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Illustrations from "Inland Printing," October, 1912.

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#146

June

2020

The C/DPHS is an association of individuals dedicated to the preservation of the history of our community. To the preservation of the region's oral history, literary history, social history, graphic and pictorial history, and our history as represented by the region's artifacts and structures. To the preservation of this history for future generations. To the art of making this common heritage accessible to the public. And to the act of collaborating with other individuals and organizations sharing similar goals.

THE
**CLAYTON ♦ DEER PARK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Mortarboard

© C/DPHS

W. H. Short's 1911 Sawmill

by

Peter Coffin

The settlement of the greater Deer Park area began when homesteaders started claiming plots of land. Once a claim had been staked, they had to work hard to make the land habitable by clearing trees and brush to provide enough room for a house, garden, and tillable fields. At first the trees were used for log houses and firewood. As sawmills were imported, the trees were reduced to lumber.

Large amounts of lumber were needed as more and more settlers moved into the area. This provided a market for larger integrated saw milling operations. Wild Rose Prairie became home to a scattering of small sawmills, (see note #1 below) and at least two

larger integrated sawmills. Louis Gemmill (see note #2 below) built and operated one large mill on Dragoon Creek and the Byersdorfs (see note #3 below) another.

Saw milling in the Deer Park area began in 1889 with W. H. Short and George Crawford moving a portable sawmill to an area just west of the Spokane Falls and Northern Railroad and north of present Crawford Street. This small sawmill evolved into a large mill supplying the growing demand for lumber in both the local market as well as the city of Spokane Falls.

By 1910 William H. Short had ordered some of the latest saw milling equip-

Notes:

Note #1: Coffin, Peter, 2018, *A Sawmill in the Woods: Mortarboard*, Issue #24, August.

Note #2: Coffin, Peter, 2017, *Louis Cass Gemmill: Early Wild Rose Settler: Mortarboard*, Issue #112, August.

Note #3: Schaub, Doris, 2001, *The Uniting of Two Pioneer Families: Nostalgia Magazine*, April. (The article describes the Graham and Byersdorf families' sawmilling operations that moved from Baileys Lake, to Wild Rose Prairie, and on to the Diamond Lake area.)



Image #One.

The Deer Park Sawmill on the East Shore of Dragoon Lake.

Logs fill the lake's surface in the left foreground and the "Bull Chain" conveyor ramp is on the south side of the mill building.

ment and built a new mill on the banks of Dragoon Lake about one half mile north of his original mill location. The lake was formed when the Arcadia Orchards Company dammed

Dragoon Creek to create a water reservoir for irrigation. Fortunately, the construction of this new sawmill was documented by many photographs preserved in the Open-Door Congrega-

Further Reading — Hand Painting a Glass Slide of the Image Above:

"Winnie Moore's Magic Lantern Slides," by Wally Lee Parker. Mortarboard #138, October, 2019 — page 1947 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 40. http://cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_138_web.pdf

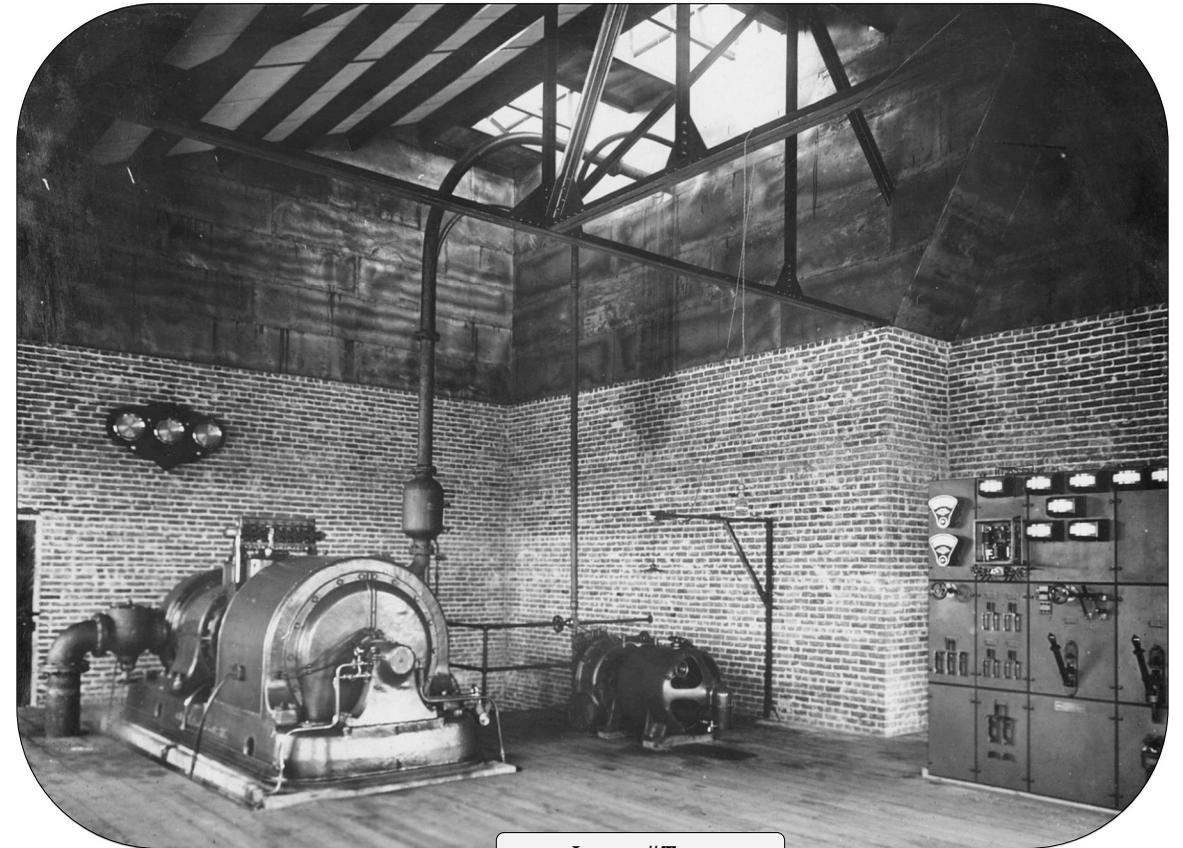


Image #Two.

The Short Sawmill's General Electric Steam Turbine Generator.

The picture must have been taken when the installation was new.

tional Church's collection. The lakeside location offered many benefits, including the ability to store pine logs in water — something that delayed their turning a less valuable blue color. It also provided an easy means of moving individual logs into the mill (*see Image #1, left*).

This Deer Park sawmill was powered by electricity generated by a steam turbine (*see Image #Two, above*). Many area mills were powered by either steam tractors belt drives or from stationary steam engines generating electricity.

