

**Advocacy Update**  
**March 28, 2008**

Previous issues of the Advocacy Update available at: <http://historicseattle.org/inthenews.aspx>

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**Historic Seattle's Learning From Historic Sites and Members Meeting**

Presentations and Tour

Northwest African American Museum (former Colman School)

Quarterly, Historic Seattle invites its members and the public to learn about built heritage programs and projects of interest taking place in our community. These programs are held at sites of historic or architectural interest. The evening's program follows a short quarterly business meeting.

Where: Northwest African American Museum (former Colman School)

Location: 2300 S. Massachusetts Street

Date: Monday, April 7, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Tickets: None needed. Free/donation

The Northwest African American Museum (NAAM) at the Urban League Village opened its doors on Saturday, March 8 to great acclaim. The museum is housed in the former Colman School, a historic landmark that crowns

Seattle's I-90 lid park. The top two floors have 36 rental units for low to middle income residents. The 18,000 sq. ft., \$22.6 million museum is the centerpiece of an expansive thirty-acre green belt surrounding the structure. The museum is the culmination of passion and commitment from civic and community leaders, activists, volunteers, historians, and government officials, planners, architects, artists construction workers, corporate sponsors, and museum professionals. Learn about the long and complex evolution of this project with Carver Gayton, the museum's Executive Director, and the challenges of saving this former School District building and adapting it to its new use with Rico Quirindongo, DKA, Project Architect, and tour the building with its staff.

Go to [www.historicseattle.org](http://www.historicseattle.org) or call (206) 622-6952 to request a 2008 program brochure and the January 2008 newsletter by mail.

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### **Upcoming Seattle landmark nominations and designations**

Nominations: Sorrento Hotel, 900 Madison Street  
Pike Street Apartments, 1200 East Pike Street

Designations: Charlestown Court, 3811 California Avenue SW  
Women's University Club, 1105 Sixth Avenue

The Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board will consider these nominations and designations at its meeting on Wednesday, April 2, 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 make comments. Written comments should be received by the Landmarks Preservation Board at the following address by April 1, 2008, by 5:00 p.m.: Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board, Dept. of Neighborhoods, 700 5th Ave Suite 1700, P.O. Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649.

Copies of the Landmark Nominations are posted on the Department of Neighborhoods website: <http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/preservation/landmarks.htm> under the heading of "Current Nominations."

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### **Seattle Post-Intelligencer**

**March 28, 2008**

**Sorrento Hotel, domicile of rich and famous, up for landmark status**

**By Kathy Mulady**

The Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board raised eyebrows recently by giving a former Denny's restaurant in Ballard a historic designation. But the Sorrento Hotel nomination coming before the board Wednesday is likely to raise a different question. Isn't it a landmark already? Many are surprised that the 100-year-old Italianate-style hotel with the circular driveway on First Hill wasn't designated years ago. It is the oldest continually operating hotel in Seattle, according to the nomination paper. The elegant Sorrento has a rich history of famous names and romantic stories. It is prominently positioned on the peak of a steep lot on Madison Street, and its long-time owner is a dedicated preservationist.

Michael Malone bought the hotel 27 years ago, sensing a "diamond in the rough" beneath the coats of white paint and Tiki-room decor. He still cringes as he recalls the puka shell wallboard that hid the rich Honduran mahogany paneling in the fireside room, and the white latex paint that thankfully peeled easily off of the Rookwood tiles and mosaic fireplace.

Construction started on the hotel in 1908, commissioned by Samuel Rosenberg, a successful Seattle clothier, according the Kathryn Krafft who wrote the landmark nomination. Rosenberg's sons were more interested in farming than hospitality, and traded the hotel for a pear orchard in Oregon that they eventually turned into the

well-known fruit shipping business -- Harry and David. The Sorrento hotel was designed by Seattle architect Harlan Thomas to fit on the steep site and take full advantage of the panoramic views of Elliott Bay and the Puget Sound. "He was a highly regarded architect who traveled extensively. The hotel reflects his interest in Italian architecture," said Krafft.

The design and name are said to be inspired by a hotel that Thomas saw in Sorrento, Italy. The seven-story Sorrento has had some changes in the century since it was built. The once formal courtyard in the front has become a circular driveway for arriving guests. The former rooftop gardens and Top of the Town restaurant have been turned into penthouses. The hotel was originally built for tourists, and as housing for some of the city's "best families," said Krafft. The hotel still attracts famous names. Actor Larry Hagman was there this week. Other times the guest register has included Carlos Santana and Quincy Jones, Steve Perry from Journey, and Eric Clapton.

Malone remains pals with some of the legends of the music business, and even has a special room in the hotel decorated with pieces from his personal collection of music memorabilia. The Sorrento is rich in details, right down to the elevator rugs embroidered with the day of the week, that are changed each morning. Restoration of the lobby and fireside room has been painstaking. Malone is a dedicated preservationist, with several properties, including his own Capitol Hill home, already designated landmarks. He has a second property on the landmark commission agenda Wednesday, Pike Street Apartments.

Malone also has a strong sense of his role as a "caretaker" for the Sorrento that he hopes will survive long after he is gone. He has collected a book full of letters from people who have memories of their stay at the hotel, has read them all, and shares the stories with guests. Malone supports plans to build the city up, rather than letting it sprawl out, but said the development pressures make preserving historic buildings more important. New York, Boston, and other notable cities have very assertive landmark boards, Seattle should as well, he said. "This building is a good example of the land being worth so much more than you would ever make running a hotel on it," said Malone.

The Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board will review a landmark nomination for the Sorrento Hotel on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. in the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue, 40th Floor.

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## **Capitol Hill Times**

**March 27, 2008**

**Landmark status for 1200 East Pike Street?**

**By Doug Schwartz**



The building on the northeast corner of 12th Avenue and East Pike Street may not attract much notice at first glance. But its subdued, mustard-colored façade hides the fact that the structure is one of the last remaining Victorian dwellings on Capitol Hill. That structure may become a designated Seattle landmark. The building was sold last year to a developer who had plans to tear it down for redevelopment, not a surprising prospect given a roughly 12,000 square-foot lot and zoning that would allow for a six-story building. But given its age - the building is more than 100 years old - an application was presented to the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board, with the presumed outcome that it would not be designated a landmark. While the building's continued existence is by no means secured, last week the board agreed to consider nominating the building as a Seattle landmark. (See details below.)

The building was built in 1903 as a two-story frame apartment house. In 1910, East Pike Street was widened and re-graded. The building was moved back from the street, raised and had a new ground level added to it. It was probably one of the first mixed-use properties on the Hill. In addition to street-level retail, which includes an antique shop and, until its recent closure, the 1200 Bistro restaurant, there are eight apartments on the top floors.

For a building to become a designated Seattle landmark, the Landmarks Preservation Board needs to determine that it meets at least one of six possible categories. Mike Malone, a longtime Capitol Hill resident and businessman (he founded AEI and owns the Sorrento Hotel), spoke at last week's hearing and believes the building easily meets three of them: Category C, which states that a building "is associated in a significant way with a significant aspect of the cultural, political or economic heritage of the community..."; Category D, which states that a building "embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, period or method of construction;" and Category F, which is met if a building's prominence and location, siting, age or scale "is an easily identifiable visual feature of its neighborhood or the city...."

Malone said that the building is structurally very strong. While the original cupola, as well as exterior columns and banisters, have been removed over the years, the building's interior retains most of its original and period details. And, he pointed out, there are very few similar examples of Victorian housing left on Capitol Hill. Malone also hopes to convey to the board that restoring the building can make economic sense for the building's owners. "The board will want to know whether the building is economically viable after its brought back to its original form. And it is," he said. To create an financially viable example, such restoration would probably mean increasing the number of apartments from eight to 13 or 14.

"This building is in an iconic location. People see it all the time. A lot of people think this gorgeous Victorian building blends in well with the modern buildings on 12th," Malone said. If the landmarks board chooses to nominate the building next week it would then set out to examine the nomination, a process that would likely take several months or even longer. Nomination does not guarantee that a building will be landmarked, only that the board will research the proposal and vote on its status in the future. Malone remains hopeful the building can escape the wrecking ball.

"This isn't simply old housing," he said. "You can build a new building but you can't just create the kind of atmosphere found in buildings like this one. These are important elements of any neighborhood, especially older ones like Capitol Hill." The Landmarks Preservation Board will consider nominating 1200 East Pike Street on Wednesday, April 2, at 3:30 p.m. at the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Ave., 40th floor, room 4060. The public is invited to attend and make comments.

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### **Support for Friends of Maritime Heritage**

A broad coalition of heritage organization was successful in getting a one time allocation of \$150,000 in the Governor's 2009 Budget to begin the process of designating a National Maritime Heritage Area in Western Washington (see below for background information) We have just learned that the \$150,000 in funding for this project is in trouble, owing to some problem with the proviso language as written. It's important that the Governor hear from supporters of this project. Please email the Governor's office at <http://www.governor.wa.gov/contact/default.asp> or call at (360) 902-4111. Please emphasize in your message that this small amount of money buys us not just a "feasibility study," but actually will enable us to approach Congress for the go-ahead and funding to prepare a formal application for National Heritage Area designation.

