New National Register District—Wenatchee Downtown

By Kris Bassett, City of Wenatchee Historic Preservation Officer

Since that time, 26 individual commercial downtown properties have been listed on the Wenatchee Register of Historic Places. With the opportunity for CLG grant funding to fully support a re-survey of the downtown properties, the option to form a district was again introduced to the property owners. The next step in the process was writing the National Register nomination and identifying a potential district. The survey/inventory and nomination process was conducted with the assistance of Eugenia Woo, Artifacts Consulting, who over 2 years, compiled all the necessary documentation for the nomination.

In the late summer of 2008, crews finished the renovation of the last two remaining full-brick streets in the city, downtown on Orondo Avenue and Palouse Street, preserving further history. Thanks to the Department of Transportation Enhancement Fund and the City of Wenatchee, both roads were restored and previous patches of concrete removed. New crosswalks were poured at the Mission Street intersection of both roads, and historic brick, stored from past road projects, was used to renovate the street. It was noted that the brick roadways have held up well in the almost 95 years since they were installed—asphalt roads would have needed five or six replacements in that equivalent amount of time.

The full 82-page historic district nomination application, with maps and photographs, may be accessed from the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center’s web site at wvmcc.org.

In This Issue

- Lake Union Past and Present
- Historic Moclips Caboose is Restored
- Fourth Annual Landmark Deeds Awards
- 2008 Most Endangered Properties Updates
- Main Street Spotlight: Port Angeles

Scenes from downtown Wenatchee then and now—87 properties are included in this newly designated National Register District.

Above left: Image of a painting by artist Tom Henry of the J4 Ranch barn from the 1970s. See Heritage Barn Profile, page 8. Photo Jeanne Youngquist
From the Director’s Desk

WASHINGTON STATE IS RENOWNED THROUGHOUT THE NATIONAL PRESERVATION COMMUNITY FOR BRINGING BACK THE SAVIEST, MOST DIVERSE, MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE, AND LARGEST GROUP IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO PARTICIPATE IN LOBBY DAY. I’m excited to let you know that out of all states, our team was selected by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to be featured on their website, preservationnation.org. Team “Way Off The Beltways” enjoyed its 15 minutes of fame with blog entries and profiles of every team member. During the course of Lobby Day on March 10, 2009, the National Trust’s web team documented our experiences on The Hill as we met with members of our Congressional Delegation and then posted the footage for the world to see!

My first blog entry is reprinted below for your enjoyment and edification. If you would like to learn more about our Lobby Day activities, visit the website, preservationnation.org/take-action/advocacy-center/lobby-day/lobby-day.html

A number of inimitable members of Team Way Outside the Beltways can no longer recall when they participated in their first National Preservation Lobby Day, but all admit to becoming instantly hooked on the energy, camaraderie, break-neck pace, feeling of accomplishment and plain old fun that characterizes this annual event. It’s the one day each year when preservation enthusiasts from across the nation storm the halls of Congress to not only speak to our elected officials but to seek critical funding and support for national and local preservation programs and incentives.

Well, I remember the day I was officially introduced to this hallowed event as if it were yesterday. It was a dark and rainy December evening in Seattle (go figure) back in 2005 (okay, so it wasn’t all that long ago), a full month before I was slated to officially start my new job with the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation. On that fateful evening, one of Washington’s most celebrated preservationists asked me to meet over a drink. I thought to myself, “how nice,” but no sooner had I removed my soaking raincoat and placed my drink order that a dog-eared folder labeled “Lobby Day” was thrust upon me. And with that, the baton was ceremoniously passed to me. Fast forward to March 2009. I’m delighted to report that the preservationist who crowned me the unofficial Lobby Day czarina (which is the glorified title for meeting scheduler, team recruiter, travel agent and general organizer, whose name would be worse than mud if she didn’t acknowledge the help of her awesome staff) continues to be the anchor of our team.

And with each passing year, we build and strengthen Team Way Outside the Beltway by recruiting fresh, new talent to round out our cadre of stellar, seasoned veterans. Indeed, the Washington Trust raises travel scholarship funds to make it possible for the largest contingency of sharp, articulate and persuasive historic preservation enthusiasts to participate in Lobby Day. I especially want to thank Gull Industries for funding our Lobby Day scholarships this year and for supporting our advocacy efforts in D.C. every year since 2003.

For those of you interested in a slightly more detailed description of what Lobby Day is all about, I’ll start by explaining that it’s a bit of a misnomer; the annual Lobby day event organized by Preservation Action, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers and the National Trust for Historic Preservation actually spans two days, and what an absolute whirlwind dervish of a two day period it is.

On day one, we place ourselves in the capable hands of the experts – the real inside the beltway types— to become steeped in the issues that top our national preservation agenda. We get together as a team to strategize for our day of meetings on the Hill. We meet and mingle with wide-eyed first timers and reconnect with colleagues and friends from across the country. On day two, we race through the halls of Congress to make meetings with all nine members of our Congressional delegation, our two Senators and our governor’s D.C. chief of staff. We articulate to each member or their staff how critically important it is to fund preservation programs (especially our state historic preservation office), improve preservation tax incentives and support local projects. Finally, we end the day by sharing stories from the trenches and raising a celebratory toast to our good work at the historic Willard Hotel, the legendary birthplace of lobbying. And yes, I’ll admit that it’s the martinis at the Willard that keep many of our team members coming back year after year.

