A WALKING TOUR OF HERITAGE PARK

This self-guided tour will take you back to Lynnwood’s beginnings. City dwellers from Seattle and Everett traveled here on the Interurban trolley for the advantages of country living, with the amenities of the city less than an hour away.

WELCOME TO HERITAGE PARK!

You are invited to experience the history of Lynnwood from its roots as Alderwood Manor in the 1920s. Heritage Park has assembled some of Lynnwood’s remaining historic structures in a village-like setting. The historic structures include the 1919 Wickers Building, Alderwood Manor’s first mercantile and post office; the superintendent’s cottage and water tower from the 1917 Alderwood Manor Demonstration Farm; the park site’s original residence; and 1910 Interurban Car 55. Brief histories of each are included in this tour guide.

Development of Heritage Park began in 2003 and was funded by federal, state and local funds. Future park development will complete renovation of the historic structures, expand museum collections and offer community heritage programs.

PARK INFORMATION:

- **ADDRESS:** 19921 Poplar Way, Lynnwood, WA 98036 (Wickers Building)
- **HOURS:** Heritage Park is open daily from dawn to dusk.
- **PARKING:** The parking lot will accommodate 32 cars, including 2 handicap & 3 bus stalls.
- **PUBLIC RESTROOMS:** Located behind the Visitor Information Center
- **PARK / PLAZA RESERVATIONS:** Please call City of Lynnwood Recreation Center, 425-670-5732
- **QUESTIONS?** Please call City of Lynnwood Parks Administration, 425-670-5502
- **CITY OF LYNNWOOD WEBSITE:** [www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us/Parks](http://www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us/Parks)

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

- **South on I-5:** Take Exit 181 (use 524 East). Merge onto 196th St. SW (524). Cross over I-5 and turn right on Poplar Way, center lane. Go one block to park and turn left into park entrance.
- **North on I-5:** Take Exit 181B. Take first right on Poplar Way. Turn left into park entrance.

PUBLIC ART:

**Gentle Encounter**

*Bronze sculpture by Louise McDowell*

The park’s central sculpture of children playing with chickens pays tribute to the egg-producing history of Alderwood Manor. In 1921, with 200,000 laying hens, Alderwood Manor was the second largest egg-producing community in the nation. It was said that, laid end to end, an annual production of eggs would stretch from New York to San Francisco!
The Wickers Building
1919

“The past…”

The Wickers Building was built by the Puget Mill Company in 1919 on the old North Trunk West Road in Alderwood Manor (now 196th Street SW in Lynnwood). Originally known as the Alderwood Manor General Store, this handsome Tudor Revival-style building included a grocery store and storeroom on the first floor, with living quarters for the storekeeper and his family on the second floor. The estimated construction cost of this two-story brick and stucco building in 1919 was $15,000.

L.E. Moffat, the storekeeper from 1920-1923, ran the store on a strictly cash basis and averaged receipts of $1,000 a week. Mr. Moffat was described in the May, 1920 issue of the Alderwood Manor Countryside newspaper as “an honest storekeeper, whose word is as good as his bond, and whose aim is to serve (the community) well at the lowest prices.”

In 1920 the first Alderwood Manor Post Office was opened in the store, with L.E. Moffat as postmaster. Mail was delivered by Interurban trolleys which ran right behind the store. The building was a familiar landmark half-way between Seattle and Everett to passengers on the Interurban.

In 1933 Herman Wickers purchased the store from the owners Guy and Hannah Parker and renamed it Alderwood Mercantile, however it was known by the community as Wickers’ Store.

The building remained in its original location on 196th Street for many years. In 1997 freeway construction threatened to demolish the old building. The City of Lynnwood stepped in to rescue it, and in 2003, moved it to Heritage Park, where renovation began, faithfully restoring the building’s distinctive features. Funding for the renovation was made possible by a federal Transportation Enhancement grant, local tourism taxes, City of Lynnwood funds and private donations.

… and the present.

The Wickers Building is home to the South Snohomish County Visitor Information Center, offering information on travel, accommodations and community events to tourists and residents.

Museum Exhibits in the Wickers Building:

• 1st floor main gallery includes “Making Tracks: Linking Seattle to Everett by the Interurban Railway,” and rotating exhibits.

• Photo gallery of historic Alderwood Manor

• 2nd floor exhibits include the history of the building, and recreated rooms with historic artifacts.

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER
(425) 776-3977

Monday to Friday: 9 am - 5 pm
Saturday and Sunday: 9 am - 3 pm

www.snohomish.org
The past...

Car 55 is a 1909 Interurban single-ended wooden electric rail car that was constructed by the Niles Carbody Works in Ohio and delivered to the Seattle-Everett Traction Company in 1910.

The electric Interurban railway was a fast, convenient and inexpensive way to travel in the early 20th century when automobiles were few and roads were poor. The richly upholstered electric coaches left Seattle every hour on the half-hour from 6:30 a.m. until midnight, and passed directly through Alderwood Manor – altogether a 45-minute trip.

