

# H&H RAILROAD

## the Shortest Railroad in America

### History

In 1904 the H & H Railroad, also known as Hall & Hall, Stanwood Street Railway, or “Dinky,” was a 1 mile track connecting the new depot on the Great Northern Railway with downtown Stanwood. East Stanwood was less flood prone, so the major north-south railroad had decided to bypass the older town on the banks of the Stillaguamish River. From 1904 on, the “Dinky” transported passengers and cargo between the old town and depot. Occasionally, it was used by children on the way to and from school. By the 1920s, passenger service was eliminated due to competition from automobiles. The railroad ceased operations in 1938 because of the low traffic and the completion of new highways between the 2 towns of Stanwood & East Stanwood.



**HALL & HALL RAILROAD – THE SHORTEST PRIVATELY HELD RAILROAD IN THE WORLD** presumably with proud sponsors and owners standing by. This is the first version: the gasoline motor engine made in Everett and the street car from the Seattle street car line.

### Ethnobotanical Gardens

Native plant “starts” from Bonhoeffer Gardens (to your SW, by the I-5) illustrate 99 foods and materials available to the American peoples who lived here 10,000 years without the need to develop agriculture. Planter boxes contain:

American Dunesgrass (42) Biddup Rose (78) Beach Strawberry (32) Bitter Cherry (66) Bitter Root (41) Black Crowberry (30) Blackcap Raspberry (88) Blue Elderberry (86) Bracken Fern (69) Bristle Prickly Pear (52) Broad-Leaved Shooting Star (28) Buffalo Berry (90) Caneberry (71) Cattail (95) Chokeberry (67) Clarkia (40) Coastal Black Gooseberry (74) Common Juniper (38) Cow Parsnip (36) Douglas Fir (68) Douglas Hawthorn (27) Englemann Spruce (58) Fair Lily of the Valley (47) Garden's Yarns (56) Giant Yucca (99) Golden Currant (72) Great Canoe (19) Hairy Manzanita (12) Hard Indian Panicle (21) Highbush Cranberry (89) Indian Celery (45) Indian Plant (51) Indian Thistle (23) Kinnikinnick (13) Lady Pine (16) Lewis' Black Orange (77) Lichen (46) Lonicera (67) Low Oregon Grape (7) Madonia (11) Nevada Rose (79) Oregon Buckle (55) Oregon White Oak (76) Quail (54) Pacific Ceanothus (9) Pacific Dogwood (26) Paper Birch (18) Parry Everlasting (95) Pioneer Gooseberry (75) Plantain (62) Ponderosa Pine (61) Poplar Bittersweet (13) Quaking Aspen (65) Red Alder (67) Red Elderberry (87) Red Flowering Currant (77) Red Stem Ceanothus (12) Red-Outer Dogwood (25) Salal (35) Salmonberry (82) Saskatoon Serviceberry (88) Scouring Rush (21) Shore Pine (66) Siberian Spruceberry (24) Silks Spruce (59) Small Cedar (20) Stanwood (91) Salt Bush (37) Spreading Snowberry (89) Swamp Cedars (73) Sweet Shrub (63) Sweet Iron (62) Tall Oregon Grape (63) Thorny Blackberry (83) Southern Blackberry (83) Tule (68) Twinflower (61) Yucca Leaf (81) Yucca (61) Yucca Cornet (73) Western Columbine (18) Western Dock (14) Western Huckleberry (94) Western Madonni (84) Western Red Cedar (93)

The Farm Museum and Garden's goal is to provide Washington State public school students a visual, non-text, introduction to NW History. Local Legends are stories our ancestors told (to us), their grandchildren, who are now 75 years of age. “History” (as compared to “lies perpetrated on the dead”) is taken from Wikipedia under the Creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike Agreements until PLC can develop its unique limited prose. These efforts are now underway with assistance of local school districts and the Stillaguamish Tribe. Plant prose, QR Code Links, and photos are taken from: www.usda.gov (attribution: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture), Wikipedia, and the UoW's www.biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium website under educational uses. URL Links provided by: USDA, NRCS; the PLANTS Database (<http://plants.usda.gov>) National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA. Visitors enter under the Revised Codes of the State of Washington - RCW 4.24.200 & 4.24.210 allowing public recreational use, including nature study and viewing or enjoying scenic or scientific sites/waterways on private land. Museum and gardens are proposed uses that still require Snohomish County Planning approvals. At present buildings serve as auxiliary storage units for PLC's native plants, gardening equipment, and Christmas decorations.

### Legends & Lessons

Stanwood, originally Centerville, was a Norwegian harbor town with fishing boats and docks until they were destroyed by silting. The establishment of a Norwegian Lutheran church in 1876, the first to be built in the Pacific NW, attracted many. From the start, the 1891 railway to the east irked the merchants who boycotted the trains and acquired an expensive steamboat, the *City of Stanwood* in 1893.

East Stanwood, built beside the Great Northern Railway, relied on a Swedish dominated commercial club to govern in lieu of a formal town government until 1922. The school systems supported a vicious decades-long football rivalry between the two high schools until 1944. A formal merger of the two cities was proposed in 1954 and placed on the ballot; it was rejected. Finally, Twin Cities became 1 in 1960 because the State demanded an updated sewage system. That said, both Stanwoods' water today comes from Freeborn Church Creek that you see in Bonhoeffer Botanical Gardens behind you, 2 out of 3 cups. Stanwood should use Everett City's water like Marysville, Arlington, and Granite Falls (Snohomish PUD).

Did we fail to mention some vicious person set a fire, destroying the steamboat?