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YOUR TRUST IN ACTION

Exploring partnerships outside the box

Notes from the field

By Chris Moore, Field Director



Partnership has always been a popular theme in the field of historic preservation, and rightfully so. To paraphrase a tried and true adage, “no organization

is an island.” The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is fortunate to benefit from partnerships throughout the state and, in many cases, across the nation. By partnering with the state Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, the Washington Trust has effectively worked to preserve historic courthouses in two-dozen counties statewide, while also being involved in stabilization projects for more than 30 Heritage Barns across Washington. Nationally, we partnered with the National Barn Alliance to host the Heritage Barn Conference this past May in Walla Walla, an event that brought together enthusiasts from all over the Pacific Northwest to “barnstorm” on topics related to the preservation of our treasured agricultural resources.

The Washington Trust regularly works with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, especially our compatriots in the Western Region Office. Most recently, we served as additional partners to the National Trust on the highly successful and well-publicized Partners in Preservation program. Through generous support from American Express, Partners in Preservation resulted in the distribution of \$1M in grant funds to 25 preservation projects throughout the Puget Sound region.

As introduced in our previous newsletter, the Washington Trust’s board has recently established a new committee—the Local Partnerships Committee—to strengthen our ties to local preservation groups in the state. And finally, our advocacy efforts, by definition, require local partners.

Without the tireless efforts of individuals and ‘Friends’ groups at the grassroots level acting as partners, campaigns to preserve and protect our cultural resources would fall flat. The Washington Trust is tremendously thankful for each and every one of our partnerships.

And now, it’s time to expand our partnerships beyond the pale of preservation. More than ever, creative minds from different fields need to sequester themselves in comfortable but quiet confines and pick one another’s brains. Preservationists do have natural allies—the obvious one being the sustainability movement. We all, at some point, have declared that the greenest building out there is the one already built, and we are right. This message must now be translated in a manner that facilitates the implementation of policy and action items giving historic preservation its rightful spot at the sustainability picnic table.

Natural allies also exist among the many land trusts currently working to preserve and retain open space. Through agreements, easements, and outright acquisition, land trusts have been extremely effective in ensuring that open space is kept for habitat, passive recreation, and even agricultural purposes. Unsurprisingly, many of these wonderful landscapes contain a historic building or two. The challenge is in finding a mechanism that meets the conservation goals of a land trust while preventing the historic resource, be it a farmhouse, barn, or other building, from being forgotten—maintenance and long term stewardship of the built environment is generally not the bailiwick of the land trust.

There are, however, good examples. Take the case of the San Juan County Land Bank. The website describes their mandate as an effort to preserve in perpetuity areas in San Juan County that have, among other elements,

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Cover photo: Cathy Wickwire admires the Charles Kibler Barn at the Washington Trust's 2010 Heritage Barn Conference.

environmental, agricultural, and cultural value. In an inspired collaboration, the SJC Land Bank recently joined ranks with the San Juan Islands Agricultural Guild, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support and enhance sustainable agriculture throughout the county. The goal: establish a permanent farmer's market, community meeting area, and performance venue while creating an adjoining green space in downtown Friday Harbor.

Key to the plan was acquisition of the Friday Harbor Brick & Tile building. Constructed in 1921, the building is described as the only remaining industrial building in downtown Friday Harbor. Like other commercial structures associated with the manufacture and sale of construction materials, the Brick & Tile building was an advertisement for its products: the exterior is composed of a variety of masonry elements, including differing bricks and concrete blocks, all available for purchase once a customer stepped inside. The Brick & Tile building is eligible for listing as a local Friday Harbor Landmark and likely eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The proposal was simple: the Agricultural Guild would purchase the Brick & Tile building, operate the farmer's market on site, and develop the meeting and performance space. The SJC Land Bank would purchase from the Ag Guild an easement on both the adjoining green space and the historic building. The cost of the easement, together with other fund-

