

THIS PLACE

**Preserving Civic Heritage:
Grant-Funded Restoration
of Washington's Historic
County Courthouses**

**The Lives (and Afterlives)
of Everett's Schooner
*Equator***

**Partner Showcase:
The African American
Community, Cultural &
Educational Society**

RevitalizeWA 2023

EXPLORING VITALITY IN VANCOUVER



**WASHINGTON TRUST
FOR HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

THIS PLACE

Fall 2023

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- 1 | GET INVOLVED
- 2 | PUBLIC POLICY NOTES
Federal Legislative Updates
- 4 | PRESERVING CIVIC HERITAGE
Grant-Funded Restoration of Washington's Historic County Courthouses
- 6 | EXPLORING VITALITY IN VANCOUVER
RevitalizeWA 2023 Recap
- 9 | EXCELLENCE ON MAIN AWARD WINNERS
Showcasing Outstanding People and Projects in Our Downtown Communities
- 11 | EVENT RECAP: 2023 ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING
- 13 | 2023 YOUTH HERITAGE PROJECT
Hanford Site and the Tri-Cities
- 16 | THE LIVES (AND AFTERLIVES) OF EVERETT'S SCHOONER *EQUATOR*
- 18 | PARTNER SHOWCASE: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY, CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY
- 20 | ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: KATIE ENDERS
- 22 | WHERE IN THE WA
- 23 | SUSTAINING SPONSORS
- 24 | THANKS TO YOU!

Cover: RevitalizeWA 2023 conference attendees in front of the historic Kiggins Theatre in downtown Vancouver, WA. Photo courtesy of Casey Evans Media.

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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

DECEMBER 12
Sivinski Holiday Benefit
Seattle, WA

Join us this December for the Sivinski Holiday Benefit—the Washington Trust’s annual celebration of local places, people, and preservation in our state. This year’s party will take place on Tuesday, December 12, from 5:30-8:30 pm at the Stimson-Green Mansion in Seattle. As always, all proceeds from the event will directly support the Valerie Sivinski Fund, a grant program that provides support to grassroots preservation projects across Washington. The party will include the announcement of the 2024 Valerie Sivinski Fund grant recipients alongside all the holiday cheer we can muster—including festive attire, holiday décor, appetizers, an open bar, and our famous raffle.

Unable to attend but still want to support the Valerie Sivinski Fund? Consider making a donation online at preservewa.org/sivinskifund.

preservewa.org/holidaybenefit

MARCH 4-7, 2024
National Historic Preservation Advocacy Week
Washington, D.C.

Save the date for National Historic Preservation Advocacy Week in March! Preservation Action and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers organize in-depth preservation policy trainings and briefings, exclusive tours, networking opportunities, and congressional office visits to advocate for funding and legislation that supports historic preservation. We’ll be looking for delegates to join us in D.C. in the coming months. If you’re interested, email info@preservewa.org to let us know! And if you’re not already on our “Preservation Issues and Advocacy Alerts” newsletter list, sign up on the public policy page on our website.

preservewa.org/public-policy

For more information about Washington Trust events or programs, please visit preservewa.org, or call our office at 206-624-9449.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

By Chris Moore, Executive Director

The big news from the federal government for November is that the federal government is still open for business! Like the rest of the country, we lament that the one thing Congress has achieved this fall is avoiding a shutdown (at least for the time being). Instead, lawmakers narrowly averted closure by passing a second continuing resolution that funds the government through at least January 19 (at which point the rhetoric will ramp up to fever pitch once again—Groundhog Day, anyone?). In less challenging times, the political theater could pass as a source of mild entertainment. But much is at stake for historic preservation in the federal budget for fiscal year 2024.

To begin, Congress needs to reauthorize the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). The HPF provides critical funding to State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices across the country, in addition to supporting several grant programs that actively promote identification, documentation, and rehabilitation of historic resources. First established in 1976, the HPF is authorized at \$150 million annually. In nearly 50 years of existence, the amount dedicated to the fund has never increased. Looked at another way: when adjusted for inflation, \$150 million in 1976

amounts to more than \$600 million in purchasing power today. What’s worse, the HPF authorization expires at the end of 2023. Failure to reauthorize would mean the end of Congressional payments into the fund altogether.

Thankfully, bipartisan legislation has been introduced that would reauthorize the HPF for another 10 years, at the same time increasing annual payments from \$150 million to \$250 million. That bill, H.R. 3350, currently has 19 co-sponsors. We are working with our Congressional delegation from Washington State to increase the number of co-sponsors and keep the focus on this important source of funding. And we are hopeful. Lawmakers have funded the HPF at record levels the past seven consecutive years, most recently providing \$204.5 million in fiscal year 2023. This increase improves the ability of 59 State Historic Preservation Offices and more than 200 Tribal Historic Preservation Offices to carry out their mandated responsibilities, including evaluation of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and review of projects that impact historic and cultural resources. Even so, more is needed, as funding from the bipartisan Infrastructure Law

continues to be deployed, further straining the capacity of SHPOs and THPOs.

As a result, the preservation community is seeking a total of \$225 million in HPF funding for 2024 to address the continued need. Here’s a summary of how these funds will support preservation activity nationwide:

- \$70 million for State Historic Preservation Offices to implement the National Register program, support rehabilitation of historic buildings, and provide critical review of projects impacting cultural resources;
- \$34 million for Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, distributed among 200 Tribes across the country working to protect Tribal heritage;
- \$40 million for Save America’s Treasures, a competitive grant program providing funding for bricks and mortar projects to rehabilitate our most significant places and sites;
- \$28 million for the African American Civil Rights Grant Program, protecting, documenting, and preserving sites and stories related to the African American struggle to gain equal rights;
- \$17 million for Paul Bruhn grants, supporting rehabilitation work of locally significant resources in rural areas;
- \$13 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities to preserve and repair historic buildings on HBCU campuses;
- \$11 million for the semiquincentennial celebration grants, to help commemorate the founding of the United States;
- \$7 million for the History of Equal Rights Grant Program, to preserve sites associated with efforts to achieve equal rights for all in America; and
- \$5 million for Underrepresented Communities grants to nominate more sites to the National Register of Historic Places representing diverse histories.



