108 - Bainbridge Island Historical Museum, 215 Erickson Ave.

The historic Island Center schoolhouse was moved three times: to the high school for a music room, to Strawberry Hill Park for the museum, then to Winslow, reopening in 2004.

WHERE’S WINSLOW?

"Winslow" is what locals call the downtown part of the island. Winslow Hall was one of three brothers who built shipyards on Bainbridge Island. Winslow was an incorporated town from 1947 to 1991, but now it’s just part of the City of Bainbridge Island. Before that the settlement was called Madrone, for the red-barked tree at the dock. The earliest to live here were the Suquamish, who called it "Home of Eagles."

James Ryan bought the first parcel at Eagle Harbor in 1870 and attracted settlers like Hoskinson and Grow, who founded the Congregational Church at the corner of Madison and Winslow Way (6).

Jitsuzo and Shima Nakata opened a barbershop in 1906. Fifty years later their sons "Mo" and John Nakata partnered with Ed Loverich, the son of Croatian store owners, to establish the Town and Country Market.

Ambose Grow

The Riley Hoskinsons

Jitsuzo & Shima Nakata

1901 - Built where the ferry used to dock, the Winslow Dock Commercial Building, now Doc’s Marina Grill, housed a succession of tenants: “The Bloody Bucket,” “The Yoeling Oyster,” and “Mac’s Tavern.”

1907 - The Darius Ettinger House, 202 Erickson Avenue.

1909 - Wyatt House. Many a community dance was held in this home during the years it was owned by steamer captain Cyprian Wyatt.

1913 - Captain’s House was home to Ebenezer Franks, engineer on the Florence K steamship. The English Walnut is an historic tree.

1917 - Anderson Hardware today is the popular Pegusus Coffee House.

1922 - House and Clinic of Dr. Frank Shepherd included a pawn shop (to the left), for the Island’s first automobile.

1880s - once the home of Ambrose Grow, now Harbour Public House. See the original root cellar next door.

1941 - built by H.E. Anderson for a hardware and grocery store. In the 1960s, it was the Winslow City Hall. Now Eagle Harbor Book Co.

1950s - housed a series of drug stores. A noted example of midcentury modern architecture, with cantilevered canopy and unique display case.

1945 - The islands first fire station opened on land leased from the Window Maritime Railway and Shipbuilding Co. In 1982 the remodeled building opened as City Hall. In 1999 it was converted to a police station.
In 1902, industry came to Winslow. The Hall Brothers moved their shipyard from Port Blakely to Eagle Harbor. Madame Nadya, named for Madame Nadya, designer of the company's famous lizard schooner. By 1916, steamships for war began to replace sailing ships. Large numbers of shipbuilders settled the town, renting space in the Winslow Hotel near Winslow Way and today's Hwy. 305. The hotel burned down in 1934. In World War II, miners were employed and combat-damaged ships were repaired here.

Until 1991, Winslow was Bainbridge Island's largest and only incorporated town. Today it is the "downtown" of the City of Bainbridge Island.

Members of the Suquamish Tribe were the first recorded humans to live in the Winslow area. They camped on the shores of Eagle Harbor where Winslow's waterfront and Wing Point are now, as well as other places on the Island. They caught and dried fish and collected berries for winter to supplement their diet of clams, bulbs, roots, and ferns.

Winslow was not always the largest town nor was it the island's earliest non-Native settlement. Even after the treaty of 1853 that ceded Indian land to the U.S. government, the Winslow area didn't develop until it was thoroughly logged. The few farmers and shopkeepers who settled on Eagle Harbor in the 1870s named their settlement Madrona for the red-barked trees (Arbutus menziesii) that still grace the shoreline. To the north and south, booming lumber mill towns already flourished at Port Madison and Port Blakely. The latter was said to be the largest mill in the world in the 1990s.

A steep ravine divided Winslow into two districts with a wooden bridge built. Later, dirt fill was brought in to support the road, unifying the town.

Rowboats were the utility vehicles of the times. Many children rowed across Eagle Harbor to school. Until Winslow established the first high school in 1914 at the west side of the present Winslow Green, students from the Congregational Church. Islands 9th graders went to Seattle for further education. Some stayed with relatives, while others commuted on the many steamers of the "Mosquito Fleet."

Steamers were also the best way to get around the Island before roads and cars took over. You can still see pilings from docks that once served the steamer trade, now perches where cormorants dry their wings in the sun. Today, Winslow has the only island ferry dock - and it serves thousands of commuters each day.

The Bainbridge Island Historical Museum
215 Erickson Avenue NE • Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
Open daily, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
206-842-2773 • www.bainbridgehistory.org

Photos on the cover:
Top right: The steamer Florence K.
Center: Sadie Woodman, postmistress, crosses the wooden bridge over the ravine.
Bottom: Winslow Way looking west.

The Madrona Store
Above: Elmer Lee (left) and Percy Henderson (right) and a boy named "Sandy" (center) in the Madrona Store. They took orders in the morning and Elmer Lee delivered them by horseback in the afternoon. Since there was no road to Wing Point, he drove a wagon on the beach. Once he got caught by the tide and had to leave the wagon.

The Madrona Store was founded on the waterfront by Mr. Irving, who left the Port Blakely Mill after 14 years of hard labor. He sold the Madrona Store to Elmer Lee and opened another store on Winslow Way that still stands. (See L5 on reverse side.)