Public Lecture
Free

Power of Promises:
NW Indian Treaties

Dr. Alexandra Harmon
UW professor, author

Impact of Indian Treaties on Local History
Topic of Slide/Lecture at Annual Meeting

Continuing our focus on learning about the history of Native Americans in our area, Points Northeast Historical Society is sponsoring a public slide lecture by UW professor and author Alexandra Harmon talking about themes from her book *Indians in the Making: Indian Identities around Puget Sound*.

Her talk at the Society’s annual general meeting on Feb 21 at 7pm will be at the historic Dash Point School which now houses Northpoint Coop Preschool is off Eastside Drive just north of Marine View Presbyterian Church (8469 Eastside Dr.). A mini-museum in the original principal’s office, with displays of early Dash Point History, will be open that evening also, so come early for refreshments and a tour.

Dr. Harmon’s book explores questions such as: How did the concept of “Indianness” and Indian “tribes” develop over time? How can Indians claim historical continuity with Indians who signed 19th century treaties? How did indigenous peoples’ interactions with “immigrant Europeans” help to shape the history of the South Puget Sound region?

The title of her talk “Power of Promises: NW Indian Treaties” will explore more specifically treaties like Medicine Creek Treaty, how they were “negotiated” and what resulted for both Indians and non-Indians not only immediately but why they continue to have impact today.

We will be scheduling a book-club-type discussion of her book sometime after Feb 21 and also a follow-up presentation in April by Kurt Schaefer who teaches history at Bates Technical Collage and is researching for a dissertation on the history of the Puyallup Tribe.

Dr. Harmon has been teaching a variety of courses on Indian History and the Law at the University of Washington since 1995. Before that she worked as an attorney providing legal services to several North-west tribes. She has a BA from Stanford (1966), a law degree from Yale Law School (1972) PhD in history from UW (1995)

Our Annual General Meeting at 7 pm, Thursday, Feb 21 will be at the historic Dash Point School which is off Eastside Drive just north of Marine View Presbyterian Church (8469 Eastside Dr). Come earlier so you can also visit the restored Principal’s Office which now houses a Dash Point history museum. Doors will open at 6 pm to take advantage of a tour.
Photos of Interest

An unusual December storm with high winds, high tides and a surge caused us to search the Bay for Noah and his Ark. This photo snapped by Jim Harnish ran in the Tacoma Morning News Tribune. Some damage was done around the Park. Metro Parks quickly took care of the problems.

Big smiles from our Honorary Hostess Amy Ecker and President Jim Harnish at the Christmas Tea.

Carol Hazelrigg and Susan Volz share a “ho, ho, ho” with Mr and Mrs Santa Claus at the Christmas Tea.

Old nasty porch before remodel.

New porch completed by Greg Hoffman just in time for the Christmas Tea. Thanks, WA State Lighthouse License Plate grant.
Dash Point Updates from Jill Barkley

The 1924 Dash Point School Building:
The electrical restoration project is finally (three years) complete! Many thanks to Pierce County for an awarded PC Preservation Grant that helped complete this project phase. Way to go!

Funds to be raised at The Northpoint Cooperative Preschool’s upcoming auction to be held March 9, 2013 will focus on the next phase of restoration. To support their auction with items to donate or to purchase tickets to attend, contact Jill Barkley (liaison for PNEHS) jillcwt@comcast.net or Auction Chair Autumn Larson, Trkspd93@hotmail.com.

Speaking of the Old Dash Point School, if anyone has old tool@1924 –1950 that they would like to donate to the Boiler Room shop bench, please contact me. These tools would be used in a period display but also functional for handymen from the co-op who volunteer each year to help maintain the building at hand. Wouldn’t it be nice to have a supply of tools at hand!

Contact jillcwt@comcast.net.

Identifying Vintage Homes in Dash Point is another project on my plate. If anyone can help me identify the origins of homes (whose house do you live in?), please contact me. Dash Point homes began top be built in1906. Some original homes still exist. Most are remodeling beyond historic recognition. jillcwt@comcast.net.

Jeanne Matthaesi

PNEHS Charter Member Jeanne Matthaesi passed away this past November. She and her husband Henry raised three children in Dash Point. She lived in the same house on Markham for 65 years. Her daughter Kathy Hauser tells us that her mom was active in the Garden Club and community events as well as knowing the inside scoop on doings in Dash Point.

