

Kittitas Valley: Our Pictured Past

A self-guided tour of Kittitas County
photos from the early 20th century

Presented by
Ellensburg Public Library
and Hal Holmes Center

In the Hal Holmes Center Auditorium

The photos for the historical photographic display were selected from the historical photograph collection of the Ellensburg public library. The selection was made by Celeste Kline, director of the library from 1992-2005. Research was conducted by Milton Wagy, local history librarian and reference associate. Gordon MacDonald and staff of MacDonald's photography in Ellensburg, Washington, prepared the photographs for display.

If there are any corrections or additions that can be made to the captions for each picture, the Ellensburg public library would be pleased to receive the information. Please note that Ellensburg was spelled ending with an 'h' in the early days and several photo descriptions utilize this spelling. The post office moved to drop the 'h' in October, 1894.

The library's digital collection of over 400 Kittitas county historical photographs and photos of Roslyn's coal mining days in the through open eyes collection, are available for viewing on the library web site: www.ellensburglibrary.org.



Photos in the Lobby:



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/907/rec/12>

Otto Pautzke, Photographer (c.1915)

Otto W. Pautzke, Ellensburg's best-known photographer, poses beside his studio car at the southeast corner of Pearl Street and Fourth Avenue about 1915. Pautzke (1862-1918) arrived in Ellensburg in 1896 with his wife Ellen Elizabeth Pautzke (1868-1960) who worked with him. Otto and Ellen Pautzke traveled the entire county recording the history of the area in photographs. His first shop was located in the Rehmke building on West Fourth Avenue until 1913. He moved it to Rehmke's new building on Pearl Street, where it remained for the next 27 years. In 1940, Pautzke's studio was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Tutwiler of California.



Ellensburg (1900)

A panoramic view of the north half of Ellensburg is captured in this Pautzke photograph taken from the west side of Craig's Hill. Washington School (left), located at Sprague Street and Fifth Avenue, was built in 1890. Three years later in 1893, Barge Hall (right) was constructed on the Normal School campus on Eighth Avenue, now University Way. These two prominent buildings were the educational centers of the community.

Photos inside the Community Center:



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/3897/rec/1>

1. New Year's Day (1907)

January 1, 1907. Austin Mires (1852-1936) and his son John Rowland Mires (1887-1961) are shown cutting wood for fuel for their home at 405 North Ruby Street. Austin Mires arrived in Ellensburg in 1883 and became a well-known lawyer. He was the first mayor of Ellensburg and a prominent area politician serving as Judge of the Superior Court in 1928. John Rowland Mires graduated from Oregon State University and worked as an engineer for most of his life in Washington, Alaska and California.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/3896/rec/2>

2. Over The River (1906)

A sledding party bundled up in coats, hats and fur lap-robles pause on the lower bridge over the Yakima River during the early winter in 1906. The heavy wooden sled was piled with straw and driven by a two horse team. The happy group of early Ellensburg people were headed to the ice ponds for skating. Standing (left to right) is Claude Catlin (1888-1958, son of John and Phoebe Catlin), Mrs. Taylor, Mr. George Beales, Austin Mires (1852-1936) and Eva Helen Mires (1893-1969). Seated (left to right) are Anna Mires, Miss Frances B. Drummond (daughter of F.S. and Frances Drummond), Mrs. George Beales, and Donald Richard Beales.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1732/rec/1>

3. Robbins Family (1901)

Dr. John Robbins with his wife Elizabeth and five of their fifteen children pose in front of their original cabin home built in 1878. This photograph was taken on October 17, 1901. John Robbins and his large family arrived in the Kittitas Valley in May 1878 and immediately began building a large cabin. This log cabin is now located on the Kittitas County Fairgrounds. Shown with Old Dick, their horse, members of the Robbins family are (left to right) Dr. John Robbins (1834-1907), Clara Amie (1883-1967), Laura May (1885-?), William von Essen (1863-1945), Blanche Agnes (1870-?) and Elizabeth Benton Robbins (1839-1902).