### **A 'National Maritime Heritage Area' For Western Washington**

This Legislative session, a broad coalition of heritage organizations is requesting one-time funding of \$150,000 to prepare a suitability/feasibility study for a maritime-focused National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in western Washington. Lead partners in this initiative are the Pacific Northwest Maritime Heritage Council, the Seattle/ King County Maritime Heritage Task Force, and 4 Culture, King County's cultural services agency. The proposed "National Maritime Heritage Area" could potentially include Washington State counties and communities that border on Puget Sound, the Straits of Juan de Fuca and the Pacific Ocean shoreline. This

heritage area would focus on our state's distinct maritime history and culture, and be the only maritime –themed area among the 37 current Congressionally designated NHAs. National Heritage Areas have received up to \$900,000 in federal assistance annually for heritage tourism, interpretation, promotion and development projects. The grants can be used flexibly to promote regional tourism and economic development.

An NHA is a place, designated by Congress, where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources combine to form a nationally distinctive landscape – a landscape of human activity shaped by geography. Heritage areas tell important stories about our nation and represent the national experience, through physical features that remain and traditions that have evolved there.

Does a National Heritage Area involve federal acquisition of land?

No. A national heritage area is not a unit of the National Park Service, and no land is acquired or managed by the National Park Service. Instead, an NHA is managed by a local or regional entity, in active partnership with varied stakeholders, over the existing matrix of public and private land.

How do communities benefit from a National Heritage Area?

The designation has both tangible and intangible benefits. Heritage areas support residents' desire to protect and interpret their landscape for future generations. They provide educational and inspirational opportunities that encourage residents to stay, and visitors to explore. NHAs also offer a collaborative approach to conservation that does not compromise local land use control.

Designation comes with some technical and financial assistance from the National Park Service. The NPS provides planning and interpretation advice and expertise. Financial assistance can provide valuable "seed" money that covers basic expenses such as staffing. Federal support also leverages other money from state, local and private sources. Heritage areas benefit from national recognition due to association with the National Park Service through the use of the NPS arrowhead symbol as a branding strategy.

Why is Western Washington a good candidate for a National Maritime Heritage Area?

The proposed National Maritime Heritage Area would be the first in the nation to focus exclusively on maritime history. This theme already appeals to travelers seeking the recreation, history, and beauty on our regional waterways. Historic places that tell a maritime story – the original Native American use of the waterways, early European-American exploration, ship-building, fishing, the lumber and grain trade, Mosquito Fleet transportation on Puget Sound, Victorian seaports and Naval history -- could be coordinated and broadly marketed under a unified brand. This project meets the goals and objectives of the State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's state plan, by encouraging heritage tourism and promoting historic preservation as an economic development tool across the state.

What are the steps in the application process?

NHAs require Congressional designation. The first step is a suitability/feasibility study. This study would include an assessment of maritime cultural resources; identification of project partners and their roles; identification of a proposed management entity; a preliminary organizational framework and financial plan; and a proposed heritage area boundary map. This study will need to be combined with other materials in order to advance to federal designation. Federal funding has typically been available for taking planning to the next level.

Who is behind this initiative?

Culture and its Maritime Heritage Initiative partners – including the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, the Youth Maritime Training Association, The Center for Wooden Boats, the Museum of History and Industry, and Historic Seattle – launched this effort. But to broaden its scope and benefits the Pacific Northwest Maritime Heritage Council, a 17 year-old regional coordinating group, has joined the initiative to form a National Heritage Area, and some of its members are serving as an advisory group. Among the active regional maritime heritage organizations and attractions affiliated with the Council are:

- 1) Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society (Seattle)
- 2) Foss Waterway Seaport/Working Waterfront Maritime Museum (Tacoma)
- 3) Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority/ Lady Washington (Aberdeen)
- 4) Northwest Maritime Center & Wooden Boat Foundation (Port Townsend)

- 5) Whatcom Maritime Historical Society (Bellingham)
- 6) United Indians of All Tribes (Seattle)
- 7) Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society/Harbor History Museum (Gig Harbor)

For further information on the proposed National Maritime Heritage Area, contact Chuck Fowler, Pacific Northwest Maritime Heritage Council at (360) 943-2858 or [nwnx@comcast.net](mailto:nwnx@comcast.net)

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**Crosscut online magazine**  
**March 25, 2008**  
**Seattle's historic contradictions**  
**By Knute Berger**

One spectator at the March 21 showdown over historic preservation in Seattle wondered if consultant and landmark critic Art Skolnik felt a bit like George Armstrong Custer at the Little Big Horn. Skolnik later acknowledged that he was outnumbered, bruised and had taken some arrows, but he remained firm in his belief that the city's landmark designation process is deeply flawed and could be headed over a cliff. "You could lose everything," he worried.

But on this day, Skolnik was a voice in the wilderness. He had tried to rally disgruntled property owners — some of whom are his clients — to a meeting of the city council's Planning, Land Use and Neighborhoods committee to vent their frustrations. Few showed. Skolnik said later it was because the property owners were afraid of public vilification and being branded as anti-preservation.

Skolnik's effort to boost turn-out was successful, however, in generating a crowd of pro-preservation folks who defended the city's process and current preservation officer Karen Gordon. They included representatives from the state Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Historic Seattle, the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, and others. In the audience was former Seattle City Council member Peter Steinbrueck, who had "come out of retirement" for the first time since leaving the council earlier this year. He didn't lobby or speak; he simply sat in the audience, and his presence alone helped to send a near universal message to the committee: Don't try to fix what ain't broke.

Skolnik argues for a major revamp of historic preservation in Seattle. He is asking the city to appoint a citizen's task force to study the landmark processes and wants a moratorium on all landmark nominations and designations until they report. He believes the process needs to be more open, voluntary, incentive-driven, and re-organized to better represent the interests of property owners and developers. If not, he fears a backlash that could undo decades of preservation work.

Perhaps most infuriating to preservationists, he has said the current process results in property takings, implying Seattle's rules aren't simply misapplied, but illegal. His critique goes to the foundations of a system that has been at work in Seattle for decades. As it is, he says the process is "victimizing property owners." The debate is whether landmarking should be voluntary, or regulatory, like zoning.

Defenders of the current system are equally adamant. Larry Kreisman of Historic Seattle argued that the ordinance was established with "great wisdom" and said that if Seattle only had voluntary landmarking, "the city would have lost some of its most important vestiges of city life," meaning places like the Pike Place Market and Pioneer Square. And Historic Seattle's Pete Mills said the landmark law was "One of the few gems that allows us to preserve what's important in the city."

David Miller of the Maple Leaf Community Council agreed that the process has some flaws and complained about the Landmarks Board's handling of the nomination of nobody tell you this process is biased against developers and property owners," he said.

Linda Larson, a former Landmarks Board appointee from the Charles Royer years and a longtime library trustee, emphasized that historic preservation is "a core value of the people of the city." Everyone seemed to agree on that.

And if Skolnik sounded a warning that there could be a property rights rebellion over historic preservation, state preservation officer Allyson Brooks came up from Olympia with a warning of her own. She said that if Seattle watered down its landmark process too much, it could lose the state certification that is required if Seattle wants preservation money from the feds. That bureaucratic broadside woke people up. Brooks flexed just enough muscle to remind everyone that there could be serious financial consequences for doing too much tinkering.

In the end, Skolnik was disappointed when the committee indicated that a full-scale review of Seattle's system didn't seem warranted. Sally Clark said she was not interested in an "open-the-barn-door task force process." However, Clark did suggest a limited task force to look at improving incentives for property owners to encourage preservation. In other words, let's keep the stick but look to offer more carrots.

People on both sides of the debate agree that more workable incentives is a good idea. Tim Burgess concluded that Seattle didn't need a landmark moratorium and told Karen Gordon that she was "doing a great job."

For her part, Gordon didn't seem to be too enthusiastic about having a task force of any kind looking over her shoulder or requiring time and resources from her office that are already stretched thin, but she didn't outright oppose it. Gordon says the landmarks process can always use some "tweaks." She also thinks her office needs to spread the word about existing incentives. One of those is a new downtown TDR (Transfer of Development Rights) Bank that would allow owners of historic properties to sell their development rights to other downtown builders.

Stepping back a bit, both Skolnik and preservationists make thoughtful points. Skolnik worries that the preservation process is out of touch with regular folks. He says that after too many years, the city's preservation office is another entrenched bureaucracy that is running rough-shod over people. He says for a property owner who opposes the landmarking of their building, it may cost as much as \$100,000 to fully fight through the appeals process. Most don't have the money to fight a designation and give in. Very few, like the Benaroya Company, have the money to take a further step and sue, which is why their lawsuit over the landmark designation of the Ballard Manning's/Denny's diner is unusual. Skolnik says "I'm a believer that preservation should be a positive process for everyone."

Landmark proponents say the reason there have been so few lawsuits over the years is that the process does work, in part because it is selective. Architect Susan Boyle, one of the busiest preservation consultants in town, told the committee that she has prepared at least 100 landmark nominations and that 60% of them were successful, 40% failed. That, she said, showed the board is very discerning. And Karen Gordon pointed out that in the city's controversial survey of downtown buildings, they looked at 387 that were old enough to be eligible as landmarks (built before 1966), and determined that 45% were clearly not of landmark quality. In other words, those owners are now off the hook. The city only proactively nominated 37 structures and identified scores of others that are maybes.

Others have also said that it's not surprising there are tensions over historic preservation since Seattle is going through an unprecedented growth boom. The increase in property values has raised the stakes; the rate of change has alarmed preservationists; and the city's own rules and policies are sending mixed messages. On the one hand, the city is upzoning downtown to encourage development, but at the same time it is working against the clock to save downtown structures that might be jeopardized by those policies. There are mixed signals over environmental rules, too. The city is pushing for more density and greener buildings, though at the same time it is toying with the idea of relaxing rules on environmental review on some large projects. On the other hand, as one preservationist at the meeting quoted, "The greenest building is one that's already built." Recycling buildings, says Peter Steinbrueck, is the ultimate in sustainability.

