

Dear WAGS Librarian,

My parents (Ted R Wilson & Viola B Long) and I were all born in the Wenatchee valley:

- Wilsons: Lived in Peshastin; grandfather John A "Jack" Wilson (1863 OH - 1939 WA) was a local businessman and Chelan County Commissioner.
- Longs: Lived in Cashmere, where great grandfather Eugene Christian "Gene" Long was evidently a part owner of the "Big D" Department Store. (This building was later converted to the Vale movie theater.
- Me: Born in Leavenworth, where parents ran the Alpine Theatre. (We moved to Seattle c. 1942 so my father could work at Boeing to help support the war effort.
- My Cousin: Russell G Long still lives in Cashmere, where he lives in a newer house built on part of the Long family orchard land (where the original house burned down abt. 1939).

I have little bits of family history in various forms and am trying to consolidate and share them as I run across them. The following email was one I compiled to send to family members, and I thought you might like to have a copy for your files.

Kay Wilson (WAGS member)

----- Original Message -----

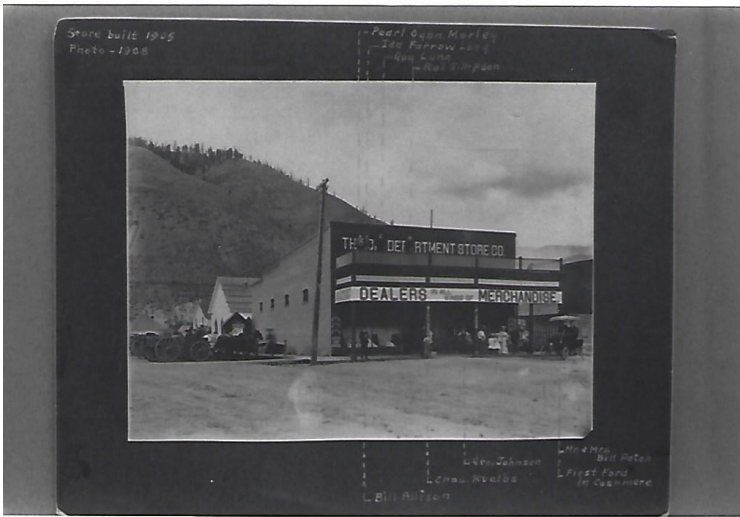
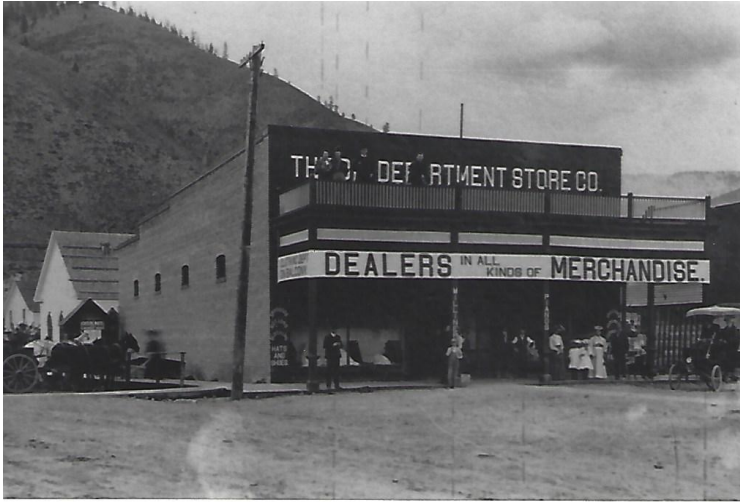
From: Kay Wilson <kwilsonfisk@comcast.net> To: [various family members] Date: 11/08/2018 9:35 PM

Subject: The Big D Department Store 1908

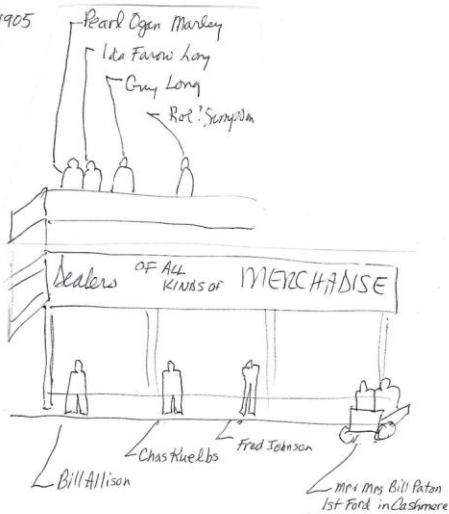
Here are scans of a 1908 photo of The Big "D" Department Store in Cashmere. As I recall, Mother said that it was built by a group of investors including "Daddy" Guy's father, "Grandpa Long." (Note the photo below of Grandpa Long and two other men in suits; I think Mother said the three of them were businessmen who made some investments together in the early days.

- I'm pretty sure the first photo is a copy Ted made with his new Nikon camera, probably of an original that Auntie Ruth had. On the back, in Mother's handwriting, is: "Cashmere, Early 1900's, Guy Long, Manager.
- I think the second is a copy of the same photo which had been framed and on which Daddy Guy had written people's names.
- The third one is a sketch I made of the names written on the photo:
 - Balcony:
 - Pearl Ogan Marley – the Ogans were cousins of the Farrows;
 - Ida Farrow Long – Daddy Guy's wife;
 - Guy Long – Daddy Guy;
 - Rol?? Simpson – Probably one of the owners. The Simpsons had a huge logging and sawmill business when I was a kid. My cousin Don seemed to be in awe of them when we saw one of their huge trucks go by.

