Planning and Preservation Conference Headed To Chelan

Mark your calendars and save the date—historic preservationists are joining forces with the planning community to hold a statewide conference in 2008! The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, in partnership with the Planning Association of Washington, will co-host the conference in Chelan from April 29th through May 1st. “The connection between preservation and planning is a natural one,” notes Washington Trust Executive Director Jennifer Meisner. “We are thrilled to be working with the Planning Association of Washington to strengthen this connection throughout our state and look forward to the dialogue this inter-disciplinary conference will generate.

Themed “The Power of Place,” the conference’s educational tracks will focus on the tools used by planners and preservationists alike to encourage and sustain practices leading to the development of unique places across Washington. In addition to educational sessions, several field sessions will enable conference participants to become familiar with the cultural resources of Chelan and the surrounding area, including the National Register-listed Ruby Theater and the 1897 St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, a log-constructed structure designed by Kirtland Cutter.

Educational sessions will begin bright and early the morning of Wednesday, April 30th, with a field session to the historic town of Holden slated for Tuesday evening. Given the opportunities to experience the wonderful Lake Chelan area, participants are encouraged to arrive on the 29th. A block of rooms at a discounted rate has been reserved at Campbell’s Resort, which will serve as headquarters for the conference. Only a limited number of rooms are available, so don’t hesitate to make your reservations and begin planning to attend this event! For more information about the conference, please call the Washington Trust at 206-624-9449. We look forward to seeing you in Chelan!

The 2007 award winners are being honored for the following:

**First United Methodist Church, Seattle**

King County Councilmember Dow Constantine (District 8)

For nearly a decade, First United Methodist Church symbolized the challenges associated with balancing historic preservation concerns and the needs of a changing congregation. After a series of appeals, court decisions, redevelopment proposals, and many hours of meetings and negotiations, the historic 1908 sanctuary thankfully will be retained as part of a larger redevelopment effort. Understanding the importance of preserving Seattle’s last historic church in the downtown core, Councilmember Constantine worked effectively with

Continued on page 4

Above right: A 1941 movie theater in North Bend.
New Projects At The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

By Allyson Brooks, Director and State Historic Preservation Officer, DAHP

LAST WINTER, THE LEGISLATURE GAVE THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION (DAHP) NUMEROUS PROJECTS TO GET UNDERWAY. This year, two primary projects take center stage: Establishing the Heritage Barn program, and conducting an inventory and needs assessment of historic theaters.

DAHP just completed the first round of heritage barn nominations. Incredibly, more than 200 nominations were received! The first 159 were approved by the Governor’s Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on November 2nd, making them official Washington State Heritage Barns and eligible for Heritage Barn grant funding. The Governor’s Advisory Council and the heritage barn owners were joined by the First Gentleman Mike Gregoire, in celebrating our first set of Heritage Barn owners. This winter, the Heritage Barn steering committee will convene to determine the first round of Heritage Barn grant awards. DAHP greatly appreciates all the assistance it has received from the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, which has both organized and administered this brand new program. We are hoping that it will become a model for other programs and other agricultural properties both within Washington and across the United States.

As a companion piece to the barn nominations, DAHP is also undertaking an inventory and a needs assessment of the state’s historic barns. The consultant, hired by DAHP, will examine the state by agricultural region and determine the property types of historic barns that are associated with a specific kind of ranching or farming. The consultant will also identify and categorize these barns’ needs; for example, if the majority of the structures need new roofs and/or foundation work and what that would cost. DAHP will give the results of this study to the state legislature, which will determine future heritage barn funding.

DAHP’s other exciting project is conducting an inventory and needs assessment of historic theaters across the state. The agency hired Artifacts Inc. to determine how many historic theaters currently exist and to get a sample of their capital needs. This is a precedent-setting project that will give greater visibility to our state’s historic theaters. DAHP and our consultant are looking forward to working on this project. If you know of any historic theaters in your local community please contact Greg Griffith (360-586-3073).

Those large projects aside, there’s even more in store. The agency was also tasked to complete a study on how the state currently handles issues that arise with human remains and cemeteries. DAHP hired a consultant from Bellingham to consult with Tribes and other stakeholders. The consultant will make recommendations to the legislature on maintaining or changing legislation having to do with the protection of human remains and cemeteries.

