

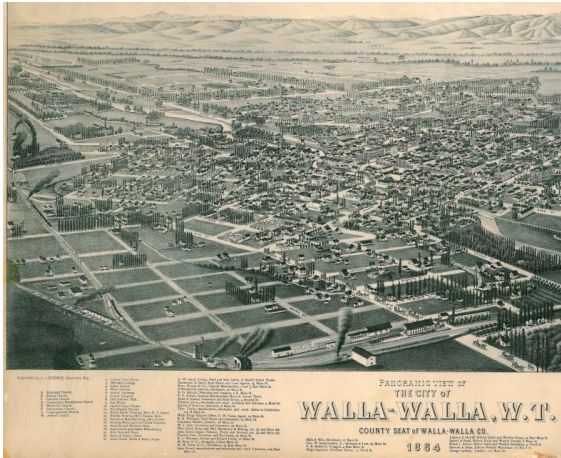
WALNUT GROVE ADDITION

The Rees & Sumach Community Garden is part of the Walnut Grove Addition to the City of Walla Walla. The addition was platted on May 2, 1892 by Baker Boyer Bank, established by entrepreneur and railroad builder Dorsey Baker.

Walnut Grove took its name from the large black walnut grove shown just above the garden site on the 1884 bird's eye map of Walla Walla below, as well as on the 1889 map on the cover of this brochure.

Dorsey Baker's Mill Creek Flume & Manufacturing Company Railroad snaked through the grove on its way to upper Mill Creek, passing behind the present large homes on the north side of Isaacs Avenue,.

Unfortunately, nearly all the remaining walnut trees in the addition have been removed recently because of disease.



An historical sign on the garden area can be found at Rees and Sumach Community garden, for which Walla Walla 2020 is a cosponsor. For information on other historical signs erected by Walla Walla 2020, go to www.ww2020.net/historic-sites.

WALLA WALLA 2020 HISTORIC RESEARCH & PLAQUE SERVICE

If you would like to honor a building or property by obtaining a research report on its history all the way back to when it was bare ground owned by local Tribes, and by displaying a handsome plaque listing the date of construction, along with the names of owners and builders, you can do so by contacting the Walla Walla 2020 Historic Research & Plaque Service.

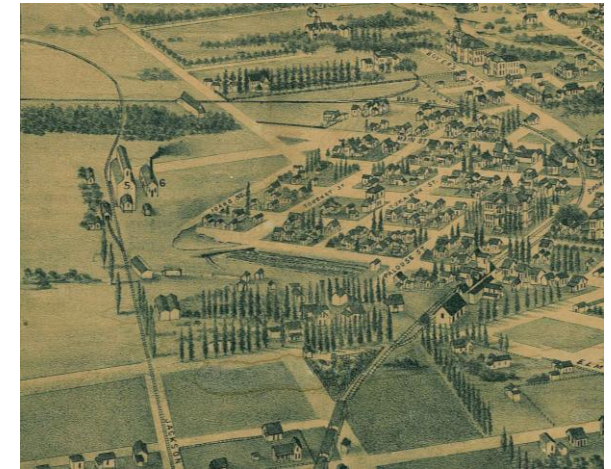
For qualifying properties, Walla Walla 2020 will research the title, construction, and occupant history, and provide a written report along with proposed plaque language. The research fee for residences is \$100; the fee for other properties ranges from \$150-\$250 depending on the complexity of the title and occupancy history.

Qualifying properties may be in any neighborhood but must be more than 50 years old, and have retained their architectural integrity. For those properties accepted, a photo of the current property along with the completed research report will be included in the Walla Walla 2020 Interactive Map of Historic Properties available on the internet at www.ww2020.net under the Architecture & Neighborhoods tab.

