

History

5 Legends & Lessons

Spain had 2 disadvantages in 1789. Others sailed from China & Hawaii with the currents to Nootka Sound. Spain had to sail north along the Coast against on-shore winds and a current on the bow. The English had solved the problem of determining longitude using a marine clock. Spanish ships sailed unknowingly east-west until they developed the capability.

All knew their north-south position of latitude. A man on steady ground/keel with a keen eye might estimate latitude within a degree. Look at the **sextant** to your left. It is pointed at the North Star. Described in writings of Isaac Newton (1643–1727), the angle between the horizon and Polaris equates to one's position of latitude in the Northern Hemisphere.



Flag of the State of Alaska
Latitude and longitude of Alaska is 54° 40'
N to 71° 50' N and 120° W to 172° E

Local lore tells of a 1791 Spanish exploration team that blazed a trail from the East to meet the *Santa Saturnina*, the renamed *North West America*, then surveying the San Juans. Evidence to Pioneers was a blazed (axe gashes in the side of trees) path along what is now the Stanwood - Bryant Road (Darrington to Camano Island). The Spanish knew the latitude of the Strait of San Juan de Fuca; walking north in the high desert between the Cascades and Rockies, the exploration team reportedly turned west at 48.25° N. Spain considered this land theirs (a claim that later allowed the United States to gain title to the San Juan Islands).



This Spanish coin showed up while building Bonhoeffer Botanical Gardens; gifted by Gerald Thomsen to the Stillaguamish Tribe at the Gardens' Platform.

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:

The Farm Museum and Gardens' 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 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 license. Visitors enter the PLC can download the Revised Code of the State of Washington - RCW 4.20.020 & 4.24.010 allowing public use of the PLC for educational purposes. The Farm Museum and Gardens' 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 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 license. Visitors enter the PLC can download the Revised Code of the State of Washington - RCW 4.20.020 & 4.24.010 allowing public use of the PLC for educational purposes. The Farm Museum and Gardens' 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 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 license. Visitors enter the PLC can download the Revised Code of the State of Washington - RCW 4.20.020 & 4.24.010 allowing public use of the PLC for educational purposes.