The Matthaesi made their home in Dash Point due to fond memories Henry had of his family’s summer beach house rented in the 1920’s where they had to boat to access the home.

She was born in Tacoma in 1921 and passed away in 2012. Jeanne is survived by daughters Kathy Hauser of Browns Point and Sally Siler, son Mike Matthaesi, two sisters, and grandchildren.
Browns Point Light Station Nears 110 years of Service to Mariners and our Communities

Our Curator, Mavis Stears found this notice from 1903 appraising Mariners of the starting operation of the Browns Point Lighthouse and the termination of the Point Brown Post Light which had previously served that location. It is interesting to note that the Post Light’s termination date is Lightkeeper Oscar Brown’s first day on the job. We will be running segments of a historical article about the Browns Point Light Station in our future newsletters to help celebrate its 110th birthday.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
Washington
September 25, 1903.

BROWNS POINT LIGHT-STATION.

(List of Lights and Fog Signals, Pacific Coast, 1903, page 44, in place of No. 192; List of Beacons and Buoys, Pacific Coast, 1903, page 80.)

Notice is hereby given that, on or about October 26, 1903, a fixed white lens-lantern light will be established in the structure recently erected on the gravel beach on the westerly end of Point Brown, about 24 miles northerly of Tacoma, and on the easterly side of the entrance to Commencement Bay and Tacoma Harbor, southerly part of Puget Sound.

The focal plane of the light will be 20 feet above the water and 16 feet above the base of the structure. The light will be visible from points in the sound and bay to the westward of S. by W. 4 W. and N. by W. 4 W.; bearings from seaward.

The approximate geographical position of the light, as taken from Chart No. 6150 of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, will be:

\[\begin{align*}
\text{Latitude, north, } &47^\circ 18' (33') \text{;} \\
\text{Longitude, west, } &122^\circ 26' (34'). \\
\text{Robinson Point Post Light... } &N. 4^\circ E., 5^{1/4} \text{ miles.} \\
\text{Dash Point... } &N. by E. 40^\circ E., 1 \text{ mile.} \\
\text{Point Defiance... } &W.S.W. 4^{1/4} W. \\
\text{Point Dalse... } &W. 4^{1/4} N., 3^{1/2} \text{ miles.}
\end{align*}\]

The structure is a white, two-story, frame tower, with a lantern projecting from its westerly side, from which the light is shown, and a bell suspended under the gable above the lantern. A white, one-and-one-half-story, frame dwelling stands about 300 feet to the eastward of the tower and is partly hidden by trees.

On the same date there will be established at the station a bell, to be struck by machinery, during thick or foggy weather, a single blow every 20 seconds.

POINT BROWN POST LIGHT.

(List of Lights and Fog Signals, Pacific Coast, 1903, page 44, No. 192; List of Beacons and Buoys, Pacific Coast, 1903, page 80.)

Located on the end of Point Brown, easterly side of the entrance to Commencement Bay, about 24 miles northerly of Tacoma.

Notice is hereby given that, on or about October 26, 1903, this fixed white post-lantern light will be permanently discontinued.

Bearings are magnetic and given approximately; miles are nautical miles; height is referred to mean high water.

By order of the LIGHT-HOUSE Board.

C. T. HUTCHINS, Captain, U. S. N., Naval Secretary.
To: Our Firefighters--Thank You for:

Protecting our homes, businesses, and community
Responding so quickly--even to the false alarms
Making emergency calls to save lives and comfort the sick
Responding to request for non-emergency tasks
Helping with so many community events
Providing education for the community
Acting as role models for our children in the neighborhood
Doing all of this with positive attitudes and good cheer

From: Points Northeast Historical Society
TIP OF THE HAT TO …………..

