

## TILLAMOOK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Tillamook County Historical Society was formed in 1984 to bring together those persons interested in preserving the history of Tillamook County. The Society concentrates on doing a number of projects such as placing historic plaques, conducting historical tours, printing books about local history and producing a newsletter with local history topics and up-coming events. **Let us know how you would like to participate as a volunteer.** The Society schedules regular meetings and events and an annual meeting of the general membership where a speaker or program is planned. Members are welcome to attend all meetings. Annual dues are \$10.00 for Family Membership and include the newsletter.

**If you would like to keep receiving this newsletter, please make sure your dues are paid for the current year. We will be dropping those who are more than a year behind from the mailing list. Thank you.**

**PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOUR EMAIL HAS CHANGED!**

### 2019 TCHS MEETING SCHEDULE

AUGUST 13  
SEPTEMBER 10  
OCTOBER 8  
NOVEMBER 12  
DECEMBER 10

All meetings begin at NOON, held second Tuesday of the month at the Tillamook Bay Community College, first floor.

**NOTE NEW MEETING HOUR!**  
Now meeting at **NOON.**

Call 503-523-8387  
for more information  
or to become a member.



[www.facebook.com/tillamookcountyhistoricalsociety/](https://www.facebook.com/tillamookcountyhistoricalsociety/)

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www.tcpm.org/tchs.htm  
P.O. BOX 123, TILLAMOOK, OR 97141

**TILLAMOOK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



## TILLAMOOK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

P.O. BOX 123, TILLAMOOK, OR 97141

[www.tcpm.org/tchs.htm](http://www.tcpm.org/tchs.htm) JULY 2019

### REPORT FROM THE TCHS ANNUAL MEETING, JANUARY 27, 2019

Thanks to our friends and members who helped to make our Annual Meeting a success on January 27th. We held elections and established our 2019 roster of officers: Rob Russell as President; Eric Simmons as Vice President; John Forbes as Treasurer; and Anna Rzuczek as Secretary. Our guest speaker this year was author and research historian Jennifer Thiele. She shared stories from two recently published books for the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum, *The Lightning Painter* and *Art with Spirit*. Both books delve into the lives and work of painters with connections to Tillamook County, and required a great deal of research. It was a captivating program, and we're excited to see what projects Jennifer takes on next. January 27th also happened to be the 50th birthday of our incoming president which added to the good times. Over \$600 in memberships came in between the Annual Meeting and mail-ins.

Requests and/or suggestions for next January's program are welcome. Join us at our next meeting—the second Tuesday of the month at noon, Tillamook Bay Community College, or drop us an email at: [chaveecha@gmail.com](mailto:chaveecha@gmail.com).

### THE NINE POINTS OF TILLAMOOK BAY, Part One

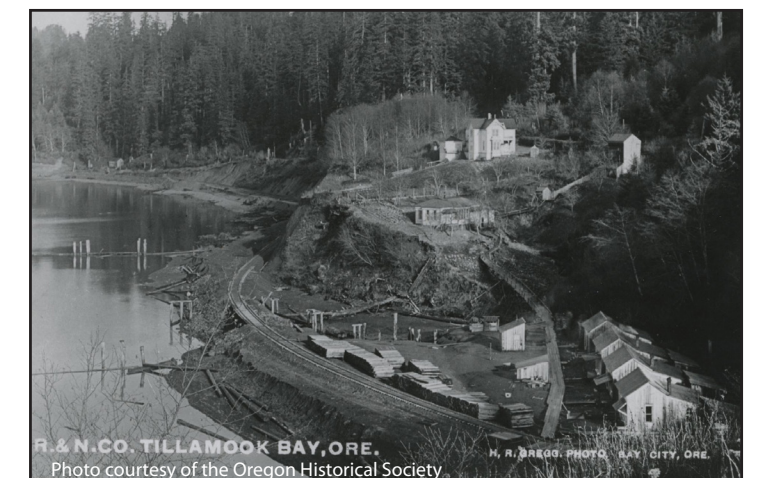
By Robert G. Russell, Tillamook County Historical Society President



Looking east from Hobsonville Point today, TCHS photo.

Living and working on the edge of Tillamook Bay, I'm eternally grateful for our modern road system and the access it provides. It's easy to take it for granted, the fact that I can day-trip from Barview to Bayocean, hopping from one natural wonder to another and drawing in the broadest possible view of Tillamook's 18+ miles of bayfront. And while nature always takes center stage, history hangs in the air everywhere. Walking along the cobble shoreline at Hobsonville Point, for instance, I can't help but imagine what it looked like when Captain Gray crossed the bar in 1788. Or a hundred years later when Hobsonville was a bustling logging camp complete with a post office. Today people tend to blow by the place at freeway speeds, going about their busy lives. But an occasional stop at

low tide is worth the time. The panoramas of Garibaldi and spit are unique, and there are still signs of the not-so-distant past to spur the imagination—a fragment of an old mill foundation or a worn down pile of old bricks. Tillamook Bay has at least nine rocky indentations, or "points," whose names have carried forward to modern-day maps. Several of these are of major significance, like Hobsonville Point, Memaloose Point, Kincheloe Point, and, probably the best known, Kilchis Point. Others, like Pitcher Point and Boulder Point, are now primarily known as nameless pull-outs on Bayocean Road. Over the next few TCHS newsletters I'll share what stories I can find about these places, both old and new.



