



*What is the - - -*

# *Washington Territorial Centennial?*



State of Washington  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
Olympia

Washington became a Territory in 1853 by Act of Congress. 1953 will mark the centennial of Washington's attainment of territorial status. Just as the year 1853 set the stage for great development in the new empire of the northwest, so 1953 can set the stage for a continuation of that development.



It is my belief that the Territorial Centennial should be observed in a manner in keeping with its importance as our first state centennial. It is of vital importance that this observance be not confined to a few cities in the state but that in every community in Washington, large and small, there be developed a Centennial program.

It should be remembered at all times that we have many thousands of citizens today who know very little of Washington's illustrious past. It is important, therefore, that every home in Washington feel the impact of this statewide program.

The Legislature has asked the Washington State Historical Society to assume leadership in the development of a statewide program for 1953. I bespeak for this organization and its Centennial Department the very best cooperation of which the Citizens of Washington are capable. The eyes of the Nation will be on Washington in 1953, our state will be on parade—and it must be a great parade—depicting not only a great past, but a great future.

*Arthur B. Langlie*  
Governor

Washington Territorial  
Centennial

Sponsoring Agency

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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WASHINGTON'S TERRITORIAL CENTENNIAL  
1853-1953

Observance of the 100th anniversary of Washington's attainment of Territorial status is the most important privilege presented to the citizens of the state up to this time.

This is Washington's first Centennial at the state level. The event offers a challenge to all to build such a success of the 1953 Centennial that it will hold firm in the memory of the state for many years to come.

It is important to keep constantly before us the fact that there are many thousands of people living in Washington today who have an extremely hazy idea of how this state originated.

This Centennial gives Washington the opportunity to—

Tell the Washington story to our own people.

Tell the nation of the greatness of our state.

Take an inventory of the state's economic, social, cultural and political accomplishments.

Learn of the physical resources of the state.

Take time to fully appreciate what it meant for pioneers to cross the plains in covered wagons, or sail around the Horn to Washington.

Evaluate the contributions of the pioneers whose courage, perserverance, daring, aggressiveness, imagination, stamina, ideals and character laid the foundation of this great state.

Through knowledge of the first century gain inspiration to play our part in the development of the century ahead.

Washington has a history different from that of any other state in the Union, a history of which we can be proud. This story must be brought, directly or indirectly, into every home in Washington. Every agency which can serve toward the attainment of this goal must be brought into the Washington Centennial Cavalcade.

There is a place in the Centennial program for every organization having anything to do with state or local affairs. In this program we start, of course, with the schools. It is impossible to name every organization which should participate other than to say there is no organization which should feel itself exempt from service.

Turn to Page 4 and find the place where your organization and its members fit into the picture. There may be only one spot for you, but probably several more. County committees are being set up. The first step should be an offer of assistance. Centennial cooperation takes shape in many, many ways.

The Centennial year opens officially March 3rd, 1953, in Olympia. That means that the time for organization is very short.

WASHINGTON TERRITORIAL CENTENNIAL HEADQUARTERS

State Historical Building, 315 No. Stadium Way, Tacoma

Seattle Office—100 Dexter Avenue

## THE PART YOUR ORGANIZATION CAN PLAY IN THE TERRITORIAL CENTENNIAL

Washington's first Centennial is a project calling for cooperation at every possible level in order to be a success. Toil, time and ideas are the best assets we have to use in building this celebration. Actually, there is very little legislative appropriation upon which to draw for funds. Through your cooperation we can make this a great statewide event.

### SOME THINGS YOU CAN DO

Contribute names of candidates to your local newspaper for the "Builders of Washington" . . . names of 100 valuable builders of Washington, in all fields of endeavor. Do this right away.

See that your community events are tied in with the Centennial in name and theme. Have your committee clear such events through your own Chamber of Commerce, so that they will be listed in the Centennial Magazine. Be sure to send along some interesting facts about the event, not just a bare listing of place and date. Every civic event in Washington in 1953 should be a Centennial event. If you have no community event now, next year would be a wonderful time to start one.

Cooperate with your County Centennial Committee. Offer the services and cooperation of your organization and membership. Let the committee know that your offer means more than "moral support."

Contribute pioneer pictures for use in the Official Centennial Magazine. Send these to your local newspaper, for forwarding to the Centennial Headquarters. Be certain that your own community is represented pictorially in this official magazine. Don't wait on this, the deadline is drawing near.

Washington's Territorial Centennial Magazine will be the biggest printing job in Washington's history! Be certain that your industrial and commercial firms are represented in the magazine. Complete information and rates available at Centennial Headquarters. Let us know if we should call on a particular prospect.

Special Centennial programs should be planned for schools, and organizations of all kinds. Here is a wonderful opportunity to use your own ingenuity.

If your newspaper is planning a special Centennial edition, give it every possible support. Two hundred special editions in 1953 would set a national record.

Work with your local radio stations in planning special broadcasts. Offer them your help in any way possible.

Sports festivals, music festivals, picnics, speaking and essay-writing contests, special displays in store windows, parades, Fairs, excursions to historical spots in your area, dedication of historical markers, plantings of parkways,, roadside attractions, use of Centennial themes in all types of advertising . . . newspaper (special editions), radio, booklets, Centennial menus, place mats, matches, blotters, etc., are just a few ideas for Centennial activities.

Your County Committee has an Organizational Manual filled with ideas. Borrow one long enough to pick out some jobs for your organization . . . and pass along to your County Committee . . . or to Centennial Headquarters . . . any ideas you may have.