But in all seriousness, it’s no secret that the already limited resources available for preservation are tighter than ever, making our collective efforts to foster strong relationships with our elected officials and continued on page 4
Hello, Goodbye: Washington Trust Board News

The Washington Trust recently elected four new members to our Board of Directors: Pat Lantz of Gig Harbor, Gee Heckscher of Port Townsend, Michelle Moline of Centralia, and David Strauss of Seattle. Their stories are included below.

At the close of 2008, the Trust also said goodbye to four longtime Board Members: Joe Finnie of Port Townsend, who most recently served as our Board President; Katie Franks of Bellingham; Sondra Purcell of Tacoma, who served as our Treasurer; and Janet Rogerson of Shelton, who served as our Secretary. Our special thanks and utmost appreciation goes to each one of them for six years of service during a period of great transition for our organization. Their many contributions have truly helped position us to strengthen and expand our programs toward ever more effective delivery of our statewide mission to preserve the places that matter to all Washingtonians. Although they no longer serve on the Board, we have not let them get too far as they continue to serve on various Trust committees.

Pat Lantz

Pat Lantz recently retired after six terms in office as state representative to the 26th Legislative District with plans to spend more time with her family, particularly her five wonderful grandchildren. Born in Auburn, Washington, Pat received a B.A. in International Relations from Stanford University and a J.D. from the University of Puget Sound School of Law. She was an attorney in private practice with a focus on land use and immigration law before being elected to public office in 1997. During her tenure in office, Pat was the longest-serving Chair of the House Judiciary Committee in Washington state history and served on the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee among other assignments. Her legislative priorities demonstrated a commitment to education, economic prosperity, environmental quality and protection, transportation issues for the West Sound, and equal justice.

From 2003–2008, Pat co-chaired the Heritage Caucus, a bi-partisan gathering of state legislators and other elected officials; staff from state heritage, arts, and cultural agencies, and nonprofit organizations; and citizens interested in supporting Washington’s culture, heritage, and the arts. Organized in 1990, the Heritage Caucus meets every Wednesday of the legislative session from 7–8 a.m. in Olympia to review pending legislation and discuss heritage, arts, and other cultural and recreational issues. In 2005, Pat received the Washington Trust’s second annual Landmark Deeds Award for Public Service for her work on the Heritage Caucus and for sponsoring legislation that set preservation standards for the rehabilitation of the historic buildings on the State Capitol Campus. She was also recognized for sponsoring legislation, which created a separate Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation reporting directly to the Governor as an independent agency.

Although retired from the legislature, Pat continues her involvement with heritage issues at the state level. In addition to joining the Board of the Washington Trust, she is on the Board of Trustees for the Washington State Heritage Center Trust. The Washington State Heritage Center will be a state-of-the-art facility offering interactive displays and historical collections highlighting the state’s heritage. The role of the Heritage Center Trust Board of Trustees is stewardship of gifts received for the Heritage Center, including the State Library, State Archives, Legacy Project and the Washington Talking Book and Braille Library.

Gee Heckscher

Gee Heckscher After graduating from Architectural School at the University of Pennsylvania and spending three years in the Marine Corps as a combat engineer officer, Gee Heckscher interned in Boston for three years. During that time he and his brother purchased an abandoned 1790 farmhouse on an island off the coast of Maine sparking Gee’s love for old buildings, which continues to this day. After Boston, Gee moved to Portland, Maine, got married, became licensed and started a family of three children. This period included the purchase of an 1817 brick Federal-style house in Portland, which was accepted for the National Register, as well as an 1865 farmhouse.

With his background and experience in architecture, Gee wanted to know more about the actual construction end of the building cycle, which led to a mid-life change and relocation to San Francisco, and the family bought and renovated a 1909 Craftsman-style house in San Rafael. He moved from Assistant Project Manager to Construction Manager of a mid-size, high-end construction company, where his responsibilities included all aspects of project management and development of negotiated seismic upgrade and renovation contracts as well as for new construction. Later, at preservation-oriented Architectural Resources Group in SF, he managed projects as well as provided cost estimating, constructability review and oversight of many projects.

Construction projects, most of which included seismic upgrading and rehabilitation, include the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco, the Hoover House at Stanford University; and the Thoreau Center at the Presidio of San Francisco. Architectural projects include Old St. Mary’s Cathedral, Calvary Presbyterian Church, Pier 43, and the Shrine of St. Francis of Assisi, all in San Francisco; Pasadena City Hall; Yavapai Observation Center at Grand Canyon; Ahwahnee Hotel at Yosemite; and the West Point Inn on Mt. Tamalpais in Mill Valley.

In 2006, Gee took over management of the Portland Union Station project and the Jefferson County Courthouse Clocktower project. Trips to Port Townsend convinced him that this was where he belonged (his wife Janet agreed) and the pair moved in the summer of 2007. He continues to consult for ARG and other projects. He was appointed to the city’s Historic Preservation Committee in 2007 and joined the Boards of the Jefferson County Historical Society and the Washington Trust in January 2009.

Michelle Moline

Michelle Moline My passion for historic sites was ignited when I had the opportunity to travel to historic Valley Forge, PA for an executive board meeting as a newly elected International Trustee for the Kiwanis International youth organization, Key Club International in high school. Our trip included extensive tours of the region including a landmark week in Philadelphia. This impacted me significantly, as it was during the time when restoration was taking place on the Liberty Bell and surrounding sites. Since that time, I have had the good fortune to travel extensively as a “heritage traveler,” often focusing trips around heritage sites of interest.