Not only do these funds support preservation activity in Washington State, they also work to leverage additional state funding. For example, in 2022, the Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP) received \$50,000 through the Underrepresented Communities grant. Funds were used to identify and document sites across the state significant to Washington’s African American community. While great strides were made to surface previously unrecorded stories and sites in the course of this grant project, researchers quickly found they were just scratching the surface. Recognizing this, DAHP requested an additional \$250,000 in the 2023-2025 state budget to continue this important work, which our state legislature provided. Survey and documentation are the foundation of preservation work. Information from these newly recorded sites and stories will help inform policy and future project planning, ensuring these resources are given the consideration they deserve.

Presently, the federal government is funded through January 19 (with several agencies, including the Department of the Interior, funded through February 2). Congress has three options leading up to that: 1) pass a full budget for fiscal year 2024; 2) approve another continuing resolution (partially funding the government and effectively kicking the budget can down the road once again), or 3) do nothing, resulting in a shutdown. To be fair, cultural resources represent just one of many programs that would be negatively impacted if Congress fails to agree on spending and the government shuts down, but make no mistake—the impact to historic resources throughout the state would be real.

Next March, we will once again be convening a delegation to travel to Washington, D.C., to speak with elected officials about the importance of historic preservation. For those interested in being part of the action, we invite you to join us for Preservation Advocacy Week 2024, March 4-7.



Left: Cavalry Baptist Church in Spokane, the oldest African American church in Spokane and one of the sites included in the survey of African American historic sites in Washington State funded by the HPF. Photo courtesy of Waymarking.

Opposite (bottom left): Paradise Creek Brewery (housed in the Old Post Office Building) in Pullman, which received a Paul Bruhn grant distributed through DAHP and the Washington Trust in 2021-2023. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.

Opposite (top right): The historic Rose Theatre in downtown Port Townsend, which received a Paul Bruhn grant distributed through DAHP and the Washington Trust in 2021-2023. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.



PRESERVING CIVIC HERITAGE

Grant-Funded Restoration of Washington’s Historic County Courthouses

By Abby Armato, Grants Coordinator

From serving as distinctive local landmarks to housing important municipal offices, historic county courthouses are often the center of community life. It is because of this civic heritage that the Washington State Legislature has been funding the Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation’s Historic County Courthouse Grant Program since 2005, investing more than \$21 million in restoration work for historic county courthouses. In the most recent grant cycle (2021-2023), three historic county courthouses received grant funds to support their crucial capital preservation projects. Read on to learn more about these courthouses and their history.

Lewis County Courthouse

Built in 1927, the historic Lewis County Courthouse was constructed during a boom in the county’s population. Within a decade, the town of Chehalis alone grew from fewer than 2,000 people to more than 4,500. Lewis County’s new courthouse was built to serve this growing population.

Designed by Jack DeForest Griffin, one of Washington State’s earliest architects, the new courthouse was built in the Beaux Arts architectural style. Griffin designed the building with a focus on daily function without sacrificing style. This balance was lauded by the local paper, *The Chehalis-Bee Nugget*, which reported in 1927 that the courthouse was “rated one of the most beautiful, from an architectural viewpoint, [and] also most serviceable, from the standpoint of convenience, of any that may be found in the Pacific Northwest.”

Over the decades, this beautiful-but-functional courthouse evolved to continue to meet the needs of the county. However, some of these changes masked some of the building’s original beauty. Since 1995, the county has been working to restore the courthouse’s historic character. Through the support of the Historic County Courthouse Grants Program, the Lewis County Courthouse has been able to continue exterior restorations, install historically accurate doors, and develop a new true color palette to repaint the interior spaces.



Okanogan County Courthouse

The historic Okanogan County Courthouse was built in 1915. Designed by architect George H. Keith, this Mission Revival building sits on a hill overlooking the downtown and the Okanogan River. Three stories tall, the courthouse features an 82-foot clock tower with a decorative cupola, curved parapets, and red roof tiles.

The town of Okanogan fought hard for the designation of county seat. When the county was first established in 1888, Ruby City served as the initial seat. At that time, Ruby City had an infamous reputation as an unruly town—so much so that the county’s treasury was kept in a can buried on a farm. Only six months later, voters opted to move the seat to Conconully. It remained there until the arrival of the Great Northern Railroad in 1914, when many called for the seat to relocate to a town near the new train. Okanogan was one of the towns that vied for this designation.

Throughout 1914, Okanogan and Omak went toe-to-toe in a hotly contended election. Okanogan’s campaigning included memorable public stunts, such as sending an armed car with \$12,000 in gold to Conconully—symbolizing the downpayment for a new courthouse. With political tactics like these, it is perhaps no surprise that Okanogan won the vote to be designated the new county seat.

Today, this historic—and fiercely won—courthouse leveraged funds from the Historic County Courthouse Grant Program to rehabilitate the copings along the parapets and window casements, rehabilitate the main entry stairs, and upgrade the existing HVAC system.