- Ted and Marge Dieterich for upgrading the kitchen and boat house museums
- Norm Andersen for developing and managing all of the budget details
- Mike Nist for donating a teacher’s desk for the school vignette.
- Vern Reis for donating many barber antiques … to Nancy Cook for donating many school antiques … to Neil Hanson for donating antiques for the Meeker Office … to Elizabeth Sparks for donating many miscellaneous antiques.
- Our Christmas Tea Volunteers: Mignone and Bill Peterson, Bill Baird and Sally Baird, Sue Wenski, Dennis Champaign, Layne Chavez, Damon Ham, Susan Volz, Julie Lord, Mari Hagen, Laverne and Ron Stone, Jody Beslow, Gini Anderson, Jim and Pat Harnish, Mary Chavez, Kathy Juracek, Kathleen Monahan, Linda Van Nest, Janice Burgess, Mavis Stears, Art and Pam Ladley, James Storey, Randy White, Fay Ainsworth, Jill Barkley, Norm and Margot Andersen, Bob Robinson, Neil Hanson, Nancy Pawlicki and Mr and Mrs Santa Claus, courtesy of the Browns Point / Dash Point Fire Dept.
- The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation for awarding PNEHS $1,000 in the 2013 Valerie Sivinski Washington Perserves Award. This will be used for abatement of lead paint and asbestos in the Lightstation buildings.
- Northpoint Preschool for the use of their historic building for our Annual Meeting.
- Norpoint Center for exhibiting our Jerry Meeker Display.
- The intrepid brave souls who participated in the 2013 Dash Point Polar Bear Plunge!
- Bob Robinson for upgrading the kitchen and boathouse museums, help with back porch, adding safety rails to basement stairs, moving the hot water heater, etc. etc.
- Marie Geppert for helping in the History Center (filing).

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Teacher’s desk donated by Mike Nist. Mike has used the desk for 37 years but his father and grandfather used it for many previous decades.

Sally and Bill Baird donated this platform rocker which has been in Sally’s family since 1910. Her great grandfather in Colfax, WA. owned it originally.

The antique coffee table with removable glass tray was donated by the Harnish Family. It has been in the family for over 100 years.

Items Wanted: From the early 20th Century (before 1940)
Antique harp, set of book ends, formal Abe Lincoln school wall picture, hat pin holder and hat pins, glass cake knife, silhouette (convex) pictures, inkwells for student desks, water pump for yard (six feet tall).
Business Memberships Provide Advertising Opportunity And Support Points Northeast Community Activities

As an area business, you might be interested in knowing about an advertising opportunity which supports Points Northeast Historical Society, serving Browns Point, Dash Point, and NE Tacoma since 1986 by preserving promoting and celebrating local history.

For a Business Membership of $100 you will have a business card size ad in each of our newsletters, which goes out to over 400 members; you will also get exposure to the more than 2000 visitors who either rent the historic lightkeepers cottage at Browns Point Lighthouse Park or visit our museums there, and your website will be linked to our revised website.

In addition to hosting a weekly museum open house (April to Nov), we also hosted over 250 children, teachers, and parents on history field trips last spring. We participate in local events, including Browns Point Salmon Bake which attracted around 4000 people last year; Federal Way Symphony Garden tour was attended by 300; and our 25th anniversary event in 2011 had 500 attending.

Our work has been recognized as producing “one of the finest examples of restoration of lighthouse property in the country,” according to the US Lighthouse Society which often brings national lighthouse tour groups to visit. Smarter Travel.com magazine voted us “one of the 10 best lighthouse to sleep in.

We are members of Heritage League of Pierce County, a coalition of over 40 heritage organizations; Tacoma Pierce County Visitors Bureau; Tacoma Waterfront Association, dedicated to promoting activities on Puget Sound from Browns Point to Point Defiance; South King County Cultural Coalition; and various other heritage organizations.

For more information or a private tour of our museum facilities, leave a message at 253-927-2536. See our website: pointsnortheast.org and facebook.com/pointsnortheast.

Welcome to our New Life Members: Roger McLennan, Midi Mees and Beverlee Storkman
Ballot for 2013 PNEHS Annual Meeting
February 21, 2013
Historic Dash Point School

Kathleen Monahan has been nominated for Secretary.
The term of office is for two years.
I cast my vote for Kathleen Monahan _________
I cast my vote for Other: _____________________  
( Please write in name)
I abstain from voting. _________

Please mail to the PNEHS at
Suite 180, PMB #135,
100 Town Center NE
Browns Point, WA 98422
Or bring it to the Annual Meeting with you.

Thank you.