



Photo of Bailey Gatzert School students saluting the flag, Seattle, May 18, 1943. Courtesy Museum of History & Industry

HistoryLink.org Supplement for  
*Washington: Our Home*

*Washington: Our Home* has been identified as the most commonly used Washington state History textbook for 4<sup>th</sup> graders for the 2011-12 school year. Using this textbook as a base for identifying the specific themes and topics that are being covered in required Pacific Northwest History elementary school classes, the Education Team at HistoryLink.org has created this supplement for teacher and students.

This supplement was developed as a tool to assist in identifying HistoryLink.org essays that can be used to study and research the state history themes and topic in more depth. The name of each relevant essay is listed as well as the abstract, number, and link to the full essay. This supplement also aids HistoryLink.org in identifying general or specific topics for which more essays are needed or would be helpful in the Washington state History classroom. In addition, as a part of this exercise, HistoryLink.org staff assigned appropriate key words to selected essays to match those used in this textbook.

A set of *HistoryLink Elementary* essays was added to the HistoryLink encyclopedia in 2014. (<http://www.historylink.org/Index.cfm?DisplayPage=education/elementary-educators.cfm>.) These essays were written for third and fourth grade students who are studying Washington State History and for all beginning readers who want to learn more about Washington. All *HistoryLink Elementary* essays are based on existing HistoryLink essays. They have been listed under appropriate pages that match the specific topics in the *Washington: Our Home* textbook.

The plan is to update this supplement prior to the beginning of each semester by identifying and adding relevant essays as written by HistoryLink.org historians. Please contact [education@historylink.org](mailto:education@historylink.org) with questions and comments.

Prepared by Education Team, Patricia L, Filer (Education Director) and Claire Palay (Education Intern) 2011. Updated 8/14

***Washington: Our Home***  
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UNIT 2: BECOMING WASHINGTON

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## Washington State History teachers,

Please find abstracts from selected relevant essays, cyberpedias, timelines, or people's histories that align with each name, place, or theme found on individual pages in the *Washington: Our Home* textbook.

### p. 7 - How Seattle was named

**HistoryLink Elementary: Chief Seattle** Chief Seattle's parents were from tribes on both sides of Elliott Bay and the Duwamish River. He lived during a time of change for his people and the Puget Sound region. He welcomed the Collins and Denny parties when they arrived as the first pioneer families in the Seattle area. Chief Seattle was considered a peacekeeper between the settlers and his people. He was respected so much that the new city was named in his honor. [File 10736: Full Text >](#)

**Chief Seattle (Seattle, Chief Noah [born si?al, 178?-1866])** Chief Seattle, or si?al in his native Lushootseed language, led the Duwamish and Suquamish tribes as the first Euro-American settlers arrived in the greater Seattle area in the 1850s. Baptized Noah by Catholic missionaries, Seattle was regarded as a "firm friend of the Whites," who named the region's future central city in his honor. He was a respected leader among Salish tribes, signing the Point Elliott (Mukilteo) Treaty of 1855, which relinquished tribal claims to most of the area, and opposing Native American attempts to dislodge settlers during the "Indian Wars" of 1855-1856. Chief Seattle retired to the Suquamish Reservation at Port Madison, and died there on June 7, 1866. This essay includes a sound recording of the correct pronunciation of Chief Seattle's name, provided by Skagit elder Vi Hilbert (1918-2008). [File 5071: Full Text >](#)

**Chief Seattle -- his Lushootseed name and other important words pronounced in Lushootseed by Vi Hilbert** In this sound recording, renowned Skagit elder Vi Hilbert (1918-2008) correctly pronounces Chief Seattle's name and other common names in Lushootseed, the language of the several Coast Salish peoples. The recording was done on December 7, 2006, by Janet Yoder, a longtime student of Hilbert's and who has written on her life and work in preserving the Lushootseed language. The file also contains a transcription of the tape. [File 8156: Full Text >](#)

**Chief Seattle's Speech** In addition to his namesake city, Chief Seattle (178?-1866) is best remembered for a speech given, according to pioneer Dr. Henry Smith, on the occasion of an 1854 visit to Seattle of Isaac Stevens (1818-1862). Stevens was governor and Commissioner of Indian Affairs of Washington Territory. He visited in January and again in March 1854. Chief Seattle's speech went unnoted in the written record until October 29, 1887, when the *Seattle Sunday Star* published a text reconstructed from admittedly incomplete notes by Dr. Smith. [File 1427: Full Text >](#)

**HistoryLink Elementary: Princess Angeline, Daughter of Chief Seattle** Kikisoblu, the daughter of Chief Seattle was a friend to early Seattle pioneers. One of the pioneer women, Catherine Maynard, thought Kikisoblu should have a name that would let everyone know that she was the daughter of a great chief -- so she renamed her "Princess Angeline." Angeline sold baskets and did laundry to earn her own living. She lived a very simple life but her new friends looked out for her. [File 10737: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 24 – Natural Resources**

**HistoryLink Elementary: How the Land in Washington Was Formed** Land formations in Washington and the Pacific Northwest were a result of millions of years of changes in weather conditions and the environment. Glaciers and other geological forces created islands, mountains, lakes, and other specific land formations. [File 10740: Full Text >](#)

**HistoryLink Elementary: Olmsted Parks of Seattle** By 1903, Seattle had five major public parks but city officials wanted more. They hired the Olmsted Brothers, a landscape architecture company from Massachusetts, to help create more parks. John C. Olmsted came to Seattle to explore the area, identify special places and natural resources, and design a great system of parks and boulevards for residents and visitors. [File 10747: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 30 - Eruption of Mt. St. Helens**

**HistoryLink Elementary: Mount St. Helens Erupts** Mount St. Helens once was the fifth-highest mountain in Washington. Now, because of a huge eruption on May 18, 1980, it is only the 30th highest peak in the state. There were many signs that the mountain was going to erupt before it finally did. Some people took the warnings seriously and some did not. There was terrible damage to the property surrounding the mountain and many lives were lost. But it was not the first time that Mount St. Helens had erupted. Diaries of early explorers and missionaries -- and many stories or legends passed down through Native American tribes -- describe volcanic eruptions that happened long ago. [File 10738: Full Text >](#)

**Mount St. Helens erupts on May 18, 1980.** On May 18, 1980 at 8:32 a.m., the earth rumbles underneath Mount St. Helens, a peak in Skamania County in southwestern Washington. Moments later an explosion blasts away a side of the mountain in a major volcanic eruption. The volcano causes the deaths of 57 people. The destruction is widespread but especially severe in Clark County as boiling gas and mud scour 200 square miles of forest and 30 miles of State Route 504. Some 1,000 miles of state highways and roads have to be closed, some for months, and highway repairs alone run into hundreds of millions of dollars. [File 5457: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 30 – volcanoes – Mt. Rainier, Mt. Baker, Mt. Adams, Glacier Peak**

**HistoryLink Elementary: Mount St. Helens Erupts** Mount St. Helens once was the fifth-highest mountain in Washington. Now, because of a huge eruption on May 18, 1980, it is only the 30th highest peak in the state. There were many signs that the mountain was going to erupt before it finally did. Some people took the warnings seriously and some did not. There was terrible damage to the property surrounding the mountain and many lives were lost. But it was not the first time that Mount St. Helens had erupted. Diaries of early explorers and missionaries -- and many stories or legends passed down through Native American tribes -- describe volcanic eruptions that happened long ago. [File 10738: Full Text >](#)

**Mount Rainier erupts on October 19, 1873.** On October 19, 1873, at about 4 o'clock p.m. "clouds of smoke were seen pouring from the highest peak of Mount Rainer [sic]." People continue observing the outpouring of smoke until clouds obscure the mountain near nightfall. [File 5573: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 37 – Leavenworth**

**Leavenworth -- Thumbnail History** The town of Leavenworth in Chelan County occupies a spectacular location at the confluence of Wenatchee River and Icicle Creek, over which loom peaks of the North Cascade Mountains. The Wenatchee Valley was the traditional home of Native Americans, mainly the Wenatchi Tribe, for whom the Wenatchee River and Icicle Creek provided a limitless supply of salmon. Then opportunities for mining, logging, fruit growing, and railroad work drew settlers to the area. Although Leavenworth boomed for a time, it soon suffered from the unrealized promises of all of these ventures, and the Depression of the 1930s appeared to seal its fate. During the early 1960s two men from Seattle who had settled nearby inspired the local residents to revive Leavenworth as a tourist theme town. The alpine setting suggested the perfect motif: a Bavarian village. After several years of heroic volunteerism and financial sacrifice by longtime residents and crucial outsiders alike, it became successful beyond their imagining, developing into Washington's second most popular tourist destination, after Seattle. [File 9475: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 37 – Ellensburg**

**Ellensburg -- Thumbnail History** Ellensburg, the county seat of Kittitas County, is located three miles from the confluence of the Yakima River and Wilson Creek near the geographic center of Washington. The site was a gathering place for the Kittitas band of the Yakama Indians and other Columbia plateau tribes. In 1871 John Shoudy and Mary Ellen Stewart Shoudy founded the town and in 1875 they platted the first streets. Ellensburg was incorporated in 1884. The Northern Pacific Railroad arrived in 1886, and the town prospered, becoming a center for banking and commerce and a social hub for farming and ranching families in the Kittitas Valley. Prosperity enabled Ellensburg to quickly rebuild after the fire of July 4, 1889. Washington State Normal School (now Central Washington University), chartered in 1891, became a major employer. On July 1, 1977, the downtown area became a National Historic District, and provides an important example of Western pioneer architecture. Each Labor Day weekend, the annual Kittitas County Fair and Ellensburg Rodeo draw world-class rodeo competitors and visitors from around the region. [File 7554: Full Text >](#)

**Ellensburg Cybertour** This is a Cybertour of historic Ellensburg, including the Downtown Ellensburg Historic District, the First Railroad Addition Historic District, and the Kittitas County Fairgrounds District. It was written and curated by Paula Becker with the assistance of Historic Ellensburg, the Kittitas County Historical Museum, and Ellensburg librarian Milton Wagy. Preparation of this feature was made possible by an appropriation from the Washington State Legislature administered by the State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation. [File 7541: Full Text >](#)

## p. 46 – spear points

**HistoryLink Elementary: Prehistoric Tools and Weapons** Archaeological finds in various locations across Washington have helped scientists learn about how the earliest residents of this state lived. [File 10744: Full Text >](#)

**HistoryLink Elementary: Marmes Rockshelter** The Marmes Rockshelter was a very important archaeological find in Washington. Tools, human bones, and a cremation hearth more than 8,000 years old were discovered there. But scientists had a big problem -- the site where the Marmes Rockshelter and other caves were located was going to be flooded as soon as the Lower Monumental Dam was completed. The scientists worked very hard to learn as much as they could in the time that they had. In the end, they built structures around the archaeological sites to try to protect them from the water that would fill the reservoir behind the dam. They hoped that maybe archaeologists in the future could have the opportunity to study the sites and learn more about the people who used them thousands of years ago. [File 10749: Full Text >](#)

**Moises Aguirre and Mark Mickles discover prehistoric Clovis point artifacts in an East Wenatchee apple orchard on May 27, 1987.** On May 27, 1987, while installing an irrigation sprinkler pipe through an apple orchard on Grant Road in East Wenatchee near the Columbia River, orchard workers Moises Aguirre and Mark Mickles uncover a cache of 11,000-to 12,000-year-old prehistoric tools known as Clovis points buried about 20 inches below the surface. Clovis points are spearheads that were used by prehistoric peoples to hunt. The discovery excites scientific interest worldwide but raises concerns among members of the Colville Tribe. Portions of the site will be excavated in 1988 and 1990. After each dig the pits will be back-filled and protected from intrusion by four-ton concrete slabs. [File 7966: Full Text >](#)

**Emanuel Manis finds mastodon tusks in Sequim on August 8, 1977.** On August 8, 1977, Emanuel "Manny" Manis (1926-2000) unearths mastodon tusks while excavating a dry peat bog on his property on the southern outskirts of Sequim, Clallam County. The typically marshy area is dry due to a drought that summer, and conditions are ideal for Manis's intentions of digging out a smaller area within the bog to create a permanent pond. His backhoe begins bringing up what at first appear to be old logs. He and his wife Clare soon realize they are looking not at logs, but at tusks nearly eight feet long. They contact archaeology and paleontology experts who begin excavation of the site, confirming that the tusks and other bones are those of a mastodon preserved in the wet peat for 13,000 to 14,000 years. An unrelated bone they soon find embedded in a rib, if indeed a spear tip, provides the first evidence that humans interacted with these prehistoric proboscidian mammals that resemble our elephant (but with molar teeth of a different structure). [File 8511: Full Text >](#)

**Archaeologists unearth artifacts beginning on June 7, 2005, which indicate that Spokane is the oldest continually occupied human habitation in Washington.** Beginning on June 7, 2005, archaeologists from Eastern Washington University unearth Native American artifacts from People's Park in Spokane, and their discoveries reveal the site as the oldest continually occupied human habitation in Washington. The alluvial delta where Latah Creek enters the Spokane River below Spokane Falls apparently served as a seasonal encampment as far back as 8,000 years ago. The evidence will provide important clues about the development of indigenous technology and trade throughout the region. [File 8043: Full Text >](#)

## p. 50 – ancient animals

**HistoryLink Elementary: Prehistoric Tools and Weapons** Archaeological finds in various locations across Washington have helped scientists learn about how the earliest residents of this state lived. [File 10744: Full Text >](#)

**Emanuel Manis finds mastodon tusks in Sequim on August 8, 1977.** On August 8, 1977, Emanuel "Manny" Manis (1926-2000) unearths mastodon tusks while excavating a dry peat bog on his property on the southern outskirts of Sequim, Clallam County. The typically marshy area is dry due to a drought that summer, and conditions are ideal for Manis's intentions of digging out a smaller area within the bog to create a permanent pond. His backhoe begins bringing up what at first appear to be old logs. He and his wife Clare soon realize they are looking not at logs, but at tusks nearly eight feet long. They contact archaeology and paleontology experts who begin excavation of the site, confirming that the tusks and other bones are those of a mastodon preserved in the wet peat for 13,000 to 14,000 years. An unrelated bone they soon find embedded in a rib, if indeed a spear tip, provides the first evidence that humans interacted with these prehistoric proboscidian mammals that resemble our elephant (but with molar teeth of a different structure). [File 8511: Full Text >](#)

**Benjamin Coplen discovers mammoth bones on Hangman Creek in May 1876.** In May 1876, Benjamin Coplen (1843-1912), a homesteader on Hangman (present Latah) Creek south of Spokane, discovers huge, mysterious bones in a bog near his spring. These fossils and others unearthed by neighbors are eventually identified as those of the Columbian mammoth. They soon begin circuitous journeys that will end in major museums in Chicago and New York. [File 7512: Full Text >](#)

**Climbers find basalt mold and bones of a 15-million-year-old rhinoceros at Blue Lake, Grant County, in July 1935.** In July 1935, two Seattle couples hiking near Blue Lake in Grant County in Eastern Washington clamber into a cave of basalt. They notice it has an unusual shape, sort of like the mold of large, upside down animal. They also find a few bones. Word of the bones soon reaches geologist George Beck at Washington State Normal School (now Central Washington University), who examines the bones and the cave and determines that the cave is a mold of a rhinoceros that died 15 million years ago. A basalt flow had covered the dead and bloated beast, preserving a mold of its body in stone. It is one of the most unusual fossils known. [File 9409: Full Text >](#)

**Construction at Sea-Tac Airport unearths an extinct giant sloth on February 14, 1961.** On Tuesday, February 14, 1961, while working on a runway at Sea-Tac International Airport, Gordon Simmons of Sellen Construction Company spots bones sticking out of a recently excavated hole. Digging stops and paleontologists from the Burke Museum are called in to investigate. They find additional bones, eventually totaling about 60 percent of the body of a giant sloth, known as *Megalonyx jeffersonii*. The extinct animal lived around 12,600 years ago and was the size of Mini Cooper. A display at the Burke Museum now showcases the discovery, mounted as a complete skeleton. [File 9408: Full Text >](#)