The greater part of my professional life has been spent in residential construction management with an emphasis on green built construction technology and sustainable land development. With the focus of our firm being primarily on green built construction, I found myself getting deeply immersed in the developing world of LEED construction practices as applied to historic rehabilitation. Over time our focus further developed toward historic preservation projects incorporating green built and sustainable construction technology. After all, the “greenest” of all green construction is “green rehabilitation” and placing a building back into service through the preservation process.

In 2007 we launched Stay Historic Hospitality & Hotel Group, an emerging boutique hotel brand comprised of historic properties in Washington and... Continued on page 4
Where in WA Is Your Trust?

We finally stumped our readers with the location featured in the Fall 2008 issue of Trust News. Not even the stellar crew at Eastern Washington University’s Archaeological and Historical Services was able to come up with the correct guess—the Bruce House in Waitsburg. We’re sure that more would have recognized where Michael Houser of the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) was posed if he had been pictured in front of the 1883 Italianate house and not at the rear of the grounds next to a small concrete teepee.

The Waitsburg Historical Society has owned and operated the Bruce House as a museum since acquiring it in 1971 and subsequently restoring it. The house’s original owner, William Perry Bruce, was an early pioneer to the Oregon Territory and moved to the Touchet Valley and Coppie Creek area in 1861. The following year, Bruce purchased one of the original land claims in what is now the town of Waitsburg. In 1863, Bruce donated 10 acres of land to Sylvester M. Wait, an entrepreneur who planned to erect a flour mill on the site. Operations at Wait’s Mill, as it was then known, began in 1865 and continued under this and other names, including the Preston-Shaffer Milling Company, until it closed in 1957. Although the town owes its name and existence to Wait’s Mill, William Perry Bruce played a key role in its development due to his donations of land and money towards many of its early institutions and public improvements.

Board members and staff of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation visited the Bruce House in July 2008 as part of a tour of the area conducted in conjunction with the Trust’s quarterly Board meeting held in nearby Dayton. We also had the opportunity to tour the Waitsburg Mill as it is commonly known today. In 2005, the Trust named the Mill to its Most Endangered Historic Properties List to highlight its deteriorated condition and advocate for its preservation. Even in its current condition, the Mill is a fascinating example of Washington’s early industrial architecture, especially with so much original equipment still present, including an elevator that transported workers (and lucky children) between floors. When you consider the large scale of the building, it’s amazing that such a small community could sustain such a large operation for so many years. It’s the same energy that drives the City of Waitsburg under the auspices of the Waitsburg Community Revitalization Committee (WCRC) to preserve and revitalize the Mill for future generations. While the Waitsburg Mill is not open to the public at this time, the Bruce House can be toured during the summer months on Fridays and Saturdays from 1-4 pm or by appointment (call 509.337.6157 for more information). You can conclude your day of touring as we did with sustenance and libations from Waitsburg’s own Whoopemup Hollow Café and Jimgermanbar located across from each other on Main Street.

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—a copy of our interactive travel guide, Revisiting Washington: A Guide to the Evergreen State. If you have your own photo of the location, send that to us too. Good luck!

Correction In our Fall 2008 issue, we should have credited photographer Chip van Gilder for the images of Historic Tacoma’s new watch list properties in our cover story. Thanks for the great photos, Chip!

DIRECTOR’S DESK—Continued from page 2

to keep the benefits of preservation on their minds all the more critical. Team Way Outside the Beltways takes this work seriously, but we somehow manage to have a blast along the way.

I hope everyone checking out our adventures this year will find our experiences fun and rewarding enough to consider attending Lobby Day. Come see for yourself what it’s all about and don’t be surprised if you find yourself back at the Capitol every March, racing to meetings armed with your fact sheets, one-sheets and unbridled enthusiasm for preservation.

Jennifer Meisner, Executive Director

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BOARD—Continued from page 3

Oregon. Currently undergoing rehabilitation is our flagship property, the Historic Wilson Hotel in Centralia, WA. Our project in Centralia also includes the former El Rancho Tavern building and VelaDale Chocolatier building, both across from the Historic Wilson Hotel on N. Tower Avenue. The Stay Historic Hotel brand is a boutique art hotel brand that will meet the needs of the modern day traveler as well as heritage traveler interested in historic sites, art and local culture.

We take significant interest in using historic preservation/rehabilitation as an economic revitalization tool in historic downtown districts that are currently in blighted or economically depressed conditions. Utilizing the Historic Tax Credit program for redevelopment is fostering a foundation for lasting change in these communities. As private developers, we are committed supporters of the National Main Street Program and supporting the efforts of local preservation commissions/councils to preserve the authenticity of these irreplaceable historic district treasures. Additionally, my husband, Frank Monteleone and I are founding board members to the newly created non-profit, Centralia Visual Art Center & Gallery that will be celebrating its Grand Opening with a brilliantly curated contemporary quilt show, May 16th in the former El Rancho Tavern building.

I am honored to be serving among passionate preservationists as a member of the Board and welcome the opportunity to serve the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation.

David Strauss David Strauss, Ph.D. is a practicing architect, a partner at SHKS Architects, LEED accredited professional and an affiliate assistant professor in the Department of Architecture at the University of Washington. Joining architectural theory and practice remains his primary interest. He has taught both design studios and seminars in architecture theory.

His professional work has included the addition to and renovation of Seattle’s Magnolia Library, renovations of the Lake Wilderness Lodge in Maple Valley, the Bellingham Federal Building, the Whatcom Museum of History and Art, and the UW’s Suzzallo Library. His research has included his dissertation, In Campo Verde: The Project of the Piazza Nuova in Ferrara and essays, Building Maintenance and Scale.

