

PIKE
PLACE
MARKET

1st Ave and Pike St., Seattle, WA
98101

At the turn of the century, Seattle was a rough and tumble place and a rapidly growing city. As the population of gold rushers, loggers, fishermen, shipbuilders and merchants grew, so did the demand for produce and goods from the city's neighboring farms. In the decade of 1890-1900, Seattle's population nearly doubled, growing from 42,000 to 80,000 citizens.

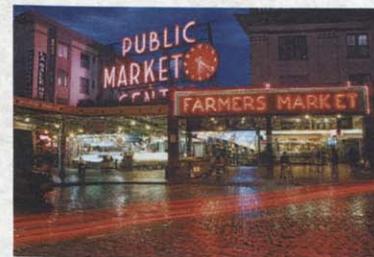


Farmers brought their vegetables, fruit, milk, dairy, eggs and meat to the city by horse drawn wagons and by ferry from the nearby islands. The goods were purchased by wholesalers, who sold the goods at a commission at warehouses on Western Ave. In this system, farmers occasionally made a profit but increasingly only broke even or lost money.

In 1906-1907, the price of produce—onions namely—soared, leaving the farmers none the richer and the citizens angry over the price gouging. The uproar led one local official to try to find a solution. In the summer of 1907, Seattle City Councilman Thomas Revelle proposed the city create a public market place where farmers and consumers could meet directly to sell and buy goods and thereby sidelining the wholesalers.

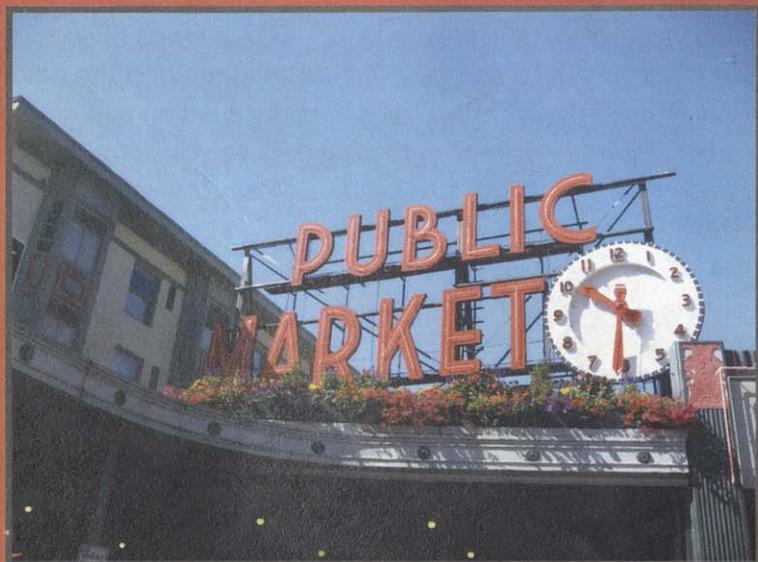
On the public market's first day, August 17, 1907, crowds of shoppers seeking fresh produce and bargains descended upon the new marketplace. The first farmer sold out of produce within minutes. Within a week, 70 wagons were gathering daily to sell along the newly named Pike Place, a wooden roadway that connected First St. to Western Ave.

When the maze of aging buildings was slated for demolition in the 1960s, architect Victor Steinbrueck rallied Seattle to "Save the Market." Voters approved a 17-acre historic district on November 2, 1971, and the City of Seattle later established the Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority to rehabilitate and manage the Market's core buildings.



Today, Pike Place Market remains Seattle's neighborhood marketplace, the center of fresh, locally produced and high quality foods, goods and handcrafted products.





General Market Hours

Breakfast: 6 am

Fresh Produce & Seafood: 7 am

Official Market Bell: 9 am

Crafts Market: 10 am-4 pm

Farm Tables: 8 am-4 pm

Merchant Hours: 10 am-6 pm

Restaurants: 6 am-1:30 am; varies