

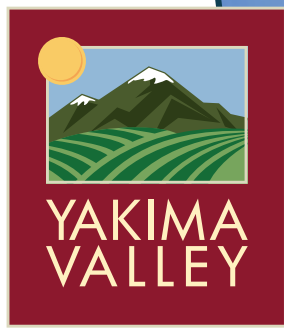
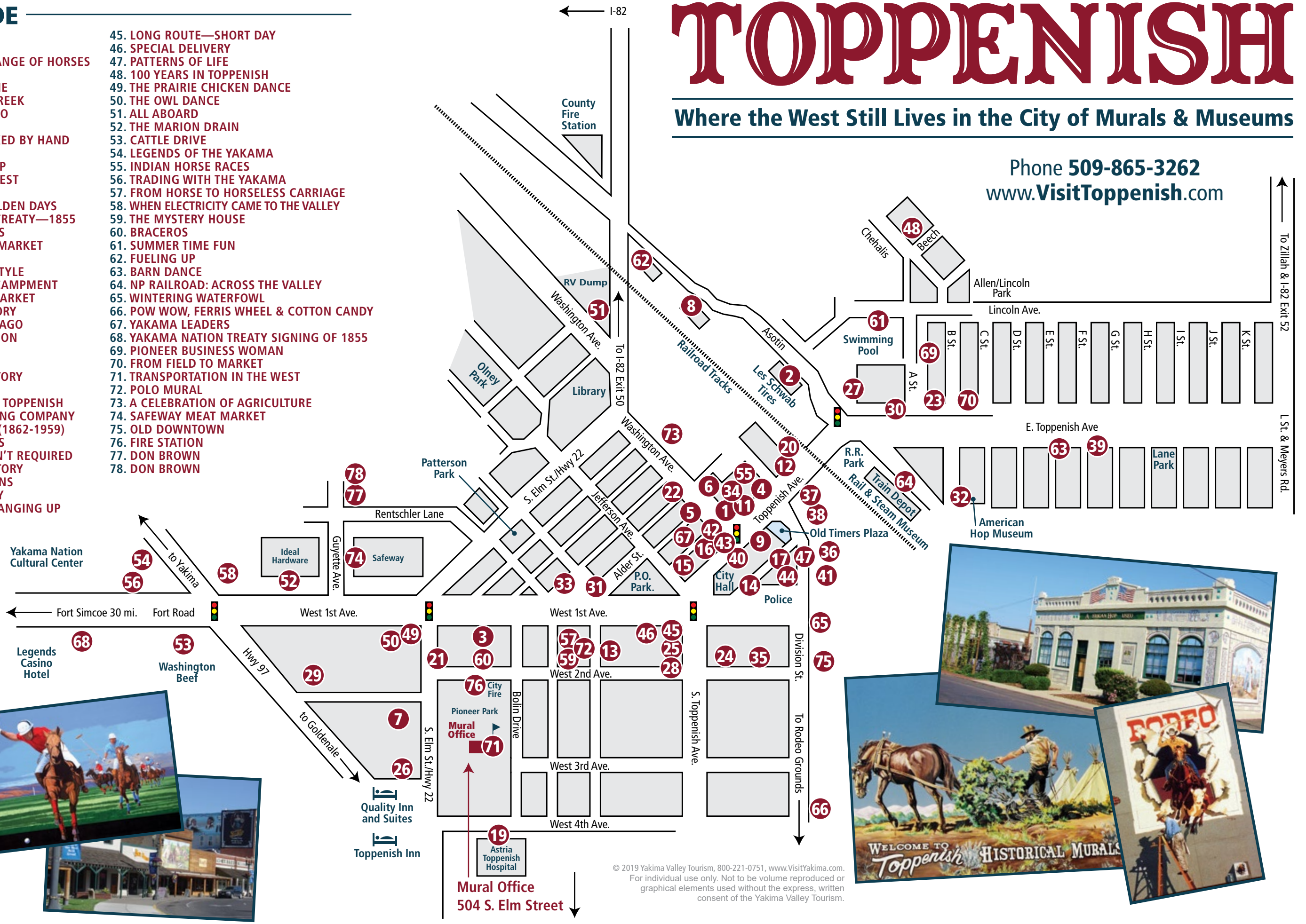
MURAL GUIDE

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TOPPENISH

Where the West Still Lives in the City of Murals & Museums

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1. CLEARING THE LAND.