ing sources, would give the Ag Guild the equity needed to purchase the historic building. Per the terms of the easement, the Ag Guild would be responsible for the rehabilitation and long-term stewardship of the brick-works building, conducted in accordance with historic rehab guidelines. Truly, a four-point victory: creation of a permanent farmer's market; adaptive use of a historic building; acquisition of accessible open space; and economic revitalization (the project would return a pedestrian presence to a neglected part of downtown). The bonus, of course, is the willingness of the SJC Land Bank to add historic preservation easements to its toolbox. Here's the problem: it isn't going to happen.* Unlike other land trusts which primarily operate as private, nonprofit organizations, the SJC Land Bank was established through a county ordinance passed in 1990 (and subsequently renewed in 1999). As a government created entity, government oversight is required. While a seven-member Land Bank Commission makes decisions on the purchase of deeds and easements, these decisions must, in the end, be approved by the San Juan County Council. Typically, the council has approved the commission's decisions as a matter of protocol, thereby complying with the intent of the legislation establishing the Land Bank to shield the process from political interference. But in this case, the six-member county council failed to reach unanimity. Land Bank decisions require approval by at least four councilmembers. Per the recommendation of the county prosecuting

attorney, one councilmember, a likely 'yes' vote on the proposal, recused herself from voting due to a conflict (she had been formerly involved with the Ag Guild). Two councilmembers voted no, effectively killing the deal.

Although it is highly disappointing that politics were injected into the council's decision, the overall proposal should still serve as a best practices case study. Open space advocates, sustainable agriculture proponents, and preservationists were each brought to the table to craft the proposal in Friday Harbor. By replicating this type of broad based, inclusive partnership, coalitions can be created to successfully engage in preservation campaigns. We should not forget that the goals of historic preservation share real and meaningful similarities to the goals of other interests. I am fortunate, as Field Director, to see this first-hand as I travel across the state. At the Washington Trust, we look forward to building on our existing partnerships and cultivating new ones, for the interest of all. The SJC Land Bank/Ag Guild partnership will serve as a beginning.

* Footnote: Disappointed but not deterred by the San Juan County Council vote, the Agricultural Guild is continuing its effort to acquire the Friday Harbor Brick & Tile Building for the purpose of creating a permanent Farmer's Market. Recently, the Ag Guild announced the receipt of a \$300,000 that will allow them to fulfill this goal. For more information, visit the San Juan Islands Agricultural Guild at: www.sjiagguild.com

Notice something a little different about our newsletter?

The Washington Trust is getting a facelift! In more ways than one, we are changing the way we connect to our state. The first major change you will notice is our updated logo. We kept our icon, but streamlined it to carry us into the next generation of preservation, technology, and new histories. Along with the logo, we have new colors, which you see reflected in the updated newsletter design. We are working to make our newsletter more readable and accessible to our members and friends; thanks goes to Washington Trust member Don Glickstein for his invaluable assistance in this process. All of these updated elements add freshness and vibrancy to our image and mission. In the coming months, we will be introducing a new website to our members, constituents, and supporters. We hope this redesign will generate traffic to our site and help foster more active communication between individuals and organizations that support our efforts and the work of preservation in our state. Look for more information in the mail, and in the mean time, we welcome any feedback on what you've seen so far!

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Where beauty and intention meet—Ebey's Reserve

By Emi Gunn

Ebey's Landing is a living model of how to protect a nationally significant place. It is rich in cultural and natural resources, while embracing human settlement, economic activity, and deliberate land use. Ebey's is a living classroom where new tools in landscape preservation are developed and fine-tuned to address the issues of today and the future. The people and partners of Ebey's Reserve are leading by example, sustaining America's rural heritage while accommodating change.

What is Ebey's Reserve?

Located on Central Whidbey Island in the Puget Sound, Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve is a twenty-four square mile mosaic of working farms, iconic barns, trails, hedgerows framing fields of crops, and over 350 historic structures of national significance. At its heart is the Town of Coupeville, tucked along the shores of Penn Cove. Ebey's Reserve is an intricate patchwork of old and new—a community striving to protect its cultural heritage and quality of life from one generation to the next.

A homegrown reserve

Ebey's Reserve, a unit of the National Park Service, was established in 1978 to preserve a rural community, which provides a continuous historic record from the 18th century settlement in Puget Sound to the present time. Of the 391 National Park Service units, Ebey's Landing is the first national reserve and by design, 85% of the Reserve is privately owned. It is the only unit managed by a local Trust Board representing a partnership between the Town of Coupeville, Island County, Washington State Parks and the National Park Service.

What is happening in Ebey's Reserve?