R. & N. CO. TILLAMOOK BAY, ORE. Photo courtesy of the Oregon Historical Society. H. R. DREGG. PHOTO. BAY CITY, ORE.

The lumber mill on Hobsonville Point circa early twentieth century.



**West Side,  
North to South**

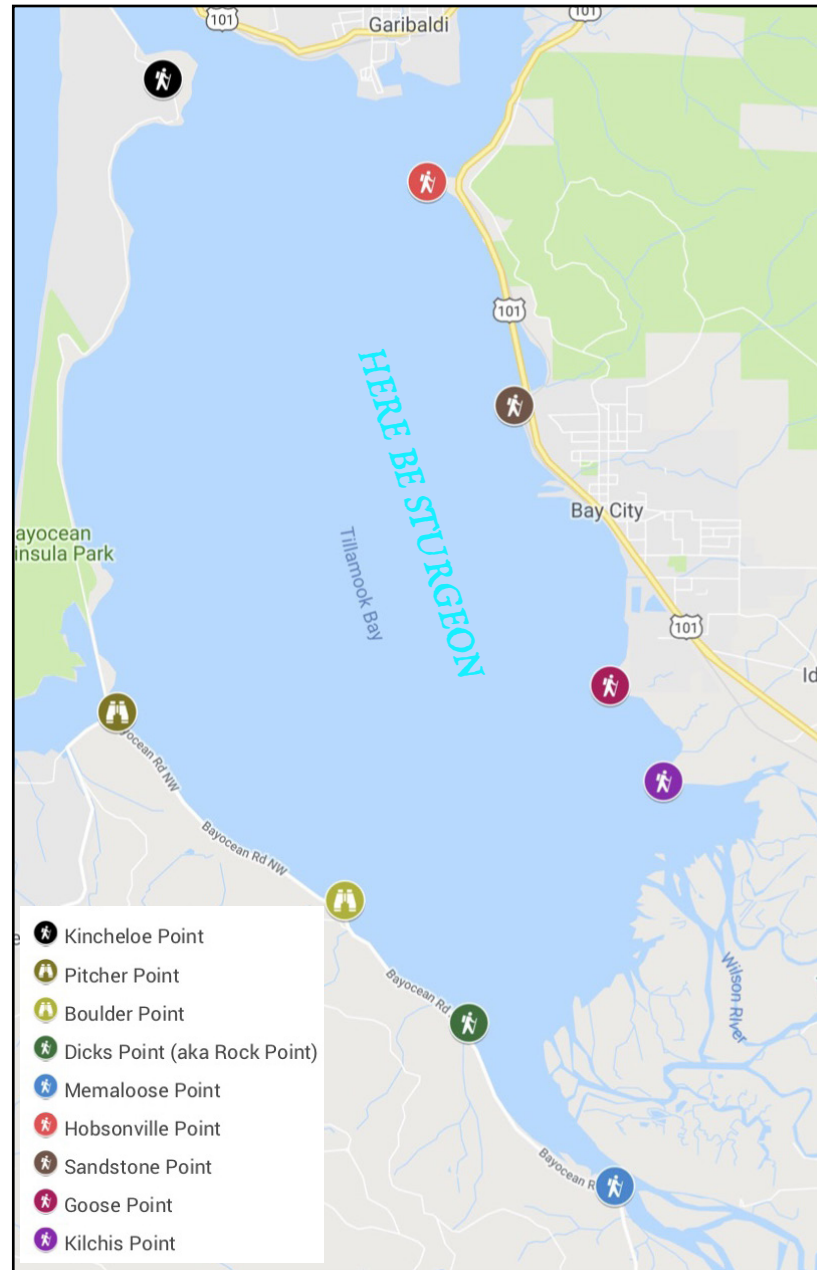
**Kincheloe Point** – The deceptively peaceful-looking northeast point of the Bayocean Spit is named for a U.S. Coast Survey sub-assistant who died while performing his surveying duties in May of 1867. Historian Jerry Sutherland shares the story on the bayocean.net web site, which see. The name Kincheloe Point long referred to the entire spit, but after the demise of Bayocean, the name came to represent just the northeastern tip. Prior to the construction of the jetties, this point faced the Pacific Ocean directly and was often quite violent.

