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A Partnership Between  
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**Working Waterfronts:  
Seafood Connection,  
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## SEATTLE CHINATOWN- INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NAMED TO NATIONAL MOST ENDANGERED PLACES LIST

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Summer 2023

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THANKS TO YOU!

Cover: A dragon sculpture on a street lamp and the Historic Chinatown Gate in the Seattle Chinatown-International District. Photo courtesy of Getty Images.

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The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is a nonprofit organization that works to advocate for and preserve Washington State’s historic and cultural places.

Here are just a few of the programs we operate:

Washington’s **MOST ENDANGERED PLACES**

**THIS PLACE** MAGAZINE

VALERIE SIVINSKI FUND

## GET INVOLVED

SEPTEMBER 9

Birch Road Wine Fest

Seattle, WA

Taste wine from women-led wineries while supporting a good cause at the second annual Birch Road Wine Fest on Saturday, September 9, from 3:00-6:00 pm on grounds of the Stimson-Green Mansion. Proceeds support the Washington Trust.

[birchroadwinefest.com](http://birchroadwinefest.com)

OCTOBER 4-6

RevitalizeWA 2023

Vancouver, WA

Registration for this year’s RevitalizeWA conference in Vancouver is currently open. With engaging panels and speakers, interactive workshops, and field sessions featuring bold and inspiring projects throughout Vancouver, this year’s conference will allow you to dive deep into creative ideas, build your network, and develop new solutions for your own community.

Check out the digital program and information about field sessions and lodging on our conference website. Don’t forget to select your field sessions and add them to your order when your register!

[preservewa.org/revitalizewa](http://preservewa.org/revitalizewa)

OCTOBER 6

2023 Annual Members Meeting

Vancouver, WA

Come meet our slate of new board nominees and celebrate preservation accomplishments across the past year. All Washington Trust members and friends are welcome to attend our Annual Members Meeting on Friday, October 6, from 5:30-7:00 pm at the Historic Trust’s Red Cross Building in Vancouver. RSVP at:

[preservewa.org/members-meeting](http://preservewa.org/members-meeting)

For more information about Washington Trust events or programs, please visit [preservewa.org](http://preservewa.org), or call our office at 206-624-9449.

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# PRESERVATION AND HOUSING

## A Washington Trust Position Paper

By Huy Pham, Preservation Programs Director

Washington State is in the midst of one of the worst housing crises in the nation. According to data from Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck's office, Washington has the fewest number of housing units per household of any state in the country. State government has identified housing as one of the key strategies needed to achieve economic stability and growth. In the 2023 state legislative session, a number of bills focused on the need for housing, particularly middle housing—housing for aging populations, first-time homebuyers, and middle- and low-income populations. Middle housing can take the form of duplexes, cottage courts, three- to four-story apartment buildings, smaller row homes—housing types that are often overlooked on the housing

battlefield, where single-family homes are compared against mid- and high-rise apartment complexes. Yet these housing types are often found in abundance in historic districts and older development patterns.

All too often, historic preservation is framed as a barrier to housing growth in the state. The regulatory hoops (like design review and perceived demolition bans) given to individual landmarked properties or historic districts are viewed by some pro-housing advocates as hostile to the kinds of new construction and density that are needed for new housing stock. But in fact, only a small percentage—typically less than 5%—of the building stock in most American cities are designated as local historic landmarks and districts. In both Seattle

and Spokane, less than 1% of the city's total land area is designated as historic districts or individual landmarks. Furthermore, research by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and others has shown that older buildings and neighborhoods contribute significantly to the environmental, economic, and social emotional health of neighborhoods and residents.

We at the Washington Trust believe that preservation can be a tool to increase housing availability, affordability, and density across the state. Through adaptive reuse, we can transform and preserve important historic structures—churches, schools, formerly single-family homes, upper stories of now-vacant office buildings—into a diversity of housing types, thereby addressing the housing shortage while avoiding displacement of residents and reducing rural sprawl. Where barriers to housing exist, such as lengthy development approval processes and outdated zoning codes, we must work with our local and city partners to help update and streamline processes. We must reevaluate the practices and priorities of preservation to reaffirm its role as a public good, as it was first codified in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

With these goals in mind, the staff and board of the Washington Trust have created a Preservation and Housing Policy Statement, outlining the ways in which we see preservation helping to address the state's housing crisis. We have shared the paper with key partners in the preservation and housing fields in order to solicit their feedback. This article contains an overview of these ideas. As the statement

evolves into an initiative, we hope to utilize the proposed tenets to guide future programs, advocacy campaigns, and resources. For a full version of the Preservation and Housing Policy Statement, please visit [preservewa.org/housing](https://preservewa.org/housing).

### Policies for the Preservation of Housing Affordability

1. **Zoning.** We support efforts to increase density throughout our cities, including historic districts, through upzoning. While historic districts often have higher naturally occurring density than surrounding areas, upzoning can further increase the allowable density and make it more feasible to build housing units that are compatible with the development pattern.
2. **Vacancy.** We support the use of vacant parcels of land or underutilized industrial/commercial buildings especially with historic structures. Lands that were cleared out for urban renewal or car-centric development like surface parking lots are prime opportunities for developing new affordable housing that complements existing fabric without displacing residents and businesses.
3. **Conversions, Additions, and ADUs.** We encourage the development of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and middle housing (duplexes to sixplexes) in historic districts. ADUs can provide additional housing units in neighborhoods without disrupting character, while middle housing structures provide a an alternative to traditional single-family homes and mid- to high-rise apartment complexes.



Above: New apartments alongside historic buildings in Seattle's Chinatown-International District. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.



