When Granite Was a Railroad Town

As we head into the always-exciting Railroad Days Weekend, it's fun to look at the machinery that ran on rails in our area.

The mainline railroads are commemorated on T-shirts honoring the Everett & Monte Cristo, the Northern Pacific, and even the Hartford Eastern. These are sold at the museum store.







But the real workhorses in the woods were the Shay, Climax, and Heisler locomotives that were geared for heavy pulling, sharp turns, and the somewhatless-than-mainline-quality temporary rails often laid for logging.

These were the engines that hauled millions of logs to mills in the area, or hauled them from barely accessible spots to be transferred to the mainline.

Heisler #101 belonged to Johnson-Deane, Shay #3 belonged to Monroe Logging, and Climax #2 belonged to Sobey Mill (later Waite Mill).

Stop by the Museum to see 3-wheel and 4-wheel rail vehicles, both man-powered and gas-powered!



Heisler #101 - Johnson Deane



Shay #3 - Monroe Logging



Climax #2 - Sobey Mill, later Waites Mill