The area of conflicting policies poses a bigger problem for the city council and the Planning, Land Use and Neighborhoods committee as it looks ahead to possible changes in the city's development rules and

comprehensive plan in the year ahead. How do you manage all the moving parts of a complex city yet keep the contradictions to a minimum?

What's also needed is a more comprehensive and innovative approach to dealing with "saving the city's soul," especially as density moves beyond downtown and into Seattle's beloved neighborhoods and disrupts community cultural icons (Sunset Bowl is just one example). Skolnik is right that landmarking can't do it all, and shouldn't. Steinbrueck is correct that the city we love won't survive if the rules don't have teeth.

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## **Daily Journal of Commerce**

**March 21, 2008**

### **More help for owners of historic buildings?**

**By Shawna Gamache**

Seattle City Councilmember Sally Clark wants to look at providing more incentives to help building owners protect historic landmarks. Clark wants a task force to study current incentives and recommend alternatives. The task force should include owners as well as the historic, architectural and development community. The work should be finished later this year, she said. "If we say we love landmarking, that means we have to look at how it actually works for people whose buildings we are landmarking," said Clark.

Clark's Planning, Land Use and Neighborhoods Committee will get a primer today from the city's preservation officer on how buildings are selected and reviewed for historic landmark protections. Some building owners will testify on how the process affects them. Preservation Officer Karen Gordon will go over the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board's 2008 work plan, which includes reviewing several dozen buildings tagged by a 2006 study of 387 downtown buildings. That review followed an up-zone of the downtown office core that greatly increased development potential downtown. City officials worried the upzone put older buildings at greater risk of being razed before their historic significance could be assessed.

Art Skolnik, a former preservation officer who is now a paid representative for about 18 building owners, said that survey brought the issue to a head for the owners he represents. Skolnik said the city should offer more incentives to owners to compensate them for development capacity lost by landmark controls. "Without the appropriate incentives they have trapped these property owners," Skolnik said. "This is not like the arts commission, this is dealing with people's investments and the future of the city."

Owners already have some incentives. The director of the Department of Planning and Development has the authority to waive certain requirements for landmark buildings, such as granting a use that is not otherwise allowed in its zone, or waiving certain energy or setback requirements. There are additional incentives downtown. Downtown developers can get a floor-area-ratio bonus through transfer of development rights from a landmark and for protecting a landmark or other small structure on the same site as a planned development. The city may extend some of those development rights transfers beyond downtown.

The state also offers a 10-year grace period on property tax increases following improvements to certain approved landmark buildings. This discussion occurs with a lawsuit in the wings over last month's Ballard Denny's landmark decision. The building owner, The Benaroya Co., alleges the board's decision to landmark the building's exterior was unlawful and deprived Benaroya of its right to "make an economically viable use of the property." Benaroya said it plans to exhaust the normal channels for landmark appeal before turning to the courts.

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## **Newsweek Magazine**

**February 28, 2008**

## Is Googie Good? By Sarah Kliff

Stephen Lee is not accustomed to being the center of attention. He heads the Seattle Landmark Preservation Board, an 11-member commission that typically receives three or four requests every two weeks to decide whether or not a particular building is worthy of landmark designation. His meetings usually attract a handful of attendees, if that many.

But when Lee and his board met for a routine meeting last week, four television crews, reporters from all the local papers and more than 100 community members joined them. The property to be considered: a shutdown Denny's restaurant in the city's Ballard neighborhood. "It was wild," says Lee, who describes the Wednesday night meeting as "the most excitement" he has seen during his six years chairing the board.

The crowd stuck around for two and a half hours to get the verdict: by a 6 to 3 vote, Seattle declared the former Denny's, built in 1964, a historical landmark, citing its importance as a local signpost; its swooping, Googie-style roof made it a distinctive marker of the neighborhood. "I truly think that it has a distinctive enough element in the community and its urban fabric that it should not be lost," says Lee, who voted in favor of saving the building. As a result, a lot of people are asking him, "What are you doing saving a Denny's?"

The battle over this particular Denny's has been brewing since the middle of last year when the building was nominated for landmark status. The controversy became more heated with last week's decision, a verdict that was largely unpopular among Seattleites, judging from the 200 comments left on a recent *Seattle Times* article. The majority did not take much pleasure in living in the city that landmarks a Denny's. "What a joke. Preserve an unstable boarded up, vacant building?" asks one reader. "It's going to just sit and be an eyesore for the foreseeable future."

The landmark status is particularly bad news for the property's owners. The real estate company Benaroya purchased the property in 2006 for \$12 million. Now, their plans to develop a condominium complex are on hold as they begin to appeal the decision, a process that could take weeks, months or even years. "Here we are, having gone through the better part of a year without making any gains on the property," says Jack McCollough, the company's land use attorney. "With the time value of money and market changes, it can have quite a serious impact on us."

The same building that has inspired fierce opposition has also attracted an equally devoted group of supporters, largely community activists and preservation architects. They say that this building is a key example of Googie architecture, a movement from the 1950s and '60s that gets its name from a Sunset Strip coffee shop. That Los Angeles shop, designed in 1949 by a student of Frank Lloyd Wright's, features sweeping roofs, big windows and starburst and boomerang shapes—elements that came to be known as exemplars of Googie. Alan Hess, author of "Googie Redux: Ultra Modern Roadside Architecture," describes the movement as "an ultra-modern expression of structure in building intended to attract a clientele going about their day in an automobile." The style grew alongside the rise of car culture; the buildings' big, bright shapes were meant as signs to attract drivers—think McDonald's golden arches, which Hess cites as a classic example. Hess says that the Denny's building in Seattle has many of the requisite features—its "clean, abstract, sculptural" roofline shows, as he describes it, "aspects of modern sensibility, and a part of Googie. Part of the purpose is to make the building as its own sign."

Then there is also the historical aspect that has attracted supporters like Anne Forestieri, a 22-year resident of Ballard who, up until this project, had no background in community activism. To her, it's a funky building that gives the neighborhood character, especially in the face of a burgeoning number of condominium developments. And it's not just a Denny's. The building's original occupant was a Manning's outlet, part of a West Coast coffee-shop chain that started in Seattle's Pike Place Market, which some consider the predecessor to Starbucks. "They think we're trying to preserve a Denny's but it's not about that," Forestieri says. "We're trying to get the word out there, explain the significance of how it used to be."

Forestieri and a handful of other volunteers have been spending a cumulative 15-20 hours a day on the project, doing research, hosting community meetings and scanning the comments on the local newspapers trying to

educate the public about this particular building. They have even worked with a local architecture firm to draw up plans for how a new condominium complex could incorporate this building, allowing for both development and preservation. "We are definitely not against development of the land," she says. "We want them to develop around this building."

But that does not seem to be in the cards, if the property owners have anything to say about it. "A lot of the preservation activists were speculating about how wonderful it could be if the building were lovingly restored," says McCullough, the land-use attorney representing Benaroya. "We pointed out at the meeting that the name is the preservation board, not the restoration board. All the board can do is preserve the status quo." McCullough says that the Benaroya Co. plans to appeal the landmark designation and is currently "evaluating options" of how to do so. But until then, the former Denny's stands, a minor victory—if not a grand slam—for Google architecture.

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### **AYPE Centennial: A Golden Opportunity**

by Eric Taylor, Heritage 4Culture

The 2009 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition (AYPE) centennial presents a golden opportunity for heritage organizations and historians to explore the far-reaching impact of Washington State's first world's fair. The AYPE originally was intended to mark the 10th anniversary of the arrival in Seattle of the famed "ton of gold" from the Yukon and Alaska gold fields, but opened two years later on June 1, 1909.

Built on the University of Washington campus, the exposition showcased Washington's resources, products and economic opportunities and featured exhibits from numerous organizations, states, territories, and foreign countries. During its 138-day run, the AYPE hosted over three million visitors and became the first world's fair to realize a profit.

Next year's AYPE centennial presents an occasion for the local heritage community to capitalize on the fair's success, reexamine its themes and explore its legacy. 4Culture encourages individuals and organizations to observe the centennial by uncovering relevant "hidden histories" within their own collections and neighborhoods. To provide funding opportunities for AYPE proposals, Heritage 4Culture has set application deadlines for its Cultural Education and Special Projects funding programs to allow time for implementing projects during the centennial year.

In partnership with HistoryLink, 4Culture is developing a website that will serve as information central for AYPE related projects and events. (See related story below.) To date, organizations including the Burke Museum, MOHAI, and Nordic Heritage Museum have AYPE project plans underway. Next year's Northwest Folklife theme will focus on AYPE, and a cross-country Model T rally that summer will provide a chance to take part in an event likely to receive nationwide media coverage. Aside from major exhibits and events, there are countless intriguing AYPE tales waiting to be told. Start planning to tell yours now. For more information, visit [www.4culture.org/heritage](http://www.4culture.org/heritage) or call 206-296-8688.

Heritage 4Culture and HistoryLink are partnering on a new website which will bring together information on all projects related to the 2009 centennial of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. Individuals and organizations with AYPE centennial projects are invited to submit information, including a web page address for your project, to [Joe Follansbee at joe.follansbee@4culture.org](mailto:joe.follansbee@4culture.org).

The website, located at [www.aype.org](http://www.aype.org), will include AYPE project information, contacts, and an events calendar. Current plans call for a site launch by June 1, 2008. Beginning early in 2009, the site will publicize AYPE centennial events to the community.