## p. 50 – Kennewick Man

**HistoryLink Elementary: Kennewick Man** The skull and bones of a man who lived more than 9,000 years ago were discovered in 1996 near Kennewick, Washington. Archaeologists realized that these remains were very rare. Some wanted to have the opportunity to study them. Native Americans from around the region wanted to rebury the man they called the Ancient One and respected as an ancestor. Disagreements about what to do with Kennewick Man have continued through the years. His remains are currently being held at the Burke Museum in Seattle. [File 10741: Full Text >](#)

**Kennewick Man** A man who lived more than 9,000 years ago along the Columbia River in what is now central Washington's Tri-Cities area became the center of worldwide attention and heated controversy following the 1996 discovery of his nearly complete skeleton at a riverside park in Kennewick. Area Indian tribes sought to rebury the man they called the Ancient One and revered as an ancestor. The federal government agreed, but eight anthropologists and archeologists sued for the right to study the skeleton, widely known as Kennewick Man. The case dragged on for years, attended by controversies over the handling of the bones, the burial of the discovery site, and statements by some plaintiffs, amplified and distorted in popular accounts, that appeared to suggest Kennewick Man was "Caucasian" and that Europeans may have reached America before Indians did. Scientific studies, ironically conducted by the government in an effort to support its decision to turn the remains over to the Indians rather than allow studies by the plaintiffs, showed that Kennewick Man was not like Europeans, Indians, or any modern peoples. In early 2004 an appeals court affirmed a prior decision that the plaintiff scientists would be allowed to study Kennewick Man. [File 5664: Full Text >](#)

## p. 54 – potlatch

[Seattle holds Golden Potlatch festival beginning on July 17, 1911.](#) On July 17, 1911, Seattle holds its first Golden Potlatch festival. The citywide celebration commemorates the 1897 arrival of the steamer *Portland* from Alaska loaded with gold from the Klondike River in Canada. Over the next five days, approximately 300,000 persons visit Seattle to attend parades, concerts, and demonstrations by "automobilists" and an aviator. Potlatch is a word (from Chinook Jargon patlac, originally from a Nootka word) describing a North Coast Native American ceremony (not as such part of the ceremonial repertoire of Puget Sound tribes) involving a celebration and gift giving. [File 2422: Full Text >](#)

## p. 55 – salmon

**HistoryLink Elementary: Legends from Washington State Tribes** For thousands of years, Native Americans preserved their history in a special way. They passed down their traditions and culture to the next generation by means of oral tradition -- or storytelling. After the treaties of the 1850s, Washington tribes were moved on to reservations and Indian children were not allowed to speak their native languages. Important tribal traditions could have been lost forever. The work of dedicated individuals like Arthur C. Ballard helped to collect, translate, and save the histories of many Washington tribes. [File 10742: Full Text >](#)

**Salmon Stories of Puget Sound Lushootseed-speaking Peoples** For centuries, salmon have been intrinsic to the culture and subsistence of the Native peoples of King County. For Lushootseed-speaking groups living along rivers and streams where salmon spawn in the Puget Sound Basin, salmon appeared frequently in stories and Salmon as a spiritual being was important in spiritual life. This essay describes the place of salmon in Puget Sound Native culture, spirituality, and story. [File 2942: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 56 – Makah whale hunter**

**HistoryLink Elementary: Makah Whaling** The culture and lifestyle of the Makah Indians is based on the sea. Their homeland is on the Olympic Peninsula in northwestern Washington, along the shore of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the coastline of the Pacific Ocean. They have hunted gray whales for thousands of years. The tribe used every part of the whale as food, to make all sorts of needed items, and to trade. When Makah leaders signed the Treaty of Neah Bay in 1855, they were promised that they could continue to fish and hunt for whales. But professional whalers hunted gray whales until they were almost extinct. The gray whale was placed on the Endangered Species list and the Makah were not allowed to hunt it. In 1999, Makah whalers conducted a traditional whale hunt and landed a whale. Many in the tribe had not tasted fresh whale blubber before. Since then, the whale hunts have been stopped until new studies on the environment can be completed. [File 10739: Full Text >](#)

**Makah Whaling** In 1999 and 2000, after a hiatus of seven decades, Makah Indian whalers again hunted gray whales from their ancestral lands around Cape Flattery on the Olympic Peninsula. The Makah, whose whaling tradition dates back thousands of years, are the only tribe in the United States with a treaty guaranteeing the right to hunt whales. Makahs had not whaled since the 1920s, when commercial whaling nearly wiped out whale populations, but the tribe announced it would resume whaling after the gray whale was removed from the Endangered Species List in 1994. The decision ignited worldwide controversy. Some animal rights activists bitterly denounced the Makah, but other groups, from advocates for indigenous rights to the United States government, supported the tribe's right to hunt. Following legal battles and physical confrontations with protestors, Makah whalers landed their first whale in more than 70 years on May 17, 1999. A 2000 hunt was not successful, and court decisions put further authorized hunts on hold (although five whalers killed a whale without permission in 2007) as the Makah, who continue to assert their treaty right to hunt whales, seek federal approval to continue their tradition. [File 5301: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 58 – legend of Lake Crescent and other legends**

**HistoryLink Elementary: Legends from Washington State Tribes** For thousands of years, Native Americans preserved their history in a special way. They passed down their traditions and culture to the next generation by means of oral tradition -- or storytelling. After the treaties of the 1850s, Washington tribes were moved on to reservations and Indian children were not allowed to speak their native languages. Important tribal traditions could have been lost forever. The work of dedicated individuals like Arthur C. Ballard helped to collect, translate, and save the histories of many Washington tribes. [File 10742: Full Text >](#)

**Arthur Ballard records and translates Native American legends of Puget Sound in 1916.** In 1916, Arthur C. Ballard (1876-1962) begins collecting the legends of the Duwamish, Muckleshoot, Snoqualmie, and other tribes of Puget Sound, and translates them into English. By interviewing tribal members, he is able to capture the oral traditions and their variations, in the style that they were spoken. [File 2563: Full Text >](#)

**Arthur Ballard records and translates the Snoqualmie tribe's legend of Moon the Transformer beginning in 1916.** Beginning in 1916, Anthropologist Arthur C. Ballard (1876-1962) records and translates the Snoqualmie tribe's legend of Moon the Transformer, who creates Snoqualmie Falls and transforms the Dog Salmon. This is a compressed retelling of the story as collected by Ballard from Snuqualmie Charlie (sia'txted) (b. ca. 1850). [File 2586: Full Text >](#)

**Arthur Ballard records and translates the Snoqualmie Tribe's legend of origin of the Tolt River beginning in 1916.** Beginning in 1916, Anthropologist Arthur C. Ballard (1876-1962) records and translates the Snoqualmie tribe's legend regarding the origin of the Tolt River. This file contains the story as related to Ballard by Snuqualmie Charlie (sia'txted) (b. ca. 1850). [File 2587: Full Text >](#)

**Arthur Ballard records and translates the Snoqualmie Tribe's legend of origin of the Humpback Salmon beginning in 1916.** Beginning in 1916, Anthropologist Arthur C. Ballard (1876-1962) records and translates the Snoqualmie tribe's legend regarding the origin of the Humpback Salmon. This file contains the story as related to Ballard by Snuqualmie Charlie (sia'txted) (b. ca. 1850). [File 2589: Full Text >](#)

**Arthur Ballard records and translates the legend of origin of the North Wind Weir on the Duwamish River beginning in 1916.** Beginning in 1916, Anthropologist Arthur C. Ballard (1876-1962) records and translates the Native American legend regarding the origin of the rocks in the Duwamish River known as North Wind Weir. This file contains the story of North Wind Weir compiled from several versions. [File 2590: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 59 – totem poles**

**Native Americans of Puget Sound -- A Brief History of the First People and Their Cultures** Current scientific data indicate that Native Americans arrived from Siberia via the Bering Sea land bridge about 12,000 years ago, during the last Ice Age. Native Americans in King County, who are united by a common Lushootseed or Salish language system, believe they were created in this area at the end of an ancient Myth Age. Major groups or tribes of local native peoples include the Suquamish, Duwamish, Nisqually, Snoqualmie, and Muckleshoot (Ilalkoamish, Stuckamish, and Skopamish) tribes. They evolved complex cultural, social, and economic structures, which the invasion of Euro-American settlers in the mid-1800s almost erased, but which continue today as the tribes struggle for their survival, respect and renewal. [File 1506: Full Text >](#)

**Shelton, William (1868-1938): Autobiography (1914)** William Shelton (1868-1938), cultural leader of the Tulalip Tribes, spent much of his life attempting to bridge the divide between regional Indians and whites through traditional storytelling and art. Shelton gained an understanding of his own native culture through family teachings and by learning from many of his tribal elders. He also was adept at working with Bureau of Indian Affairs and city government officials, gaining their respect and support. Shelton spent years mastering the art of wood carving in order to create story poles through which he shared many of his tribes' cultural teachings. To accompany one of his carved poles, Shelton wrote a booklet published in 1913 titled *Indian Totem Legends*, which told the stories of the pole's carved figures. The booklet also carried the author's autobiography. On January 2, 1914, a longer version of this same piece was published in *The Everett Daily Herald*. The narrative that follows is Shelton's full 1914 *Daily Herald* version. It is a reprint of "Maker of Tulalip Totem Pole Tells Story of His Life," *The Everett Daily Herald*, January 2, 1914, p. 1. --Margaret Riddle [File 8906: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 60 – longhouse**

**The Tulalip Tribes dedicate a new longhouse at the Tulalip Reservation on Treaty Day, January 22, 1914.** On January 22, 1914, Indians from the region gather at the Tulalip Reservation to celebrate Treaty Day and the completion of a new longhouse. Festivities include songs, dances, games and storytelling, with a dinner at noon. John A. Juleen (1874-1935) of Everett is present to photograph the event. [File 8523: Full Text >](#)

**Bridge construction project unearths Tse-whit-zen, a largely intact Klallam Indian village, in a major archeological discovery on August 16, 2003.** On August 16, 2003, workers building a graving dock for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) near Ediz Hook in Port Angeles uncover a shell midden. Discovery of the refuse pile, and shortly thereafter, many human remains and artifacts, reveals the largely intact Klallam village of Tse-whit-zen under layers of industrial rubble and fill. Tse-whit-zen, which occupied the Port Angeles site for at least 2,700 years until supplanted by industrial development in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, turns out to be one of the largest and most significant archeological sites in Washington. In response to the rediscovery of the village, WSDOT relocates its graving dock project, intended to build replacement sections for the Hood Canal Bridge. The Tse-whit-zen site provides important insights into Klallam life before and at the time of first contact with Europeans. [File 7343: Full Text >](#)

**Seattle's Duwamish Tribe celebrates new Longhouse and Cultural Center on January 3, 2009.** On January 3, 2009, members and descendants of Seattle's First People, the Duwamish Tribe, held a Grand Opening ceremony at their beautiful new Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center (4705 West Marginal Way SW), which is situated at a traditional riverside village site. [File 8894: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 63 – shaman**

**Smohalla (1815?-1895)** A Wanapum spiritual leader, Smohalla founded what became known as the Dreamer religion, which was based on the belief that if Native Americans shunned white culture and lived as their ancestors had lived, the Creator would reward them by bringing dead Indians back to life and ridding Indian lands of white people. His teachings spread rapidly among Columbia Plateau peoples in the late nineteenth century. To tribes which had been decimated by disease, pushed out of their traditional homelands, and otherwise dispirited by white encroachment, Smohalla offered hope for a restoration of freedom and dignity. To many whites, however, he represented a dangerous threat, not only to white expansion but to efforts to "civilize" the Indians. Widely feared and vilified in his own time, a century later he was installed in Washington's Centennial Hall of Honor as one of the 100 most influential people in state history. [File 9481: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 64 – horses come to the plateau**

**HistoryLink Elementary: Horses Change Life on the Columbia Plateau** Hundreds of years ago, the Native Americans who lived in Washington's Columbia Plateau region had no means of traveling on land other than walking. That all changed when local Indian groups began to acquire horses. Horses allowed tribes to travel farther and faster to gather food, hunt, and trade. Tribes placed great value on their horses. [File 10748: Full Text >](#)

**European horses arrive on the Columbia plateau in the early 1700s.** In the early 1700s, European horses arrive on the Columbian plateau, having moved north through tribal trade networks from Pueblo villages located in present-day New Mexico. The Plateau tribes, who formerly traveled by foot or by canoe, will gradually adopt this new form of transportation, which will transform many of their traditional lifeways. [File 9433: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 65 – measles and smallpox**

**Smallpox Epidemic of 1862 among Northwest Coast and Puget Sound Indians** This file describes the 1862 smallpox epidemic among Northwest Coast tribes. It was carried from San Francisco on the steamship *Brother Jonathan* and arrived at Victoria, British Columbia, on March 12, 1862. White officials vaccinated as many whites as possible and very few Indians. When Indians camped near Victoria began dying of smallpox, Vancouver Island authorities forced them to leave. The Indians returned to their homelands, causing the disease to spread north from Vancouver Island to southern Alaska, and south into the Puget Sound region. As Robert Boyd writes in his seminal work, *The Coming of the Spirit of Pestilence*, "this [Indian] epidemic might have been avoided, and the Whites knew it." Boyd estimates that from April to December 1862, 14,000 Native Americans perished, about half the Indians living along the coast from Victoria to Alaska. [File 5171: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 69 – Lewis and Clark Expedition**

**Lewis and Clark Expedition in Washington State, 1805-1806: An Illustrated Cybertour** An illustrated cybertour of the Lewis and Clark Expedition in Washington state. The Corps of Volunteers for Northwest Discovery (as the expedition was formally named) entered the region of the future state of Washington in October 1805. The cybertour was written and curated by Cassandra Tate, with photos by Glenn Drosendahl. [File 7062: Full Text >](#)

**Lewis and Clark in Washington State** In May 1803, the United States purchased Louisiana from France. The doubling of U.S. territory caused President Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) to send Meriwether Lewis (1774-1809) on a Westward expedition to explore the nation's new piece of real estate. The Corps of Discovery was a party of 33 persons, including Sacagawea, a Shohone Indian, and York, an African slave. The Corps, under the leadership of Captain Lewis and Captain William Clark (1770-1838), traveled by foot, horse, and watercraft across North America and back again beginning in Wood River, Illinois, in May 1804, and returning to St. Louis, Missouri, in August 1806. The period the Corps spent along the Columbia and Snake rivers and at the mouth of the Columbia -- from October 1805 to May 1806 -- was principally within what is now the state of Washington. [File 5556: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 70 – Bartolome Ferrelo**

**Pacific Northwest Explorations Before the American Presence** In A. D. 458, a Chinese adventurer named Hwui Shan crossed the Pacific to Mexico, and then followed the Japan current north to Alaska. Centuries later, in September 1513, Vasco Nunez de Balboa "discovered" the Pacific after struggling across the swampy Isthmus of Panama. Following that momentous event, Spain dispatched a number of legendary captains to the West Coast of North America, including Hernando Cortez, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, and Bartolome Ferrelo. In 1579, Britain's pirate Francis Drake sailed off the Oregon coast; during the early 1740s, Vitus Bering opened the North Pacific to Imperial Russia; during the late 1700s, English captains James Cook and George Vancouver charted the Pacific including the bays and inlets of Puget Sound (Vancouver); and in 1786, Comte de La Perouse, representing France, sailed to the Queen Charlotte islands. [File 5449: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 71 – Juan de Fuca**

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English captains James Cook and George Vancouver charted the Pacific including the bays and inlets of Puget Sound (Vancouver); and in 1786, Comte de La Perouse, representing France, sailed to the Queen Charlotte islands. [File 5449: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 71 – Juan Perez**

**Spanish Exploration: Juan Perez Expedition of 1774 -- First European Discovery and Exploration of Washington State Coast and Nueva Galicia (the Pacific Northwest)** Juan Perez (Juan Josef Perez Hernandez), sailing on the frigate *Santiago* with a crew made up mostly of Mexicans, was the first non-native to sight, examine, name, and record the islands near British Columbia including what is now Vancouver Island and Queen Charlotte Island. Perez sailed from Mexico on behalf of Spain, arriving at the Pacific Northwest during the summer of 1774. He visited Nootka Sound, and was the first to name Mount Olympus in Washington state (its Spanish name was *Cerro Nevada de Santa Rosalia*). He sighted the Strait of Juan de Fuca and much of the costal territory of Washington state. He was the first European to see and describe Yaquina Head off what we now know as the Oregon coast. He sailed farther along the costal stretch of California, Oregon, Washington, Canada, and Alaska than any sailor had done before him. During this mission he peacefully traded with the Haida, carefully recorded facets of their customs and culture, and mapped and recorded nautical details for others who soon followed his heroic and historic accomplishments. [File 5677: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 71 – Bruno de Heceta**