- Front Porch: Bill Allison, Chas Kuelbs, Fred Johnson – not sure who they were; perhaps just regular customers.
- In car: "Mr & Mrs Bill Paton, 1st Ford in Cashmere": The Patons were movers & shakers; they owned the Ford dealership when I was a kid, and I think they lived in a huge house in a hill above town, at the end of the street where Daddy Guy and "Grammy" (Ida) lived when I was a kid.



Store built 1905
Photo 1908





- The Big "D" Department Store in Cashmere, 1908 (colorized). We have no information on who the lady and three male clerks were. I was told that E. C. Long's son, Guy Long, worked there, and suspect that the man in the middle behind the counter could be him.



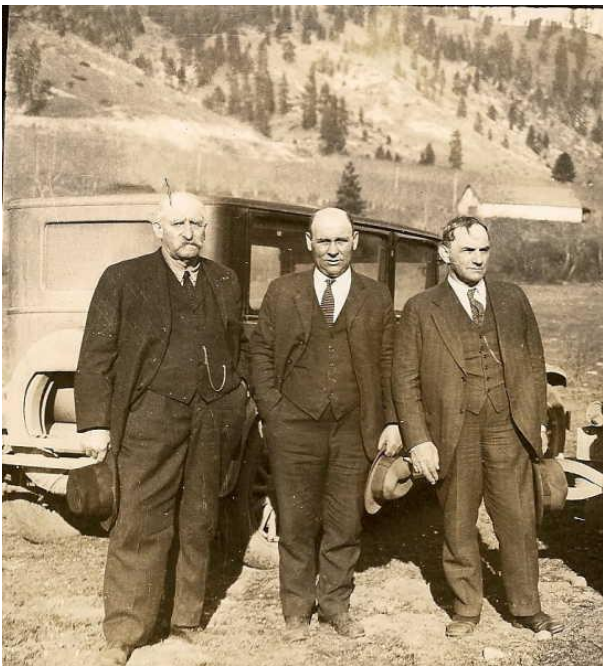
- Big "D" Department Store Float, July 4, 1906 Parade



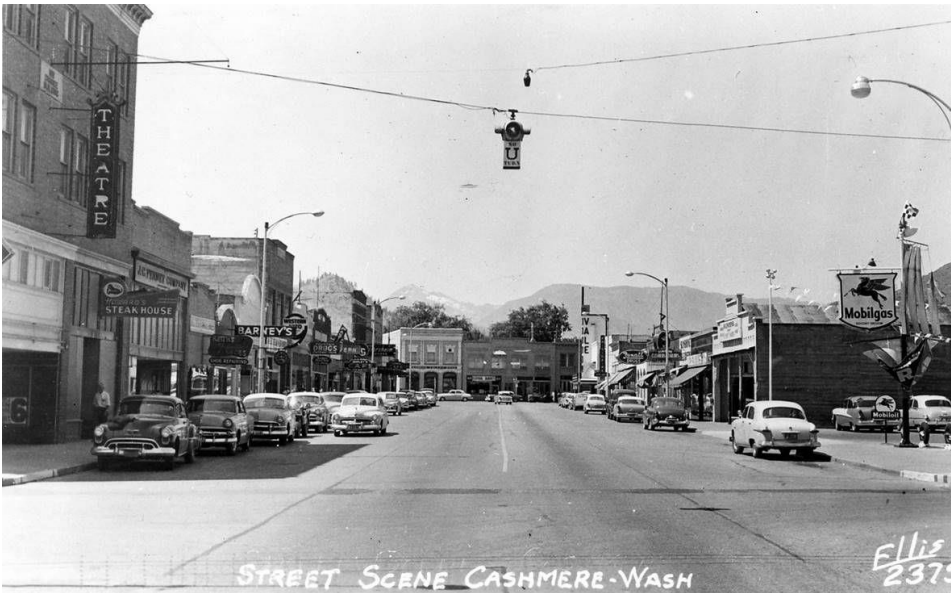
- The Eugene C. Long home on Long Street, Cashmere, WA



- Christian Eugene "E. C." Long (c. 1920) - "Eugene Christian "Gene" Long lived in Wenatchee, Washington, in 1922."



- The back of the photo says, "Eugene Christian Long, Wm Doelle (Doelle Hdw. Cashmere), Dr. Hayden" (written in Viola Long's handwriting).



This photo shows the Vale Theatre (distant right), which was converted from the Big "D" Department Store after the Sears Roebuck catalog store came to town. Another theatre (near left: the Royal Theatre?) was also established, and it is my understanding that my father Ted Wilson was a part-owner and/or manager. (I assume this may be how my parents met each another but didn't figure this out until it was too late to ask them.



Sam Beecher liked to drive the Banks family around in his 1911 Model T Ford, the first in the Upper Wenatchee Valley.

I suspect that my father Ted R. Wilson may have taken this photo because I found the 5" x 7" negative in my father's things after my parents died. I copied this photo from an old "WAGS" Confluence magazine that I had saved. The Wilson family lived in Peshastin near the Beecher home, and my grandfather John A "Jack" Wilson is credited with doing some of the finish woodwork there.



Four Generations:

= Top: Guy J Long (1887 NE - 1978 WA)

= Left: Sarah J Sinclair Long (1836 OH - 1923 WA)

= Right: Eugene Christian "Gene" Long (1860 IL - 1931 WA)

= Bottom: Viola Long Wilson Sandmark (1911 WA - 2001 WA)



This is a photo of Guy Long (c. 1956-1960) in front of his cabin on the south shore of Lake Wenatchee. (The E. C. Long family owned a cabin just across the street from Cougar Inn, which was inherited by his daughters Ina Long McManus and Ruby Long and is still owned by the Cashmere McManus family.)

Best regards,

Kay Wilson