The first Mural-in-a-Day, painted on June 3, 1989. Designed by Phil Kooser of Yakima, the mural was painted under his direction by 15 western artists who collaborated on the 40-foot painting.

2. HALLER’S DEFEAT.

Painted by famed Western artist Fred Oldfield, the mural portrays a battle fought in 1855 between troops from Fort Dalles in Oregon and an estimated 1,000 Yakama Indians.

3. FIFTEEN MILES & A CHANGE OF HORSES.

Designed by Phil Kooser and painted by 14 western artists from around the Pacific Northwest, the second Mural-in-a-Day on West First Street takes you back to the Toppenish Stagecoach Depot of the 1880’s. The depot burned down in 1928.

4. NEWELL’S DRIVE.

You can find artist Don Crook’s paintings in galleries around the country, but nowhere will you find a bigger one than this mural. Artist Don Crook painted “Newell’s Drive” to illustrate a horse round-up led by early Toppenish pioneer Charlie Newell. It took six weeks to complete the 70-foot scene.

5. THE INDIAN STICK GAME.

“The Indian Stick Game” by artist Mavis Willson shows Northwest Indians gathered around to pit their wits and luck against one another. The age-old stick game was played by Indians at any function where they had the space and time.

6. CHRISTMAS AT LOGY CREEK.

Artist Fred Oldfield painted a scene from his own past as a former cowboy from Toppenish. In this mural, two Indians share their fire and food with a cowboy friend.

7. THE RHYTHMS OF CELILO.

Phil Kooser has brought back the traditional fishing ritual practiced by Indian tribes of the Toppenish area. The mural captures the life and feeling of a bygone day. Jack Fordyce assisted in the painting.

8. PARADISE ROW.

Artist Val Kerby of Toppenish painted this version of Toppenish’s first main street in 1905. Gary Kerby assisted his father with the painting.

9. WHEN HOPS WERE PICKED BY HAND.

This mural by Robert Thomas of Kooskia, Idaho, shows an early hop harvest when the crop was picked by Native Americans from all over the Northwest, who came to the Toppenish area each year and set up encampments next to the fields. The mural was funded by the hop industry, as was the park called Old Timers Plaza, adjacent to the mural.

10. HOT AND DUSTY WORK.

The third Mural-in-a-Day painted on what is now a free standing wall. Designed by Phil Kooser, the mural depicts the annual round-up and branding of cattle.

11. THE BLACKSMITH SHOP.

Roger Cooke, a well-known artist from Sandy, Oregon, has recreated a composite of one of the four early day blacksmith shops in Toppenish at the turn of the century. Blacksmith shops were the backbone of the local economy then, repairing wagon wheels, shoeing horses, and manufacturing various metal products.

12. AT THE PEAK OF HARVEST.

Sponsored by Toppenish’s Bouchey families—potato growers—the mural illustrates the back-breaking work potato harvest was until the development of mechanized harvesting. Fred Oldfield, with a little help from his friends, completed this mural in the summer of 1991.

13. RODEO.

Artist Newman Myrah of Portland, Oregon, painted a time-worn rodeo poster with brick showing through. A photo of Myrah working on the mural has received widespread notoriety in local, regional, and national publications. He’s pictured on a ladder in his straw hat, painting the mural. Myrah came back later and surprised the town by painting himself into the mural on a ladder doing his work.

14. FORT SIMCOE...THE OLDEN DAYS.

A mural in four panels, it was painted in early 1992 by Val Kerby and shows the fort area as it was in the early 1850’s.

15. THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY—1855.

Roger Cooke of Sandy, Oregon, painted the signing of the Treaty of 1855 by Governor Stevens of the Washington Territory and several Northwest Indian chiefs - here represented by Chief Kamiakin of the Yakamas.

16. THE BLANKET TRADERS.

Artist Robert Morgan of Clancy, Montana, made certain that the blankets being traded are authentic patterns of the time. The mural is above Kraff’s clothing store on South Toppenish Ave.

17. THE CROSSROADS TO MARKET.

Former Toppenish resident and artist Robert Thomas shows the various methods of moving hops to market in this huge mural in Old Timers Plaza.

