



WSD History Timeline

February 3, 1886



1886

Washington School for Defective Youth was established on February 3, 1886 in Vancouver, Clark County by Watson Squire, the eleventh territorial governor.

1886

The first site where students were housed was an abandoned frame boarding house called "Alta House" at the foot of Washington Street near the present beginning of the Interstate Bridge. It is thought that no classes were taught here.



March 11, 1886



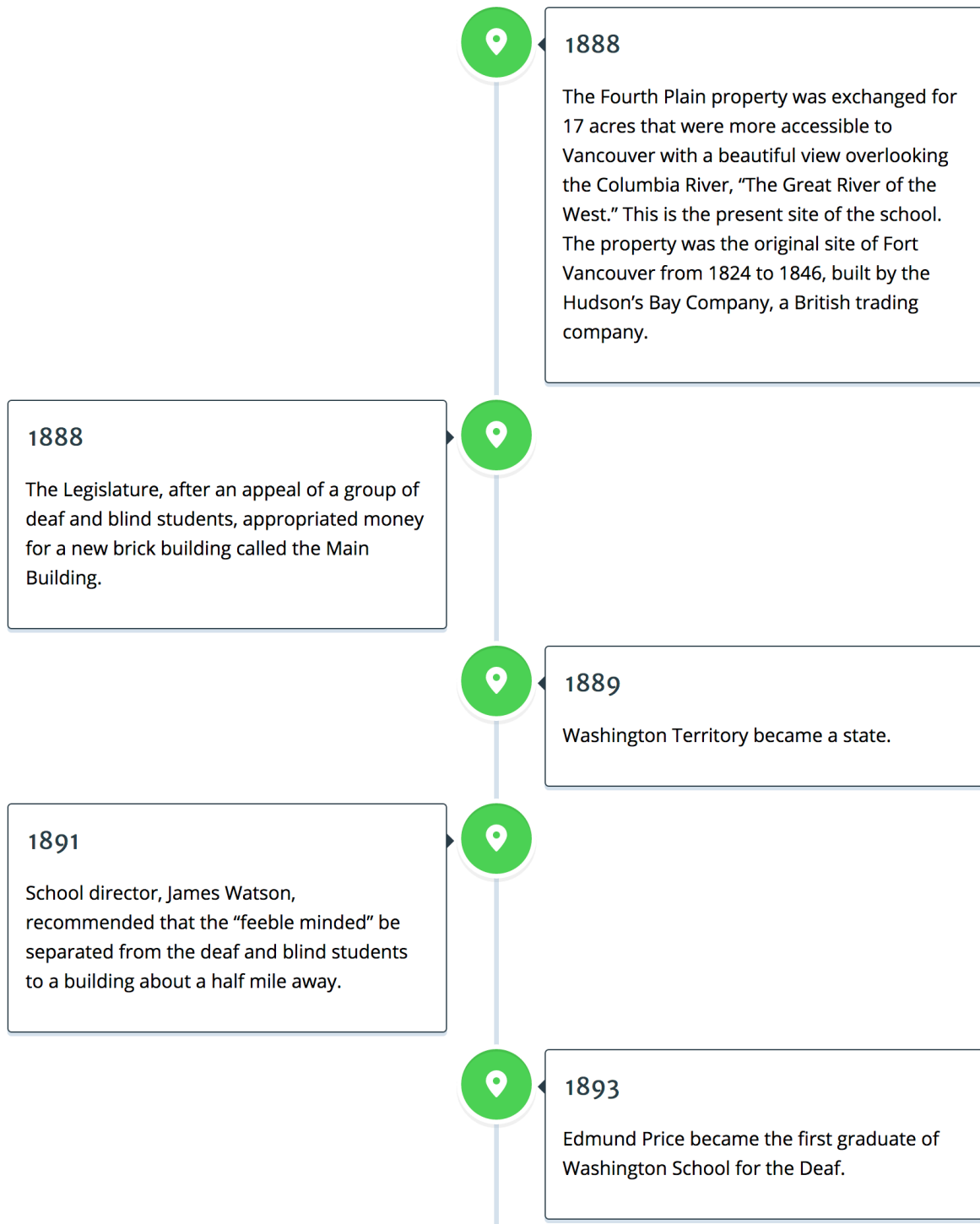
1886

The school moved to a frame court house building in the middle of town on West Reserve Street on March 11, 1886. The first classes were most likely held at this location.