Walla Walla County Courthouse

Built in 1915, the historic Walla Walla County Courthouse was designed in the Classical Revival style. Standing three stories tall, this building is constructed in gray Indiana limestone. The front entrance has a large portico flanked by two columns. The interior features real marble, though much of the original “woodwork” was woodgrain painted on metal to make the building more fireproof.

The building was designed by Henry Osterman and his partner Victor Siebert. Immigrating to the U.S. from Germany in 1889, Osterman was a prominent architect in Walla Walla. Local papers spoke highly of Osterman, including the *Up-To-The-Times*, who said of Osterman and Siebert’s design for the courthouse: “With the completion of the courthouse, with its beautiful architectural design... the court house [sic] block will be a source of pride to all citizens.” Today, several of Osterman’s designs are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Through the support of the Historic County Courthouse Grant Program, the Walla Walla County Courthouse leveraged funds to perform electrical work and rehabilitate the exterior masonry designed by this prolific local figure.

The Historic County Courthouse Grant Program is a program of the Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation and is managed by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation under

contract with DAHP. We look forward to future reporting on the eight county courthouses receiving grant support in the 2023-2025 grant cycle through the program—stay tuned!

Learn more about the Historic County Courthouse Grant Program and the historic courthouses that have been a part of this program since 2005 on our website at preservewa.org/historic-courthouses. 📖



Opposite: The historic Lewis County Courthouse underwent exterior restoration as part of its grant work. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.

Above: The clock tower of the historic Okanogan County Courthouse. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.

Below: The historic Walla Walla County Courthouse, constructed in gray Indiana limestone. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.



EXPLORING VITALITY IN VANCOUVER

By Lydia Felty, Washington Main Street Resources Coordinator

As we settled into the historic Kiggins Theatre in downtown Vancouver on October 4 for the Opening Plenary of RevitalizeWA 2023, snacks and drinks in hand, excitement reverberated through the theatre.

At this point, pre-conference offerings were in full swing: dynamic field sessions to the remarkable Main Street of Ridgfield and Great American Main Street Award semifinalist Camas; crash courses on Main Street, historic preservation, and Certified Local Governments; and an evening lighting tour of Vancouver had already taken place, jumpstarting the conference and beginning to electrify the downtown.

At the Opening Plenary, Washington State Poet Laureate Arianne True delivered a dynamic, interactive keynote address that grounded us in the why of our work: Why does the work we do matter? Why do places matter? Why do each of us—nearly 350 preservationists, planners, Main Street practitioners, downtown development professionals, and more—choose to do this work every day? And, by extension, what brought each of us to this conference?

After the conference, one attendee highlighted one of our own favorite parts of RevitalizeWA: “I love having the conference embedded in a town, with all of the venues nestled into the most special places in the community.”

Each of our sessions, events, and activities really were nestled into downtown Vancouver, giving attendees the chance to explore, celebrate, and learn from this truly special community. We partied in Divine Consign, an old Woolworth that is now a nonprofit consignment furniture store; we celebrated some of the most exceptional entrepreneurs, organizers, and preservationists in the state at Providence Academy, a former orphanage, school, and regional headquarters for the Sisters of Providence; and we learned and got inspired in City Hall, Dandelion Teahouse and Apothecary, the Vancouver Community Library, and the Clark County Historical Museum—just to name a few.

Over the course of three days, we dove into everything from building resilient local economies to executing widescale infrastructure projects, from what adaptive reuse of beautiful historic buildings can look like to how strong local partnerships can benefit everyone downtown, learning both from our host community's initiatives and from projects around the state. We also took to the streets, visiting Officers Row in the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District, the Confluence Project Land Bridge, the Fourth Plain Corridor, new development at the waterfront and the Port of Vancouver's Terminal 1 project, and the City of Vancouver's forthcoming large-scale infrastructure project, learning from experts all along the way.

With gracious hosts, a gorgeous downtown, and something new to marvel at around each corner,

it feels like no surprise that one of our attendees explained the magic of Vancouver in one session by exclaiming, “It's like Disneyland!”

There's a really special magic that bubbles up in a historic downtown when Main Street organizations, preservationists, businesses, planners and city officials, and nonprofits from across sectors are all working together, and it feels even more special that we got to visit and learn from Vancouver at this precise moment in time, as all of those local stakeholders work together to help make Vancouver an incredible place to live, work, and play.

With this collective excitement bubbling at the surface after three days of dynamic sessions, we brought the conference to a close with our first-ever Main Street Pitch Competition. As we considered the power of Main Streets in healing our nationwide



Left: This year's PreserveWA Fellows (young professionals who attend the conference on scholarship) include, from left to right: Teagan Allen, Cameron Wong, Jaclyn Allen, Tim Prusa, Samy Hamiche, Sabrina Saitta, and Colin Carter.

Below: Conference attendees explore the Confluence Land Bridge during an on-site field session.



Left: Tanna Engdahl of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe welcomes conference attendees to her people's traditional and accustomed lands at the Opening Plenary.

Above: Panelists help kick off the conference with an onstage activity at the Opening Plenary. From left to right: Patrick Hall of the Downtown Everett Association, Jeronimo Roldan of the Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, Jay Baersten of the Washington State Historical Society, Huy Pham of Asian & Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation, Stephanie Button of the Historic Downtown Kennewick Partnership, and Washington State Poet Laureate Arianne True.



public health emergency of loneliness and isolation, six Main Street organizations pitched place-based projects that explored the intersection of play, social connection, and community health. After the pitches, attendees voted live on the winners who would receive project funding, while enjoying a scoop of local ice cream (did we mention that this was a pitch competition AND an ice cream social?). We're proud to announce that LaCrosse Community Pride won first place with their proposed Operation: Pool Motor, and the Downtown Everett Association took the runner-up spot with their Wintertide Village project. We look forward to seeing those pitches come to fruition—keep an eye on our social media for updates!

