

Do You Remember “The Good Old Days?”



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and We'll Commiserate Together!

The Clayton ♦ Deer Park Historical Society.

Open Meeting Second Saturday of Each Month — 10:00 AM.
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Illustration from “Motor West” magazine, May 1, 1921.

Clayton ♦ Deer Park Historical Society Newsletter
Issue #137 — September — 2019

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

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A Hidden Gem: The WaCo Tile Mural at the Stevens County Courthouse. by Ron Endlich

Permission to Reprint:

At the request of the author, Ron Endlich, the Tile Heritage Foundation is pleased to grant the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society permission to reprint “A Hidden Gem: The WaCo Tile Mural, Stevens County Courthouse” from the spring 2018 issue of “Tile Heritage: A Review of American Tile History” (Vol. 9, No. 2) initially published by the Tile Heritage Foundation, Healdsburg, California.

*Joseph A. Taylor, President (and Editor), Tile Heritage Foundation
P. O. Box 1850, Healdsburg, CA 95448*

This version has been slightly revised and somewhat expanded, both by the author.

... the mural ...

Eighty years ago, an impressive tile and terracotta mural created by artists at the Washington Brick, Lime, and Sewer Pipe Company (W. B. L. & S. P. Co.), also known as WaCo) in Clayton, Washington was unveiled to the public at a cornerstone laying ceremony for the Stevens County Courthouse in Colville, Washington. The mural — measuring approximately 4 feet wide and 17 feet

high — was placed at the main entrance to courthouse (see *Image #2*). It recorded the history of pioneer settlement of the Colville River Valley, tucked away in the far northeast corner of the State of Washington less than 50 miles from the international border with Canada. The ceremony, held on September 8, 1938, was attended by several hundred people and marked a major milestone in the construction of the new courthouse.

The story of this unique WaCo mural

Free — Take One

NEW VENUE FOR MEETINGS — EVERYONE'S WELCOME.
Second Saturday of each month, beginning at 10:00 a.m.,
Deer Park City Hall Complex — 300 Block East 'A' Street — Look for the Sign.

and the “*ultra modern*” courthouse building is an interesting example of the legacy of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), as funding for thousands of public projects across America helped put people back to work during the Great Depression and created public facilities still in use eight decades later. The story of this tile mural “*gem*” also reflects deserving light on the less well known — but important — WaCo company and two of its talented artists.

... *history of Colville and Stevens County* ...

The city of Colville, with a current population of about 4800 people, is the county seat of Stevens County Washington. The Fort Colville trading post was established by the Hudson Bay Company in 1825 downriver from Kettle Falls (a few miles from present-day Colville). Miners and prospectors were first attracted to the area; Colville Valley also



Image #1.

WaCo tile mural detail of a Colville Indian chief on the Stevens County Courthouse in Colville, Washington.

Postcard image from the author's collection.

