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Rare Japanese Ground Purification Ceremony for Japanese Garden Gatehouse Construction

In preparation for construction of the Japanese Garden Gatehouse, a *Jichinsai* ceremony will be performed on Monday, June 16, 2008 at 10 a.m. in the Washington Park Arboretum at 1075 Lake Washington Blvd. E. The *Jichinsai* ceremony is a Shinto ritual intended to calm the *kami* (spirit) of the earth whenever construction of a new building or other structure begins.

The Japanese Garden Advisory Council invites visitors to celebrate the recently landmarked gardens and the groundbreaking for the new gatehouse by viewing the Shinto ground purification ceremony, enjoying Seattle Kokon Taiko drumming, and strolling through the garden. Reverend Koichi Barrish of the Tsubaki Grand Shrine of America will perform the *Jichinsai*.

It is believed that without going through the protocol of requesting permission from the earth *kami*, any building constructed would anger the *kami* and lead to its destruction. Another purpose of the *Jichinsai* is to pray that the actual construction proceeds without any incidents. *Shizumemono*, a ground pacifying protective amulet, will be placed under the construction site.

The new entry structure will create more visibility for the garden and be an entrance appropriate for one of the finest Japanese Gardens in the United States. Construction begins in June 2008 and will be completed in early 2009.

Seattle architects Hoshide Williams designed the gatehouse with landscape design by Nakano and Associates. The structure includes a bronze Nyujo gate designed and built by sculptor Gerard Tsutakawa. The gatehouse features a community room, public restrooms, expanded maintenance and ticketing facilities, and space for a small gift shop.

This project is the result of successful fund raising from private and public donations. A generous gift of \$200,000 from the Tateuchi Foundation provides the funding for the Tateuchi Community Room. The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, the Hugh and Jane Ferguson Foundation, the Pendleton and Elisabeth Miller Foundation, the Seattle Foundation, the Seattle Garden Club, and 4culture contributed funding, as did many friends and supporters of the garden. Pro Parks Levy funding contributed an additional \$450,000 toward the gatehouse project.

For further information please contact Japanese Garden Events Coordinator Karen Lightfeldt at klightfeldt@comcast.net.

Upcoming Seattle landmark nominations

The Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board will consider the following nominations at its meeting on Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. in the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue, 40th Floor, Room 4060. The public is invited to attend the meeting and provide brief comments. Prior to the meeting, written comments can be sent to the staff of the Landmarks Preservation Board at beth.chave@seattle.gov. Copies of the Landmark nominations are online at: http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/preservation/landmarks_current_nom.htm. These documents are large and may take sometime to download.

Nominations:

Coca Cola Bottling Plant, 1313 East Columbia Street
Cinerama, 2100 Fourth Avenue

Crosscut online magazine

June 9, 2008

Unsustainable Seattle

By Knute Berger

Necessity is the mother of preservation. At least some places it is. Take Cuba, where an estimated 60,000 pre-1960 cars are still on the road. These so-called "yank tanks" — classic Chevys, DeSotos, Plymouths etc. — were kept rolling not because they were historic but because the Cubans had to make do after the U.S. embargo cut off their American car supply. They've nurtured, coddled, and improvised to keep their old wheels turning. Now, as times change, the old cars have become a tourist attraction — a slice of heritage on rolling rubber. That provides a whole new incentive to keep them going (and they can, by the way, be retrofitted for fuel efficiency, too), but they wouldn't exist today if they hadn't been needed, if the Cubans hadn't been forced to rely on Cold War-era ingenuity.

Americans have no such incentives. Despite global warming fears and greater competition for resources, we're still happily throwing useable things away. We pay lip service to "sustainability," but the modern ethic is still biased toward the new. We aren't a duct-tape society, though that will likely have to change.

As a result, historic preservationists have to make their arguments based on significance, hoping for tax breaks or government grants or a landmark designation will protect the old from being replaced by the new, because the old are demonstrably important, not because they still have life or use left in them.

Buying new rather than fixing the old is almost always the preferred public policy, whether it's stadiums, bridges, ferry boats, city halls, or libraries. Building new stuff makes developers and bureaucrats happy. But one wonders if, for the sake of the environment and growing taxpayer burdens, we'll have to learn to be more thrifty and more adaptive.