As we turn our attention to our 2024 conference, to be hosted in Walla Walla next October, we're excited to announce that—after more than a decade of hosting the conference under the name RevitalizeWA—we've decided that it's time to rebrand. We chose the name "PLACES" to represent the wide array of contexts already encompassed in our learning experiences together. From historic districts to cultural spaces, rural communities to urban neighborhoods, preservationists to entrepreneurs, we're all here for the same reason: our shared love of places. Great places don't just happen, and the PLACES Conference will continue to bring people together every year to learn, explore, and take action together. We commit to continuing to host a unique place-based conference, and we know that Walla Walla will be the perfect place to lean into this new name in 2024. See you there! 📍



Above: Sarah Kane of LaCrosse Community Pride (left) accepts the first place award at the Main Street Pitch Competition, alongside Johnson Bixby's Megan Dixon and Washington Main Street's Breanne Durham.

Below: Linda Haglund, formerly of the Wenatchee Downtown Association (now retired), speaks at the "Empowered to Lead" session in the beautiful Providence Academy Chapel.

All photos courtesy of Casey Evans Media.



EXCELLENCE ON MAIN AWARD WINNERS

Showcasing Outstanding People and Projects in Our Downtown Communities

By Breanne Durham, Washington Main Street Director

The Excellence on Main Awards are organized annually by the Washington State Main Street Program to celebrate exceptional entrepreneurs, organizers, and preservationists across Washington State. Organizations in the Washington Main Street network are invited to make nominations in a variety of categories. Through a competitive awards process, roughly a dozen people, places, or projects are recognized each year.

In 2023, we were delighted to celebrate the following awardees at the RevitalizeWA conference held in Vancouver in October:

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Great River Arts Festival, Vancouver

BRICK & MORTAR REHABILITATION

Key City Public Theatre, Port Townsend

OUTSTANDING SPECIAL PROJECT

Ghost Signs, Awnings, and Facades, Ritzville

OUTSTANDING PROMOTIONAL EVENT

Whale of a Sale, Anacortes

LEADERSHIP ON MAIN

Russell Carlson, Selah

ECONOMIC VITALITY

The Lido Collective, Mount Vernon

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

Tabatha Wiggins, Stevenson

LEGACY ON MAIN

Rico's Public House, Pullman

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

City Block Program, Bellingham

EXCELLENCE ON MAIN

Walawála Plaza, Walla Walla

Right: All Excellence on Main Award winners gather at Providence Academy in Vancouver in October 2023.



And for the fourth year running, the Excellence on Main celebration also included recognition of outstanding volunteers from local Main Street programs across the state, including:

- Cathy Enns, Anacortes
- Willow Falcon, Pullman
- Patrick Hall, Everett
- Sarah Laughlin, Camas
- Melissa Mattern, Stevenson
- Steve Oglesby, Vancouver
- Hallie Ralls, Centralia
- Dakota Renz, Prosser
- Pat Schmidt, Gig Harbor
- Paula Stringer, Issaquah
- Jamie Thompson, Colville
- Kelle Vandenberg, Ellensburg
- Sandrajean Wainwright, Langley

Congratulations and thank you to all of our 2023 Excellence on Main awardees and spotlighted volunteers! Learn more about each category, our 2023 awardees, and all past awardees by visiting preservewa.org/eom-archive. 📄



Above: John Rankin and Linda Kubik of the Ritzville Downtown Development Association accept the award for Outstanding Special Project for their facades, awnings, and ghost signs restoration.

Left: Among this year's celebrated volunteers was Everett Downtown Association outgoing board president Patrick Hall.

Below left: Michael Walker of Vancouver's Downtown Association (left) and Ricky Gaspar of Local Boy Tatau (center) accept the award for Outstanding Community Partnership.

Below right: Russell Carlson of Selah accepts the award for Leadership on Main.

All photos courtesy of Casey Evans Media.



Event Recap

2023 ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

By Kristy Conrad, Development Director

Following hot on the heels of a successful RevitalizeWA conference from October 4-6, the Washington Trust's Annual Members Meeting took place on a beautiful sunny evening in Vancouver. Playing host to the event was The Historic Trust's Red Cross Building, constructed in 1919 as a convalescent house to the adjacent Vancouver Barracks, now serving as an events venue.

Members and friends of the Washington Trust gathered to mingle, nosh, and listen to a short program by board president Betsy Godlewski and executive director Chris Moore. Before the speeches kicked off, the crowd raised a glass to Chris' leadership, given his recent 10-year anniversary as executive director.

Upon taking the mic, Chris highlighted some of our organization's 2023 accomplishments and activities with an impact upon southwest Washington. He noted the area's preponderance of Washington State Main Street Program Communities: Vancouver's Downtown Association, Downtown Camas Association, Ridgefield Main Street, and Stevenson Downtown Association. In these communities, Washington Trust staff members have recently supported major initiatives including strategic planning processes in Stevenson and Ridgefield, a major place activation project in downtown Stevenson, and a market study in Vancouver. Plus, in the spring of this year, the Washington State Legislature cemented the Washington State Main Street Program's pandemic-era funding increase into ongoing maintenance funding, in recognition of the clear economic impact that Main Street organizations have on their communities.

Chris also noted that the state legislature likewise continued its support of our state's four capital grant programs for historic barns, county courthouses, cemeteries, and theaters—programs belonging to the Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP), managed under



Above: The Historic Trust's Red Cross Building in Vancouver. Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.