1887

In September of 1886, the school opened at a 129-acre tract in the Brookside addition on the west side of Burnt Bridge Creek on Fourth Plain. Seventeen children were in attendance, including one blind student.





1906

The "feeble minded" were relocated to Medical Lake in Eastern Washington. The school changed its name to the State School for the Deaf and Blind. Blind students were relocated to buildings formerly occupied by the "feeble minded."



1906

A new building was erected east of the Main Building called Mead Hall. The new building was used as a dormitory for the boys and also contained the gymnasium, shoe shop, and print shop.



1906

The first Boy's Athletic Association was started at the school.

A Literary Society was established that held lectures, book reviews, debates and plays.



1906

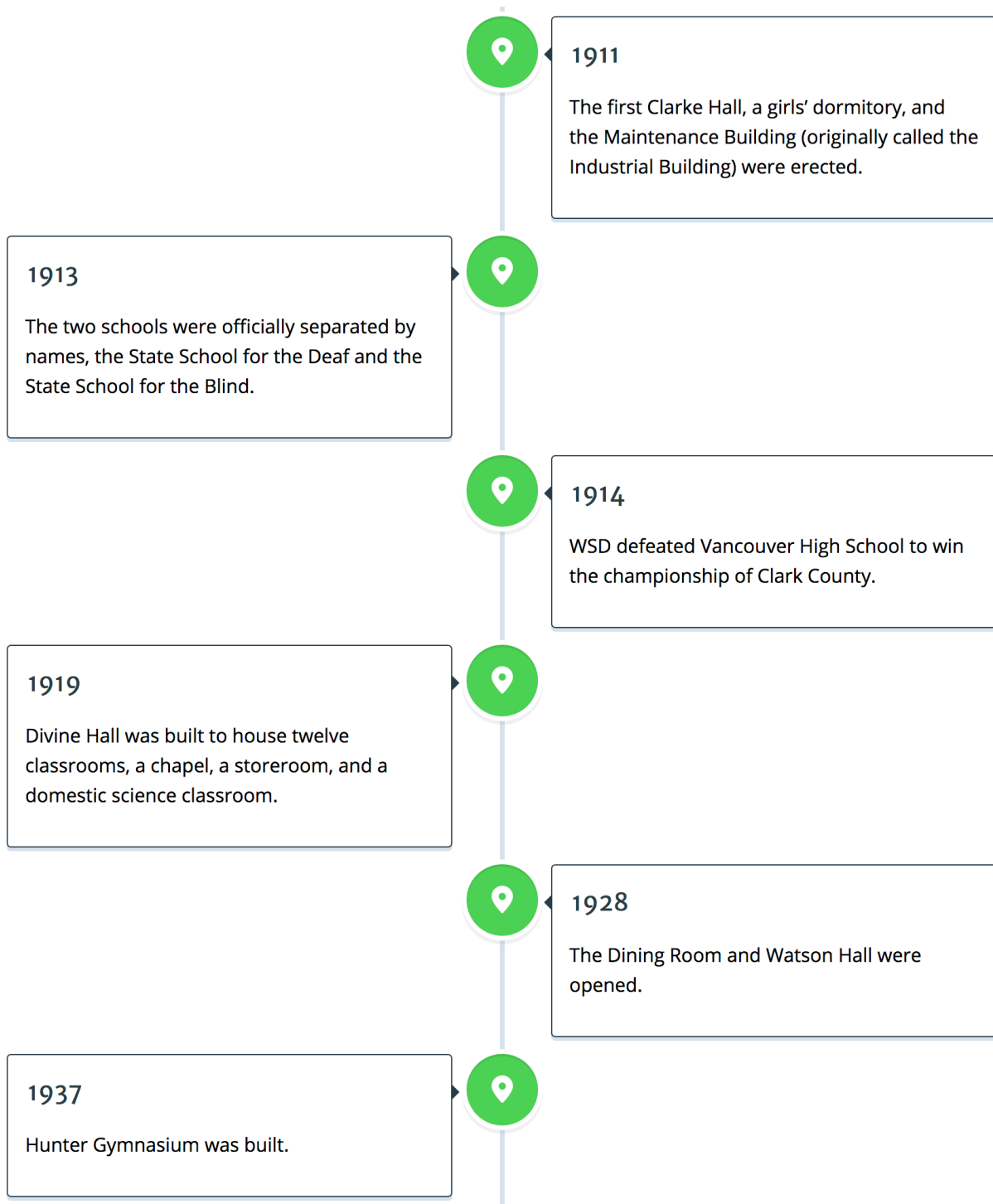
The Christian Endeavor Society was founded and subsequently dropped during the 1960's because of the law prohibiting religious ceremonies on state property.