On the environmental front, this spring, DAHP will be hosting a workshop on LEED standards, green buildings and historic preservation. With all the concern about and attention to global warming, we want to remind communities that preservation is the original form of recycling. Half our landfills are made up of building and construction debris. Historic preservation prevents the sprawl of landfills, and the methane gas associated with them, by keeping older structures intact and alive. So get the word out—historic preservation is recycling and the ultimate green activity. Perhaps preservation should be considered as a carbon offset! Tell us what you think!

Finally, a quick note, our Built Environment Unit moved upstairs into a new set of offices. All the historic building experts are now together in one spot separated from the archaeologists. This will give our Built Environment Unit more synergy when it comes to preserving and protecting our historic structures.

Your Trust in Action

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Where in WA Is Your Trust?

The photograph of Trust Program Associate Cathy Wickwire featured in the Fall 2007 issue generated quite a response! Margaret Hartzell of Okanogan was the first to send in her correct guess of the location pictured, Dry Falls State Park. Additional correct guesses were submitted by Stephen Emerson of Cheney, Dave Lundgren of the Waterville Historic Hotel in Waterville, Roger Johnson, guesser extraordinaire of Tacoma, Adam Hasson of Seattle, Holly Chamberlain of Vancouver, and from Ellensburg, Brandi Eyerly and Karl and Nancy Lillquist. The Lillquists gave a particularly detailed response in their email: “Your photo on page 3 of the fall 2007 Trust News is of Dry Falls at Sun Lakes State Park, a place we visit nearly every spring. The falls were created by the great Missoula floods when ice dams failed and unleashed the waters of Lake Missoula, scouring the landscape of eastern Washington and creating a falls here that were larger than Niagara.” Unfortunately, Cathy mistakenly thought that she was standing at Palouse Falls and told everyone that their guesses were incorrect. Oops! In her defense, she visited both sites in the fall of 2006 as part of the field research for Revisiting Washington: A Guide to the Evergreen State. Fortunately, Stephen Emerson happened to see a 1948 photo published by the Spokesman-Review of President Harry Truman and his daughter, Margaret, standing in what appeared to be the exact same spot with the very same landscape in the background. The newspaper identified the scene as “Dry Falls State Park near Coulee City” and reported that Truman had remarked, “the lake below the falls was a good place to put the Republicans.” Stephen emailed this information to Cathy, wondering if he had been right after all but too nice to tell her that she was totally clueless. Cathy took a closer look at the photo and realized her colossal error. She should have known better since her father had grown up in nearby Ephrata. She emailed the good news to all those who had been told that their guesses had been incorrect and sent them copies of Revisiting Washington.

Because the state park encompasses more than just the spectacular falls, it is now known as Sun Lakes-Dry Falls State Park, a 4,027-acre camping park with 73,640 feet of freshwater shoreline at the foot of Dry Falls. Dry Falls is one of the great geological wonders of North America, a former waterfall that is now a stark cliff 400 feet high and 3.5 miles wide. In its heyday, the waterfall was ten times the size of Niagara Falls. Today it overlooks a desert oasis filled with lakes and abundant wildlife. For more information, visit the Washington State Parks website: www.parks.wa.gov/parkpage.asp?selectedpark=Sun%20Lakes.

For your next challenge, we have a photograph of Trust Field Director Chris Moore posed at one of our state’s scenic and historic locations. Email us at info@wa-trust.org with the location pictured in the photo. The first five readers with correct answers will receive a token of our esteem. If you have your own photo of the location, send that to us too. Good luck!

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Recommends New State and National Listings

While heritage barns may have been the main event at the November 2nd meeting of the Washington State Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) held in Ellensburg, nominations to the other historic register programs did not go overlooked. In addition to reviewing nominations to the newly established Heritage Barn Register, the ACHP evaluated nominations submitted for the Washington Heritage Register and the National Register for Historic Places. Properties satisfying the various criteria are immediately listed in the state register, with the council putting forth a recommendation that qualifying resources also be listed in the National Register for Historic Places.

Properties listed in the Washington Heritage Register include:

- Osgood-Anderson House, Tacoma
- Dalby Waterwheel, Union

Properties listed in the Washington Heritage Register and recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places include:

- Lord-Heuston House, Tacoma
- Manley-Thompson Ford Agency, Tacoma
- The Auditorium Dance Hall, Tacoma
- A.L. Palmer Building, Seattle
- Edward & Isabelle Underwood Farm, Underwood
- Update to the Fort Lawton National Register Historic District, Seattle

Congratulations to the stewards of all properties achieving historic designation!

