



From left to right: Mrs. Dan Foster, Mrs. Emil Fisher, Dan Foster (Area Director B.I.A.), Emil Fisher (Hoonah B.I.A. Supt.), Gov. Ernest Gruening, Mrs. Robert Greenwald (City Council) and Harry Douglas (Mayor).

HARRY DOUGLAS 1946 House Dedication

Harry Douglas was the first mayor of Hoonah after the village became a first class incorporated city in 1946. Harry was born in April, 1898, and lived until 1956 when he died of a heart attack. His parents, an English sailor, William Johnstone, and Lucy, a Tlingit whose people were of Hoonah, were living in Douglas when Harry was born. Mr. Johnstone died when Harry was still a young fellow and his mother married a Mr. Douglas, another English sailor. Harry had a sister Elsie Johnstone (see picture of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Greenwald). The Douglas family moved to Spaski near the Greenwald homestead. Harry was in Hoonah off and on as a young man. Sometimes he fished with his uncle, James Grant. After the Robert Greenwald, Sr. family moved to Hoonah, Harry generally lived with his sister Elsie. Harry's step-father Mr. Douglas never moved to Hoonah, he fades out of the picture before then.

Harry Douglas served Hoonah as Mayor from 1946-1954, however, he had previously served on the self-governing council bringing his number of years of service to the community to 12 total. During his years in office he was instrumental in getting grants and associates for the sewer and water systems, he also helped to get the road opened to the cannery. The public dock was also put in during this time.

Harry was also known for being against Hoonah's "potlatching" and was instrumental in getting a city ordinance against the practice.