Fall City ... *history lives here*

Mercantile ... Construction Services ... Hardware Store ... and more

In 1909, Robert and Mecie Burns bought the Snoqualmie Valley Cooperative Store, which stood on the west half of the current building site, in order to save the investment they had already made in the unsuccessful venture. They named it “Burns & Son, The One Price Store”; “Son” referred to Perry Burns, and “One Price” meant no dickering on price. By 1922, there were three other similar stores in town, and rather than try to compete, Robert sold the building to son-in-law Jesse Kelley for Fall City Electric.

In 1924, Jesse Kelley replaced the old wooden store with a concrete building and expanded his business to include plumbing, heating, and wiring, as noted on the center photo above. Kelley’s business was chosen by the new Fall City Water Company to install added water services and maintain their system. In 1927, Jesse and Artie Kelley bought the two adjoining lots east of the shop and built a home on the far one, visible on the left side of the photo above right.

In 1944, the Kelleys sold the business and building to Artie’s cousins, Howard and Clara Stow and agreed to trade houses with them so that the Stows could be close to the new Stow Hardware. In 1954, Howard sold to Jack McLymont. McLymont built up the business and enlarged the building, adding the current east half of the building in 1956, making it the largest hardware store in the Valley at that time.

In 1976, McLymont sold the building and business to Dave Schiesser, who re-opened it as a True Value franchise, renaming it “Fall City Hardware.” Ten years later, Schiesser kept the building but sold the business to Jerry Mortensen, who in turn sold it to Bob Woods in 1992. Shortly thereafter, the hardware business closed and the building sat empty. Schiesser sold the building to Ian Macrae in 1993. In the years since, it has housed law offices, a real estate agent, an antique store, a video store, and vintage sales outlets.