David served as a member of the Pioneer Square Preservation Board from 2002 to 2008. He received both his Ph.D. and B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and his M.Arch from the University of Washington.

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Destination Heritage Travel Guides Showcase King County History

By Holly Taylor, Vashon Island

4Culture is pleased to announce the release of a series of three travel guides called Destination Heritage, highlighting historic places around King County. Available at visitor information centers throughout King County and on the web at destinationheritage.org, the free guidebooklets feature historic landmarks, museums, scenic drives, festivals and special events that are part of the region’s agricultural, industrial and maritime history.

More than 70 featured sites offer family-friendly activities such as getting out on the water in heritage boats, picking berries and other produce at historic farms, and riding on vintage trains. The guides aim to offer visitors a sense of place, connect urban landmarks with rural and suburban historic sites, and encourage people to explore by car, by bike, and on foot.

Heritage travel remains a growing segment of the tourism industry, notes Jim Kelly, director of 4Culture. “The Destination Heritage guides include some well-known tourist attractions such as the Pike Place Market, the Museum of Flight, the Center for Wooden Boats, and the Pioneer Square neighborhood,” Kelly explains. “They also introduce visitors to unique historic sites that are ‘off the beaten path’ such as Vashon-Maury Island’s Point Robinson Lighthouse, Jubilee Farm near Fall City, and Georgetown’s Hat-n-Boots.”

Destination Heritage celebrates what is unique about each community’s history. Julie Koler, King County Historic Preservation Officer, says that residents and visitors with a sense of adventure will enjoy the guides. “Almost everybody visits the Pike Place Market, but you might see it with fresh eyes by learning about the role that Japanese Americans played in the market’s history. And you might feel inspired to head out to the Snoqualmie Valley or the Enumclaw Plateau to see some of the working farms and heritage barns that are still part of today’s rural landscape, less than an hour from downtown Seattle.”

The Destination Industry guide offers some of the most interesting surprises to locals and newcomers alike. “Technological innovation has always been important in the Pacific Northwest, whether you are talking about Boeing planes, Microsoft computers or 19th century logging, mining and railroads,” says Flo Lentz of 4Culture. She adds that the Stimson-Green Mansion, home of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, is featured in this guide as the home of two of Seattle’s prominent industrialists, C.D. Stimson and Joshua Green.

Seattle’s fleet of National Historic Landmark vessels home ported at the Historic Ships Wharf at Lake Union Park are highlighted in Destination Maritime, while Destination Agriculture features several historic barns recently listed in the Washington State Heritage Barn register. Though the three guides concentrate on historic places in King County, they also feature additional places and events of interest in the surrounding region, such as Ebeys Landing National Historical Reserve.

Selected Destination Heritage sites are also featured in 4Culture’s new cell phone audio tour program called Listen 4Culture, which provide an additional dimension of on-site interpretation for some of the historic places included in each guide. Access these audio recordings by calling 206.296.4848.

Support for the heritage guides was provided by grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Preserve America program of the National Park Service, along with local support from 4Culture and the King County Landmarks Commission.

Historic Seattle 35th Anniversary and First Annual Awards Ceremony

Historic Seattle celebrated its 35th anniversary and presented its first annual awards ceremony on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 in the Northern Lights Dome Room at the Arctic Club Hotel in Seattle.

The Awards Ceremony acknowledged those businesses, organizations and individuals whose projects, advocacy, stewardship and education demonstrate community excellence in preserving and protecting Seattle’s built heritage. “It is important for our community that our built heritage is protected, and in the past 35 years we have accomplished so much. I am proud of our achievements, as well as so thankful to those who have supported us and contributed to that success,” says Kathleen Brooker, Executive Director at Historic Seattle. “Establishing the preservation awards allows us to acknowledge and encourage the good work being done across Seattle.” Awards were given in the following categories:

Best Adaptive Reuse Projects:
- Urban League Village and Northwest African American Museum (former Colman School)
- Wing Luke Asian Museum
- Arctic Club Hotel

Stewardship of Public Buildings:
- The Seattle Public Library—Magnolia Branch Library Renovation and Expansion

Preserving Neighborhood Character:
- Top Pot Doughnuts: Downtown, Wedgwood, Queen Anne, Capitol Hill

Community Partnership for Historic Preservation:
- Preservation of Seventh Church of Christ, Scientist (now Seattle Church of Christ), Queen Anne

Preservation Education and Publications:

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Lake Union Past and Present
By Holly Taylor, Vashon Island

If the Pike Place Market is the soul of Seattle, then Lake Union could be called the city’s heart. A gritty, industrial, working lake for most of the last 150 years, Lake Union’s recent, fragmented transformation into a place of recreation and leisure makes it a microcosm of Seattle as a whole.

A recently completed series of oral history interviews document many facets of the lake’s economic and social history. Interviews touched on topics such as the history and preservation of industrial properties around the lake, stories from the houseboat community and Puget Sound Salish oral tradition, and descriptions of boat building and bridge tending, from people who have lived and worked on the lake.

Heritage consultant Holly Taylor, principal of Past Forward Northwest Cultural Services, worked with audio producer Jennie Cecil Moore and her colleagues at Jack Straw Productions, a nonprofit organization in Seattle’s University District. The project team recorded interviews with a wide range of narrators, including Center for Wooden Boats founder Dick Wagner, preservation architects Patricia Fels and Susan Boyle, boat builders Howard Hansen and John Modrell, bridge tenders David and Ken Leask, house boat residents Jann and Sid McFarland, and Lushootseed (Puget Sound Salish) scholars Zalmai Zahir and Jay Miller.

