

BUILDING THE SOUTH SOUND

Modern urban village emerges in DuPont

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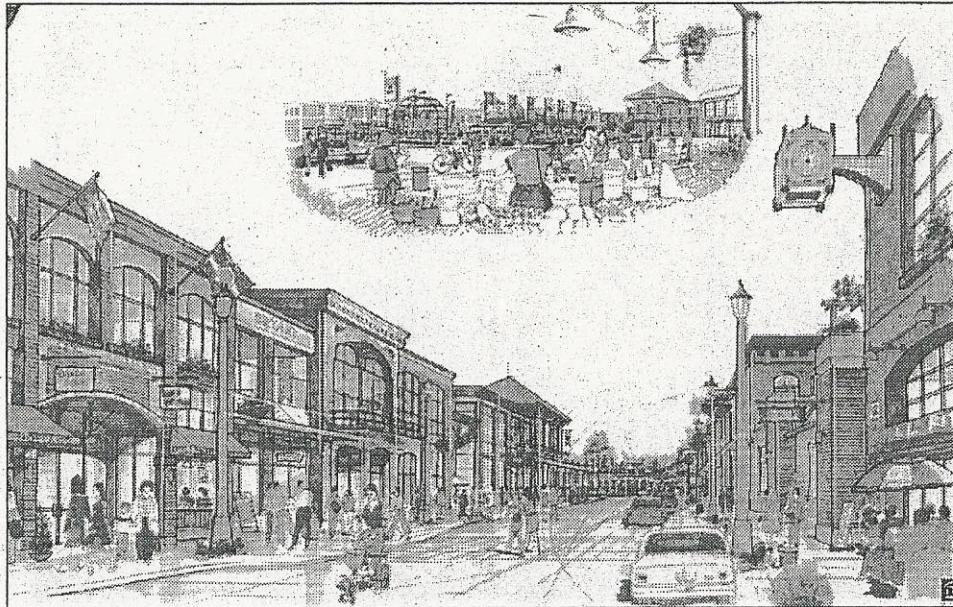
Northwest Landing is about to get the sort of rustic commercial center its historic neighbor, the village of DuPont, never had. But it has honored DuPont's heritage in naming the center that so far exists only in architectural renderings that look as if they were influenced by Normal Rockwell. The center will be called DuPont Station.

Weyerhaeuser's Northwest Landing development unveiled plans for the DuPont Station as a premier urban village in South Puget Sound. As an Urban Village, DuPont Station hopes to be a pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use neighborhood, built around a traditional town center. DuPont Station provides access to public transit, includes up-scale office space and incorporates a great deal of public spaces. Residential locations may be available on the street level as well as above office and retail locations.

When completed over the next several years, the two- and three-storied buildings of DuPont Station will feature 360,000 square feet of retail and office space, townhomes, a Sound Transit Park-n-Ride lot and an urban plaza for outdoor entertainment and festivals.

Construction of the infrastructure for the 32-acre, mixed-use development is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2001. Development of the office, retail and residential locations is planned to begin by the end of 2001 and initial occupancy is planned for fall 2002.

Designed to be the destination shopping



DuPont Station will reflect the city's old-town feel.

center for the South Puget Sound region, DuPont Station is situated in the southeast corner of the growing 3,000-acre Quadrant Corp. master-planned community of Northwest Landing. The development is located 15 minutes south of Tacoma and 15 minutes north of Olympia.

DuPont Station's architecture calls to mind traditional train stations and complements the small town atmosphere of Northwest Landing, says Jeanie Gartly, urban designer/planner of BCRA-Tsang Architects in Tacoma.

The continued influx of new businesses and services demonstrates Northwest Landing's highly favorable location and

growing strength and popularity in the market, said Greg Moore, director of operations and planning for Northwest Landing. DuPont Station is a welcome addition to the community, fitting in with the charm that makes Northwest Landing such a great place to live, work and play.

More businesses are relocating to Northwest Landing due to its residential critical mass, with more than 2,000 residents living in the 3,000-acre Master Planned Community. The City of DuPont had 601 residents before the development opened for housing sales in 1994. At completion 25 years from now, Northwest Landing is estimated to have 11,000 resi-

dents. DuPont Station will be the neighbor of Northwest Landing companies such as Intel Corporation and State Farm Insurance, which currently house a combine employee count of 2,700. The development will further enhance business activity for Barksdale Station, where the current retail center is 100 percent leased. Moore adds that the heightened interest in living and working in Northwest Landing shows the growing popularity of a master-planned community that embodies the principles of Smart Growth.

The continued growth at Northwest Landing becomes even more evident as additional sites open and begin to take shape in 2001. Planned amenities at Northwest Landing include a new elementary school, Patriots Landing; the state's first military retirement community, Girl Scouts Pacific Peaks Council regional headquarters and the Better Business Bureau headquarters.

This level of growth came quickly to the former "boom" town. The former company town of DuPont started as a dynamite factory, with just a few workers housed in company-owned homes.

That was in 1909. About 100 small, tarpaper houses sprung up around the plant between 1909 and 1917. This neighborhood was about three blocks wide and six blocks long. Residents still call in the Village, a neighborhood in DuPont that remains distinctly different from modern homes bringing up around it. The Village is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. ■