

# INTERURBAN TROLLEY

THE SPIRIT OF WALTER V. SHANNON



Trolley Car No. 55 is an Interurban single-ended, wood-framed, electric rail car constructed by the Niles Car Company. It is one of six cars delivered to the Seattle- Everett Traction Company in 1910 where it ran between Seattle and Everett for 29 years, from 1910 to 1939.

When the planned community of Alderwood Manor began, the Interurban brought passengers to the area that were interested in purchasing five-acre parcels for the purpose of poultry raising for egg production. The trolley served as transportation between Seattle and Everett for local residents. School children would ride the trolley to the Alderwood Grade School and during the night it was used to transfer freight.

In 1939, the Interurban Rail Line was dismantled, and Car No. 55 was converted to a diner along Highway 99 in Everett - the Old '55' Cafe. In 1964, it was donated to the Northwest Railway Museum and served as a ticket booth for about ten years until the car was moved to the woods to use for storage and left to deteriorate.

In 1993, the City of Lynnwood purchased "Old 55" and began restoration in 1996 with a Federal ISTE A grant, Washington State Heritage Capital Projects Fund grant and City funding. The restored trolley was moved to its new home at Heritage Park in 2003.

  
Heritage Park