

CITY OF TILLAMOOK • EARLY 1900s

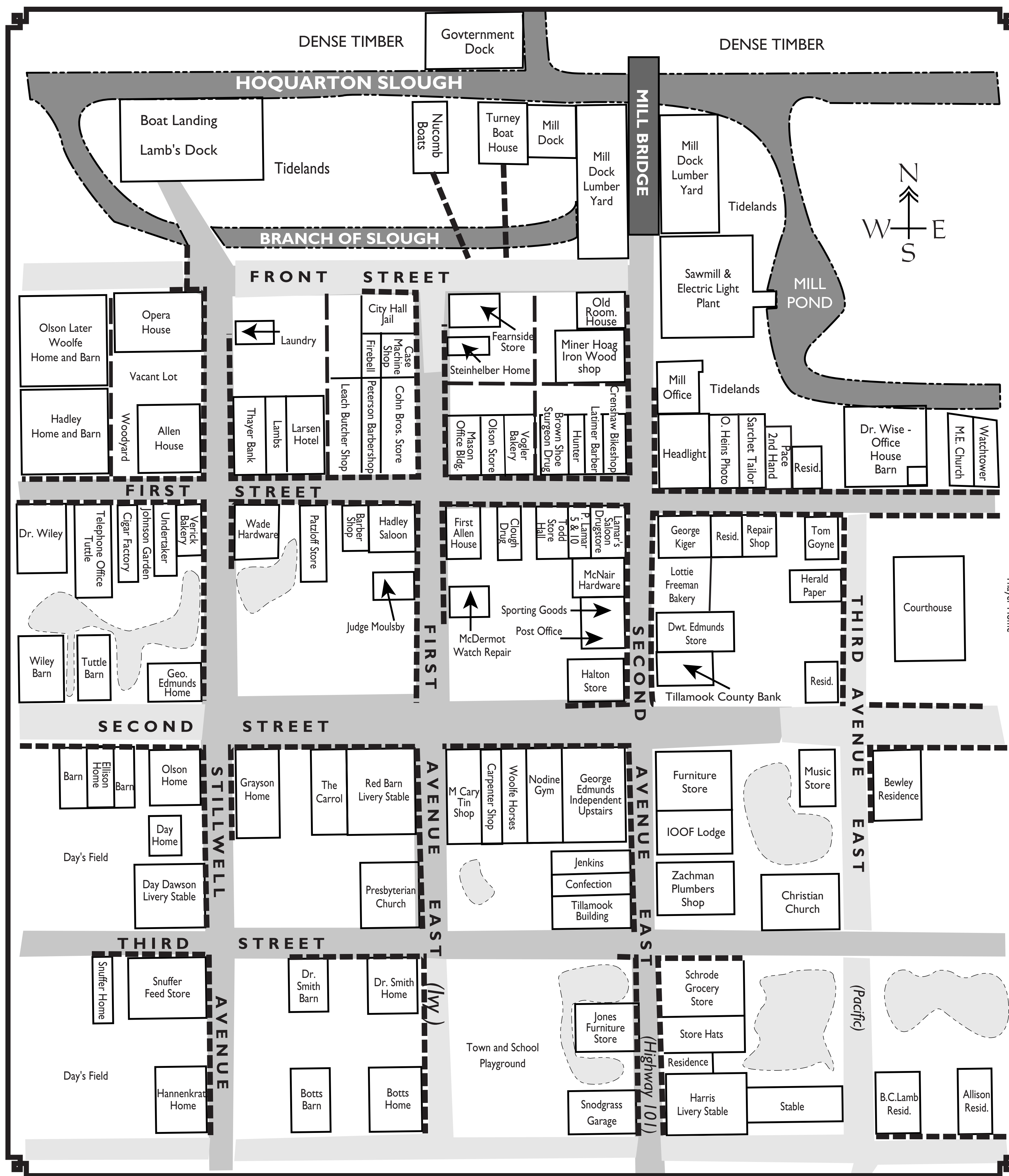
With a two-day-trip required to get to the outside world, **the young boys of Tillamook were indeed fortunate** - no idle moments to prey on a young boyish mind because time was occupied with a variety of activities. fishing, hunting, horse back riding, swimming, and **the urge to miss nothing** that could happen on the docks at the mill or at the livery stables.