Turning a log into lumber began with an individual log being floated onto a channel containing a large chain studded with teeth — the "Bull Chain" — that moved the log into the mill and deck near the main bandsaw (*see Image #Three, next page*). On the deck the log was measured and tallied for the records. From the deck the log was rolled onto the saw carriage and securely clamped to it. The carriage was on rails, powered by cables, moving the carriage back and forth carrying the log

... text continued on page 2086 ...

Image this and facing page from the Deer Park Congregational Church collection.

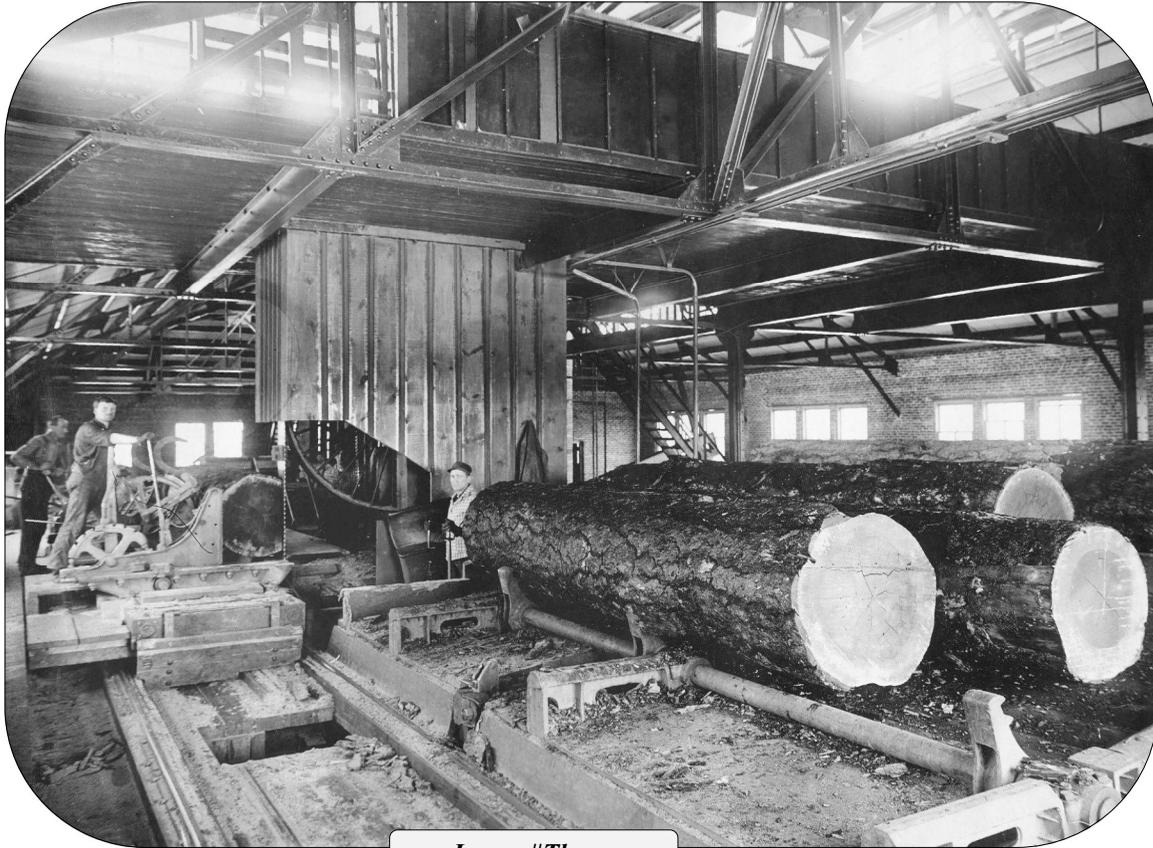


Image #Three.

Above — Bandsaw and Sawyer.

To the right, logs on the deck with the carriage at the left. The bandsaw upper wheel is covered by the vertical trimmed box behind the sawyer. The sawyer stands nearly in the center of the photograph with the lever controlling the carriage travel in his left hand. On the carriage the setter stands with his hands on the levers controlling how much the log is moved into the saw which is the fine white line on the end of the log being sawn.

Right — Edger Saws and Gang Saws.

To the left is the edger table with a raw board on it. The edger saws are behind the power rollers at the end of the table. On the right is the gang saw where large cants are cut into many boards at one time.

*All Past Issues of the Mortarboard Can Be Viewed on Our Website:
<http://www.cdphs.org/mortarboard-newsletters.html>*

Image this and facing page from the Deer Park Congregational Church collection.