Opposite: The historic Columbia Building in Spokane, adaptively reused as the Marjorie Apartments. Photo courtesy of Logan Camporeale.





Above: A new building goes up alongside an older home in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.

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4. **Parking Minimums.** We support waiving or reducing parking minimums in historic districts, paired with comprehensive parking/transportation planning. Parking requirements can add significant cost to housing development and reduce density. Waiving or reducing parking minimums in historic districts can help make housing development more feasible and increase the supply of housing.

5. **Historic Tax Credit and Incentives.** We support the use of historic rehabilitation tax credits and incentives to create affordable housing units in historic buildings. The Washington State Special Tax Valuation and the Federal Historic Tax Credit Programs can (and should) be expanded and improved for easier entry and maximum incentive for housing-producing historic rehabilitation projects.

6. **Sustainability.** We will employ a housing and preservation ethic that addresses the need for radical change in the construction and development practices that impact our shared environment and climate. This means prioritizing adaptive reuse and deconstruction, rather than traditional demolition, in order to reduce landfill waste and mitigate the decline of quality in modern building techniques and materials.

7. **Smart Growth and Comprehensive Planning.** We support the use of smart growth principles in the redevelopment of historic neighborhoods, such as the integration of mixed-income housing, incorporation of community amenities, and protection of existing residents and businesses. We further support policies that incentivize

affordable housing units and quality-of-life improvements often already found in historic districts, rather than relying on market pressures and the will of commercial developers.

8. **Coalition Building.** We will collaborate with preservation organizations, affordable housing advocates, community groups, and developers to raise awareness about historic preservation's potential to support housing affordability and sustainable communities. We will also work with local communities to protect neighborhoods and buildings that have the potential to provide housing affordability.

9. **Direct Resources and Support.** We will develop resources for developers, city planners, architects, and other professionals to promote the use of historic buildings as a means of increasing the supply and affordability of housing, including ways to streamline design review and permitting processes while still reaping the benefits of higher-quality development by revisiting administrative approvals, design guidelines and standards within ordinances, and deconstruction alternatives to demolition.

10. **Reflection and Outreach.** We will continue to raise awareness among policy makers, residents, and developers of the benefits of preserving and reusing older and historic buildings to create affordable housing and support vibrant communities—prioritizing place-based work that uplifts marginalized and underrepresented communities with the understanding that quality housing is a means to generational prosperity. 🍷

[preservewa.org/housing](https://preservewa.org/housing)

# REVITALIZE WA

VANCOUVER • OCTOBER 4-6, 2023



If you haven't been to Vancouver in a number of years, you just might find yourself surprised by how downtown has blossomed over the past decade. From a winery-lined waterfront to forthcoming large-scale infrastructure changes on Main Street, community partnerships have helped define an exciting era for this vibrant city, and we can't wait for you to learn about it all at RevitalizeWA 2023.

As we think about everything from culture and heritage to community building through economic empowerment, we'll use spaces throughout downtown Vancouver as our classroom, learning about its past, present, and future. And with such unique communities and sites throughout southwestern Washington, there are so many reasons to stay late and come early, whether it's for our field sessions to Camas and Ridgefield, a weekend adventure to Stevenson, or just to soak up even more of Vancouver.

For registration, our digital program, and lodging information, visit:

[PRESERVEWA.ORG / REVITALIZEWA](https://preservewa.org/revitalizewa)

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS:



Questions? Contact Lydia Felty at [lydia@preservewa.org](mailto:lydia@preservewa.org) or 206-624-9449.

## SECOND ANNUAL WINE FEST

### 'SAVOR THE LANDMARKS'

Taste wine from women-led wineries while supporting a good cause!

Proceeds support The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023**  
**3:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

**Tickets: [www.BirchRoadWineFest.com](https://www.BirchRoadWineFest.com)**



# SEATTLE CHINATOWN-INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT NAMED ONE OF NATION’S MOST ENDANGERED PLACES

By Huy Pham, Preservation Programs Director

In May of this year, we had the honor of seeing one of our own statewide Most Endangered Places campaigns elevated to a national platform, when the National Trust for Historic Preservation named the Seattle Chinatown-International District (CID) to the 2023 list of America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places—marking Washington State’s first inclusion on the list since it was established in 1988.

Located south of downtown Seattle on the unceded lands of the Coast Salish people, the CID is the only area in the continental United States where Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, African Americans, and Vietnamese settled together and built one neighborhood. Today, the neighborhood and community face challenges from an impending infrastructure and transit project.

It’s certainly not the first time that the CID has been threatened. During the 1920s, 1960s, and

1970s, the construction of city streets, parking lots, two sports stadiums, and a highway divided the neighborhood and demolished businesses, homes, and churches. Community members rallied to preserve the area’s heritage, and it was designated a City of Seattle special review district in 1973 and placed on the Washington Heritage Register and National Register of Historic Places in 1986. Since then, the CID has been known for its historic architecture, multi-generational and multi-lingual businesses and families, and annual festivals and events celebrating the culture and traditions of the neighborhood’s shared heritage.

Today, however, the Seattle metro area’s regional transit agency, Sound Transit, is considering several transit expansion options that could impact the community’s transportation access and the CID’s cultural preservation. As part of the third expansion



Above: The famous gate to the Seattle Chinatown-International District.



Left: Thousands gather for Lunar New Year festivities in Seattle Chinatown-International District.

Below: Hing Hay Park in the Seattle Chinatown-International District.

All photos courtesy of Huy Pham.



Above: Historic blocks at the corner of King Street and 7th Avenue in the Seattle Chinatown-International District. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.

phase of the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions project, Sound Transit is proposing options for train line alignments and new stations within the CID—construction of which could negatively impact area businesses and residents.

