



## Virtual Meeting Held About a Ghost Town

FHS staff recently had a video call with Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center executive director Gwen Trice and MHIC board members Carl Wilmsen, David Morman, and Jasmine Brown. Jasmine visited FHS last fall and met with FHS staff. She and David recommended the two organizations meet to learn more about each other and discuss areas of mutual interest and possible collaboration.



Maxville Logger Company, c. 1926 (Delores Crow Smith Collection, MHIC)

According to the [MHIC website](#), in its heyday, between 1923 and 1933, Maxville was like so many other towns in the Pacific Northwest. Unlike most

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### **America's First Forest now available through streaming**

*America's First Forest*, the Emmy Award-winning film from FHS, is available for streaming. It's 55 minutes long and costs \$7.99 to purchase or \$3.99 to rent. The shorter version, *First in Forestry*, may be purchased for \$4.99 or rented for 72 hours for \$1.99. You can access both at [Vimeo.com](#).

**HISTORY  
DOESN'T STOP  
HAPPENING!**

History is alive and

timber towns, however, it was home to both African American loggers and white loggers. The Bowman-Hicks Lumber Company, which owned the town at that time, brought the black workers and their families to Maxville, even though at the time Oregon's exclusion laws prohibited "free Negroes" from moving to the state to live and work. The Great Depression and the subsequent collapse of the lumber market led to the town's decline, and Bowman-Hicks closed its operations in 1933. The few remaining residents abandoned the town in the mid-1940s, leaving Maxville a ghost town. Eight decades later, descendants of the original logging families, led by Gwen Trice, began looking into the town's story and organized the MHIC in 2008.

Located in Joseph, Oregon, in the northeast corner of the state, the Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center "seeks to gather, catalog, preserve, and interpret the history of Oregon's early logging community of Maxville and similar communities in the greater Pacific Northwest." What they've accomplished in just twelve years is quite impressive. MHIC has amassed a number of oral histories with former Maxville residents (some conducted on video), and an extensive photograph collection. It has organized a traveling exhibition called "Timber Culture," which looks at Oregon's multicultural logging industry during the era of Maxville's existence. Gwen's investigation into Maxville was featured in an episode of [Oregon Experience](#). MHIC operates the interpretative center in Joseph, about 40 miles south from where Maxville was located.

You can learn more about Maxville's history and efforts to restore it and document it on the [MHIC website](#).

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## [Documenting the Pandemic](#)

well even in these days of change and challenge. Keeping the documents of forest & conservation history is essential. *EVERY* membership contribution supports the daily work at FHS.

[Renew Your Membership Here!](#)

### SAF Goes Virtual

The 2020 Society of American Foresters conference, scheduled for Oct. 29-31, 2020, will be [held online](#) due to concerns about the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Make FHS Smile!

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The Forest History Society is pleased to announce the launch of the Coronavirus Collection, a digital archive of materials related to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. The collection includes journal articles, news articles, books and publications, and industry and institution news. The collection is available on the Forest History Society website and is updated regularly.

**Coronavirus Collection**  
A collection of materials related to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

View this collection:

• [Journal Articles](#) - The collection includes journal articles from the Forest History Society and other sources.

• [News Articles](#) - The collection includes news articles from the Forest History Society and other sources.

• [Books and Publications](#) - The collection includes books and publications from the Forest History Society and other sources.

• [Industry and Institution News](#) - The collection includes news and newsletters, webinars, and other materials related to the industry and institutions.

## Coronavirus Collection

A collection of materials related to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Journal Articles**
- **News Articles**
- **Books and Publications**
- **Industry and Institution News**

News and Newsletters, Webinars

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect the daily lives of people and environments across the globe, the Forest History Society is making efforts to document it.

From toilet paper production and changes in public-land use to impacts on air quality and pollution, we are just beginning to see the environmental and industrial impact. As part of our mission to collecting, preserving, and disseminating forest and conservation history, the Forest History Society has created a Coronavirus Collection within our research database to record the pandemic as it relates to these and other aspects of forest history.

Although we only recently started the collection, already you will find more than 50 records, including journal articles, new articles, publications, and industry or institutional news relating to forest and environmental history and the pandemic.

To access this collection, visit our [Research Portal](#) and scroll down to the bottom to see it featured. You may also find it under Browse in the top menu bar.

For any questions about the collection, or if you would you like to share or donate material or links to articles, please email us at [library@foresthistor.org](mailto:library@foresthistor.org).



New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
Mask Up! poster for beaches.

## Owen Evans Scrapbook Now the Owen Evans Collection



"The gang ready for work on the Robbs Peak project, California, 1937. On Georgetown Ditch bridge." Evans is presumed standing at the far left end. (FHS8399)

A donated scrapbook has recently been processed as the Oscar Montgomery Evans (1878-1962) Collection. Born in Chatham, Ontario, Canada, in 1878, Evans received his BS in forestry from the University of Michigan in 1910 and headed west. He spent most of his career with the U.S. Forest Service in Region 5 (California), where he was in charge of timber surveys and crews from 1910 to 1943. After he retired, he worked for a time for a timber company called American Forest Products. Evans died in Berkeley, California, on June 9, 1962.