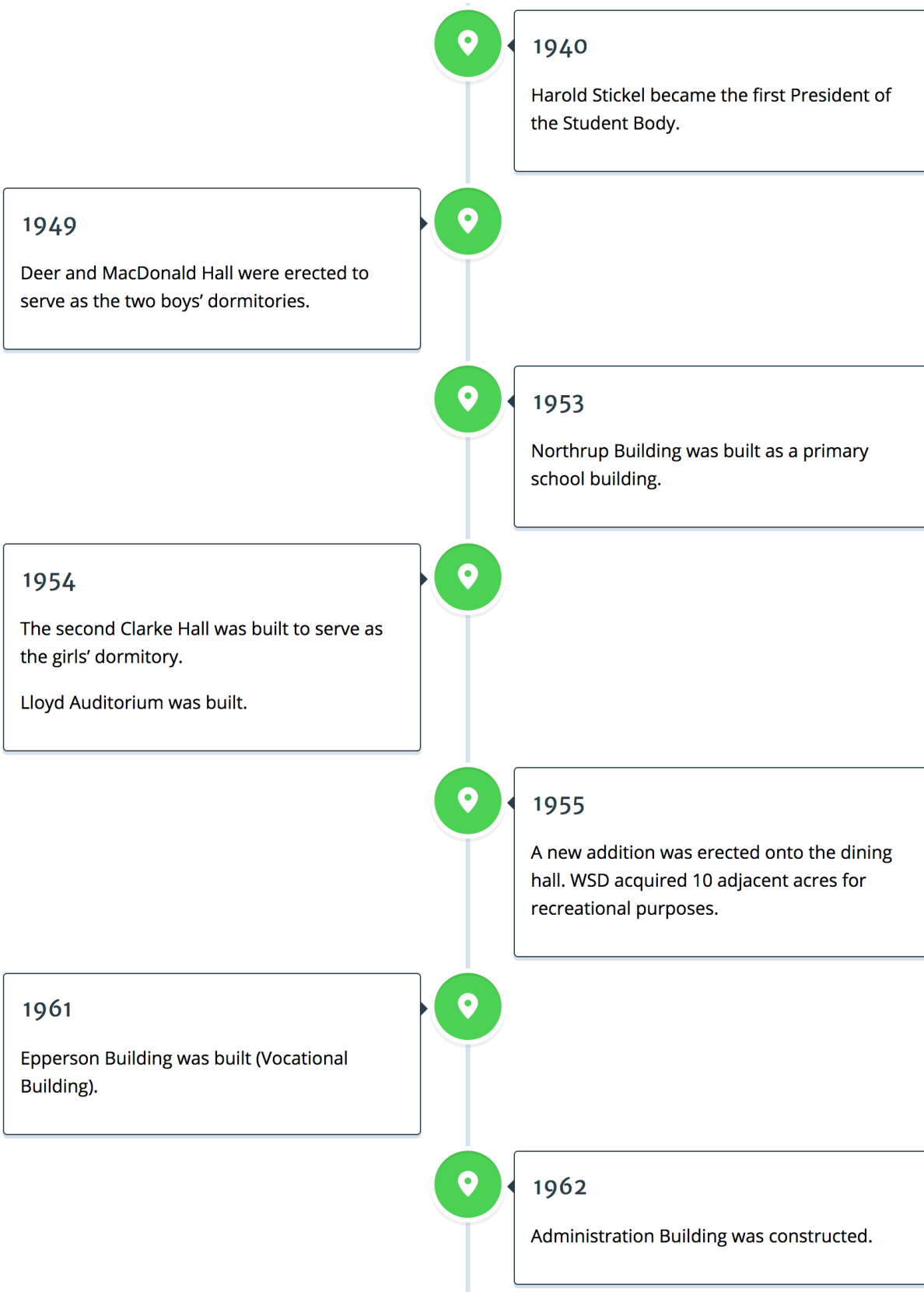


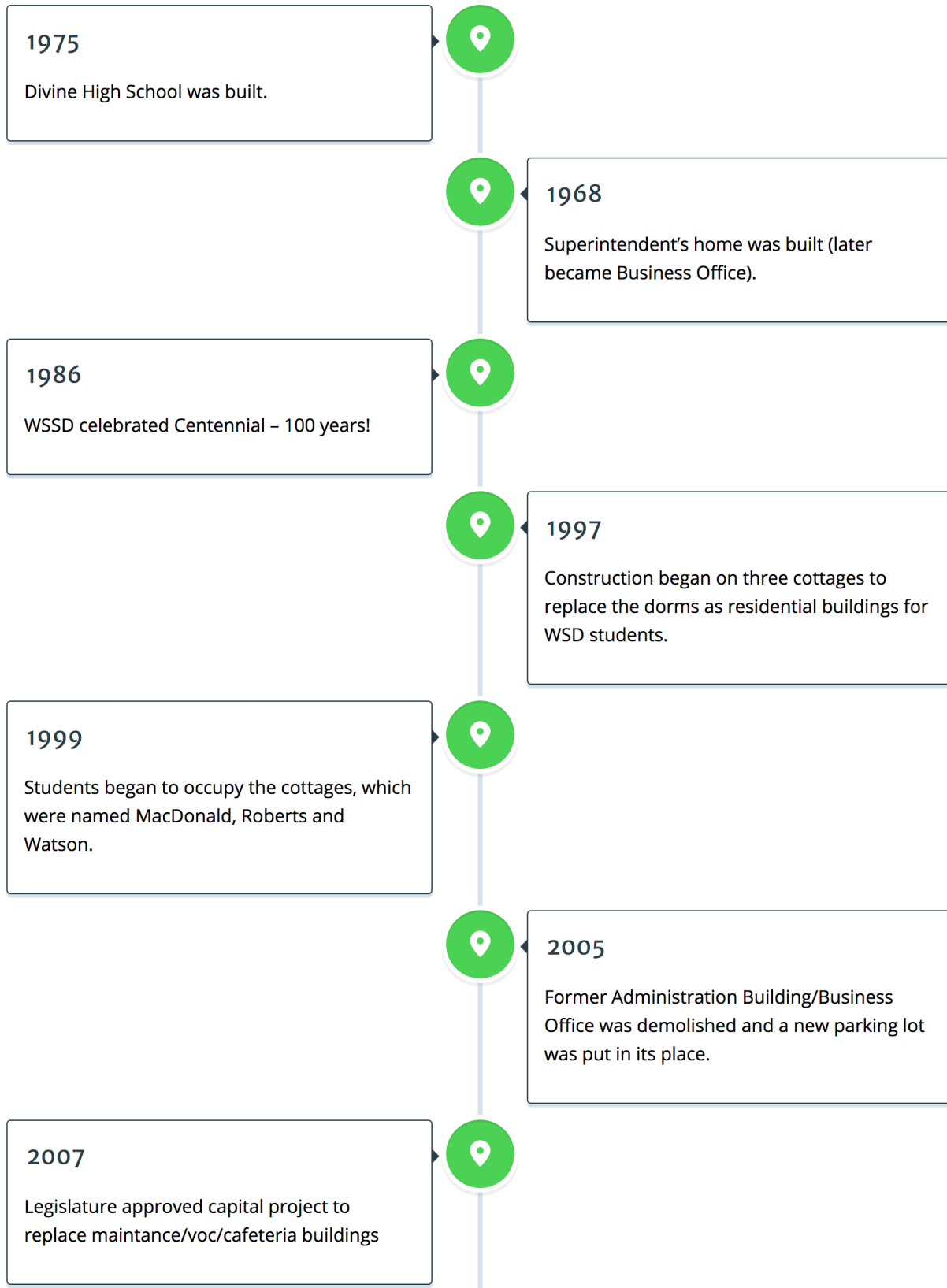
1910

A 160-foot well was drilled to supply water to the school.











2008

Deer Hall Demolished.

Roberts Cottage renamed "Deer Cottage" and
Student Health Center officially named
"Roberts Student Health Center."



2009

Kastel Building Opened
(Cafeteria/Vocational/Maintenance)