The Washington Trust is proud to be part of a coalition of partners (including the Wing Luke Museum and Transit Equity for All) advocating for a more transparent, equitable process that reflects careful decision-making and centers the voices of the CID. The coalition—which includes community organizations, businesses, residents, and supporters—came together to support the CID when the district was nominated to our statewide Most Endangered Places list in 2022.

By drawing public attention to Sound Transit’s planning decisions around the CID, the Washington Trust and our partners seek to ensure that Sound Transit mitigates construction impacts on the neighborhood, keeps the community connected to regional transit improvements, and minimizes



displacement from the CID. We also hope that the neighborhood’s national 11 Most Endangered listing provides opportunities for Asian American community members to come together and demand bold investment and meaningful engagement from civic leaders and decisionmakers. 🏡



# VINTAGE WASHINGTON

## Showcasing Most Endangered Places at Our Annual Fundraiser

By Kristy Conrad, Development Director

Our annual fundraiser, Vintage Washington—back in person for only the second time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic—took place in style on a sunny Saturday in May, showcasing not one but two historic venues in the Seattle Chinatown-International District (CID).

The evening began with happy hour at the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, housed in the 1910-constructed East Kong Yick Building and now the only pan-Asian Pacific American community-based museum in the United States. Guests sipped beer donated by Lucky Envelope Brewing, enjoyed hors d'oeuvres from Kaspars Catering, and viewed the Wing Luke's "Nobody Lives Here" special exhibit, which told the stories of the businesses, homes, and people that were displaced when the I-5 freeway was built through the CID in the 1960s. The Wing Luke's Deputy Director Cassie Chinn, Senior Tour Manager Doan Diane Hoang Dy, and Education Guide Han Eckelberg spoke about the museum's work and its home in the CID.



Left: "Letter Cloud," an installation by Erin Shie Palmer at the Wing Luke Museum.

Above (top): Vintage WA attendees (left to right) Abby and Matt Inpanbutr, Eugenia Woo, Alex Baker, Jennifer Meisner, and Thomas Isarankura enjoy a drink at happy hour.

Above (bottom): Susan and Steve Stroming check out the Wing Luke's "Nobody Lives Here" exhibit.



After happy hour, attendees walked just a block away to the historic Chong Wa Benevolent Association—housed in a 1930 building designed by Wing Sam Chinn, the first licensed Asian American architect in Washington State. Today, in pursuing its mission to promote Chinese culture and general welfare within the community, the Chong Wa Benevolent Association uses the building as its headquarters, operating a language program in the classrooms on the first level of the building and hosting events and programs like the dragon dance and girls drill teams in the second-floor auditorium. It was to this second-floor auditorium that guests ascended, for our Vintage WA program and seated dinner.

Returning for another stint as our Vintage WA emcee was former Washington Trust board member Joe McDermott, who has served for 13 years as King County Councilmember for District 8, which includes the Chinatown-International District. (Sadly, he has stated that he does not intend to run for re-election this year.) Together with Washington Trust Executive Director Chris Moore and Preservation Programs Director Huy Pham, Joe spoke to the audience about our Most Endangered Places Program, one of our organization's cornerstone programs, which aims to bring attention to threatened historic places and advocate for community support and policy changes to help save them. Since the advent of the Most Endangered Places list in 1992, 171 historic sites have been included. Of those, 104 have been saved or are still standing, bearing testimony to the efficacy of our advocacy work.

Among those success stories are two Most Endangered "saves" which were highlighted at this year's Vintage WA. The first was the Reard-Freed

Above: After happy hour, guests walk to the nearby Chong Wa Benevolent Association.

Below: Guests enjoy a seated dinner in the upstairs auditorium at Chong Wa Benevolent Association.



House, an 1890 farmhouse in Sammamish that has actually been included on the Most Endangered list twice, once in 2001 and again 2010, as the house faced first demolition and then sought to find a new home. Sammamish Heritage Society president Ella Moore took to the stage to speak about the Washington Trust's role in helping advocate for its continued preservation. The next featured "save" was the B Reactor at Hanford, the world's first full-scale plutonium production nuclear reactor, which was





Left: The National Trust for Historic Preservation's Di Gao addresses the assembly at Chong Wa.

Below: The evening's emcee, King County Councilmember Joe McDermott, is honored for his contributions to preservation.

All photos throughout article courtesy of C.B. Bell.



# STATE CAPITAL GRANTS FOR HISTORIC BARNs, CEMETERIES, AND THEATERS

Get funding to preserve your historic building!

Application window opens Sept. 1

[preservewa.org/grants](https://preservewa.org/grants)



Capital grant programs for historic barns, cemeteries, and theaters are managed by the Washington Trust under contract with the Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation



**Nonprofits!** Do you have a specific historic or cultural place you're trying to preserve or interpret?

## Apply to the VALERIE SIVINSKI FUND

The Valerie Sivinski Fund is an annual grant program that provides grants of \$1,000 to \$3,000 to organizations and community groups engaged in historic preservation around our state.

Grant funds may be used for direct preservation/rehabilitation projects or for planning, research, education, and advocacy projects that raise support for a historic or cultural place related to the histories of marginalized or underrepresented communities.

**Apply by October 9 at [preservewa.org/sivinski-fund](https://preservewa.org/sivinski-fund)**

constructed in 1944 as part of the Manhattan Project but which landed on our Most Endangered Places list in 2004 when, no longer serving as a production and research center, the site's future looked uncertain. Today, thanks to the advocacy of the Washington Trust and a coalition of partner organizations, the Hanford Site and B Reactor are jointly managed by the Department of Energy and the National Park Service, and our own Youth Heritage Project will be visiting the site this summer with 44 high school students from across Washington State!

