

# Fall City Hotel Corner . . . *history lives here*

## Taylor Hotel (1886–1903)

David “Doc” Taylor, his wife Helen, and their three children were the first family to settle in Fall City, in 1872. Around 1886, Doc built a store on what would become River Street. He then added a restaurant on the east side of the building and a two-story house for his family on the west (right). The Taylors began renting rooms in their home. In 1892, the store and restaurant burned, and a few years later the Taylor House/Hotel burned down as well. Soon after that, Doc built the new two-story Taylor Hotel on the site, with a dining room that served as the town’s restaurant.



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## Hotel Fall City (1903–1919)

In 1903, Doc Taylor sold the Taylor Hotel to Andrew and Karen Ronnei and Mike Nelson, who changed the name to Hotel Fall City and built a large saloon on the corner west of the hotel (near right). Local papers in November 1908 noted that Western Union election returns were posted in the saloon to draw patrons. In 1909 the hotel was expanded to merge with the saloon (far right). In 1911, the Ronneis bought out Nelson, and Andrew and Karen ran the hotel until 1919, when they both died in the flu epidemic.



Snogahmie Valley Historical Museum

## Fall City Hotel and Restaurant (1921–Present)

In about 1921, Lars and Inga Johansen bought Hotel Fall City and renamed it Fall City Hotel. The business did well until September 1925, when it burned to the ground.



Lars soon built a new hotel on the site (left), with the Fall City Café at the west end and the rest of the building rented to offices or residents. By 1933, Lars had added eight tourist cabins. He sold to Frank and Florence Thomas in 1936. After the completion of

I-90 in 1946, tourist traffic declined, and the cabins were demolished in 1964.

A series of restaurants followed: Kaschulmist (1968–1979, lower left), a restaurant and ice cream parlor; Rocky’s Pizza House II (1979–1993, lower middle), painted to reflect pizza ingredients; and, since 1994, El Caporal Mexican Restaurant (lower right).

