

Questions and Answers about Tacoma, Washington's Past

Question:

Where on Gee Street (AKA Park Heights) was the original Annie Wright?

Answer:

Annie Wright Seminary was founded in 1884. Its original location was Division and Tacoma Avenues, about where Stadium Thriftway is today. It was moved to the present campus on Tacoma Avenue North in 1924.

Park Heights was briefly the name of the street along the eastern boundary of Wright Park, from Division Avenue to 6th Avenue. The name was first listed in the city directory in 1904 and last in 1907. It then went back to G Street and is still Wright Park's eastern boundary.

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### Question:

Was there ever a hospital on Star Street in the North end of Tacoma? Thank you.

### Answer:

Yes. There is a monument to the Fannie Paddock Hospital on North Starr Street.

"Tacoma: Its History and Its Builders; a Half Century of Activity" ~ by Herbert Hunt, Published by S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1916 Original from the New York Public Library, Digitized Jan 23, 2008, v. 1, page 404 states:

. . . The Fannie C. Paddock hospital, which for years had been doing a great work, was incorporated by Bishop John A. Paddock, [and others] and plans immediately were set afoot for the erection of a new building to cost \$23,000. Up to this time the institution had been in Old Tacoma, at the corner of Tacoma Avenue and Starr Street. It occupied a two-story building that had been a notorious dance hall or "mad house." . . .

To read the rest of the story, go to the [Herbert Hunt](#) page and order the complete set of volumes for your personal library.

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Question:

I have a very old, ornate oak ice box with the brass label "TACOMA ICE. CO." and want to know if this is indeed a product of the old Tacoma Ice Company, circa 1900 - 1925. Please, if anyone can tell me something, anything about it I would appreciate it very much. I have tried to research this piece of furniture for over 20 years. Thank you for anything you can tell me.

Answer:

The icebox might well have been built elsewhere. It's possible that Tacoma Ice Co. added its name for advertising purposes. Additional information:

http://www.tacomahistory.org/pageimages/pdf_files/Tacoma_Ice_Co.pdf

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### Question:

Tacoma Historical Society,

As an Army brat in the early 1950s I lived in Tacoma on Rimrock and Grant Streets. Later we transferred to Fairbanks and met a family that soon rotated to the States. On November 28, 1952, their airplane, a C-54G, lost an engine and crashed near Tacoma. All aboard were killed except the son who was a little older than I – eight years of age at the time. There was a photo in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner of the boy (Jimmy?) sitting in the saddle on Champion, with Gene Autry himself holding the reins. I believe I recall his neck was still in a brace. Are there sources from which I could learn more than I recall from my childhood memory? I don't remember the spelling of their surname, though I believe my mother (who now has Alzheimer's) pronounced it Eye-YOCK-el-vitti. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Roy

### Answer:

Roy:

Thanks to Tacoma Public Library research staff and Tacoma Historical Society members who personally remember the event, we may have what you seek. [Read all about it.](#)