The Vintage WA program also showcased two ongoing Most Endangered campaigns. The first was the Chinatown-International District itself, which was named to the Most Endangered list in 2022, when transit expansion options proposed by the Seattle metro area's regional transit agency, Sound Transit, threatened to impact the CID's cultural preservation and community's transportation access. In naming the CID to its Most Endangered list, the Washington Trust joined a coalition of partners, including the Wing Luke Museum and Transit Equity for all, advocating for a more transparent, equitable process that reflects careful decision-making and centers the voices of the CID. Transit Equity for All president Betty Lau spoke about the CID's journey and the need to stem cultural displacement. She was joined by Di Gao, a Seattle native now working as senior director of research and policy for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, who related the exciting news that the CID had been added to the National Trust's 11 Most Endangered Most Endangered Historic Places list for 2023—the first time a Washington site has been featured on the national list since it was established in 1988.

The second ongoing campaign featured was the Parkland School in Pierce County, which was also added to the Most Endangered Places list in 2022, as it faced de-listing from the Pierce County Register of Historic Places and potential demolition. Phil Edlund of Save Parkland School took the stage to tell the audience about the site's journey since its original listing. While the Parkland School had avoided de-listing and demolition and its owner Pacific Lutheran University was no longer attempting to

sell it for development, the community has a limited window to try to save the building—needing to raise \$2.85 million by November 2023 to purchase the school from PLU.

Lastly, the Vintage Washington program featured the announcement of one new addition to the Most Endangered Places list: the Talgo Series VI Bistro Car 7304. Once part of an Amtrak fleet of five complete trainsets operating daily between Salem, Oregon, and Vancouver, British Columbia, from 1998 through 2020, Bistro Car 7304 is the only surviving remnant. Its interior design by award-winning Mexican-American industrial designer Cesar Vergara and its importance to Pacific Northwest history, Latinos in Heritage Conservation and the Northwest Railway Museum in Snoqualmie jumped in to save the bistro car from the scrap heap. While the bistro car has been saved and relocated to Washington, Northwest Railway Museum executive director Richard Anderson spoke about the need to promote its preservation and to raise much-needed funds for a new exhibit to house the bistro car at the museum.

All told, Vintage Washington was a tremendous success—showcasing Most Endangered Places campaigns from across Washington State and raising more than \$10,000 to support the Washington Trust's preservation advocacy work. We are so grateful to the many sponsors, community partners, and guests who joined us for the event and contributed generously towards the evening's fundraising appeal. While the location for Vintage Washington 2024 is as yet undetermined, we hope you mark your calendars and join us next May! 🍷



# THE CURTAIN RISES ON PRESERVATION PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY STATE GRANTS

By Abby Armato, Grants Coordinator

Historic cemeteries and theaters and courthouses, oh my! Now that we have reached the end of the 2021-2023 grant cycle (as of June 30), we are proud to feature a few of the completed preservation projects supported by funding approved by the Washington State Legislature. While these grant programs range in type of historic resource, all four of the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) grant programs—Heritage Barn, Historic Cemetery, Historic Theater, and Historic County Courthouse—aim to preserve outstanding examples of the state’s historical heritage, support local economies, and serve the local community.

Learn more about a few of the grant-supported preservation projects below:

**The Home of Peace Cemetery, Pierce County**

Established in 1888, the historic Home of Peace Cemetery was the first Jewish cemetery in Pierce County. Originally known as the First Hebrew Benevolent Society of Tacoma Cemetery, the organization of this cemetery marked the beginning of Tacoma’s first Jewish congregation. The Home of Peace Cemetery expanded from its

initial eight-acre plot in 1979 with the merging of an adjoining cemetery, Chevra Kadisha, organized by Tacoma’s Orthodox Jewish population in 1914. Today, the Home of Peace Cemetery is the only Jewish burial site in the county and serves Jewish families from Pierce County and the surrounding area.

“Establishing and maintaining a Jewish cemetery is one of the first priorities of any Jewish community,” said Deb Freedman, corresponding secretary of the Home of Peace Cemetery Association. “The land is considered holy and must remain undisturbed in perpetuity. Community volunteers honor the core value of respecting the dead by gathering each summer to scrub grave markers by hand and again each fall for a traditional pilgrimage ceremony and blessing.”

In the most recent grant cycle, the historic Home of Peace Cemetery was awarded a Historic Cemetery Grant of \$30,000 to increase protection and security. “Fabrication...took longer than expected, but the completed project was well worth the wait,” said J. David Aqua, president of the Home of Peace Cemetery Association. As a result of this project, “the cemetery association has had a significant reduction (more than 50%) in calls from the security company and local police regarding possible after-hours break-ins to the grounds.”

**Okanogan County Courthouse, Okanogan County**

After the county seat relocated to Okanogan in 1914, the historic Okanogan County Courthouse was constructed a year later on a hillside in the middle of downtown. From the hill, the courthouse and its 82-foot clock tower overlook the downtown and can be seen as far away as the Okanogan River. But the courthouse is not only one of the most publicly visible buildings in town, it is also one of the most distinctive. The building’s Mission Revival style features stucco on brick, decorative curvilinear gables, and rooftop dormer windows.