It's quite apparent from the recollections gathered from some of the men who worked for him in the 1930s that Evans made a strong, lasting impression on his seasonal employees, most of whom came from the forestry program at the University of California, Berkeley, though they came from schools all over the country. He seems to have been universally regarded as a stern boss whose lessons in timber cruising and the finer points of surviving camp life (such as make sure the men have plenty of good food) were remembered decades later. He was respected by most, yet detested by others because of his abrasive manner. One former crewman described him as "a teacher as well as a dirt forester."

[This collection](#), much of which has been digitized and is available now, came from materials assembled by Carl C. Wilson documenting the life and work of his former coworker. It includes letters and correspondence, personal recollections from various contemporaries of Evans, photographs, greeting cards, and an audio tape recording of an interview

with Evans conducted by Ken Fox. Some recollections provide a narrow view of the history of Region 5 through discussions of wildfires and camp life. Others provide a history of timber cruising technology during the era of using a map and compass to find your way in the woods, and a Biltmore stick and diameter tape and running chain to estimate timber volume.

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## Not Your Usual Beach Read



There's a lot that's unusual about this summer, so to continue on that theme, why not pursue some truly unusual summer beach reading? Here are some suggestions from our latest additions to the FHS library! Please consider purchasing a copy directly from the press or from your local bookstore and support these important businesses.

The links below take you directly to our database listing for each book, where you'll find a brief description of the book, the publisher's information, and a link to its WorldCat listing so you can see if it's in a library near you.

- [Abalone: The Remarkable History and Uncertain Future of California's Iconic Shellfish](#) by Ann Vileisis
- [After the Blast: The Ecological Recovery of Mount St. Helens](#) by Eric Wagner
- [Disturbed Forests, Fragmented Memories: Jarai and Other Lives in the Cambodian Highlands](#) by Jonathan Padwe
- [Paper: Paging Through History](#) by Mark Kurlansky
- [The Port of Missing Men: Billy Gohl, Labor, and Brutal Times in the Pacific Northwest](#) by

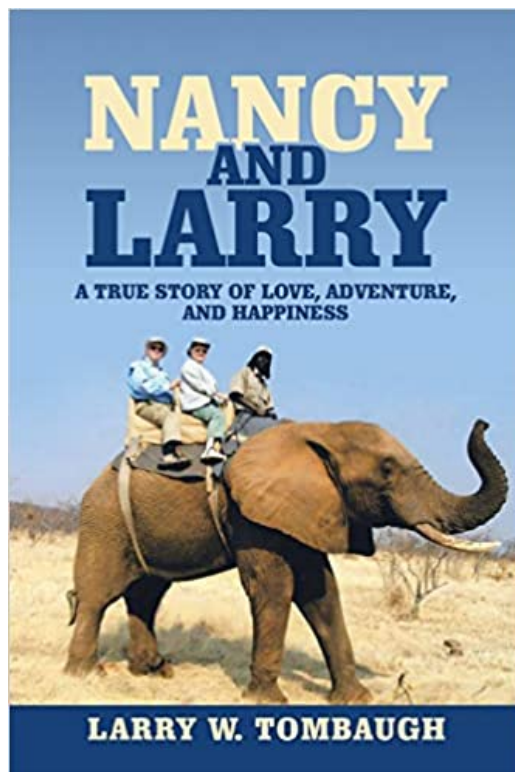
Aaron Goings

- [Roses from Kenya: Labor, Environment, and the Global Trade in Cut Flowers](#) by Megan A. Styles
- [Saving Species on Private Lands: Unlocking Incentives to Conserve Wildlife and Their Habitats](#) by Lowell E. Baier
- [Seeds of Control: Japan's Empire of Forestry in Colonial Korea](#) by David Fedman

While our library remains closed to the public, be sure to follow us on all social media for reopening news. As always, we wish you good health and look forward to seeing you at the library soon.

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## More Summer Reading



For something lighter that may also lift your spirits a bit, check out the new memoir by Larry Tombaugh. Larry is the retired Dean of the College of Natural Resources at North Carolina State University and a former chair of the Forest History Society's Board of Directors. During his career, Larry was an important figure in forestry education, aspects of which he discusses in the book. But [Nancy and Larry: A True Story of Love, Adventure, and Happiness](#) is really a travelogue, a thank-you note, and a love letter from Larry to his late wife Nancy.

During their 55 years of marriage, Larry and Nancy shared many adventures as they moved around the

United States and traveled overseas as Larry's career unfolded. Even more travel came after he retired in 2001. Their travels took them to every continent except Antarctica. One fascinating trip he recounts is when they went to the People's Republic of China in 1982, just three years after it opened to visitors from the U.S. From there they went on to Hong Kong, which provided a stark contrast between two worlds. One of their last major trips was to the national parks and game reserves of southern Africa, which he describes in great detail.

With travel currently restricted in most of the world, Larry provides the reader with many nice escapes as he describes where they visited, and perhaps will give you ideas of where to go once travel resumes. He also reminds us that life is the greatest adventure of all--made even greater when it's undertaken with the right person.

