments at the Gala!



'Hops Craze' in Snoqualmie Valley

In the heart of Fall City, you will find the only structure remaining in King County from the "Hops Craze" - an agricultural boom in the 1880s to the early 1900s. 'During this period, hops were the largest agricultural enterprise in King County, and Western Washington was one of the major hop growing and exporting regions in the world. Completion of the U.S. transcontinental railroad in 1869 created access to new markets for the easily shippable product. **Golden Cluster** "Washingtons" hops were the first local product since the fur trade to gain an international market.' [King County Landmark Commission, 2021].



Fall City Hops Shed, 2016
after initial restoration

Located in Fall City Community Park, the Hops Shed was built by George Davis Rutherford in 1888, and was used as a hops drying kiln. 'Hop production was labor-intensive, and a major source of employment in the Snoqualmie Valley. A substantial number of workers were hired to construct buildings, make hop poles, harvest hops (stringing, picking, and baling), work the drying kilns, and service the Hop Ranch operations. Harvesting the hops drew a seasonal mix of Native American, White, and Chinese workers. Many Snoqualmie Valley settlers participated in all aspects of the hops industry. Entire families would work the hop picking season, with specific jobs for men, women, and children.' [King County Landmark Commission, 2021]. The Hops Craze ended due to an aphid infestation that destroyed fields across the state. At this time, the hops shed was shortened and sold to Jack Bush, and moved to its current location in 1904. It received Landmark status in 1982, and underwent two years of extensive restoration work in the 1990s after successful efforts of the Fall City Hops Shed Foundation to save it from demolition.

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