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1961/rec/1>

4. Lower Nanum School (1911)

Nine boys of the Lower Nanum School District #20 sit in front of the school house. Families living in the Nanum Creek area started a school for the children. Two schools on the upper and lower Nanum provided an early education for most of the children. Back row (left to right) are Alford Moreau (son of Frank and Marie Moreau), Andy Gustafson (1902—1904, son of Charles and Mary Gustafson), George Moreau (born 1901, son of Frank and Marie Moreau), and Lloyd Bare (son of C.A. Bare). Front row (left to right) Carl Gustafson (son of Charles and Mary Gustafson), Lawrence Carpenter (1907-1965, son of William and Adeline Carpenter), boy with head down unknown, Donald Joyce (1906-1992, son of William and Olive Joyce) and Roy Bare (1904-1920, son of C.A. Bare).



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/2005/rec/1>

5. Ellensburg Academy

On June 23, 1884 a mass meeting of citizens of the community and members of the Presbyterian Church took steps to establish a school. Rev. James A. Laurie was hired to head the school and \$1,300 was spent to purchase ten lots from John Shoudy for the construction of a school building. Classes started on September 10, 1884, in the new Ellensburg Academy located on Sprague Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenues. The Academy was discontinued in 1898, when a public school system was started, and was then used as a church.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/2227/rec/1>

6. Washington School (1890-1924)

The Ellensburg Public School, known as the Washington School, was built on North Sprague Street between 5th and 6th Avenues. Building began in July of 1890. The architect was Willis A. Ritchie of Seattle and the contract was awarded to John Scott of Ellensburg for \$38,650. The city traded what was the City Park block to the school district. The City Council appropriated \$1,000 for the school clock on the tower. The new school was one of the largest schoolhouses in Washington State when it opened in September 1891. At 2:00 in the early morning of November 7, 1924 a fire started in the Domestic Science Room on the third floor which destroyed the Washington School. Everything above the first floor was a total loss with an estimated cost of damages at \$50,000. Originally, the school housed the entire school population of Ellensburg, but in later years served as a junior high and grade school.



https://digitalcommons.cwu.edu/roslyn_african_american_history/52/

7. Roslyn Brick Saloon (1900)

In this turn of the century photograph, a group of men, boys, and three little girls stand in front of The Brick Saloon situated on the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and North First Street in Roslyn, Washington. The Brick is the oldest operating saloon in Washington. It was built in 1889 by Peter Giovanni, who also served two terms as Roslyn's mayor. 45,000 Roslyn made bricks were required for the construction of the saloon. The Brick has a huge and magnificent bar from England that was purchased in Portland, Oregon after being shipped around Cape Horn, and a running water spittoon trough under the bar stools, where they now hold a Spittoon Regatta every year with homemade miniature boats vying for the title.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1620/rec/1>

8. First Horse Show (1888)

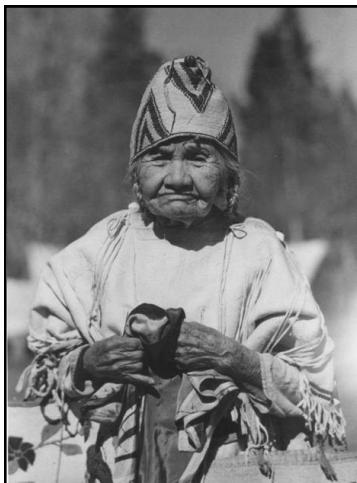
The first horse show in Ellensburg brought to town prize-winning horses raised by stockmen and ranchers of the Kittitas Valley. One horse shown was owned by Charles I. Helm, a business partner of B.F. Reed. The horse was valued at \$1,200. This C.A. Bushnell photograph of 1888 was taken in front of the Ben E. Snipes & Company Bank located on the southeast corner of Pearl Street and Fourth Avenue. The beautiful stone bank was destroyed by fire on July 4, 1889.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/275/rec/1>

9. Antoine Bertram (c.1900)

AnTwine/Antoine Bertram of the Yakama Nation was born about 1853 and moved to the Kittitas Valley with the Splawn and Thorp families in the early 1870's. At one time, he worked for F.M. Thorp. Antoine was a farmer and owned large tracts of land in the Thorp area with his first wife Emma Pahofta, daughter of Indian John. They were the parents of Olive, Marcus, Lewis, Aaron, and Andrew. Antoine married Lucy Pahofta, Emma's sister, as his second wife.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/274/rec/2>

10. Lucy Bertram (c.1900)

Lucy Pahofta Bertram of the Kittitas tribe, the daughter of Indian John, was born about 1840 and died in December of 1940. She was the second wife of Antoine Bertram and lived in Thorp on their farm for many years. Lucy lived her entire life in the Kittitas Valley and saw the first white people settle here.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [MRM-123].

