

Sammamish Remembers its Roots...

228th Avenue SE and SE 4th Street utility box history wraps

By Claradell Shedd - Arts Commissioner



Claradell Shedd

Continuing with the third in a series of four...

As a Sammamish resident of over 33 years, I observed historic remnants of the Sammamish past were being demolished at an unbridled pace. I pondered, "Why not utilize the location of the Sammamish utility boxes to artistically portray what had historically occurred at that precise physical Sammamish location?" With this goal propelling the pursuit, many hours of visits to research archival files, photos, and conversations with long-time Sammamish residents or their descendants, were combined to amass material from which one could selectively and technologically transfer those memories onto DuPont Tedlar film, thus embracing our local Sammamish traffic signal utility boxes as historical monuments.

In the series of the first four (4) wraps, the third traffic signal utility box wrap is located at the corner of 228th Avenue SE and SE 4th Street.

Please stop by and see this wrapped utility box for yourself. It is located directly in front of the new BECU in the Saffron Center. There are QR codes on the box itself, which will give you a full description of the images.



The images appearing here and on the wrapped utility box are:

LARGER "P" CABINET:

West exposure:

- Top: Freddie Dodd house circa 1940
- Center: Sween Poultry Farm circa 1914-1965
- Bottom: Sween Brooder House circa 1924



North exposure:

- Parker barn circa 1946 (when demolished, the Sammamish Arts Commission used the weathered wood for the wooden sculptures located at various Sammamish roundabout locations)
- Burlington Northern caboose circa 1969 (with affixed qr code for Burlington Northern train sounds)

- Caboose was here from 1997 until 2015. The caboose was sold to a Sammamish couple who relocated it to a Cle Elum property near I-90 where they hope to refurbish the caboose. A note of interest: the caboose had many bullet holes in its metal siding, an example of how individuals could not resist firing at a moving target.

South exposure:

- 1912 Kroll Township Map

East exposure:

- Top: 2015: Dodd/Parker/Woloszyn barn, caboose; Norbert Woloszyn, owner
- Center: Sween/Albrecht Brooder house circa 1936-present (with qr code for clucking chickens)
- Bottom: Metropolitan Market circa 2017



TALL TESCO BOX:

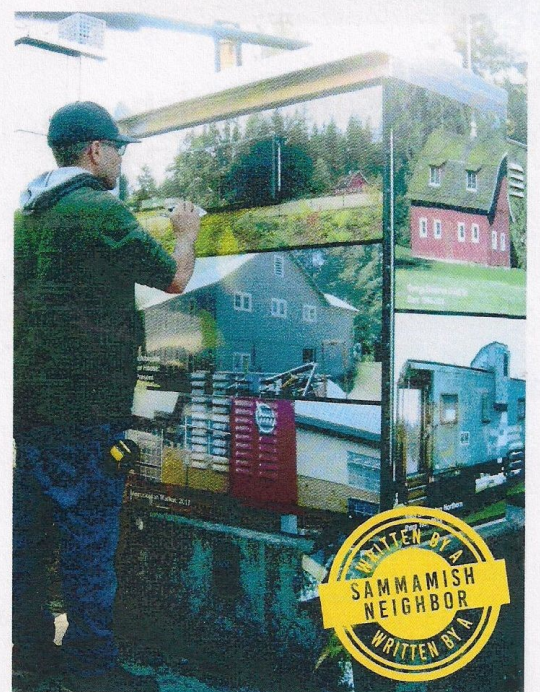
West and south exposures:

- Rooster logo for Sween Poultry Farm (with two qr codes for crowing rooster sounds and link to details on Sween Poultry Farm). The metal rooster sculpture now residing at Lower Commons was at one time the weathervane logo atop the V&B (Fred Vinje and Walter Berg) Market in Redmond. When the market closed, the Sween's used the sculpture at the end of their Sammamish driveway to identify their farm.

East and north exposures:

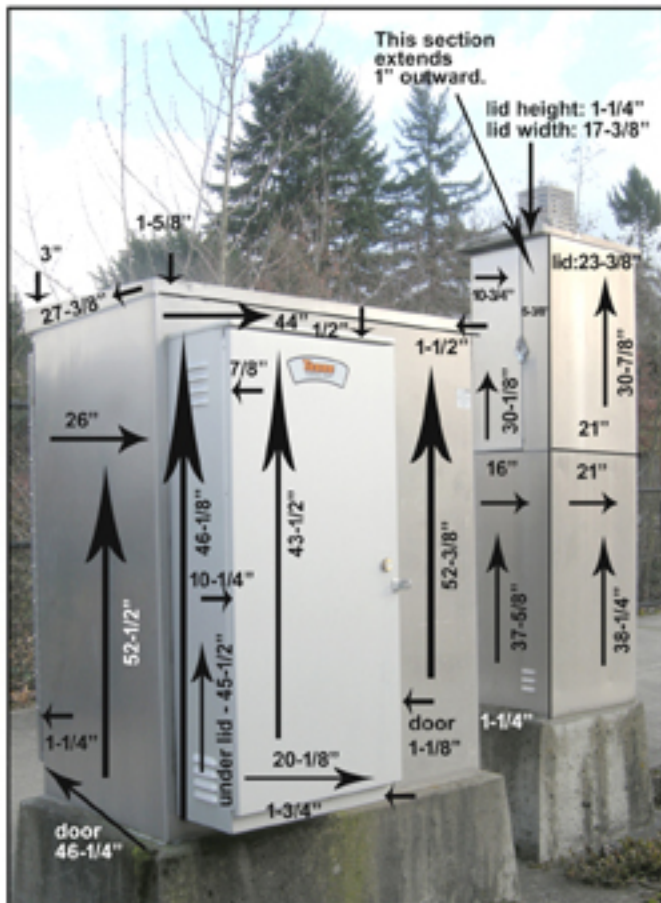
- Kroll Street Base Map with "You are here"

You are encouraged to engage an app included on most smart phones, that of a QR code reader. Using that reader, just scan the four affixed QR codes at this location to connect with YouTube files to hear the rooster crow, the chickens cluck, the Burlington Northern train whistle, and to read details on the Sween Poultry Farm operation.



The Sween's (pronounced Swen) farm operation encompassed the area from SE 4th Street southward to include the Sammamish Commons and the Sammamish City Hall.

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228th Avenue SE and SE 4th Street

Cabinets:

Large cabinet is a P cabinet.
Extension to P cabinet is a Tesco extension.
Tall narrow box is a Skyline unit.

2018 Resources:

Images from: Kroll Map Company; Puget Sound Regional Archives;
Claradell Shedd; Faye Sween.

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