18. THE OLD CHUCKWAGON.

The fourth Mural-in-a-Day designed by artist Newman Myrah and painted by a dozen northwest artists shows the red and green chuckwagon that was a common sight at roundup time.

19. HOUSE CALLS—OLD STYLE.

Yakima artists Jack Fordyce and Phil Kooser show Toppenish’s Dr. Johnson switching to his horse & buggy when his brand new automobile wouldn’t start. On the wall of Toppenish Hospital.

20. INDIANS’ WINTER ENCAMPMENT.

Hulan Fleming, painted this mural to depict a typical winter encampment. It is located on the north wall of the Kirkwood Building on South Toppenish Ave.

21. THE OLD SATURDAY MARKET.

Artist Robert Thomas, who remembers the Saturday Toppenish market from his youth, brings the scene to life in this mural at Central Valley Bank.

22. THE RUTH PARTON STORY.

Artist Lesa Delisi painted this homage to Ruth Parton, one of several interesting women who helped put Toppenish on the map. Parton rode broncos, performed as a trick rider, rode relay races at rodeos around the country and was inducted into the Cowgirl Hall of Fame.

23. HAYING. A CENTURY AGO.

The fifth Mural-in-a-Day designed by Robert Thomas and painted by 11 artists from around the Northwest. Toppenish was one of the leaders in the growing of alfalfa hay.

24. THE OLD LILLIE MANSION.

In 1893, Nevada and Josephine Lillie built a 10-room, two-story home with two inside bathrooms, steam heat, and a generator for electrical power. She is remembered as the “Mother of Toppenish,” having platted much of the town. The mural was painted by Ju-hong “Joe” Chen.

25. THE LIBERTY THEATRE.

Artist Lanny Little, used “architectural illusion” to give this mural a three-dimensional look when viewed from a distance. Panels depict wild horses running free as they do in the Toppenish hills.

26. COW CAMP.

For years the Logy Creek Cattle Association Cow Camp served as headquarters for local Indian round-ups. Here the unmarked calves were branded before being pushed out to higher range. By artists Bob F. Pierce and Newman Myrah.

27. MAUD BOLIN—HER STORY.

Artist Larry Kangas has depicted Maud Bolin, one of the first female pilots and the first woman to parachute out of a plane. Bolin was also a rodeo rider who competed in Madison Square Garden and in many of the famous rodeos around the West.

28. STAGECOACH RACES.

In the early 1900’s, this was one of the highlights of each rodeo. The action-filled mural was painted by Don Gray of Union, Oregon. It is located on South Toppenish Ave.

29. THE PALACE HOTEL OF TOPPENISH.

Painted by Yakima artists Jack Fordyce and Phil Kooser, the mural on the El Corral Motel on Highway 97 shows a downtown Toppenish hotel around 1906.

30. THE TOPPENISH TRADING COMPANY.

The Trading Company was one of the first buildings in Toppenish and was built on railroad property since there were no lots available at the time. The painting was designed by Bill McCusker and painted by 12 artists.

31. ESTELLE REEL MEYER (1862-1959).

Mrs. Meyer, appointed by President McKinley as Director of Indian Education for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1898, was the first woman to hold that post. The mural was painted by artist Joe Chen.

32. HOP MUSEUM MURALS.

The artist, Eric Allen Grohe, has created a fantastic trompe l’oeil which make the plain stucco surface of the American Hop Museum appear to have intricate architectural arches into which are painted three hop scenes.

33. WHEN A PERMIT WASN’T REQUIRED.

Local artist Gary Kerby shows the effect of an impending storm on a cattle drive. The spooked cattle run down the middle of Main Street.

34. THE LOU SHATTUCK STORY.

Artist Don Gray has painted L. S. (Lou) Shattuck (1892-1978), one of the original Toppenish Pow Wow Rodeo boosters and local character.

35. THE OLD SCHOOL BARN.

In the early 1900’s some students made the daily trip to Lincoln and Garfield schools on horseback. Both schools had barns to house the horses while the children were in class. Originally painted in 1995, repainted as mural in a day 24 on June 1st 2013.

36. WESTERN HOSPITALITY.

When the frontier towns were settled, the oldest profession was part of the scene. So it was in Toppenish. On the second floor windows of the Logan Building on Division Street, you can see the ladies, and get a feeling for the ebb and flow of activities. Painted by artist Betty Billups.