The Trust Board, along with a variety of partner organizations, seeks to preserve and protect the valuable



Dale Sherman, of Sherman's Pioneer Farm, farms green Hubbard squash and pumpkins on Ebey's Prairie, and gives public tours through his farm on his tractor-pulled wagon each fall. His squash is one of many locally-grown products featured in the "Taste of Ebey's" at the Ebey's Forever Conference. Photo by Amos Morgan.

resources in Ebey's Reserve, and foster appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of this unique place. A sample of the Trust Board's current activities include establishing a Design Review process to protect historic buildings and assure new construction complements existing neighborhoods; an Ebey's Forever fund to provide financial support to owners of historically significant buildings for upkeep; a visitor center to connect with the millions of annual visitors; a volunteer field school to repair old buildings and teach restoration techniques; a guide to the 17 working farms of the reserve to help consumers access local products directly from farmers; and an annual gathering incorporating the numerous and diverse aspects of Ebey's Reserve: the Ebey's Forever Conference.



Wilbur and Karen Bishop of Ebey Road Farm stand in the LeSourd Granary, a designated Washington Heritage, Barn. They will be featured as the middle of three generations of farmers from the same family at the Ebey's Forever Conference. Photo by Amos Morgan.

Ebey's Forever Conference

The Ebey's Forever Conference is intended to provide tangible tools, inspiration and fun to individuals striving to make a difference in their own community.

The third Ebey's Forever Conference features a new slate of behind-the-scenes hands-on workshops, music, and a Taste of Ebey's—hosted by leading voices in agriculture, historic preservation and sustainability. This year's focus is the 'Next Generation,' which includes the people, ideas and directions that meet today's challenges while creating a desired future.

On Friday, November 5, the conference begins with the biggest community potluck of the year at the historic Crockett Barn, from 6 to 8pm. Bring your favorite dish and your friends; music, entertainment and beverages are provided, and the event is free to the public.

On Saturday, November 6, join keynote speaker, Anthea Hartig of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, at the Camp Casey Conference Center to explore how preserving a community's culture and history can lead to developing a desired future. After hearing stories from multiple generations of farmers and workshops, enjoy a lunch of local food from Whidbey Island, field trips throughout Ebey's Reserve, and an old-time pie social.

Examples of field trips include tours of historic barns, young farmers on their land, cooking demonstrations, and a behind-the-scenes look at historic buildings. Also available are kid-friendly tours that explore historic forts and an old-growth forest.

Feel free to contact Emi Gunn, Education & Outreach Coordinator, at 360.678.6084 or emi_gunn@partner.nps.gov



PLACES IN THIS ISSUE

For additional information on the Ebey's Forever Conference or to register, please visit: www.ebeysforever.com

More information about Ebey's Landing is also available at: www.nps.gov/ebla



The Ferry House built in 1860 by the family of the original settler, Isaac Ebey. The house recently received a Partners in Preservation grant, and will be stabilized next year through the reconstruction of the original upper porch. Photo by Mitch Richards.



View from Ebey's Bluff of Ebey's Prairie, Admiralty Head and Puget Sound. Visible on the left is the Ferry House.
Photo by Mitch Richards.

Have you hugged a barn today?

Barnstorming in Walla Walla at the regional Heritage Barn Conference

By Chris Moore, Field Director

Since 2007, the Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation has administered the Heritage Barn Preservation Initiative, resulting, to date, in the designation of 422 Heritage Barns statewide. The Washington Trust for Historic Preser-

vation is privileged to administer the grant portion of this program and, through the work of the Heritage Barn Advisory Committee, 31 grants totaling nearly \$750,000 have been awarded to stabilize and rehabilitate our state's cherished barns.

With the tremendous success of the Heritage Barn Preservation Initiative, the time was ripe to devote a conference to the topic of historic barns, the challenges they face, and the stories of rope swings in hay lofts, barn dances, and the endless supply of anecdotes barn owners so proudly share.

After much planning, barn advocates convened in Walla Walla for the Washington Trust's 2010 Heritage Barn Conference. Our goal was to gather a wide range of barn enthusiasts and create an open dialogue between barn owners, preservationists, historians, planners, community leaders and others. The historic Marcus Whitman Hotel served as a wonderful venue, with over 100 attendees from Washington, Oregon, and Idaho (we even had a Kentuckian!) converging to talk barns.

The evening prior to the conference, excitement mounted as early arrivals gathered at Walla Walla's Kirkman House Museum and discussed the upcoming events. Much thanks and appreciation to the Kirkman House staff and board for providing the venue, and to Jerri Honeyford, Washington Trust Board Member and chair of the state's Heritage Barn Advisory Committee, for providing refreshments for the evening.

