

DEMONSTRATION FARM WATER TOWER



The water tower, built by the Puget Mill Company in 1917, is one of two surviving structures from the Alderwood Manor Demonstration Farm. This water tower is typical of farm structures built in western Washington in the early 20th century. It was located at the center of the 30-acre farm, alongside the superintendent's cottage.

The Demonstration Farm was strategically located along the Interurban railway, midway between Seattle and Everett. Because of the proximity of the electric railway, the water tower utilized an underground electric pump system that was decades ahead of its time. It provided water for the farm and for nearby residences until the Alderwood Water District installed a piped water system in 1934. The water tower's one-story wing stored farm equipment and originally had a garage beneath it.

From 1933 until 1970, Norman Colins ran a chicken hatchery on the central five acres that included the water tower and the superintendent's cottage. Subsequent owners rented out the water tower and the other remaining farm buildings. In 1997, the City of Lynnwood rescued the historic building during freeway interchange construction. The City received funding from the State of Washington, with funds administered by the Washington State Historical Society; the Snohomish County Community Heritage Program; and the Lynnwood Parks & Recreation Foundation to restore the water tower in two phases with final completion in 2022.