**Spanish Exploration: Hezeta (Heceta) and Bodega y Quadra Expedition of 1775 to Formally Claim the Pacific Northwest for Spain** In March 1775, the second Spanish expedition, commanded by Bruno de Hezeta (sometimes spelled Heceta), sailed north from Mexico to Nueva Galicia (the Pacific Northwest). This expedition set forth shortly after Juan Perez (d. 1775) returned from his historic first European journey to explore and map Spain's farthest frontier on the west coast of the American continent. The mission of the second Spanish expedition was to successfully take formal possession of the land and to further exert Spain's claim to Nueva Galicia. Having learned from the difficulties of sailing only one vessel during the first voyage, this expedition was carried out with three Mexican-built ships. Naval officers recently transferred to San Blas, Mexico, from the best naval academies in Spain were expressly recruited for the purpose of helping complete this important expedition. This time, Juan Perez was second in command. [File 5688: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 72 - Captain James Cook**

**British explorer Captain James Cook names Cape Flattery on March 22, 1778.** On March 22, 1778, Captain James Cook (1728-1779) names Cape Flattery. The Cape, home to the Makah Indians, and now part of the Makah Reservation, is the northwesternmost point in the continental United States, and marks

the entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The name that the British explorer bestows is the oldest non-Indian place name still in use on Washington state maps. [File 5035: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 73 – George Vancouver**

**Vancouver's Exploration of the North Pacific, 1791-1795** George Vancouver's voyage of 1791-1795 was about the exploration of a new world and staking England's claim there; about cultural encounters and exchanges of knowledge and ideas. But in terms of looking at the bigger picture, his discoveries and explorations were about peeling back the layers of an unknown territory and satiating man's hungry desire to discover the unknown and expand human understanding. Editorial note: This essay by Emily Miller, age 14, of Coupeville, won top honors in the junior division of the 2004 Washington History Day competition, and earned a \$100 supplemental prize from History Ink/HistoryLink for focusing on a subject in Washington state history. We are proud to sponsor History Day and will renew our awards for winning essays in future History Day Programs. [File 5708: Full Text >](#)

**Vancouver, George (1758-1798)** George Vancouver was an important explorer of Puget Sound. He served for 25 years in the British Navy, and commanded the *Discovery* on her expedition to the North Pacific. In April 1792, George Vancouver entered the Strait of Juan de Fuca and commenced his exploration of Puget Sound. He named every island, mountain, waterway, and point of land in sight -- 75 in all. [File 5359: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 74 – Robert Gray**

**Captains Robert Gray and George Vancouver meet off the Washington coast on April 28 or 29, 1792.** On April 28 (or 29), 1792, two of the first non-Indian navigators to explore significant parts of what is now Washington meet on the high seas off Cape Flattery, just south of the entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Captain George Vancouver (1758-1798) goes on to explore and name much of Puget Sound as well as Vancouver Island. Captain Robert Gray (1755-1806), an American in search of furs, soon finds the Columbia River, which Vancouver, like all prior European navigators, has missed, thus giving the young United States its primary claim to the lands of the Pacific Northwest. [File 5049: Full Text >](#)

**Captain Robert Gray enters Grays Harbor on May 7, 1792.** On May 7, 1792, American fur trader Robert Gray (1755-1806) enters Grays Harbor, a large natural harbor on the Pacific coast south of the Olympic Peninsula in present-day Grays Harbor County. Gray, on his second trading voyage to the Northwest Coast from New England, is exploring the coast south of the Strait of Juan de Fuca following a year of trading for sea otter and other furs on Vancouver Island. He and his crew are the first whites to enter Grays Harbor. [File 5050: Full Text >](#)

**Captain Robert Gray becomes the first non-Indian navigator to enter the Columbia River, which he later names, on May 11, 1792.** On May 11, 1792, American fur trader Robert Gray (1755-1806) enters the major river of the Pacific Northwest in his ship the *Columbia Rediviva*. Indian peoples have

lived and navigated along Wimahl ("Big River") for tens of thousands of years, and Europeans have been sailing the Northwest Coast for more than 200 years. However, Gray is the first non-Indian to succeed in entering Wimahl, which he renames the Columbia River after his ship. [File 5051: Full Text >](#)

### **Captain Robert Gray explores Grays Bay and charts the mouth of Grays River in May 1792.**

Around May 14 through 17, 1792, American fur trader Robert Gray (1755-1806) explores Grays Bay on the Columbia River shore of present-day Wahkiakum County, and charts the outlet of Grays River where it enters the Bay. Grays Bay is an embayment on the north bank about 20 miles upstream from the mouth of the Columbia River. The various branches of Grays River rise in the Willapa Hills on the boundary ridge between Lewis and Wahkiakum Counties in southwest Washington, draining 124 square miles before flowing into the Columbia at Grays Bay. Both are named for Robert Gray. [File 5052: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 75 – Lewis and Clark**

**Lewis and Clark Expedition in Washington State, 1805-1806: An Illustrated Cybertour** An illustrated cybertour of the Lewis and Clark Expedition in Washington state. The Corps of Volunteers for Northwest Discovery (as the expedition was formally named) entered the region of the future state of Washington in October 1805. The cybertour was written and curated by Cassandra Tate, with photos by Glenn Drosendahl. [File 7062: Full Text >](#)

**Lewis and Clark in Washington State** In May 1803, the United States purchased Louisiana from France. The doubling of U.S. territory caused President Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) to send Meriwether Lewis (1774-1809) on a Westward expedition to explore the nation's new piece of real estate. The Corps of Discovery was a party of 33 persons, including Sacagawea, a Shohone Indian, and York, an African slave. The Corps, under the leadership of Captain Lewis and Captain William Clark (1770-1838), traveled by foot, horse, and watercraft across North America and back again beginning in Wood River, Illinois, in May 1804, and returning to St. Louis, Missouri, in August 1806. The period the Corps spent along the Columbia and Snake rivers and at the mouth of the Columbia -- from October 1805 to May 1806 -- was principally within what is now the state of Washington. [File 5556: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 79 – diary of Lewis and Clark**

**Lewis and Clark prematurely celebrate their arrival at the Pacific Ocean on November 7, 1805.** On November 7, 1805, thinking he can see and hear the Pacific Ocean in the distance, William Clark writes his most famous journal entry: "Great joy in camp we are in *view* of the *Ocian*, this great Pacific Ocean which we have been so long anxious to See." In fact, the Lewis and Clark Expedition is still 20 miles from the sea. [File 5360: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 80 – Sacagawea and Pomp**

**Sacagawea statue is unveiled at the State Normal School at Cheney on June 9, 1916.** On June 9, 1916, the class of 1916 of the State Normal School at Cheney donates a statue of Sacagawea. The statue will become an important school symbol. In the fall of 1960, a new modern statue will replace it, but the original will be re-installed in 2001. During those years the State Normal School at Cheney will become Eastern Washington College of Education (1937), Eastern Washington State College (1960), and finally, Eastern Washington University (1977). [File 8296: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 81 – Lewis and Clark meet Nez Perce**

**Lewis and Clark Expedition enters Washington state on October 10, 1805.** On October 10, 1805, Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Volunteers for Northwestern Discovery enter what is now the state of Washington, at the confluence of what they call the "Koos koos ke" (Clearwater River) and the "Kimoonenem" or "Lewis's River" (Snake). [File 5323: Full Text >](#)

**Lewis and Clark reach the confluence of the Snake and Columbia rivers on October 16, 1805.** On October 16, 1805, the Lewis and Clark Expedition reaches the confluence of the Snake and Columbia rivers at present-day Pasco, beginning the final leg of 4,000-mile journey of exploration from St. Louis, Missouri, to the Pacific Ocean. [File 5337: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 81 – Lewis and Clark – York**

**In first election by Americans in the West, the Corps of Discovery votes to winter on the south side of the Columbia River on November 24, 1805.** On November 24, 1805, the Corps of Discovery, led by Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, votes to spend the winter on the south bank of the Columbia River. All members of the expedition are allowed to participate. This is the first election by Americans in the West, and the first election to include a woman, a Native American, and an African slave. [File 7539: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 87 – Fort Walla Walla**

**Walla Walla Frenchtown is established about 1824.** Around 1824, the Walla Walla Frenchtown is established near the mouth of the Walla Walla River. The community is associated with the Hudson's Bay Company post first built by the French Canadian Northwest Company in 1818 as Fort Nez Perces and later, after the Hudson's Bay Co. and the Northwest Co. merge, renamed Fort Walla Walla. Frenchtown is a general designation used throughout North America for locations characterized by the early settlement of people of French extraction. Frenchtowns are often associated with early fur-trading posts, especially those of the Hudson's Bay Company, but are typically located at some distance from the posts. This Frenchtown, like others, will outlive the fur-trading posts because its inhabitants will maintain their

French Canadian character through common architectural forms, land division patterns, and the Roman Catholic religion. [File 8615: Full Text >](#)

**Robert Newell and Joseph Meek reach Fort Walla Walla with the first wagons driven overland to the Columbia River in September 1840.** In September 1840, Robert Newell, Joseph L. Meek, and their families reach Fort Walla Walla, the Hudson's Bay Company trading post on the Columbia River in present day Walla Walla County, with three wagons that they have driven laboriously from Fort Hall in Idaho. Newell and Meek, fur trappers from the Rocky Mountains, are on the way to settle with their families in Oregon's fertile Willamette Valley. Their wagons are the first to reach the Columbia River over land, and they open the final leg of what becomes known as the Oregon Trail to wagon traffic. [File 5235: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 88 – Hudson's Bay Company**

**Hudson's Bay Company** The Hudson's Bay Company, a fur-trading enterprise headquartered in London, began operations on the shores of Hudson Bay in 1670. During the next century and a half, it gradually expanded its network of trading posts west across Canada. In 1821, it merged with its prime rival, the North West Company out of Montreal, thus acquiring several posts in the Pacific Northwest. Under the leadership of Governor George Simpson (1787-1860) and Chief Factor John McLoughlin (1784-1857), the company dominated the land-based fur trade in the Northwest for the next four decades. After the Oregon Treaty of 1846 settled the international boundary at the 49th parallel, the company gradually phased out its operations in Oregon and Washington territories and moved its Northwest headquarters to Vancouver Island. [File 9881: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 88 – Fort Vancouver**

**Hudson's Bay Company opens Fort Vancouver on March 19, 1825.** On March 19, 1825, the Hudson's Bay Company opens Fort Vancouver on a bluff above the north bank of the Columbia River where the city of Vancouver, Clark County, is now located. For the next 20 years, the British-owned company, with its Fort Vancouver headquarters presided over by chief factor Dr. John McLoughlin (1784-1857), is the leading non-Indian presence in the region. [File 5251: Full Text >](#)

**David Douglas arrives at Fort Vancouver to begin two years of botanical exploration on April 20, 1825.** On April 20, 1825, David Douglas (1799-1834) arrives at Fort Vancouver, the Hudson's Bay Company's new Columbia River headquarters, in the company of chief factor Dr. John McLoughlin (1784-1857). The young Scotsman is a collector for England's Horticultural Society, dispatched to the Northwest Coast to bring back specimens and seeds of the marvelous and new (to Europeans) plants of the region, for introduction into British gardens and forests. For the next two years, Douglas will use Fort Vancouver as a base for botanical explorations through much of present-day Washington and Oregon, where he will collect thousands of specimens of plants ranging from tiny, rare mosses and herbs to the

giant and abundant tree that now bears his name, the Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menzeisii*, not actually a fir, but a member of a Pacific Rim genus). [File 7298: Full Text >](#)

**Fort Vancouver is renamed Vancouver Barracks on April 5, 1879.** On April 5, 1879, Fort Vancouver, in Clark County, is renamed Vancouver Barracks. This army post will become the oldest on the West Coast and the most historic in the Northwest. Vancouver Barracks will provide troops in the Indian Wars, Spanish-American War, World War I, and World War II. However, because Fort Vancouver lacked adequate maneuver and training space, Fort Lewis in Pierce County will replace it as a major military installation. In 1946 the post will become an Army Reserve facility, and portions of it will later be turned over to the U.S. National Park Service's Fort Vancouver National Site, with the final United States Army parcel closing in 2011 upon completion of a new Army Reserve Center at a different Vancouver location. [File 9326: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 89 – John McLoughlin**

**McLoughlin, John (1784-1857)** John McLoughlin was once the most powerful man in the Pacific Northwest. As Chief Factor of the Hudson's Bay Company's Columbia District from 1824 until 1846, he ruled a domain that stretched from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, as far north as Alaska and south into California. From his headquarters at Fort Vancouver, he managed an international trading network, maintained peace among dozens of Indian tribes, and provided critical aid to American missionaries and settlers. He earned great profits for his company and a respectable fortune for himself. But his superiors eventually lost faith in him and settlers who had once relied on his kindness and generosity came to resent his wealth and power. After being forced to resign from the company, he settled in Oregon City (near today's Portland), a town he had founded years earlier. Congress later passed a law that denied him legal title to much of the land he had claimed there. He died lonely and embittered in 1857. The honors were belated but abundant. His heirs regained title to the disputed land; his home and headquarters were preserved as national monuments; his statue was placed in the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.; and his name was given to schools, parks, streets, bridges, even a mountain. He was informally christened the "Father of Oregon" in 1907, a title made official by the Oregon Legislature in 1957, a century after his death. [File 10617: Full Text >](#)

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phased out its operations in Oregon and Washington territories and moved its Northwest headquarters to Vancouver Island. [File 9881: Full Text >](#)

**p. 91 – David Thompson** (there are a series of timeline essays regarding David Thompson's exploration down the river (8676, 8677, 5102, 9006, 9007, 9008, 9009, 9010, 9177, 9178, 9179, 9180, 9181, 8413, 9229 – these three are samples)

**Fur trader David Thompson explores the Pend Oreille River in September and October 1809.** From September 27 through October 6, 1809, Canadian explorer David Thompson (1770-1857) scouts the Pend Oreille River from Lake Pend Oreille in Idaho, downstream through what is now Pend Oreille County in the northeastern corner of Washington. He and the French Canadian voyageur accompanying him are the first non-Indians to reach the area. Thompson, a trader, surveyor, and mapmaker for the North West Company, is exploring the tributaries of the upper Columbia River for sources of beaver and other furs and for routes to get those furs to market. [File 5097: Full Text >](#)

**David Thompson plants the British flag at the confluence of the Columbia and Snake rivers on July 9, 1811.** On July 9, 1811, at the mouth of the Snake River where it joins the Columbia, Canadian explorer David Thompson (1770-1857) erects a pole with a sign claiming the surrounding country for Great Britain. Thompson also leaves a British flag with the Wallula Indians, who control the area. The sign and flag are a statement to the American fur traders of John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Company, who are competing with Thompson's North West Company of Canada, then still a British colony. The British claim does not prevail: the confluence of the Snake and Columbia now marks the intersection of Benton, Franklin, and Walla Walla counties in Washington. [File 5096: Full Text >](#)

**David Thompson concludes first scientific survey of the Columbia River and departs Kettle Falls for Montreal on April 22, 1812.** On April 22, 1812, David Thompson (1770-1857), Canadian explorer, geographer, and fur trader, departs Kettle Falls and canoes upstream on the Columbia River, bound for eastern Canada. Thompson, a partner with the North West Company of Montreal, has recently completed the first scientific survey of the entire length of the Columbia and is retiring from the fur trade to compile a series of maps from the data he has collected on his journeys. His completed charts will include the first accurate rendition of the Inland Northwest north of the Snake River. [File 9441: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 97 – request for missionaries**

