SR 530 Landslide – Darrington Archive

Darrington Historical Society
Darrington, Washington

The Project

The Darrington Historical Society recognized shortly after the landslide that this tragedy needed to be documented from the perspective of the Darrington community, not only for the historical, scientific and social significance, but also as part of the healing process for the lives affected. Documents, images, audio and video recordings needed to be collected, preserved, and organized so this story could be shared.

The Event

March 22, 2014: a massive hillside fails, sending ~270 million cubic feet of unconsolidated material 0.6 miles, covering the Steelhead Haven neighborhood, damming a portion of the North Fork Stillaguamish River, and burying SR 530 between Darrington and Oso in over 20 feet of debris.

The Process

Beginning August 2014 our team met with the Darrington Historical Society to understand their needs, evaluate the content, define the size and scope of the project, and develop a path forward. This included:

• Visiting Darrington
• Researching and selecting an archival database
• Fostering collaboration with UW Digital Collections
• Organizing content
• Determining metadata

The Archive

Our team provided the Darrington Historical Society with a:

• CONTENTdm prototype collection
• CONTENTdm training manual for volunteers
• Digital archive hosted by UW and searchable via WorldCat
• Recommendations for a path forward

Impacts

By developing and providing permanent access to a digital archive of the landslide, the Darrington Historical Society is giving the community a platform for housing their memories, and a place to reflect on the resolve and strength of their community.

Outcomes/Conclusions

Through partnering with the Darrington Historical Society to develop the SR 530 Landslide – Darrington Archive our team successfully:

• Assessed the needs and scope of the project
• Identified the need for and proposed a multi-stage process
• Scaled project based on time, resource, and content constraints
• Provided instructional services via training manual

Special Thanks To:
Scott and Erika Morris
Darrington Historical Society