Historic preservation walks hand-in-hand with the kind of sustainable approach that says sometimes "making do" is much better than thinking big. We're trying to build green, but often that's simply a new rationale for old-fashioned 20th century consumption. We haven't outgrown "planned obsolescence," the phenomenon that industrial designer Brooks Stevens defined as "instilling in the buyer the desire to own something a little newer, a little better, a little sooner than is necessary." In fact, our economy still counts on it.

Those pushing new development often cite safety concerns — sometimes legitimately — and in Seattle, making things more eco-friendly (like "green" highrises) is a common justification for tearing down old structures. But rarely do they factor in what is called "embodied energy," which is the energy used to build something in the first place. A building is the physical manifestation of all the carbon used to create it in the first place. Tear it

down, you not only have a solid waste problem with all the debris (about 30 percent of waste comes from construction and demolition debris), but you waste all that embodied energy.

In May, Historic Seattle hosted a talk here by Donovan D. Rypkema, an economic development consultant based in Washington, D.C., whose company, PlaceEconomics, specializes in the revitalization of areas through preservation strategies. I missed it, but fortunately Historic Seattle posted the text on their Web site, and it is worth reading in full.

On the topic of "embodied energy," Rypkema points out that while the "green building" movement touts energy efficiency in new construction, it tends to ignore conserving energy that is already expended. "[T]he energy embodied in the construction of a building is 15 to 30 times the annual energy use."

He continues:

Razing historic buildings results in a triple hit on scarce resources. First, we're throwing away thousands of dollars of embodied energy. Second, we are replacing it with materials vastly more consumptive of energy. What are most historic houses built from? Brick, plaster, concrete and timber. What are among the least energy consumptive of materials? Brick, plaster, concrete and timber. What are major components of new buildings? Plastic, steel, vinyl and aluminum. What are among the most energy consumptive of materials? Plastic, steel, vinyl and aluminum. Third, recurring embodied energy savings increase dramatically as a building life stretches over fifty years. You're a fool or a fraud if you say you are an environmentally conscious builder and yet are throwing away historic buildings, and their components.

When you calculate embodied energy and building longevity, Rypkema says, it makes sense to save a less energy-efficient building that lasts 100 years than a 24 percent more-energy-efficient building that will last only 40 years. And much new construction, as you may have noticed, is not built to last. If you squint a little, some of today's instant townhouses already look like tomorrow's tenements.

Rypkema also says the Environmental Protection Agency is asleep at the switch when it comes to sustainable development, a term that is nearly absent from its own 2006 strategic plan. But not as absent as "historic preservation," which is never mentioned.

Greens and preservationists should be allied. But that's often not the case. In the recent dispute over the Ballard Manning's/Denny's, both the developer and urban advocates argued that tearing it down was meeting the city's goals for greater density and mixed-use development. So, too, demolishing the old Waldo Hospital, with its lovely old grove. A slew of wonderful old Capitol Hill apartments and street retail structures along Broadway were condemned earlier this year to make way for a staging area for Sound Transit station construction. Pioneer Square and the International District will be squeezed by encroaching high-rises. And residential neighborhoods are feeling pressures from a building boom enabled by city policies allowing taller, denser, and faster-track development.

During the Nickels years, the mayor's embrace of "green building" has added an environmental gloss to land-use policies that encourage the destruction of existing structures. It's served up in the name of protecting the environment, but the formula is unsustainable by any reasonable definition: It's not as eco-friendly as advertised, it's environmentally inefficient (often more energy wasted than conserved), and even if it goes as planned, it will transform the city beyond all recognition — it fosters displacement and disconnect, not stewardship. And that's leaving aside the problems of affordability and class bias in density strategies.

In the meantime, preservationists have yet to fully embrace ideas of sustainability. Heritage activists are too often focused on one-shot preservation projects, or are so preoccupied with the past that they seem disinterested in the city that is to come. Others tend to maintain a rather elite view of preservation — they are satisfied if the monuments and mansions are surviving, but everything else is of little concern.

Greens often view preservationists as Luddite obstructionists lacking imagination. This attitude was prevalent during the Seattle Monorail Project battle earlier this decade, which pitted "enlightened" transportation advocates in an almost generational war against oldtimers who questioned the line's impact on the city. The monorail's advocates seemed willing to sacrifice anything to "rise above it all" — to rise above what they saw as an old-

fashioned city stuck in the past. More recently, the Manning's/Denny's activists were repeatedly charged with being opposed to development, even though they were in fact begging the city and developers to consider building a taller condo complex than current zoning allowed if that could save the diner.