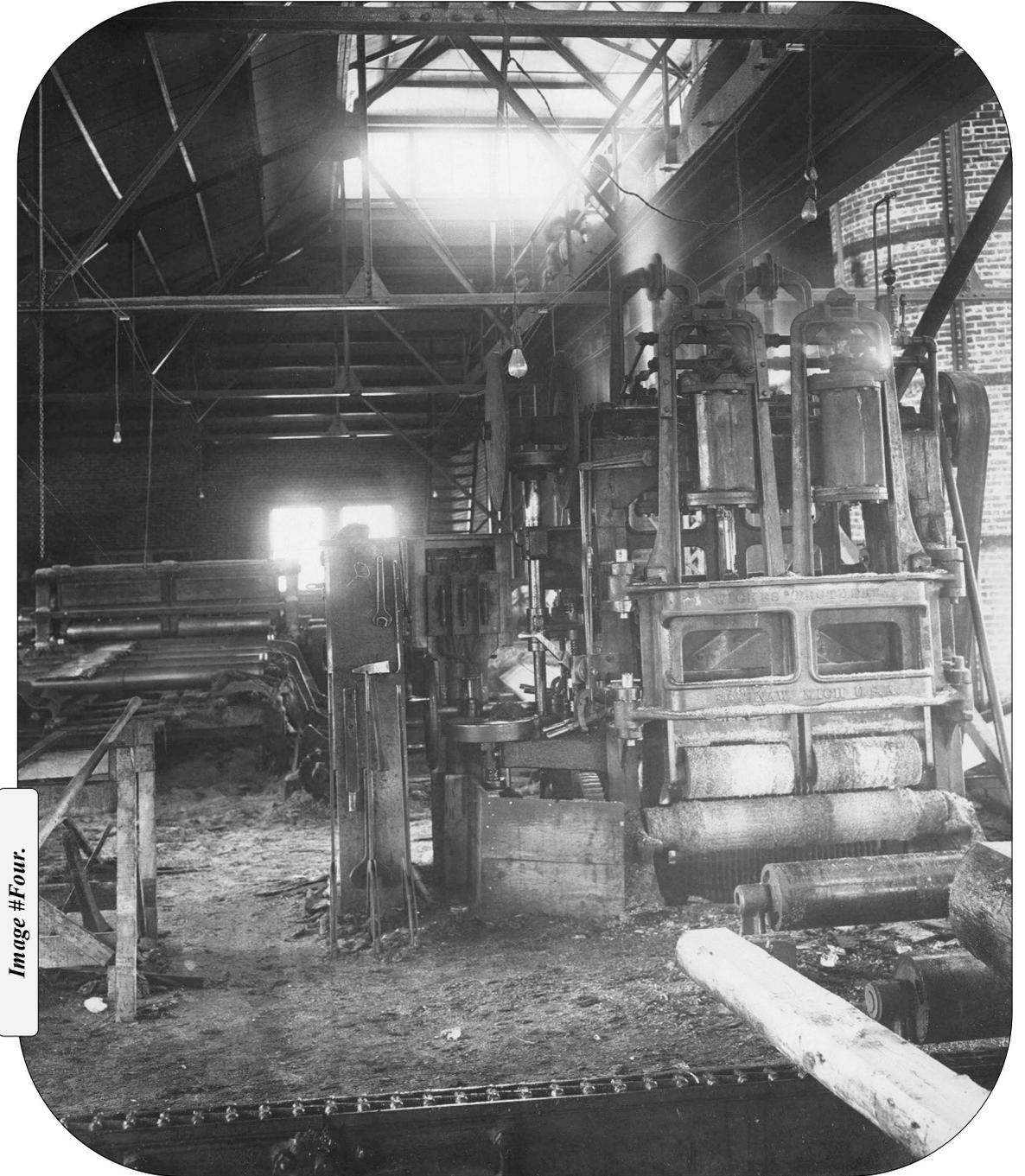


Image #Four.

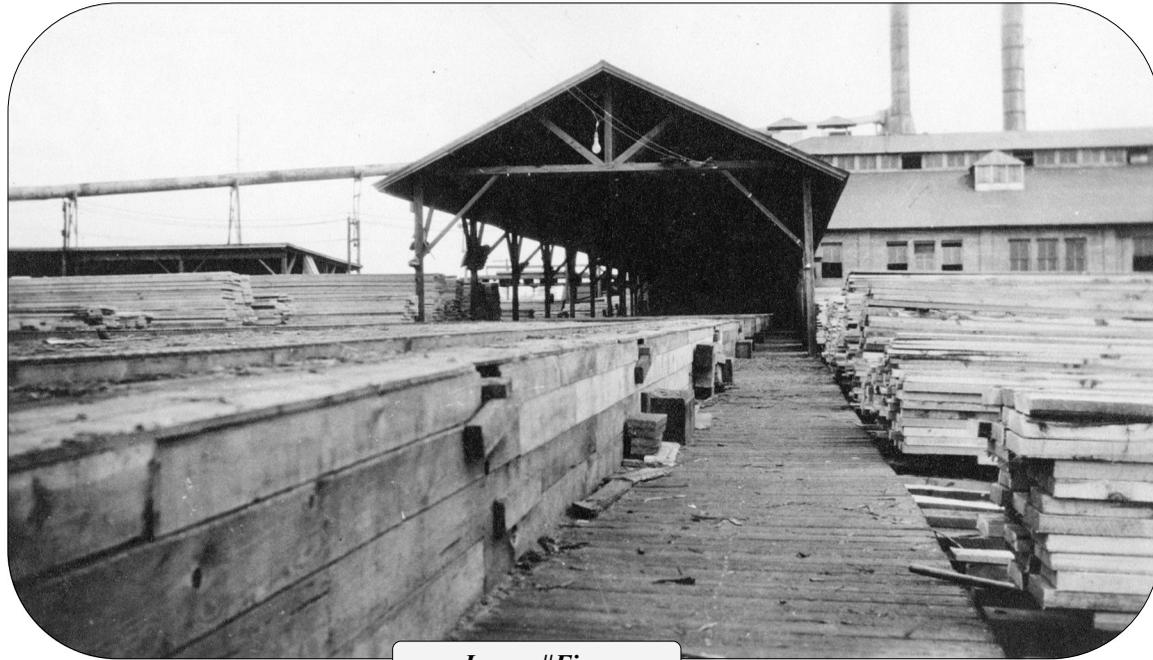


Image #Five.

Green Chain.

The “Green Chain” on the west side of the mill. From the moving chain on the left the boards were manually slid off the chain onto the piles of like lumber grades and species on the right. Those piles were then moved to a temporary storage area to be properly stacked with stickers between layers of boards for drying.

... text continued from page 2083 ...

into and past the bandsaw to saw off boards of raw lumber. A sawyer next to the bandsaw gave hand signals to the setter — the man on the carriage — who moved the log into the saw for each cut as directed by the sawyer. Next to, and on the opposite side of the bandsaw from the sawyer, a tail sawyer stood to insure that the boards or large cants — large rectangular portions of the log — fell properly onto the rollers transferring them to the edger

or the gang saw. All these men were subject to the continuous loud sounds of the mill and showers of sawdust, flying knots, and occasional broken saw teeth (*see Note #4 below*).

Boards with edges covered with bark or other imperfections were transferred to a table which directed the boards into an edger machine. This machine contained a set of circular blades that trimmed rough edges from the raw board and ripped it to its proper dimensions. Standing behind a board going through the edger was very dangerous and one

Notes:

Note #4: Deer Park Union, March 1, 1912, front page: Sawyer Robert Hayes knocked unconscious by flying saw tooth.

Image from the Lawrence Zimmerer collection.

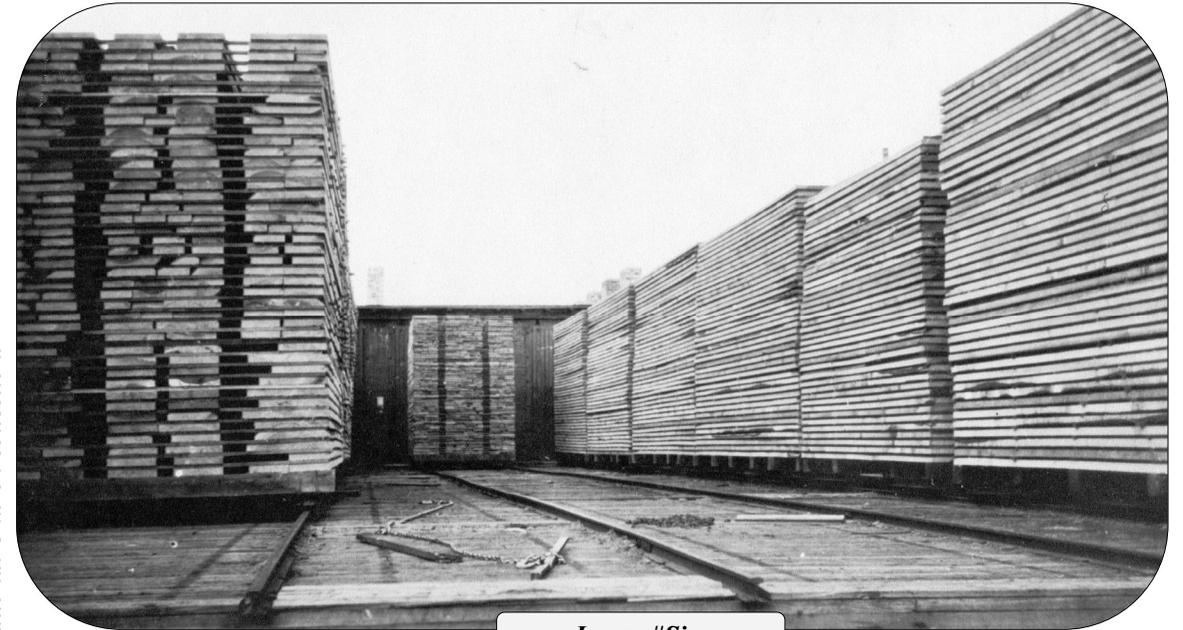


Image #Six.

