

Lawrence Lang

I moved to Port Angeles in Feb 1980. I can remember the brown haze that spread out over town, clearly coming from the Rayonier mill. I remember the health threats that were part of what lead to closing the mill. I remember families who were affected. I remember the decades of promises to clean up the mill. I was a young man when I first saw that haze.... now I am old. When will the mill site be fully cleaned up and made available for safe use?

In the past year I have moved to Sequim... I still think of myself as closely connected to Port Angeles. The future purpose of the mill site is no longer of great concern to me, and yet within my remaining years I hope that the cleanup can be completed and planning for the next iteration begun.

One thing that should be considered however is to remember the native culture that occupied the site for millennia, the establishment of the Cooperative Colony at the site in 1887, and the way that 'progress' destroyed the site in the 20th Century.

Let's turn the page and begin a new story for the mill site that can serve the community in positive ways for the next millennium.

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