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## **Herschensohn to head Seattle's Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition (AYPE) Centennial**

Michael Herschensohn, former executive director of Northwest Folklife, will join the Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs to manage a citywide Alaska-Yukon-Pacific (AYP) Exposition Centennial celebration in 2009. Held on the University of Washington campus in 1909, the AYP attracted 3.7 million visitors to Seattle's first World's Fair. The event put Seattle on the map and showcased Washington as an international gateway. "The AYP Centennial will look back at Seattle's history and our ties to the Pacific Rim, Canada and Alaska, and it will imagine future innovations that will shape Seattle for the next hundred years," said Mayor Greg Nickels. "Michael is an excellent choice to lead this important effort."

In 2007, a mayoral task force finished a plan for the centennial, and efforts are well underway to create a wide range of exhibitions, publications and events in 2009. Herschensohn will start work March 31. His position managing the AYP Centennial will span 18 to 24 months. "The AYP was a defining moment in Seattle's history. Michael's leadership will help ensure broad-based community involvement in commemorating this historic event," said Jan Drago, City Councilmember and AYP Blue Ribbon Commissioner. The AYP Centennial will feature a series of big and small events as well as a variety of exhibitions and other cultural projects, including historical and photography books and a postcard collection. Celebrations will begin quietly in 2009, officially kick off at the Northwest Folklife Festival in May 2009 and continue through the summer months.

"I'm thrilled to be part of the city of Seattle's celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition," said Herschensohn. "In 2009, we will again celebrate Seattle's reputation as a hotbed for innovation and envision a dynamic future that offers remarkable potential for responsible growth while responding to our historical roots." Herschensohn took the helm of Northwest Folklife in 1998 and delivered the arts institution from a financial crisis. The organization produces the free Northwest Folklife Festival, the largest folk, ethnic and traditional arts event in North America. It draws an estimated 250,000 people to Seattle Center over the Memorial Day weekend. In 2006, he and the festival received the Mayor's Arts Award.

Prior to joining Northwest Folklife, Herschensohn was director of Seattle Children's Museum, where he successfully spearheaded a \$4.5 million capital campaign and expansion. Prior to that, he was director at the Museum of History and Industry. Herschensohn has more than 25 years experience managing nonprofit cultural organizations, a doctorate in romance languages and masters degrees in French language and literature and urban planning. The Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs promotes the value of arts and culture in and of communities throughout Seattle. The 16-member Seattle Arts Commission, citizen volunteers appointed by the mayor and City Council, supports the city agency.

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## **Seattle Post-Intelligencer**

**March 24, 2008**

**Historic home to become offices**

**By Aubrey Cohen**



A developer has won approval to convert a Capitol Hill landmark from homes to offices. Cooper House, at 225 14th Ave. E., was designed and built as a duplex in 1904, was later permitted as a four-unit apartment building and has been vacant for about two years, according to King County records and the approval [report](#) from Lisa Rutzick, a planner with the Seattle Department of Planning and Development.

The Dwelling Company, of Mercer Island, applied to convert the building to three condominiums after landmark designation blocked the original plan to demolish it and erect six townhouses, according to the city report. But the condo project would end up losing the developers \$500,000, even under

optimistic sales price assumptions, according to the report. The office conversion would be cheaper and, therefore, "can better support the preservation and rehabilitation of this landmark structure, while protecting the financial viability of the project," the report says.

The developers had to make such a justification of the office use to get approval for a use that would not typically be allowed in the zone. The landmark designation for Cooper House prevents demolition and limits alterations to the exterior of the building, but allows changes to the interior. People can appeal the decision through April 3.

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### **Names of each floor of new Chinook Building honor the legacy of King County**

The history and diversity of King County has been celebrated with the unveiling of the ceremonial names of each of the floors of the County's new Chinook Building at the corner of Fifth and Jefferson in Seattle. The honorees range from a novelist and a coal miner to former King County government officials, labor organizers and civil rights activists, and even a historic town name. The ceremony marked the grand opening of the newest addition to the King County government campus, a 13-story high-rise housing King County government offices at 401 Fifth Avenue in downtown Seattle.

"This is a glorious building, and each of these ceremonial names will remind visitors of the wide range of people and places that have made this county great," said Council Chair Julia Patterson. "This is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge leaders from all walks of life who shaped King County's culture and history," said King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson, who oversaw construction of the Chinook Building as chair the Council's Capital Budget Committee. "I was pleased to sponsor a naming competition which inspired middle school students to really engage with that history and I am excited that some of those students were on hand to be recognized." Each member of the King County Council named the floor whose number matches the number of his or her Council district:

Floor 1: Ivan Doig (b.1939) – Bestselling author who draws inspiration for his lyrical Western novels from his childhood in Montana and from the natural wonder visible from his home in Shoreline overlooking Puget Sound and the Olympic range. Perhaps best known for *This House of Sky: Landscapes of a Western Mind*, an elegiac memoir about the people and places of the American frontier that was a finalist for the National Book Award, Doig's varied contributions to our literature include novels, essays, memoirs and poems. Named by Councilmember Bob Ferguson.

Floor 2: Tyree Scott (1940 - 2003) - Ordinary worker who became a prominent internationalist, activist and civil rights leader. Partnering with Native American, Latino and Asian Pacific Islander workers to found the Northwest Labor and Employment Law Office (LELO), Scott broke down barriers to women and minority workers in the construction trades in King County. Under the banner of "no separate peace," Scott worked to build solidarity amongst workers across racial lines and national boundaries. Named by Councilmember Larry Gossett.

Floor 3: Tolt - In 1917, the town of Tolt changed its name to Carnation, in honor of the farms. In opposition, Native Americans and early settlers in the area continued to use the Snoqualmie name "Tolthue," for the town, meaning "river of swift waters." In 1928, the town changed its name back to Tolt, but the train depot and the post office names remained as Carnation, allowing confusion to reign until 1951 when the city changed back to Carnation. Named by Councilmember Kathy Lambert.

Floor 4: Bernice Stern (1916 - 2007) - First woman elected to the King County Council. A liberal Democrat known for her bipartisan leadership who served from 1969-1980 as representative for District Four, Ms. Stern also served on the state Transportation Commission from 1981-1992, and participated in a wide range of social-service, civil-rights, political, and governmental activities. Named by Councilmember Larry Phillips.

Floor 5: Jean Hueston (b. 1919) - Retired public school teacher and renowned community and political activist. She has a long history in South King County where she is active with the Children's Alliance, League of Women Voters, South King County Community Network, and a devoted member of the Des Moines Salt Water Unitarian Church. Named by Councilmember Julia Patterson.

Floor 6: John Spellman (b. 1926) - Served as the 18th Governor of Washington State from 1981-1985. He also held the distinction of serving as the first King County Executive from 1969 – 1981, having been elected to the post during the implementation of King County's Home Rule Charter in 1968. Named by Councilmember Jane Hague.

Floor 7: Father Peter Francis Hylebos (1848 - 1918) - Advocate on behalf of Tacoma's Chinese residents who faced persecution in 1885. He supported underprivileged Native American communities near the present day Muckleshoot Reservation and built churches, hospitals, orphanages, and schools across the South Sound region. Hylebos Creek near the former St. George's Indian School just north of the county line is named in his honor. The wetlands that contribute to the origin of the creek are now known as the West Hylebos Wetlands. Named by Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer.

Floor 8: Ruby Chow (b. 1920) - Seattle restaurateur, Chinese community activist, and first Asian-American elected to the King County Council in 1973, where she served three terms. She established and expanded programs that enhanced human services, public health, drug/alcohol treatment, public transit, and low-income housing. Named by Councilmember Dow Constantine.

Floor 9: Abe Morris (1879 - 1933) – Worked in Pierce and King County's coal industry from the age of 12. He served as president of Local #2634 of the United Mine Worker's Union and as superintendent of three different mines. After serving two consecutive terms in the State Legislature where he authored a new state mining code, he was later appointed State Mine Inspector. Named by Councilmember Reagan Dunn.

King County Executive Ron Sims named the top four floors of the 13-story structure:

Floor 10: Barry Bianchi (1942 - 1995) - An early HIV/AIDS activist on both the local and national levels, Barry worked with a variety of different community-based organizations, direct service providers and governments to increase awareness, expand treatment and prevention services, and improve public policies affecting people with HIV and AIDS."

Floor 11: Bernie Whitebear (1937 - 2000) - Native American activist and leader who unified Northwest tribes to fight for the return of their land. He founded and guided the United Indians of All Tribes Foundation for more than 20 years and dedicated his life to improving the lives of Indians and other ethnic groups by working for change and justice.

Floor 12: Anna Herr Clise (1866 - 1936) – One of the founders, along with 23 affluent Seattle women friends, of Children's Orthopedic Hospital. Trustees later established the lasting policy of accepting any child, regardless of race, religion, or parents' ability to pay.

Floor 13: Rev. Dr. Samuel B. McKinney (b.1926) - Pastor Emeritus of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, human rights activist and community leader. Committed to the social gospel, Dr. McKinney was Martin Luther King's lieutenant in the Pacific Northwest, and was a founding member of the Seattle Civil Rights Commission. He continues to work on a number of social justice issues that impact the community.

The name of the Chinook Building itself and the idea of naming each of the floors came from King County students who won a naming contest sponsored by Ferguson in 2007. Middle school students in grades 7 through 9 were invited to submit essays in support of their naming suggestions. An appointed committee of prominent community members selected finalists and the King County Council selected the winning names.