The Interurban provided commuter service from Alderwood Manor to Seattle and Everett, and was a key element used to encourage people in the cities to relocate to ranchettes that had been created by the subdivision of former timberlands. The Interurban brought economic growth and business opportunities, as land was sold, new homes and businesses were built, and the area prospered and grew.

In 1939, the Interurban line was dismantled and taken out of service. Better roads were being built by then, and Interurban riders turned to buses and automobiles which had dropped to an affordable level.

Car 55 was sold and converted to a diner on Highway 99 in Everett - the Old ‘55 Café. In 1964, the car was donated to the Northwest Railway Museum and served as a ticket office for Snoqualmie's historic railway for about ten years. The car was used for storage several years later and left to deteriorate.

...and the present.

The Interurban, which provided mass transportation almost 100 years ago, is especially significant today as we establish rapid transit transportation. Car 55 has been renovated with original and fabricated historic parts and accessories.

- Don’t miss the pictorial story of Car 55’s renovation inside the trolley,
- and the History of the Interurban exhibit in the Wickers Building main gallery.

GUIDED TROLLEY TOURS
June-Sept: 1st Sat of the month - 11 am-3 pm
Oct-May: By appointment - (425) 670-5502

“Alderwood Manor folks are blessed with unusual transportation facilities said to be without equal in the Pacific Northwest.”

Alderwood Manor Countryside, Spring 1919

Cartoon by Steve Greenberg, reprinted courtesy of The Seattle Post Intelligencer.
The Alderwood Manor Heritage Cottage is owned by the Alderwood Manor Heritage Association and has been rehabilitated as the park’s Heritage Resource Center.

The water tower is currently undergoing renovation. Demonstration gardens are planned for development east of the water tower to provide the community with a living example of our agricultural heritage and sustainable gardening practices.

“...and the present.

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HERITAGE RESOURCE CENTER
(425) 775-4694
Tues, Thurs and Sat: 11 am - 3 pm
www.alderwood.org

The Alderwood Manor Demonstration Farm clears all doubt in the prospective settler’s mind, because no matter how inexperienced a man or woman may be in horticulture or poultry-raising, there is provided an educational institution ... that today is known to be the largest and most scientific poultry college in the world.”

By H.B. Reed, Poultry Expert & Superintendent, Alderwood Manor Demonstration Farm

Alderwood Manor Countryside, Spring 1919

The past...

The Alderwood Manor Heritage Cottage and the water tower are the only surviving structures from the Alderwood Manor Demonstration Farm.

The Demonstration Farm, a $150,000 project covering 33 acres, was built in 1917 by the Puget Mill Company as a “free poultry college.” Five and ten-acre tracts were sold to city folks who were encouraged to “drink in the uncontaminated invigorating fresh air of the countryside,” learn how to raise poultry for profit and have a fine garden.

The Alderwood Manor Heritage Cottage was originally the residence for the superintendent of the Demonstration Farm. The superintendent’s cottage was located on the highest point of the farm, and was equipped with an underground wiring system connected to the lines that powered the electric Interurban railway. The well beneath the water tower was operated by an electric pump, and supplied water to the Demonstration Farm, as well as nearby homes and businesses until the Alderwood Water District began service in 1934.

F.C. McClane was superintendent until the Puget Mill Company closed the Demonstration Farm in 1933. The property was then leased to Norman Collins who established the Washington Breeders Hatchery on the central five acres. Norman and his wife Vera lived in the cottage for several years, and later used it as a residence for the managers of the hatchery. The Collins family owned and operated the hatchery until 1970.

In 1997, the City of Lynnwood and Alderwood Manor Heritage Association rescued the structures from demolition during freeway interchange construction. In 2003, the structures were moved to Heritage Park for renovation.
The Humble House has been preserved in its original location in the park. It is now a Genealogy Research Library operated by the Sno-Isle Genealogical Society. The library offers free classes and community access to genealogy resources.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH LIBRARY
(425) 775-6267
Tues, Thurs and Sat: 11 am - 3 pm
www.rootsweb.com/~wasigs

The past…

The park site’s original residence was built in 1919 and first owned by Joseph R. and Harriet B. Holt. In 1934, wanting to “live in the country,” Albert and Mildred Humble and their two daughters, Janice and Mary, traded their Seattle home for the Holt’s 2-room house on a five-acre tract. The Humble family’s furnishings filled the little house to capacity, forcing them to sleep in the well house, which used to stand behind the main house. This house was typical of the minimal accommodations provided by the Puget Mill Company for the pioneering families.

The 2-room house grew over the next 20 years with additions that included two bedrooms, a dining room, basement and fireplace, allowing the Humble family to completely move into the house. Mr. Humble rode the Interurban to work every day in Seattle, a 45-minute trolley ride, but his family was truly living on a farm now. They all pitched in taking care of the animals, building chicken coops, and working in the cherry orchard.

Located across the road from the Alderwood Manor Demonstration Farm, this was a typical farm of its time, and a working example of the lifestyle the Puget Mill Company was selling to gentlemen farmers from Seattle and Everett.

“...and the present.

Humble family on the front stoop in the 1930s.  
Photo courtesy of Mary Humble Wickstrom