

WHATCOM COUNTY

1854

COUNTY SEAT: BELLINGHAM

Name derived from “whatcoom” – meaning “noisy, rumbling water” – the Lummi name for the waterfall that powered the first frontier lumber mill on Bellingham Bay

Traditional home of Lummi, Nooksack, Semiahmoo and Samish American Indian people

Whatcom County, stretching from the Strait of Georgia to the North Cascade Range, lies just below the international boundary with Canada. Its skyline is dominated by majestic Mount Baker, one of the state’s most spectacular peaks. Like many counties in western Washington, Whatcom County was founded on sawmills, salmon and farms. It is the home of Western Washington University, founded in 1893, and to the first tract of land ever set aside for a Washington State Park.

39

6-28-02



WHATCOM COUNTY

COUNTY SEAT: BELLINGHAM

1854

NAME DERIVED FROM "WHATCOOM" - MEANING "NOISY, RUMBLING WATER" - THE LUMMI NAME FOR THE WATERFALL THAT POWERED THE FIRST FRONTIER LUMBER MILL ON BELLINGHAM BAY

TRADITIONAL HOME OF LUMMI, NOOKSACK, SEMIAHMOO AND SAMISH AMERICAN INDIAN PEOPLE

WHATCOM COUNTY, STRETCHING FROM THE STRAIT OF GEORGIA TO THE NORTH CASCADE RANGE, LIES JUST BELOW THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY WITH CANADA. ITS SKYLINE IS DOMINATED BY MAJESTIC MOUNT BAKER, ONE OF THE STATE'S MOST SPECTACULAR PEAKS. LIKE MANY COUNTIES IN WESTERN WASHINGTON, WHATCOM COUNTY WAS FOUNDED ON SAWMILLS, SALMON AND FARMS. IT IS THE HOME OF WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, FOUNDED IN 1893, AND TO THE FIRST TRACT OF LAND EVER SET ASIDE FOR A WASHINGTON STATE PARK.

12-28-02