The first day of the conference focused on educational sessions and panel presentations ranging from heritage tourism and rural development to barn architecture, barns as wildlife habitat, and case studies of barn rehabilitation. Session speakers came from all over the Pacific Northwest with a wide range of specialties. The collective knowledge these professionals brought to our conference was invaluable, and the connections fostered through our event have created a network of barn aficionados to draw on for years to come. We capped off the day with a reception and silent auction, allowing participants to share what they had learned with one another. Walla Walla artist Todd Telander



Arlene and Preston Winn (left), owners of the Winn Homestead Barn in Weston, Oregon with Karin and Roy Clinesmith (right).

provided the auction's signature item, an original oil painting created just for the conference. The auction proceeds were directed to the Trust's Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Grant program.

After the initial day inside, conference attendees were let out of the stable and invited to participate in field trips to local barns. The first tour featured four historic barns constructed by the Kibler family. As pioneers in the Walla Walla Valley, the Kiblers have left an incredible architectural legacy in terms of the agricultural buildings they erected, which include hog sheds, chicken coops, grist mills, carriage houses and, in one case, a brick smokehouse. The smokehouse is similar to those found in and around Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, the original home of Jacob Kibler, the family patriarch who moved west, landing in Walla Walla in 1858. The barns associated with the family remain in use today—one as a winery, providing a wonderful example of adaptive reuse!

The second tour, billed as the Anatomy of a Barn, included visits to barns exhibiting a variety of construction styles. The first stop was the meticulously restored Aldrich Barn, a timber frame barn dating from 1864. With the associated farmhouse undergoing rehabilitation, tour participants received the added bonus of exploring a preservation project in the works. The next stop included a pair of octagonal barns known as the Frazier Barns, the smaller of which held a blacksmith shop on the ground floor, housing a cistern above. The unique construction methods create distinct preservation challenges, and tour participants queried each other regarding potential rehabilitation strategies. A visit to the associated Frazier Farmstead Barn in Milton-Freewater, Oregon ensued, and tour participants were fortunate have access to the barn, the house museum, and a pioneer log cabin on site, all of which are open to the public. Standing amidst a bucolic agricultural setting, the Winn Homestead Barn in Weston, Oregon served as the last stop on the tour. While no longer utilized as a

continued on next page



The interior of one of the fabulous Kibler barns.

A Kibler legacy

By Geraldine Kibler Cramer

It was an honor for my sisters and me to show off our barn, as I am sure it was for the other owners of "Kibler Barns." We are lucky to have had a great-grandfather who made the trip West with the dream of farming in Washington territory. He and his four sons prospered and were able to build these barns. There cannot be any other family barns such as our five anywhere in Washington State!

Our barn has always been a working barn and a center of farming activity. Our grandfather had the barn built in 1918 to house working horses. Our father used the barn for beef cattle, a few milking cows and swine. My sisters housed their 4-H steers there, and my nephew uses the barn today for his Shorthorn beef during winter months. The barn has always stored its share of hay. Loose hay in the early days and bales today.

We enjoyed visiting the other family barns as we had not been in them since we were children, and it is wonderful to see that they are all being well preserved or improved.

The conference was an eye opener for me, as I was not aware of the attention being placed on barn preservation. We have always done our best to care for our barn (it was recently painted and broken windows were replaced), and we will surely do so in the future, now that we know there is so much importance being placed on barns.



The three Kibler sisters and their mother, from left to right: Pauline Winters, Margaret Kibler, Geraldine Cramer, and Sandra Shaub.

FRONT PAGE NEWS

continued from previous page

dairy barn, the gothic arched structure has been lovingly maintained and plays host to weddings, birthdays and other gatherings.

By all measures, the conference was a resounding success. We were especially thrilled to have the support of the National Barn Alliance as a conference partner. As the only nationwide nonprofit organization dedicated to barn preservation, the NBA advocates for pro-barn, pro-agricultural legislation at the national level. In addition to the many speakers, participants, and barn owners who welcomed conference attendees into their barns, the event would not have been possible without the generous support of our conference sponsors. Special thanks to our major sponsors: the Washington State Depart-

ment of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, Banner Bank, and Artifacts Consulting, Inc. Grant funding from both the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in The State of Washington enabled us to recruit a diverse and knowledgeable array of speakers while also providing scholarships to several students currently enrolled in preservation programs at a variety of academic institutions.

The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation sincerely thanks all participants for a tremendous conference, and we look forward to sustaining the momentum that has been generated for preserving our historic agricultural resources. As we are fond of saying, "Everybody Loves a Barn!"