37. HANGING OUT AND HANGING UP.

The eighth annual Mural-in-a-Day by Jack Fordyce is one of the two murals on the “Public Westrooms.” A breezy spring in the early 1900’s finds mom hanging the clothes and dad reading a catalog in the “library.”

38. HALLOWEEN PRANKS.

The second half of the 1996 Mural-in-a-Day, on the “Public Westrooms,” also has a theme relating to outhouses.

39. THE SURVEY PARTY.

After Governer Stevens was informed by Lt. George B. McClellan that Snoqualmie Pass was im-passable during the winter, he directed A. W. Tinkam to resurvey the route. By artist Gary Kerby.

40. THE PIX THEATRE.

The J.D. Keck building, constructed in 1911, became the Pix Theatre in 1940. The 16 windows, painted by Lisa Delisi, portray lawyers, judges, and physicians who came to town in the early 1900’s.

41. ALEX MCCOY.

Born near The Dalles, Oregon, in 1835, Alex McCoy was a descendant of the Wishram and Wasco tribes. He was a policeman under four different Indian agents, and served one term as an Indian judge. The mural was painted by Beryl Thomas and Jack Fordyce in 1996.

42. WILDLIFE.

This mural, painted by Bill Ross and Jan Sovak of Alberta, Canada, depicts wildlife native to this area prior to its settlement.

43. IRISH DICK.

In about 1910, a strapping, hard-drinking shepherd called Irish Dick traded a pet bear cub to a Toppenish saloon-keeper for whiskey. Some months later, the rowdy shepherd was in town when his grown-up pet escaped, panicking townsfolk. He offered to return the bear to its tether. A terrible fight on Main Street ended when an unharmed bear was returned to saloon servitude and a brave and bloodied Irishman was taken to the hospital. Painted by Bill Ross and Jan Sovak.

44. PRESUMED INNOCENT.

Painted by Bill Ross and Jan Sovak on the east wall of the city jail building, this mural shows the trial of a farmer charged with diluting milk.

45. LONG ROUTE—SHORT DAY.

46. SPECIAL DELIVERY.

These two murals were 1997 Murals-in-a-Day, designed by Jack Fordyce. In 1907, mail was first delivered to the rural areas of Toppenish. This was the early start of Rural Free Delivery. The postman had to furnish his own horse and buggy. Routes were about 23 miles long.

47. PATTERNS OF LIFE.

By artist Janet Essley and painted on the Toppenish Pawn and Trade building, this mural shows unique and beautiful designs on baskets made by the Yakama people which represent the oldest continuous art form in the Valley, one that is still practiced today.

48. 100 YEARS IN TOPPENISH.

In 1896, Toppenish had lots of sagebrush, a few buildings, and no churches. The town’s first church was incorporated as the Methodist Church on August 26, 1898. Painted by Roger Cooke.

49. THE PRAIRIE CHICKEN DANCE.

This dance is done to traditional Indian songs. The name was derived from a legend of some Indian boys who were playing warrior games on the prairie and who looked over a bluff to see a group of prairie chickens dancing (it was the mating season!). It is also known as the Round Bustle Dance. Painted by native artist George Flett.

50. THE OWL DANCE.

Painted by native artist George Flett depicting a traditional dance in which both men and women participate.

51. ALL ABOARD.

Painted in sepia-tones by artist Bill Ross, it shows the busy Toppenish Depot nearly 100 years ago.

52. THE MARION DRAIN.

The 1998 Mural-in-a-Day, designed by Robert Thomas and painted by a dozen participating artists, shows the huge project that helped control flooding, providing a channel for drainage of water on the reservation.

53. CATTLE DRIVE.

The first cattle in the Yakima Valley were brought in by Chief Kamiakin in 1840. Many more cattle drives came through the Valley in later years. This mural depicts the life and times of the cattle drover on such a drive. Painted by artist Don Gray, assisted by Jared Gray.

54. LEGENDS OF THE YAKAMA.

This mural depicts several well-known and revered Yakama Indian legends, including the legend of Spilyay, the trickster who most often appeared as a coyote. Painted by Cameron Blagg, assisted by Gene Andy, Gene Andy Jr., and Pat Coffey on the Yakamart building at Highway 97 and Fort Road.

55. INDIAN HORSE RACES.

Charlie Newell’s knowledge of the Indian language and his acquaintance with the Yakama’s enabled him to avert a crisis. The Indian Agency had forbidden the racing of horses on the track and gambling at their meets. At Newell’s suggestion, the Yakama’s drafted a request to Washington D.C. to rescind the order, which was granted. Painted by local artist Ken Carter.

56. TRADING WITH THE YAKAMA.

Some of the first contact between white men and the Yakama’s involved trading. And some of the most prized trading items were horses. Painted by Cameron Blagg, assisted by Gene Andy, Gene Andy Jr., and Pat Coffey on the Yakamart building at Highway 97 and Fort Road.

57. FROM HORSE TO HORSELESS CARRIAGE.

Painted as 1999’s Mural-in-a-Day and designed by Ken Carter, this mural shows one of Toppenish’s early day gas stations, at one time known as the Windmill Service Station.

58. WHEN ELECTRICITY CAME TO THE VALLEY.

Painted as 2000’s Mural-in-a-Day, it is located on the Benton Rural Electric Association building at East Toppenish Avenue and “H” Street. It shows crews and farmers hooking up a farm house in the 1930’s to electricity. Designing artist was Ken Carter of Prosser.

59. THE MYSTERY HOUSE.

Called the Mystery House because even today some details about its origin and use are not known, the house was built south of town. It is still standing, in a weathered condition, on the old Goldendale Highway about six miles south of Toppenish. The mural was painted by Robert Walton.

60. BRACEROS

61. SUMMER TIME FUN.

On June 14, 1925, the first swimming pool was opened and was privately owned about a quarter mile west of Toppenish. This mural, painted in one day by a dozen artists, depicts the family fun enjoyed in those days. It is on the side of the swimming pool building on Lincoln Avenue. Lead artist was Roger Cooke.

62. FUELING UP.

This mural on the west wall of the school bus garage near the railroad tracks shows school buses in a scene circa 1930 at the Four Way Filling Station. By artists Bill McCusker and Jack Fordyce.

63. BARN DANCE.

Noted western artist Lesa Delisi led the team of about a dozen women who created this nostalgic scene of an old barn dance.

64. NP RAILROAD: ACROSS THE VALLEY.

A Mural-in-a-Day coordinated by Robert Walton, the painting represents an era when sagebrush and bunch grass grew rampant on the Valley floor. It was in the early 1800’s when the railroad came to the Valley, with construction beginning in the spring of 1884.

65. WINTERING WATERFOWL.

Painted by Dave Barholet, this mural shows the migratory waterfowl attracted to the Toppenish Creek refuge just south of town.

66. POW WOW, FERRIS WHEEL & COTTON CANDY.

Kennewick artist Don Brown designed this two-panel double mural depicting scenes from Toppenish rodeos in the past. The panels frame the south entrance to the rodeo grounds on Division Street.

67. YAKAMA LEADERS.

Painted by Adrian Larvie, this mural depicts four leaders of the Yakama Indian Nation.

68. YAKAMA NATION TREATY SIGNING OF 1855.

This Mural-in-a-Day was designed in three panels by Roger Cooke and painted on the Legends Casino building in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the signing.

69. PIONEER BUSINESS WOMAN.

Clara Kraff was one of Toppenish’s pioneer business women, first doing business with a small store at an area hop field and later with her husband in downtown Toppenish. By artist Don Crook.

70. FROM FIELD TO MARKET.

Located on the wall facing East Toppenish Avenue on the Food Bank building, this three panel mural designed by Bill Ross depicts how local crops got to market via the neighborhood grocery.

71. TRANSPORTATION IN THE WEST.

Roger Cooke’s 20th anniversary Mural-in-a-Day celebrates all the modes of transportation which influenced the growth of the Toppenish area.

72. POLO MURAL.

Polo was once a thriving sport in the lower Yakima Valley. This impressive mural by Prosser artist Ken Carter was commissioned by members of the Toppenish Polo Club.

73. A CELEBRATION OF AGRICULTURE

Artist Gary Kerby displays the impact agriculture has had in shaping the Yakima Valley through this painting of real fruit labels used to sell produce in the Valley.

74. SAFEWAY MEAT MARKET

75. OLD DOWNTOWN

76. FIRE STATION

77. DON BROWN

78. DON BROWN