The committee chose the name "Chinook" from among 140 entries submitted. Megan Drews, a student at Holy Family School in Kirkland when she entered the contest, said that "Chinook" is "an important name to me and

my family because it celebrates our Northwest native heritage,” and also because “it is a great fish to eat!” Drews is now a freshman at Eastside Catholic High School and was present at the grand opening ceremony.

The Council adopted an idea submitted by 8th grader Connolly McHugh, who suggested that significant names be used for “certain rooms or wings for individuals, groups or symbolic logos” to make this a government building “of the people, by the people, and for the people.”

Seven County agencies are now housed in the building at 5th and Jefferson, which opened in the summer of 2007. Its tenants include Public Health, the Office of the Public Defender, the Department of Community and Human Services, the Office of Information Resource Management, and the Finance Division.

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### **Washington Trust Announces a Call for Nominations to the 2008 Most Endangered Historic Properties List**

The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is seeking nominations to its 2008 Most Endangered Historic Properties List. Each year, historic properties statewide face a variety of challenges such as demolition, neglect, incompatible development and insensitive alteration. These threats and others impact resources across Washington that collectively contribute to the heritage and vitality of our state, enhancing the quality of life in small towns, large cities and across rural countryside. Inclusion in the Most Endangered List can be an important initial step in advocacy campaigns designed to bring attention to significant historic resources.

Properties selected for inclusion in the list will receive support and technical assistance from the Trust in an effort to remove any threats facing the historic resource and also work to raise awareness of preservation in general. Through proactive partnering with local organizations and concerned citizens, the Trust’s Most Endangered List program has resulted in many high profile success stories across Washington since its establishment in 1992.

Several case studies demonstrate the effectiveness of inclusion in our Most Endangered List. In Seattle, the Seventh Church of Christ, Scientist on Queen Anne Hill faced the wrecking ball to make way for a cluster of single family homes. Working with local advocates from the Queen Anne Historical Society, the Washington Trust received a commitment from the church congregation to seriously consider any third-party offers interested in retaining the 1926 sanctuary. When approached by a separate church seeking a building in which to worship, members of the Seventh Church of Christ, Scientist reconsidered plans for demolition, leading to the eventual sale of church. Standing proudly as a fine example of Neo-Byzantine architecture, the building is now home to the Seattle Church of Christ.

The statewide listing of Washington’s Historic Barns resulted in a legislative effort to address the unique threats facing these iconic structures. Passed in 2007, the Heritage Barn Preservation Initiative established the Heritage Barn Register while setting aside funding to provide stabilization and rehabilitation grants to assist barn owners with preservation projects. Created as a program of the Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, the initiative has already resulted in 292 barns being designated as official Washington State Heritage Barns. The first round of grant awards will be announced this spring. The Washington Trust rallied a diverse collection of agricultural-related and heritage-minded advocacy groups to support this legislation.

These are but two of the many preservation successes in which the Washington Trust has played a role. We encourage communities to take action when the historic fabric of their neighborhoods, main streets and rural landscapes are threatened and offer our support with preservation efforts aimed at removing these threats. Nominations to the Trust’s 2008 Most Endangered Historic Properties List are due on March 26, 2008. The 2008 List will be announced at a press conference in May as part of the Washington Trust’s Preservation Month programming. For more information on the Most Endangered Historic Properties List, including a nomination form, please visit the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation website at [www.wa-trust.org](http://www.wa-trust.org).

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#### **4culture Heritage Funding Applications Available**

Application Forms and Program Guidelines for 4Culture's Heritage Cultural Education (HCE) and Heritage Special Projects (HSP) Programs are now available online at: <http://4culture.org/>. Deadline for Heritage Cultural Education is Monday, April 7, 2008 and for Heritage Special Projects is Monday, April 28, 2008. Deadlines have been moved up slightly this year to allow time for those who wish to develop and produce projects that commemorate the upcoming Alaska-Yukon-Pacific-Exposition Centennial. The AYPE theme is not necessary for eligibility, but 4Culture encourages applicants to consider taking advantage of the HCE and HSP funding programs to observe the Centennial. Assistance in planning proposals, determining eligibility, developing well-written applications, and obtaining a little moral support is available by:

- attending workshops at the 4Culture office, held from noon-1 p.m. each Thursday from March 6 through April 24th
- e-mailing or making an appointment with Patricia Filer to discuss your proposal - or your problems; or
- visiting the 4Culture Heritage Resource Library to study previous applications submitted to 4Culture and to peruse the many models of curricula, publications, and other projects that have been funded.

For more information, contact Patricia Filer at: [patricia.filer@4culture.org](mailto:patricia.filer@4culture.org).

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#### **Skykomish Collection Available On-Line**

The first phase of the Skykomish Historical Society's "Making Our Collection Available to the World" project is now available on-line. Made possible by a grant from 4Culture, the project was overseen by collection manager Bob Kelly, with help from Fred Cruger of Granite Falls Historical Society, and work from Rose Marie Williams, Michael Moore, Warren Carlson and Charlotte Mackner.

Visit [www.skykomishhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.skykomishhistoricalsociety.org) and click on "Collections" near the top of the page. There are over 1200 items available for searching. This represents only a portion of the Society's collection and more will be added over time.

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#### **UW Pamphlet and Textual Ephemera Collection**

The worlds of theater, tourism, and urban development all come together in this delightful and intriguing digital collection. Created by staff members at the University of Washington Libraries Digital Collection group, the collection includes pamphlets, books, and theater programs that cover tourism in Washington State, urban development in Seattle, the world of theatrical amusements in the area, and the Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition of 1909. The Seattle architecture offerings are quite useful, and they include promotional brochures for new buildings and a pamphlet that explores the later development of the land which contained the first home of the University of Washington. The theater programs collection contains original programs from a diverse range of production from the early days of Seattle Theater, including productions of "Just Out of College" and "The Pirates of Penzance". All told, the entire collection contains 115 items and it's well worth a look. To view the collection, please visit: <http://content.lib.washington.edu/ptecweb/index.html>.

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#### **Pacific Northwest Quarterly online**

PNQ's website at <http://www.washington.edu/uwired/outreach/cspn/Website/PNQ.html> offers a variety of new and updated resources for scholars and history enthusiasts. Find sample articles, selected articles by subject,

submission guidelines, and table of contents information for every issue in PNQ's one-hundred year run. A digital index is forthcoming later in 2008. PNQ, housed in the University of Washington's Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest, is a peer-reviewed scholarly journal devoted to the history and culture of the northwestern United States, Alaska, and western Canada.

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### **Notice of City Council Public Hearing on Potential 2008 Amendments to the City Of Seattle's Comprehensive Plan**

In the fall of each year the Seattle City Council decides whether to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan in response to amendments that are proposed by members of the public, organizations, City departments, and others. The Council screens the proposed amendments in the spring to decide which ones should be formally considered for adoption in the fall. The Council holds a public hearing in the spring to assist it in screening the proposed amendments, and holds at least one additional public hearing later in the year when deciding whether to actually adopt amendments. The purpose of this notice is to inform the public of the first public hearing, regarding which of the proposed amendments should be considered for formal consideration in the fall.

**Public Hearing:** The Seattle City Council's Planning, Land Use, and Neighborhoods Committee (PLUNC) will hold a public hearing to decide which proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments should be considered in the 2008 annual Comprehensive Plan amendment process. The public hearing will be on Monday, March 31, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council's Chamber, 2nd floor, Seattle City Hall, 600 Fourth Avenue. The entrances to City Hall are located on the west side of Fifth Avenue, and the east side of Fourth Avenue, between James and Cherry Streets. For those who wish to testify, a sign-up sheet will be available outside the Council Chamber one-half hour before the public hearing.

Questions concerning the public hearing process should be directed to David Yeaworth in Councilmember Clark's office, at 684-8802 or via e-mail at: [david.yeaworth@seattle.gov](mailto:david.yeaworth@seattle.gov). Questions about the proposed amendments should be directed to Bob Morgan of the City Council's Central Staff at 684-8150 or [bob.morgan@seattle.gov](mailto:bob.morgan@seattle.gov); or to Mark Troxel of the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) at 615-1739 or [mark.troxel@seattle.gov](mailto:mark.troxel@seattle.gov). The City Council Chamber is accessible. Print and communications access is provided on prior request. Please contact David Yeaworth at 684-8802 as soon as possible to request accommodations for a disability.

**Written Comments:** For those unable to attend the public hearing, written comments may be sent to: Councilmember Sally Clark, Legislative Department, 600 Fourth Avenue Floor 2, PO Box 34025, Seattle, WA 98124-4025, or by email to [sally.clark@seattle.gov](mailto:sally.clark@seattle.gov). Written comments should be received by noon on Monday, March 31, 2008.

**Information Available:** Copies of the proposed amendments as well as a summary list of the amendments may be viewed or downloaded from the City Council's website at the following address: [http://www.seattle.gov/council/issues/compplan\\_amendments.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/council/issues/compplan_amendments.htm)

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### **New Pathways - Historic Preservation and Sustainability Conference**

Sustainability, green buildings, climate change and energy efficiency are all terms we hear and read about. But, how does the drive to adapt our built environment to "green building" standards affect the future of our historic properties? The New Pathways Conference, to be held April 14 and 15 in Seattle, will try to answer questions about how historic rehabilitation projects can successfully comply with local building codes and green building rating systems (such as LEED), and still meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The

target audience includes building code officials, green building design proponents, designers/architects, and preservation consultants.