Below: Former Washington Trust board member and The Historic Trust Director of Historic Preservation Holly Chamberlain (left) meets up with Washington Trust operations manager Cathy Wickwire. Photo courtesy of Breanne Durham.





contract by the Washington Trust. In the past grant cycle (2021-2023), these grant programs' southwest Washington recipients included: the Doble Farm barn in Longview, Gregory Farms Barn and Maggie's Farm Barn in Chehalis, the Lewis County Courthouse, the Sticklin Greenwood Cemetery in Centralia, and the Columbia Theatre in Longview and the 7th Street Theatre in Hoquiam.

Last of all, Chris observed that we were thrilled to partner with Vancouver's Downtown Association and DAHP to present our annual preservation and economic development conference, RevitalizeWA, in Vancouver over the previous week—our best-attended conference to date. Conference classroom sessions took place in venues across the city, from Providence Academy Chapel and the historic Kiggins Theatre to small businesses like Divine Consign, and field sessions took attendees to Camas and Ridgefield, across the Confluence Land Bridge, and through Fort Vancouver. (See the conference recap on page 6 for more details.)

After this summary of recent activities, Chris and Betsy moved into the voting portion of the evening's program. Per the Washington Trust's bylaws, our general membership votes on both those current board members returning to serve a second term of office and on the slate of new board nominees seeking to join in the coming year. Five board members were nominated to return to serve a second term on the board of directors. Returning to serve a second three-year term were Matt Inpanbutr of Seattle, Ray Rast of Spokane, and Bryan Zagers of Seattle. Returning to serve a second one-year term in our Young Professional role was Vancouver's own Michael Walker. These board members were unanimously voted to return by the assembled crowd.

Next, five new board members were presented as nominated to join the Washington Trust board of directors starting in 2024: Zoe Scuderi of Olympia (transitioning from a previous stint as a Young Professional board member to her first full three-year term), Dan Chandler of Kenmore, Paul Parker of Olympia, Kyle Walker of Coupeville, and Temple Lentz of Vancouver. These five nominees were unanimously voted to join the board by the assembled crowd, and we look forward to introducing them to you in further detail in the winter 2024 issue of our magazine! Stay tuned. 🍷

Above: Guests gather at the Annual Members Meeting. From left to right: Logan Camporeale, Larry Cebula, Nancy Ousley, Bryan Zagers, Steve Waite, Betsy Godlewski, Matt Inpanbutr, and Geronimo Roldan. Photo courtesy of Breanne Durham.

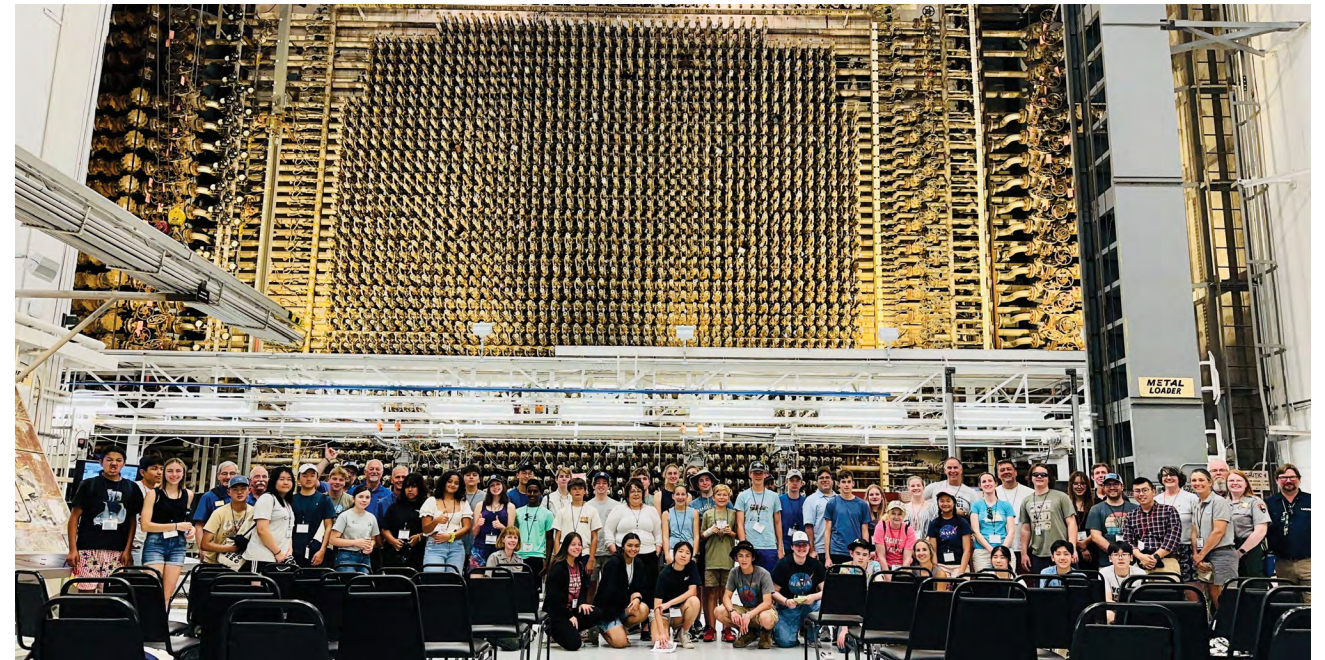
Below: Washington Trust board member Horace Foxall (left) and Asian & Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation executive director Huy Pham (right) raise a glass. Photo courtesy of Breanne Durham.



Hanford Site and the Tri-Cities

2023 YOUTH HERITAGE PROJECT

By Kristy Conrad, Development Director



Above: YHP students at the Hanford Site's B Reactor. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.