11. Teepee in Ellensburg

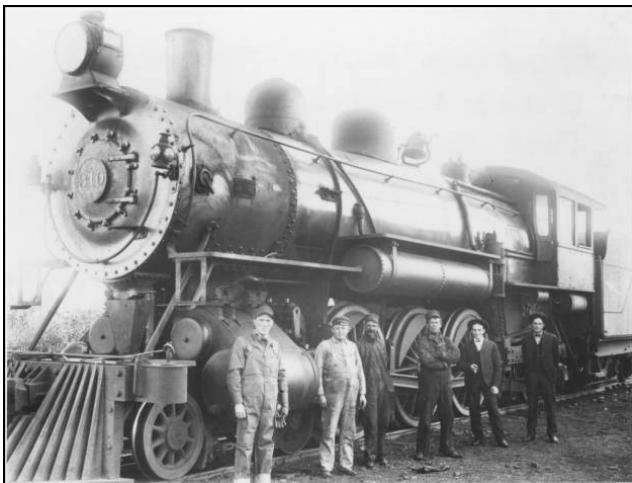
On a winter morning two women of the Kittitas Tribe stand in front of their teepee with a beautiful beaded bag and a woven blanket. This photograph was taken in the early 1900's in the area of North Water Street in Ellensburg by Mary Rowland Mires (1862-1940), wife of Austin Mires. Mary Mires was an avid early photographer, taking many photos of family, people and scenes of the area.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/826/rec/2>

12. Barnstorming

Laurin Lamb (center) was one of the earliest pilots in the valley and the first to fly out of the Bowers Field area. Lamb was one of four Ellensburg men trained by Wenatchee pilot Frank Krammer in 1926. In May of 1927, Lamb purchased a vintage 1923 Curtis Oriole and started the Ellensburg Flying School using the Ellensburg Golf Course as his runway. In addition to hauling passengers and training students to fly, Lamb used his plane to “barnstorm”, a popular attraction of the time. Lamb is shown with his wife Theone (left) and his sister Ethelyne Lamb McLean (right).



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1147/rec/1>

13. Northern Pacific #310

Northern Pacific Railroad Engine #310 pictured with six railroad men about 1908. This could be one of two Ten-wheelers built for the Seattle, Lakeshore & Eastern Railway by the Rhode Island Locomotive Works in August 1890. (Left to right) Henry Devlin "Hard Dome" Walters, fireman. He was supposed to have fallen off a locomotive, smacked into a bridge and surviving unscathed. John Wilson, engineer; Jack Hays, and Ira Stillwell (1887-1929), machinists; and John W. Gupton (1868-1921), machinist. John Gupton arrived in Ellensburg with his family in 1906 and worked for the Northern Pacific Railroad in the Stampede Pass area for many years.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1349/rec/1>

14. Thorp Ice Pond (1896)

The Northern Pacific Railroad ice pond and ice house, as seen in this 1896 photograph, were one mile northwest of Thorp, Washington. Railroad crews and local men would cut the ice which was then stored in the ice house for the trains to use year round. James F. "Jim" Duncan (1858-1938) is the third man from the right. Duncan was a former Kittitas County Commissioner and well known resident of Thorp for 47 years.

Photo courtesy of Mr. Lloyd Hatfield.



https://digitalcommons.cwu.edu/roslyn_african_american_history/14/

15. The Cravens

Retired Roslyn coal miner, Samuel Lawrence Craven, (left) was born in Texas in 1895 and died in Roslyn, WA in 1969. He stands with his son, William Amos Craven, preparing to use a crosscut saw to cut wood. William, who became the first African American mayor in the state of Washington, is the son of Samuel L. and Ethel Florence Taylor Craven. He lives in Roslyn, WA.

