You may well recognize this historic home, a King County Historical Landmark at the corner of SE 43rd Place and 338th Place SE. It is one of the best preserved early houses in Fall City, and a rare example of vertical plank construction, in which studs are not used. It was built in 1905 by Charles and Minnie Moore, who lived in the house until sometime in the 1920s. Several other owners followed, until the house was purchased in 1944 by Elizabeth Parmelee. It has remained in the Parmelee family since that time.

Irene Pike grew up in the house and inherited it from her mother, Elizabeth Parmelee. After many years of it sitting empty, she succeeded in obtaining its designation as a Historical Landmark in 2003. She then set about restoring the house in honor of her mother. For the last 10 years, she has worked side by side with her son Gerry Anderson to rehabilitate this special house. Financial help along the way has been furnished by King County and 4Culture grants. In 2012, Irene received a John D. Spellman Historic Preservation Award from King County, recognizing the excellence of their work. Irene’s daughter, Kris Anderson, will soon be the third generation in the family to live in the house.

An invitation is extended to the community to come walk through this lovingly restored historic home. See what can be done with a house that is over 100 years old. The Open House is October 12 and 13, hours shown above. Come on over! For more information, contact Irene Pike, 425-222-5180.
Come join us on October 27 for a presentation by Susan Olds:

PIONEER QUILTS AND THE OREGON TRAIL

The thousands of women and their families who braved the dangers of the Oregon Trail in the mid-1800s left an amazing legacy in their quilts.

This program, presented by art historian Susan Olds, will feature true stories of intrepid women quilters who braved the westward migration of the 1800s.

Learn how women coped with harsh frontier conditions and kept their connections to home through their quilt-making. To lessen the boredom of walking beside a wagon 8 hours a day, women often quilted as they walked. Few belongings were taken on the trail, but quilts were essential for warmth and bedding. They also served as insulation for wagons, buckboard padding, protection of valuables, and often served as burial cloths for family members lost along the way.

Included in the lecture: preparing for the journey west, friendship quilts and utilitarian quilts, new patterns from the trail, and fabric diaries from the trail. Excerpts from diaries will document the fortitude and amazing spirit of pioneer quilters, including one woman who survived the trek west, settled in Oregon, and during her lifetime completed 14 quilts and raised 9 children!

Fall City Quilts

One of 10 butterfly panels from quilt made by Julia Harshman for her daughter Gertrude.

One of 20 animal panels from a quilt made by Caroline Parmelee for her daughter, Irene. Each has a verse embroidered around the animal. This one reads: “The sly fox roams the frozen north / The country he was made for / I asked him what his coat was worth / He said ‘My dear, it’s paid for.’”

FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

OCTOBER 27, 2–6 P.M.  
FALL CITY MASONIC HALL, 4304 337TH PL SE

Brief membership meeting and board election  
Program by Susan Olds and display of Fall City Quilts  
Everyone is welcome! Refreshments

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