Every summer (with the exception of 2020 and 2021, when the pandemic forced us to take a hiatus), the Washington Trust partners with the National Park Service and the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to take 40 high school students on a four-day preservation field school we call the Youth Heritage Project (YHP). Students come from towns and cities across the state, and the site varies from year to year, but the goal is always the same: to immerse young people in our state's historic, cultural, and natural resources in order to nurture the next generation of Washington's advocates and activists. In the past few years, host sites have included historic Port Townsend, Olympic National Park, and North Cascades National Park.

This year, in July, our Youth Heritage Project took place in the eastern half of the state—specifically, at the Hanford Site and the Tri-Cities. While not intended to coincide with the release of *Oppenheimer* (sadly, Christopher Nolan was not among our planning partners), this year's YHP site and themes did overlap with some of the history explored in that

film, exposing students to Washington's important role in the Manhattan Project and its ongoing impact on today's world.

As part of YHP activities, students explored the Hanford Site, a decommissioned nuclear production complex originally built as part of the Manhattan Project during World War II. Alongside Oak Ridge, Tennessee and Los Alamos, New Mexico, the Hanford Site is now part of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park, established in 2014 and jointly managed by the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Park Service. In visiting the Hanford Site, students were introduced to the National Park Service's model of co-stewardship, in which federal agencies aim to steward national park lands in partnership with Tribes, acknowledging that national parks are located on indigenous ancestral lands and that Tribal governments deserve an equal voice in the planning and management of them. Upon their arrival, YHP student participants received a traditional welcome from the Wanapum Tribe; the following day, students visited the Wanapum



Heritage Center, where they engaged in activities with the Tri-Cities' four area Tribes: the Wanapum Tribe, Nez Perce Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and Yakama Nation.

Later in the week, students visited with the African American Community, Cultural, and Educational Society (AACCES) in Pasco, learning about the communities of workers who helped build the Manhattan Project and the history of segregation at the Hanford Site. They toured important African American cultural sites in Pasco and heard from members of the community about their experiences and the sites important to them. Students also examined the complexities and ethical issues surrounding nuclear science and technology, hearing from historian Adrienne Fletcher about her own grandmother's story of witnessing and surviving the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, Japan. Lastly, students learned about modern-day environmental clean-up efforts around the Hanford Site, led by the Washington State Department of Ecology in conjunction with area Tribes.

At the conclusion of the week, students presented in groups on topics related to Tribal sites and stories, the science behind the atomic bomb, the environmental impacts of nuclear production, and the local communities and labor force behind the Hanford Site. At a Town Hall meeting, they presented their proposals on how the Hanford Site's stories could be told to educate and engage the public, to a panel of experts that included the Wapanum Heritage Center's Director Lela Buck, State Historic Preservation Officer Dr. Allyson Brooks, and National Park Service historian Chris Johnson.

Above: YHP students gather outside the Wanapum Heritage Center. Photo courtesy of Huy Pham.

Below: Students listen to a Tribal member at the Wanapum Heritage Center. Photo courtesy of Richard O. Zimmerman.



We're thrilled that this year's YHP at the Hanford Site and Tri-Cities was such a resounding success, and our profound thanks go to the many partners, funders, and sponsors who helped make it possible. Stay tuned for the announcement of our 2024 YHP site and application period early next year! 🇺🇸



Left: Students tour the Hanford Site with a National Park Service guide. Photo courtesy of Becky Burghart.

Below: The exterior of B Reactor at the Hanford Site. Photo courtesy of Richard O. Zimmerman.



THE LIVES (AND AFTERLIVES) OF EVERETT’S SCHOONER *EQUATOR*

By Kristy Conrad, Washington Trust Development Director,
and Alex Gradwohl, Maritime Washington Program Director

Over her 135 years, the *Equator* has accumulated more than her fair share of ghosts and legends. The pygmy schooner was built in 1888 in San Francisco by shipwright Matthew Turner. Hailed as “the ‘granddaddy’ of big-time wooden shipbuilding on the Pacific Coast,” Turner reportedly built more sailing vessels than any other single shipbuilder in America—228 seagoing vessels across a 37-year career.

The *Equator* was originally built as a copra (coconut) trading ship. After surviving a major South Pacific tropical cyclone in her first year, the *Equator* was chartered by author Robert Louis Stevenson, who sailed with his wife from Honolulu to the Gilbert Islands. The voyage became the basis for Stevenson’s travelogue *In the South Seas*.

In the 1890s, the *Equator* was equipped with a steam engine and worked as a tender (support ship) for salmon cannery operations in Alaska. In 1915, she traveled to Seattle, where—apart from a short stint with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey—she spent the rest of her working life as a tugboat. In 1956, she was abandoned on the coast of Jetty Island outside Everett as part of a breakwater with other discarded vessels.