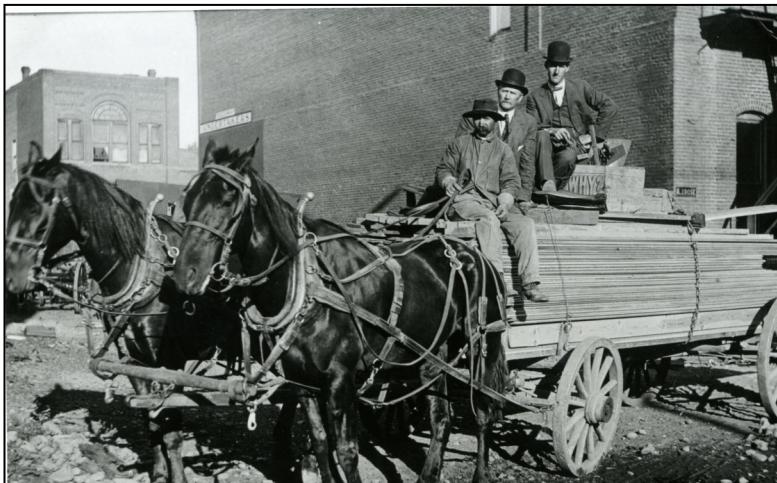
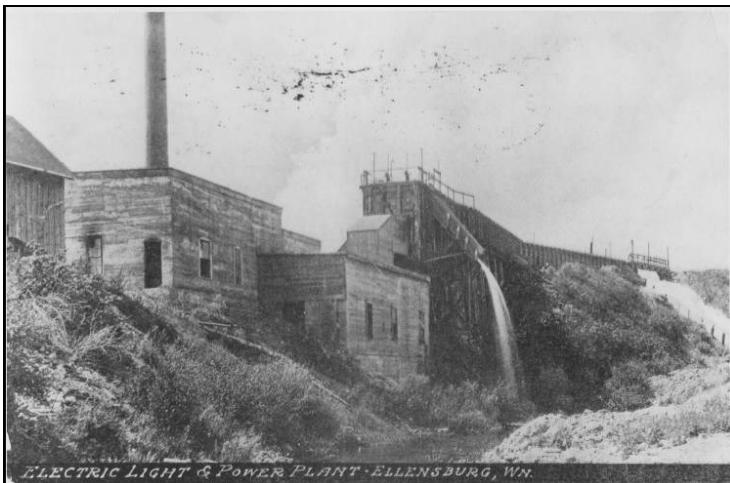


Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [PPW-016]

16. Wilson Freight (c.1898)

A load of lumber is shown being hauled by the Wilson Freight Company. The crew included (left to right) an unidentified freight driver, Thomas Teller Wilson, and his son Ernest W. Wilson. Thomas T. Wilson (1854-1920) came to the Kittitas Valley in 1881. He owned a stage and freight line, a livery stable and blacksmith shop located at Third Avenue and Water Street. Ernest W. Wilson (1883-1945) worked for his father and ranched in the valley. Thomas T. Wilson was known as one of the active builders in the county.



ELECTRIC LIGHT & POWER PLANT - ELLENSBURG, WN.

<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1905/rec/1>

16a. Power Plant (1912)

In 1891, the City of Ellensburg Light Department became the first municipally owned and operated light system in the State of Washington when it purchased an electrical generation plant from John A. Shoudy. The city improved upon this system in 1904 when it decided to build and maintain a water generated (hydro-electric) light plant on the Yakima River, two and one-half miles northwest of town. Improvements were made to the light plant in 1909, 1911, and 1915 at a cost of \$170,000. This plant on the Yakima River supplied 100% of the city's electrical needs until 1926, when the city entered into a contract with Puget Sound Power and Light Company for an additional source of power. The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) began supplying power to Ellensburg in 1941. The city-operated light plant was closed in 1951 and sold in 1957.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [FMT-030, FMT-033, FMT-039]

17. Threshing Grain (c.1900)

The Kittitas Valley bustled as large grain threshing crews moved from farm to farm, threshing wheat and oats. The grain was cut with a combine and shocked by hand into cone-shaped piles. After the grain cured, the shocks were stacked into huge piles. As a steam engine generated power, men fed shocks of grain hay into one end of the thresher. The grain was loaded into waiting wagons and the straw was blown into a separate pile through a long, extended pipe. The teams and wagons waited to take loads of grain to the granary or grist mill.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive (not found online).