For more information on nominating a property to the Washington Heritage Register or the National Register of Historic Places, visit the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation’s web site: www.oahp.wa.gov/pages/HistoricSites/Register.htm

Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund

The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is currently accepting applications for grants through its Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund.

Grants are designed to assist advocates and preservationists locally across the state as they engage in the important work of preserving our cultural resources. The deadline for our 2008 funding round is February 15th. To get details about the grant program, including instructions on the application process, visit our website: www.wa-trust.org/preservesfund.htm.
stakeholders on both sides of the issue. “The demolition of downtown Seattle’s last historic sanctuary seemed inevitable, but was simply unthinkable. There was no excuse to give up while the building still stood,” said Constantine. “The key, it seemed to me, was to stand in the shoes of those entrusted with the survival of this historic congregation, and to ensure the perpetuation of its mission to serve the city’s forgotten poor.” His leadership helped enable church officials to sit down with Nitze-Stagen, a preservation-minded company under the leadership of Kevin Daniels, to hammer out the difficult details of a complicated deal. Constantine demonstrated a strong commitment to the sanctuary as a historic building while at the same time possessing a vision for its future use as a vital part of Seattle’s downtown.

KING COUNTY BARN AGAIN PROGRAM

King County Councilmember, Kathy Lambert (District 3)

In 2006, the Washington Trust included Washington’s historic barns on its Most Endangered Historic Properties List. That year, in an effort to establish a programmatic example within the state for barn preservation, Trust staff met with Councilmember Lambert. Well aware of the many threats historic barns face, Lambert was immediately receptive to the idea of a barn program for King County and began discussing the blueprints for establishing such a program. Her dedication resulted in an allocation in the 2007 King County Budget to create the Barn Again program. Administered jointly by the King County Historic Preservation Office and 4Culture, the barn program provides technical assistance to barn owners and offers grants for stabilization projects designed to retain these iconic structures for years to come. “It has been wonderful working with the preservation community because they value history and celebrate the many things that make our area special,” said Lambert. “Our work on the Barn Again initiative is leading the way locally, and we have been joined with statewide support. Preservation is a way of recognizing our agricultural heritage with these barns that will help us learn from our past and contribute to our future.” In the program’s inaugural year, more than 30 grant applications were submitted requesting over $500,000 in funding. Lambert is credited with starting the first such barn program in the state and providing a spark for statewide barn preservation efforts.

WASHINGTON STATE HERITAGE BARN PRESERVATION INITIATIVE

Senator Ken Jacobsen (D-Seattle)

As a member of the Senate’s Agriculture and Rural Economic Development Committee, Senator Jacobsen has a keen interest in Washington’s agricultural resources. After learning of King County’s efforts to establish a barn initiative, he believed a statewide program could be implemented with the goal of recognizing historic barns and working toward their preservation. Senator Jacobsen introduced Senate Bill 5542 during the 2007 legislative session, which quickly garnered the co-sponsorship of several colleagues on the Agriculture and Rural Economic Development Committee. Senator Jacobsen’s legislation laid the groundwork for the newly established Heritage Barn Preservation Initiative.

Representative Daniel Newhouse (R-Sunnyside)

Soon after the introduction of Senate Bill 5542, Rep. Newhouse became the primary sponsor of a companion bill in the House of Representatives. First heard by the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, of which Newhouse is a member, House Bill 2115 worked in concert with its counterpart in the Senate. The efforts of Newhouse and supporters of the bill in the legislature succeeded, as Governor Gregoire officially signed into law Substitute House Bill 2115, establishing the Heritage Barn Preservation Initiative within the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. The legislation creates the Washington Heritage Barn Register, provides funds to assist with the stabilization and rehabilitation of historic barns, and convenes the Barn Advisory Committee tasked with evaluating issues affecting historic agricultural resources.

The Landmark Deeds Award for Public Service is an annual program of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation presented to individuals who, through their work and dedication, make lasting contributions to our invaluable historic resources. Previous award winners include six state legislators from across Washington, along with U.S. Representative Norm Dicks, each recognized for their strong records on behalf of historic preservation.

 Updates In Store For Washington Administrative Code

The new year brings the next phase for the Community, Trade and Economic Development’s (CTED) Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Update project, begun in 2007 and slated for completion in June 2009. During the two-year period, CTED will review and update the code, which is comprised of administrative rules that help local governments clarify, interpret and implement the 14 provisions of the Growth Management Act (for more information about the act, visit www.gmhb.wa.gov/gma/).