So while greens and preservationists have some causes in common — a desire to protect farmland, an agreement about the need for land use regulation, and a skepticism about extreme property rights arguments — they are often working at cross purposes in a false "future versus the past" paradigm.

Many preservationists have yet to make the connection that a building saved can make a real difference environmentally. The landmarking process tends to drive preservation efforts into narrow channels of thinking. ("Is it Google?" "Did Rutherford B. Hayes sleep there?") A few historic "trees" are saved, but the heritage forest is mowed down.

That comparison is apt as the city's tree preservation laws do much the same thing: protect exceptional trees while allowing the tree canopy to be virtually clearcut by private property owners. Some on the City Council have caught on to that absurdity (Sally Clark, Richard Conlin). But what needs to be pointed out is that tree preservation and historic preservation are basically the same battle: finding ways to have a greener, sustainable city. Saving existing trees and structures accomplishes the same purpose.

Rypkema forcefully makes the point that greens, sustainability advocates, and preservationists must work together:

When you rehabilitate a historic building, you are reducing waste generation. When you reuse a historic building, you are increasing recycling. In fact, historic preservation is the ultimate in recycling.

At most perhaps 10% of what the environmental movement does advances the cause of historic preservation. But 100% of what the preservation movement does advances the cause of the environment.

You cannot have sustainable development without a major role of historic preservation, period. And it's about time we preservationists start hammering at that until it is broadly understood.

He makes several key points. One is that while the goals of the "smart growth" urbanization strategy are largely supported by preservation and adaptive re-use, while smart growth itself doesn't even pay lip service to historic preservation. Another is that other cities have figured out how to do it better than supposedly progressive towns like Seattle:

Today cities around the country are racing each other who can adopt "green building" ordinances the fastest. Such centers of environmental activism as San Francisco, Berkley, and Santa Fe are, of course, leading the way. And what are they doing? Encouraging or mandating central vacuum systems, back draft dampers, bicycle racks and waterless toilets. And that's fine, I guess, but again misses the larger picture. Santa Fe, certainly one of the most important historic cities in America, is just about to adopt a 110-page "Sustainable Santa Fe" document. Historic preservation in that initiative? Not even mentioned.

Meanwhile, Dubuque, Iowa, is far ahead of any of those places. It is in the process of designating its 28 square block warehouse district as a pilot project for a comprehensive Energy Efficiency Zone. And what does Dubuque have as a basic principle? That the adaptive reuse of those warehouse structures is key for energy conservation for Iowa's future. I'm telling you, the model for real sustainable development is not going to be San Francisco, Santa Fe or Berkley, but Dubuque, Iowa.

After Rypkema's visit to here, he was impressed by Seattle as a laboratory of ideas, but he also expressed concern about the unintended consequences of the city's push for density uber alles. He saw wonderful older apartment buildings doomed to the wrecking ball that would be replaced by less affordable (and perhaps less permanent) structures and was concerned about the displacement of small, neighborhood retailers who were being priced out by development:

Walking around Seattle neighborhoods, talking to neighborhood activists, developers, preservationists and city officials, here's my observation — there are unintended consequences to this "density above all" approach that need to be addressed. In Seattle three other important public policy priorities seem to be being sacrificed at the altar of density — affordable housing, historic preservation, and small business. ...

Historic preservation in most of America has moved from being an end in itself — save old buildings in order to save old buildings — to being a vehicle for larger, and perhaps even more important ends. ... [T]he myopic focus on "density" is putting that substantial contribution of historic preservation at risk.

As a city that has economically benefited so much from historic preservation, you'd think the value of it would be a no-brainer, even without the eco argument. And we do get it situationally. The Pike Place Market is a great example of how preservation can serve multiple goals — generating urban vitality, supporting local food and crafts, creating affordable housing, serving as both a tourist attraction and a centerpiece of civic identity. The \$75 million market levy that will be on the ballot in November is the kind of basic maintenance and improvement measure the Market needs and a public investment in much more than history.

Seattle has yet to integrate preservation and sustainability more broadly. But the urgency increases with the rate of change, with the impacts on climate, and with more and more battlegrounds outside of downtown and inside the neighborhoods. A few people get it — Peter Steinbrueck, for one — but we're still a long way from using the combined muscle of the environmental and historic preservation movements to create a city that reflects the best of the past and the future.