An illustrated short presentation called Lake Union Past & Present, featuring excerpts from each interview, is posted on the Jack Straw Productions web site at jackstraw.org/programs/special/lakeunion/. The project web page also features longer clips from each interview, and brief biographies of each narrator. Historic photographs included in the presentation are drawn from the outstanding collections at the Museum of History and Industry, the University of Washington Libraries Special Collections, the Seattle Municipal Archives and many other sources.

The project grew out of a K-12 education program developed for the Steamer Virginia V, a 1922 passenger steamer and National Historic Landmark vessel homeported at Lake Union Park, which introduced students to Lake Union’s landmark sites on an excursion aboard the historic vessel. Research for that project identified more than a dozen historic properties around the shoreline of Lake Union that are designated City of Seattle Landmarks, or are listed in the National Register of Historic Places or the Washington Heritage Register. These diverse resources include the Wagner Houseboat and the Tenas Chuck Moorage Historic District; the Fremont, Aurora, University and Montlake Bridges; the Lake Union Steam Plant (now ZymoGenetics); the Seattle Gas Company (now Gasworks Park); and several historic vessels including National Historic Landmarks Arthur Foss, Duwamish and Swiftsure.

While landmark nominations document the design and engineering histories of these properties, they rarely capture the stories of people who lived and worked around these resources, building and operating them, and working to preserve them. Stories from interview narrators illustrate how these places were created and maintained, from a day to day perspective, and why preserving them as part of Seattle’s urban fabric is important.

Narrators described spiling planks in boat yards redolent with the scent of freshly milled lumber, neighbors helping each other to replace missing stringers which provide the primary “foundation” for house boats, and the seasonal patterns and knowledge of topography reflected in Native American place names. Taken together, the interviews add a variety of individual voices to the existing record of Lake Union’s public history.

Funding for the Lake Union Oral History Project was provided by grants from 4Culture (King County Lodging Tax) and the Hugh and Jane Ferguson Foundation. The project is one of several recent efforts to document the lake’s history and share it with the community. The Center for Wooden Boats is recording oral history interviews with shipwrights who worked around the lake, and CWB has produced a lovely printed map of historic sites and public access points on the lakeshore. The Seattle Parks Department is developing a walking and biking trail around the lake that follows a portion of the old railroad tracks, and the trail is named in honor of Duwamish tribal leader John Cheshiahud who lived nearby on Portage Bay in the late 19th century. The Museum of History and Industry is preparing to move to the historic Naval Reserve building at Lake Union Park. And several maritime heritage organizations collaborate to offer programs, exhibits and tours at the park, which are promoted on a new web site atlakeunionpark.com. With all of this activity, hopefully Lake Union’s history as a working lake will remain an integral and visible part of Seattle’s future.

Soundbite
“Our buildings are our history. We need to preserve our past, but we also need to prepare for the future. By adapting the latest technology, we can renovate our historic buildings without toasting the planet. We welcome the Preservation Green Lab and look forward to a future of preservation.” —Mayor Greg Nickels at the March launch of the Preservation Green Lab in Seattle, created by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.
MOHAI to Premier The Arts and Crafts Movement in the Pacific Northwest

On May 30, a major new exhibition opens at Seattle’s Museum of History & Industry (206.324.1126; seattlehistor.org) that brings to light the exceptional work from the Arts and Crafts Movement in Washington and Oregon during the first quarter of the 20th century. The exhibition showcases significant buildings and interiors, furniture, glass, metalwork, ceramics, textiles, fine arts, graphics and book arts, and photography with more than 175 objects drawn from public and private collections and more than 130 reproduced graphics.

The Arts & Crafts Movement in the Pacific Northwest is based on the critically acclaimed publication by the same title (Timber Press, Portland, 2007), which explores the ideals of the Arts and Crafts movement within a theme of regional identity, which found fertile ground in Washington and Oregon. The authors of the book, Lawrence Kreisman, Hon. AIA Seattle, Program Director of Historic Seattle and Glenn Mason, co-owner of Cultural Images, a museum and historical society consulting firm, also curate the exhibit.

After its run is completed on January 18, 2010, the exhibit will travel throughout Washington and Oregon for three years, making stops at the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture in Spokane, the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma, and the Whatcom Museum in Bellingham.

Partial funding for the exhibition comes from 4Culture, Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs and ArtsFund.

Heritage and Cultural Tourism Symposium, May 28-29

Heritage professionals and preservation enthusiasts are invited to a two-day symposium in the historic City of Snohomish to learn successful tips and strategies for financing historic remodels of both residential and commercial projects. Panel discussions featuring some of the region’s foremost experts on preservation will delve into topics that include financing challenges and opportunities, cultural tourism and resource planning, and how recent legislation and budget impacts from the state level will affect capital project development. Noted regional commentator Knute Berger, a.k.a. Mossback, a regular contributor to Crosscut.com and other local media outlets, will serve as the symposium moderator.

The Heritage and Cultural Tourism Symposium will be held May 28-29. The registration fee for both days is $75 per person or $30 to attend the Friday session only. A full conference agenda and registration form is available at: snohomishhistoricalsociety.org/symposium.

"Jurisdictions thrive on economic diversification and heritage projects are bankable," says Debbie Emge, City of Snohomish Economic Development Manager.

