JAPANESE FARMER'S MINKA

History

The Nakashimas were among the earliest Japanese families to farm within Snohomish County. They purchased their farm 3.2 miles NE of where you stand (11 miles if you drive) and operated it as a dairy farm until 1942. In 1920 177 Japanese households lived in Snohomish County, 5,392 in King, and 85 in Skagit. All were honored immigrants and neighbors, recognizable for their Minka-style houses. In 1924 the Asian Exclusion Act (repealed in 1952) banned the immigration of all Asians except Filipinos; leaving these household numbers the same when on 7 December 1941 Japan bombed Pearl Harbor.



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 Daugraph (2) | Balley Daugher (3) | Balley Daugher (4) | Ball

Legends & Lessons

The Snohomish County Centennial Trail is a 30 mile-long path running north from Snohomish (the true County Seat - files stolen one night by Everett culprits) to its railhead, the Nakashima Heritage Barn. A "History Quilt" is found on the barn's wall, depicting the timeline of the site: from native forest to sawmill to dairy farm and now a recreational site.

Executive Order 9066 placed the Nakashimas into internment camps, along with nearly 120,000 first-generation Japanese immigrants and their Americanborn citizen children. On April 15, 1942 the Nakashimas were forced to sell the farm for pennies on the dollar and members of their large family were sent to different internment camps.

The internment of the Japanese was a western event. 112,000 of 127,000 or 62% of the internees were U.S. citizens. In Hawaii, where Japanese Americans composed one-third of the population, only 1,800 were interned. The U.S. disbursed more than \$1.6 billion in1942 (equivalent to \$3.4 billion today) in reparations to 82,219 Japanese Americans who had been interned and their heirs in 1988. If you make a mistake, own up to it.