A granary near the Charles Kibler barn.
Photo courtesy of Boyd Pratt.

Documenting and preserving Washington's agricultural heritage

By Jerri Honeyford

What an amazing ride it has been for me personally, and for our Heritage Barn Advisory Committee! Since May 2007 when the "Barn Bill" was passed almost unanimously by the Washington State Legislature, we have been a very busy group. Our committee also includes the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation who oversees the work, the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation who administers the work, and the Governor's Advisory Council who gives the final stamp of approval. Because of my work steering the bill through the legislature, I was named chair.

The Heritage Barn Advisory Committee was formed in July 2007 from representatives of farm groups, counties, conservation, and heritage organizations. They come from all parts of the State and have at least two things in common: a love of barns and the desire to preserve them and our agricultural heritage.

By early 2008 the policies and process we had developed were working. We named our first heritage barns and were giving out the first round

of preservation grants. Washington Trust Field Director Chris Moore has been kept very busy visiting the farmers and their barns to help with the grant process.

There were so many stories connected with these barns and their owners that had to be told. During this past winter I spent my time doing just that: putting them into a booklet that will be used as the required report to the legislature on the impact and benefits of the program. This booklet will also be given to each of the heritage barn owners—a thank-you for their efforts over the years to maintain their wonderful and historic structures.

In May, the Washington Trust sponsored a Heritage Barn Conference in Walla Walla. What a great time we had sharing ideas and discussing further policy options to help preserve our barns. This conference was attended by a National Barn Alliance Board Member, Rod Scott, from Iowa who also came to our Heritage Barn Advisory Committee meeting and was very complimentary about our

program. One of the highlights of the conference was the tour of the Kibler barns in the Walla Walla area. Members of the Kibler family were present to tell us their memories. Most of the barns are still in agricultural use, but one of them now houses the Abeja winery.

It has been fun, and more exciting things are happening. We are now working on ways to deconstruct barns that have become a liability and use the wood for preserving other barns. Stay tuned! Who knows what we can do next!



The cover of the Heritage Barn Advisory Committee Report.

The Washington Trust would like to take a moment, to thank all the individuals and generous donors who made our Heritage Barn Conference possible!

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IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

The following businesses, organizations and individuals generously provided donations to our silent auction. We encourage you to support the businesses and organizations listed below.

Businesses & Organizations

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Tallman's, Walla Walla
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Trust Cellars, Walla Walla
Va Piano, Walla Walla
Walla Walla Bread Co., Walla Walla
The Walla Walla Little Theatre, Walla Walla
Walla Walla Sweet Onion Marketing Committee, Walla Walla
Walla Walla Valley Farmers Market, Walla Walla

Walla Walla Valley Wine Alliance, Walla Walla
Watermill Winery, Milton-Freewater, OR
Weinhard Cafe, Dayton
Whitman College Bookstore, Walla Walla
Whoopemup Hollow Cafe, Waitsburg
Willow, Walla Walla
Woodward Canyon Winery, Lowden
Yellow Hawk Cellar, Walla Walla

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Representative Tom Trail, Moscow, ID
Susan White, Des Moines
Ginger Wilcox, Seattle

The Washington Trust and the National Barn Alliance would like to thank several individuals for allowing conference attendees to tour their historic barns, chicken coops, hog houses, carriage houses, farmsteads and, yes, outhouses! Visits to historic barns made possible by: Abeja Winery, including Ginger & Ken Harrison and Molly Galt; The Frazier Farmstead Museum and museum director Diane Biggs; The Kibler Family, including Margaret Kibler, Geraldine Kibler Cramer, Pauline Kibler Winters, Sandra Kibler Shaub, Brian Cramer & John Kibler; Jay Nowogroski; Pat McConnell; Douglas & Melinda Saturno; Arlene & Preston Winn; and Kay Wessel along with the extended Frazier Family. Thank you for your stewardship of our agricultural heritage!

The Washington Trust would like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of Mary Campbell in assisting us with every aspect of our conference planning and preparation and Kris Bassett in organizing our silent auction.

BOLA

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2010 MOST ENDANGERED PROPERTIES LIST

Coke Oven Park, Town of Wilkeson

The coke ovens are the only evidence left to tell Pierce County's coal industry story of the boom time in "uptown" Wilkeson. Production began in 1885 when the Tacoma Coal & Coke Co. built the first 25 beehive coke ovens at Wilkeson and peaked in 1916 when it reached a maximum of 125,872 tons with shipments to ports as far as San Francisco and Alaska. After production terminated in 1937 following years of steady declines, mine shafts were sealed, and other buildings were removed. Listed in the local, state and national registers, the remaining coke ovens are threatened with lack of protection from vandalism, neglect and vegetation overgrowth.