"Resources invested in renovating historic buildings move those properties from the liability column to the asset column, paying dividends in civic pride, tourism and enhanced tax revenues."

Panel participants include:

- Allyson Brooks, Director, Department of Archaeology & History Preservation
- Mark Blatter, Director, Real Estate Development, Historic Seattle
- Eric Schinfeld, Senior Economic Policy Analyst, Puget Sound Regional Council
- Jack Peters, Community Planning & Development Regional Office Director, HUD
- Wendy Becker, Economic and Cultural Development Officer, Snohomish County

Participants will hear from those monitoring community preservation standards, as well as community tourism professionals who will coach participants on creative marketing strategies for today’s troubled economic climate. For more information, call 360.282.3197 or e-mail emge@ci.snohomish.wa.us.
Local and State Legislators Recipients of 4th Annual Landmark Deeds Awards

At our Annual Members Open House in December of 2008, the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation recognized four public figures for their demonstrated leadership on heritage and preservation issues by honoring them with a Landmark Deeds Award for Public Service. Because of their commitment to preserving and retaining Washington’s heritage and their understanding of the critical role our historic resources play in providing livable, sustainable communities statewide, the Washington Trust was pleased to present the 2008 awards to Senator Craig Pridemore (D-49th), Representative Dennis Flannigan (D-27th), and King County Councilmembers Bob Ferguson (District 1) and Larry Phillips (District 4) in recognition of their outstanding contribution to protecting Washington’s invaluable cultural resources.

The 2008 award winners are being honored for the following:

**HOUSE BILL 1386: Senator Craig Pridemore — 49th District**  Throughout the course of his public service, both in the state legislature and as a Clark County Commissioner, Senator Pridemore has been a staunch supporter of issues related to heritage and the sites and structures that embody Washington’s rich historic and cultural layers. This held true a few years ago with the passage of House Bill 1386. Passed in 2005, the bill increased the surcharge on document-recording fees collected at the county level for the preservation of historical documents from two dollars to five dollars. Seeing an opportunity to further the work of local museums and heritage organizations, Senator Pridemore penned an amendment to the bill requiring that one dollar of the surcharge deposited in the county general funds be earmarked to promote historic preservation or historical programs. As written, the enabling legislation gives county commissioners authority over how the funds are distributed. As a result, numerous projects statewide are being implemented using these funds, including survey work, preservation planning, bricks and mortar rehabilitation, and collection acquisitions. Thanks to Senator Pridemore, HB 1386 provides a long-term source of funding for important preservation projects across Washington.

**TACOMA’S MURRAY MORGAN BRIDGE: Representative Dennis Flannigan — 27th District**  For 95 years, the Murray Morgan Bridge has commanded a prominent position in Tacoma’s skyline and played a vital role in the city’s economic and social development. Today, however, the National Register-listed structure is closed to vehicular traffic and faces an uncertain future. That the bridge even has a future at all is in large part due to the efforts of Representative Dennis Flannigan. Several years ago, state funds were allocated to demolish the bridge. As Vice Chair of the House Transportation Committee, Rep. Flannigan effectively negotiated terms permitting state funds to be used for bridge rehabilitation. In addition, during the 2008 legislative session Rep. Flannigan introduced a bill that would enable the City of Tacoma to create a transportation improvement district with sales tax revenue going toward maintenance and operation of the bridge. The campaign to save the Murray Morgan Bridge continues today (it was included in the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation’s 2008 Most Endangered Historic Properties List). With tremendous support from local elected officials and civic groups, Representative Flannigan has been instrumental in keeping preservation on the table as an option for the Murray Morgan Bridge.

**KING COUNTY PRESERVATION ORDINANCES: King County Councilmembers Bob Ferguson (District 1) and Larry Phillips (District 4)**  King County residents enjoy many benefits thanks to having Council members with a strong preservation ethic. With incentives for owners of landmark properties including the current use taxation program, dedicated grant programs, low interest loans, and the recently established Barn Again and Historic Cemetery Preservation programs, King County deserves credit for supporting the types of preservation policies and practices that enrich the quality of life for all of us. King County Councilmembers Bob Ferguson and Larry Phillips recently built on this ethic. Through their co-sponsorship of several county ordinances passed in October of 2008, historic preservation will play a stronger role in decision-making and advance efforts to preserve and protect historic and cultural resources throughout King County. Legislation co-sponsored by Councilmember Ferguson and Councilmember Phillips includes historic preservation action plans for improving stewardship of county-owned historic resources and streamlining the permitting process for privately owned historic and archaeological properties. In addition, major maintenance reserve funds may now be utilized for historic preservation projects. Finally, updated cost estimates and a financing plan associated with the restoration of the landmark King County Courthouse have been approved. With the support of Councilmembers Ferguson and Phillips, historic preservation as a practice will continue to play a prominent role in shaping King County as a culturally rich place to live and visit.

Congratulations and Thank You to our 2008 Landmark Deeds Award winners!

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Heritage Barn Rehabilitation Profile: J4 Ranch, LLC—Skagit County

With the passage of HB 2115 in May of 2007, the Washington State Heritage Barn Preservation Initiative was established as a program of the Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation. The legislation created the Heritage Barn Register, which is an opportunity for proud barn owners across the state to gain recognition for their historic agricultural structures. Since November of 2007, 336 historic barns from 38 counties statewide have received official designation as Heritage Barns.