One of the possible updates would aid municipalities in their historic preservation efforts by giving them guidance on how to approach the preservation portion of the GMA that states: “Identify and encourage the preservation of lands, sites and structures that have historical or archaeological significance.” The current WAC doesn’t aid jurisdictions in addressing that goal.

The project will review other areas as well, including WAC 365-190, Minimum Guidelines to Classify Forest, Mineral and Agricultural Resource Lands and Critical Areas; and WAC 365-195-010-865, Procedural Criteria for Adoption of Comprehensive Plans and Development Regulations.

The results of the first phase of the project, an open-to-the-public survey on the scope of work for these changes, will result in a report due in the spring. In it, CTED will propose its intended amendments, along with a preliminary schedule for drafting the rules.

The Growth Management Act has been amended many times since its adoption by the Legislature in 1990, and this process is an opportunity for CTED to keep the code in touch with the evolution of growth management needs. Your ideas are important in this change process and will inform future decisions; anyone interested can participate in a number of ways—join the project list serve, send written suggestions via email or snail mail, or simply keep abreast of the latest information—all by visiting www.cted.wa.gov/wacupdate.
Tacoma Community and Congregations Strategize Over the Historic Church Futures

By Sharon Winters, Historic Tacoma

Tacoma is home to a number of architecturally and culturally significant church buildings, each one a powerful presence and anchor in its neighborhood. Many of Tacoma’s urban ministries share challenges that have been experienced across the country: declining membership, decreased revenues, and development pressures. Significant structures have been lost, including Tacoma’s First United Methodist Church—which was listed on the Trust’s 2006 Most Endangered List—while others have teetered on the brink of disappearance.

In February, Historic Tacoma initiated discussions to help Tacoma congregations identify the information and resources needed to address capital facilities planning and ongoing building maintenance, placed in the context of the church’s mission in the community. The group has met monthly to craft an ecumenical approach to the preservation and rehabilitation of these buildings with the goal of crafting a proactive and sustainable program to preserve and rehabilitate Tacoma’s historic churches.

Several essential strategies have emerged in these ongoing conversations, which have included ten congregations and several neighborhood representatives:

● Congregation members value their historic churches as assets rather than liabilities, and acknowledge their value to the church’s mission and to the larger community.

● The larger community supports the preservation of historic churches, acknowledging their contribution to Tacoma’s built environment and urban congregations’ contribution to the public good.

● Individual and collaborative efforts increase church revenues to sustain building maintenance and finance capital projects.

● Stewards of historic churches are equipped to maintain their facilities, preserve them for future generations, and sustain financing.

Pastor Dennis Andersen, Board Member of Partners for Sacred Spaces, and Sharon Winters, Board President of Historic Tacoma, facilitated the early meetings. A fall lecture/discussion series, open to the public, included sessions on Tacoma’s Historic Churches, Historic Building Stewardship, and the Religious Iconography of Tacoma’s Churches. The series increased awareness of and bolstered community support for the effort. Historic Tacoma invites interested congregations and members of the public to join the ongoing discussion. For more information or to be added to the group’s mailing list, contact Sharon Winters at swinters@nventure.com or call 253-761-9349.
Site Survey for Northern State Hospital Reveals a Historic and Cultural Gem

By Spencer J. Howard, Partner, Artifacts Consulting, Inc.

Northern State Hospital near Sedro-Woolley, known today as the North Cascades Gateway Center, represents one of Washington’s most unique cultural landscapes as well as one of its largest and earliest institutional planning efforts. Constructed in 1909 in the fertile Skagit Valley as a farm extension for Western State Hospital, it grew into one of the state’s three premier institutions for the care of the mentally ill. Today the State Department of General Administration is assessing whether the property could be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, with the ultimate goal of finding compatible uses for the site, which includes more than 60 buildings over 1,086 acres of land.

Nationally renowned landscape architectural firm Olmsted Associates laid out the master plan for the grounds, facilities and extensive farming operation that would comprise Northern State, which shattered the grim, barred-window stereotype of mental institutions of the era. A guiding value in treating those suffering from mental illness was to provide able patients the opportunity for physical activity and meaningful tasks to fulfill a sense of accomplishment and participation—a very forward thinking concept that was part of a nationwide trend. This occupational therapy included simple chores in the wards such as dusting and making beds, as well as complex ones such as milking cows in the dairy herd and harvesting and preparing vegetables and fruits for canning. The therapy had secondary benefits: The hospital was almost completely self-sufficient, providing food for patients and staff, and patients learned skills they could use to assist their families or relatives and earn a living when released.

