

The Will to Survive

Sure enough, it's Winter, the snow has started, and of course the questions start being asked: "Is the Loop closed at Deer Creek?" "Is the road open at all?" "Is there power past Sand Hill?" All the questions and answers can now be easily found on Facebook! But every now and then, people mention some "landmark", and not too surprisingly, one that appears quite often is "the old store in Verlot", or for those in the know, "Green Gables Store".

There was once a fairly thriving collection of businesses on Mountain Loop. There was one right by the Falls that changed from tavern to snack bar to restaurant over the years. There was the well-known Canyon Creek Lodge, which burned once, was rebuilt to even greater fame, and ultimately burned again right on the side of the highway, the location now marked only by a number of large rocks in a line. The Robe Restaurant, later known as "Tina's" and as the "Mountain View Inn" operated for decades, and was for a time the only motel in the area. At the far end of the southern leg of the Loop was the Big Four Inn, a tourist destination for several decades starting in the early 1920s, eventually lost to fire in 1949.

Mr. and Mrs. Ab Gosa have been improving their home near Turlo. The gables have been painted green and the house has been given the name of "Green Gables". The rooms downstairs are finished alike in selected knotted cedar, oiled. A fireplace, built of brick and veneered with stone inside the building is completed on the west end. Another fireplace is to be built on the east end. There is a public reception room, a large living room, a bedroom, a bath room, kitchen and dining nook on the ground floor.

But the one business that seemed to survive through thick and thin was "Green Gables", a house turned into a restaurant, with property around it that became a resort in itself. There were rental cabins, of course, but there were also people who lived on the property full-time. It

was a place to stop after a day of exploring. It was a place to hold meetings for a variety of organizations. It was even a place for a former owner to return, re-purchase, and re-marry!

"GREEN GABLES" NEW RESORT ON MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY ROUTE

"Green Gables", a new resort on the Mountain Loop Highway route near Verlot, has been opened this spring by Mr. and Mrs. Ab Gosa.

The main building is 30x40 and is made of natural logs with knotted cedar finish. There is a tavern room and a dining room, and sleeping rooms are now being completed upstairs.

The property includes eighty acres of ground, with a quarter of a mile of frontage on the Stillaguamish River, and an excellent swimming hole. A picnic grounds is now being prepared.

Although the "Green Gables" will not be entirely completed this year, it is now open, providing lunches, sandwiches and Sunday chicken dinners.

GREEN GABLES

Robe, Wash.

"Yes, We Are Open Watch Our Moves in the Future"

**BEVERAGES, LUNCHESES, SANDWICHES,
SUNDAY CHICKEN DINNERS**

"Good As The Best and Better Than The Rest"

Come In and Get Acquainted

Parking and Tables on Shady River Front

**1 1/2 Mile West of Verlot Government Camp on Right
Hand Side of Road Going Towards Verlot**

On May 7, 1936 the newspaper in Granite Falls mentioned the improvements being made to the home of Ab and Anna Gosa. By the following month, the Jun 11 newspaper spoke of the new "resort"! From the very start, it was intended as a friendly place to stop and enjoy.

Mr Gosa passed away in 1939, but the new owners, Mr and Mrs Stacey carried on the tradition of hospitality.

EDMONDS BOY SCOUTS SPEND WEEK END AT "GREEN GABLES"

Boy Scout Troop 339 of Edmonds spent the week end at "Green Gables," near Robe. Twenty-one Scouts visited the Ranger Station at Verlot, where they were shown the different trees that grow in the district. They also took in the Heather Lake trail. Saturday evening the boys had a camp fire, where singing and stunts were enjoyed. The leaders and Scouts were high in their praise of the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Stacey of Green Gables.

The Dec 18, 1947 talked of the Boy Scouts visiting from Edmonds. The July 22, 1948 paper described the American Legion picnic to be held at Green Gables.

The Oct 5, 1950 issue told of a visit by the Camp Fire Girls and their

outdoor adventures. Other issues told of a variety of scout meetings, fire department meetings, ladies auxiliary meetings, etc., many of which rotated between Green Gables, Tina's, and other Loop businesses.

To Hold Annual Picnic

The annual picnic will be held at Green Gables on July 25. All veterans and their families are cordially invited to attend. Each family is requested to bring their own table service, bread and butter and hot dish or salad. Coffee and refreshments will be furnished by the Legion. Please be there not later than 1 p.m.

