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Perfield Hop Farm

Following the American Civil War, the first hops to be grown in this area were imported from England by Charles Wood of Olympia. Some of the hop plants were obtained by Jacob Meeker, who began production in the Puyallup Valley. The plants thrived, the venture was very successful, and by 1884 the hop business was booming in the area. The fields were yielding as much as 3,000 pounds per acre, and the quality was outstanding. They became famous and desired by brewers as far away as Europe. The hop boom in the area ended in 1891 with a combination of “hop lice” infestation, down mold from Canada, fluctuating markets and bad weather. Production continued however, on a much smaller scale and by 1940 the Nick Perfield farm near this location was among the last in western Washington. By 1956 only 3 farms remained in the Valley. Some of the distinctive hop drying barns can still be seen as of today. Primary hop production in Washington State has now moved to the dryer climate of the Yakima Valley.



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