Dry Kiln Cars.

Dry kiln cars loaded with lumber to be dried. Stickers can be seen between the layers of boards on the car on the left.

man was killed by a board kicked back out by the machine (*see Note #5 below*). After passing through the edger the boards and trimmed edges passed over a table where an edging picker separated the commercial boards from the edgings — those being directed to a pile used for boiler fuel. Behind the edger was a trimmer table where another set of adjustable circular saw blades, placed at two-foot intervals, trimmed the ends of the boards and cut the board to a set length.

The finished edged and trimmed boards then passed in front of a grader who marked each board with a crayon to identify species and grades of the boards. The marked boards then moved onto a “Green Chain”

where pullers stacked the boards of like species, grades, and thickness together.

These piles of wet lumber were moved by a special tractor (straddle buggy) to an area where several of them could be loaded by a stacker onto dry kiln cars with stickers placed between each layer to facilitate efficient drying. When enough cars of a specific type of lumber had been filled, they were loaded into a dry kiln that heated and dried the lumber to a specific moisture content. Alternately, some lumber was stacked in the open and dried naturally (*Image #Seven — next page*). Of course, this took much more time to produce a dry board ready for planing. In one instance a worker was killed when one of

Notes:

Note #5: Deer Park Union, June 10, 1920, front page: Charles Lewis killed by edger kick back.

Image from the Deer Park Congregational Church collection.



Image from the Deer Park Congregational Church collection.

Image #Seven.

Piles of Lumber.

The horses and wagon give scale reference. Piling lumber in these piles was done by hand and labor intensive before the introduction of forklifts.

these stacks of lumber fell on him.

After drying, either in the kilns or in the open, the lumber was moved into the planing mill where a large cylinder set with knife-like blades shaved and smoothed the surfaces of the board into its final dimensions. At this point the boards were finished and ready for sale for construction or any number of other purposes.

The 1910 Standard Lumber Company

sawmill also included a box factory where fruit boxes, door and window frames were manufactured. In later years, a larger number of wood products were manufactured including an attempt to sell manufactured homes and a Presto log factory utilizing the saw dust generated in the sawmill to make a substitute firewood.

— end —

Further Reading — The Deer Park Sawmill:

“Letters, Email, Bouquets & Brickbats: The Last Whistle,” by Wally Lee Parker. Mortarboard #76, August, 2014 — page 931 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 20. http://cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/mortarboard_issue_76_web_doublepage.pdf

“Lumber Sawmills in the Deer Park, Washington, Area at the Turn of the Century, 1890 — 1920,” by Peter Coffin. Mortarboard #30, October, 2010 — page 373 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 8. http://cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_30_downsizinginglepageweb.pdf

Notes from the Office

Happenings In & Around the Society’s New Home

Moving the Deer Park Tribune’s weighty Chandler & Price paper cutting machine into storage.

In late January the office of the *Deer Park Tribune* notified the society — via society member Jeff Lilly — that they were moving to a smaller venue and would have to downsize their archives. As a result, they were offering our historical group first chance at a large selection of vintage newspapers, photographs, and negatives — which we took full advantage of as described in our April issue (#144). Included in that offer was a very large floor-standing, manually operated paper cutting machine — something that may have served the newspaper from a date well before the memory of anyone now living, though we can’t be certain until we’re able to document the machine’s ownership history.

All that said, the offer of the guillotine cutter, a type used to trim the edges of very thick stacks of papers — saddle-stitched booklets and magazines being one example — was tempting.

The first problem was the simple fact that the society doesn’t currently have a permanent home. And trying to fit items as big and heavy as the cutter into our temporary abode is not advisable. That immediate quandary was alleviated when society member Rachelle Fletcher, owner of Deer Park Printing, offered some space at her shop to store the artifact.

The second problem was the cutter’s size and weight. It was clear that moving it some two blocks through downtown Deer Park by human muscle-power wasn’t feasible. That’s when society member Mike Reiter suggested that the hydraulic lift on his John Deere

tractor might be up to the task, regardless of the guillotine’s actual weight. With that, the matter seemed settled.

Our current research into the machine’s history is raising as many questions as solutions, so most of what’s outlined below has a bit of tentativeness attached.

A plaque on the machine clearly identifies it as a product of the Chandler & Price Company. That company was founded in 1881 in Cleveland, Ohio, by two gentlemen — banker Harrison T. Chandler and his partner, William H. Price, the son of a printing press builder. They organized the company for the specific purpose of building printing presses. The first of those presses was shipped in 1884, and by 1910 the company’s output of printing machines had taken over an estimated 90% of the industry.

Among the printing related machinery the company diversified into early on were paper cutters, with special success in the industrial size guillotine-style machines such as the one recently donated to the society.

Facing overwhelming competition from more advanced technologies, the company dissolved in 1964. That said, due to the durability built into the company’s machines a surprising number are still in use in small print shops and among artists and hobbyists around the world.

Though it’s relatively easy to date Chandler & Price’s printing presses by tracing individual serial numbers — print hobbyists

— text continued on page 2093 —

Image #One.



Image #Two.



***The Move to
Deer Park Printing:***

***Image #One: Cris Taylor and
Mike Reiter securing the cutter to
the loader on Mike's tractor.***

***Image #Two: Mike driving with
Mark Wagner and Cris stabilizing
the load for the trip down
Deer Park's Main Street.***

***Image #Three: Mike backing his
John Deere into the
Deer Park Print shop.***

***Image #Four: Rachelle Fletcher,
Mike Reiter, Cris Taylor and
Mark Wagner after delivering the
cutter to the shop.***

Image #Three.



Image #Four.



— text continued from page 2089 —

having posted such lists online — we’ve yet to find any such compilations for the company’s large guillotine cutters.