In addition to the Heritage Barn Register, HB 2115 created a capital grant program to assist barn owners with critical stabilization and rehabilitation needs for their historic agricultural resources. The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is privileged to work with DAHP and the Heritage Barn Advisory Committee in administering the grant program and was thrilled to see 18 rehabilitation projects to help preserve Heritage Barns and receive funding in 2008. As many of these projects are nearing completion, we thought it only fitting to provide highlights of the work accomplished in the pages of our newsletter. We hope you enjoy learning about these barns as much as we have!

**J4 Ranch with new roof. Photo WA Trust**  Situated in the scenic and agriculturally rich Skagit Valley, the J4 Ranch, with its board-and-batten siding, distinctive cupola and red paint, is a familiar landmark to locals and a pleasing reminder of our rural heritage for visitors. Built in 1906 by the Youngquist family with timbers brought in from an area stand of fir trees via horse-drawn log sled, the barn housed dairy and beef cattle well into the 1950s. The surrounding land has provided berries, peas, corn, seed crops and grazing support for five generations of the Youngquist Family.

Today, the barn serves as the center for operations of the J4 Ranch, LLC, an organic berry farm with distribution ranging from local grocery stores to New York City restaurants. With assistance from the Heritage Barn Grant Program, the barn received a much needed roof replacement along with a section of poured concrete floor that will enable the 80,000 pounds of blueberries, 30,000 pounds of blackberries, and 6,000 pounds of raspberries anticipated in production this season to be processed and packed prior to shipping.
Most Endangered Properties of 2008 Update

Bettiger House Edmonds Considered eligible for listing in the city’s register of historic places, the building’s future remained uncertain when new owners acquired the site for commercial building construction. Efforts to relocate the historic Bettiger House proved unsuccessful when a suitable site could not be identified. Enter the economic downturn. Now plans for the new commercial building have been shelved and the Bettiger House is once again for sale. At present, the structure is home to the Rose House Center for Creative and Humanitarian Endeavors. The non-profit organization holds a monthly lease and eventually hopes to raise the funds necessary to purchase the property. Their vision includes retaining the historic resource as a venue for speakers, artists, history programs, and as a general meeting place for the community.

Kapus Farmstead Ridgefield After efforts to locate a party interested in relocating the Kapus Farmstead Buildings failed, the owner of the property, Southwest Washington Health Systems, moved forward with plans to demolish the buildings. But before they could do so, they needed a Waiver of Certificate of Appropriateness from the Clark County Historic Preservation Commission given the farmstead’s designation as a county landmark. At its January 13, 2009 meeting, the members of the commission voted 4-1 to deny the requested waiver, effectively blocking demolition for the time being. While the commission acknowledged the owners have been diligent in attempting to relocate the building, they indicated that demolition at this point was not urgent as there are no immediate plans for the site and hoped that efforts to preserve the structures would continue. Southwest Washington Health Systems has the right to appeal the commission’s decision.

Murray Morgan Bridge Tacoma Closed to vehicular traffic since October 2007, the Murray Morgan Bridge faces an estimated $80 million in rehabilitation costs. While certainly a daunting figure in today’s economy, the City of Tacoma has been working with the state to devise a plan for rehabilitation. A significant portion of the funds have already been committed for the work, but a funding gap remains. With an estimated $492 million in federal stimulus money slated for transportation projects in Washington, it is hoped that a portion of these funds will assist with rehabilitating the National Register-listed bridge.

Washington Hall Seattle At their January 7, 2009 meeting, members of Seattle’s Landmarks Preservation Board voted unanimously to designate Washington Hall as a City of Seattle Landmark. The nomination, submitted by 4 Culture, an organization committed to arts and heritage in King County, aroused the passions and interests of a broad range a Seattle residents who attended the hearing in support of designation. From jazz historians to dance instructors, neighborhood residents and former members of the Danish Brotherhood who called Washington Hall home until 1973, the testimony of those present firmly cemented the significance of this venerable establishment in the hearts and minds of all in attendance. Designation as a Seattle Landmark will require that any proposed alterations or changes to the building’s historic, character-defining features first receive a Certificate of Approval from the Landmarks Preservation Board. Washington Hall is still for sale, but proponents for the building’s rehabilitation continue remain optimistic that a transaction can be reached with a preservation-minded buyer.

AWARDS CEREMONY—Continued from page 5

The keynote speaker was Knute Berger, a local treasure known for his insightful, witty, and thought provoking commentaries at Seattle Weekly, Seattle magazine, Crosscut and KUOW radio. He is also the author of an outstanding compilation of his observations, Pugetopolis: A Mossback Takes on Growth Addicts, Weather Wimps, and the Myth of Seattle Nice (Sasquatch Books, 2008).

2008 Watch List Properties

Collins Building Everett On Tuesday, March 3rd, the Port of Everett Commissioners approved an ambitious and comprehensive interpretive program for the 12th Street Marina Redevelopment project along Everett’s waterfront, home of the Collins Building. Implementation of an interpretive program is a requirement of the Memorandum of Agreement in place for the redevelopment project. Approval for the $400,000 plan resulted from negotiations between the Port of Everett staff and the consulting parties to the MOA, including the Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, Historic Everett, and the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation. The agreement involves hiring a consultant to develop a master plan for the interpretive program with installations located across a number of publicly accessible sites along the waterfront. Full build-out of the sites is expected to be complete within five years.