The hospital grounds, once encompassing 1,086 acres of fertile bottom land and uplands with dense fir and cedar stands and meadows for grazing livestock, served as the center for a sustained pattern of institution and farming operations for more than 60 years. The Olmsteds laid out a complex of ward, administrative, staff residence, farm, and maintenance buildings set in a picturesque landscape of mature trees and terraced reflecting pools. Locally prominent architectural firms and architects Saunders and Lawton; Heath, Gove and Bell; James Taylor Jr.; and Naramore, Bain, Brady, Johanson and Grainger all contributed to the complex of Spanish Colonial Revival-style and vernacular farm buildings.

To the east of the core hospital buildings stood the sprawling farming operation, which included cultivated lands and gardens, pastures, an award-winning dairy, piggery, poultry facilities, sheep and goat camps, and storage and food processing facilities. By the 1930s the hospital boasted one of the region’s largest and most diverse truck gardens that raised a variety of produce, from strawberries to spinach. Governor Louis Hart personally assisted in the dairy operation’s transition from Ashyr cattle to Holsteins in 1918, which boosted the dairy’s milk production nearly 60 percent. In an edition of Northern State Hospital News (a newsletter published by the hospital’s patients), then herd manager Peter “Scotty” Fyfe recalled arriving at the dairy barns to milk the cows one morning and finding Hart sitting near the barn waiting for him. The governor, on a visit to the hospital’s superintendent, had been unable to sleep, so he came down to watch the milking. After talking with Fyfe, the governor, along with a Chillicum senator and the hospital superintendent, Dr. Doughty, went down to the Pete Lee Farm at Mount Vernon and bought the hospital’s first purebred Holstein cows.

Today the Northern State Hospital site is split into two areas under separate management. The closed campus of the hospital grounds, managed by the Washington State Department of General Administration, serves as facilities for important community services including youth Job Corps activities as well as drug and alcohol treatment. The farming areas, now managed by Skagit County, are open to the public with several miles of walking trails that allow visitors to marvel at the impressive remnant dairy and cannery facilities, a Frisbee golf course, and active salmon habitat restoration on some of the creeks. These uses keep the historic structures alive; the site survey, begun in August and continuing through February 2008, is uncovering the true historic and cultural value of the property, which was formed by progressive philosophies of what a mental institution could be.
Year of the Barn

By Chris Moore, Washington Trust Field Director

There has been a lot of buzz about barns ever since Governor Christine Gregoire signed into law Substitute House Bill 2115 last spring. The bill, embraced by state legislators on both sides of the aisle, created the Heritage Barn Preservation Initiative. On November 2nd, 2007, all that talk resulted in action as the Governor’s Advisory Council on Historic Preservation met in Ellensburg to review the inaugural round of nominations to the newly established Heritage Barn Register. When all was said and done, a whopping 159 barns were officially designated as Washington State Heritage Barns.

At the Ellensburg meeting, Michael Houser, architectural historian with the State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, provided a snapshot of Washington’s collection of Heritage Barns, which include dairy barns and horse barns; Dutch barns and Western barns; gable- and gambrel-roofed barns; structures featuring hay hoods, cupolas, and even second-story dancehalls complete with finished oak floors. Perhaps least surprising is the fact that of the 159 designated barns, 77 of them are painted red.

At the opening of the meeting, Dr. Allyson Brooks, director of the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, noted the tremendous response to the Heritage Barn Program, and said, “Heritage Barn owners from across the state have come forward to recognize their family barns as part of Washington State history.” Indeed, 34 of Washington’s 39 counties now have at least one designated Heritage Barn.

First Gentleman Mike Gregoire, along with Barn Advisory Committee Chair Jerri Honeyford, handed out Heritage Barn certificates to the more than 50 barn owners from across the state that attended the meeting. Listing on the Heritage Barn Register is strictly honorary, but in addition to recognition, owners of designated Heritage Barns are eligible to apply for state matching grants to assist with stabilization and rehabilitation projects for their barns.

Davenport’s Crayton Guhlke, representing a five-generation farming family, spoke on behalf of barn owners explaining that like many farm families, his had faced the decision of whether to try to save their historic barn, or let it go. “It’s a lot of work to keep these old buildings standing, and it’s wonderful that this grant program may help save some barns.”

The Heritage Barn Preservation Initiative is a program of the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Heritage Barn Register nomination forms are available from DAHP at www.dahp.wa.gov or 360-586-3065. For additional information on the grant portion of the program, contact Chris Moore, Field Director with the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, at 206-624-9449 or cmoore@wa-trust.org.

