

Fire Departments

ARLINGTON AND EVERETT IN WASHINGTON, UNIONVILLE IN PENNSYLVANIA
AND CHRISTMAS-THEMED ARTWORK

(8 "Americana" Fine Artwork Titles Listed Alphabetically by Region - Plus an
Christmas Imaginary Setting

ARLINGTON, WASHINGTON

Fire at the Arlington Shed ~ 10.1991

This painting depicted the excitement and up-close drama of a very tenacious fire in progress in Arlington, a small rural community north of Everett, Washington. This fine art was commissioned by Mike Lambert in 1991 when he was part of the Everett Fire Department. Mike wanted to give a framed reproduction to each of the firefighters (some from Everett and others from Marysville) pictured in the scene - all close friends of his who frequently worked together when there was a call in this close knit mesh of communities in Northwest Washington State. The fire suppression effort pictured here was a successful one and the men who shared in the accomplishment were very grateful for this commemoration of their experience of working together that day. The original artwork is part of Mike Lambert's collection - the first of a handful of paintings I created for him in the early 1900s.

EVERETT, WASHINGTON

Hand at Work (EFD) ~ 11.1992

This painting showed an emergency call at Harbor View Park overlooking Everett. Pictured to the left were Butch and Duffy of the Everett Police Department. Ken Opets, Michael Lambert, John Tanaka and other firefighters and paramedics were tending to an injured pedestrian hit by a car. The Airlift Northwest helicopter was hovering above the accident scene. I'm pictured as a "bystander" to the right. This piece was used for cover artwork for Eastern Washington County EMS 911 Criteria-Based Dispatch flip charts before this information became available online.

Riding in the Salty Seas Days Parade (EFD) ~ 11.1994

In November 1994, I painted a portrait of the restored vintage Everett Fire Department fire truck Engine #2 - one of several that made their way through the parade route crowd along the sidewalks of downtown Everett. Retired firefighter Darrell Jensen drove the fire truck while EMS Chief Jack Robinson stood at the rear. Jack's son and his pal shared the seats with Jack's wife at the time, Bonnie Richter and me. Another firefighter's two youngsters were outfitted "for action" - dressed head-to-toe in bunker gear. Pictured in the background of this piece was handsome old Station #2 which had functioned for decades as the headquarters for the Everett Fire Department. **Highlight** - In 2010, I donated this original painting to my longtime friend Fire Chief Murray Gordon for display at the E.F.D. vintage Headquarters building.

Old Station #1 @ the Steamer (EFD) ~ 10.1993

The immaculate vintage Ahrens Fox 1906 pumper (otherwise known simply as "The Steamer") has always been an Everett Fire Department iconic much loved vehicle. The steamer was delivered to the community's fire department in December 1907 - well over a century ago. I painted this portrait of it in the early 1990s, picturing it parked in front of what once was the very first fire station in Everett, Washington. Sadly, when traffic through town was revised to make way for Interstate 5, this charming stucco one-story building was demolished. **Highlight** - For many years, folks were able to see the old vehicle sparkling like a dime with local firefighters at the reins when Everett celebrated "Salty Seas Days" with a big parade. That annual community event inspired this painting.

Old Station #2 (EFD) ~ 11.1991

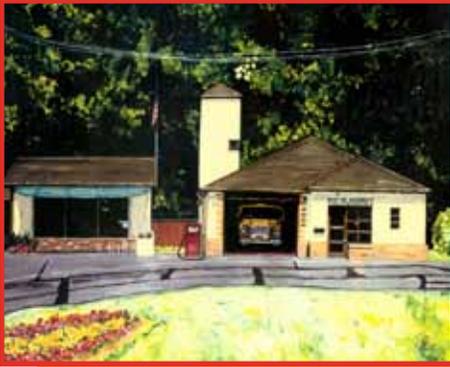
The vintage Everett Fire Department Headquarters located at 2801 Oakes Avenue in downtown Everett, Washington, was occupied for the first time on June 25, 1925. In those days, the entire structure was heated with sawdust. Over the years, a few minor alterations were made to the exterior of the building. The bi-fold doors and small paned windows were replaced with more modern, easy to use door and the intricate art deco sconces flanking the entryway disappeared along with the flagpole on the roof. Other than these changes, the structure has largely retained most of its original character. Old Station #2 is registered as a historical landmark in. Notice the firefighters in vintage uniforms and the steamer and old fire engine in the headquarters' bays. **Highlight** - The original painting was given to firefighter Michael Lambert (retired EMS chief) and became part of this private collection.

Patti Simpson Ward



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Old Station #4 (EFD) ~ 3.1992

Station #4, Everett Fire Department was constructed of stucco and blond multi-colored brick masonry on 701 Mukilteo Boulevard, Everett, Washington. Opening mid-century in 1948. Arvid Johnson, a retired firefighter who went into political life in his community, was responsible for the construction of the modest little fire station. The first fire engine to be housed there was a late 1940s Kenworth. The structure to the left of the station was built by Firefighter's Local 46 to house on display the vintage Ahren's Fox 1906 pumper, known affectionately among the guys as "The Steamer." Over the years, the flower gardens the firefighters planted at Station #4 were known for their lush color around the community as evidenced by this portrait. Because the structures were built on a landfill, over the years the floor gradually sank to a total of eight inches by the time that it was retired and closed in 1991. One story has it that originally the tower was constructed to the height of the window, but was found to be too short to accommodate the fire hose, so it was extended further up. *Highlight* - The original painting was completed for retired EMS Chief Michael Lambert who commissioned this piece in 1992 so it could be hung on the wall of a fellow firefighter's hospital room who was losing his battle with life after a long career.

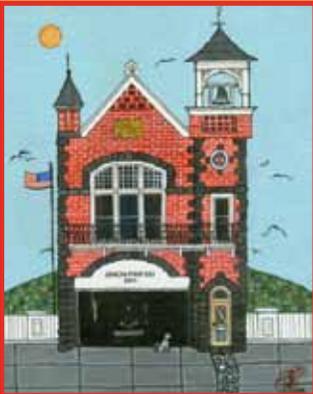
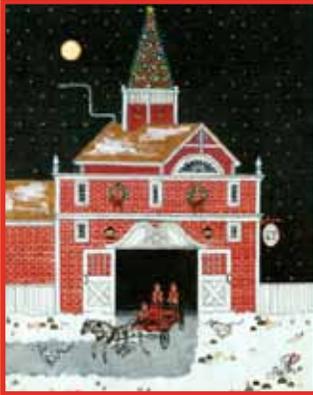
UNIONVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA AND AN IMAGINARY CHRISTMAS SETTING

Hose #2 at Christmastime ~ 12.1993

I painted this fictional turn-of-the-century Victorian-style fire station decorated for the Christmas holidays with two huge holly holiday wreaths hung on each side of the building. Inspired by artwork painted by famed "Americana" artist Charles Wysocki, I created this festive piece for Everett, WA Fire Department EMS Fire Chief Mike Lambert as Christmas card art. He liked the holiday painting so much that he gave framed prints to his friends, family and fellow firefighters that year. He owned several portraits of fire stations in Everett and this artwork made a nice addition to his collection of fire department-related artwork. The image shared here was just a detail of the larger piece which featured a glittering Christmas tree on the station's rooftop.

Unionville Fire Company #1 ~ 2.1993

This painting was a rendition of a handsome red brick volunteer fire station located in Unionville, Pennsylvania. It was inspired by a photo featured on the dust jacket of "The History of The American Fire Station" and painted as a special gift for firefighter Michael Lambert.



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