Open House at Seattle horticulturist's garden

Arthur Lee Jacobson, author of *Trees of Seattle*, will open his Montlake neighborhood garden to visitors on Saturday and Sunday, June 21-22, to celebrate the Summer Solstice. Visitors can stroll his garden from noon until 6:00 p.m. both days at 2215 E. Howe Street. For more information about his garden, please visit: <http://www.arthurleej.com/opengarden5.html>, or call 206-328-TREE.

Seattle City Councilmember Sally Clark on heritage funding

Judy Bentley, a South Seattle Community College instructor on Pacific Northwest history, contacted Seattle City Councilmember Sally Clark recently with the following informative exchange:

May 22, 2008

Dear Ms. Clark - I'm writing to ask for your support for heritage funding in the city budget. Our Seattle is growing rapidly, our neighborhoods are changing drastically, and some sense of history and heritage anchors and gives perspective to residents in such times. As a member of the board of the Southwest Seattle Historical Society, I spent most of my volunteer hours raising funding for the Log House Museum we operate. We apply for grants, sponsor fund-raising events, and constantly ask for donations, but we still struggle to keep the museum open. We ask the city to fund heritage as it does the arts. Thank you.

Judy Bentley

June 6, 2008

Hello, Judy - Thanks for your note regarding support for heritage-specific funds. I've met with other heritage funding advocates who make a great case. At this time of the year, the best target for your advocacy is the Mayor and the Mayor's Office for Arts and Culture. The Mayor's side of the shop is building their proposed budget for 2009-2010 over the next few months. It would be ideal for any proposal to be already included in the proposed budget once it is forwarded to Council. The Mayor delivers the proposed budget in late September. Then Council works through the proposal making amendments where necessary. I should note that we are in a down year in terms of the economy. It is highly likely that the Mayor will propose cuts to existing department budgets. That makes it tough to add funds for new priorities. Please keep in touch as we move into the Council's work on the budget this fall. Thank you again for writing,

Sally J. Clark
Seattle City Council

Children's Hospital Draft DEIS available for public comment

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Draft Master Plan are available for public review and comment, related to proposed expansion of Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center (CHRMC). The Seattle Department of Planning and Development (DPD) is lead agency.

Project Number: 3007521

Project Name: Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center

Address: 4800 Sand Point Way NE

Project Description: Council Land Use Action to create a new major institution master plan for Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center. The plan proposes new height limits and expansion of institutional boundaries, involving a rezone. Among the studied alternatives, the plan identifies expansion to the west to include Laurelon Terrace in the major institution overlay, as well as the Hartmann Building at 4561 Sand Point Way NE (Project #3007696). The City of Seattle Department of Planning and Development has prepared the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Information Available: A copy of the DEIS and of the Draft Master Plan are available for review at the Downtown Seattle Public Library, 1000 Fourth Avenue; and at the Northeast Branch Library, 6801 35th Ave NE. Additional information about the project and a limited number of copies of the DEIS are available at the DPD Public Resource Center, address below. The Public Resource Center is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 7:30am-5:30 pm and Tuesday, Thursday: 10:30 am-5:30 pm. Copies of the DEIS are free, though DPD charges postage prior to mailing the document. Call (206) 684-8467 for details. Please send a check payable to the City of Seattle to:

DPD Public Resource Center
PO Box 34019
700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, Washington 98124-4019

Public Hearing: DPD will hold a public hearing to gather comments on the DEIS on Thursday, July 10, 6 – 8 pm at the Center for Urban Horticulture, Northwest Horticultural Society Hall, 3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle, WA 98105. This room is accessible to persons with disabilities. Print and communication access may be provided by prior request.

Written Comments: Written comments on the DEIS may be submitted through July 25, 2008. Send comments to:

Department of Planning and Development
Attn: Scott Ringgold
scott.ringgold@seattle.gov
PO Box 34019
700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, Washington 98124-4019

New Grant and Technical Assistance to Encourage Community Center Schools

Is your state facing threats of demolition or abandonment of neighborhood schools? When new schools are built, can your children walk to their school? Do decision-makers understand the many roles schools play within your community? In addition to reaching educational objectives, do you believe that schools can serve other purposes in your neighborhood?