Top to Bottom: Shaffner Barn in Ford, Stevens County; Dunford Ranch in Ellensburg, Kittitas County; and Carlson Farm in Issaquah, King County.

Photographer Kathy Hillard sent us this homage to the Anderson-Bourn Cabin, a historic property listed on the Trust’s 2004 Most Endangered List. A lack of funding for repair and maintenance threatened this rapidly deteriorating reminder of Whatcom County’s past. Kathy took the photos in October 2006 while on a drive up the Mt. Baker Highway with her husband. A year later they took the same drive, only to discover that the cabin had been destroyed by fire. The Trust received word in early 2007 of the complete loss of the building, and Kathy’s beautiful photographs keep the memory alive.
What’s Next For the First United Methodist Church?

By Michael Godfried, president of Save Our Sanctuary

_Downtown Seattle’s First United Methodist Church has potential as a prime public venue for civic events, arts performances and more._

**Last year was banner for an iconic, 100-year-old sanctuary that many people knew more by sight than by name—downtown Seattle’s First United Methodist Church.** Two decades of struggle by preservation advocates to save the embattled building, whose red terra-cotta dome sits distinctively amid a thicket of skyscrapers, resulted in a deal that preserves the historic community landmark.

The battle was the impetus for some lasting community partnerships between citizens, government officials and historic preservation groups such as the Washington Trust. One group, Save Our Sanctuary (SOS), was formed specifically to advocate for FUMC. The coalition of community activists built on the long work of other preservationists, inspired by Victor Steinbrueck’s tactics to save the Pike Place Market in the 1970s.

SOS helped avert the deal with Martin Selig that would have demolished the sanctuary, organized rallies and worked closely with the media, which began to publicize the building’s plight, to re-energize public debate. King County Councilmember Dow Constantine spoke at an SOS rally and brought in key elected leaders to talk with church leadership. As the tide began to turn, Nitze-Stagen’s Kevin Daniels worked diligently to earn the church leadership’s trust and engineer a deal that would both preserve the historic sanctuary and provide the congregation with a new property. The agreement includes a $1 million tax credit from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and $500,000 each from the City of Seattle and King County.

So, what’s next for both the FUMC and the group created to help save it? Thankfully, we can now celebrate the 100th anniversary of this beautiful sanctuary with historic restoration, cleaning and seismic upgrading. The newer 1950s addition to the sanctuary will be demolished to make way for a glass commercial skyscraper.

As for the sanctuary’s next incarnation, there are many options. Located in the very heart of the city between the financial and government centers, it is at the nexus of central rail, bus, ferry and highway arteries. It features a magnificent three-story space filled with light from surrounding windows and the dome above. The building could serve as a public ceremonial space for festivities, political debates, funerals and dedications. Its magnificent pipe organ and multi-leveled seating also make it a wonderful choice as a public performance hall for local and school theater and music groups.

Deciding the FUMC’s future function is a once in a lifetime civic opportunity, but the window is closing fast. With vision and dedication, citizens, political leaders, preservationists and Nitze-Stagen will rise to the occasion. For more information and updates on the FUMC, contact Michael Godfried, (206) 938-0472, or visit the website at www.saveoursanctuary.org.

2008 Most Endangered Historic Properties List

_The Washington Trust maintains an annual list of historic properties throughout Washington facing a variety of threats. Each year, we work to highlight these threats and focus our advocacy on raising awareness about these resources with the goal of achieving a positive, preservation-related outcome. If you know of an at-risk historic building in your area, the Washington Trust invites you to submit a nomination to our 2008 Most Endangered List. Nominations must be received by March 26th. For more information and nomination forms, visit our website: www.wa-trust.org/mostendangered/index.htm._

**Soundbite**

“It makes no sense for us to recycle newsprint and bottles and aluminum cans while we’re throwing away entire buildings, or even entire neighborhoods. This pattern of development is fiscally irresponsible, environmentally disastrous, and ultimately unsustainable. To replace it, we need federal policy that directs growth to existing communities. While land-use planning has traditionally been a function of state and local government, it’s an indisputable fact that where the federal government chooses to spend its money—our money—has a huge impact on local planning and development. We need federal policy that stops rewarding unsustainable development. We need policy that maximizes wise use of existing resources by enhancing the viability and livability of the communities we already have.” —President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation Richard Moe on “Sustainable Stewardship: Historic Preservation’s Essential Role In Fighting Climate Change”
Local Community Gains Resources Through Strategic Partnering

By Deb Heintz, Executive Director, Prosser Economic Development Association

Left to right: Prosser in 1902; the Visitor Information Center; the Benton County Courthouse. Prosser is the county seat. Courtesy of Prosser EDA

Prosser, a small, eastern Washington rural community nestled at the base of the Horse Heaven Hills is receiving state and national recognition for its wineries, as is the surrounding wine region. Economic development growth has increased 500% since 2005, and growing right along with this notoriety has been the community’s desire to revitalize the town’s downtown core.