18. Minielly's Crew (c.1910)

George Minielly (1872-1941) arrived in the Kittitas Valley in 1896. He operated one of the valley's hay baling businesses. He poses here (left front) with his family and baling crew about 1910. Addie Ferguson (1880-1949), daughter of valley pioneers James and Elizabeth McEwen Ferguson, often worked with her husband. George and Addie's two children, Myrtle Mildred Minielly (1899-1986) and Stanley Marvin Minielly (1901-?), visit the work crews in the field. The triangular hay sling to the right was used to pile hay onto the wagons which then brought the hay to the baling machine. The hay press or baler (right center) was powered by the large steam engine behind the crew. The water tank wagon (far left) hauled water to the engine.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive (not found online).

19. Baling Hay (c.1900)

Kittitas Valley hay baling crews rest a moment to be photographed in the early 1900's. Baling hay was a dangerous job which nobody wanted, as many accidents occurred. The steam engine (far left) provided power to operate the baler. Men would quickly shove loose hay into the box compartment as the powerful vertical arm crushed and packed the hay into bales. Many times the bale would get stuck or too much hay was forced into the box, causing a temporary shutdown. The man holding the black dog could be valley farmer, George Minielly.

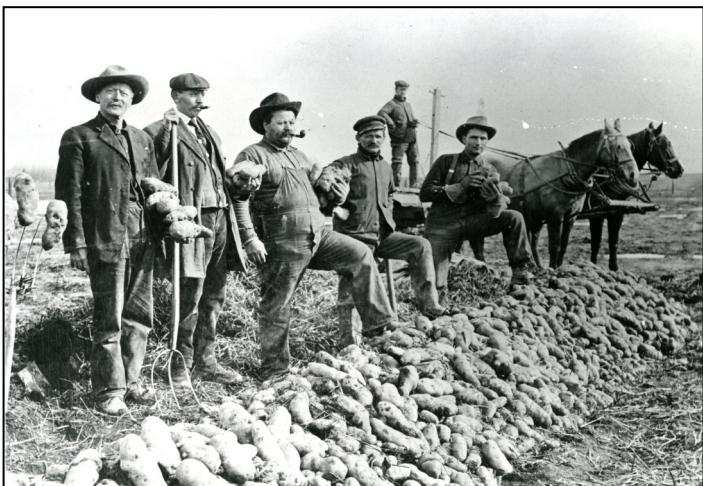


Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [FMP-031]

20. Sugar Beet Harvest (c.1905)

Karl O. Kohler (1872-1937, left) showing his abundant sugar beet harvest, stands with farm hands and friends on his farm one mile south of Ellensburg. Kohler arrived in Ellensburg in 1886 and became the owner of a large sheep ranch and sugar beet farm. Sugar beets were introduced into the valley in 1905 by Yakima promoter P.J. Prein, and by 1910, over 5,000 acres of land was used to grow sugar beets.

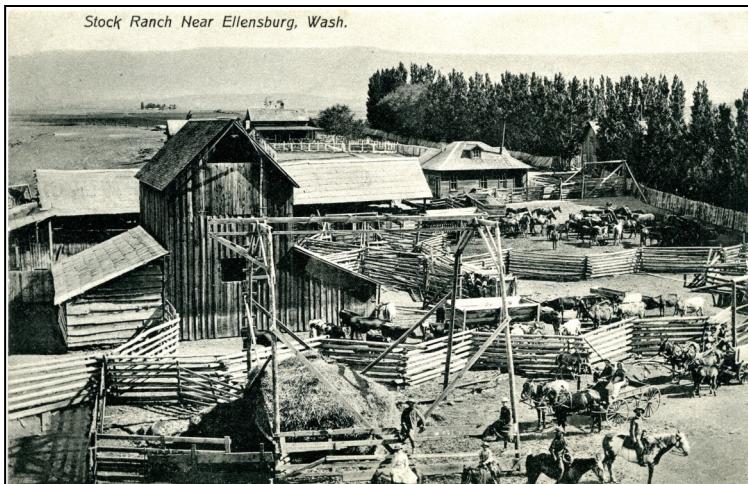


Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive (not found online).