Conference committee member Rebecca Nielsen of the US General Services Administration regional office in Auburn recently stated: "There are lots of conferences out there that are talking about the problems. We want to have a conference that answers some questions." Conference sponsors include the Washington Association of Building Officials, the Washington State Building Code Council, the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, City of Seattle, and the US General Services Administration.

The first day of the conference will include presentations and panel discussions by industry leaders in the field. Day 2 will be a half day group exercise during which participants will evaluate a local historic building rehabilitation project from the perspective of building codes, green building programs, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. During this exercise participants will explore how the various codes and standards are supportive, identify potential conflicting goals, and attempt to resolve any conflicts which surface.

Former State Representative Sandra Romero, who is active in both the preservation and sustainability fronts, says of the conference topic: "Building codes, preservation standards, and green building systems are all good things. But they are often seen as being in conflict. We want to show how they can and should work together." Conference registration is available at [http://www.wabo.org/new\\_pathways\\_historic\\_preserva.htm](http://www.wabo.org/new_pathways_historic_preserva.htm). For more information please contact Greg Griffith, Washington State Deputy Historic Preservation Officer, at 360-586-3073, or by email at [greg.griffith@dahp.wa.gov](mailto:greg.griffith@dahp.wa.gov).

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### **Results of Study on the Internet's Impact on Museums and Libraries**

Institute of Museum and Library Services Director Anne-Imelda Radice released results of InterConnections: A National Study of Users and Potential Users of Online Information March 6 at the 9th annual WebWise Conference on Libraries and Museums in the Digital World in Miami. This new report offers insight into the ways people search for information in the online age, and how this impacts the ways they interact with public libraries and museums, both online and in person. "Museums and libraries are alive and well in the digital world!" Radice said. "The InterConnections report shows how people currently search for information and makes the case that the libraries and museums must provide service both online and in person." IMLS sponsored this national study through a cooperative agreement with a University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill research team led by Jose-Marie Griffiths and Donald W. King, recognized leaders in information research. Their findings are based on five surveys of 1,000 to 1,600 adults each that were conducted during 2006. The study found that:

Libraries and museums are the most trusted sources of online information among adults of all ages, education levels, races, and ethnicities.

Libraries and museums rank higher in trustworthiness than all other information sources including government, commercial, and private Web sites. The study shows that the public trust of museums and libraries migrates to the online environment.

The explosive growth of information available in the "Information Age" actually whets Americans' appetite for more information. People search for information in many places and since the use of one source leads to others, museums, public libraries, and the Internet complement each other in this information-rich environment.

The Internet is not replacing in-person visits to libraries and museums and may actually increase onsite use of libraries and museums. There is a positive relationship between Internet use and in-person visits to museums and public libraries.

The InterConnections report provides evidence that public libraries and museums are thriving in the Internet Age as trusted providers of information to people of all ages.

To view the report, please go to <http://interconnectionsreport.org>.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit [www.ims.gov](http://www.ims.gov).

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### **Call for Papers: Annual Regional Conference, Society of Architectural Historians**

Tacoma, Washington, October 2-4, 2008

Abstracts or proposals for formal papers or work-in-progress reports are solicited for the 2008 annual meeting of the Marion Dean Ross/Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians. Submissions may address any aspect of the built environment from any time period or place, and no part of the built environment will be excluded from consideration. Proposals are encouraged that address the conference theme: "Re-Use, Recycling, and Rebirth: Architecture and Preservation and Urbanization in the Pacific Northwest."

Graduate students and advanced undergraduates in fields related to the built environment are particularly welcome to present at the conference, as the chapter wishes to highlight new scholarship and approaches from emerging scholars everywhere. Proposals are due by August 1.

Contact Caroline Swope at [cswope@nventure.com](mailto:cswope@nventure.com) for submission guidelines and more details.

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### **Manning's/Denny's lawsuit filed**

On March 13, BCC Mikie Ballard, LLC, a development entity of The Benaroya Company, filed suit in King County Superior Court to challenge the action by Seattle's Landmark Preservation Board to designate the abandoned Denny's building in Ballard, located at 5501 15th Avenue NW, as a Seattle landmark. "The boarded up former Denny's is not an important historic or architectural building, nor the work of a significant architect," said Marc Nemirow, spokesman for Benaroya. "The landmark board agreed with these conclusions, but incredulously decided to designate the building a landmark anyway. This action isn't legal."

Nemirow noted that although the appeal was filed, the applicant continues to work through the process. "Due to statutory deadlines it was necessary to file the court appeal in response to the Board's February 20 decision, but we continue to be focused on the ongoing administrative process." Nemirow said that the board must now negotiate with the land owner regarding the economic implications of the landmark decision. "We are concentrating our efforts on preparing information to assist the Board in a proper evaluation of the economic impacts of its decision," he said.

The lawsuit seeks to reverse the decision of the landmarks board. Nemirow said that no timetable has been set for consideration of the appeal, and it is his desire to pursue the current process with the Landmarks Board, and hopefully avoid the need to pursue the court appeal.

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### **Crosscut online magazine**

**March 13, 2008**

**Benaroya files suit over the landmark Denny's**

**By Knute Berger**

The Benaroya Company is contesting the legality of a city of Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board decision to designate the former Manning's/Denny's diner in Ballard as an historic landmark. According to a press release

sent this afternoon, they have filed suit in King County Superior Court to reverse the decision. The board voted in favor of the diner 6-3 on Feb. 20.

The lawsuit attacks the designation on multiple grounds. It alleges, among other things, that the Landmarks Board action is "illegal and erroneous," that it violated procedure, and that it violated the owner's constitutional rights. Among the complaints is the appearance of bias. It accuses Landmarks Board Chair Stephen Lee of having prejudged the case after comments he made at the designation meeting indicating that he lived near the diner and "always thought it was a visual landmark."

In addition to the specifics of the Ballard case, the suit also claims the composition of the Landmarks Board itself is flawed because it is intentionally made up of people sympathetic with the purpose of landmarking. The suit also argues that the landmark criterion under which the diner was designated is "unconstitutionally vague" and that it constitutes a property "taking."

Louie Richmond, who is handling public relations on the diner controversy for Benaroya, says the suit is "on hold" until the outcome of the administrative process regarding the landmark. Benaroya is pulling together information it hopes will prove that landmarking the diner is not financially viable. If the Landmarks Board and a hearing examiner disagree with Benroya's contention, however, the suit will go forward, Richmond says. He estimates the administrative process could take up to two months.

I emailed Karen Gordon, the city's landmarks preservation officer, to get her response to the above press release and lawsuit. Here was her reply:

In reading the press release, it appears that the owners are going to continue to work through the landmarks process. Although we haven't received a formal response to our invitation to negotiate Controls & Incentives, we look forward to working with the owners and examining whatever information they submit for consideration by the staff and the Landmarks Preservation Board.

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### Heritage Funding in State Legislature

March 13 was the last day of the 2008 regular session. Heritage did very well this year:

#### 2008 SUPPLEMENTAL OPERATING BUDGET PROPOSALS AND FINAL APPROPRIATIONS

|                                               | <b>Governor</b> | <b>House</b> | <b>Senate</b> | <b>Final</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| GA - Monument restoration                     | 33,000          | 33,000       | 33,000        |              |
| DAHP – Transportation archaeologist           | 100,000         |              |               |              |
| DAHP – Maritime National Heritage Area        |                 | 150,000      | 150,000       | 150,000      |
| DAHP – Human Remains                          |                 | 1,071,000    |               | 1,071,000    |
| CTED – Lucy exhibit at Pacific Science Center |                 | 400,000      | 500,000       | 400,000      |
| WSHS – Washington State Holocaust             |                 |              | 255,000       | 255,000      |

|                                                                                   |  |  |        |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--------|--------|
| Education Resource Center                                                         |  |  |        |        |
| Eastern Washington State Historical Society – American Indian artifact cataloging |  |  | 88,000 | 88,000 |

2008 SUPPLEMENTAL CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSALS AND FINAL APPROPRIATIONS

|                                                               | <b>Governor</b> | <b>House</b>              | <b>Senate</b>             | <b>Final</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| GA – Monument restoration                                     | 288,000         | 288,000                   | 288,000                   | 288,000      |
| State Parks – Bigelow House                                   |                 | 100,000                   | 100,000                   | 100,000      |
| UW – Burke Museum renovation                                  |                 | 300,000                   |                           | 300,000      |
| WSHS – Station Camp park                                      | 1,935,000       | 1,935,000                 | 1,935,000                 | 1,935,000    |
| WSHS – State Capital Museum repairs                           | 207,000         | 207,000                   | 207,000                   | 207,000      |
| CTED – Confluence Project                                     |                 | 1,000,000                 | 1,000,000                 | 500,000      |
| CTED – Performing Arts Eastside preconstruction               |                 | 3,000,000 (was 2,000,000) | 2,000,000                 | 500,000      |
| CTED – Dynamite Train                                         |                 |                           | 80,000                    | 50,000       |
| CTED – Federal Way Performing Arts Center                     |                 |                           | 500,000                   | 500,000      |
| CTED – Garfield County Agricultural Museum                    |                 |                           | 75,000                    | 75,000       |
| CTED - Foss Waterway                                          |                 |                           | 1,678,000 (was 1,000,000) | 300,000      |
| Dayton Historic Depot                                         |                 |                           | 75,000                    | 75,000       |
| Yakima Valley Museum Feasibility Study – Downtown Arts Center |                 | 25,000                    |                           | 25,000       |

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**The Stranger**  
**March 11, 2008**  
**The House on Queen Anne Avenue**  
**by Charles Mudede**

In the prosperous and cozy section of Queen Anne Avenue North between West McGraw Street and West Smith Street, one house stands out. It's called Sterling Residence. It's three stories high, white, modern, belted by a perimeter wall, and has an enclosed garden of white and black rocks. This house says nothing to the others that surround it. Because the back of Sterling Residence faces the street, its front facing the alley, it upsets its neighbors with the bold indifference of a three-story windowless wall.