While we would hazard that the specific model of the society’s new artifact was built fairly early in the 20th century — likely within the first two or three decades — we’re not comfortable trying to narrow that down more without documentation. What we can say about the machine is drawn from a catalog believed to have been published very early in 1917 (or very late in 1916) — a scanned copy of which is available on the internet. Though the catalog curiously doesn’t carry its date of publication, we have a page from the February 5th, 1917 edition of *The American Printer* both advertising and picturing the above noted “new Chandler & Price catalog.”

In reference to this catalog, an article from the February 20th issue of that same magazine states “*The book is well printed in two colors throughout and shows a number of half-tone engravings, one of which pictures the big factory of the Chandler & Price Company, while the others show the Chandler & Price Gordon presses in full operation, and also some of the working parts; Chandler & Price galley-proof presses, Pilot press, paper cutters, lead and rule cutters, bench cutters, a vibrating roller device, overhead fixtures and many other interesting items for sale by this company.*”

Seen on the facing page is an engraving from the above noted catalog — this showing an industrial quality guillotine cutter almost identical to the society’s. I say almost identical since the catalog states the company’s manual lever action cutters are available in four sizes — the sizes apparently indicative of the width of paper the machine will cut, as well as each machine’s overall size and weight. Said sizes, defined by the maximum width of paper they will cut, are 23, 26, 30 and 32 inches. The mounting holes seen on the bottom cross-braces in the facing page’s illustration were intended to allow retrofitting the

machine with an electric motor whenever the owner could afford such (the electric models being significantly more expensive). Those holes identify the pictured device as one of the two larger models — the smaller two apparently not capable of being retrofitted for power. Several numbers cast into the society’s machine imply it’s a 26-inch model.

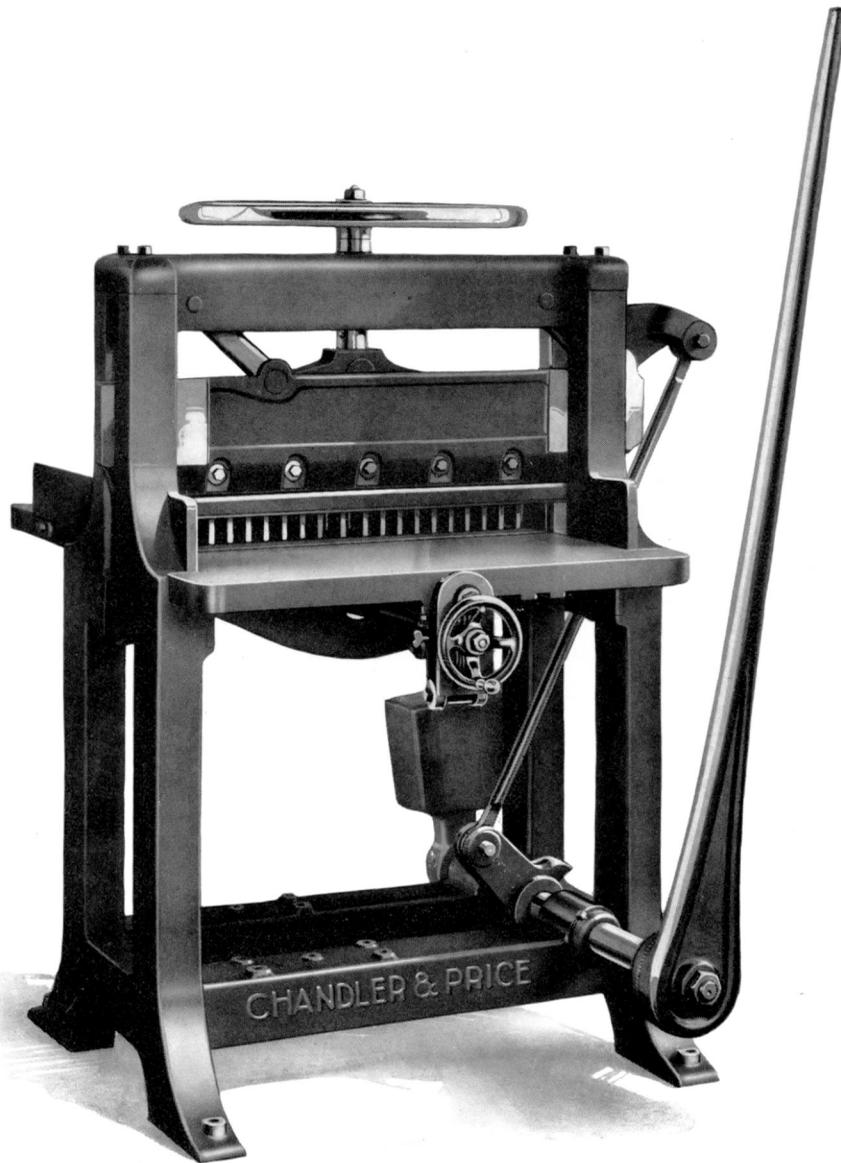
Besides volunteering space to store the society’s new acquisition, Rachele Fletcher, owner of Deer Park Printing, uses a Chandler & Price — a smaller 23-inch version — as the shop’s “workhorse” cutter. When asked to confirm the size of the society’s machine she replied simply, “*Twenty-six inches it is.*”

Regarding the company’s lever actuated industrial size machines, the 1917 Chandler & Price catalog says, “*The sturdy construction of this cutter greatly increases its life, insures the accuracy of its work, and at the same time the weight is so evenly balanced that the cutter is remarkably easy to operate.*” When asked if the above statement sounded true, Rachele replied, “*Completely accurate — and built as a once in a lifetime purchase.*”

When she had an opportunity to demonstrate the new acquisition’s capability, Rachele set the machine up and trimmed a very thin strip from the edge of a one inch thick stack of paper. Despite its years, the device worked perfectly.

The machine was moved the several blocks from the *Deer Park Tribune*’s prior office to its new location at Deer Park Printing on Thursday, March 19th. Society President Bill Sebright said that besides himself, Mike Reiter, Mark Wagner, Cris Taylor, Rachele Fletcher, and Mike Brock took part in the endeavor by using the hydraulic lift on the back of Mike Reiter’s 1956 John Deere tractor.

This is how Bill described the move. “*We used Mike’s Craftsman floor jack under the front of the cutter and raised it a little. The jack’s rollers allowed us to pull and push the cutter over the (Tribune office’s) door jamb and over some ice in the parking lot to the back of Mike’s tractor. A 2x10 plank was laid across the forks of the tractor’s hydraulic*



A Chandler & Price Lever Action Guillotine Paper Cutter.

The above illustration is taken from a Chandler & Price Company catalog, available as of February, 1917. It shows a somewhat larger and possibly newer cutter, but essentially the same as the one the Deer Park Tribune recently donated to our historical group.

fork to support the cutter. Once tied down, the cutter was tracted to the printshop's garage. Mike was able to back far enough inside that we were able to slide the cutter to where it is now.