The Wi-Ca-Top-Li Camp Fire group of Everett spent last weekend at the Green Gables near Robe. The girls planned and cooked their meals outside. Saturday they hiked on the trails around Verlot. Those participating included: Mary Berger, Mary Hansen, Karen Bachelder, Karen Gilberg, Bernice Gortz, Sally Buechel, Joyce McLennon, Judy Hill and the leaders, Mrs. Wm. Gortz and Mrs. Geo. Bachelder.

Mr. and Mrs. William Pipp's of Chicago, Ill., and Mrs. Horace E. Stedman of Yakima, also Mrs. W. J. Stacey's mother of Yakima, spent the weekend visiting and enjoying the beautiful fall weather at Green Gables.

By the 1960s, Green Gables was owned by Ralph and Alyce Holm. They sold it to the Murrells around 1967, but then Alyce returned to repurchase the place a few years later, a much heralded event in June 1970.

The resort had been continually modernized by its owners, with new cabins, new well, and ultimately a complete gas station!

GREEN GABLES INN

Meals served from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

- PICNIC SUPPLIES
- GROCERIES
- BEER and WINE TO GO
- ICE
- OVERNIGHT CABINS
- FISHING TACKLE
- ENCO GASOLINE
- PROPANE

Joe and Mardell Murrell — Prop.

10 Miles East of Granite Falls on Mt. Loop Hiway

OW 1-3494

Alyce at Green Gables; open house this weekend

Green Gables grand opening will be this weekend, June 27 and 28. Mrs. Alyce Holm, returning owner of the restaurant on the Mt. Loop Highway, will be serving coffee and cake to mark the occasion.

Mrs. Holm had operated the restaurant from 1961 to 1967 when she sold the business to the Joseph Murrells. For the past several weeks she's been busy putting 'her touches' back into the place. Helping her with the task is Molly Yonce who had worked previously with her at Green Gables.

Old patrons will recognize some of the antiques and knick-knacks and some of the pictures, too, but the family has grown. Daughter Carole (Mrs. Terry Schmadeka) now has two sons, Kevin, 5, and Jeffrey, 3. The family lives in The Dalles, Oregon. Son Jon and his wife, Mary, have a daughter, Jodi, born this past May. Jon is a radio news director in New Castle, Indiana.

"Grandma", Mrs. Mary

Maycock, (Mrs. Holm's mother) is at Green Gables, too.

Returning with Mrs. Holm, Mrs. Maycock and Molly to the "homey" feeling of Green Gables are some of the 'specialities of the house' including the famous Mt. Pilchuck pastie. Restaurant hours are 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday.

A lot of people have already stopped by to say "hello" said Mrs. Holm. "It's a most rewarding thing to come back," she said.



ALYCE HOLM

School camp has sessions

School buses are again passing through Granite Falls making their way to Camp Silverton-Waldheim on the Mt. Loop Highway. Seventeen school districts of Intermediate District 109 are sponsoring eight weeks of summer camping at the Outdoor Education Laboratory in the Monte Cristo District of the Mt. Baker

National Forest.

Using the camp facilities during it's first week of summer operation for 1970 are students from Everett, Edmonds, Arlington, South Whidby and Coupeville.

Certified school teachers, administrators, a camp nurse and selected high school students are the adult staff.

Alyce's return was a happy occasion for the community. Her mother Mrs Maycock was familiarly known as "grandma" to everyone in the area. Of interest as well is the short article mentioning Camp Silverton-Waldheim, another historically significant facility on the south side of Mountain Loop that deserves to be open to the public once again!

Less than a year later, the Sept 16, 1971 newspaper told of Alyce's wedding to James Nussbaum. Of course, the wedding took place at her beloved Green Gables!!

The 2014 closure of nearby Gold Basin campground nearly put Green Gables to death economically, reducing business by over 50%, but a couple Mountain Loop proponents stepped in to revive the business and strive to weave it into the community fabric again. Randy and Edith Farrell are leasing the original Green Gables building and offering refreshments, souvenirs, trails advice, and groceries to locals and tourists alike. Stepping inside the Green Gables General Store, you can enjoy the original woodwork and fireplace, and imagine the thousands of visitors that have enjoyed the setting since the mid-1930s.

Yes, it's winter, but there is one old place of business that is going strong and offers you a warm place to

stop and enjoy your trip. Maybe it's the location, maybe it's the owner/operators, maybe it's the spirits in the old building . . . but it has survived, outliving all of its contemporaries. Its survival is history in its own right, so if you're looking for a little Winter adventure, try the Loop for sledding or snowshoeing (the USFS is starting to schedule snowshoe adventures in January!). Then stop in for a little more history, good food, and good conversation at the Green Gables!