Following completion of the report, the property owner may order a plaque for display on the property. The cost of a basic 9"x 6" six-line plaque is \$50, with additional lines and sizes available on request. Application information is available online under the Architecture & Neighborhoods tab at www.ww2020.net

Historic Sites & Markers Project. *If you would like to help with the marking & interpretation of other significant sites in the Walla Walla area, please send tax-deductible donations to Walla Walla 2020, PO Box 1222, Walla Walla WA 99362, email ww2020@charter.net or call 509-522-0399 for more information.*

REES GARDEN AREA AND THE MILL CREEK RAILROAD



From the 1889 bird's eye Map of Walla Walla



Historic Sites & Markers Project
www.ww2020.net
PO Box 1222, Walla Walla WA 99362
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www.ww2020@charter.net

REES AND SUMACH COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Rees and Sumach Community Garden is located at the corner of Rees and Sumach streets on land provided by Whitman College, featuring features 35 individual plots and several common areas where produce is shared by all its gardeners. More information on the community garden is available on its website, www.reesandsumach.org.



THE MILL CREEK FLUME RAILROAD

The remaining rails running through the Rees and Sumach Community Garden were originally part of a narrow gauge railroad opened in 1881 by Dorsey Baker's Mill Creek Flume & Manufacturing Co. The line was built as a lumber railroad from Walla Walla toward the Blue Mountains where the bottom of the company's flume was located eight miles east of here along Mill Creek. The line and this garden location are shown on the left side of the 1889 map on the cover of this brochure as well as on the 1884 map on the inside flap.

Dorsey Baker, a pioneer merchant, banker, physician, farmer, and railroad builder bought what is now the garden site in 1871. Baker deeded this site to his flume company for use as part of the new railroad in 1877.

In 1882, a branch of this rail line was extended from a point two miles below its terminus on Mill Creek to the village of Dixie, known then as Baker City. A controlling interest in the railroad was purchased

in 1887 by the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company, which was acquired by the Union Pacific Railroad in 1891. The UP operated it until 1903 when this line was sold to an independent operator called the Mill Creek Railroad. The Mill Creek RR then sold it in 1905 to the Northern Pacific as part of its Washington & Columbia River Railway. The NP converted seven miles of the line from Walla Walla to the Tracy grain elevator on Mill Creek to standard gauge the same year. At that time the branch to Dixie was abandoned.

Though this line to Tracy was itself abandoned in 1970 by its new owner Burlington Northern Railroad, the track continued to be operated by the UP and its lessee Blue Mountain Railroad up to this corner until about 1995. In 1998, Whitman College acquired the land from the Union Pacific Railroad.

One of the three narrow gauge engines used on this line was the Blue Mountain, built in Pennsylvania in 1878 for the Walla Walla and Columbia River Railroad. The engine was sold to Mill Creek Flume & Manufacturing Company for use on Mill Creek in 1881. After service with the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company from 1887-1890, the Blue Mountain returned to service on the Mill Creek flume line in 1894, and was used here until 1905 when the Northern Pacific ended narrow gauge operations in the area. After service in Alaska, the Blue Mountain returned to Walla Walla in 1992 where it was put on display at Baker Boyer Bank. It is now being restored for display at Fort Walla Walla Museum.



The Blue Mountain engine ran on this track in 1881

PACIFIC COAST ELEVATOR

The Rees & Sumach Community Garden is also on the site of the Pacific Coast Elevator, a large grain elevator established in the late 1880s by the Pacific Coast Elevator Company, an arm of Portland Flouring Mills. Under the management of Theodore Wilcox, the company dominated the grain trade in the Pacific Northwest as well as in China for a considerable period. In later years, the taller wooden Pacific Coast Elevator was replaced by two round metal grain elevators operated by Harvey Farms of Walla Walla. After the property was purchased by Whitman College in 1998, these were removed except for their circular foundations.

The Pacific Coast Elevator is shown on the 1889 bird's eye map of Walla Walla on the cover of this brochure as item #5, next to the Walla Walla Creamery, later Shady Lawn Antiques, item #6.

WALLA WALLA CREAMERY

The Walla Walla Creamery, now Shady Lawn Antiques, was established in 1889 by the Walla Walla Creamery & Cold Storage Company



Shady Lawn Antiques across Sumach from the Garden

David Small, owner of Small's Opera House in early Walla Walla, was president of the company. By 1898, Ward Emigh owned Walla Walla Creamery, and members of the Emigh family operated the business as a creamery, cheese and ice cream factory. After the name was changed to Shady Lawn in 1922, the Emighs continued to operate the creamery until 1992. In 1994, David & Jill Emigh opened Shady Lawn Antiques in the old creamery building.