21. Bowers Ranch (c.1910)

This Pautzke photograph shows part of the Jacob Bowers' ranch located on Reecer Creek seven miles north of Ellensburg. Jacob Bowers (1850-1912) settled in the Kittitas Valley in 1879, creating one of the largest and best managed ranches in the area. He sold the ranch in 1909 and moved to California. Seen in the photograph are several members of the Bowers family and farm crew posing in front of corrals, barns and sheds.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [FML-008, FMP-025]

22. Bottom Gang Plow (1913)

Two large Case steam engines were used to pull the mammoth 10 Bottom Gang Plow on the W.T. "Tom" Montgomery farm in 1913. This and similar plows were used to till large areas of valley farm land. George Hayes (1881-1956) left, married Lydia Montgomery (1887-1934), daughter of Tom Montgomery, who settled in the valley in 1880. Shorty Mackey sits holding the dog, while Vic Denny stands behind Mackey. Other men are unknown.



<https://cdm17176.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1017/rec/2>

23. Planing Land (c.1900)

An interesting turn of the century photograph, reported to be in the Badger Pocket area of the valley, shows a lone farmer with a team of four horses working the rough, dry land. The land plane was used to move soil or level fields by pulling the plane across the surface of the land. The crude equipment was quickly constructed of wood. A friendly sheep tags along.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [FML-007, FML013]

24. Brick Mudd (1929)

Richard F. “Brick” Mudd, Jr. (1905-1963) operates an oil pull-tractor pulling a brush rake to clear land near the highline canal in 1929. The powerful tractor and heavy rake were used to rid the area of sagebrush. Brick’s parents were Richard F. (1862-1932) and Marie Cobel Mudd (1878-1951) who began farming in the Denmark area in 1904.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive:
[Family and People Box 4, under "Morrison"]

25. Kittitas Cowboys (c.1900)

Three local Kittitas Valley cowboys wearing hats, chaps, and boots in the early 1900's. (Left to right) Thomas Jefferson "Tom" Morrison (1877-1953) was a Kittitas County ranch-hand and rodeo performer. He rode with Bill Taylor and George Sohappy herding horses that ranged in the valley. He was a bronco rider and roper, active in area rodeos. Oscar "Ott" McEwen (1876-1967) was born and lived his entire life in Kittitas County. He earned the reputation as a fine cowboy. No horse was too tough for him to break to ride. Oscar was riding horses in the local parades and rodeos at age 90. The third person is Amos Garrison.



Image not found in Ellensburg Public Library Archive or Online.

26. Farrell Harness Shop

Thomas William “Billie” Farrell (1863-1947), owned and operated the T. W. Farrell Harness & Saddle Store on the corner of Third Avenue and Main Street. Billie Farrell arrived in Ellensburg, Washington Territory in 1886, after graduating from St. John’s University in Minnesota. He worked as a bookkeeper for the Ames & McCarthy Company and later kept books for his brother James E. Farrell. In 1891, he bought out his brother’s harness business. Billie Farrell, with help from a German leather maker by the name of Bowtasher, in 1892, created the famous Ellensburg Full Front Bucking Saddle called the Ellensburg Tree. The Farrell Harness and Saddle Shop operated until 1914.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [RNS-023]

27. Caribou Canyon (1888)

William H. Carothers (1850-1922) and his brother John H. Carothers (1858-1936) arrived in Kittitas County in 1888. They owned and managed the largest sheep herd in Washington Territory. They operated their sheep business until 1895 at which time they were the largest shippers of sheep and wool in the county. In this photograph, sheep are grazing and the herdsmen resting in the hills of the Caribou Canyon area.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [LLM-037]

28. Teanaway Log Train/ Swauk Canyon Log Train*

Early Caterpillar log hauling equipment with an empty load seen about 1918. Log cuts in the Teanaway and Cle Elum area were hauled to railroad tracks to be shipped to lumber mills in Kittitas County. Guy Taylor (1882-1972) moved to Casland in 1918 and worked in the logging industry, becoming a contractor in the Teanaway area for Cascade Lumber Company. Guy Taylor's sons worked with him as loggers and lumbermen until 1943. The man standing may be Guy Taylor.