Moran School Administration Building, Bainbridge Island

Constructed in 1918 for the Moran School for Boys, the building originally housed an auditorium/theater, classrooms, science labs, a library and dormitories. After the school closed in 1933, the property re-opened five years later as the Puget Sound Naval Academy, a military prep school that operated until 1951. Although the other remaining school building was converted for use as a nursing home, this structure has stood empty save for a brief transformation into a movie set in 2000. Citing the high costs of rehabilitation and the lack of a viable use for the structure, the owner of the historic school has sought a demolition permit from the City of Bainbridge Island to remove the Administration Building.

Murray and Rosa Morgan House, Auburn

Originally constructed as a community dance hall, the house stands as one of the few remaining buildings from the era of small lakeside resorts common to that part of King County in the 1920s and 30s. With peeled log for the beams, old-growth fir floors, pine paneled walls and a big masonry fireplace, the original building represents a style of Northwest vernacular architecture for outdoor recreation. Of greater significance is that Murray Morgan, a preeminent and popular Northwest historian of the 20th century, as well as an influential journalist, drama critic and teacher, lived and worked in the Trout Lake home from 1947 until his death in 2000. Plans are underway to conserve the land on which the house is located, but rehabilitation costs and other issues may hinder efforts to preserve the house.



Trafton Elementary, Arlington

One of the oldest continually operating public schools in the state, the current school building was constructed in 1912 after the original structure succumbed to fire. Located in a unique rural country setting, the building retains its original architecture, accented with its bronze school bell in an open cupola on the roof, and is listed in the state and national registers. Facing district-wide under-enrollment, budget deficits, and needed repairs, the Arlington School District Board will vote on June 14 whether or not to keep Trafton's doors open. The hope is that Trafton will remain open and continue to serve the community as it has for over 120 years.



Reard Freed Farmhouse, Sammamish.

Once part of a now-lost 80 acre farmstead, the 1890s farmhouse is the last remaining building of the former agriculture complex. After 1915, the house is remembered as being a gathering place for the community with dances held in the large room on the 2nd floor. It is ready to be moved but is threatened by lack of funding to pay for the relocation and needed restoration. Demolition of the Reard Freed Farmhouse would result in the loss of one of the very few early historic structures that help tell the story of the Sammamish Plateau.

Skykomish Hotel, Skykomish

After a 1904 fire devastated the town, the four-story Skykomish Hotel was built at a cost of \$10,000 and featured chandeliers, a fireplace, gambling room/bar and restaurant. Although the town's population has decreased significantly from its heyday as a railroad center, a massive environmental remediation effort by the railroads is now giving the historic structures in Skykomish a potential shot in the arm. While most property owners hope this work can serve as a catalyst for revitalization, the Skykomish Hotel has remained vacant and largely neglected for several years, and further inattention will likely lead to insurmountable maintenance needs, leaving demolition as the only option.



Quad 7 Hangar, Boeing Field, King County

Constructed in 1962 for West Coast Airlines, the hangar was designed by John Morse of Bassetti & Morse, a prominent architecture firm in the Pacific Northwest during the mid-twentieth century. The structure also represents the work of Skilling, Helle, Christiansen and Robertson, an engineering firm whose principal, Jack Christiansen, is best known for his work on thin-shell concrete structures and was considered a world leader in their design. Demolition is planned by the current tenant who leases the property from King County and uses it to service and outfit small jets and planes catering primarily to corporate clients. Re-development plans for the site include construction of seven new hangars.

National Historic District, Roslyn

The City of Roslyn is a National, State and Local Historic District consisting of approximately 900 property lots and 600 residential, commercial and community structures. Many structures suffer from deferred maintenance and neglect, in some cases resulting in demolition, and new construction is often incompatible with the historic character of the town. Furthermore, the Historic District is endangered by the continuing loss of forest lands on the town's perimeter. Without consideration to the town's historic core, additional development (if unchecked) may continue to erode the historic fabric that makes Roslyn one of Washington's truly unique and significant historic centers.