"It really went quite well, considering the weight."

Not having the means of weighing the unit, we're still not absolutely sure of the machine's heft. That said, what we can say is that it's quite substantial, and we have two bits of data to back that up.

First, the seemingly excessive mass of the various machines produced by Chandler & Price is best explained by the following comment made by a company representative as printed in the October, 1899 issue of *The Inland Printer* magazine.

"Strength and durability are features which are developed only by use, and cannot be procured without the machine having a goodly amount of metal to back it up. Printers sometimes seem to lose sight of the fact that our machines weigh from one hundred to sev-

en hundred pounds more than the same sized machines of other makers, and in these days when material is such an item in the cost of the machine, it is very certain we would not put this added amount of cost into our machinery if it were not essential."

Next is this list of specifications from the company's circa-1917 catalog. The weights of the various size Chandler & Price cutters, with shipment skids attached, are listed as follows.

- 23-inch Chandler & Price Cutter ... 950 lbs.
- 26-inch Chandler & Price Cutter ... 1100 lbs.
- 30-inch Chandler & Price Cutter ... 1600 lbs.
- 32-inch Chandler & Price Cutter ... 1650 lbs.

If the weight given above for the 26-inch model is in fact applicable to the society's newly acquired lever action cutter, all who participated in the recent move should sit down for a well-deserved rest.

— Wally Lee Parker —

Letters, Email, Bouquets & Brickbats

— or —

Bits of Chatter, Trivia, & Notices — all strung together.

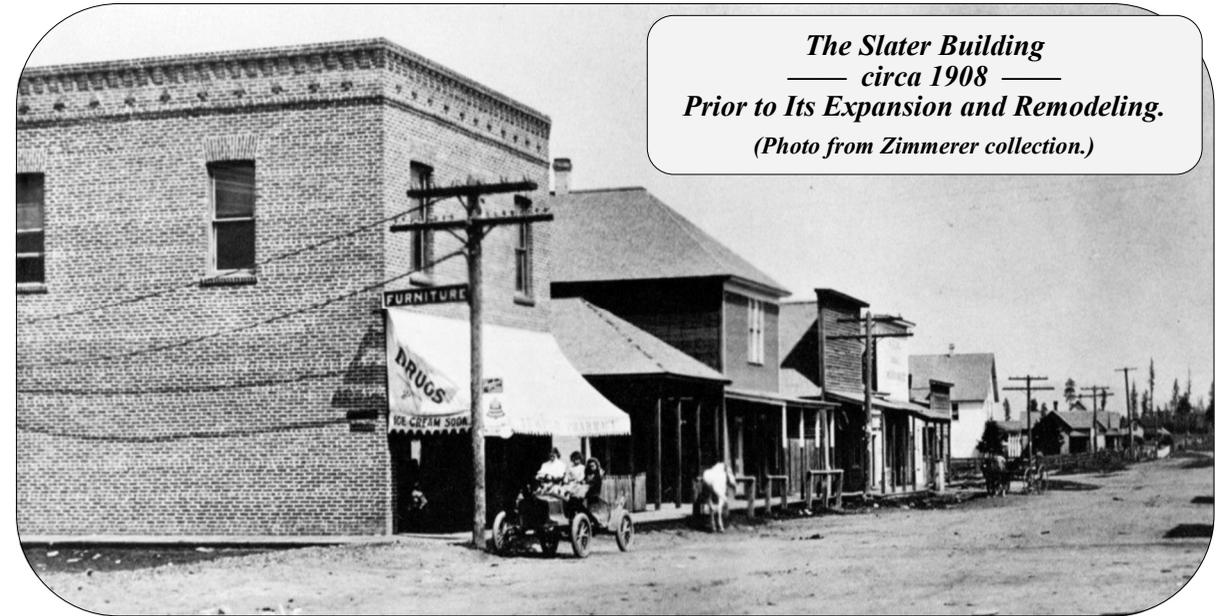
... revisiting the Slater building's history ...

As noted in the *Mortarboard's* April issue, it appears at least part of Deer Park's Slater building — the entire structure being destroyed by fire in the early hours of December 27th, 1983 — dates from the first decade of the 20th century. That possibility was based on accounts published in 1911's *Deer Park Union* indicating that a structure previously occupying that corner lot was in the process of being extensively remodeled and expanded.

We depend heavily on surviving copies of the *Union* when trying to piece together

this community's early history. Unfortunately, the first five years — from the newspaper's founding in early June of 1906 through the last edition printed in June of 1911 — are missing. This leaves a dark spot during those critical years; years in which the trackside settlement of Deer Park was coalescing into an incorporated town.

Society member Ken Westby drew the editor's attention to a photograph (*seen facing page*) from the Zimmerer collection showing the Slater Building before its 1911 remodeling and expansion. Viewing this photo beside the photos Dan Huffman provided of



The Slater Building
— circa 1908 —
Prior to Its Expansion and Remodeling.
(Photo from Zimmerer collection.)

Looking North on Main Street, Doctor Slater's Pharmacy.

When electronically enhanced, the front drop-down edge of the cloth canopy pictured above reveals the name "Temple Pharmacy." The building's second floor reportedly housed Deer Park's Masonic Lodge. The vehicle parked in front of the drugstore is believed to be Doctor Slater's 1907 Gale automobile, and its occupants three of his daughters.

the Slater Building after 1983's fire (*see page 2075 of the Mortarboard's May issue*) adds a high degree of clarity to our understanding of 1911's changes to the building. It appears at least one of the frame structures to the north of the Slater Building was either removed or demolished and the original building expanded north over the then open lot or lots. During this process the building's entire Main Street façade was redone.

The question then becomes, what can we learn of the building seen in the photo

above, since its history falls into an era without copies of a local newspaper for reference.

An article written by Doctor H. H. Slater's son, Harold, appeared in the *Mortarboard's* August 2010 issue (#28) (*see link below*). Regarding the Slater family's arrival in Deer Park, Harold said, "in 1902, upon my father's graduation from Chicago Medical School, they (his parents) moved to Deer Park with their children, Lucille, Herbert, Homer, and Hellen. Howard was born in Deer Park in 1903 in a combination home-office on the

Further Reading — Doctor H. H. Slater's History:

"I Remember," by Harold Angus Slater.
Mortarboard #28, August, 2010 — page 349 — *Collected Newsletters, Volume 8.*
http://cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_28_downsizinginglepageweb.pdf

DR. SLATER DECLARES HE IS VICTIM OF JEALOUSY

Dr. H. H. Slater, who conducts a drug store at Deer Park, Wash., declares he has been made the victim of business jealousy. He informed Judge Stocker this morning that W. H. Akie of Deer Park had sworn out a warrant for his arrest out of spite work. Akie is said to run the rival drug store in Deer Park.