Due to age and lack of maintenance, the courthouse has recently faced issues with moisture, pests, and falling cement chunks. In 2021, the Okanogan County Courthouse was awarded a Historic County Courthouse Grant of \$248,925 to



rehabilitate the cement copings along the parapets and window casements, rehabilitate the cement stairs of the main entry, and upgrade the existing HVAC system. Laleña Johns, clerk of the board of Okanogan County commissioners, told us that after completing the first phase of their preservation efforts, “it is now safe to walk under the gables of the courthouse without worrying about getting hit on the head from falling concrete.”

**Columbia Theatre, Cowlitz County**

Built in 1923 in Cowlitz County, the historic Columbia Theatre first opened its doors on April 5, 1925, to a sold-out audience. In its early years, the theater showcased orchestra-accompanied silent films and vaudeville acts. With the advent of talking pictures and the decline of vaudeville, the Columbia continued to show first-run films in addition to musicals and plays from traveling performing companies and concerts performed by the local Community Concert Association and Southwest Washington Symphony. This community entertainment venue came close to demolition when, in 1979, it was slated to be replaced by a new cineplex. Thanks to the leadership of Virginia Rubin and the Columbia Theatre Task Force, this building found new ownership and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The theater reopened its doors in February 2010.

Today, the theater is managed by the Columbia Theatre Association for the Performing Arts. In 2022, the theatre association was awarded an inaugural Historic Theatre Grant of \$25,445 to preserve the historic tile and stone along the building’s exterior façade. “The project allowed us to do much-needed repair to the façade of the building,” said Kelly Ragsdale, managing director of the Columbia Theatre Association. “Seeing everything come together is like going back in time to see it on opening night in 1925.”

**Support for Local Preservation Efforts Continue**

We are thrilled to share that our advocacy efforts for the continuation of these critical grant programs were successful! This past spring, the Washington State Legislature approved funding to renew these programs in the 2023-2025 state budget:

- Historic County Courthouse Grant Program: \$3.162 million to support rehabilitation of courthouses in eight counties across the state (up from \$1.75 million in 2021-2023)
- Heritage Barn Grant Program: \$1 million to support working barns (equal to 2021-2023 funding)
- Historic Cemetery Grant Program: \$515,000 to support cemetery preservation (up from \$300,000 in 2021-2023)
- Historic Theater Grant Program: \$515,000 to support rehabilitation work on historic theaters (up from \$300,000 in 2021-2023)

These grant programs, generously supported by funding from the Washington State Legislature, are housed within the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and have been managed under contract by the Washington Trust. Interested in applying for 2023-2025 funding? Follow the Washington Trust on social media or subscribe to our e-communications for updates on application deadlines in the coming weeks. 📧

*Top left: The Okanogan County Courthouse tower overlooking downtown Okanogan. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.*

*Below: The tile and stone detail work of the Columbia Theatre’s exterior façade. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.*



*Above: Headstones at the Home of Peace Cemetery in Pierce County. Photo courtesy of Home of Peace Cemetery Association.*





# HONORING TRIBAL HISTORY: A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE ROSLYN DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION AND YAKAMA NATION

By the Roslyn Downtown Association

In 2020, we at the Roslyn Downtown Association decided to take action to honor the Tribal history and stewardship of our town and the surrounding communities.

Roslyn is located within the ancestral lands of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, who have cared for the area's mountains, lands, and waters since time immemorial. To honor this history, we approached the Yakama Nation Cultural Resources Program and proposed to educate Roslyn community members and visitors about the

Yakama Nation's historic and continuing connection to the region's lands, waters, and resources. The Yakama Nation representatives with whom we met were receptive, and together we embarked on a new partnership.

Under the partnership agreement we created with the Yakama Nation in November 2020, during Native American Heritage Month, we at the Roslyn Downtown Association will work with Yakama Nation staff to develop educational materials, public displays, and experiential learning

opportunities, which will be located throughout the local area. Materials will feature the Yakama Nation's history, culture, and continuing land and resource stewardship efforts in the Roslyn and Upper County areas.

Here at the RDA, we're thrilled about the possibilities this partnership offers for continued public education. After all, the Yakama Nation's work to protect and restore natural and cultural resources throughout their ancestral lands has made Roslyn the place that we all love and enjoy today. According to Jerry Meninick, the Yakama Nation's Deputy Director of Cultural Resources, the Tribe is equally excited about the partnership: "The Yakama Nation looks forward to working with the RDA to help people understand and appreciate our culture, values, and ongoing efforts to protect our way of life. We are taught that when you travel from place to place throughout our lands, it is a custom to seek an understanding of those Tribal members who were born and lived before us."

Roslyn is located within the Yakama Nation's historic Treaty Territory, which extends throughout the greater Columbia River Basin area in eastern Washington. "There is a great history of Tribal stewardship that spans thousands of years, and it continues to this day. We all benefit from it, but many are not aware," notes Noah Oliver, the Yakama Nation Cultural Geographer and Geoarchaeologist, one of the staff members who helped the RDA bring this partnership to life.

A number of kickoff projects to honor the new partnership are currently underway. One project is the production of a history brochure exploring the Yakama Nation's presence in Roslyn and the surrounding areas. Another is the building of a community gazebo in Roslyn that will feature a Creator Laws Sculpture, to convey the Yakama Nation's belief that our minds, bodies, and souls are affected by the life-sustaining gifts of earth, water, air, and natural and cultural resources—with interpretation by Yakama Nation Chairman Gerald



*Left: (from left to right) Roslyn Downtown Association Executive Director Cheri Marusa, Yakama Nation Cultural Geographer/Geoarchaeologist Noah Oliver, Yakama Nation Tribal Council Vice Chairman George Meninick, and RDA Community Advisor George Selam.*

*Below: The community gazebo in Roslyn honoring Yakama Nation Tribal history.*

*Both photos courtesy of the Roslyn Downtown Association.*



Lewis, Tribal Councilmember Terry Heemsah, and other Tribal members.