MOST ENDANGERED PROPERTIES UPDATE

Preserving hearth and soul at Camp Yeomalt

By Gerald Elfendahl

Yeomalt Cabin, the nationally registered historic, "Camp Major Hopkins" in Yeomalt Park on Bainbridge Island, has been restored! Listed by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation as one of Washington State's "Most Endangered Historic Properties" in 2005, the log hall was re-opened by the Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Recreation District on August 28, 2010. The opening was a grand celebration of appreciation to hundreds of people, of all ages, who helped make the restoration happen.

From the beginning, there were many questions and concerns; cabin logs showed signs of rot and insect infestation, and there were holes in the roof from water damage. Fred Walters, architect, University of Oregon instructor and log cabin preservationist for the National Park Service, rushed to inspect the cabin. He was joined by Mike Brundige, a local historic preservation carpenter and graduate of Boston's North Bennett Street School in Craftsmanship. They poked, probed, hammered, drilled, measured, and surveyed.

Because of the continued disrepair of the roof, Walters and Brundige found that one corner of eight had failed. Walters declared, "As long as a majority of corners have integrity, a log cabin can be saved." What about the powder post beetles? "They're just in the outer Cambrian layer; the logs still have integrity." Walters concluded, "Bottom line: This is a log palace; you'd be crazy not to save it!"

A park committee, "Team Yeomalt," was formed, with goals to build community, engage everyone, teach historic preservation and create future stewards. Organizing and establishing goals was just the first step; Team Yeomalt had their work cut out for them. They researched cabin restoration, cleaned and surveyed the Yeomalt Cabin as well as studied other historic cabins and their structures. Additionally, the proper tools for



The Yeomalt Cabin after restoration, featuring the unique double fireplace. The cabin was inspired by US Army Corps of Engineers Major M. J. Hopkins, designed by architect Pierce Horrocks, and built in 1935 by employees of the federal Works Progress Administration. Photo courtesy of Gerald Elfendahl.

woodworking had to be found and sharpened. Appropriate trees needed to be selected, felled, transported, debarked, stored and dried for a year to replace the rotting bottom cabin logs.

These tasks took time, which allowed for planning, permit applications and fundraising. Inclusion on the Washington Trust's Most Endangered List helped define the project while the National Historic Register nomination described the architecture and history. Grants, especially a State Heritage Capital Project Fund application, helped establish process and encouraged matching funds. State Parks and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation gave technical assistance and the Washington Trust staff and members assisted with a PBS documentary, a wood moisture meter, and more. Finally, the project would not have been possible without the invaluable expertise of log specialist Terry Creassy and house mover Jeff Monroe.

To see detailed documentation of the project including a history, photos and video, visit: www.biparks.org

In 2006, one year after including Yeomalt Cabin in its annual list of statewide endangered properties, the Washington Trust assisted in rehabilitation efforts with a grant from the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund. Given the log construction of the cabin, it was necessary to determine the moisture content of logs slated to replace deteriorated timbers near the foundation of the cabin. Grant funds were utilized to purchase a moisture meter for the purpose of determining the readiness of the logs for use as replacement material. Ever the team players, the Yeomalt Cabin rehabilitation crew returned the moisture meter to the Washington Trust after log replacement had been accomplished, thereby making it available for use by other preservation advocates across the state.

WASHINGTON PRESERVES FUND UPDATE

Ahead of schedule in Northport

By Lee Helle

Not much is known about the old firehouse, but some details have survived. On September 27, 1898, the Northport City Council approved a payment of \$89 to A.J. Judge for the construction of the Fire Hose House, as well as tables and benches for the local jail. According to Northport historian Bob Sell, "A building was needed where the fire hoses could be hung to dry, hence the name Fire Hose House, and why it was built on a steep hillside."

At the time, Northport did not have a fire truck, but because it was a smelter town and running water came before anything else, they had fire hydrants. In June of 1898, a fire apparatus dealer, by the name of A.G. Long, sold the city 1,000 feet of two-inch fire hose and two hose carts. It wasn't until the late 1940s or early 1950s that Northport bought its first fire truck from the nearby town of Colville, a 1935 Dodge.

On May 3, 1899 a large bell was installed in the tower of the hose house, but only three days later on May 6, the bell cracked when rung for a house fire. Later that year in September, Northport City Council ordered a new 34-inch diameter bell weighing 485 pounds. The new bell was installed October 11, 1899. Long-time Northport residents remember that it was the job of selected high school boys to rush to the firehouse at the sound of the fire bell. The boys would grab the hose carts and have hoses connected to the fire hydrants by the time volunteer fire fighters arrived.