In the early 1980s, Prosser sought application to the affiliate level of the Washington Main Street program—the first step in the program’s three-tiered approach. Not fully buying into that strategy, the town veered off in its own direction; attempting, and struggling, to encourage revitalization without the proven tools of Main Street. Needless to say, some renovations were accomplished—but only through the sheer determination of a few community members.

Today, the Historic Downtown Prosser Association (HDP A) is proud to be partnering with the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation and Washington State Main Street Program. With the town’s recent designation into the second tier of the program, dedicated volunteers are actively creating work plans in the areas of design, organization, promotion and economic restructuring. A major local partner, the City of Prosser, allocated funds to the HDPA Board for design guideline development. Last year, a small grant was awarded through the Trust’s Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund to develop an educational brochure. A Prosser delegate also received a scholarship to participate in the Washington Trust’s annual Lobby Day trip to Washington D.C. And most recently, Juli Wilkerson, director of the Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development, appointed a representative of HDPA to hold a seat at the table of the state’s Main Street Advisory Committee.

Because of the partnerships we’ve fostered, coupled with a vibrant surge of economic development in Prosser, there has been a flurry of interest in and renovations to downtown. Local building owners are using the design committee’s suggested palette of colors and renovating both the inside and outside of their buildings. The opening of two new restaurants has produced lively evening foot traffic, not previously customary to the downtown core. HDPA volunteers, property and business owners were invited to a downtown tour focusing on historic preservation, compliments of a local property owner who contracted with Seattle-based BOLA Architects. BOLA also donated time to this effort and talks of future preservation seminars are in the works. Preservation education will continue to be a key component in the revitalization success of Prosser.

Without these strategic partnerships, revitalization efforts would be tedious and difficult. Thank you to the professional staff of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington State Main Street Program, CTED, and BOLA Architects in supporting communities such as Prosser in reaching their revitalization goals.

Advisory Committee Appointed for State Main Street Program

Eight local downtown revitalization leaders have been appointed to serve on a state advisory committee to help guide the Washington State Main Street Program (WSMSP) as it plans for the future. The committee met for the first time early last October.

“We are fortunate to have such a great mix of experienced individuals serving on the committee, all with important perspectives towards revitalizing and strengthening the core of our communities,” said Bill Stewart, Committee Chair and Senior Managing Director for International Trade and Economic Development with the State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. (CTED).

CTED Director Juli Wilkerson selected the following members from across the state:

- Terry Galvin, City of Blaine
- Paul Whelan, Historic Downtown Coupeville Association
- Timothy Bishop, Ellensburg Downtown Association
- Deb Heintz, Historic Downtown Prosser Association
- John Trueman, Tacoma’s Old Town Neighborhood Business District
- Jon Campbell, Downtown Walla Walla Foundation
- Allison Williams, City of Wenatchee
- Jennifer Meissner, Washington Trust for Historic Preservation

Committee members will also help the WSMSP form new collaborative partnerships with other organizations and serve as advocates for the program.

The Washington State Main Street Program’s mission is to help communities throughout the state strengthen the economy, appearance, and image of their traditional downtown or neighborhood business district through training, technical assistance and organization of local resources. WSMSP is administered by the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) which is the lead state agency charged with enhancing and promoting sustainable communities and economic vitality in Washington state.

For more information about the Washington State Main Street Program, please visit www.downtown.wa.gov.
Hoquiam Makes Regional History With New Preservation Ordinance

By John Larson, Director and Curator of the Polson Museum and Chairman of Hoquiam Historic Preservation Commission

This past May, the city of Hoquiam broke new ground by becoming the first city in either Grays Harbor or Pacific counties to adopt a Historic Preservation Ordinance. Modeled after successfully implemented regulations used by dozens of cities statewide, Hoquiam’s new law offers important aesthetic protections as well as financial incentives for property owners of historically significant buildings in our town.