As former Yakama Tribal Council Chairman Delano Saluskin observes, "This work will help us bring our communities together and move forward in a good way for the benefit of future generations." We look forward to sharing more stories and projects from the RDA's partnership with the Yakama Nation in months and years to come!

*Portions of this article were previously printed in the Northern Kittitas County Tribune. Reprinted with permission.*



*Above: Beautiful downtown Roslyn with the Cascade Mountains in the background. Photo courtesy of the Roslyn Downtown Association.*



# REVITALIZE WA REFLECTIONS ON MARITIME HERITAGE

By Katelyn Kean, 2022 PreserveWA Fellow

## About the PreserveWA Fellowship

Each year, the Washington Trust offers the PreserveWA Fellowship to support emerging leaders and amplify youth perspectives in the field of preservation and community building. The Fellowship supports first-time attendance at RevitalizeWA by students and young professionals (ages 18-29) in Washington State with interest in gaining professional exposure to the fields of historic preservation and downtown revitalization.

The award covers the cost of registration for RevitalizeWA, plus a stipend for travel and lodging, and each selected Fellow is matched with a leader in a related field to serve as a mentor. The Fellow connects with their Mentor prior to and/or during the conference to discuss educational and professional paths.

Following the conference, Fellows are asked to write an article about what they learned as a first-time attendee (or other relevant topic) to be published in *This Place*.

Look out for articles from our 2023 Fellows in next year's issues of *This Place*.

Sitting on the ferry on my way back to Port Townsend from Wenatchee, reflecting on my experience at RevitalizeWA 2022, I am struck by the impact of maritime culture in Washington State. During my time at the conference, I met passionate individuals and leaders who have traveled throughout the state to share their stories of utilizing the environment and resources of maritime to create impact, elevate stories, and develop community. The collective momentum of Main Street and preservation leaders from various towns on or near the Salish Sea and the progress of the Maritime Washington National Heritage Area, along with other maritime-focused non-profits from across the region, have never been more apparent than in the combined conversations and themes of this conference.

While wildly expansive and encompassing, maritime is a shared identity that takes many forms, especially in Washington. Maritime heritage and identity are beautiful and complex. The impact of maritime heritage is broad; yet each place has a unique story to tell. Whether you're experiencing maritime from land or from sea, coming from a shared family history of maritime experiences, or visiting the Northwest waters for the first time, there is something universal and almost magical about its powerful storytelling thread. This spectrum does not

take away from the lived experiences of those deeply ingrained with maritime culture but rather adds to the kaleidoscope of connections.

The implementation of the Maritime Washington National Heritage Area has unified partners and



leaders from across the state. Casting a wide net, Maritime Washington's goals of community support, preservation, and network development—with diverse storytelling and sustainable experiences as central values—help weave the complex tapestry of maritime culture within the state.

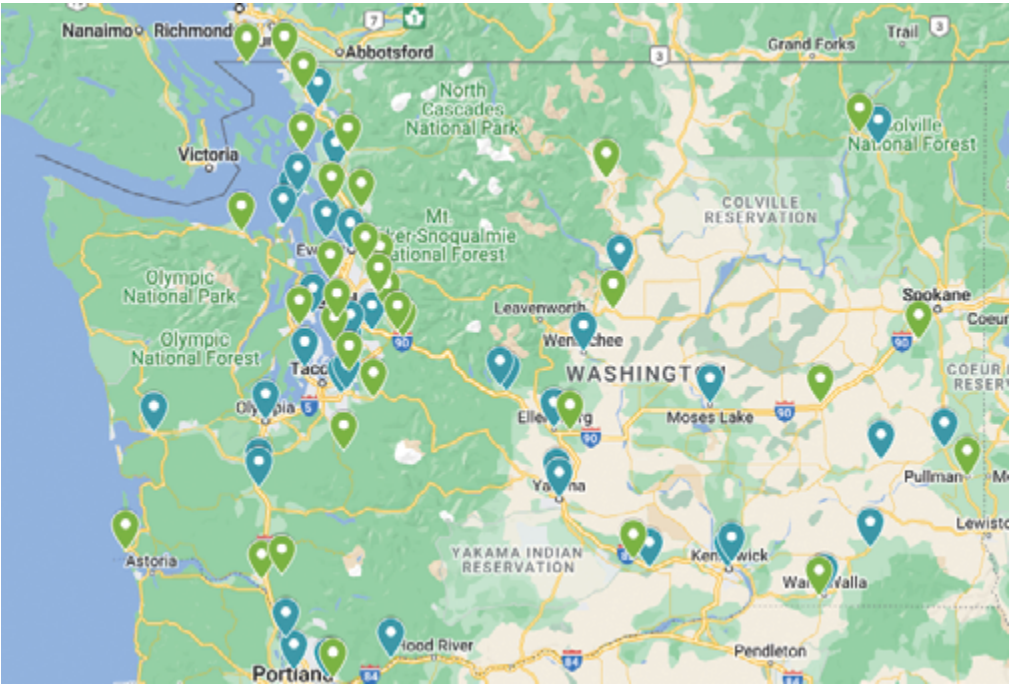
Maritime as a significant community identity makes up half, if not more, of the Main Street Communities or Affiliates—an identity that is geographically determined, yes, but intertwined by foodways, industry, shared experiences, transportation, places of work, and recreation. My professional experience working for a maritime-focused nonprofit (the Northwest Maritime Center



Opposite: A streetscape in busy downtown Wenatchee, snapped in between conference sessions. Photo courtesy of Katelyn Kean.