**Catholicism in the Walla Walla Valley** Roman Catholics were among the earliest explorers to enter the Pacific Northwest in the eighteenth century and they were among the earliest settlers in the region in the nineteenth century. The formal presence of the Roman Catholic Church began in 1838, when the first priests arrived under the direction of the Hudson's Bay Company, and established missions north and south of the Columbia River on the Cowlitz and Willamette rivers. A few years later, in 1841, another Catholic mission arrived from the United States. In 1846, the Northwest became an archdiocese and the Diocese of Walla Walla, extending between the Cascade and Rocky mountains and the Canadian and California borders, was established. After the Whitman massacre and resulting battles, the Diocese of Walla Walla was suppressed in 1853. Although the church tried to maintain its missions in the Walla

Walla Valley during the conflicts of the 1850s, church activities were suspended for a few years until 1859, when Catholic institutions began to be established in the area. These included St. Patrick's Church (1859), St. Vincent's Academy (1864), and St. Mary's Hospital (1879). [File 9514: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 97 – Jason and Daniel Lee**

**Japanese Castaways of 1834: The Three Kichis** The first Japanese known to have visited what is now Washington state arrived in a dismasted, rudderless ship that ran aground on the northernmost tip of the Olympic Peninsula sometime in January 1834. The ship had left its home port on the southeast coast of Japan in October 1832, with a crew of 14 and a cargo of rice and porcelain, on what was supposed to be a routine journey of a few hundred miles to Edo (Tokyo). Instead, it was hit by a typhoon and swept out to sea. It drifted across some 5,000 miles of ocean before finally reaching the Northwest coast with three survivors. Their names were Iwakichi, Kyukichi, and Otokichi. Found and briefly imprisoned by Makah Indians, the "three kichis" spent several months at Fort Vancouver before being sent on to London and eventually to China. They became pawns in the diplomatic chess game that governed Japan's relations with the outside world in the mid-nineteenth century, and were never able to return to their homeland. [File 9065: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 97 - Father Francis Blanchet**

**Father Francois (or Francis) N. Blanchet and Rev. Modeste Demers arrive at Fort Vancouver on November 24, 1838.** On November 24, 1838, Father Francois (or Francis) N. Blanchet (1795-1883) and the Rev. Modeste Demers (1809-1871) arrive at Fort Vancouver. They have traveled from eastern Canada with the annual Hudson's Bay Co. "express," leaving in May and arriving at Walla Walla on November 18, 1838. They are the first Catholic priests to arrive in the future Washington state. [File 7553: Full Text >](#)

**Father Francis (or Francois) N. Blanchet visits Whidbey Island on May 26, 1840.** On May 26, 1840, early missionary Father Francis N. Blanchet (1795-1883) comes to Whidbey Island at the invitation of Chief Tslalakum. [File 5258: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 98 – Marcus and Narcissa Whitman**

**Whitman, Narcissa Prentiss (1808-1847)** Narcissa Whitman might have lived out her life in historical obscurity but for two developments. The first was her decision, in 1836, to marry a missionary named Marcus Whitman and travel with him to what was then called Oregon Country, some 3,000 miles from her home in upstate New York. The second was her death 11 years later, at the hands of Cayuse Indians at the mission she and her husband had established near Walla Walla. The Whitmans set out to Christianize and "civilize" a people they considered "heathen." They soon gave up trying to convert Indians and

instead turned their mission into a way station for white emigrants on the Oregon Trail. Long-simmering tensions erupted on November 29, 1847, when the Cayuse attacked the mission, killing the Whitmans and 11 others. The attack led to a war against the Cayuse and the extension of federal authority over the present-day states of Washington, Idaho, and Oregon and parts of Montana and Wyoming. It also helped make Narcissa – the only woman to be killed – a symbol of the cultural clashes that played out between whites and Indians throughout the West. [File 10088: Full Text >](#)

**Whitman-Spalding missionary party arrives at Fort Vancouver on September 12, 1836.** On September 12, 1836, missionaries Marcus Whitman (1802-1847) and Henry Spalding (1803-1874) and their respective wives, Narcissa (1808-1847) and Eliza (1807-1851), arrive at Fort Vancouver after a seven-month, 3,000-mile journey overland from their homes in upstate New York. Narcissa and Eliza are the first white women to cross the Rocky Mountains. The Whitmans will go on to establish a mission among the Cayuse Indians at Waiilatpu, near present-day Walla Walla, Washington; the Spaldings, among the Nez Perce at Lapwai, in what is now Idaho. Both missions will be closed after long-simmering tensions erupt 11 years later and the Cayuse attack the Whitman mission, killing the Whitmans and 11 others. [File 9700: Full Text >](#)

**Dr. Marcus Whitman establishes a mission at Waiilatpu on October 16, 1836.** On October 16, 1836, Dr. Marcus Whitman (1802-1847), a Presbyterian missionary and a physician, establishes a mission at Waiilatpu on the Walla Walla River. He chooses the site because of its proximity to the Cayuse tribe and to the Hudson's Bay Company post at Fort Walla Walla. Whitman will assist many wagon-train immigrants from the United States, but will convert few of the natives. In 1847, members of the Cayuse tribe will murder Whitman and other whites at Waiilatpu. [File 5191: Full Text >](#)

**Missionary women organize the Columbia Maternal Association, the first women's club in the Northwest, on September 3, 1838.** On September 3, 1838, the wives of six pioneer missionaries meet at the Whitman mission at Waiilatpu (near present-day Walla Walla) and organize the Columbia Maternal Association, the first women's club in the Northwest. It is the first and only time the charter members -- assigned to widely separated missions -- are able to gather together in person. Instead, the women (and seven others who join later) hold something like virtual meetings. They set aside an appointed hour, twice a month, for club activities, sometimes in the company of one or two other women but often alone. The association continues to function in this manner until 1847, when an Indian attack on the Whitman mission leads to the closure of all Protestant missions in the Northwest. [File 9236: Full Text >](#)

**Columbia Maternal Association** The Columbia Maternal Association -- the first women's club in what is now Washington state -- was organized in 1838 by the wives of six pioneer missionaries. Only two of the women were mothers at the time, but two others were pregnant, and they all expected that motherhood would be among their primary roles in life. Isolated in what they considered a "heathen land," far from family and friends, they turned to each other for help in "the right performance of our Maternal duties" (constitution of the Columbia Maternal Association). The women had been familiar with such groups through Protestant church circles in their home towns in New England and upstate New York. By creating an association of their own, they connected not only with each other but with the worlds they had left behind. [File 9272: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 98 – Henry and Eliza Spalding**

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**Missionaries Marcus and Narcissa Whitman begin their journey to the Northwest, one day after their wedding, on February 19, 1836.** On February 19, 1836 -- one day after their wedding -- missionaries Marcus Whitman (1802-1847) and Narcissa Prentiss Whitman (1808-1847) begin a seven-month, 3,000-mile journey from New York State to the Pacific Northwest. Their goal is to Christianize and "civilize" Indians in what is then known as Oregon Country. After arriving, they will establish a Protestant mission on Cayuse land at Waiilatpu, near present-day Walla Walla, Washington. Eleven years later, a group of Cayuses will attack the mission, killing the Whitmans and 11 others in what will become known as the "Whitman Massacre." [File 10777: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 99 – Catherine Sager**

**Trial of five Cayuse accused of Whitman murder begins on May 21, 1850.** On May 21, 1850, the trial of five Cayuse men accused of murdering Protestant missionary Marcus Whitman begins in Oregon City, capital of the newly organized Oregon Territory. Whitman, his wife Narcissa, and 11 others had been killed during a Cayuse attack on the Whitman Mission near Walla Walla two and a half years earlier. The defendants were indicted on several charges associated with the attack but were tried on only a single count, that of "feloniously, wilfully and of their malice aforethought" killing "one Marcus Whitman" (Grand Jury indictment No. 11). The trial lasts four days and ends when all five defendants are convicted and sentenced to death by hanging. [File 9401: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 100 – measles and smallpox**

**Turning Point 16: When Worlds Collide: From Contact to Conquest on Puget Sound** The 16th essay in HistoryLink's Turning Point series for *The Seattle Times* focuses on the cultural interactions between Puget Sound's Native peoples and the first European explorers and early settlers. While generally friendly, Indians suffered greatly through exposure to smallpox and other diseases, and later, deliberate efforts to occupy their lands and erase their traditions. Greg Lange conducted the primary research for this

article, with special review by scholars Kenneth "Greg" Watson and John Findlay, Ph.D. It was written by Walt Crowley and Priscilla Long and was published in two parts on October 11 and 12, 2001. [File 9294: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 100 – Cayuse Indians**

**Cayuse Indians** The Cayuse Indians were once masters of a vast homeland of more than six million acres in what is now Washington and Oregon. The first of the Northwest tribes to acquire horses, they were relatively few in number but outsized in influence, noted for their shrewd bargaining ability and much feared as warriors. Fur trader Alexander Ross (1783-1856) described them as "by far the most powerful and warlike" of the tribes on the Columbia Plateau in 1818. They were at the peak of their power in 1836, when they invited Marcus (1802-1847) and Narcissa (1808-1847) Whitman to establish a mission on Cayuse land near Walla Walla. What began as accommodation ended in disillusionment and resentment. A group of Cayuse attacked the mission in November 1847, killing the Whitmans and 11 others -- a brief flurry of violence that led to the first Indian war in the Northwest, the creation of Oregon Territory as a federal entity, and, eventually, a treaty that stripped the tribe of most of its land. But that was not the end of the story. As historian Clifford Trafzer has pointed out, "Their lives did not end in the last century, and their cultures did not fade away" (Trafzer, 7). The Cayuse survive as part of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, with a 172,000-acre reservation near Pendleton, Oregon; an annual operating budget of nearly \$230 million; and businesses ranging from a casino to a wind farm. In the words of a tribal brochure, "We are still here. We will continue to be here." [File 10365: Full Text >](#)

**Washington Territorial Volunteers kill 50 Cayuse in the Grande Ronde Valley on July 17, 1856.** On July 17, 1856, Washington Territorial Volunteers under Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin F. Shaw attack a camp of Cayuse Indians in the Grande Ronde Valley in Oregon Territory. Shaw had been assigned to suppress hostile tribes and the volunteers made little distinction between hostile, neutral, and friendly tribes. The volunteers kill at least 50 people, many of them women and children, burn Indian foodstuffs and 120 lodges, and kill horses. This aggression inflames non-hostile tribes and will be an important reason that the Second Walla Walla Council fails to result in treaties between the Indians and the United States. [File 8146: Full Text >](#)

**U.S. Army Colonel George Wright slaughters 800 Palouse horses on September 8, 1858.** On September 8, 1858, U.S. Army Colonel George Wright (1803-1865) orders his troops to slaughter 800 Native American horses (the herd of a Palouse chief) at Liberty Lake to deny their use by enemy tribes. Soldiers also destroy native lodges and storehouses of grain. Wright is engaged in a punitive military expedition against the Yakama, Spokane, Palouse, and Coeur d'Alene tribes, which had defeated Lieutenant Colonel Edward Steptoe's force on May 17 and 18, 1858. Horses represent both the wealth and military power of the tribes. The slaughter along with the destruction of the food supply devastates the tribes. [File 5142: Full Text >](#)

**U.S. Army Colonel George Wright hangs Yakama and Palouse prisoners at the Ned-Whould River beginning on September 25, 1858.** Beginning on September 25, 1858, Colonel George Wright (1803-1865), U.S. Army, hangs Yakama and Palouse prisoners he suspects of killing whites. Wright is engaged in a punitive military expedition against the Yakama, Palouse, Spokane, and Coeur d'Alene tribes after

their defeat of a force under Lieutenant Colonel Edward Steptoe in May. Yakama warrior Qualchan (alternatively spelled Quaichan, Qualchew, Qualchen, Quilchin, or Quaichien) is hanged 15 minutes after he surrenders to Wright carrying a white flag. The following day, six Palouse warriors are hanged after surrendering. Ned-Whauld River, called by the tribes Sin-too-too-olley (river of small fish) Creek, is thereafter called Hangman's Creek. [File 5141: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 100 – Whitman massacre story has two sides**

### **[Cayuse attack mission in what becomes known as the Whitman Massacre on November 29, 1847.](#)**

On November 29, 1847, Cayuse tribal members attack white settlers and missionaries at Waiilatpu in what will become known as the Whitman Massacre. Thirteen whites are killed during three days of bloodshed, most of them on the first day; another is believed to have drowned after escaping the initial attack. [File 5192: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 100 – Eliza Spalding Warren (witness to massacre)**

**[Trial of five Cayuse accused of Whitman murder begins on May 21, 1850.](#)** On May 21, 1850, the trial of five Cayuse men accused of murdering Protestant missionary Marcus Whitman begins in Oregon City, capital of the newly organized Oregon Territory. Whitman, his wife Narcissa, and 11 others had been killed during a Cayuse attack on the Whitman Mission near Walla Walla two and a half years earlier. The defendants were indicted on several charges associated with the attack but were tried on only a single count, that of "feloniously, wilfully and of their malice aforethought" killing "one Marcus Whitman" (Grand Jury indictment No. 11). The trial lasts four days and ends when all five defendants are convicted and sentenced to death by hanging. [File 9401: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 102-3 – Mother Joseph**

**[Mother Joseph of the Sisters of Providence \(Esther Pariseau\) \(1823-1902\)](#)** Mother Joseph of the Sisters of Providence gained posthumous recognition in 1980, when the U.S. Senate accepted her statue, a gift from Washington state, for inclusion in the national Statuary Hall Collection. The inscription reads: "She made monumental contributions to health care, education, and social work throughout the Northwest." Known as "the Builder," Mother Joseph designed and/or supervised construction of 29 schools and hospitals, one of which was Seattle's first hospital. She is recognized as one of the first architects in Washington Territory. [File 5483: Full Text >](#)

**[Sisters of Providence arrive at Fort Vancouver on December 8, 1856.](#)** On December 8, 1856, five Sisters of Providence, Roman Catholic nuns, arrive at Fort Vancouver, Washington. Sister Joseph (formerly Esther Pariseau) (1823-1902) is their leader. She will later be known as Mother Joseph, the Northwest's first architect. [File 5207: Full Text >](#)

**The Sisters of Providence establish St. Vincent's Academy in Walla Walla on February 18, 1864.** On February 18, 1864, at the request of John Baptist Abraham Brouillet (1813-1884), who has oversight of Roman Catholic St. Patrick's Church in Walla Walla, three Sisters of Providence arrive to establish St. Vincent's Female Academy at the church. Construction of a two-story building for the school and a convent is still underway, but planning begins for opening the school. The unfinished building will be dedicated on Sunday, February 28, registration will occur on Monday, and classes will begin on Tuesday. The school will quickly grow and a hospital, St. Mary's, will emerge out of it in 1879. During the twentieth century, St. Vincent's will become part of a comprehensive parochial system in Walla Walla. [File 9517: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 104 – Oregon Trail**

**A Story of Pioneering by Nicholas V. Sheffer (1825-1910), Part 1: Oregon Trail** In 1909, Nicholas Sheffer (1825-1910) was Whatcom County's oldest pioneer. He prepared his reminiscences for *The Lynden Tribune*, which ran them in three parts in August of that year as "A Story of Pioneering: Being a Personal Narrative of Early Days in Northwest Washington, told to the Tribune by N. V. Sheffer, of 1854." HistoryLink.org was made aware of this account by Whatcom County family historian Susan Nahas who connected Sheffer's information with the HistoryLink.org story of Julia Benson Intermela (1855-1907), the half-Duwamish daughter of Seattle pioneer Henry Yesler (1810-1892). In Part 1 Sheffer treks from Indiana to California to Puget Sound. [File 7975: Full Text >](#)

**Denny Party on the Oregon Trail by Dorothea Nordstrand** This account of the Denny Party's journey to the Pacific Northwest from Illinois was written by Dorothea Nordstrand (1916-2011). Nordstrand writes: When I started school in 1921 at the old Green Lake School, two of my classmates were Denny Grindall and Loretta Jennings, who were cousins. I believe they were both descendants of Arthur Denny. Perhaps that triggered my interest in the Dennys. In any case, I have always enjoyed reading about that family and have gathered much information over the years. This is the story of their journey to the Pacific Northwest on the Oregon Trail. [File 5647: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 107 – Donation Land Claim Act**