"I should get a permit from the city and show movies on there in the summer," said Jennifer Geist, who's in her mid 40s, is as spirited as her surname, and lives directly across the street from Sterling Residence. Her home is snug, wood-warm, filled with the images and smells of well-being. Earlier, after she welcomed me (a complete stranger) into her home, she said that none other than the Dalai Lama was coming to Seattle very soon and that this was a big story, one I should look into (instead of looking into her house). And as she led me to the living room, I thought of how the Italian filmmaker Bernardo Bertolucci, when shooting the opening scenes of his 1993 film *Little Buddha* in a Queen Anne home designed by the local architect Larry Rouch, had to harden the house's modernisms, sharpen the severity of its interior spaces, and make its colors harsher. Had he used Geist's house for those scenes, a complete change would have been necessary. Everything you need to raise a perfect little Buddha is here.

I was sitting in the living room shortly after dusk, a fat and fluffy cat on my lap, and Geist was sitting on the couch across from me. Between us: a large window filled with the growing/glowing whiteness of Sterling Residence. "I'm originally from back East, and when my family visits me here, they are shocked by the house," Geist said. "My father calls it an abortion clinic."

We watched a young couple emerge from Sterling Residence's gate, enter a flashy white car, and jet down the road. Geist continued, "No one likes the building. It's offensive. And it's not that I'm against new things. I have an open mind. But it's just wrong for the street. It has no sense of the community... Now, the architects who made it are also working on another project not far from here, and it's not as bad as this one. It at least takes the other homes into consideration."

Sterling Residence only speaks to itself or, closer yet, to another, distant discourse that has had little or no impact on Queen Anne—the discourse of modernism, postindustrial technologies, urban theory. It is not a dwelling in the sense that the other homes on this street are dwellings; it is a living machine, a robot designed for the rational management of human beings. The neighbors may not like Sterling Residence, and they would like the whole city also not to like it, but precisely the opposite is happening: More and more, the bane of the neighbors' existence is being recognized as a breakthrough, a breath of much needed fresh air. In 2007, Sterling Residence was the recipient of an Honor Award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA). This prize was not conferred entirely by outsiders. One of the three members of the jury was Seattle native Joshua Prince-Ramus, who codesigned the Seattle Central Library.

Sterling Residence, which was on sale last year for \$1.5 million (this is not an amazing price for this street; another much older home, built in 1919, had a list price of \$1.2 million), was designed by Pb Elemental. The firm came into existence in 2004, when it sprang from the minds of two ambitious students from the University of Washington's architecture school, Chris Pardo, 29, and David Biddle, 30. Pb Elemental's growth has been spectacular—from 2 to over 50 employees in just four years. The entirety of this growth has been generated by local projects. A part of Pb Elemental's secret to success can be attributed to its leading program, which is the unification of architecture (or style) with town houses. (The firm also unifies style with single-family residences and commercial buildings.) Only two or three firms in Seattle, as far as I can tell, are attempting to build or maintain such a relationship—between style/modernism and town houses. Most town houses (if they even bother to do so) turn to the past and imitate the Seattle Box and other popular plans and designs of the 1910s and 1920s.

You could say that Sterling Residence is the highest point of Pb Elemental's program and ideas. It is the point that defines the firm's progress thus far—a point that might be surpassed by Pb's Crockett Residence, which is currently under construction—and the point of so much disturbance on the top of the once-peaceful, once-wholesome, once-content community of Queen Anne. It's a disturbance of power, aesthetics, codes, modes, values, and ideas that are plugged into a wider war for the soul/identity of this city. What is Seattle? Is it this: in

reality, a small town back then—in essence, a small town now? Or is it this: once a small town, now a big city? And can the values of the past be maintained in a Seattle that is on the cutting edge of so much—aerospace, biotechnology, information systems?

Sterling Residence brought this battle to a neighborhood that had somehow managed to maintain a distance from the noise and banging raging everywhere else. All over Seattle—Central District, Mount Baker, Capitol Hill, Eastlake—new buildings are replacing old buildings at an unprecedented pace. The past is here and there vanishing like the contents of a dream at the moment of waking. The construction boom had, for sure, transformed parts of Queen Anne—particularly along Queen Anne Avenue—but not hit hard at the heart of the neighborhood. Sterling Residence is by no means the first modern home to be built on Queen Anne (Rouch's Little Buddha home, for example, was completed in the early 1990s), but it's certainly the loudest and most aggressive. The other modern homes caused a stir; Sterling Residence has caused a break.

Grievances toward Sterling Residence were first publicly expressed on the AIA website. The organization had flown three judges into town—Frank Harmon, Jeanne Gang, and Joshua Prince-Ramus (he now lives in New York City)—and shown them 140 projects, and one of the seven projects they selected for a prize was Sterling Residence, which surprisingly beat Vandevanter + Carlander Architects' houseboat. On a page that the AIA website dedicated to the winners, "Unbound," one unnamed and very upset guest wrote:

This home may be appropriate in a different context, but in a community/neighborhood of early-20th-century homes (mostly bungalows) this home is a stark and unwelcome contrast. I have not encountered a single person (except perhaps the homeowners) who actually finds this home to be inviting in any way. It is made fun of constantly and is referred to as the giant Kleenex box littering the street.

Another guest wrote: I live a block away and 100% of the residents on QA I have talked with are stunned by the harsh white blank walls of this home. Many people comment on this eyesore! The interior might be wonderful, but the glaring exterior absolutely does not fit in this neighborhood. It is unfriendly and boring—certainly does not promote "community." What were you thinking to award such a building an award? It gives architecture a very bad name.

"Unfriendly," "harsh," "stark," "unwelcome," "stunned"—this is the language of xenophobia. Sterling Residence is alien, strange, not a part of the "community." It is uncouth (in the older sense of that word), the other, the event that disrupts long-established certainties about the neighborhood, the institution of the family ("it looks like an abortion clinic"), and the meaning of the city ("this home may be appropriate in a different context"). However, Jennifer Geist, the neighbor, admitted to me on the evening of my surprise visit that the architectural hatred and rejection was not universal, not "100 percent." Her brother-in-law loves Sterling Residence for the very same reasons it won an AIA prize: It snaps the monotony of the street and presents a fresh opening to something new in the neighborhood. And because the snap is so sharp, so clear, in the context of Queen Anne, the AIA jury used it to send a loud message to the rest of Seattle: Snap out of predictable architecture.

On December 25, 2007, Lawrence W. Cheek, who writes architecture reviews for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, reported that after looking at the 140 projects in Seattle and surrounding areas, the AIA jury was far from impressed with what the city had to offer. "For a city with such strengths—education, culture, natural environment, wealth," they stated, "[we] hoped to see more evidence of leadership and risk, and less comfort with an already well-digested regional design language. Great architecture occurs when a great designer creates new opportunity." It wasn't because Sterling Residence is exceptional (the houseboat is the better building) that it won; it's because it delivered a great blow into the guts of "well-digested regional design language," the guts of Queen Anne Hill.

"We selected the Sterling Residence because of its impact on the context," Prince-Ramus confirmed over the phone. "It was refreshing to see something that was outside of the language of bungalows or whatever they call them. One of the best features of the house is on the top floors. There you have a view of this repetition. It's a sea of bungalow roofs."

When asked about his criticism of the city's recent architecture, he said: "For me, it was easy to be critical. I'm from Seattle. This is where I grew up. And so I was happy that other jurors were in agreement with how I felt. But they are not from Seattle and may not have wanted to be so critical. But we all agreed to make the statement: The city is not taking enough risks, not experimenting with new ideas. And this is strange when you think about how educated, wealthy, liberal, and so on the city is... But, yes, what excited me about [Sterling Residence] was its willingness to do something smart, new, and different from a design language that belongs to another age, period of time."

Queen Anne Hill is upper-middle class, stable, and white. The average cost of a house is nearly \$800,000 dollars, making it the third-most-expensive neighborhood in Seattle—behind Madison Park and Capitol Hill. But unlike Capitol Hill, particularly the area west of Broadway, the top of Queen Anne has been quiet and constant. Amazingly, there are no construction cranes in this part of town. And there is little that will shock or surprise a person who happens to visit the area after a long parting. Had Pb Elemental built Sterling Residence in the neighborhood that contains the bulk of its major projects, the Central District, the judges of AIA might have missed it. The house is not groundbreaking but consistent with the strong ideals and values of modernism—it's composed of two primary volumes that are separated by a core of dark woods and metal fixtures. At the top of this core, windows all around, windows that can see beyond the hill, beyond Ballard, beyond the clouds, into the blue—windows that flood the rooms, the staircase, the concrete floor with light. There is little more to Sterling Residence than these refined elements.

A week ago, I asked Pb Elemental's Chris Pardo for the design motive of Sterling Residence. He saw the street, he saw the surrounding homes: Was he being provocative? Cruel? Difficult? Honest?

"I think people often make the mistake of confusing context with character. The character of a neighborhood is set typically when it is first developed. In Queen Anne's case, this would be the early 1900s," he said. "Craftsman homes on [the] hill were originally designed and built based on the tools, skills of craftsman, and as a reflection of the time... Context evolves, Queen Anne has become a very busy (especially Queen Anne Avenue) urban neighborhood, building technologies have changed, family dynamics have changed. The Sterling Residence had to consider what Queen Anne is now, what lifestyle and technologies exist."

