Walking Tour for Centralia Tragedy Commemoration

1. Clock Tower, Centralia College Campus — Elmer Smith plaque.
2. Centralia Square Antique Mall — “The Resurrection of Nathaniel Wesley Everest” mural by Mike Alewitz, Centralia Union Mural Project Committee, 1997
4. Olympic Club – 112 N. Tower
5. Union Loan and Trust (now Ayala Bros Furniture Store) – 305 N. Tower – this was the location of the old elks Lodge (Third Floor) where the planning was done for the confrontation with the IWW.
6. Flewelling Building – 402 N. Tower — supposedly the first City Hall and the location that W. Everett was taken from when he was broken out of jail.
8. Kulien Boot - 611 N. Tower – family owned boot business that made shoes for loggers back during this time period, and continues in operation today.
9. Rainier Grand Hotel – 622 N. Tower – This former boarding house was most likely built around 1880 and is one of the last surviving structures of its type and size in SW Washington. It is possible that both IWW members and Legionnaires boarded at the old hotel.
10. Elmer Smith’s Office – 717 N. Tower - This vacant lot was the site of Smith’s office at the time of the 1919 incident. You can still see brick remnants of the structure in the wall of the adjacent building at 719.
11. Bank – 801 N. Tower - this is the location where several Legionnaires took cover, when the shooting began. They covered on the 2nd Street side of the building.
12. From this point, if one were to look directly east down 2nd Street, across the rail yard, in 1919 the Eastern Mill stood at that location. It was said to have had the largest sawdust piles in the world from its milling operations. Thinking they were under fire, the IWW members returned fire, wounding 3 and killing 3 Legionnaires in the first round of shooting. Four Legionnaires died that day as a result of this action, and Wesley Everett was captured and later hanged as a result of the day’s tragedy.
13. Roderick Hotel – 805 N. Tower – The current auto shop building replaced the Roderick in about 1930. The Roderick was the location of the IWW hall on Nov. 11, 1919. And it is where the IWW made their stand.
14. The Pearl Street Bridge – State Highway 507 in Centralia is believed to be the site where Wesley Everett was captured on the 11th in his efforts to escape from the mob.
15. Hangman’s Bridge. Today’s Mellen Street Bridge sits next to what’s left of the footing of the original bridge.