**Donation Land Claim Act, spur to American settlement of Oregon Territory, takes effect on September 27, 1850.** On September 27, 1850, the Donation Land Claim Act of 1850 takes effect. The act creates a powerful incentive for settlement of the Oregon Territory by offering 320 acres at no charge to qualifying adult U.S. citizens (640 acres to married couples) who occupy their claims for four consecutive years. Amendments in 1853 and 1854 continue the program, but cut the size of allowable claims by half. [File 9501: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 109 – George Washington Bush**

**George W. Bush settles with his family at Bush Prairie near Tumwater in November 1845.** In November 1845, George W. and Isabella James Bush and their five sons settle near Tumwater on a fertile plain that comes to be known as Bush Prairie. They and their party, which includes their good friend Michael T. Simmons (1814-1867) are the first Americans to settle north of the Columbia River in what is now Washington. The Simmons party makes the historically significant decision to settle north of the Columbia primarily because the discriminatory laws of the provisional government of Oregon Territory prohibit George Bush, an African American who is a key leader of the group, from settling south of the river. [File 5646: Full Text >](#)

**Bush, George W. (1790?-1863)** George W. Bush (1790?-1863) was a key leader of the first group of American citizens to settle north of the Columbia River in what is now Washington. Bush was a successful farmer in Missouri, but as a free African American in a slave state, he faced increasing discrimination and decided to move west. In 1844, Bush and his good friend Michael T. Simmons (1814-1867), a white Irish American, led their families and three others over the Oregon Trail. When they found that racial exclusion laws had preceded them and barred Bush from settling south of the Columbia River, they settled on Puget Sound, becoming the first Americans to do so. Bush established a successful farm near present day Olympia on land that became known as Bush Prairie. He and his family were noted for their generosity to new arrivals and for their friendship with the Nisqually Indians who lived nearby. Bush continued modernizing and improving his farm until his death in 1863. Named George Washington Bush in honor of the nation's first president, he has no known connection to the family of the two later presidents who share with him the name George Bush. [File 5645: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 110 – Fort Vancouver (end of Oregon Trail)**

**Esther Clark Short and her family settle near Fort Vancouver on December 25, 1845.** On December 25, 1845, Esther Clark Short (1806-1862) arrives at the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Vancouver in what will become the city of Vancouver, Clark County. She, her husband Amos Meade Short (1808-1853), and their children explore the area near the fort and the Willamette Valley across the Columbia River before becoming the first American settlers to locate permanently in the future Clark County. They claim a section of land near Fort Vancouver, where they will establish their farm. Their move will lead to tension with the British Hudson's Bay Company, which seeks to confine American settlement to south of the Columbia River. The Shorts will not be deterred and will successfully defend their claim, which stretches from the banks of the Columbia River up to what is today W Fourth Plain Boulevard and Main Street. After Amos's death, Esther will play a pivotal role in building the new city of Vancouver. [File 8528: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 112 – pioneer schools**

**Seattle's first public school house opens on August 15, 1870.** On August 15, 1870, Seattle's first public school house opens. It is located in the "northern portion of town" (now downtown) on 3rd Avenue between Madison and Spring streets in a two-story, two-room school house. The teacher is Elizabeth "Lizzie" Ordway (b. 1828), one of the original "Mercer Girls" who arrived in Seattle from Lowell, Massachusetts, in 1864. [File 1509: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 120 – Oregon Country – Oregon Territory – Washington Territory**

**Congress creates Territory of Oregon on August 14, 1848.** On August 14, 1848, Congress establishes the Territorial Government of Oregon. The United States had enjoyed sovereignty over the region, which included present-day Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, since 1846. In 1843, local residents had declared their own "provisional government." [File 5245: Full Text >](#)

**Oregon Territory, Establishment of** European exploration of the Pacific Northwest from the late 1500s through the 1700s led to multiple and overlapping territorial claims by Spain, Russia, France, Britain, and last but not least, the new American republic. At issue was the vast "Oregon Country" extending along the Pacific Coast from the northern edge of Spanish California on the 42nd parallel to the southern edge of "Russian America" (now Alaska) at 54 degrees 40 minutes north. [File 5446: Full Text >](#)

**Washington Territory and Washington State, Founding of** Soon after the creation of Oregon Territory in 1848, settlers north of the Columbia River began demanding a territory of their own. Congress acquiesced on February 8, 1853, with the creation of Washington Territory. Statehood followed in 1889. [File 5661: Full Text >](#)

**U.S. President Millard Fillmore establishes Washington Territory on March 2, 1853.** On March 2, 1853, U.S. President Millard Fillmore signs a bill creating the Territory of Washington out of the Territory of Oregon. The new territory's boundaries are: north, 49 degree North Latitude; south, approximately due east from the mouth of the Columbia River; east, the Rocky Mountains; west, the Pacific Ocean. The eastern part of the territory would later become part of the states of Idaho and Montana. [File 5244: Full Text >](#)

**1853 Census: First census of Washington Territory counts a population (excluding Indians) of 3,965 in 1853.** In late summer or fall of 1853, United States Marshall J. Anderson has the responsibility of taking the first census in Washington Territory. He counts a population of 3,965, of which there are 1,682 males eligible to vote. The census is conducted to establish legislative districts for the Territorial Legislature. It excludes Indians, who are far more numerous than settlers. [File 2551: Full Text >](#)

**Governor Isaac Stevens selects Olympia as capital of Washington Territory on November 28, 1853.** On November 28, 1853, Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), the first governor of Washington Territory, issues a proclamation that names Olympia as the capital of the new Territory. Olympia, founded in 1850, is located in Thurston County on the shores of Budd Inlet, the southernmost extension of Puget Sound. At

the time, it is among the largest settlements in the Territory. Although it is subsequently surpassed in population and commercial prominence by other cities, Olympia retains its position as capital of the Territory and later of Washington state. [File 5054: Full Text >](#)

**1859 Census: Territorial audit of King County finds 55 horses, 255 white persons, 1 church, etc. in 1859.** On January 4, 1860, the Territorial Auditor submitted to the Washington Territorial Legislative Assembly a report (dated December 31, 1859) on the numbers of white persons, horses, hogs, acres of potatoes, and so on then existing in King County. This file contains the auditor's report and includes his complete list. [File 2683: Full Text >](#)

**1860 Census: First census to count Washington Territory as discrete entity; population nearly 75 percent male; Native Americans counted for first time, but badly.** The 8th federal census, taken in 1860, is the first to formally include Washington Territory (established in 1853), although the 1850 count had estimated the population north of the Columbia River by parsing the count for Oregon Territory, of which Washington was then a part. The subject matter of the 1860 census is more limited in scope than it will be in later counts, and some of the inquiries seem rather quaint 150 years later (2010). Washington Territory in 1860 sprawls over approximately 240,000 square miles (a situation that lasted four years until Idaho Territory was created in 1863) compared to 66,544 square miles today, but it is very sparsely populated. The distribution of people is different than it would become in later years, with Clarke (now Clark), Thurston, and Walla-Walla (now Walla Walla) being the most populous of the territory's 19 counties. Some data in the federal census varies slightly from that found in a territorial audit performed for the territorial legislature in the same year. The discrepancies are minor, however, and only the results of the federal census are included below. The spellings throughout this essay are those used in the census, and often differ from those used today. [File 9463: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 121, 126 – Isaac Stevens**

**Stevens, Isaac Ingalls (1818-1862)** As Washington's first territorial governor, Isaac Stevens, oversaw the establishment of government in what would become Washington state. He also led the survey of a route to Puget Sound for a transcontinental railroad. Stevens's superintendency of Indian Affairs did not serve the interests of Native Americans and resulted in needless deaths and enduring controversy. [File 5314: Full Text >](#)

**Former Governor Isaac Stevens offers his services to the U.S. Army in the Civil War on May 22, 1861.** On May 22, 1861, Isaac I. Stevens (1818-1862), Washington Territory's former Governor and congressional delegate, offers his services to the U. S. Army to fight in the newly declared Civil War. [File 9895: Full Text >](#)

**Former Washington Territory governor Isaac Stevens assumes command of 79th Regiment of New York Volunteers on August 10, 1861.** On August 10, 1861, Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), former governor and Congressional delegate of Washington Territory, accepts a commission as colonel in the U.S. Army and assumes command of the 79th Regiment of New York Volunteers near Washington, D.C. [File 9915: Full Text >](#)

**Former territorial governor Isaac Stevens is promoted to Brigadier General in the Union Army on September 28, 1861.** On September 28, 1861, Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), Washington Territory's first governor and two-term delegate to the U.S. Congress, is promoted to Brigadier General in the Union Army. [File 9917: Full Text >](#)

**U.S. Army Brigadier General Isaac Stevens, first governor of Washington Territory, is killed at Battle of Chantilly on September 1, 1862.** On September 1, 1862, U.S. Army Brigadier General Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), the first governor of Washington Territory, is killed in action at the Battle of Chantilly, Virginia, 25 miles west of Washington, D.C. Stevens is 44 years old at the time of his death. [File 9918: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 123 – Pig War**

**San Juan Island Pig War -- Part 1** The "Pig War" is the name commonly given to the 13-year standoff between the American Army and British Royal Navy on San Juan Island that began in the summer of 1859 after an American settler shot a British pig on the island that both nations claimed. The "war" is celebrated because it was ultimately resolved by negotiation and compromise instead of by guns and force, and there were no casualties except the pig. The confrontation and its resolution are also significant in Washington history because the award of the San Juans (San Juan, Orcas, Lopez, Shaw, and many smaller islands) to the United States instead of Great Britain led to the creation of Washington's San Juan County and finalized the borders of the state that exist today. Part I of this two-part essay proceeds from conflicting claims and tension between the British Hudson's Bay Company and American settlers to the shooting of the pig to the landing of a U.S. Army infantry company commanded by Captain George Pickett (1825-1875) and the crucial decision by Royal Navy Captain Geoffrey Phipps Hornby (1825-1895) not to confront Pickett. [File 5724: Full Text >](#)

**San Juan Island Pig War -- Part 2** The military confrontation between the United States and Great Britain over the San Juan Islands known as the "Pig War" lasted for 13 years from the shooting of the pig in 1859 until its belated but peaceful resolution in 1872. This file, Part 2 of a two-part essay, describes events following the August 3, 1859, decision by Royal Navy Captain Geoffrey Phipps Hornby (1825-1895) not to confront the American troops under Captain George Pickett (1825-1875) that had landed on San Juan Island the previous week. Although General William S. Harney (1800-1889) initially sent more American troops to the island, as soon as news that Harney and Pickett had nearly started a war with England reached Washington, D.C., Winfield Scott (1786–1866), the commanding general of the U.S. Army, was dispatched to remedy things. Scott overruled Harney and negotiated an agreement with British Columbia Governor James Douglas (1803-1877) for joint occupancy of the island until the dispute was settled. Eventually arbitrator Kaiser Wilhem I of Germany ruled in favor of America, opening the way for the disputed islands to become Washington's San Juan County. [File 5725: Full Text >](#)

**Lyman Cutlar touches off Pig War between U.S. and Great Britain on June 15, 1859.** On June 15, 1859, Lyman Cutlar, an American settler on San Juan Island, shoots and kills a pig belonging to the British Hudson's Bay Company. The shooting ignites a long-simmering dispute between the United States

and Great Britain over ownership of the San Juans, as both nations send troops to occupy the island. The hostile forces face each other for more than 10 years from camps on opposite ends of the island before the dispute is settled, but the pig remains the only casualty of what comes to be known as the "Pig War".

[File 5037: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 125-8 – Indian treaties**

### **Medicine Creek Treaty**

**Native American tribal leaders and Territorial Gov. Stevens sign treaty at Medicine Creek on December 26, 1854.** On December 26, 1854, at a meeting at Medicine Creek in present-day Thurston County, 62 leaders of major Western Washington tribes, including the Nisqually and Puyallup, sign a treaty with Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens (1818-1862). The tribes cede most of their lands in exchange for \$32,500, designated reservations, and the permanent right of access to traditional hunting and fishing grounds. [File 5254: Full Text >](#)

**Treaty of Medicine Creek, 1854** The Treaty of Medicine Creek was signed on December 26, 1854, at a meeting at Medicine Creek in present-day Thurston County. Sixty-two leaders of major Western Washington tribes, including the Nisqually and Puyallup, signed the treaty with Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens (1818-1862). The tribes ceded most of their lands in exchange for \$32,500, designated reservations, and the permanent right of access to traditional hunting and fishing grounds. Following is the complete text of the treaty. [File 5253: Full Text >](#)

### **Point No Point Treaty**

**Treaty of Point No Point, 1855** The Treaty of Point No Point was signed on January 26, 1855, at Hahdskus, or Point No Point, on the northern tip of the Kitsap Peninsula. Governor of Washington Territory Isaac Stevens (1818-1862) convened the treaty council on January 25, with the S'Klallam, the Chimakum, and the Skokomish. Leaders argued against signing Governor Steven's terms, but by the second day were persuaded to do so. Under the treaty, tribes of the northern Kitsap Peninsula ceded ownership of land in exchanged for small reservation and hunting and fishing rights. This file contains the complete text of the Point No Point Treaty.

[File 5637: Full Text >](#)

### **Neah Bay Treaty**

**Treaty of Neah Bay, 1855** The Treaty of Neah Bay was signed on on January 31, 1855 by Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), Governor of Washington Territory, and by leaders and delegates of the Makah tribe. Following is the complete text of the treaty. [File 2632: Full Text >](#)

**Makah leaders and Territorial Gov. Stevens sign treaty at Neah Bay on January 31, 1855.** On January 31, 1855, at Neah Bay near Cape Flattery at the tip of the Olympic Peninsula, 42 Makah leaders sign a treaty with Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs of Washington Territory. The leaders, representing four of the five traditional

Makah villages, give up most of their ancestral lands, keeping only a small reservation at Cape Flattery, in return for a promised \$30,000 in annuity payments and a guarantee of the right of hunting, fishing, sealing, and whaling. [File 5364: Full Text >](#)

**HistoryLink Elementary: Makah Whaling** The culture and lifestyle of the Makah Indians is based on the sea. Their homeland is on the Olympic Peninsula in northwestern Washington, along the shore of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the coastline of the Pacific Ocean. They have hunted gray whales for thousands of years. The tribe used every part of the whale as food, to make all sorts of needed items, and to trade. When Makah leaders signed the Treaty of Neah Bay in 1855, they were promised that they could continue to fish and hunt for whales. But professional whalers hunted gray whales until they were almost extinct. The gray whale was placed on the Endangered Species list and the Makah were not allowed to hunt it. In 1999, Makah whalers conducted a traditional whale hunt and landed a whale. Many in the tribe had not tasted fresh whale blubber before. Since then, the whale hunts have been stopped until new studies on the environment can be completed. (This essay was written for students in third and fourth grade who are studying Washington State History and for all beginning readers who want to learn more about Washington. It is one of a set of essays called HistoryLink Elementary, all based on existing HistoryLink essays.) [File 10739: Full Text >](#)

**Makah Whaling** In 1999 and 2000, after a hiatus of seven decades, Makah Indian whalers again hunted gray whales from their ancestral lands around Cape Flattery on the Olympic Peninsula. The Makah, whose whaling tradition dates back thousands of years, are the only tribe in the United States with a treaty guaranteeing the right to hunt whales. Makahs had not whaled since the 1920s, when commercial whaling nearly wiped out whale populations, but the tribe announced it would resume whaling after the gray whale was removed from the Endangered Species List in 1994. The decision ignited worldwide controversy. Some animal rights activists bitterly denounced the Makah, but other groups, from advocates for indigenous rights to the United States government, supported the tribe's right to hunt. Following legal battles and physical confrontations with protestors, Makah whalers landed their first whale in more than 70 years on May 17, 1999. A 2000 hunt was not successful, and court decisions put further authorized hunts on hold (although five whalers killed a whale without permission in 2007) as the Makah, who continue to assert their treaty right to hunt whales, seek federal approval to continue their tradition. [File 5301: Full Text >](#)

## **Quinalt River Treaty**

**Quinalt Treaty, 1856** The Quinalt Treaty was signed by Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), Governor of Washington Territory, and by Quinalt Chief Taholah and other chiefs, subchiefs, and tribal delegates on the Quinalt River on July 1, 1855 and at Olympia, on January 25, 1856. Following is the complete text of the treaty. [File 2633: Full Text >](#)