Twice in the recent past, different groups have discussed restoring the building, but aside from a survey done on the foundation in the 1990s, plans never progressed past the talking stage. The Northport Historical Society has recently taken the initiative and set up a three-stage project with a total cost of about \$20,000.

Stage one consisted of stabilizing the building from further deterioration by rebuilding the ramp, repairing the foundation, and squaring the building for the future inclusion of sliding doors. During stage two, we rebuilt the bell tower, hung the historic bell, and installed a new shake roof. The building still needs painting, and the interior will soon be readied for a fire truck display. In stage three, we will install new wood covering sliding doors, paint the building and install chain link fence on the sides of the ramps and the front of the building to prevent access to the sides of the building.

We had originally hoped to have stage one done by Labor Day this year, but thanks to countless supporters, we have surpassed our expectations and there is a good chance we will have

enough money to complete stage three before snowfall. When restoration is complete the old Fire Hose House will be used as a static display for our fire truck, hose cart and other fire fighting memorabilia.

The Town of Northport sits nestled along the Columbia River in the northeast reaches of Washington. Serving as guardians of the area's history, the Northport Historical Society has adopted preservation as part of their mission. In 2010, the organization, recently incorporated as a 501(c)3, received a \$1,000 grant through the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund. NHS is actively engaged in phase two, which includes rehabilitation of the interior as display space for the 1935 Dodge Fire Truck. They know how to get it done in Northport!



The Northport Fire Hall in September 2010, sporting a new ramp, bell tower, and shingle roof. Photo courtesy of Lee Helle.

Main Street has arrived!

By Sarah Hansen, Washington Main Street Program Coordinator

After narrowly escaping being cut from the state budget, Washington's Main Street program is now managed by the Washington Trust under contract with the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP). The Main Street program supports communities working to maintain healthy historic downtowns and currently has 11 certified communities and over 80 affiliates. I am thrilled to be joining such an outstanding organization in working to revitalize our historic downtowns.

I am still somewhat new to Washington but am having an absolute blast getting to know our amazing state. I grew up in Maine, which I love, but

must admit that I'm completely smitten with the Pacific Northwest, and I plan to stay here. I received my Masters in Preservation Studies from Boston University and have had the distinct pleasure of working throughout New England and across the West.

I spent about three years in Denver working for the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Mountains/Plains Office covering South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana. I also spent time at Colorado Preservation, Inc. running the Most Endangered Places Program and working on property development and the annual Saving Places Conference. Most recently, I was back in Boston working for Architectural Heritage Foundation on

historic building rehabilitation in struggling mill towns throughout Massachusetts.

For those of you who aren't familiar with the program, the Main Street approach to downtown revitalization was developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the 1980s and has been operating here since 1984 when the Washington Trust brought it to our state. This unique community revitalization strategy is based in historic preservation and looks at the four areas of Promotions, Design, Economic Restructuring and Organization as critical to a successful downtown. There is an application process to become a Main Street community in Washington, and a national certification process overseen

by the National Trust's Main Street Center. There is currently a separate application process to become an Affiliate of the Washington Main Street program as well as to become an organization that is eligible to receive contributions under the Main Street Tax Credit Incentive.

I hit the ground running in early August, and we are already moving forward with a few key initiatives:

Urban Revitalization Legislation

This new bill will support a \$1.5 million dollar tax credit program, exactly like the current Main Street Tax Credit Incentive but for communities with populations over 190,000. Be watching for updates and calls to action as the session gears up in January.

Main Street Tax Credit Brochure

Tax credits can be confusing and a little daunting to decipher, so we have worked with DAHP to put together a brochure for communities and businesses explaining the program and how easily it may be taken advantage of. These are now available in print form and as a PDF on our website, so check it out!

Program Expansion

While we have 11 great certified Main Street communities, we want more! A new application round is being developed, so stay tuned.

Urban Program

Our urban cities are excited about the possibility of an Urban Main Street program and so are we. We are hopeful that our capacity will increase in the coming year, and we can make this program a reality.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns, suggestions, restaurant tips and locations of kitschy roadside attractions. I look forward to getting to know you all as I make my way around the state, in my 20-year-old Volvo known as the "Swashbuckler"!

Please contact Sarah Hansen at 206.624.9449 or wamainstreet@DAHP.wa.gov



Sarah Hansen and the "Swashbuckler" outside the Stimson-Green Mansion.

THANKS TO YOU

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.

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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. This program received Federal funds from the National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the 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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