Circa 1912

Braving the elements

A covered arcade (awning at left) was built in 1911, giving Pike Place Market farmers and shoppers a new option for selling and buying produce. Tables inside the arcade were called “dry stalls,” and those outside were called “wet stalls” — a commentary on Seattle's damp climate. Interestingly, this scene is similar to what it back in vogue today at the market. During peak harvest seasons, a growing number of farmers are selling at tables set up outside the main arcade, along Pike Place. (The vendor and his sign, at the right end of the photo, were touched up before the photo's early publication — a common newspaper practice back then to boost the reproduction quality of photographs.)

— Photographed by Asahel Curtis; photo from Seattle Times archives

Second in series of six photo pages

For historical photo galleries and to purchase Seattle Times images of the Pike Place Market: seattletimes.com/pikeplacemarket