## **Muckleteoh Treaty (Jan 1855)**

### **Treaty of Olympia**

**Treaty of Olympia, 1856** The Treaty of Olympia was signed by representatives of the United States government and the Quinalt Indian tribe on July 1, 1855, and by the Hoh and Quileute

Indian tribes on January 25, 1856, and ratified by Congress in 1859. This file contains the complete text of the treaty. [File 9791: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 125 – reservations**

### **[Dawes Severalty Act divides Indian reservations among individual members on February 8, 1887.](#)**

On February 8, 1887, the Dawes Severalty Act, also called the Indian Allotment Act, divides Indian reservations among individual tribal members in an effort to assimilate Native Americans into the U.S. population as "responsible farmers." Reservations are divided into 160-acre allotments and assigned to individual members. Unassigned lands are made available to white homesteaders. [File 2600: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 129 - Chief Moses**

**Chief Moses (1829-1899)** Chief Moses was the leader of the Columbia band of Indians, who gave his name to both Moses Lake and Moses Coulee. He was born in 1829, the son of a chief of this Central Washington tribe. His father sent him off at age 10 to Rev. Henry Spalding's Christian mission at Lapwai, Idaho, to learn Christianity and the white man's ways. Moses received his Christian name there, but was never baptized. He soon returned to his own people and as a young man came to be known as a brave warrior, a fierce opponent of white intrusion, and an influential leader. During the Indian wars and subsequent reservation negotiations, he emerged as one of the most influential tribal leaders in the entire Inland Northwest. Many white settlers distrusted Chief Moses -- he was accused of murder several times - - yet for decades he maintained a careful balance between friendliness and resistance, always stopping short of outright hostility. He went to Washington D.C. twice, where he signed two treaties and shook the hand of a U.S. president. However, his dream of a permanent reservation encompassing his mid-Columbia River homeland was thwarted on several occasions. He and his tribe eventually moved on to the Colville Reservation, north of the Columbia. He was an influential leader on the reservation and helped the defeated Chief Joseph (1840-1904) and his Nez Perce band to settle there. He died at the age of 70, recognized -- grudgingly, in some cases -- as a powerful, stalwart diplomat for his people. [File 8870: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 129 – Chief Sealth (Chief Seattle)**

**HistoryLink Elementary: Chief Seattle** Chief Seattle's parents were from tribes on both sides of Elliott Bay and the Duwamish River. He lived during a time of change for his people and the Puget Sound region. He welcomed the Collins and Denny parties when they arrived as the first pioneer families in the Seattle area. Chief Seattle was considered a peacekeeper between the settlers and his people. He was respected so much that the new city was named in his honor. [File 10736: Full Text >](#)

**Chief Seattle (Seattle, Chief Noah [born si?al, 178?-1866])** Chief Seattle, or si?al in his native Lushootseed language, led the Duwamish and Suquamish tribes as the first Euro-American settlers arrived in the greater Seattle area in the 1850s. Baptized Noah by Catholic missionaries, Seattle was

regarded as a "firm friend of the Whites," who named the region's future central city in his honor. He was a respected leader among Salish tribes, signing the Point Elliott (Mukilteo) Treaty of 1855, which relinquished tribal claims to most of the area, and opposing Native American attempts to dislodge settlers during the "Indian Wars" of 1855-1856. Chief Seattle retired to the Suquamish Reservation at Port Madison, and died there on June 7, 1866. This essay includes a sound recording of the correct pronunciation of Chief Seattle's name, provided by Skagit elder Vi Hilbert (1918-2008). [File 5071: Full Text >](#)

**Chief Seattle -- his Lushootseed name and other important words pronounced in Lushootseed by Vi Hilbert** In this sound recording, renowned Skagit elder Vi Hilbert (1918-2008) correctly pronounces Chief Seattle's name and other common names in Lushootseed, the language of the several Coast Salish peoples. The recording was done on December 7, 2006, by Janet Yoder, a longtime student of Hilbert's and who has written on her life and work in preserving the Lushootseed language. The file also contains a transcription of the tape. [File 8156: Full Text >](#)

**Chief Seattle's Speech** In addition to his namesake city, Chief Seattle (178?-1866) is best remembered for a speech given, according to pioneer Dr. Henry Smith, on the occasion of an 1854 visit to Seattle of Isaac Stevens (1818-1862). Stevens was governor and Commissioner of Indian Affairs of Washington Territory. He visited in January and again in March 1854. Chief Seattle's speech went unnoted in the written record until October 29, 1887, when the *Seattle Sunday Star* published a text reconstructed from admittedly incomplete notes by Dr. Smith. [File 1427: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 130-1– Chief Kamiakin and Yakama Wars**

**Yakama Indian War begins on October 5, 1855.** On the afternoon of October 5, 1855, gunfire erupts between Yakama Chief Kamiakin's 300 warriors and Major Granville O. Haller's 84-man troop of soldiers. The two groups have been at a standoff across the ford at Toppenish Creek. Haller and his men are forced into retreat, but tensions continue to rise between the Indians and settlers from Southern Oregon up to the Puget Sound region. [File 5311: Full Text >](#)

**Major Gabriel Rains and 700 soldiers and volunteers skirmish with Yakama warriors under Kamiakin at Union Gap on November 9, 1855.** On November 9, 1855, U.S. Army Major Gabriel J. Rains (1803-1881), U.S. Army soldiers, and Oregon and Washington volunteers skirmish with warriors of the Yakama and other tribes under Chief Kamiakin (ca. 1800-1877) at Union Gap (sometimes called Twin Buttes) on the Yakima River. The Yakamas skillfully evacuate the women and children across the icy Columbia. Major Rains fails in his mission to suppress the Indians, who are resisting American incursions into their land. (Note: In 1994 the then-named Yakima Tribe changed the spelling of its name back to the original form, the Yakama Tribe.) [File 8124: Full Text >](#)

**Oregon volunteers battle Yakamas and Klickitats along Satus Creek on April 10, 1856.** On April 10, 1856, Yakamas and Klickitats under Kamiakin (ca. 1800-1877) ambush Oregon volunteers under Colonel Thomas Cornelius along Satus Creek near what will be the boundary between Klickitat and Yakima counties. The Indians break off the engagement and the volunteers continue their withdrawal from Yakama country. One soldier and four Indians die. [File 8152: Full Text >](#)

## p. 130 – Walla Walla Treaty Council

**Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens convenes the First Walla Walla Council with Native American tribes on May 29, 1855.** On May 29, 1855, Washington Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens (1818-1862) convenes the First Walla Walla Council with Native American tribes of the Columbia River basin. Stevens' orders are to extinguish the tribes' title to lands in the territory in order to open it for settlement. Stevens offers the tribes reservations, cash, and especially, retaining their traditional hunting and fishing grounds. [File 5188: Full Text >](#)

**Governor Isaac Stevens convenes Second Walla Walla Council on September 11, 1856.** On September 11, 1856, Governor Isaac Stevens (1819-1862) convenes the Second Walla Walla Council with Native American tribes to end hostilities and to extinguish their title to their lands. The tribes do not agree and Stevens and his military escort fight their way to safety. [File 5189: Full Text >](#)

### Walla Walla Peace Treaties (Nez Perce)

**Treaty with the Nez Perce, 1855** This file contains the complete text of the Treaty with the Nez Percés, which was signed on the council grounds in Walla Walla County, Washington Territory, on June 11, 1855. [File 8131: Full Text >](#)

### Walla Walla Peace Treaties (Cayuse, Walla Walla, Umatilla)

**Treaty with the Walla Walla, Cayuse, and Umatilla, 1855.** The Treaty with the Walla Walla, Cayuse, and Umatilla was signed by signed by Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), Governor of Washington Territory, and by Pio-pio-mox-mox, chief of the Walla Wallas, Weyatenatemany, chief of the Cayuse, and Wenap-snoot, chief of the Umatilla, on June 9, 1855. This file contains the complete text of the treaty. [File 8129: Full Text >](#)

### Walla Walla Peace Treaties (Yakama Nations)

**Treaty with the Yakama, 1855.** The Yakama Treaty was signed on June 9, 1855, by Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), Governor of Washington Territory, and by Chief Kamiakin (Kamaiakun) of the Lower Yakima, and other tribal leaders and delegates. (Note that in 1994 the Yakima Tribe changed its name back to its original form, the Yakama Tribe.) This file contains the complete text of the treaty. [File 8128: Full Text >](#)

## p. 132-3 – Chief Joseph/ Nez Perce War

**Chief Joseph (1840-1904)** Chief Joseph (1840-1904) was a leader of the Wallowa band of the Nez Perce Tribe, who became famous in 1877 for leading his people on an epic flight across the Rocky Mountains. He was born in 1840 and he was called Joseph by Reverend Henry H. Spalding (1803-1874), who had established a mission amongst the Nez Perce in 1836. Young Joseph and his father soon returned to their traditional ways in their Wallowa homeland in Oregon. When Joseph grew up and assumed the

chieftanship, he was under increasing governmental pressure to abandon his Wallowa land and join the rest of the Nez Perce on their reservation near Lapwai, Idaho. Joseph refused, saying that he had promised his father he would never leave. In 1877, these disputes erupted into violence and Joseph's band, along with other Nez Perce bands, fled across the Bitterroot Mountains into Montana, with federal troops in pursuit. Joseph was by no means the military leader of the group, yet his standing in the tribe made him the camp chief and the group's political leader. It was Joseph who finally surrendered the decimated band to federal troops near the Canadian border in Montana. Joseph and the tribe were taken to a reservation in Indian Territory in present day Oklahoma, where they remained until 1885 when they were sent to the Colville Reservation in North Central Washington. Joseph made several visits to Washington, D.C., to plead for a return to the Wallowa country, but his pleas were in vain. Joseph died in 1904 in Nespelem, Washington, of what his doctor called "a broken heart." His tomb remains in Nespelem today. [File 8975: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 134 – Gold Rush**

**Gold in the Pacific Northwest** The discovery of gold in California in 1848 sent would-be millionaires on a quest for treasure throughout the West. By 1900, major strikes had been made in Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Alaska, and western Canada. Although prospectors found relatively little gold within the borders of what is now Washington state, their very presence, as they rushed from one rumored bonanza to another, created new patterns of transportation, settlement, and commerce. Miners traveling to gold fields on tributaries of the upper Columbia River in the 1850s stimulated development along the lower Columbia. Walla Walla was the largest town in Washington in the 1860s and 1870s because of its position as a supply center for mines in north central and southern Idaho. Spokane boomed as a result of discoveries in northern Idaho in the 1880s. The Klondike Gold Rush of 1897 yanked Seattle out of a recession and transformed both the city's infrastructure and character. Gold rushes were defining events not only for the places where the gold was found, but for the places the miners passed through in search of gold. [File 7162: Full Text >](#)

**California Gold Rush spurs economic development of the Northwest in 1849.** In 1849, the California Gold Rush results in a flood of immigrants to the West Coast whose demand for lumber triggers economic development in the Pacific Northwest. Lumber from the Columbia River and from Puget Sound is more plentiful and more easily transported by sea to San Francisco than from the Sierra Nevada. As California grows, so will the timber industry and the economy of the Northwest. [File 5257: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 136 – Mary Arkwright Hutton**

**Hutton, May Arkwright (1860-1915)** May Arkwright Hutton is probably the best-known woman's name in Spokane history. The woman suffrage leader and political activist grew up in Ohio and came west to the Coeur d'Alene mining area as a young woman. First as a saloon cook, then a boarding house owner, she became known as the best cook in the Coeur d'Alenes. There she met locomotive engineer, Levi W.

Hutton (1860-1928), whom she married in 1887. Theirs was a classic American rags to riches story. The Huttons and their partners owned the Hercules Mine, which eventually produced enough silver and lead to make them millionaires. In 1906 they moved to Spokane, where Levi diversified into real estate and May became a philanthropist, the prime mover in Eastern Washington's woman suffrage movement, and an active figure in Democratic Party politics. [File 7547: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 136 – coal mining**

**Coal in the Puget Sound Region** The history of coal in Puget Sound is tied to the development and expansion of the railroad in the West. Locomotives burned coal, and coal, which is heavy and bulky, could not be transported without the railroad. These two industries grew together in the region, the health of each enabling the growth of both. Washington coal, used to fuel locomotives and steamships, and to heat homes in the Pacific Northwest and elsewhere, found a major market in California. The largest mines were located in King County (Black Diamond, Franklin, and Renton), Pierce County (Carbonado), Kittitas County (Roslyn), and Lewis County (Centralia). In the nineteenth century coal was king, but increasingly in the twentieth century oil and natural gas were competitors. Across the country coal is widely used as a fuel to generate electricity, but in the Pacific Northwest, coal's fate was sealed by the move toward hydroelectric generation, although when hydroelectric dam construction largely ended in the 1960s, some utilities turned back to coal as one way to meet demand. In Washington state the last underground mine closed in 1975, and the last open pit mine, which operated at Centralia, closed in 2006. [File 5158: Full Text >](#)

**Roslyn coalminers strike, precipitating the importation of black miners, on August 17, 1888.** On August 17, 1888, Roslyn miners strike for an eight-hour day, and the Northern Pacific Coal Company brings in trainloads of black miners as strikebreakers. To protect the strikebreakers and to intimidate miners, the company hires 40 armed guards. This precipitates a legal and constitutional crisis, as Territorial Governor Eugene Semple (1840-1908) fears that this armed body constitutes a virtual private militia. He calls it "an outrage" and orders the guards dispersed or arrested. The strike will be settled, and the guards disbanded. Yet many of the black miners and their families will remain in Roslyn for decades. [File 9240: Full Text >](#)

**Worst coalmine disaster in Washington history kills 45 miners at Roslyn on May 10, 1892.** At 1:45 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 1892, an explosion and fire kill 45 miners in the Northern Pacific Coal Company's No. 1 mine at Roslyn, located in the eastern foothills of the Cascade Mountains in Central Washington. It will prove to be the worst coalmine disaster in Washington state history. [File 8016: Full Text >](#)

**Explosion and fire kill 10 men in a Roslyn coal mine on October 3, 1909.** On Sunday, October 3, 1909, an explosion and fire at the Northwestern Improvement Company's No. 4 mine in Roslyn kills 10 workers. A column of flame 100 to 400 feet high ignites the head frame, tibble, snow sheds, and other

buildings. Typically 500 to 600 men work in the mine, but Sunday is a maintenance shift and fewer workers are on duty. Newly developed respirators on display at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle will be rushed to Roslyn to aid in recovery. [File 8021: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 137 – Northern Pacific Railroad**

**Northern Pacific Railroad and Seattle Development** The Northern Pacific Railroad played a pivotal role in the development of railroads in Seattle and in the Puget Sound region. The company's decision to locate its Western terminus in Tacoma rather than in Seattle brought the city together to form its own railroad company, the Seattle & Walla Walla. In the 1870s and 1880s, Seattle's relationship with Northern Pacific was fraught with highs and considerable lows. In the 1890s, however, the railroad's commitment to Seattle became clear when the company purchased small regional railroad interests and began contributing rails, stations, and services to the local infrastructure. [File 1734: Full Text >](#)

**Northern Pacific sets off an economic boom and a bidding war in Puget Sound region beginning in August 1870.** About August 2, 1870, immediately after Northern Pacific Railroad surveyors arrive in Seattle, speculators begin a buying-frenzy of Seattle real estate. One Northern Pacific team will survey a route from Yesler's Wharf at the foot of Mill Street (later renamed Yesler Way), proceeding south to Olympia. Another team will survey a route that goes around the south end of Lake Washington and over the Cascade Mountains. Seattle property immediately doubles in price and some real estate increases three to four times. Puget Sound towns vie for the Northern Pacific terminus and within a couple of years a bidding war has erupted among towns over which one would donate the most land, cash, and bonds to the Northern Pacific. [File 1592: Full Text >](#)