There were rivers and a bay to boat in and at the edge of town, woods to play in.

For an active youngster there **scarcely seemed hours enough in a day** to take advantage of all the activities that the small town presented.

At the turn of the century (1900) we were still **eating ice cream out of a saucer** whenever it could be purchased from the local bakery, which was not oftener than twice a week and then only if ice for freezing was obtainable from the outside by boat.

Candy and **long sweetened white paraffin chewing gum** was a penny a stick or if you did not have a penny, **an egg from a nest** in the hen house would suffice for the trade at



-  Gravel streets
-  Dirt streets
-  Sidewalks
-  Winter ponds
-  Alleys

The original of this map was hand-drawn, made by Dr. Elmer Allen, son of the proprietors of the Allen House, a prominent hotel in the late 1890s - early 1900s.

The stories on this display are taken from the Allen memoirs, made available thanks to the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum. The wooden model on display was made by Gary Albright and approved by Dick Smith.

This display courtesy the Tillamook County Historical Society • April 2009

In books, the **Swiss Family Robinson, Robinson Crusoe, and the Horatio Alger** and the Henty books were the leaders and were discussed and loaned until they were practically worn out from use.

If for any reason you found yourself bored, you could always **fill your pockets with apples and run down the alley** back of the Opera House **and sit on the dock**. There you never lacked finding something to do or see, or if you were alone you could just dwell day dreaming boyhood ambitions.

Munching on an apple and watching sticks, pieces of lumber, logs, boxes, barrels and floatable debris of all kinds, **carried on the incoming or outgoing tide** was always a source of interest. Sometimes a dead horse, cow or dog; bloated

to buoyancy, would find its way into the slough and float in and out with the tide. **To small boys such sights became deepened mysteries**, and if you happen to recognize the poor animals as your cow or Smith's horse you made a discovery that was worth telling about.

Row boats and small power boats, coming in to dock or leaving, loaded with groceries and supplies for fishermen living in some scow-house or cabin down on the bay; the in and out movements of the Steamers. Lousie, Maria, Annarene, Hoo Hoo and many other small craft that plyed the slough and bay were all apart of the daily life of the youngsters that lived in that part of the town situated along the slough. **No boy living in town** if possible **ever missed the incoming or outgoing and the unloading of the Steamers** Harrisohn, Elmore, Vosburg, Argo, Anvil Golden Gate or other steamers that came to Tillamook to dock.

When no boats were tied up at the Lamb, MacIntosh or Mill docks, there was almost always a raft or logs to watch on its way into the mill boom.

If the Mill dock loading of lumber on the small steam and sailing schooners and scows were going on most of the time, **the principle help we boys gave in this operation was to keep out of the way**.

Just how many times we have taken an all over **ducking in the slough and gone home soaked with explanations to make**, I could never say. Even though the water was deep high tide, regardless of the tidal fall it was always well over our heads, yet somehow we always managed to get out by a few strokes of dog fashion swimming and pawing.

one of the local grocery stores.

Soda pop - never cooled - came in a short, heavy, stubby glass bottle, with a wire loop stopper that pressed in to open. Many times in releasing the stopper half on the contents of the bottle foamed out before you came in for a share.

When out of school and not at plays, a great deal of time was devoted to reading the Youth's Companion and the **Frank and Dick Merrill five cent weeklies**; for sale at Lambs Cigar Store. The Merrill stories were all on athletics and those we never missed when obtainable.

Great athletic ambitions were visualized from the reading of these weekly stories. Other weeklies were **detective and wild west hair raising stories** and were not thought too well of by parents.

The funnies printed in the Sunday Oregonian and the Portland Evening Telegram were received in Tillamook on Mondays and the Sunday Examiner came on the Thursday mail and the **Lula and Leander, Alphonso and Gaston, Mutt and Jeff and the Katzjanjamer Kids** were eagerly awaited for.