Above: The beautiful Wenatchee River, photographed during the 2022 RevitalizeWA conference. Photo courtesy of Katelyn Kean.

Right: Main Street Communities and Affiliates in Washington State. Map courtesy of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation.



in Port Townsend) allowed me to contribute to RevitalizeWA from a different perspective than others in attendance at the conference. Through conversations with Main Street and preservation leaders, we discussed the challenges of creating a maritime thread that resonates with local communities. Relationships between Main Street and maritime organizations could provide engaging storytelling and connections through joint programming and outreach. Main Street organizations could further engage their communities with nonprofit partners whose mission solely focuses on maritime heritage, culture, or experiences. In talking with Main Street leaders who were located in coastal areas, it became clear how well the goals of Maritime Washington dovetail with Main Street initiatives and surrounding maritime nonprofits. We would not be successful in all of our missions if we prioritized competition over partnership.

One discussion led to the analogy, “Maritime missions are not pie.” There is not a finite number of slices to be handed out before the pie is gone, but rather, maritime missions are more like a bakery that supplies an endless amount of pies, which are customizable and can have tailored recipes for each customer. The opportunities for providing an on ramp to maritime are broad and make up endless collaborative opportunities. One organization looking at building community around maritime experiences does not mean there are fewer maritime partnerships to exist. In the spirit of the quote “competition makes us faster; collaboration makes us better,” the power of partnerships allow for sustainability and success, especially when it relates to preservation and community building in Washington State. 🍷



# WORKING WATERFRONTS: SEAFOOD CONNECTION, WESTPORT

By Jeremy Johnson Photography

*This article is part of a series highlighting the vibrant people and industries that make up the working waterfronts of the Maritime Washington National Heritage Area. Visit [maritimewa.org/seafood-connection](https://maritimewa.org/seafood-connection) to check out more photos of Seafood Connection and dive into other stories from the series.*

In Westport, Mikayla Evans writes out orders on a dry erase board: 200 pounds, 150 pounds, 30 pounds—portions of fresh tuna to be divvied up by fish cutter Ev Tomlinson once the fully loaded *Anna C* arrives at Seafood Connection, the seafood market on Float 8. Evans and her staff prepare for the latest haul by filling several 166-gallon insulated fish boxes with ice and cleaning the fish-processing station. Once the fresh tuna arrives, it's processed and portioned immediately.

The *Anna C* arrives, skippered by Eric Samuelson, and crew members Gabe Franey and Jason Brown get to work preparing for the dockside offload. Being the small operation they are, Seafood Connection has no hoist, and all incoming fish is offloaded by hand, a few tuna at a time, into the insulated fish boxes. Evans—who co-owns Seafood Connection with her

business partner Adrienne Jones—meets the *Anna C* at the dock, and the whole family lends a hand with offloading, including Evans' husband Perry Graham and Jones' kids.

"We're raising our kids to see the hard work and the fisherman lifestyle," Jones said with a smile.

Many of the fishing families choose homeschooling to accommodate the schedule of a working summer and a slower fall for family time. For many, their boats are their primary source of income, and family schedules work around the boat. A good fishing season can sustain the family until the next, but a lot of financial planning is needed to prepare in case the season doesn't deliver.

In 2022, Seafood Connection fulfilled 700 orders and more than 50,000 pounds of seafood. They sell mostly Dungeness crab, tuna, and salmon, but

they'll buy halibut, rock fish, petrale, salmon, tuna, crab, oyster, steamers, prawns, scallops, calamari, shrimp—anything fresh and direct from fishermen they can get their hands on. As a small market and fishmonger, the women nurture relationships directly with the fishermen and buy only what their market can handle.

"We know who takes care of their fish and how it's handled," noted Evans. Both their husbands are commercial fishermen and have offered helpful advice from the commercial fishing side of the business.

Seafood Connection was purchased by Jones and Evans in April 2021. In the 18 months they've owned it, they have focused on making the business sustainable while providing a safe product. They hired a consultant to advise on cooking, smoking, and vacuum-packing their own fish. They purchased an ice machine capable of producing two tons of ice per day and new marketing material with signage. Evans "dove headfirst into it," she said. "I started from nothing and learned as much as I could."

Working directly with the fishermen, at a small scale and with low overhead, Seafood Connection can offer higher prices to the fishermen and lower prices to the customers for fresh fish. As a bonus, selling directly to customers from the pier means that the fishing crew often sees happy customers buying the fish just offloaded from the boat.

Reflecting on a typical good day at the market, Evans described: "(In) the middle of August, there's 2,000 pounds of tuna order booked to pick up, a full tank of live crab, lots of smoked fish, lots of cooked crab, stock in the display case, prime of the season. Everything is in August—ling cod, halibut, rock fish, salmon, tuna, and steady customers."

Still holding onto its commercial fishing roots, Westport has become a destination for tourists looking to buy only the freshest seafood right off the dock. 🐟



Above: Ev Tomlinson throws a tuna onto the fish processing station. Photo courtesy of Jeremy Johnson.

Below: Anna C skipper Eric Samuelson. Photo courtesy of Jeremy Johnson.



Left: Jason Brown hands two tuna to Mikayla Evans during an offload of the *Anna C*. Photo courtesy of Jeremy Johnson.

Above: Ryker Jones helps shuttle tuna from the *Anna C* to an insulated fish box. Photo courtesy of Jeremy Johnson.





# A HISTORY OF THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION IN OLYMPIA

By Governor's Mansion Foundation Volunteers

The Governor's Mansion in Olympia, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Washington Heritage Register as part of the State Capitol Historic District, is the oldest building on the capitol campus. The mansion is also part of the National Votes for Women Trail as an important site in early women's suffrage.

