

Templin's Fair Co.

One hundred and twenty years ago, Hugh Wooster Templin opened Templin's Fair Co. at Madrona Point in 1897 with his sons Kelly, Harry and Karl. The original building was destroyed by fire after the turn of the century. Templin's moved to Main Street next to the Episcopal Church and later relocated to the corner of North Beach and Main Street. The burgeoning business had difficulty meeting the needs of a growing community within the confines of the old wooden buildings. In

In 1972, Templin's General Store commemorated 75 years of service to the Orcas Island community. At that time, Dale and Allen Linnes assumed management. As the island's population and seasonal popularity continued to grow, the grocery needs did as well. The family business expanded again with the Templin Center Grand Opening in 1977 and then the ground breaking for the new Island Market in 1992.



response, Karl Templin and his son-in-law, Thad McGlinn, started planning a new store in 1946 to be built on the same site. Interviewed at the time by The Orcas Islander about the new store, Mr. Templin noted, "Young blood wants to be up to date." He added, "New construction will modernize the building and accommodate the volume of business the store welcomes, especially in the summer." The new, modern store opened in 1952.

While structures and locations have changed over the years, the family's commitment to serving the island community remained consistent. Dale instilled in his sons, Jason and Jacob the same values that have always guided the family business. They continue their father's belief of having a clean store, fair prices, and surrounding themselves with smart experienced people ensuring every customer leaves happy.

Jason and Jacob continue a deep commitment to their customers and the Orcas Island community as fifth generation grocers. This remains the hallmark of a 120 years of service.

We will be sharing pictures from our history with a display in the front of the store through June 18th. We invite you to come celebrate with us!

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