Yesterday Akie preferred charges against Dr. Slater upon which Judge Stocker issued a warrant for the doctor's arrest. He charged that neither the doctor nor his prescription clerk was a registered pharmacist and that this was a violation of the state law. Akie brought with him to Spokane

affidavits from people who had purchased drugs in the Slater store.

Sheriff Doak telephoned to the doctor last night that he held a warrant for the physician's arrest and the latter came to Spokane on the first train this morning to surrender himself and save the sheriff a trip to Deer Park.

Dr. Slater went before Judge Stocker this morning and produced a telegram from the secretary of the state board announcing that the prescription clerk at the Slater drug store is a registered pharmacist.

Based on this information, Judge Stocker dismissed the case and released Dr. Slater from custody.

Competitors?

The above article was clipped from the March 30, 1905 edition of The Spokane Press.

northwest corner of First Street and Main Avenue. The Slater Building followed on this location."

The implication seems to be that the family moved into a structure on said corner, with that structure later being demolished to make room for the first version of the Slater Building.

An ad for the reopening Slater Building appeared in the December 22nd, 1911 edition of the *Deer Park Union*. The text read, "Nine years ago (1902) Deer Park's first drug store was established on this corner (meaning the northwest corner of First and Main), the floor space being ten by eleven feet in extent.

This is the fifth time we have enlarged our quarters, so watch this paper for our reopening announcement."

The statement "This is the fifth time we have enlarged our quarters" suggests how complicated that corner's early history had been.

We've recovered a snippet from the 'News Supplement' segment of the February 1903 issue of *The Druggists Circular and Chemical Gazette* that states simply "H. H. Slater is making arrangements to open a store at Deer Park." Considering that era's time-lapse before these kinds of notes appeared in nationally distributed magazines, said arrange-

ments could easily have occurred several months before — in 1902.

Another article, this from the March, 1905 edition of the *Spokane Press* (see facing page), indicates that Deer Park had two drugstores in 1905, and that Doctor Slater hired a pharmacist to cover his store while he engaged in his medical practice.

It's assumed the name of Slater's drugstore, Temple Pharmacy, was drawn from the Masonic Temple — mentioned in Harold Slater's 2010 *Mortarboard* article as being "the Masonic Temple upstairs." Since said fraternity wasn't chartered until 1904, the doctor's drugstore likely had a different name prior. Since it isn't listed as an occupant after the Slater Building's 1911 remodel, the lodge seems to have moved elsewhere by that time. The store's name appears to have been changed to Deer Park Drug at some point after the Temple's move.

To this day, Deer Park's Masonic Lodge remains part of the town's social and benevolent life.

Regarding the doctor's prescription clerks, this notice is found in 1911's edition of *The Era Druggist's Directory* — a volume listing pharmacies and pharmacists throughout the United States. Under 'Retail Druggists' for Deer Park, Washington, Virgil Smith is listed immediately before the Temple Pharmacy. In parenthesis after the name of the drugstore, H. H. Slater is also listed — apparently indicating the store's proprietor.

In the 'Alumni' segment of 1912's edition of Pullman's *State College of Washington* catalog, Virgil Rodney Smith of Deer Park, is listed as a 1909 pharmacology graduate. When seeing the Deer Park Union's 1911 account of "Smith's Pharmacy" opening on the ground floor of Deer Park's new Olsen Building — just across the street to the south of Doctor Slater's building, then in the process of being rebuilt — it became clear the "Smith" in the pharmacy's title was the same Virgil Smith previously associated with Doctor Slater's drugstore.

Virgil Smith was neither the first nor

last pharmacist Doctor Slater hired. The December 22nd 1911 *Union* ad for the reopening of Slater's remodeled drugstore lists one F. A. Brown as pharmacist.

According to Harold Slater's account, the family maintained a residence in the various versions of the Slater Building up until they moved to a newly constructed home (now the Lauer Funeral Home) one block north and on the opposite side of Main Street. The date of this move can be narrowed down by referencing a minor Washington State news item published in the November 1907 issue of a national magazine titled *Medical Sentinel*. To quote, "Dr. H. H. Slater, of Deer Park, is building a new house for himself." That would seem to date the completion of this landmark home to either very late 1907 or very early 1908.

... democracy never gets any easier ...

The following exchange was clipped from the October 28th 1903 edition of *The Spokane Press*.

County Commissioner Dean yesterday celebrated his return after an absence of a couple of weeks by laying down the law to P. B. Meyers, a rancher from near Deer Park. Mr. Meyers came before the board with a request that a bridge over the Short Road be repaired and changed, and that the road be kept at its original width, 40 feet.

"Who's making these county roads?" asked Mr. Dean.

"The people of the district want a 40-foot road and I think if it is satisfactory to us it ought to be to the rest of the county," mildly observed Mr. Meyers. The old gentleman is eccentric, and the blunt manner of the commissioner roused him and then there was some fun.

"If the majority don't rule," pursued Mr. Meyers, "where is the advantage of a democracy. Some people are born to hold office and when they once get it they think that they are the county instead of its servants."

Mr. Dean then went into a homily on the good of 60-foot roads and said emphatically that there would be no 40-foot roads in any part of the county if he could help it.

"You don't know who you are talking to," said Mr. Meyers.

"Are you the czar of Russia?" snapped the commissioner.

"No, I'm the brother of Uncle Sam, six foot two in my stocking feet and with gray chin whiskers." Then, turning to Commissioner Collins, he continued, "I'm glad he ain't in my district."

"If I was you wouldn't hurt me," returned Dean.

"Well," musingly said the old man, "I might if I were younger."

Commissioner Collins and Butler smiled and said that Mr. Dean was all right, and after being assured that the commissioners would take the bridge matter up and also find out whether the Short Road was originally laid out as a 40-foot road or not, Mr. Meyers left. — from *The Spokane Press*.

— Wally Lee Parker —

Help Wanted!



The society has a number of positions that need to be filled by creative ladies and gentlemen — those duties being that of Vice-President, Secretary, Publicist, Director of Fundraising, Curator, Archivist, and Subscriptions Coordinator. If you'd be interested in any of these positions, contact the society.

Minutes of the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society — May 9, 2020 —

For a second month the society's monthly meeting has been cancelled. President Bill Sebright noted, "I certainly hope this will be the last month that the COVID-19 pandemic will force us to have no meeting. The following were reports collected and sent by email."

Society President Bill Sebright reported that: 1) Shirley Burnett Dudley sent additional information on the family of Con Lindh who was mentioned last month. She

will send pictures when her new scanner arrives. 2) He picked up the *Mortarboards* at the Parkers' and dropped them off at the Museum. Mark will distribute them.

Society Treasurer Mark Wagner reported the main checking account ended the month at \$7,806.09. There were deposits of \$60. The web hosting account ended the month at \$983.59 with a withdrawal of \$11.84 for web hosting. The Brickyard Day account is at \$1,945.33.