From this point, "what Queen Anne is now," we need not make more steps. We can stop here. Sterling Residence is ultimately urban. It does not pretend to be in a small town, to be in the middle of the country, to be about the kind of "family dynamics" that the show Little House on the Prairie endorsed. Sterling Residence is about young wealth, the global economy, the technologies of tomorrow. Sterling Residence is about being where it is: in the middle of a big city.

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**Crosscut online magazine**

**March 18, 2008**

**UW will be spreading into the U District in a new way**

**By David Brewster**

The University of Washington has announced plans to build a lot of new student housing on the west side of its main campus, filling in parking lots and easing the space crunch for the 5,100 students who now live in dorms. There will be eight new buildings, mostly six stories high. This is a good move, for several reasons, and an interesting opportunity for urbanism.

UW President Mark Emmert wants undergraduates to have a richer student life, beyond just attending classes and the occasional football game. Having more places to live on campus, and in dorms that have seminar rooms and auditoriums, is a good step in this direction. Most nights, the UW really does feel like a commuter campus, with few folks around and few events scheduled. And of course with housing so expensive in Seattle, more UW students have to live farther away from campus.

For a long time, the University District tended to think of the UW as a large beast that needed to be kept in its cage, stopped from expanding outward. The new thinking is that campus and nearby city should not be sharply demarcated but more shuffled together, with commercial spaces interpenetrating ivory towers. The Ave, having been hollowed out by competition from University Village and the invasion of teenagers, is now much more interested in welcoming the University to revitalize dead blocks and bring more streetlife. The UW has a fine record of building handsome, contextual new buildings on campus. Now it has a chance to show architectural and urbanistic flare on the perimeter.

A footnote: Mike McGavick, who was Safeco CEO from 2001-05, is leaving Seattle to head a Bermuda insurance firm, XL Capital Ltd. McGavick was a strong advocate, while at Safeco, for creating a more vibrant University District, along the lines of Cambridge, Mass. It wasn't easy: the UW was standoffish, and ultimately Safeco (under McGavick's successor) decided to move headquarters to downtown. Safeco Tower will now become Husky Tower, staking new presence for the UW in the district. So maybe McGavick's advocacy paid off? At any rate, his strong concern for city values will be missed.

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### **Sorrento Hotel centennial celebration**

Seattle's Sorrento Hotel at 900 Madison Street on First Hill is celebrating its 100 anniversary all year long with monthly specials at its award winning Hunt Club restaurant and Fireside room. The celebration includes new menus featuring the best local ingredients and retro menus to remind you the origins of the Sorrento history. Check our current menus and Easter Brunch specials by Jason Dallas, Executive Chef.

With our best rate guarantee you can now save money on booking fees and obtain the best rates by booking directly on our website. Love our hotel? Share your experience by writing a review on Trip Advisor, once you post it, email your review to [Sorrento.sales@hotelsorrento.com](mailto:Sorrento.sales@hotelsorrento.com) and you will enter to win a Hunt Club Dinner Package. Reviews must be posted prior to May 31, 2008.

Book your next group or banquet online, it is not too early to book your Holiday party, private dining rooms available for 5-120 guests. Come for a night and leave with memories that last a lifetime!

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### **Seattle Parks and Recreation Strategic Action Plan**

Seattle Parks and Recreation is developing a Strategic Action Plan to establish a vision and guide decisions over the next five years. Public and staff participation are integral parts of this process to ensure the Plan reflects the needs of the Seattle community. Get involved and help shape the Plan:

Strategic Action Plan ; Over the past decade, there has been a substantial expansion in Seattle's park and recreation system. In the face of continued growth, changing demographics, and emerging parks and recreation trends, Parks must strategically evaluate its facilities, services, and operations so it can continue to meet its commitments to Seattle citizens to create community through people, parks, and programs.

The Strategic Action Plan will identify emerging issues and policy questions relating to Parks' current strengths, challenges and opportunities. The purpose of the Plan is to focus Parks' activities to ensure the most efficient and effective use of public tax dollars. It is not a laundry list of services but rather a roadmap that will express Parks' vision and mission. It will also guide budget, capital development and investment decisions, and provide a planning framework for partnerships with other departments, organizations and businesses.

Community Involvement and Project Schedule: Public involvement is a critical part of Parks' planning and decision-making process. Hearing from stakeholders across the city is a major priority and focus for the study and Parks is firmly committed to soliciting citizens' ideas and incorporating that feedback thoughtfully to shape

the Plan. Public comment will be used to assess what Parks does well, what it could improve, and its strategic opportunities, and to inform the overall vision.

#### Project Schedule

October 2007: Project Kick off

November 2007-January 2008: Public input

January-March 2008: Plan development and refinement

March 2008: Public review draft released

March-June 2008: Public, Council, and Park Board input

Summer 2008: Final Plan released

Opportunities for Input: Understanding and consideration of public and user perspectives is an essential part of the planning process and the Plan's development. Parks is soliciting public ideas and comments in multiple ways. Early in the planning process, in November and December of 2007, Parks is conducting a survey that will be available to citizens online, and paper versions of the survey will be available at multiple community locations. Parks is also conducting 32 public meetings across the city. After the Plan is drafted, the public will be invited to review and comment on it at more public meetings; that input will be incorporated into the final version of the Plan.

About Seattle Parks and Recreation: Seattle's park system comprises 6,200 acres, about 11% of the city's land area. Parks maintains 430 parks, 185 athletic fields, 112 neighborhood play areas, 26 community centers and 10 pools. The system includes several major destination parks, Discovery Park, Green Lake Park, as well as neighborhood and special purpose parks. Parks maintains 22 miles of boulevards. Parks also has 151 outdoor tennis courts, four golf courses, and 11 off leash areas. Along the 24 miles of shoreline, Parks has nine swimming beaches, 18 fishing piers, and many moorages and boat launches. Parks also operates and maintains the Washington Arboretum, the Seattle Aquarium, the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, and the Alki Art Studio, and many other facilities, and owns the Woodland Park Zoo property; the Woodland Park Zoo Society operates the zoo under an agreement with the City.

Some of the many programs and activities they offer include life-long recreation opportunities to for people fifty and better, a job readiness program for teenage youth, and a free supervised drop-in program for elementary and middle school aged children. Parks works with myriad private citizens and community groups to provide safe and welcoming opportunities for the public to play, learn, contemplate, and build community by fostering human development, increasing cultural unity, and providing healthy environments.

Contact Information: Brenda Kramer

[parksplan@seattle.gov](mailto:parksplan@seattle.gov) or (206) 386-9094

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#### **Grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access**

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions help small and mid-sized institutions, such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, town and county records offices, and colleges, improve their ability to preserve and care for their humanities collections. These grants support preservation related collection assessments, consultations, workshops, and institutional and collaborative disaster and emergency planning. Grants cover consultant fees, workshop registration fees, related travel and per diem expenses, and the costs of purchasing and shipping preservation supplies and equipment. This year, the maximum award amount has been increased to \$6000 and projects may include a wider variety of education and training activities.

All applications to the NEH must be submitted through [Grants.gov](http://www.neh.gov/grants) using new Acrobat forms. This requires the use of Adobe Acrobat Reader 8.1.1 or 8.1.2. See the application guidelines for details. The 2008 guidelines for Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions are available at <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/pag.html>. You will also find sample project descriptions, sample narratives, and a list of frequently asked questions. The deadline for receipt of applications is May 15, 2008.

Any U.S. nonprofit organization is eligible, as are state and local governmental agencies and tribal governments. Small and mid-sized institutions that have never received an NEH grant are especially encouraged to apply. For more information, contact the staff of NEH's Division of Preservation and Access at 202-606-8570 and [preservation@neh.gov](mailto:preservation@neh.gov).

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### **Seattle's Get Engaged Program**

Looking for a way to make your voice heard and have influence on public policy and city life? Get Engaged! The Mayor and the Metrocenter YMCA are seeking diverse young adults ages 18-29 to join the Get Engaged Program. Participants will serve on boards and commissions that advise city government on a variety of issues, including human rights, historical preservation, city planning and arts and culture. Select a commission/board that matches your interest and apply! The application deadline is April 28, 2008 and all submissions must be e-mailed. For Get Engaged application and details, visit: <http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/boards.htm>.

Get Engaged is an innovative program that is a partnership between the City of Seattle and Metrocenter YMCA. The program's goal is to cultivate the next generation of leaders by highlighting the importance and value of young adults in community affairs. As a participant, you join a cohort of thirteen inspiring individuals who are dedicated to making Seattle a better place to live through community building and leadership development. Questions? Contact Mona Grife at [mgrife@seattleyymca.org](mailto:mgrife@seattleyymca.org) or (206) 382-5005.

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### **Funding available for Seattle heritage, arts, and cultural organizations**

Seattle-based arts and cultural organizations are invited to apply for funding in 2009 and 2010. The Office's Civic Partners program, which provides organizational support, awards two-year funding commitments with allocations made annually. Funding is intended to promote a healthy and diverse arts and cultural community and support organizations' core program goals. Funding awards underwrite public access to a rich variety of quality arts and cultural opportunities and help recipients attract other supporters.

Cultural and heritage organizations of all sizes and disciplines with a minimum three-year history of continuous operation and programming and a not-for-profit business structure (does not have to be 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status) are eligible to apply. