



WEBFOOTER EXTRA

November 2022

REMEMBERING SEATTLE'S EARLY DAYS



Lithographed Christmas Greetings postcard with a scene from Woodland Park in Seattle Washington. Published by Lowman & Hanford Co., Seattle, Wash. circa 1915. Postally unused.

WEBFOOTERS POST CARD CLUB

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REMEMBERING SEATTLE'S EARLY DAYS



Real photo postcard view of First Avenue Looking North From James Street in Seattle, Washington, from a glass negative made in 1884. Pictured is a Pine Street and Lake Union Horsecar. Postcard manufactured circa 1912. Postally unused.

Seattle was founded by members of the Denny party, most of whom arrived at Alki Beach on November 13, 1851, and then, in April 1852, relocated to the eastern shore of Elliott Bay. With the filing of the first plats on May 23, 1853, the "Town of Seattle" became official.

The future city was born when the schooner *Exact* dropped anchor off Alki Beach in present-day West Seattle. It carried Arthur A. Denny (1822-1899) and a few of the pioneers (10 adults and 12 children) that he and his father had led from the Midwest over the Oregon Trail to Portland.

The Denny Party was greeted by David Denny (1832-1903), Arthur's younger brother, who had scouted the area with John Low (1820-1888) and Lee Terry. They had arrived at the mouth of the Duwamish River on September 25, 1851 aboard a sailboat skippered by Capt. Robert C. Fry and were met by Chief Seattle who later died in 1866.

Low and Terry chose Alki Beach for their claims on September 28, 1851. Low hired David Denny and Terry to build a cabin while he returned to Portland with a note from David Denny to Arthur Denny which read "We have examined the valley of the Duwamish River and find it a fine country. There is plenty of room for one thousand settlers. Come at once."

David Denny neglected to mention that he had neighbors. Other settlers and travelers had preceded the Denny scouts, including Isaac Ebey (1818-1857) and John C. Holgate (1830-1868), who had explored the Duwamish River in the summer and fall of 1850. The first King County settlers were members of the Collins party: Luther Collins (1813-1860), Henry Van Asselt, and Jacob and Samuel Maple. They filed legal claims on September 14, 1851, but their settlement on the Duwamish River did not play a significant role in Seattle's development until much later.

While waiting for the rest of the Denny Party, Lee Terry went off to borrow a froe (an ax for cutting shingles) from the Duwamish settlers. While Terry was gone, skunks ate Denny's food, and he cut himself with an ax and came down with a fever. He was therefore very happy to see the *Exact*, but the feeling was not mutual. Women and children in the Denny Party reportedly wept when they saw the unfinished cabin standing roofless in the rain.

The approximate landing site is marked today by the Alki Pylon at the foot of 63rd Avenue SW and Alki Avenue SW. It lists the Denny Party, using the term "and wife" in lieu of naming the women.

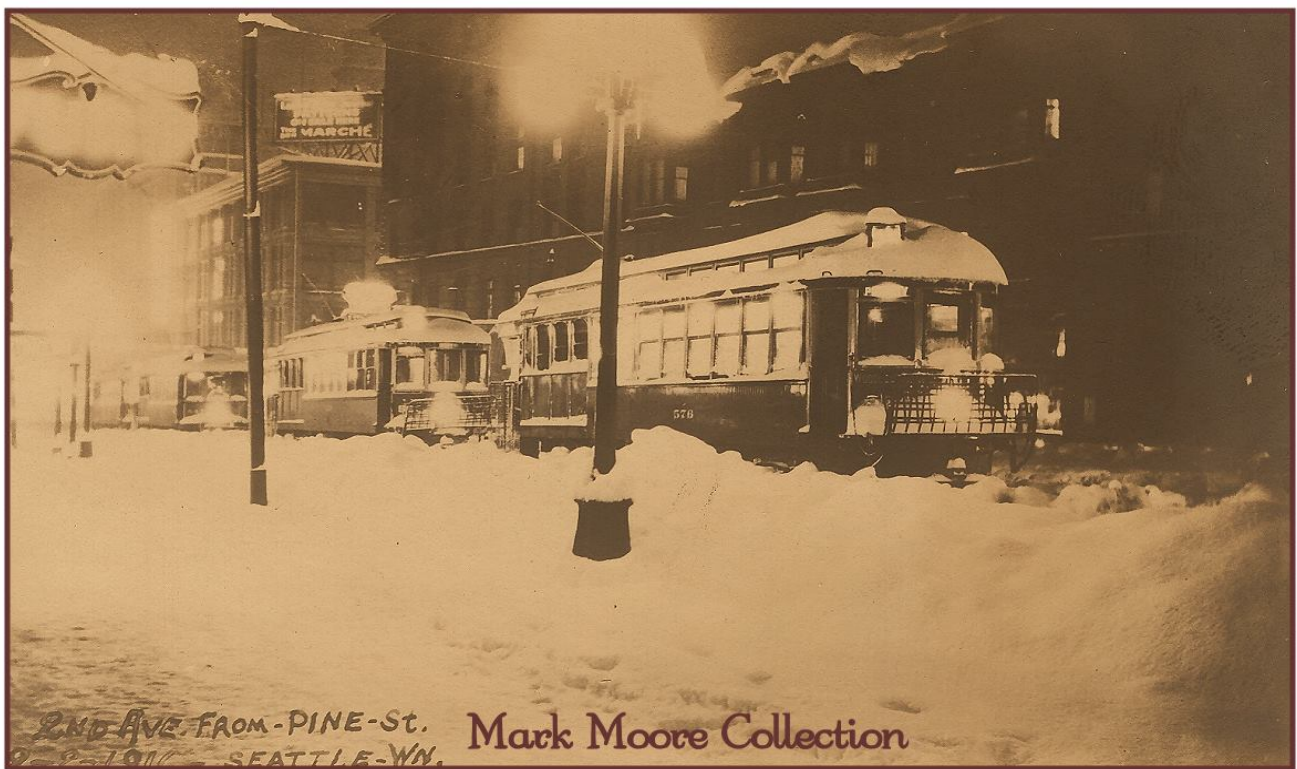


Real photo postcard view of Second Avenue From Cherry Street in Seattle, Washington, from a glass negative made in June 1889. Postcard manufactured circa 1912. Postally unused.

Early in 1852, Arthur Denny, Carson Boren, and William Bell explored Elliott Bay and decided that its eastern shore offered a better harbor than Alki Beach. They marked claims from present-day Pioneer Square to Belltown on February 15, 1852. Most of the Denny Party had relocated to the new settlement by mid-April 1852. Charles Terry and John Low remained at the original landing spot, which they dubbed "New York" after Terry's hometown. Charles Terry replaced the "New York" with the Chinook word "Alki" (AL-kee) to make it "by and by."

The new village was called "Dewamps" or "Duwamps" until late 1852, when a new resident and its first merchant, Dr. David S. "Doc" Maynard (1808-1873), convinced his neighbors to adopt the name of Chief Seattle. The earliest printed use of the name was in an advertisement for Maynard's store, "Seattle Exchange," which appeared in the October 30, 1852 edition of the *Columbian*. By then Henry Yesler (ca. 1810-1892) was already building Puget Sound's first steam-powered sawmill on Elliott Bay and laying the economic foundation for the city-to-be. With the filing of the first plats for the "Town of Seattle" on May 23, 1853, the new name became official.

From: Seattle — A Brief History of Its Founding by Walt Crowley on HistoryLink.org



Real photo postcard view of 2nd Avenue From Pine Street in Seattle, Washington showing streetcars stranded in the snow on February 2, 1916. Postally unused.



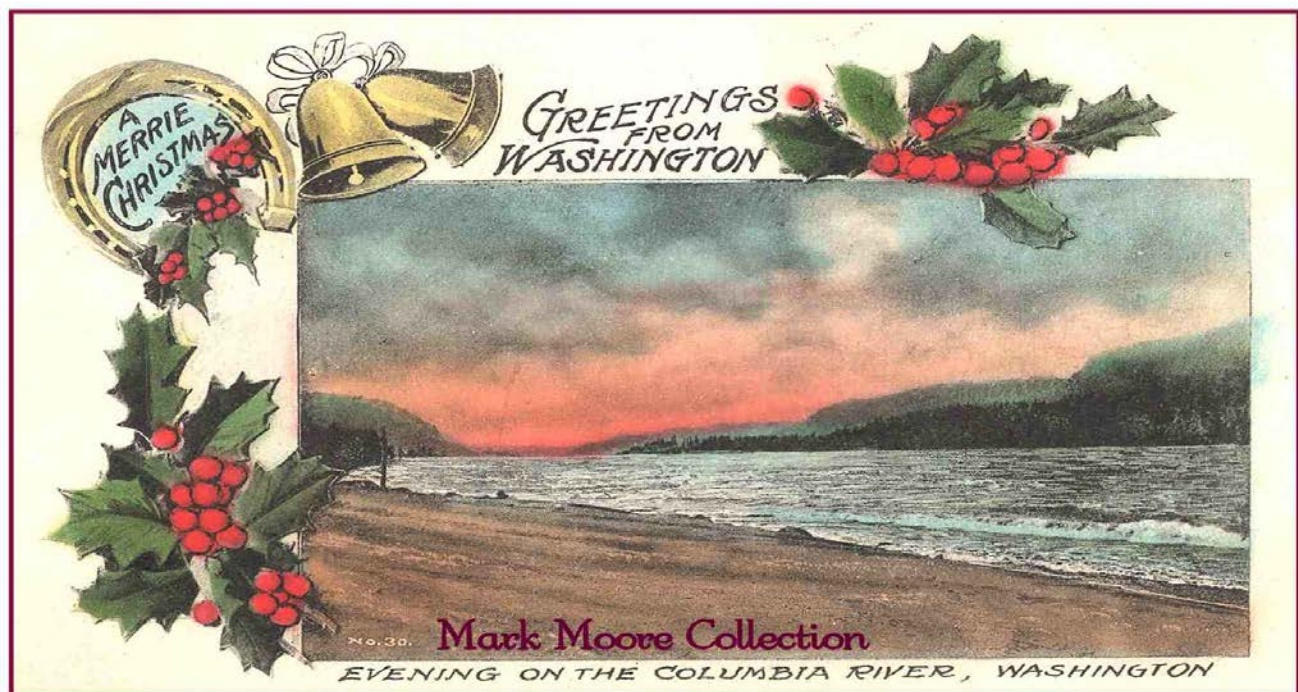
Real photo postcard view of Pike Street in Seattle, Washington showing streetcars stranded in the snow in February 1916. Woodrow photo. Postally unused.



Real photo postcard view of Ballard Avenue in Seattle, Washington, showing streetcars stranded in the snow in February 1916. Postmarked Feb. 14, 1916 at Ballard Station in Seattle, Washington. According to the message on the reverse, the streetcars were out of service from Feb. 1 to Feb. 5, 1916. The message also says they received 38 inches of snow.



Ellis real photo postcard view of the World's Largest Santa Claus at the Bon Marche' at the Northgate Shopping Center in Seattle, circa 1950. Postally unused.



Christmas Greetings postcard with a scene from "Evening on the Columbia River, Washington." Published by Wesley Andrews, Baker, Oregon. Postmarked at Washougal, Washington on December 30, 1914.



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