Concerned about the abandonment of older neighborhood schools and the siting of new schools outside of communities, the National Trust is offering an opportunity for organizations and coalitions in up to five states to

analyze their state's current policies and develop an educational outreach program with policy recommendations to help citizens and officials make informed choices when spending their limited dollars on school facilities. Selected organizations will receive a year of technical assistance and a \$6,000 grant to: 1) research state policies and practices; 2) convene a policy summit to develop recommendations; 3) develop educational materials; and 4) hold a press event to announce policy findings. By participating in this program, organizations will secure community-centered schools for their state through the implementation of state-level policies. The proposal deadline is July 14, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. eastern.

Through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and with support from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, the National Trust launched the Helping Johnny Walk to School: Sustaining Communities through Smart School Siting Policies program to help localities site their schools in a way that not only achieves their educational objectives, but also anchors the local neighborhood, supports better public health, creates a cleaner environment, spurs economic development, and offers additional amenities to the community.

Since publishing the seminal work *Why Johnny Can't Walk to School: Historic Neighborhood Schools in the Age of Sprawl* and listing the threat to older neighborhood schools on the America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Sites list in 2000, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has continually sought ways to raise awareness about the important link between community vitality and walkable neighborhood schools. This new program is a program of the National Trust Center for State and Local Policy which provides technical assistance, trains advocates, and conducts research on policies that impact the country's historic resources. Partners in this work with include authors Constance Beaumont and Tom Hylton, as well as organizations such as Safe Routes to School, The Rural School and Community Trust, and the 21st Century School Fund.

For more information about this issue and details about applying for this new grant opportunity, visit <http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/historic-schools/> or contact Renee Viers Kuhlman, Director of Special Projects, Center for State and Local Policy, at Phone: 202-588-6234, e-mail: renee_kuhlman@nthp.org.

The Stranger

June 12, 2008

Invasive Species - It's Time to Deal with Seattle's Town-House Invasion by Dominic Holden

Town houses are the cockroach of Seattle's latest building boom. Colonizing almost every neighborhood, the shared-wall cluster houses are typically characterized by blockades of fencing, concrete driveways leading to interior bays of garages, and gabled roofs that replace the character of whatever was torn down to make room for them. From the street, it's often impossible to see the front door. The effect is discord with the neighborhood—an invasion of pests. In the past 14 years, the city has issued permits to build 8,058 new town houses. Most are cheap interpretations of bungalows, squished into awkward proportions above the street—lifting residents far above the sidewalk and isolating them in bastions accessible only by car.

City officials are trying to make these bugs metamorphose into models for urban density and neighborhood charm. Later this month, the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) will hand off three years of work revising city codes that determine what town houses can look like to the city council. Grabbing that baton is Council Member Sally Clark, who in January became chair of the council's land-use committee. But she's still nowhere near the finish line. A community forum on Saturday, June 7, gave a hint at why resolution on town houses remains elusive. Sitting to Clark's right in a crowded theater at the Capitol Hill Arts Center was Brittani Ard, a private contractor who helps developers get city permits to build town houses. Ard's name appears on more town-house permit applications than anyone else's. Last year alone, Ard says, she helped developers get the nod for 400 town-house projects. "If you want to know how to shoehorn too many units in a lot that shouldn't have them, Brittani is the person you need to go talk to," says David Miller, president of the Maple Leaf Community Council. Ard, Miller charges, "follows the letter, but not the intent, of the Seattle zoning code."

Ard herself readily acknowledges that she navigates the labyrinth of building codes to developers' advantage. But she blames the reviled finished product on rigid city laws that require fenced miniyards, setbacks from the street, and off-street parking on standard 40-by-100-foot city lots. At last Saturday's meeting, panelists and officials suggested a number of solutions. But the ideas being proposed by the DPD, under the direction of the mayor, are essentially gestures: They include shorter fences, slightly wider driveways, less-imposing overhangs above garages, and additional height to allow varied rooflines. "I'm not real impressed with it," says former city council member Peter Steinbrueck, who tangled with the mayor and developers over improving downtown's building codes as chair of the council's land-use committee. "It pretty much perpetuates the designs we already have, and that's a missed opportunity."

Brandon Nicholson, a developer for Nicholson Kovalchick Architects who was on Saturday's panel, suggested bolder steps. Among them: requiring the existing design-review boards to approve every town-house design and encouraging developers to include underground parking instead of central at-grade garages. The upcoming debate over new town-house standards will give Clark a chance to channel the widespread loathing of bad town houses into a constructive movement to combine good design and density—establishing incentives to build the type of town houses that improve neighborhoods, and banning the traits that make them worse.

For example, Clark could explore the possibility of giving tax breaks, allowing additional floors, and waiving fees for developers who seek out community input on new buildings. She could consider requiring underground parking instead of the ground-level garages that currently lend themselves to bad design, eliminating parking requirements altogether, and creating incentives for brownstones and row houses in dense neighborhoods like Capitol Hill. Clark should also identify the things builders cannot do: no driveways unless they serve as semipublic pedestrian courts, no garage doors facing the sidewalk, and no four-pack housing with garages in the middle.

But time is of the essence. Already, the DPD's proposal is years in the works. Thousands of lots in the city are zoned to allow town houses, and they will be developed. The longer the debate over what to do about ugly town houses drags on, the more ugly town houses will be built, and the momentum to change the rules will wane. Before last Saturday's forum, Clark told the crowd, "I want people's ideas. How do we lead developers to do more of the good stuff, and how do we protect ourselves from more of the bad stuff?" Now that she has heard from them, she needs to start leading the charge.

U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities funding opportunities for museums

The Division of Public Programs at the U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities funds humanities projects that are intended for broad public audiences at museums, libraries, historic sites and other historical and cultural organizations. Planning and implementation grant applications from America's Historical and Cultural Organizations may be submitted at two annual deadlines: August 27, 2008 and January 21, 2009. New application guidelines are now posted on the NEH Web site (www.neh.gov).

Grants support interpretive exhibitions, reading or film discussion series, historic site interpretation, lecture series and symposia, and digital projects. NEH especially encourages projects that offer multiple formats and make creative use of new technology to deliver humanities content. Applications will also be accepted at both deadlines for Interpreting America's Historic Places grants, which promote public understanding of American history through interpretation of significant American places. Program officers in the Division of Public Programs are available to assist you, whether it is to discuss projects or to read a draft of a proposal. You may wish to call the NEH Division of Public Programs (202-606-8267) or contact a program officer directly. Below are the names and contact information for the Division's program officers:

Bonnie Gould, 202-606-8307, bgould@neh.gov

Clay Lewis, 202-606-8288, clewis@neh.gov

David Martz, 202-606-8297, dmartz@neh.gov

National Trust's "This Place Matters" Campaign

This May the National Trust for Historic Preservation used Preservation Month to launch its *This Place Matters* campaign. So far people in 45 states and territories have submitted more than 200 photos and videos. Join their campaign and submit a picture -- or a video -- of your own at: <http://my.preservationnation.org/site/PageServer?pagename=thisplacematters>. It's easy and can do wonders to raise awareness for a place you care about. Who knows, maybe you'll be as successful as the Citizens for the Preservation of St. Augustine, whose video on that city's Ivanhoe House has been viewed more than 9,000 times on our YouTube Channel.

NW Seattle Estate Garden Tour to benefit the Dunn Gardens

Sunday, June 29, 2008 1:30 - 5:00pm

Stroll through three unique historic estate gardens in The Seattle Highlands. Enjoy ensemble music by George Shangrow's Orchestra Seattle members. Finish at the Dunn Gardens with an elegant reception. Take home a lovely gift to remember your day as our thanks for your support

Tickets: \$100 (members and guests) - \$150* (non-members)

*includes membership - consider becoming a member and help us to preserve this lovely garden

RSVP online: www.dunngardens.org, call the office: 206 362 0933 or email info@dunngardens.org

Two of the estates are the former properties of Seattle pioneer Horace Chapin Henry's (Henry Museum) sons Langdon C. Henry and Paul M. Henry. The historic estate of L.C. Henry was developed in the late 1920s. Edwin Ivey and Elizabeth Ayer designed the eclectic "French Colonial," home and the early gardens were designed by Noble Hoggson. The historic "Hollyhedge," estate garden of P.M. Henry was designed by A.A. McDougall, a civil engineer who oversaw the construction of the Highlands subdivision according to the Olmsted Brothers plans and remained the superintendent of the community until the 1950s. The house was designed by Ivey and Ayer in the late 1920s in the Spanish Eclectic/Mediterranean Revival style. The Florence Henry Memorial Chapel (1911), designed by William Marbury Sommerville in the Tudor style, is included in the tour and will be open to view. Guests can enjoy listening to music played on the historic pipe organ in the chapel. (Estate houses are not open to view)

Member Sought For Seattle's International Special Review District Board

Mayor Greg Nickels invites people to apply for one open position on the International Special Review District Board. An elected position (Position #2 - Resident, Tenant, Community Participant) has become vacant and, in accordance with the Board's Rules and Procedures, will be filled through a Mayoral appointment. The appointee will complete the remainder of the elected term, which ends November 30, 2009. Individuals who live in the District, are a member of a community organization, or demonstrate active interest in the community and have an interest in historic preservation are encouraged to apply.

The 7-member International Special Review District Board reviews façade alterations, signs, new construction, changes of use, and street improvements within the International Special Review District. The goals of the board are to maintain architectural character, cultural heritage, social diversity, and through the use historic preservation, enhance the economic climate in the International Special Review District. The board is made up of five elected members and two members who are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. The five elected members consist of: two members who own property in the International District, or who own or are employed by businesses located in the International District; two members who are either residents (including tenants) or persons with a recognized and demonstrated interest in the welfare of the Chinatown International District Community; and one member at large.

Board meetings are held 4:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. In addition, board members may be asked to serve on an additional committee as the Board deems appropriate. Applicants must reside within the city of Seattle. Those interested in being considered should send a letter of interest and resume by June 30, 2008. In keeping with Mayor Nickels' "Paper Cuts" program, electronic submissions are preferred, if

possible. Please email your letter and resume to: rebecca.frestedt@seattle.gov (please reference International Special Review District Board in the subject line).

To send a paper submittal, please address to:
Rebecca Frestedt
International Special Review District
Department of Neighborhoods
700 5th Avenue
PO Box 94649
Seattle, WA 98124-4649

The City of Seattle is committed to promoting diversity in the city's boards and commissions. Women, persons with disabilities, sexual and gender minorities, persons of color, and immigrants are encouraged to apply. For more information, please call Rebecca Frestedt, International Special Review District Board Coordinator, at 206.684.0226.

Washington Trust for Historic Preservation to host Media Relations Workshop for Historic Preservation and Heritage Groups

The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation will host Preservation and the Media, a half-day workshop on Monday, June 30, 2008. The workshop will focus on how to increase coverage of historic preservation and heritage related issues although the content will be beneficial to any individual or group interested in becoming more media savvy. The workshop will be held from 2:00 – 5:00 pm at the Stimson Green-Mansion (1204 Minor Avenue, Seattle), the Trust's Seattle headquarters. Topics to be covered include:

- How to make contacts and build relationships with the media to get your stories covered
- How to create a publicity plan around a specific event/project/issue
- How to write a snappy and engaging press release and pitch your story
- How to put together a professional quality press packet
- How to put on a professional, well attended, and well covered media event

Beau Fong of Nyhus Communications LLC, a Seattle public relations and public affairs firm, will kick off the discussion of these topics with a Media Relations 101 presentation and then facilitate a small group "hands-on" exercise to put this newfound knowledge into practice. The second part of the workshop will feature a panel of print, online and broadcast media professionals who will continue the discussion from their perspective and provide feedback on participant's story ideas. Participants will leave the workshop with a packet of handouts and a better understanding of how to engage the media in telling the important stories of our shared architectural and cultural heritage. The workshop cost is \$10.00 for members of the Washington Trust or any other preservation or heritage organization and \$15.00 for the general public. Refreshments and parking will be provided. To sign up for the workshop, visit Brown Paper Tickets online at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/37228> or call them at 1-800-838-3006. For more information, contact the Washington Trust at 206-624-9449.

Support for the workshop is provided by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Washington State's primary agency with knowledge and expertise in historic preservation.

The Washington Trust is a statewide nonprofit organization founded in 1976 to safeguard Washington's historic places through advocacy, education, collaboration and stewardship. The Washington Trust sponsors major preservation policy and legislative initiatives, promotes heritage tourism and the economic revitalization in historic neighborhoods, focuses attention on threatened historic properties, provides grants to preserve historic structures and sponsors regular educational programs to increase public awareness of Washington's historic resources and the need to protect them. Visit the Trust website at www.wa-trust.org for more information.

