



GCA History Project Grapeview Community Chronology

Compiled by Jack M. Holl, Community Historian
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| 13,500-11,500 BCE | Melting of the Vashon Glacier that helped form the Puget Sound basin |
| 12,000 BCE | Human population of the Puget Sound basin probably began |
| 2500 BCE | Whale bone club carving with figure of man with eagle head-dress was found on Harstene Island dated to 2500+ years. |
| 1781-82 | Coast Salish people ravaged by smallpox |
| 1787-88 | British traders Barclay and Duncan identify opening of Strait of Juan de Fuca |
| May 23, 1792 | Peter Puget and his crew (part of Captain George Vancouver's exploration of the Puget Sound), camp on Herron Island. Vancouver also sailed up Case Inlet on May 28. |
| Nov. 15, 1805 | Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery reach the Pacific Ocean at the mouth of the Columbia River. |
| 1824-25 | Hudson Bay Company established Fort Vancouver (present day Vancouver, WA). First grapes planted in Pacific Northwest. |

- May 1833 **Hudson's Bay Company** established "**Fort**" **Nisqually** near what is now DuPont, WA. Fort Nisqually served as a fur trading and farming center for the HBC until the signing of the Oregon Treaty in 1846.
- April 1836 The first paddlewheel steamship, **Beaver**, arrived at HBC Vancouver. The following November, the Beaver over-wintered at Ft. Nisqually.
- May-June 1841 The **Wilkes Expedition** (1838-1842) arrived to explore the Puget Sound. Commander Wilkes named over 260 sites, including Case Inlet after Lieutenant Augustus Case who portaged their boats from North Bay to Hood Canal.
- November 6, 1845 After crossing on the **Oregon Trail**, five families settled in New Market (**Tumwater**), the first permanent American settlement north of the Columbia River. American settlement of the Puget Sound began in earnest [Murry Morgan—Puget's Sound]
- June 15, 1846 The **Oregon Treaty** defined the present-day boundary along the 49° parallel between the United States and Canada
- December 25, 1847 Lewis Nisqually Bush born at Tumwater, the first American child born on the Puget Sound and on American soil to boot.
- August 14, 1848 Congress organized the **Oregon Territory**
- March 2, 1853 The **Washington Territory** was split off from the Oregon Territory
- 1853 **Allyn** platted and settled. Named for Judge Allyn of Tacoma.
- October 1853 American side-wheeler **Fairy**, the first vessel of the Puget Sound Mosquito Fleet, initiates service between Steilacoom, Seattle, and Alki.
- December 26, 1854 **Medicine Creek Treaty**--An agreement between the United States and nine tribes and bands of Indians including Nisqually, Puyallup Steilacoom, Squaksin (Squaxin Island), S'Homamish, Steh-Chass,

T'Peeksin, Squi-aitl and Sa-heh-wamish. The treaty, signed by Gov. Isaac Stevens and chiefs, headsmen and delegates of the tribes, ceded ancestral tribal lands to the US government in return for the establishment of reservations and the preservation of historic rights to continued hunting, fishing and gathering at traditional places.

- 1854 **Joe Sherwood** established his sawmill at mouth of Sherwood Creek
- March 13, 1854. **Mason County** was formed out of **Thurston County**. The county was originally named Sawamish County, but was renamed in 1864 in honor of **Charles H. Mason**, the first Secretary of the **Washington Territory**.
- October 1855-March 1856 **Puget Sound Indian War**—members of the Nisqually, Muskleshoot and Puyallup tribes revolted against what they believed to be the harsh terms of the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854. More than 4000 Indian non-combatants were interned on Fox Island and Squaxin Island during the conflict.
- February 18, 1858 Puyallup Chief **Leschi** executed by hanging for his role in the Indian war. (Exonerated, December 12, 2004)
- 1862 The **Homestead Act**, enacted during the Civil War, provided that any adult citizen, or intended citizen, who had never borne arms against the U.S. government could claim 160 acres of surveyed government land.
- 1872 **Lambert Evans**, from Florida, settled on Stretch Island and planted American grapes. [The island on which he settled was also known as Evans Island into the 20th century, at least by the Shelton *Journal*].
- 1873-77 **Panic of 1873** set off financial crisis that proved a serious set-back for transcontinental railroad construction
- July 14, 1873 The **Northern Pacific Railroad** announced that **Tacoma** would be the western terminus of its transcontinental railroad
- 1888 **Lou Rauschert** Homestead

- 1889 **Adam Eckert** from Chautauqua, New York, settled on Stretch Island and planted vineyards. Ultimately founded Eckert Fruit Company that produced grape juice.
- November 11, 1889 **Washington** became the forty-second state of the United States of America
- 1890 Town of **Detroit** platted.
- 1890 **Madrona School District #30** organized. **John Sabenius** built a one room **schoolhouse** built near **Mason Lake**
- 1891 The US Navy selected **Bremerton** as the site of a major Pacific coast navy and shipyard.
- 1893 **Detroit School District #23** organized. One room **schoolhouse** built adjacent to Detroit townsite.
- 1893-97 **Panic of 1893** set off a serious economic depression that for a time practically wiped out the house building industry which in turn proved devastating to Mason County logging.
- January 6, 1893 Last spike driven at Scenic to complete Jim Hill's **Great Northern Railroad** transcontinental railroad via Steven's Pass and Cascade Tunnel to Seattle.
- July 1897 **Klondike Gold Rush** underway from booming Seattle
- 1899 **Rainier National Park** established
- 1911 The local **School District** consolidated from Defiance Cove to McLane's Cove and west to Mason Lake. **New School** opened at McLane's Cove.
- 1911-1917 **Defiance Lumber Company** established a logging camp on Defiance Cove (now Eberhartz Cove) running a logging railroad ten miles to Mason Lake.
- 1913 When **Walter Eckert** became the Detroit postmaster, the post office was moved from Malaney's landing on the mainland to Eckert's property on Stretch Island.

- 1914 **Central School**, a two-room school on concrete foundation with central heating, grades 1-10, opened at Detroit site.
- 1916 US Postal Service authorized a post office at McLane's Cove known as **Stadium**.
- 1917 Following the closure of the Defiance Logging Company operation, **Hawthorne Logging Company** began operations out of McLane's Cove, but within a year relocated to Hoods Canal.
- 1918 **Charles Somers, Jr.** of Seattle purchased 40 acres on Stretch Island from the widow of Lambert Evans
- 1921 **Somers Brothers** Charles, Jr. and Frank) shipped a ton and a half of fresh Island Belle grapes to San Francisco
- 1922 (?) **Island Belle Grape Juice Company** founded by H. D. Hillman
- 1922 **Harry E. Petersen** established a non-sectarian Sunday School for Bible study
- January 1922 **North Bay Community Club** founded by Edgar J. Wright county agent Herbert E. Drew. The club
- April 1922 The **Detroit, WA post office** was renamed **Grapeview**
- November 14, 1923 **Port of Grapeview** established
- 1924 **Island Belle Grape Juice Company** founded by **Henry Peterson**. Later sold to **H.D. Hillman**
- 1926 Cushman Dam completed. Power line extended to sub-station in Gig Harbor. Limited power available in Grapeview.
- 1926 Island Belle Grape Growers Union founded
- 1928 Post offices in **Grapeview** and **Stadium** were consolidated under the name of **Grapeview**.
- October 29, 1929 **Black Tuesday** stock market crash after which followed the **Great Depression** of the 1930s.

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| 1933--1965 | Old St. Charles Winery on Stretch Island was first bonded winery in Washington State following the repeal of Prohibition (Amendment XVIII) |
| 1934 | Davis Winery opened |
| 1934 | Voters approved creation of PUD #1 and PUD #3 |
| 1935 | Washington Wine Producers Association founded including St. Charles Winery and Davis Winery and three other Puget Sound producers |
| 1935 | St. Charles Winery produced 30,000 gallons of grape wine and 8,000 of loganberry wine. |
| 1935-1947 | Stretch Island Winery established. |
| 1938 | Olympic National Park established |
| 1939 | PUD #3 “energized” to serve eight customers |
| November 7, 1940 | The Tacoma Narrows Bridge Galloping Gertie collapsed into the Puget Sound during a wind storm. The bridge had first opened July 1, 1940 |
| December 7, 1941 | Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor |
| 1949 | Grapeview, Fire District #3 established |
| December 30, 1950 | The State of Washington purchased the Black Ball Ferry Line |
| 1953 | Fair Harbor Marina established |
| 1960 | Port of Grapeview built a boat ramp adjacent to Fair Harbor Marina |
| 1965 | Old St. Charles Winery sold to Alhambra Wine Company in Yakima. |
| September 1967 | Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission acquired Stretch Island northern point for marine park from the Hillman estate. |

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| May 18, 1980 | Mt. St. Helens blew its top |
| May 1985 | Grapeview Community Club sponsored first Grapeview Days festival in “downtown” Grapeview |
| 1988 | Grapeview Community Association founded |
| July 31, 1993 | First Grapeview Water and Arts Festival |
| 1995 | The Puget Sound was recognized as an American Viticulture (wine) Area by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau |
| September 2006 | Horton Community Center completed |
| July 15, 2007 | A parallel Tacoma Narrows Bridge (eastbound) opened. |
| January 2009 | GCA launched annual college scholarships for students who attended Grapeview Elementary School, who graduated from North Mason or Shelton High School |
| January 2010 | Grapeview recognized as a COD by the U.S. census bureau |
| 2019 | PUD #3 celebrated 80 th anniversary with 33,500 customers. |
| 2019 | Only two Mosquito Boats remain on the Puget Sound: Virginia V , (1922) now docked on Lake Union and owned by a private foundation that has obtained recognition for the boat on the National Register of Historic Places; and the Carlisle II (1917) that still provides ferry service between Bremerton and Port Orchard, |
| 2020-2021 | Covid 19 Pandemic hits Grapeview; Arts and Water Festival cancelled |