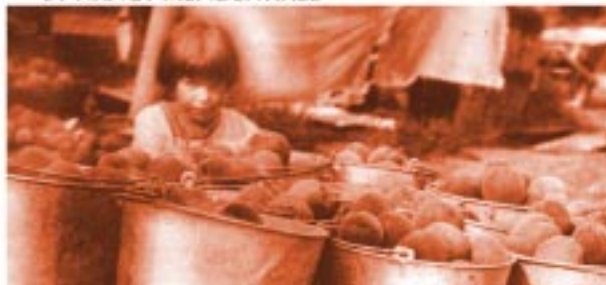


BY NANCY MENDENHALL



Orchards of Eden:

White Bluffs on the Columbia 1907-1943

by Nancy Mendenhall

History

ISBN 0967884225

First Edition

469 pages

6" X 9" X 1"

Trade Paper

Published January 2006

\$26.95

Contact Far Eastern Press

Our terms: 40% wholesale discount, RETURNABLE

America's early 1900's dream of greening the desert

through irrigation drew hundreds of would-be farmers to the Columbia River hamlet of White Bluffs. In the magnificent setting, they struggled with nature, railroads, power companies, commission houses, water systems and the ever-disappointing market. The Shaw-Wheeler family tells the story of how, despite all these adversities, the orchardists build a remarkable, thriving community until it was cut short by events of World War Two.

"A fascinating history..." -- Margaret Hamilton Wood, Ph.D.

"At last--the little-known story of the orchard-based communities of the Priest Rapids Valley...This book needed to be written for everyone who loves the Pacific Northwest..."

--Marthiel O'Larey, historian, descendant of White Bluffs settlers

"Epic..Does for the small farmers of America what Norman Mailer's *The Naked and the Dead* did for the foot soldiers of World War II." -- Thomas Coons, teacher of American history (ret.)

"Rich, familial stories. (Mendenhall) intended to preserve her family's memories, but she also captured an era of near modern-day pioneers who wrestled with isolation, the elements, fickle markets, power companies, banks, the railroad, the Depression, the advent of World War II, economics, politics and perseverance. She produced a captivating journal about a place and the people who were much like the hardy folks who settled here and built up our Valley."

--Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

"Reading *Orchards of Eden* is like experiencing a great screen documentary...Rich...a great contribution to Pacific Northwest history..."

-- Maria Brooks, documentary maker, *Sinrock Mary*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nancy Mendenhall grew up on Puget Sound in Washington and spent her childhood summers until 1943 at her grandparents' Willowbank Farm just north of the White Bluffs townsite. She earned a Masters in English from Western Washington University. An Alaska resident since 1961, she taught in the public schools, then for the University of Alaska Fairbanks, retiring as campus director at Nome. She published *Beachlines: a Pocket History of Nome* in 1997 and coordinated a three year Rockefeller Foundation oral history project of the Nome region.

Far Eastern Press
PO Box 9627
Seattle, WA 98109



206-985-1159
fareasternpress.com
info@fareasternpress.com