**Pitcher Point** – Once a prominent point, separated from the spit by an expanse of bay water, Pitcher Point is now the entrance to the gravel road to the Bayocean Spit parking area. The diking of the eastern edge of the spit served to create what we now know as Cape Meares Lake.

**Boulder Point** – Known to local fishermen as a congregating spot for late-summer and fall salmon, Boulder Point marks the southern edge of Tillamook Bay’s oyster beds.

**Dicks Point (aka Rock Point)** – Formed by the large gravel fan emanating from the mouth of Dicks Creek, Dicks Point marks the merging of the bay’s main channels, and the southern end of the “Picket Fence.”

**Memaloose Point** – Marking the southern end of the bay and the confluence of the Trask and Tillamook river tidewaters, Memaloose Point is best known as the primary boat launch for the upper bay. It is also widely known as “The Oyster House,” referring to the old waterfront building which overlooks the cove’s private marina which served as the center of a major fishery for almost a century. The Chinook word “memaloose” is typically translated as “dead place” or “place of the dead,” and refers to burial sites. It is said that a number of Killamook burial trees once lined this deep leeward cove, though not a single physical sign survives to remind us of those millennia.



**East Side,  
North to South**

**Hobsonville Point** – Facing northwest toward the mouth of the bay and serving as the northern end of the “Ghost Hole,” Hobsonville is the most conspicuous of all of Tillamook Bay’s points. Walking around the sandstone peninsula at low tide, one can see remnants of the buildings which once stood on the water’s edge.

**Sandstone Point** – Just a few hundred yards north of Bay City, Sandstone Point is aptly named, with wonderfully sculpted sandstone features that rival the finest stone carvings made by human hands. It was once the southern rim of Larson Cove before US101 was routed across the water between this point and Hobsonville.

**Goose Point** – The northernmost of two prominent points just south of Bay City, Goose Point is an easy walk from Pacific Oyster, and is often confused with Kilchis Point.

**Kilchis Point** – Now a natural preserve with a superb interpretive trail, Kilchis

Point was reported to be the most prominent village for the Killamook people. The native settlement has been dated back to the fifteenth century, and it is estimated that its population was between 1,000 and 2,000 people when the first white settlers arrived in the 1850s.

If you have a story you’d like to share about one of Tillamook Bay’s historic points, please send me an email at [chavee-cha@gmail.com](mailto:chavee-cha@gmail.com).

*Kincheloe Point before construction of the Tillamook jetties. Photo courtesy of OHS.*



**THE RAGING DEBATE ABOUT SIR FRANCIS DRAKE  
AT THE NEHALEM VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Tom Campbell, Nehalem Valley Historical Society

Where did Sir Francis Drake stop on the North American west coast to repair his ship the Golden Hind? This unanswered question is the topic of books, television programs and has even become the subject of federal recognition. Queen Elizabeth took Drake’s logs upon his return to England and it is believed that they were destroyed when fire blazed through the tower of London. At the Nehalem Valley Historical Society (NVHS) we are in the midst of updating our exhibits. One area that will be presented is the question of whether Drake careened his ship in Nehalem Bay.

Local Historian Gary Gitzen has written extensively to explain his evidence supporting Drake’s stop to be in Nehalem. As such, NVHS would be remiss if we neglected to tell the story of this ongoing debate. We have taken, on loan, a model of the Golden Hind from Astoria’s Maritime Museum and from the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum the “measuring stone.” But can we present it as established fact or merely a theory?

The United States government recognizes that Drake’s stop occurred near San Francisco. A book written by Francis Fletcher, *The World Encompassed*, supports the claim. Fletcher was on board the Golden Hind as the ship’s chaplain. Though Queen Elizabeth forbid any publication about the voyage, under pain of death, Fletcher published his memoirs. In his book, Fletcher de-

scribes the flora and fauna, the indigenous people, the geography. He placed the latitude at a place near San Francisco. Proponents of the Drake’s Bay location argue that the Fletcher’s descriptions match the Miwok Indians. Admiral Nimitz added his voice to the chorus as a “sailing man” claiming that the waters described in *The World Encompassed* were clearly consistent with those northern California waters.

Coming into publication this summer will be a new book by Melissa Darby that identifies the location to be Whale Cove in Oregon. Ms. Darby recently spoke at the Cannon Beach History Center. She refers to a map, the Hondius Broadside, as being most similar to the geography depicted.

Gitzen, on the other hand, has taken the Hondius Broadside and laid it on a map of Nehalem Bay finding significant similarities. He supports his argument with a review of Edward Wright’s *World Chart of 1599* that puts the latitude at Nehalem. Manzanita’s famous “treasure rocks” are another key to the argument. Phil Costaggini, at the time a masters candidate at OSU, conducted a survey of the location of the treasure rocks and concluded that their placement was consistent with the notion that Drake’s crew went atop Neahkahnie Mountain to conduct a survey to claim the area for Queen and country. There’s more. Come to NVHS to learn about the evidence on all sides.