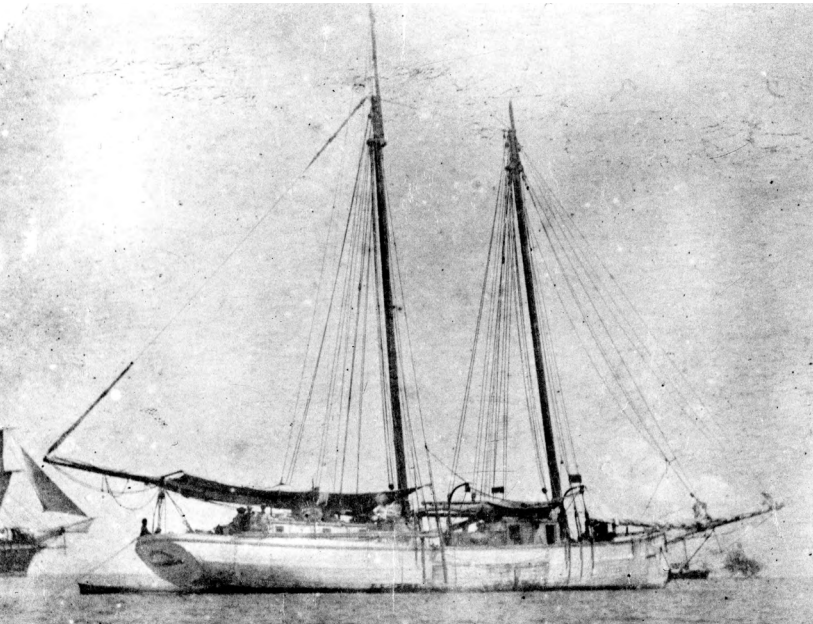
In the 1960s, determined Everett dentist Eldon Schalka led a crusade to save the *Equator*. Volunteers hauled the vessel ashore, cleaned her up, and successfully nominated the *Equator* to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972, making her Everett’s first listing. Unfortunately, Schalka’s



Above: The *Equator* working as a tug at the Montlake Cut in 1934. Photo courtesy of the Seattle Municipal Archives.

Bottom left: Schooner *Equator* at Apia, Samoa, December 1889. Photo courtesy of San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

Bottom right: Schooner *Equator* as part of the Jetty Island breakwater in 1956. Photo courtesy of the Port of Everett.



untimely death in a plane crash soon after derailed restoration efforts.

Despite several preservation attempts in subsequent decades, the *Equator* was reduced to a mere hull by 1980, when she was moved to the Port of Everett’s Marina Village and, later, 10th Street and Craftsman Way. There, left to her ghosts, the *Equator* was said to be visited by dancing lights at night, and psychics reported that they were the ghosts of Robert Louis Stevenson and his friend, Hawaiian King Kalakaua.

In November 2017, hope dimmed further when the *Equator*’s back collapsed. In 2022, the Port of Everett assumed custody, determined to memorialize her storied past.

In June 2023, a community celebration of life drew 300 attendees to bid the *Equator* farewell. The Port then partnered with a team of archaeologists and students from Texas A&M University to document the historic vessel using 3D laser scanning technology (LiDAR), high-definition photography, and photogrammetry, alongside traditional recording methods. The team meticulously documented the *Equator* for posterity and conducted important research on 19th-century boatbuilding. The work will serve as a case study for future vessel documentation. “This is a form of preservation, forever,” Professor Piotr Bojakowski said.

The Port of Everett will further honor the *Equator* with a new ship-themed playground along the waterfront, as well as a new interpretive exhibit at the Waterfront Center with historical photos, a timeline and map of the vessel’s many adventures, and a model of the ship. Additionally, sculptor John Grade will transform some of the *Equator*’s timbers into public art, further ensuring that her remarkable stories live on. 📌



Above right: The hull of the *Equator* under shelter in 2018. Photo courtesy of the Port of Everett.

Right: The Texas A&M team at work on the *Equator* in June 2023. Photo courtesy of the Port of Everett.



Partner Showcase

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY, CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY (AACCES)

The Washington Trust works with a number of partner organizations in helping to champion and support preservation and heritage across Washington State. In July 2023, as part of our annual Youth Heritage Project, we traveled to the Tri-Cities, where we introduced high school students to the work of the African American Community, Cultural, and Educational Society (AACCES) in Pasco.

Our new Partner Showcase article series aims to utilize the statewide platform of the magazine to introduce readers and followers to organizations that do important work in preservation and heritage conservation across Washington State.

Tell us about your organization's mission and work. Where are you located, and what communities do you serve in Washington State?

As a nonprofit membership organization, AACCES is committed to conducting business ethically and responsibly with integrity, honesty, and respect. We operate in Benton and Franklin Counties, mainly in the Tri-Cities. Our mission is to engage the mid-Columbia community in improving quality of life for African Americans and increasing awareness about African American participation and contributions through cultural and educational activities and

outreach programs. We focus on addressing the needs of the African American community without discriminating against non-African American communities or constituents.

Tell us about a recent project or initiative that your organization has undertaken that represents your overall goals and values.

Most recently, AACCES participated in the Washington Trust's Youth Heritage Project held in Tri-Cities in July 2023. AACCES volunteers presented about the history of East Pasco and what living in this area during the Manhattan Project was like from the perspective and experience of its Black residents. It was a very impactful and informative event for YHP participants.

How have you interacted with preservation and/or the Washington Trust so far?

AACCES has interacted with preservation by participating in the successful effort to get Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church and Kurtzman Park in Pasco added to the National Register of Historic Places. AACCES has also recorded and preserved many oral histories that document the life and work of African Americans who migrated to Washington

State for employment on the Hanford Site during and after the Manhattan Project of the 1940s. Recently, AACCES was instrumental in the placement of a monument honoring the Bush Family (George Bush and William Owen Bush) on the campus of Washington State University Tri-Cities.

What does "preservation" mean to you, and how does it impact your organization's work?

Preservation means safeguarding and maintaining something of importance or historical value. It gives our organization inspiration and is part of our mission.

What is your vision for your organization's future? In that future, how could preservation be a better ally and support your work more?

In the future, we want to continue building bridges and bringing people together through educational opportunities and outreach that includes the entire community. Being aware of preservation opportunities and projects would be a big help to AACCES.

How can people get involved with your work?

It's easy to get involved in working with AACCES by becoming a member or volunteer! For more information, check out our website at aacces.com.