William O. McKay Ford Seattle With the widening of the Mercer Street corridor planned to commence in the spring, Vulcan Development, owner of the McKay Ford and Pacific Ford buildings, have devised a plan to save the historic features of these iconic dealerships. Located at the intersection of Mercer and Westlake, the adjacent buildings need to be moved nearly 70 feet north to make way for the proposed widened, two-way Mercer Street. The plan involves deconstructing the buildings, salvaging the historic terra cotta façade of each along with features from the interior showroom, and reconstructing the buildings on a new foundation as part of a larger commercial development on the block. As both structures are City of Seattle Landmarks, the proposal will need a Certificate of Approval from the Landmarks Preservation Board before proceeding.
Port Angeles: Artistic Vision
By Laura Johnson, Washington Main Street Program

Visitors to the Olympic Peninsula ought to squeeze another day or two in their vacation schedules to take advantage of all downtown Port Angeles has to offer. The city is the gateway to outdoor adventure, Washington history, community, entertainment, and a bustling downtown that balances retail and fine art.

Due to the unpredictable fishing and timber industries, this Main Street community has a history of enduring economic ups and downs. To help weather these cycles today, the Port Angeles Downtown Association (PADA) has embraced a vision to “support the community with high quality arts and sciences, cultural activities, shops and recreation.”

In its efforts to attract tourists and boost the local economy, PADA has focused significantly on art, which has taken center stage downtown. “This area has always been a magnet for artists,” says PADA executive director Barbara Frederick. “We had to look at other ways to diversify our economy, and art is going to help.”

Perhaps the most visible sign of artistic influence in downtown Port Angeles is the rotating outdoor gallery exhibit, Art on the Town. Now in its ninth season, Art on the Town has transformed Port Angeles with artistic works and sculptures displayed in easily accessible, open-air venues including the waterfront, downtown sidewalks, and pocket parks. Thirty-eight artworks valued in excess of $300,000 have been purchased or commissioned through Art on the Town exposure, and the success of this outdoor gallery inspired a self-guided walking tour encouraging both residents and visitors alike to leave their cars and experience downtown Port Angeles on foot.

In 2008 the PADA coordinated an addition to Art on the Town called Avenue of the People. PADA Design Committee member and internationally known artist Bob Stokes created 16 abstract steel sculptures representing local Port Angeles people and put them on permanent display throughout the district.

The PADA also led an effort to install artistic benches to enhance downtown’s visual appeal and walkability; community residents submitted artwork under the theme, “What the Northwest Means to Me” to personalize the benches, and welders from a local machine shop and community college worked alongside the PADA to incorporate the designs and create distinctive street seating for downtown Port Angeles. Thanks to the project’s success, the organization now hopes to install complementary aluminum trash receptacles.

The PADA implements programs designed to support individual revitalization efforts as well. The façade improvement program encourages visual improvements to storefronts, such as upgrading exterior paint and signage, which are compatible with downtown’s characteristic features and existing historic buildings. The organization will reimburse $300 to downtown business or property owners investing at least $600 for an approved façade project.

The PADA acknowledges other local efforts through a Business of the Month promotion, each month selecting a downtown business that has shown a commitment to downtown revitalization through activities such as building rehabilitation, promotional displays, event participation and long-standing PADA membership. The business is then showcased in the local newspaper and PADA newsletter, on the organization’s website, and given a rotating Business of the Month plaque.

The wonderful historic buildings, mix of businesses, terrific location, and art influence have proven a winning combination for downtown Port Angeles. The PADA nurtures these reliable assets and in doing so makes a pledge to secure downtown’s economic vitality for generations to come.

For more information, please visit:
Port Angeles Downtown Association
portangelesdowntown.com
Washington State Main Street Program downtown.wa.gov
National Trust Main Street Center mainstreet.org

Tacoma Historic Schools Preservation Effort Begins
By Sharon Winters, Historic Tacoma

In February, Historic Tacoma announced the start of its effort to document, preserve, and celebrate Tacoma’s historic schools, called Preserving Tacoma’s Historic Schools. The Tacoma School District agreed to provide $10,000 in funding for the first critical phases of the project: an historic resource inventory of Tacoma’s 27 pre-1960 schools and the writing of a thematic nomination of the most significant schools to the Tacoma Register of Historic Places. The inventory work is expected to begin this spring.

In 2006, the Tacoma Landmarks Preservation Commission identified more than a dozen schools that should be considered for listing on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places, due to their architectural or historic significance. Grassroots neighborhood efforts resulted in the listing of two of those schools to the Register that year, Lincoln High School and Washington Elementary. The Tacoma School District supported both nominations.

By funding the early stages of the “Preserving Tacoma’s Historic Schools” project, Tacoma School District is taking a proactive approach: documenting what they’ve got and identifying those schools worthy of future historic rehabilitation, such as McKinley Elementary and Stewart Middle School. By listing additional properties on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places, the school district ensures their preservation for future generations.

“We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with the Tacoma School District on this project. The district recognizes the significance and staying power of its historic schools; the district recognizes the role that each school plays in the life of our neighborhoods and in the City’s history. Tacoma’s architectural heritage is incredibly rich and our schools play no small role,” notes Historic Tacoma Board President and project lead, Sharon Winters.

Historic Tacoma recently announced that they had received a $2,200 grant from the National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the State of Washington. This grant will enable them to publish inventory findings in print and web-based formats and to produce public programming to celebrate Tacoma’s historic schools and raise awareness of their significance. Publication of the inventory is expected late this summer, and a public program will be held in early 2010. In-kind donations from local architects, a photographer, and others will also support the completion of the project.
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 you for being one of our partners in preservation who have contributed to the Washington Trust during the past quarter.

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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.

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ISSUE 1 • 2009
Trust News 11
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