Society Vice President: No one has stepped forward to become Vice President.

Print editor Wally Parker reported: 1) A total of 120 copies of the May *Mortarboard* (#145) have been printed for distribution. Printable PDFs have been forwarded to the Loon Lake Library and The Heritage Network. An online version has been uploaded to the society's website. 2) Ten copies of *Collected Newsletters Volume 42* have been printed. This issue collects *Mortarboard* #143, #144, and #145. 3) The May issue features Peter Coffin's "*The Deer Park Hotel*." It also includes a piece titled "*Vintage Olson Barn Collapses*." The Letters/Brickbats segment includes notes recalling Big Foot Valley; Florene Moore's experience fighting the December 1983 fire that destroyed Deer Park's Slater Building; a request for information about former area resident Frosty Wolf; a recounting of Trudy Bishop's attempts to pay her society dues; a classic piece about 1918's pandemic extracted from the *Deer Park Union*; and the editor's meandering on whether the society should have a subscription service for its newsletters. 4) The society's monthly meetings have always been an important part of this group's activities. But then the health and wellbeing of our mostly older membership

during the current pandemic is also important. While we hope to reopen the society's meetings soon, we believe it best to base any such decision primarily on the advice of experts in the field of epidemiology and the related medical and biological sciences.

Webmaster Damon Smathers reported that the May issue of the *Mortarboard* has been uploaded to the website. I also made another note on the front page stating our May meeting has been canceled for people who might not know. The "*What's Happening*" section is completed, and it features moving the paper cutter and moving the old *Deer Park Union/Tribune* items. If anyone has anything to add to this section please don't hesitate to email me. Our domain (cdphs.org) is set to expire this June, however we are automatically set to renew.

Pete Coffin reported that he: 1) Submitted several possible *Mortarboard* manuscripts to Editor Parker including: "*A Milan Pioneer Interview*"; "*The Construction of Long Lake Dam in Photographs*"; and "*Deer Park's Hospital*". 2) Is working on a draft of a manuscript describing the development of Deer Park's water system. 3) Is continuing a review of digitized *Tri-County Tribunes* newer than 1980 to provide a listing of historically

BRICKYARD DAY 2020 ORGANIZERS SUSPEND PLANNING DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS

Planning for Clayton's Brickyard Day 2020 has been cancelled due to uncertainty surrounding public gatherings and the potential risk of infection to those attending the day's activities.

Jeff Lilly, Chair of the Brickyard Day Organizing Group had this to say regarding the decision; "We understand the importance of Brickyard Day to members of our community. Tradition matters, our past matters, honoring worthy members of our region matters. While no one can know what the future holds, there is a significant chance we will still be in the midst of the current global health crisis even as late as August.

"We believe people's health and well-being should take precedence over tradition. With this ideal in mind we regretfully suspend planning for and cancel all activities related to Brickyard Day 2020.

"We hope everyone stays safe and we look forward to celebrating next year's Brickyard Day in an atmosphere free of the virus and all of the restrictions that go along with it!"

interesting articles. The available search function in this material is very useful to look for subject material. 4) Is planning to visit Washington State University's Library/Archives and scan all 150 photographs of the 1910-1915 construction of Long Lake dam when health travel restrictions end. 5) I will be having surgery May 28 as part of the treatment for my cancer.

Deer Park history bicycle trip: Ree West came up with the idea of just having a map of historic places for bike riders or others to follow instead of a onetime bike ride. Mike Reiter is trying to come up with a suitable map. He is still hoping to have the bicycle ride as part of Settlers Day if that event is held this year. Pete Coffin made a list of historic sites. Contact the society by email (see below)

to view that file. If you have any additions or would like to take an active part in this project let Mike or Bill know.

Our field trip to tour Chuck's tractor collection at Challenge Hill is still postponed. We are trying to figure out when we can reschedule it.

Brickyard Day has been cancelled for 2020. The notice of such on the bottom of page 2099 was sent to DP Tribune, DP Gazette, and Loon Lake Times.

Our next meeting is planned for Saturday, June 11, 2020, at 10:00 AM at our new building at the Deer Park City Hall complex — 300 Block East 'A' Street. Look for the sign.

— end —

Society Contacts

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Comments Policy

We encourage anyone with observations, concerns, corrections, divergent opinions or additional materials relating to the contents of these newsletters to write the society or contact one or more of the individuals listed in the "Society Contacts" box found in each issue. Resultant conversations can remain confidential if so desired.

Editorial, Copyright, and Reprint Concerns

Those contributing "original" materials to the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society normally retain copyright to said materials while granting the Mortarboard and the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society durable permission to use said materials in our electronic and print media — including permission to reprint said materials in future Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society publications. Under certain conditions proof of ownership of submitted materials and/or a signed release may be requested. No compensation for materials submitted is offered or implied. All materials submitted are subject to editorial revision. Any material published as an exception to these general understandings will be clearly marked. When requests to reprint materials are received, such will be granted in almost all instances in which the society has the right to extend such permission. In instances where we don't have that right, we will attempt to place the requester in contact with the owner of the work in question. But in all instances where a request to reprint is made, it should be made to both the society and the author of the piece, and it should be made in writing (letter or email). The society considers the application of common business conventions when dealing with intellectual properties a simple means of avoiding misunderstandings.

Volunteer proofreaders for this issue: Bill Sebright, Chuck Stewart, Lina Swain, and Ken Westby.

From "The Coast" magazine,
April, 1907



See Yourself in Print.

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society's department of Print Publications is always looking for original writings, classic photos, properly aged documents and the like that may be of interest to our readers. These materials should be rooted within, though not limited to, northern Spokane County, southeastern Stevens County, and southern Pend Oreille County. As for types of materials, family or personal remembrances are always considered. Articles of general historical interest — including pieces on natural history, archeology, geology and such — are likely to prove useful. In other words, we are always searching for things that will increase our readers' understanding and appreciation of this region's past. As for historical perspective; to us history begins whenever the past is dusty enough to have become noteworthy — which is always open to interpretation. From there it extends back as deep as we can see, can research, or even speculate upon.

Copyright considerations for any materials submitted are stated in the "Editorial, Copyright, and Reprint Concerns" dialog box found in this issue. For any clarifications regarding said policy, or any discussions of possible story ideas or the appropriateness of certain types of material and so on, please contact the editor via the email address supplied on the same page.

— the editor —

About our Group:

The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society was incorporated as a nonprofit association in the winter of 2002 under the title Clayton Historical Society. Our mission statement is found on the first page (upper left corner) of each issue of our newsletter, the Mortarboard.

Our yearly dues are \$20 dollars per family/household.

We are open to any and all that share an interest in the history of our region — said region, in both a geographic and historic sense, not limited to the communities in our group's name.