**There is a question about the exact location of this photo.*



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [MNC-022]

29. Roslyn Miner Joe (c.1970's)

Coal mining was a way of life for many families in the Roslyn and Cle Elum area. Often two and three generations of one family worked the mines. The Ozbolts of Roslyn were one such family. Joseph "Joe" Ozbolt, son of John and Pauline Ozbolt, born in 1915, worked in the local coal mines for nearly fifty years. He also worked in the Black Diamond Mines where this picture was taken in the 1970's. In 1982, Joe Ozbolt retired from the mines and as a hobby now mines for gold in the Liberty, Washington area.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/261/rec/2>

30. Nancy (c.1987)

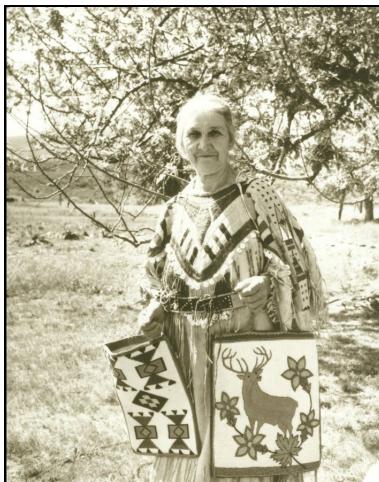
Nancy (Yis-till-iwit) was a woman of the Yakama Tribe who lived many, many years in the Kittitas Valley. She was married to Toby (Showa), a coastal Indian. Very helpful to the early settlers, Nancy did not take well to criticism from her white neighbors. She was the mother of two children who died at a young age. Nancy and Toby lived on what are now the Rodeo Grounds, but were forced to move. They were given land and a small house on North Water Street. Nancy would lead blind Toby around town by a stick or rope. Nancy died in December of 1911, while living with relatives in Wapato, Washington.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/262/rec/1>

31. Old Toby (c.1897)

Old Toby (Showa), a coastal Indian, was living in the Kittitas Valley when the first white settlers arrived in the early 1870's. Toby was remarried to a woman from the Yakama Tribe named Yis-till-iwit, or Nancy. At one time Toby was supposed to have had large herds of cattle and horses. He assisted the white settlers in many ways and warned them of the Indian troubles of 1878. As a result of a firecracker accident, Toby became blind and, holding onto a stick or a rope, was led around town by Nancy. He always made faces at the children to make them laugh. Toby died a very old man in November 1909, and is buried in the Nason Cemetery on the Nanum.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/398/rec/2>

32. Ida Nason Aronica

Ida Joseph Nason Aronica (1888-1992) was born in Cashmere, Washington to Charley Joseph and Julie Tek'nupt, members of the Yakama Indian Nation. Ida came as a young girl to the Kittitas Valley with her mother and brother. She married John Nason, son of George Sohappy who was Chief of the Wanapum Band. John Nason died in 1936, and five years later Ida married Tony Aronica. Ida spent her long life carrying on the traditional ways of her native people. She often provided people with opportunities to watch her create native arts and crafts.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [FAMILY & PEOPLE BOX 2]

33. Lynn Gordon (c.1912)

Asbury Lynn Gordon (1897-1992), was the temporary mail carrier on Rural Route #1, Ellensburg, Washington, after his father Charles A. Gordon died. The elder Gordon (1848-1911) delivered mail from 1904 until his death. Oliver Hinman was the postmaster and the Post Office was located on the northwest corner of Fourth Avenue and Pine Street. The photograph was taken at the mouth of the Manastash Canyon and the dwelling in the background was the old Hogue Ranch House.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1804/rec/3>

34. Shaw's Early Auto (c.1910)

James Shaw (1870-1952) idles his early “horseless carriage” about 1910, in front of his home at 605 North Pearl Street. Seated beside his father is Harry J. Shaw (1908-1955). Standing on the sidewalk watching are (left) Mrs. John J. “Pauline Zimmerman” Sharp (1884-1952) and her sister (right) Mrs. James “Ella Zimmerman” Shaw (1878-1954). James Shaw was involved in many early Ellensburg enterprises; café operation, bus lines, automobile firms, and livestock buyer. The automobile has been identified as a 1902 Rambler.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1689/rec/1>

35. Bertha and Ellen (c.1910)

Mrs. William “Bertha” Rehmke (left) and Mrs. Otto “Ellen” Pautzke (1868-1960) rest with their bicycles on the northeast corner of North Main Street and Sixth Avenue in this Pautzke photograph. Mrs. Rehmke was the wife of well-known Ellensburg business man William Rehmke, and Mrs. Pautzke was the wife and partner of Otto Pautzke, longtime local photographer. The Pautzkes lived at 608 North Main Street. The large house (center right), 606 North Main, was the home of Dr. Paschal Gray. In 2007, it houses Ellensburg Wine Works. The large white house (center left) was the R.B. Wilson home (1886-1968) built by Northern Pacific Railroad contractor Nelson Bennett. All the homes on the left have since been removed and replaced with other buildings. Broad wood sidewalks and unpaved streets were characteristic features of early Ellensburg.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive (not found online).

36. 1889 Fire

This photograph shows the ruins and devastation caused by the July 4, 1889 fire in Ellensburg, Washington Territory. A few days after the “great fire”, men walk slowly east along Third Avenue at Water Street. As the fire bells rang loudly at 10:30 on the evening of July 4th, 1889, the wind-whipped fire would soon burn more than 200 homes and 10 brick blocks of the city. The exhausted citizens spent the next day examining more than \$2,000,000 in damage. Four days later laborers were busy clearing away the debris as carpenters, brick layers and graders began laying foundations for new business blocks. Ten days after the fire, plans had been drawn and construction was underway on 43 businesses at an average cost of \$12,000 per building.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [FRD-006]

37. Fire Engine

Jim and Star (left to right), the white fire-horses, are hitched to the Ellensburg Fire Department's new fire engine in this turn of the century Pautzke photograph. The steam pumper consisted of a fire box which contained kindling and oily rags situated below the large water tank. The fire would heat the water to create steam for the pump. The large hose was used to pump water from hydrants or other available water supplies. When a fire was reported, local police alerted the fire department by ringing the tower bell or firing pistol shots into the air. At the sound of the alarm, the fire horses would run to pre-arranged harnesses hanging from racks. The horses were hitched to the engine, the fire in the engine was ignited, and the water tank was filled with hot water as the firemen climbed aboard and raced to the fire.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [F89-008, F89-009]

38. Masonic Temple (1889 Fire)

The remains of the Masonic Temple of Ellensburg, Washington Territory, after the fire of July 4th, 1889. In 1883, Mrs. D.S. Maynard of Seattle had donated two lots on the northwest corner of Fourth Avenue and Pine Street for the construction of the first Masonic Temple in Ellensburg.



Image located in Ellensburg Public Library Archive [FRD-047]

39. Fire Crew

This 1910 photograph shows an Ellensburg chemical and ladder fire wagon and crew. The two horses were Jim and Star. Left to Right: Mayor of Ellensburg, Peter Garvey (1858-1927); William Mountjoy (1876-1950); Fire Chief Peter G. Schuller (1877-1948) elected in 1902; and Reginald E. "Reggie" Ford (1892-1953) Chief from 1918-1929. Reggie Ford is holding Sport the fire dog. The chemical fire wagon consisted of a 40 gallon and a 60 gallon chemical tank and two smaller fire extinguishers. The ladders were on racks above the tanks.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1032/rec/6>

40. Grading Streets (1910)

A team of eight horses pulling a road grader at the intersection of Eighth Avenue and D Street in 1910, is shown in this Pautzke photograph. Normal School buildings now on campus of Central Washington University are Barge Hall (right) built in 1893 and the Training School (left) constructed in 1908. The training school later became known as Edison School. The Ellensburg City Council voted on August 16, 1910, to grade the streets in the northwest part of the city. The council appropriated \$6,750 for the work.



<https://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/digital/collection/ellensburg/id/1053/rec/49>

41. Pioneers on Parade (1911)

A proud group of the oldest pioneer men of the Kittitas Valley rode in this July 4th parade in Ellensburg, Washington. This assemblage of the earliest pioneers were the guests of Palmer Brothers Livery and Stables who placed at their disposal their best hackney carriage and their \$700 black coach team, said to be one of the finest in the state. The men are: S.R. Geddis (1838-1912) seated beside the driver; Peter McClary (1821-1917) standing left; James Ferguson (1839-1917) standing right; Frederick Ludi (1831-1916) seated left; Tilman Houser (1840-1918) seated center; and Jesse McDonald (1831-1917) seated right. Ludi arrived in the valley in 1868 and Houser in 1869. The other four men followed within the next few years.