Seattle Community Council Federation Annual Workshop

Brighton Apartment Penthouse, 6727 Rainier Avenue South

Saturday, June 21, 2008, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

A Dialogue With The Livable Seattle Movement, Some Proposed Solutions To Make Seattle More Livable and Affordable

Last month's Federation dialogue with Councilmember Sally Clark, the Chair of the Planning and Land Use Committee, sparked a lively and informative exchange of ideas, and last Saturday's "Town Houses – Can the Patient be Saved?" forum sponsored by Sally, continued the conversation. An excellent report on that forum is posted on the West Seattle Blog.

The Federation Workshop will further continue the dialogue, however this meeting, unlike last Saturday's, will not be dominated by a majority of developers, consultants and City employees, but will be between neighborhood and community folks, including architects, land use planners, and others who have weighed the City's housing agenda, the current and proposed land use codes, lax or entirely missing code enforcement, "flexible" and porous code, "micropermitting" aka "piecemealing" and have found all to be wanting.

This will not be a gripe session, but will present some concepts that have yet to be grasped by some Councilmembers, much of our Department of Planning and Development and Mayor Nickels. We hope to have representatives from neighborhoods all over the city who share the goal of correcting the current housing trends.

Visit the Livable Seattle Movement website, download the 3X Report, the Comment and the Citizen's Master Agenda. Bring them and your ideas, concerns and suggestions to this Workshop, and be prepared to make a real difference in your own community.

When you arrive at the Brighton turn left into the visitor's parking area. Someone will be in the lobby to admit you and direct you to the ADA compliant elevator.

Updates to this notice will be posted on the Federation website, <http://www.seattlefederation.blogspot.com>. Questions, comments? Contact Rick Barrett, 206 365-1267, rickbarrett@gmail.com

Daily Journal of Commerce Blog

June 12, 2008

It's not a landmark, but developer won't demolish it anyway

By Shawna Gamache

The Southwest Design Review Board will check in tonight on a strangely familiar West Seattle development.



The project is at 3811 California Ave. W. The developer initially proposed tearing down the Charleston Court building to build an entirely new project. Then, partway through design review, Charleston Court was nominated for landmark status. The project went on hold for a year.

The landmark board voted in April against landmarking the 1927 building, designed by William Whiteley, clearing the way for demolition.

(Original

building shown above.). But the developer is back with new plans that will give the neighbors deja vu. The new design (seen below) proposes retaining the wings of the original building and the building's courtyard. The rear portion of the old building would be torn down, but the developer wants to use that brick to create a new



building front between the wings. Steven Butler and Paul Cesmat bought the building in 2007. Project architect is Nicholson Kovalchick.

Seattle Parks and Green Spaces Levy public testimony

On Tuesday, June 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the Lopez Room at Seattle Center, the Council's Parks and Green Spaces Levy Citizens' Advisory Committee will take public testimony on preliminary proposals being considered by the committee for a potential fall 2008 levy ballot. Community members will have the opportunity between 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to comment on levy proposals for parks, open space, boulevards, trails, green infrastructure and recreation projects.

Over the past eight years, Seattle's system of parks, recreation and open space have been funded by two voter-approved levies that have expired, or will expire by the end of this year. The 1999 Community Center Levy and the 2000 ProParks levy have funded major parks and open space improvements, and leveraged additional funds to support Seattle parks.

"The Parks Levy Citizens' Advisory Committee appointed in mid-April has held numerous meetings, including four community outreach meetings to put together proposals for a renewed parks levy," said Councilmember Tom Rasmussen. "As they approach the conclusion of their work, I strongly encourage people from every neighborhood across the city to review and comment on the committee's preliminary proposals."

Parks and Green Spaces Levy Committee Public Testimony:

Tuesday, June 17, 2008 - 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Lopez Room (Part of the Northwest Rooms) Seattle Center

305 Harrison Street Seattle, WA 98109

(Near Republican and 1st Avenue N.)

Interpretation services available upon request at least five days prior to meeting. Please contact Zuzka Lehocka-Howell at 206-233-3981 to arrange interpretation services. Visit the Seattle City Council's web page for more information on the committee's preliminary proposals: <http://www.seattle.gov/council/>

Christine Palmer, Preservation Advocate

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