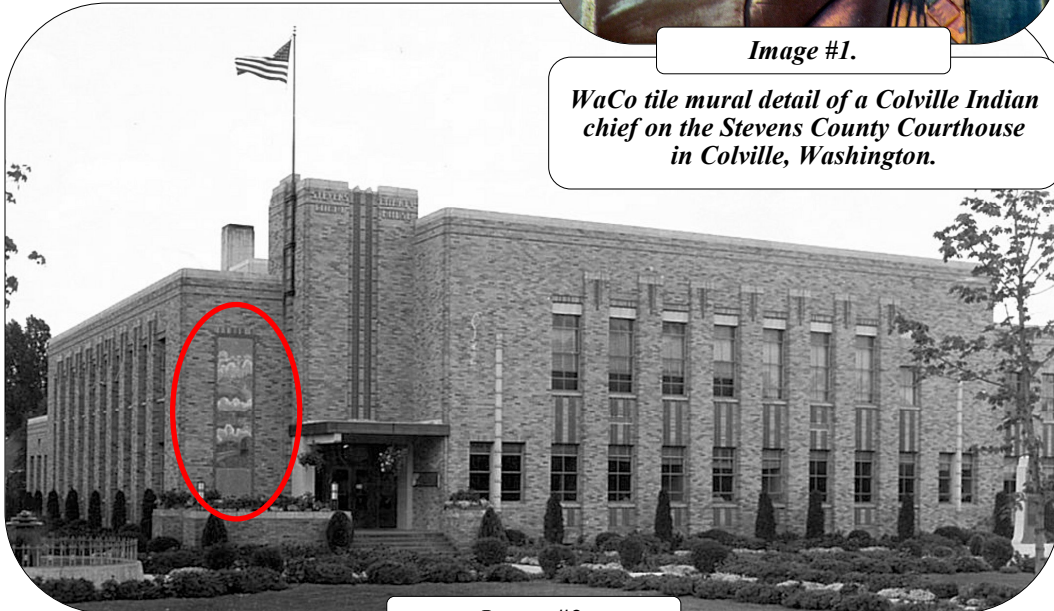


Image #2.

Postcard image, front entrance of the Stevens County Courthouse — circa 1940s. The WaCo mural — circled — is located to the left of the building's entrance.

offered rich farmland, range land and ample timber that attracted farmers and homesteaders. The frontier town called Pinkney City was first settled next to military Fort Colville in 1859. When the Fort was abandoned in 1882, the town relocated three miles southwest to its current site and was renamed Colville after the old fort (*see note #1*). Businesses also sprung up as the town of Colville prospered in the late 1800's and early 20th century.

The first courthouse built in Colville in 1886 was a wooden structure that housed the auditor, clerk of the court and the sheriff. As the growing need for a more suitable place for public records became apparent, Colville town leaders responded to the challenge. Led by a generous donation of land by a major Colville property owner, and supported by \$5,000 raised by subscriptions, the County Commissioners voted to approve over \$3,000 to finish the construction of a new brick courthouse that opened in 1899 (*see note #2*).

Stevens County continued to grow. Over time the need for additional public office space exceeded the capacity of the second courthouse building. City leaders came up with a unique solution — they proposed creating a new “*Civic Center*” on land near the old courthouse. Using the four quadrants of the intersection of Astor Avenue and Oak Street in Colville, building sites were created for the new County Courthouse (completed 1939), the U.S. Post Office (1938), the Colville Public

Library (1932), and the Colville City Hall/Police Department building (1937). Colville became the first community in the state to develop a civic center representing city, county and federal government buildings (*see note #3*).

... *new courthouse project* ...

The new Stevens County Courthouse (*Image #2*) was designed by Gustav A. Pehrson (1882—1968), a well-established Swedish-born architect known for his Deco-styled buildings (*see note #4*). The original project funding was provided by the county (55%) and the federal Public Works Administration (45%) (*see note #5*).

Construction of the new courthouse building began in May 1938 and was completed in early 1939. The building construction contract of \$100,000 was awarded to Tri-State Construction Co., a Portland, Oregon contractor. The W. B. L. & S. P. Co. was subcontracted to supply the bricks and terracotta for the building. The building cornerstone was laid in September 1938; county employees began moving into their offices in early 1939. The building was fully occupied and open to public use in February 1939.

Additional work near the new courthouse was not finished. In January 1939 Stevens County commissioners received word that WPA funds totaling \$7,343 were assured

Notes:

#1: Arksey, page 1.

#2: Colville Examiner, “Will Tear Down Old Courthouse”, January 14, 1939, page 1.

#3: City of Colville Historic Preservation Commission, page 2.

#4: Pehrson also designed the Deco-inspired Paulsen Building, a 19-story medical-dental office building in Spokane clad with W. B. L. & S. P. Co. terra cotta and completed in 1929.

#5: According to a newspaper (name unknown) clipping dated October 24, 1936.

Photo Credits:

All photos in this article were taken by the author except the reproduced postcard (Image #2).

Image #3.
*Tile mural on
the Stevens County
Courthouse in Colville,
Washington.*



Image #4.
WaCo NRA (National Recovery Act) commemorative tile dated 1934 (author's collection).

to demolish the old courthouse building and jail (*see note #6*). A later, separate WPA allotment of \$11,891 was awarded in March 1939 to complete the courthouse site landscaping, sidewalks and 10-car garage (*see note #7*). The County was responsible for funding the cost of the landscaping materials; the WPA provided the workers to install the hardscape and plant materials and work began in May 1939 (*see note #8*).

The Stevens County Courthouse is a busy center of government to this day.

Whether to attend court cases, pay your property taxes or receive other county services, each weekday brings dozens of citizens through the doors of this fine building.

... Freemason involvement ...

One of the interesting details about this courthouse is the many references to the Freemasons who were involved with the construction of the building. Members were acknowledged on the cornerstone on the build-

Notes:

- #6:** *Colville Examiner*, "Will Tear Down Old Courthouse", January 14, 1939, page 1.
- #7:** *Colville Examiner*, "Courthouse Area Funds Approved", April 1, 1939, page 1.
- #8:** *Colville Examiner*, "Courthouse Work to Start Monday", May 13, 1939, page 4.



Image #5.

WaCo tile depicting a mining camp, signed but undated (author's collection).



Image #6.

WaCo tile mural detail (right and enlarged above) showing signatures of mural artists C. Sater and L. Prestini etched into the lower left mural tile.

ing and about 20 Mason officers were named in the contemporary press reports of the cornerstone laying ceremony on September 8, 1938.

Several hundred people attended the event, including over one hundred members of the Masons from Stevens and other neighboring counties. Preceded by a military band and escort of soldiers, grand lodge members marched from the Masonic Hall to the court-

house and laid the cornerstone and unveiled the tile mural (*see note #9*). At least one manager at the company also had Freemason connections.

... W. B. L. & S. P. Co. ...

Henry Brook (1842—1908) and Joseph H. Spear (1851—1920) co-founded the Washington Brick, Lime and Manufacturing

Note:

#9: *Colville Examiner, "Cornerstone Laid for Courthouse, Ceremony is Conducted by the Grand Lodge of Masons", September 10, 1938, page 1.*

The Historical Society's new Deer Park home is located on the 300 block of East 'A' Street — south of the City Hall. Look for the sign!



Image #7.

Detail from the upper scene of the WaCo tile mural — a modern building and spire.

Company in Spokane in 1888 and incorporated the business in 1889. Brick was its major product line — manufactured at its original brickyard in Spokane. The company supplied much of the brick used to rebuild Spokane following its great fire of 1889. The company soon served the entire Inland Empire (eastern Washington, Idaho and Montana) market.

In late 1893 the company broke ground and soon opened a new brickyard in Clayton (named after its nearby clay pits), a small town 30 miles north of Spokane chosen for its high-quality clay deposits and railway

near the town. In 1907, the company also opened a terracotta building at their Clayton site and soon began producing high-quality terracotta for building exteriors.

Following Brook's death in 1908, Spear added new financial investors to the company in 1909 by merging with the Spokane Sewer Pipe Company to form the renamed Washington Brick, Lime and Sewer Pipe Company. By 1912, the company had manufacturing plants in Clayton, Spear, Freeman, Bayview (Idaho), Mica and Spokane and valued its total assets as \$1.337 million (*see*

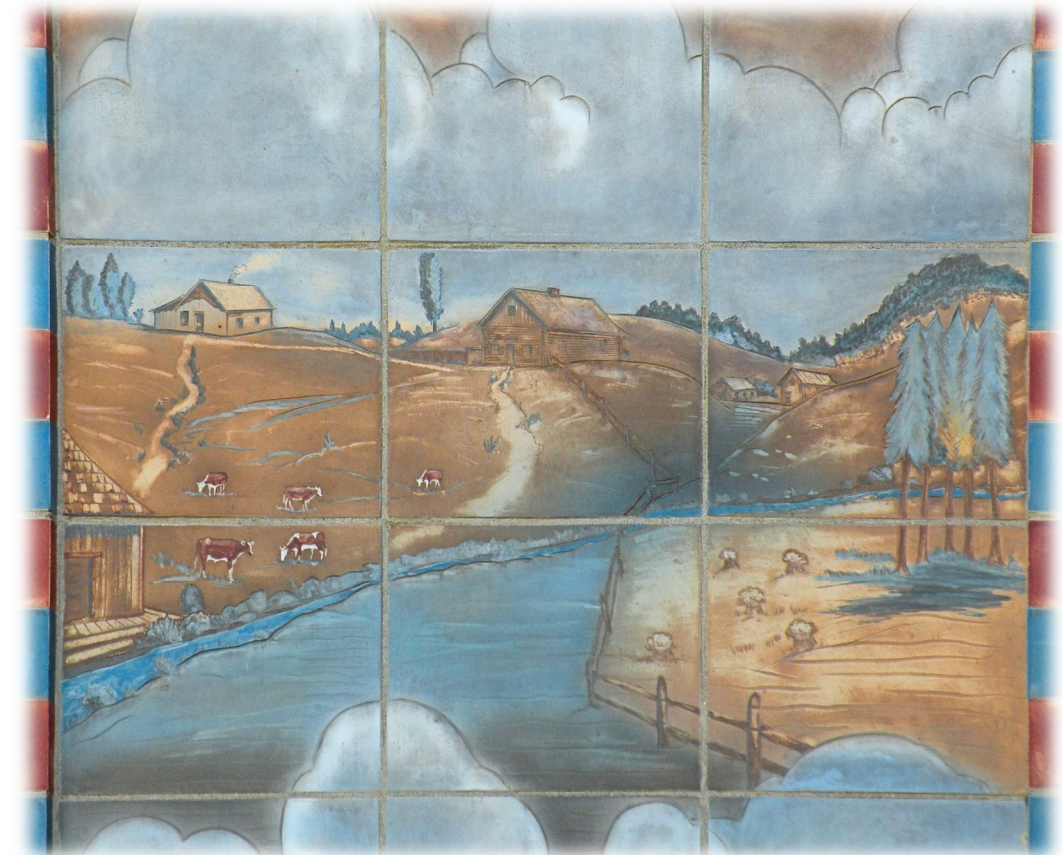


Image #8.

Detail from the middle scene of the WaCo tile mural — cows and farmer's homestead.

note #10). An additional manufacturing plant was later established in Dishman.

Arthur B. Fosseen (1876 – 1961) bought Spear's controlling interest in the company in 1919 and became its president and general manager (*see note #11*). Fosseen was also an active Freemason. Under Fosseen's leadership the company continued to expand

in the 1920s. In addition to brick and terracotta, W. B. L. & S. P. Co. also produced sewer pipe, drain tile, hollow tile for building construction, roof tiles and clay shingles for roofs and building siding.

In the early 1920s, W. B. L. & S. P. Co. began making decorative tile for fireplaces, walls and flooring. In their artfully pro-

Notes:

#10: *W. B. L. & S. P. Co. stockholder letter and financial statement.*

#11: *Spokesman Review.*



Image #9.

Detail from the lower scene of the WaCo tile mural — the passing wagon train.

duced but undated tile catalogue (*see note #12*), the company marketing its WaCo brand of “art tiles,” faience tile, pavers and quarry tile. Roof tiles and shingles were also illustrated in the catalogue.

At the height of their business, W. B.

L. & S. P. Co. employed hundreds of workers at their plants in the Spokane area. However, following the crash of the New York Stock Exchange in 1929 that led to the resulting onset of the Great Depression, the national economy went into a long tailspin drying up de-

Note:

#12: Probably produced in the late 1920s, only a single edition of this catalogue has been uncovered, to date. Included in the catalogue are hand-drawn renderings of individual tiles, fountains, paver patterns, stair treads (raisers), fireplace surrounds, decorative inserts and panels, and shingles on 22 numbered pages. An original catalogue in the author’s collection includes an un-numbered 23rd page in color that illustrates the range of WaCo glaze colors available for their art tiles, pavers and quarry tile.



Image #10.

WaCo tile mural detail of the lower scene illustrating the passing of a pioneer wagon train along the Colville River under the watchful eye of the Colville Indian chief.

mand for new housing and commercial development which hard hit the local building industry in the Northwest and across the country. W. B. L. & S. P. Co. laid off most of its workers as construction contracts disappeared during the early 1930s.

As part of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal intended to restart the nation's economy and put American workers back to work, the federal government began implementing the National Recovery Act (NRA) passed by Congress in 1933 to support industrial growth. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) was established by presidential Executive Order in 1935. Through increased federal funding for national infrastructure improvements and labor resources organized through the WPA, the United States slowly built its way out of the Depression.

The W. B. L. & S. P. Co. was an early supporter and eventual beneficiary of the National Recovery Act. A commemorative tile (*see note #13*) created by W. B. L. & S. P. Co. in 1934 epitomized the optimism of this new era (*see Image #4*). Under the protective wing of the American eagle, a busy clay manufacturing plant and burning kilns mark the new sunrise for industry. "NRA" rests above

the box cars, and "PROSPERITY" is faintly seen on the ground between the sets of rail tracks. A Mason's compass (*see note #14*) is found in the lower left corner of the scene. And of course a sewer pipe cleverly provides the "O" for the "WACO" name! At the bottom of the tile is the 1934 date and:

ENTERING A NEW ERA
WASHINGTON BRICK, LIME – S. P. – CO.

... Cecil Sater and Leno Prestini ...

Cecil H. Sater (1891—1966) and Leno Prestini (1906—1963) were two talented tile designers who worked at the W. B. L. & S. P. Co. plant in Clayton and created the WaCo tile mural for the Stevens County Courthouse.

Cecil was lead terracotta sculptor. Several of his pieces were documented in company records, but most of his work was probably not signed or directly attributed to him. He was responsible for designing the terracotta portrait roundel of Albert J. Sartori located above the entrance to the Clayton Grange Hall (old Moose Hall) built near the brickyard (Sartori was president of Clayton Moose chapter when the hall was built in 1926). Cecil's artistic interests varied; he be-

Notes:

#13: The WaCo NRA commemorative tile measures 4 7/16' x 7 7/16' in size and was probably designed by Leno Prestini. No other copies of this tile have yet surfaced.

#14: Instead of a Mason's compass, perhaps it was intended to be a square and bricklayer's trowel.

At the bottom of the mural are the following words set into terracotta:

To the beautiful Colville Valley in 1825 came those hardy pioneers who through their fortitude, perseverance and industry have wrought from the Earth its vast mineral wealth, have hewn from the forest the lumber with which to build and from the soil have reaped an abundant livelihood making this a thriving prosperous, progressive community.

HONOR TO THE PIONEERS
WHO BROKE THE SOD THAT
MEN TO COME MIGHT LIVE

came a painter and commercial artist later in life.

Leno's father, Luigi Prestini, worked as a finisher at the terracotta plant in Clayton beginning in about 1913 but died following surgery in 1919 (*see note #15*). Leno's older brother Battista, soon quit school and began working at the Clayton plant. Leno joined him at the terracotta plant in 1925. According to his brother, Leno was the one that had a natural skill to design with clay. Cecil Sater, along with another terracotta modeler, Frank Frey, were described as mentors to the younger Leno Prestini (*see note #16*).

Leno Prestini's initials of "LP" were sometimes etched into his tile molds. He also made clay figurines and small sculptures. A WaCo tile depicting a mining camp (*Image #5*), perhaps the Loon Lake Copper Mine (*see note #17*), was probably designed by Leno (*see note #18*). Later in life Leno became a prolific and widely known regional painter; his eccentric paintings from the 1950s and early 1960s featuring cowboys, rodeo clowns, wilderness scenes and sometimes darker images reflecting his tormented life (*see note #19*).

... the WaCo tile mural ...

The tile and terracotta mural at the Stevens County Courthouse is the largest known mural created by the W. B. L. & S. P.



Image #11.

Paper strapping tape
illustrating the WaCo brand.
Artifact from the C/DPHS collection.

Co. The overall dimensions of the mural are approximately 17 feet high and almost 4 feet wide. The upper portion of the mural is made up of 39 ceramic tile panels, each approxi-

Notes:

#15: Nisbet, page 131.

#16: Ibid, page 132.

#17: Thanks to Peter Coffin, C/DPHS resident geologist, for this recent lead. Further research is planned to confirm this potential identification.

#18: Tile is marked WACO on the back and measures 3 15/16 x 3 15/16 inches in size. The chimney smoke in the center of this tile is not dissimilar to the NRA commemorative tile kiln smoke and the trees near the top right corner of the mining camp tile look very similar to the trees found on the lower levels of the Stevens County Courthouse tile mural.

#19: The Clayton - Deer Park Historical Society's web site (CDPHS.org) is a great source of information and photos about the exploits of Leno Prestini, W. B. L. & S. P. Co. and other local history of the area.

mately 12 inches high and 15 inches wide (*Images #7, #8, #9, & #10*). The bottom portion of the mural is made up of 12 terracotta panels of the same dimensions. Each side of the panel is bordered by a double band of 2 x 4 inch blue and ochre tiles. The top of the panel appears to have a terracotta v-wave patterned border made up of three brown terracotta tiles each approximately 2 x 15 inches in size. The base of the mural rests on a band of building brick.

The mural is placed near the main entrance of the courthouse at the northwest corner of the building. “*The mural ... pays homage to the early pioneers who came to Stevens County and opened it for civilization (see note #20).*” According to newspaper coverage of the mural unveiling ceremony, the mural has, “*three highly-colored scenes, one of a town with modern buildings, another of a rural landscape and the other of a stern-visage Indian looking down from the heights upon a pioneer wagon train traveling beside a river (see note #21).*” (*See Images, #7, #8, #9, & #10.*)

On closer examination of the mural, one can better appreciate the craftsmanship and talent of the two artists whose names “*C. Sater and L. Prestini*” are etched into the lowest left tile panel (*Image #6*). The tile panels are both modeled with relief (raised) and incised. Almost a dozen glaze colors were hand-painted on the mural. In addition, the artists removed glaze color by etching design details into the already-fired tile panels. The use of billowy clouds to separate the vignettes is also an interesting graphic device.

Also of note at the top of the panel are two round emblems — the Washington State seal is found in the top right corner and the seal for the Washington State Historical Society is located in the top left corner (*Image*



Image #12.
Enlarged detail of
a WaCo employee 25-year service pin.
Artifact from the author's collection.

#3). Their presence on the mural suggests that the State and/or the Historical Society may have commissioned or otherwise funded the mural; documentation of that possible connection has not yet been established.

... the mural's importance ...

Construction of the Stevens County Courthouse in 1938—39 provided an attractive, modern building to perform legal and other county government functions in Colville, Washington. It also provided employment to dozens of workers who constructed the new courthouse, razed the old courthouse building and landscaped the site. It also provided work to the brick makers, terracotta and tile workers at W. B. L. & S. P. Co. who supplied the building materials and created the mural for the courthouse.

The tile mural is a true gem. It showcases the talented skills of two of its tile mak-

Notes:

#20: *Colville Examiner*, “*Terra Cotta Mural on the New Courthouse*”, September 3, 1938, page 1.

#21: *Colville Examiner*, “*Cornerstone Laid for Courthouse*”, September 10, 1938, page 1.

ers, Cecil Sater and Leno Prestini, employed by W. B. L. & S. P. Co., who designed and fabricated this unique mural. While WaCo tiles were not made in great quantities and are not well known outside the Pacific Northwest, the WaCo mural in Colville demonstrates the

high quality of tile artistry found at the Washington Brick, Lime, and Sewer Pipe Company, despite its rather hopelessly utilitarian name.

— end —

Supplementary Material from the Author:

About the Author:

Ron Endlich is a project director for Sound Transit, a regional transit agency expanding its light rail system in the Seattle area. Ron is also a tile historian, tile collector and a long-time member of the Tile Heritage Foundation. He has been researching WaCo tiles and tile artists for over 10 years.

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Author's Acknowledgments:

The author greatly appreciates the assistance of Glendine Leonard and Sue Richart of the Stevens County Historical Society and Bill Sebright of the Clayton Deer Park Historical Society during the research completed for this article. Also, special thanks to Joseph Taylor of the Tile Heritage Foundation for his encouragement and initial publication of this article.

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What is the Correct Pronunciation of “WaCo”?

What’s in a name? If the name is WaCo, then there is room for a debate! Since the original company closed its doors in 1957, leaving few visible traces of its significant past or few surviving employees, some modern interpretation may be in order.

Most tile collectors from around the country who know WaCo tiles (and many Spokane area locals too) usually pronounce the company name as “Way — co”, as in Waco, Texas.

The late Norman Karlson, in his outstanding four-volume *The Encyclopedia of American Art Tiles* (see note #22), offered an interesting alternative pronunciation. He suggested it should be called “Whack — o” based on research he did on the WaCo company. I haven’t found a second source collaborating this pronunciation but certainly agree that it is the most humorous variation.

Based on my research of company records, business advertisements, building photographs and other ephemera, my suggested proper pronunciation is “Wah — co.” I believe their product branding use of the WaCo name comes from the abbreviated Washington B, L, S P Company. While some tiles are marked in all caps as “WACO” (or often not marked at all), it’s clear from their later marketing materials that “WaCo” was their preferred usage (see note 23). (See Images #11 and #12.)

———— Ron Endlich ————

Notes:

#22: Karlson, Volume 3, page 80.

#23: Image #12 is an enlarged photo of what appears to be a 25-year service pin for a Wa-Co employee. The pin is shaped like a house with a tiny gem placed between the 2 and the 5. The pin is approximately ½ inch wide and ¼ inch wide. The C/DPHS has a similar 20-year pin in their collection.

Notes from the Office

Happenings In & Around the Society’s New Home

by

The Editorial Group

... a significant fragment saved ...

During the first week of October, 2016, Deer Park’s old Crawford Street community center was reduced to a pile of splinters and hauled away — this to make way for the town’s new fire station. Those splinters represented 92 years of the town’s history, having been the locus for school concerts, graduations, and athletic events, as well as

community events such as dances, plays, and political functions. Prior to the hall’s demolition the historical society was asked if there was anything from the building we felt should be saved. The thing most often suggested was a segment of the gymnasium’s hardwood floor — the part bearing the image of Deer Park High School’s stag-head mascot. As requested, that section was carefully removed and set aside before the knockdown commenced.

“Absolutely Brilliant”

The image of Deer Park High School’s stag-head mascot cut from the old Crawford Street gymnasium’s floor before the building’s destruction and preserved in the new fire department complex as a table.

(Photo by Mike Reiter.)



At the time there was uncertainty as to how that artifact would be used, just that something from the old building must be saved and this seemed the most significant.

The image isn't believed to date from the building's original construction — though to most of us prior students it seems to have always been their. If anyone has any idea of when the image was first applied, or by whom, please contact the society.

As for the way in which the segment of vintage flooring is currently being displayed in the new firehouse, the society considers it absolutely brilliant.

... speaking of Deer Park's high school ...

The general consensus is that high

school classes were first offered at Deer Park several years after the town's 1908 incorporation. The following, extracted from the May 30th, 1908 issue of the *Colville Examiner* may muddle that assumption — though a lot more evidence would be needed. In a column head-lined *News from Loon Lake*, this appears.

"Miss Alta Dunlap is home from Deer Park where she has been attending high school this past term."

The same column in the paper's December 8th issue reports, *"Miss Alta Dunlap left for Deer Park Monday where she is attending school."*

Any insights into what this might mean would be greatly appreciated.

— end —

Further Reading — History of Crawford Street Gymnasium.

Deer Park's Community Hall Is No More — by Wally Lee Parker.
Mortarboard #104, December, 2016, page 1385 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 29.
http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/mortarboard_issue_104_doublepage_web_.pdf

**Minutes of the
Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society
August 10, 2019**

In attendance: Marilyn Reilly, Bill Sebright, Wally Parker, Pat Parker, Mark Wagner, Tom Costigan, Ella Jenkins, Rachelle Fletcher, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Larry Bowen, Sue Rehms, Marie Morrill, Mary Jo Reiter, Lorraine Nord, Pete Coffin, Judy Coffin, Nancy Fisher, Bill Phipps, Rick Brodrick, Chuck Lyons, Jessie Tennant and Damon Smathers.

Society President Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He reported: 1) Pete had mentioned damage on the terracotta eagle tail. I mentioned this to Doug Flewelling who repaired the Eagle. He reported, *"I stopped by and looked at the eagle today. I found one crack on the tail feathers.*

Otherwise she's in good shape. Approximate cost to repair, \$569.00." After further communication it was ascertained that said report was first made last summer. Bill asked if it should be covered by the warranty. Doug replied, *"I'll check my notes, but I believe so."* 2) Bill picked up and scanned a photo album from Kristy Dyck. It once belonged to Otene Westby. 3) We received a \$100 check from Gary Ross in Arizona for the printer fund. We now have \$400 in the fund.

Marie Morrill moved that we pay for Eagle repair if necessary. Wally Parker seconded. During discussion it was suggested that we put a cover (roof) over the Eagle. It was also suggested that we move it to the Fair-

grounds. It was mentioned that we need to maintain the Eagle because of its Clayton history and that it honors our Veterans. The motion to authorize funds to repair the eagle if such repairs aren't covered by warranty passed unanimously.

Society Treasurer Mark Wagner reported the main checking account ended the month at \$7,819.53. There were deposits of \$915. The total for all checks written was \$2,076.07. One check was written for \$484.96 to Fairbanks Insurance, one for \$855 to Discount Sign Warehouse for shirts, one for \$490.03 for Rick Brodrick for a new TV/Video, and one for \$99.00 for supplies (ten reams of paper) to Wally Parker, one for \$77.62 for a Loon Lake Times ad, one for \$19.46 for DP Printing, and one for \$50.00 to Sue Kelsch for supplies. The web hosting account ended the month at \$639.34. The Brickyard Day account is at \$1,599.14.

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

Print editor Wally Parker reported: 1) One hundred and twenty copies of the August Mortarboard (#136) have been printed for distribution. A PDF has been forwarded to the society's website for online posting. A printable PDF has been forwarded to the Loon Lake library for on-request reproduction by that institution. This 20-page issue features the conclusion of *"Twenty-Six Missions: The Robert Willis Grove Story"* — though more on this subject will be printed in later issues. This month's *"Notes from the Office"* column reports on the sign recently installed outside the Society's Deer Park meeting hall. 2) Ten copies of Collected Newsletters Volume Thirty-Nine have been printed. An additional thirty copies of specific back issues of the Collected Newsletters have also been printed to fill depleted on-hand stocks. 3) Our hope is to reprint an article in the September Mortarboard by Seattle's Ron Endlich outlining the history of the glazed tile mural adorning the Stevens County Courthouse at Colville. Clayton's Cecil Sater and Leno Prestini were the artists responsible for the images, and the tiles were

fired in Clayton's kilns. 4) Anyone with images of this summer's community events they'd care to submit for publication, please do so. It would be extremely helpful if you would include the names, if known, of the individuals featured in any such photos. A description/clarification of the actions being observed would also be useful.

Webmaster Marie Morrill reported: 1) That she has uploaded the August Mortarboard. She created a page for five of Wally's society advertising posters and added a link to Mike's YouTube video of Harry Deuber's artwork. Mark and Marie straightened out the credit card problem. The Society's card had expired.

Pete Coffin reported: Pete did not have a report this month.

Mike Reiter reported that: 1) Neil Tobeck gave the Society a picture of the 1922 Settlers Picnic. It is framed, in great shape and is about 10 by 28 inches. Rachelle Fletcher will scan it and give out digital files. 2) He mentioned seeing a video on YouTube of Mark Turney diving in Deer Lake. He found the mast or boom of a logging barge.

Rick Brodrick reported that he hooked a router up to help watching videos on the video center. The TV, Mike's curtain, and generator all worked well at Settlers. Rachelle will contact Comcast to see if we can get cheap Wi-Fi.

Don't forget Don Ball's 90th birthday party on September 7th, 1 to 4 PM. It will be at the Deer Park Eagles Lodge. If you have questions, call or text Elaine at 509-276-0606.

Wally brought up the idea of cataloging Prestini paintings. No one volunteered. Bill scanned the Stevens County Historical Society's Prestini *"catalogue"* book. All of their Leno Prestini paintings are pictured.

Clayton Brickyard Day went well. There were more parade and run entries this year. There was a good crowd. The bouncy house and Justin James LIVE were big hits. We are looking at changes for the picnic lunch. Not as many came into the history display as last year.

Deer Park Locations Currently Carrying Print Copies of the Mortarboard:
City Library, City Hall, Gardenspot Market, Standen Insurance,
Odynski's Accounting and the Deer Park Chamber of Commerce.

Nancy Fischer brought a 1970 Rose Bowl scrapbook and flag from the Deer Park High School band trip. She also brought a 1976 bicentennial scrapbook from when the DPHS band marched in the Philadelphia parade. Bill will scan the pictures.

Mary Jo Reiter brought a weaved tapestry that her Father's brother made for her when she was 10 years old. It showed fine craftsmanship.

Marilyn brought examples of the lettering set that someone gave her. She also

brought brochures of "picture walls" that Knight Wall Systems sell. She thought the east wall of the Museum would be a great place for one. The system makes it easy to put up and change picture and lettering displays.

Next meeting Saturday, September 14, 2019, at 10:00 AM at our new building.

Meeting adjourned at 11.25 AM.

The Society meeting minutes submitted by Mark Wagner, acting Secretary.

— end —

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

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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

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Volunteer proofreaders for this issue: Betty Deuber, 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 and Copyright Policy" 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.