**Northern Pacific Railroad announces Tacoma terminus on July 14, 1873.** On July 14, 1873, an expectant crowd gathers at Yesler Mill in Seattle to hear Arthur Denny (1822-1899) read a telegram from Northern Pacific Railroad executives R. D. Rice and J. C. Ainsworth announcing the railroad's decision on where to locate the terminus. The crowd expects the terminus to be located in Seattle, but Denny opens the telegram and reads, "We have located the terminus on Commencement Bay." Seattleites are shocked, dismayed, and angered that the planned transcontinental railroad and its coveted wealth of goods and passengers would serve Puget Sound not from Seattle but from Tacoma, then barely a village. The reaction in Tacoma is quite the opposite -- celebration. Promoter Matthew McCarver had platted Tacoma City on Commencement Bay speculating that the railroad would come there and his investment proved a good one. [File 922: Full Text >](#)

**The Great Northern Railway Eight-Mile Tunnel is dedicated on January 12, 1929.** On January 12, 1929, Great Northern Railway begins service through its newly constructed Eight-Mile Tunnel, running between Scenic (elevation 2,247 feet), on the west slope of the Cascade Mountains, and Berne (elevation 2,881 feet) on the east slope. The tunnel, bored through 7.8 miles of solid granite, is built in the record time of three years and costs \$14 million to complete. Now called the Cascade Tunnel, it is owned and operated by the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway and remains the longest railroad tunnel in North America. [File 10705: Full Text >](#)

## p. 138 – James J. Hill

**Hill, James J. (1838-1916)** James J. Hill, nicknamed the Empire Builder, embodied the archetypal American story of success, rising from poor dock clerk to multimillionaire railroad magnate. In time, Hill had gained control of the Great Northern, Northern Pacific, and the Burlington railroads. James J. Hill was perhaps more significant to the framing of the empire of the Pacific Northwest than any other individual. His decisions about rail routes and station stops had the power to turn fledging communities into robust cities -- and to cause other hopeful towns to die a bornin'. Settlers cultivated land along the margins of the tracks he laid, later shipping the products of their farms to distant markets via the trains. Hill's impact on the economic development of the Midwestern and Pacific Northwestern regions of the United States is difficult to overestimate. [File 8115: Full Text >](#)

## p. 139 – Chinese discrimination

**Chinese Americans** Chinese immigrants played a critical role in the development of Washington Territory and of Seattle. By 1880, more than 3,000 Chinese lived in Washington Territory and worked in various industries. [File 2060: Full Text >](#)

### **The first salmon cannery on the Columbia River opens at Eagle Cliff, Wahkiakum County, in 1866.**

In 1866, brothers William, George, and John Hume, along with Andrew Hapgood, begin operating a small cannery on a scow at Eagle Cliff in eastern Wahkiakum County near the Cowlitz County line in southwest Washington. The Eagle Cliff cannery marks the start of the salmon canning industry that will flourish along the lower Columbia River for the rest of the 1800s before declining in the twentieth century along with the river's once-massive salmon runs. [File 8036: Full Text >](#)

**Anti-Chinese Activism -- Seattle** Initially Seattle's whites welcomed the aid of Chinese labor, but this attitude soured during the hard times of the 1870s and led to passage of the national Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882. On February 7, 1886, a throng of workers rounded up every Chinese person in Seattle and herded them to the waterfront and a waiting steamer. Civic leaders attempted to prevent the disorderly exodus. Eventually the Chinese were expelled, but not before violence that resulted in at least one death. [File 1057: Full Text >](#)

**Miners force Chinese from Newcastle mine on June 3, 1876.** On June 3, 1876, miners drive 40 Chinese mineworkers from the Newcastle mines. Newcastle is located in the Puget Sound region in east King County. As of January, 300 miners were employed there. [File 219: Full Text >](#)

**White and Indian hop pickers attack Chinese in Squak (Issaquah) on September 7, 1885.** On September 7, 1885, in the eastern King County community of Squak (renamed Issaquah), white and Indian hop pickers gang up on Chinese workers brought in by the Wold Bros. to pick hops at a cheaper price. On two successive days, white and Indian hop pickers try to force the Chinese workers out. When that fails, a gang of seven men (five whites and two Indians) attack the Chinese camp. They fire into tents of sleeping men, and kill three Chinese men and wound three. The perpetrators are brought to trial, but

acquitted. This file includes background information and a verbatim account of the event given in 1887 by George W. Tibbetts (b. 1845), an anti-Chinese hop farmer and merchant. [File 2746: Full Text >](#)

**Tacoma expels the entire Chinese community on November 3, 1885.** On November 3, 1885, a mob, including many of Tacoma's leading citizens, marches on the Chinese community and forces everyone out of their houses and out of town. Tacoma mayor Jacob Robert Weisbach deemed the Chinese "a curse" and a "filthy horde." The Tacoma Ledger and its editor Jack Comerford, the carpenters' union, and many workers and business people had spewed racist rhetoric against the Chinese for months. Mass meetings inflamed the hatred and the few dissenters, most notably Ezra Meeker and the Reverend W. D. McFarland, were ineffectual against it. The community was given a deadline to get out by November 3. In reaction to the threats, about 150 frightened Chinese persons left Tacoma before the deadline. The mob herded another 200 out on November 3. They lost their homes and most of their possessions, and they never returned. In 1993, the Tacoma City Council passed a resolution to make amends and to apologize for the former city leaders' actions. [File 5063: Full Text >](#)

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**Mobs forcibly expel most of Seattle's Chinese residents beginning on February 7, 1886.** On February 7, 1886, violence breaks out in Seattle as a mob starts to forcibly expel most of the city's Chinese population. The next day one man dies and four are injured when they attack Home Guards protecting Chinese residents. Martial law is declared and will last for two weeks. President Grover Cleveland (1837-1908) will order United States troops to Seattle, where they will remain until summer. Though most of Seattle will rebound quickly from the crisis, it will take the city's Chinese community 20 years to recover. [File 2745: Full Text >](#)

**Goon Dip (ca.1862-1933).** Goon Dip was a phenomenon -- a visionary and wealthy entrepreneur, public servant, philanthropist, and the most influential Chinese in the Pacific Coast during the early years of the twentieth century. He had some luck, which he acknowledged and honored, but he also had to breach the virulent anti-Chinese wall of the times to attain success. And he did it with a high level of civility and compassion. One obituary eulogized: "He brought the innate courtesy, the kindly philosophy, the 'do unto others' doctrine common to all faiths into his daily life ..." (*The Seattle Daily Times*). [File 9026: Full Text >](#)

**Chinese Exclusion Repeal Act, aka the Magnuson Act, is signed on December 17, 1943.** On December 17, 1943, the Chinese Exclusion Repeal Act of 1943 -- aka the Magnuson Act -- is signed into

law, permitting Chinese immigration for the first time since the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. It also allows Chinese people already in the United States to become citizens for the first time since the Naturalization Act of 1790. Democratic U.S. Representative (later senator) Warren G. Magnuson (1905-1989) of Washington state submits the bill. Throughout his 36-year career in Congress, Magnuson will champion improved relations with China, regardless of the political party in power. [File 8993: Full Text >](#)

**Luke, Wing (1925-1965)** Wing Luke was elected to the Seattle City Council in 1962, and became the first Chinese American from a large mainland city to hold such an office. Just three years later, in 1965, his promising political career was extinguished when he died in a plane crash. [File 2047: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 142 – Edward Saloman**

**Jewish governor of Washington Territory Edward Salomon takes office in the spring of 1870.** In the spring of 1870, Edward S. Salomon (1836-1913) takes office as governor of Washington Territory. He serves from the spring of 1870 to the spring of 1872. As of 2003, he has been Washington's only Jewish governor. [File 5243: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 142 – immigrants from Europe**

**Norwegians in Seattle and King County** By the 1880s, Norwegians were arriving in the Pacific Northwest in noticeable numbers. By 1910, more than 7,000 Norwegians lived and worked in the region. They lived all over King County but especially in Ballard, and worked as loggers, farmers, engineers, entrepreneurs, boat builders, and fishermen. Seattle's many well known Norwegians include world-class ski-jumper Olav Ulland, Senator Warren G. Magnuson, and Washington Governor Arthur Langlie. [File 3476: Full Text >](#)

**Swedes in Seattle and King County** Prior to the great fire of June 6, 1889, Seattle's Swedish population was small, as it was in the rest of the northwest region. The census of 1880 counted only 190 people of Scandinavian heritage in all of King County. A tremendous influx took place between 1890 and 1910 when close to 150,000 Scandinavians settled in the Pacific Northwest, thus making them the largest foreign-born ethnic group in the state. In Seattle of 1910 they numbered 19,046, 31.3 percent of the foreign born, and of these 8,678 were Swedes. In 1920 Swedes had grown to 10,253 decreasing slightly to 9,634 in 1930. Swedes worked in the woods, in the Ballard mills, on the railroads building tunnels and laying tracks, in construction (contributing both labor and architectural skills), in the mines at Coal Creek, and on the docks at Seattle's harbor, and as farmers around King County. [File 3473: Full Text >](#)

**Nordic Heritage Museum (Seattle)** The Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle has the distinction of being the only museum in the country that promotes the heritage and culture of the five Scandinavian countries and honors the legacy of their immigrants to the United States. Located in an old Seattle public school building in the Ballard neighborhood, the museum proudly flies the flags of Denmark, Norway, Sweden,

Iceland, and Finland. The museum opened its doors on April 12, 1980, in the old Webster School at 3014 NW 67th Street after years of discussion, dreaming, and hard work. [File 9952: Full Text >](#)

**Scandinavian Immigration and Aid Society formed in Seattle in 1876.** In 1876, the Scandinavian Immigration and Aid Society forms in Seattle. The purpose of the society is to encourage migration to Seattle from Scandinavia (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Iceland). [File 3311: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 143 – John Nordstrom**

**Nordstrom Department Store** John Nordstrom (1871-1963) was a Swedish immigrant who arrived in America with \$5 in his pocket. He worked his way across the country, ended up in Alaska, and staked a claim in the gold fields. The claim was disputed, and he knew he was in trouble so felt quite delighted when he was offered \$30,000 for it. He came to Seattle and went into the shoe business with his friend Carl Wallin. Wallin and Nordstrom opened in downtown Seattle in 1901, and was the beginning of Nordstrom, the downtown department store. Nordstrom gradually expanded and opened stores in several states. By 1985, Nordstrom surpassed the sales of Saks Fifth Avenue in New York to become the largest specialty store chain in the country. [File 1677: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 144 – statehood for Washington**

**U.S. President Millard Fillmore establishes Washington Territory on March 2, 1853.** On March 2, 1853, U.S. President Millard Fillmore signs a bill creating the Territory of Washington out of the Territory of Oregon. The new territory's boundaries are: north, 49 degree North Latitude; south, approximately due east from the mouth of the Columbia River; east, the Rocky Mountains; west, the Pacific Ocean. The eastern part of the territory would later become part of the states of Idaho and Montana. [File 5244: Full Text >](#)

**First Washington Constitutional Convention convenes in Walla Walla on June 11, 1878.** On June 11, 1878, Washington Territory legislators meet in Walla Walla to craft a state constitution. Walla Walla is the largest city in the territory in 1878 and the most logical place for politicians to meet. Legislators arrive in June and complete the constitution in 40 days. The constitution they draft will be ratified at the next general election in November, but later rejected by Congress. [File 7648: Full Text >](#)

**Congressional Delegations from Washington State** This is a complete historical list of the Washington territorial and state delegation to the United States Congress. Washington Territory was created on March 2, 1853, and the Territory became a state on November 11, 1889. [File 5463: Full Text >](#)

**Washington Territory citizens vote for statehood on November 5, 1878.** On November 5, 1878, the voters of the Territory of Washington approve a resolution asking the U.S. Congress for admission to statehood. Congress declines. Eleven more years pass before statehood is achieved. [File 5590: Full Text >](#)

**Washington statehood bill is introduced in U.S. Congress on December 10, 1878.** On December 10, 1878, the first bill for Washington statehood is introduced in the United States Congress. [File 228: Full Text >](#)

**Washington State Constitutional Convention delegates frame constitution stipulating that voters must be male, but append separate woman suffrage and Prohibition amendments on August 17, 1889.** On August 17, 1889, delegates to the Washington State Constitutional Convention in Olympia tack two amendments, one for woman suffrage and the other for Prohibition, onto the ballot by which voters will decide whether or not to ratify their new state constitution. The ballot also asks voters to decide which city should be the new state's capital. [File 5503: Full Text >](#)

**Washington is admitted as the 42nd state to the United States of America on November 11, 1889.** On November 11, 1889, Washington becomes the 42nd state of the United States of America. [File 5210: Full Text >](#)

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## **Washington State Constitution**

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## **p. 145 – Seattle fire**

**HistoryLink Elementary: The Great Fire of Seattle** Early buildings in what is now the state of Washington were mostly constructed of wood. There were no organized fire departments and not much water that could be used in the event of fire. Seattle's downtown was nearly completely burned to the ground in 1889. Many other towns also suffered terrible fires around that time. These disasters led to improvements in fire prevention and firefighting. [File 10743: Full Text >](#)

**Seattle burns down in the Great Fire on June 6, 1889.** At about 2:30 p.m. on June 6, 1889, a pot of glue bursts into flames in Victor Clairmont's cabinet shop at the corner of Front (1st Avenue) and Madison streets. Efforts to contain the fire fail and it quickly engulfs the wood-frame building. Thanks to a dry spring and a brisk wind, the flames soon spread, and volunteer firefighters tap out the town's inadequate, privately owned watermains. By sunset, Seattle's Great Fire has burned some 64 acres to smoldering ruins. [File 5115: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 145 – Spokane Falls fire**

**Great Spokane Fire destroys downtown Spokane Falls on August 4, 1889.** On Sunday, August 4, 1889, fire destroys most of downtown Spokane Falls. It begins in an area of flimsy wooden structures and quickly engulfs the substantial stone and brick buildings of the business district. Property losses are huge, and one death is reported. Initially the fire is blamed on Rolla A. Jones, who was in charge of the water system and was said to have gone fishing after leaving the system in the charge of a complete incompetent. Later, city fathers will exonerate Jones, but this account, although false, will be repeated in many histories of the fire. Spokane will quickly rebuild as fine new buildings of a revitalized downtown rise from the ashes. [File 7696: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 145 – Ellensburg fire**

**Ellensburg fire destroys 200 homes and 10 business blocks on July 4, 1889.** On the evening of July 4, 1889, a devastating fire sweeps through Ellensburg, destroying approximately 200 Victorian-era homes and leveling structures on 10 business blocks. [File 5111: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 150 – Capitol in Olympia**

**Governor Isaac Stevens selects Olympia as capital of Washington Territory on November 28, 1853.** On November 28, 1853, Isaac Stevens (1818-1862), the first governor of Washington Territory, issues a proclamation that names Olympia as the capital of the new Territory. Olympia, founded in 1850, is located in Thurston County on the shores of Budd Inlet, the southernmost extension of Puget Sound. At the time, it is among the largest settlements in the Territory. Although it is subsequently surpassed in population and commercial prominence by other cities, Olympia retains its position as capital of the Territory and later of Washington state. [File 5054: Full Text >](#)

**Olympia Capitol -- A History of the Building** Modern-day visitors to Olympia's capitol campus are justly impressed by the main Legislative Building's 278-foot-high dome and the equally broad-shouldered edifices that surround that central structure. Architecture critics have called the arrangement a watershed in American capitol construction. Yet building the Washington state capitol was in no way an easy task.