Since passage of the ordinance, Mayor Jack Durney put the call out for potential commissioners and appointed Christi Boora, John Larson, Jim Larsson, Greg McHugh, Tom Rieger, Jim Silverthorn, and Barb Smith in July. Silverthorn, a retired architect, and Rieger, with Street, Lundgren, and Foster Architects, serve as the two professional members on the commission, while Alissa Thurman, Hoquiam’s Planner, is the city’s designated staff person assigned to assist the commission. Members met throughout August and September last year to discuss bylaws, application criteria, and historic property inventory work before convening in October for their first official meeting.

The commission’s primary mission is to establish and maintain the Hoquiam Register of Historic Places. Individual property owners can participate on the historic register voluntarily, in an effort to provide long-term assurance that listed structures will not be altered in an historically detrimental fashion. The building permit process will monitor proposed alterations to listed properties. The commission will issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for proposed changes before an owner receives a building permit.

In addition to maintaining a historic register, Hoquiam’s Historic Preservation Commission will actively keep a record of historic properties within the city. Back in 1988, the city completed an inventory that covered nearly 400 residential and commercial properties throughout town. The commission now has a full-time worker, hired through Hoquiam’s AmeriCorps program, assigned to the task of updating and expanding this inventory. Brandi Callaghan has been busy since September transferring written records to a new computer database and will soon begin taking current photographs of buildings throughout town that will be included in the inventory.

Since adopting our new ordinance, Hoquiam has also applied to the National Park Service to become a “Certified Local Government.” This is a unique statewide program of financial and technical assistance established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Implemented and administered by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation in Olympia, it is designed to help local governments to actively participate in preserving Washington’s irreplaceable historic and cultural resources as assets for the future. Hoquiam’s Certification is scheduled to be official by the end of 2007.

For more information about Hoquiam’s Historic Register, please contact Alissa Thurman at 360-532-5700 (ext. 211) or John Larson at 360-533-5862.

100 Years of the Moore

Seattle’s oldest operating theater, The Moore, recently hit the big 1-0-0, capping off a year in which a few other historic Washington icons celebrated their centennials as well, including the Pike Place Market. The ever-bustling entertainment venue that sits on 2nd and Stewart celebrated its official birthday on December 28, 2007 with a centennial event earlier in the month. A variety of music and vaudeville-inspired acts performed throughout the venue for the celebration, with the stage open to visitors.

The Moore’s history reflects many of the major trends and economic ups and downs of the city in the last century. The theater’s stage has been graced by such famous figures as Harry Houdini, Ella Fitzgerald, Nirvana and Pearl Jam and the building’s image has been reinvented several times over those years: At various points it served as The Orpheum (1917-1926), a vaudeville venue; the Seattle Revival Center (1949-1954), staging daily religious services and a movie theater.

The theater was named after its developer, James A. Moore, who commissioned premier Northwest architect E.W. Houghton to design it. It opened in 1907 to a sold-out showing of The Alaska, a comic-opera with a Klondike theme.

The developer originally conceived of the theater as a partner with his Moore Hotel, but changed his mind, putting the two in separate, adjacent buildings. Houghton designed an innovative and opulent structure; it was one of the first theaters in the country whose balcony was supported by steel girders rather than support posts; while inclines, rather than stairwells, linked the ground floor to the balcony. The interior was clad in materials such as onyx, carved wood, brass and mosaic tile.

Though the grand old theater is the only one in Seattle where ropes are still used to move scenery by hand, it has also seen many changes, from the removal of private boxes, to the disuse of the underground natatorium that once served hotel guests. Recently, the 228-seat second balcony, which was used to segregate African American theatergoers, and later turned into a projection booth for the movie theater period, has been reopened.

In 1974, the Moore was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was upgraded later, when Seattle Theater Group took over, still operating it today, along with the Paramount Theatre. The centrally located theater continues its rich programming tradition into the next 100 years with events from lectures to dance. For more information about The Moore Theatre’s events and history, visit www.themoore.com.
Only through membership dues and contributions is the Washington Trust able to accomplish our mission to help make local historic preservation work and build an ethic that preserves Washington’s historic places through advocacy, education, collaboration and stewardship. The Board of Directors and staff sincerely thank our following partners in preservation who have contributed to the Washington Trust during the past quarter.

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**Grants**

- Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia

This publication has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior administered by the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP). However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior or DAHP nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior or DAHP. This program received Federal funds from the National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S. Department of Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental Federally Assisted Programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of Federal assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.
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