The mansion was first conceived in 1907, when the state legislature authorized the construction of a home for Washington's governors, appropriating \$35,000 for the project. Tacoma architects Russell and Babcock designed the Georgian Revival-style house to serve as both a private home and a public space. Built in 1908 using mostly Washington building materials, it was first occupied in 1909. Then-Governor Samuel Cosgrove died not long after his 1909 inauguration, making Lieutenant Governor Marion and Lizzie Muir Hay and their family the first to live in the mansion.

In addition to construction funding, the legislature appropriated \$15,000 for furnishings,

and both Governor and Mrs. Hay participated in selecting the winning bids. Most of the original furnishings came from Frederick and Nelson in Seattle, supporting Washington business. The grandfather clock and dining room suite from that original purchase remain in the house. All Washington governors have lived in the house since it was built, although some moved for renovations and earthquake damage repairs across the decades.

By the 1960s, the building was in poor condition, and demolition was considered. Governor Dan Evans and First Lady Nancy Bell Evans, along with others, advocated for the preservation of the mansion. Their efforts led to the state legislature's appropriation of funds for the extensive renovations, designed by architect Ibsen Nelsen. At the same time, Mrs. Evans wanted to create a more elegant and cohesive interior. She began what became the Governor's Mansion Foundation to raise funds and accept donations to furnish the mansion. The foundation worked with



noted Seattle interior designer Jean Jongeward to create a furnishings plan, echoing the Georgian Revival exterior with authentic Georgian antiques and a green-and-gold color scheme honoring western and eastern Washington. Washingtonians across the state donated items and raised funds to furnish the mansion.

By 1975, the renovated mansion re-opened with the elegant décor in the public rooms which remains in place today. Over time, additional furnishings have been added by the foundation, as well as a significant art collection that includes a circa-1850 "porthole" portrait of George Washington by Rembrandt Peale. The Governor's Mansion Foundation is an all-volunteer, non-partisan, nonprofit organization that owns and maintains most of the furnishings and art in the public rooms in the mansion, at no cost to the taxpayer.

In 2022, in celebration of its 50th anniversary, the Governor's Mansion Foundation commissioned two significant artworks: *Reservation Viewpoint* by Yakama Nation artist Leo Adams and *Circle of Life and Power of Change* by Skokomish Tribal member and Squaxin descendent Andy Wilbur-Peterson and his wife Ruth. The foundation, in an effort to represent the peoples of Washington in the mansion, also purchased two lithographs by Jacob Lawrence and a collage by Paul Horiuchi.

The Governor's Mansion Foundation conducts free tours of the Mansion by reservation. To learn more about the Governor's Mansion Foundation, register for a tour, and become a member, visit [wagovmansion.org](http://wagovmansion.org).

*Opposite: The quoins on the exterior of the mansion and the balustrade were restored by the Department of Enterprise Services in 2018.*

*Above: Noted Yakama Nation artist Leo Adams stands next to Reservation Viewpoint, commissioned for the mansion ballroom in 2022 for the Governor's Mansion Foundation 50th anniversary.*

*Below: The dining room features some of the original 1909 furnishings as well as a mural painted by Spokane artist Edwin Chapman. The presentation silver from the 19th-century cruiser U.S.S. Olympia is on display on the room courtesy of the U. S. Navy and City of Olympia.*

*Images courtesy of Diane Waiste and the Governor's Mansion Foundation.*





# WHERE IN THE WA



Above: The exterior of the historic Providence Academy, topped by its famous bell tower. Photo courtesy of The Historic Trust.

The photograph featured in the Where in the WA section of our spring 2023 magazine issue clearly didn't ring a bell for our readers. We received no guesses about what historic resource the photo was from. But fortunately, we've been sent by providence to enlighten you. That's right: the bell featured in the photograph is from the historic Providence Academy in Vancouver!

Providence Academy was originally built in 1873 as the House of Providence school, orphanage, and governance offices, commissioned by Mother Joseph of the Sacred Heart and the Sisters of Providence. At the time of its construction, it was the largest brick building north of San Francisco. In 1924, the Sisters of Providence moved their offices to Seattle, but the school, now known as Providence Academy, remained in operation until 1966. Upon the school's closure, the building was operated as an events venue for a number of years and in 1978 was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2015, the nonprofit The Historic Trust (then known as the Fort Vancouver National Trust) successfully completed a \$5 million fundraising campaign to purchase Providence Academy. Since that time, The Historic Trust has offered public tours of the building, replaced its aged roof, and embarked on a multi-year renovation plan.

We're delighted that this year, our RevitalizeWA conference will take place in Vancouver, with The Historic Trust providing some of the conference event venues! Check out our conference schedule and register today at [preservewa.org/revitalizewa](https://preservewa.org/revitalizewa). 📍



## Where in the WA? Summer 2023

For your next challenge, can you identify the cultural site seen here and where it is located? If so, email us at [info@preservewa.org](mailto:info@preservewa.org) or call us at 206-624-9449 with the answer!

Also, you can send us pictures of yourself in your favorite places around our state, and we might be able to feature them as a "Where in the WA" in the future!

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# **2023 ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING**

**Friday, October 6, 5:30 – 7:00 pm**

**The Historic Trust's Red Cross Building**

605 Barnes St, Vancouver, WA

Come meet our slate of new board nominees and celebrate preservation accomplishments across the past year. All Washington Trust members and friends welcome!

**RSVP at [preservewa.org/members-meeting](https://preservewa.org/members-meeting)**