Not only were there daunting costs and delays involved, but even upon its completion in 1924, critics derided it as a waste of tax dollars. [File 5443: Full Text >](#)

**p. 154 – Cities and Towns** (there is a cyberpedia for most major cities and towns in Washington state see <http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=results.cfm&keyword=Cities & Towns&searchfield=topics>)

**p. 155 – Counties** (there is a cyberpedia for every county in Washington state see <http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=results.cfm&keyword=countythumbnail> )

### **p. 167 – Boldt decision**

[Federal Judge George Boldt issues historic ruling affirming Native American treaty fishing rights on February 12, 1974.](#) On February 12, 1974, Federal Judge George Boldt (1903-1984) issues an historic ruling reaffirming the rights of Washington's Indian tribes to fish in accustomed places. The "Boldt Decision" allocates 50 percent of the annual catch to treaty tribes, which enrages other fishermen. At the same time Judge Boldt denies landless tribes -- among them the Samish, Snoqualmie, Steilacoom, and Duwamish -- federal recognition and treaty rights. [File 5282: Full Text](#)

### **p. 180 – Grand Coulee Dam**

**Grand Coulee Dam** Grand Coulee Dam, hailed as the "Eighth Wonder of the World" when it was completed in 1941, is as confounding to the human eye as an elephant might be to an ant. It girdles the Columbia River with 12 million cubic yards of concrete, stacked one mile wide and as tall as a 46-story building, backing up a 150-mile long reservoir, spinning out more kilowatts than any other dam in the United States. As gargantuan as it is, Grand Coulee is only part of the massive Columbia Basin Project, which includes four other dams, three storage lakes, and 2,300 miles of irrigation canals, snaking through half a million acres of desert. No other public works project has had a greater impact on the development of the Pacific Northwest. However, the social and environmental costs have been so severe, according to a study released in 2000, that Grand Coulee probably could not be built today. [File 7264: Full Text >](#)

## p. 181 – irrigation

**Irrigation in the Walla Walla River Valley** Irrigation has been the single most crucial element in the Walla Walla Valley's agriculture since 1836, when pioneer missionary Marcus Whitman (1802-1847) dug the first irrigation ditch near his Walla Walla mission. The bottomlands of the Walla Walla and Touchet rivers proved to be uncommonly fertile when supplied with water flowing off the nearby Blue Mountains. Early settlers dug small ditches for their gardens, orchards and pastures. The first large-scale canal projects were launched in 1892 and 1893, including the Hawley Ditch and the Burlingame-Gardena Ditch, which transformed thousands of acres into lush farmland and orchards near Touchet. Other ditch projects soon followed the length of the Walla Walla Valley, including some across the border into Oregon. Artesian wells gushed fountains of groundwater. Irrigation made it possible to grow the crops that the Walla Walla Valley later became famous for: Walla Walla Sweets (onions) and wine grapes from the Walla Walla Valley American Viticultural Area. Many of the original irrigation ditches were converted to more efficient covered pipelines beginning in 2010, as part of a plan to leave more water in the Walla Walla River for fish. [File 10660: Full Text >](#)

**The Burlingame Gardena irrigation ditch, a key irrigation project in the Walla Walla Valley, is completed on May 27, 1905.** On May 27, 1905, the Burlingame Gardena irrigation ditch, a key irrigation project in the Walla Walla Valley, is completed. It is one of the biggest irrigation projects in the Walla Walla Valley and transports water in 21 miles of canals from the Walla Walla River to the Gardena area, just south of Touchet. Its guiding force and president is Edward C. Burlingame (1858-1958), who uses the water to irrigate his vast Burlingame Hilltop Ranch near the Oregon border. Other farms rapidly develop in the area. The canal system operates for many years under the name Walla Walla Irrigation Co. It becomes the Gardena Farms Irrigation District in 1928 and later Gardena Farms Irrigation District No. 13. [File 10661: Full Text >](#)

**Grant, Adams, and Franklin counties begin celebrating the Columbia Basin Water Festival on May 22, 1952.** Beginning on May 22, 1952, Grant, Adams, and Franklin counties celebrate the Columbia Basin Water Festival. The event celebrates the first irrigation water sent from the Grand Coulee Dam through canals to the Columbia Basin to irrigate 66,000 acres, the first of a projected million acres to be irrigated. To celebrate this first irrigation, three counties and 10 cities schedule a 10-day series of events. Adrian Awan is the main organizer. Sally Johnson of Soap Lake is voted queen of the festival. Phyllis Elaine Pfeifer Brown of Wilson Creek, Irene Snyder of Quincy, and Dolores Larreau of Moses Lake are her princesses. [File 8114: Full Text >](#)

**First irrigation ditch in the Yakima Valley is dug at the Saint Joseph Mission in 1852.** In 1852, Catholic Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate Father Charles Pandosy and Father Eugene Casmire Chirouse (1821-1892), in company with Yakama people, labor with shovels to dig the first irrigation ditch in the Yakima Valley. In time irrigation will so transform the natural sagebrush desert (an ecology known as shrub-steppe) that the Yakima Valley will become known as the fruit bowl of the nation. [File 5288: Full Text >](#)

**Walter Granger organizes the Yakima Land and Canal Company on December 4, 1889.** On December 4, 1889, Walter N. Granger (1855-1930) and a group of St. Paul, Minnesota, investors organize the Yakima Land and Canal Company. Walter Granger is named president. The company uses some of its capital stock of one million dollars divided into 200,000 shares to secure an option on all land in the

Yakima Valley owned by the Northern Pacific Railroad. The company, renamed the Northern Pacific, Kittitas, and Yakima Irrigation Project, will create the Sunnyside Project, Yakima Valley's first commercial irrigation project. [File 7695: Full Text >](#)

**May Day picnic celebrates first irrigation water reaching Sequim Prairie on May 1, 1896.** On May 1, 1896, local farm families celebrate their completion of the first irrigation ditch carrying Dungeness River water to Sequim Prairie. Located in eastern Clallam County in the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains, the fertile prairie receives less than 17 inches of rain a year. Dug by hand by local farmers who organized the Sequim Prairie Ditch Company in 1895, the ditch marks the beginning of the Sequim Irrigation District. Over the next quarter-century, some 20 ditch companies construct a maze of canals throughout the Dungeness Valley, eventually creating a 25,000-acre canal-sprinkler irrigation system, the largest in Western Washington. The Sequim Irrigation Festival commemorating the opening of the first ditch has been held every year since 1896, making it the oldest continuing festival in the state. [File 7586: Full Text >](#)

**Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, WSU Prosser** Washington State College (later WSU) established the Irrigation Experiment Station at Prosser in 1919. The Washington Irrigation Institute recommended such a program to study problems faced by farmers, orchardists, and ranchers in the dry central part of the state. The station employed scientists from the college in Pullman, who partnered with scientists from the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, as it is now known, continues to provide support and research for Washington state irrigated agriculture. Irrigated agriculture, including grapes for the wine industry, wheat, hops, alfalfa, and apple and cherry orchards, comprises some 60 crops that add up to two-thirds of the state's agriculture and bring in some \$3 billion in revenue annually. The center is one of the major employers of Prosser. [File 7684: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 181 – Yakima Indian Reservation**

**Indians and non-Indians attend a historic powwow at Cashmere from August 20 to 22, 1931.** A historic powwow held at Cashmere August 20 through 22, 1931, draws Indians and non-Indians from a wide area. The main organizers are J. Harold Anderson, a young Cashmere attorney who represented the Wenatchi Tribe, and Mark Balaban, one of the founders of the well-known Cashmere firm Aplets & Cotlets. Through John Harmelt (d. 1937), the last hereditary Wenatchi chief, Anderson has become increasingly aware of the unfair treatment of these Indians following Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens's Walla Walla Treaty of 1855, which deeded Wenatchi land, now part of the Wenatchee National Forest, to the Yakama Nation. Article X of the same treaty assures the Wenatchis of the continuation of their fishing rights by promising a fishery, the Wenatchapam (Wenatchapam) Fishery Reservation, at the confluence of Icicle Creek and the Wenatchee River at present Leavenworth. As an attempt to call attention to this unfilled treaty obligation to the Wenatchis, as well as to boost the economy of Cashmere area, Anderson, Balaban, the Chamber of Commerce, and local Indian leaders organize a "Grand Powwow and Historical Pageant." [File 9147: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 181 – wheat**

**Wait's Mill, in what will become the town of Waitsburg, begins operation in May 1865.** In May 1865, Sylvester M. Wait (d. 1891) begins operating a flour mill in the midst of farmland clustered around the convergence of the Touchet River and Coppei Creek in Walla Walla County. The previous year Wait had met Dennis Willard, an early settler in the Touchet Valley, who was in Lewiston, Idaho, selling supplies to miners. Wait returned with Willard and, on land donated by Willard and William Perry Bruce, set up a mill to process local wheat into flour. The town of Waitsburg will grow up around the mill, which will continue to expand and operate under different owners until it is closed 92 years later. [File 9863: Full Text >](#)

**Walla Walla & Columbia River Railroad is completed from Wallula to Walla Walla on October 23, 1875.** On October 23, 1875, Dr. Dorsey Syng Baker (1823-1888) completes the Walla Walla & Columbia River Railroad from Wallula, on the Columbia River, to Walla Walla. Work on the railroad began in 1871, and it is completed four years later. Dr. Baker celebrates by offering a free round-trip ride on the new railroad. Hundreds come from around the valley to see the new train. Walla Walla residents board the train, ride to Wallula, and enjoy a picnic before returning by train to Walla Walla. The line will become part of the Northern Pacific Railroad. [File 7630: Full Text >](#)

**Thorp Mill begins operation in the Kittitas Valley in April 1883.** Thorp Mill begins operation in the Kittitas Valley in April 1883. This four-story gristmill, built by Oren Hutchinson, provides farmers throughout the valley both the convenience of local processing for their wheat and an important hub for community activities. [File 5073: Full Text >](#)

**John R. Lewis plants the first wheat crop in Douglas County one mile north of Coulee City in 1884.** In 1884 John R. Lewis (b. 1855), an early Douglas County pioneer, plants the county's first wheat crop. At the time the Big Bend region's shrub-steppe sagebrush-covered terrain is thought suitable only for grazing cattle and sheep. Douglas disproves this theory, successfully raising a crop and providing Douglas County residents with an example of how they can survive economically after the hard winter of 1889-1890 kills the vast majority of the region's range stock. [File 7964: Full Text >](#)

**The Mayview Tramway, conveyor of wheat down canyon to the Snake River, begins operation in 1890.** In 1890, the Mayview Tramway, located in northeastern Garfield County, begins operation. For more than 50 years it will haul millions of pounds of grain from a point on top of the Snake River Canyon 1,800 feet down to warehouses at the bottom of the canyon on the river. The tram is located about one mile northeast of the town of Mayview. This rail tramway is not the only method used to transport grain from the top to the bottom of the canyon in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but it proves to be one of the more sophisticated and successful methods used. [File 7917: Full Text >](#)

**First wheat is shipped from Seattle on November 3, 1890.** On November 3, 1890, the first wheat to leave Seattle by ship is loaded aboard the British bark *Mary L. Burrill*, bound for Cork, Ireland. The wheat had been stored in a new grain terminal in West Seattle. [File 2150: Full Text >](#)

**W. J. Spillman, professor of Agriculture and Horticulture, arrives on Washington State campus in 1894.** In 1894, Professor W. J. Spillman arrives on the campus of the future Washington State University

in Pullman, which is called the Agricultural College, Experiment Station and School of Science of the State of Washington. Spillman will become widely known for his advances in farming techniques, which will aid wheat farmers in the region. [File 7649: Full Text >](#)

**Adams County produces its first bumper crop of wheat in 1897.**In 1897, Adams County produces its first bumper crop of wheat. For the first time, raising wheat becomes predominate over cattle ranching in the county. [File 7843: Full Text >](#)

**Washington grain train begins rolling in the fall of 1994.**In the fall of 1994, the Washington grain train begins rolling. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the Washington State Energy Office have purchased and repaired 29 used rail hopper cars to collect wheat and barley from grain elevators in Southeast Washington and haul it to grain-export facilities in deepwater ports along the Columbia River and Puget Sound. From the ports the grain will be loaded onto ships bound for Pacific Rim markets. [File 7530: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 181 – Wenatchi Indians**

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## **p. 184 – Microsoft**

**Microsoft Corporation** In 1975, two young men from Seattle founded a company that would be to the Computer Age what the Ford Motor Company was to the Automobile Age. Like Henry Ford, William H. Gates III (b. 1953) and Paul Allen (b. 1953) transformed a new technology by building on the inventions of others, creating a mass market for what had once been a novelty for the few. Their company -- originally called Micro-soft, an abbreviation for microcomputer software -- helped change the living, working, and recreational habits of hundreds of millions of people around the world. [File 2294: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 184 – Starbucks**

[Starbucks Coffee opens first store in Pike Place Market in April 1971.](#) In April 1971, Starbucks Coffee opens for business in the Pike Place Market, selling high-quality coffee, dark-roasted in small batches, the European way. Starbucks does not sell or brew coffee by the cup, but sometimes offers brewed samples. [File 2075: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 184 - Costco**

[First Costco discount warehouse opens in Seattle on September 15, 1983.](#) On September 15, 1983, the first Costco discount warehouse opens on 4th Avenue S in Seattle. The warehouse offers food, appliances, clothes, office supplies, and other goods at prices below general retail levels. The company is headquartered in Issaquah. [File 3609: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 184 – Nordstrom**

[Nordstrom Department Store](#) John Nordstrom (1871-1963) was a Swedish immigrant who arrived in America with \$5 in his pocket. He worked his way across the country, ended up in Alaska, and staked a claim in the gold fields. The claim was disputed, and he knew he was in trouble so felt quite delighted when he was offered \$30,000 for it. He came to Seattle and went into the shoe business with his friend Carl Wallin. Wallin and Nordstrom opened in downtown Seattle in 1901, and was the beginning of Nordstrom, the downtown department store. Nordstrom gradually expanded and opened stores in several states. By 1985, Nordstrom surpassed the sales of Saks Fifth Avenue in New York to become the largest specialty store chain in the country. [File 1677: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 185 – timber industry**

[Weyerhaeuser Company](#) Weyerhaeuser is the world's largest producer of lumber. The firm arrived in the Pacific Northwest when Frederick Weyerhaeuser (1834-1914) and his partners purchased 900,000 acres of forest land in Western Washington from the Northern Pacific Railroad Co. in 1900. [File 1675: Full Text >](#)

## **p. 191 – Microsoft**

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>

**Steve Ballmer takes over as CEO of Microsoft on January 13, 2000.** On January 13, 2000, at a press conference, Bill Gates (b. 1953) turns over leadership of Microsoft to Steve Ballmer (b. 1956). Gates retains his position as chairman of the board and takes the title of chief software architect, while Ballmer adds the role of CEO to his existing position as president of the company. [File 10426: Full Text](#) >

## p. 191 – Bill Gates

**Gates, William H. (Bill) (b. 1955)** William H. (Bill) Gates was co-founder and CEO of Microsoft Corp. As such, he not only accumulated a fortune -- in 2013 he was the richest person in the world, with a net worth of \$72.1 billion -- but was a key player in the computer revolution that has fundamentally changed the nature of business and culture in the United States and around the world. Although Bill Gates began his career with the benefits of being the scion of an accomplished and well-off family, with excellent education opportunities and access to a broad network of personal connections, no one has argued that his success was not primarily the result of his own talents and efforts. In addition to co-founding Microsoft, he co-founded the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and since 2008 has devoted his energies to that large philanthropy. [File 10421: Full Text](#) >

**Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation was formally established in the summer of 1999. The new organization consolidated previous activities dating back to 1994, including family giving, the William H. Gates Foundation, the Microsoft Corporation's "Libraries Online" initiative, the Gates Library Foundation and later Gates Learning Foundation. With an endowment estimated at more than \$22 billion in early 2000, it ranked as the largest philanthropic trust in the United States. Its contribution strategy focuses on global health and population control programs, libraries and access to information technology, education reform and minority scholarships, and a wide range of Pacific Northwest institutions and programs. [File 2907: Full Text](#) >

**Gates and Allen start the firm that grows into Microsoft in the fall of 1975.** In the fall of 1975, William Gates III and Paul Allen (b. 1953) form the company that grows into Microsoft. [File 3416: Full Text](#) >

**Lakeside School (Seattle)** Lakeside is an independent school located on a 33-acre New England-style campus in north Seattle. Long known for its reputation for educating children of the elite, this premier independent school of the Pacific Northwest has, through the decades, evolved into one with a much wider and more liberal mission. From an enrollment of 100 boys, all of them white, in the 1920s, it has now (2013) an enrollment of almost 800 students, half of whom are girls. This 5th through 12th grade school has 107 faculty members of which 20.5 percent are people of color as are 51 percent of the students. Some 29 percent of the students receive financial aid. In addition to a rigorous academic

curriculum, the school requires credits in a strong athletic program, outdoor education, community service, and the arts. [File 10621: Full Text >](#)

### **p. 200-3 – state symbols**

**About Washington State -- Frequently Asked Questions and Their Answers** This essay offers a brief introduction to the state of Washington, its jurisdictional development and government, and its official symbols. [File 5315: Full Text >](#)