Opposite: YHP students visited Kurtzman Park in Pasco, which AACCES helped nominate to the National Register of Historic Places. Photo courtesy of Becky Burghart.

Left: Members of AACCES present to Youth Heritage Project students in Pasco in July 2023. Photo courtesy of Becky Burghart.

Below: Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church in Pasco, which AACCES helped nominate to the National Register of Historic Places. Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.



Alumni Spotlight

KATIE ENDERS

The Washington Trust works to engage young people in preservation through all of our programs, but two in particular: the **Youth Heritage Project**, a four-day immersive preservation field school that takes place every summer, and the **PreserveWA Fellowship**, which provides scholarship support to young professionals seeking to attend our annual statewide preservation and economic development conference, PLACES (formerly known as RevitalizeWA).

Our new Alumni Spotlight article series showcases some of the talented young people who have passed through those programs, what their experience meant to them, and how they continue to engage with preservation today.

Tell us about yourself. Where are you from? How did you come to be interested in history/preservation/placemaking?

My name is Katie Enders, and I grew up in Spokane. I hold a B.A. in History from Eastern Washington University, as well as an M.S. in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Texas at Austin. I was introduced to preservation through a public history class I took at EWU. One of the course's guest speakers was Megan Duvall (the wonderful Historic Preservation Officer for the City/County of Spokane), and I was lucky enough to start an internship with her not long after she spoke to my class. From that point on, I was hooked on preservation.

How did you first interact with the Washington Trust?

I heard about the Washington Trust in 2018 though the history department at EWU and was lucky enough to be selected as a PreserveWA Fellow for RevitalizeWA that year.

What was memorable about that first experience with the Trust? How did it impact you, personally and/or professionally? How did it affect your studies or pursuits afterwards?

I knew I was interested in preservation when I attended RevitalizeWA in 2018, but I didn't know where I would channel that interest. I remember attending a session that was led by planners from the City of Tacoma which proved to be pivotal. Up until that point, I wasn't really aware of the planning profession, but I found the work they did extremely compelling. The conference showed me the variety of professions that can fall under the preservation

Below: Katie Enders in front of a historic building in 2023. Photo courtesy of Katie Enders.



umbrella, and it inspired me to think more broadly than I had before. I ended up deciding to pursue an advanced degree in urban planning, and I think that attending RevitalizeWA was one of the steps I needed to get there.

What are you doing now? What do you envision as your career trajectory?

Today I am an assistant planner at the Puget Sound Regional Council in the economic development program. When I think of my career arc, I hope to continue working in the space where planning, preservation, and economic development overlap to build vibrant communities that folks love to live in.

What are your thoughts on the future of preservation? How do you think the preservation movement here in Washington can address some of our communities' challenges, or where should it adapt/improve in order to do so?

I think that making space for underrepresented groups to tell their stories, as well as ensuring that the financial benefits of preservation are accessible to all, are of vital importance to the field moving forward. I also believe preservation holds an often-overlooked piece of the puzzle when it comes to affordable housing, climate change, and gentrification. For preservation to reach its full potential, we need to engage deeply with the community, elected leaders, planners, economic developers, real estate professionals, and more, so that everyone understands the benefits of preservation.

What would you tell other young people about getting into the field of preservation? Any advice that you would offer them?

If you know for sure that you want to pursue a degree in preservation, that is great, but also know that there are a wide variety of alternate degree and career paths that will allow you to advocate for preservation. If you take a less traditional approach, however, I would recommend pursuing internships and classes related to preservation.

What is your favorite place in Washington State, and why?

Tough question, but I can say the walk from the Browne's Addition Local Historic District to downtown Spokane will always be near and dear to my heart. 🍂



Above: Katie Enders (second from left) as part of the PreserveWA Fellows cohort at the RevitalizeWA conference in Port Townsend in 2018. Photo courtesy of Otto Greule.

Below: Street signs in Browne's Addition Local Historic District in Spokane. Photo courtesy of the Spokane Spokesman-Review.



WHERE IN THE WA

Looks like we stumped everyone with last month's Where in the WA photo! No guesses were submitted about the historic resource or site featured in the photo in the summer 2023 issue. But we're here to help lend an oar!

The photo features a traditional Wanapum dug-out canoe, located in the welcoming area of the Wanapum Heritage Center in Mattawa. Constructed in 2016 in collaboration between the Wanapum Tribe and the Grant County Public Utility District, the 50,000-square-foot Wanapum Heritage Center includes permanent and temporary exhibit space, a research library, event space, and a high-tech

language center for recording the few remaining fluent speakers of the Wanapum language. The center's large glass windows frame stunning views of the Wanapum's ancestral homelands and the Columbia River.

This past July, our Youth Heritage Project student participants were fortunate to visit the Wanapum Heritage Center, where they not only toured the galleries and exhibits but also engaged in activities with the four Tri-Cities area Tribes: the Wanapum, Nez Perce, Umatilla, and Yakama. (Learn more about this year's Youth Heritage Project on page 13.)



Above: Visitors approach the Wanapum Heritage Center in Mattawa. Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.

Sadly, this was the last Where in the WA feature to be featured in this magazine. After a long run of many years, this recurring feature is retiring. We appreciate all of the followers (and guessers) who have engaged with Where in the WA in the past, and we look forward to bringing you many more exciting and informative recurring features in issues to come!

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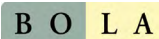
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Individual and corporate memberships are available at a variety of price points, and annual membership fees are fully tax-deductible! Questions? Email Development Director Kristy Conrad at kconrad@preservewa.org.

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- Complimentary tour of the historic Stimson-Green Mansion for member and guest.
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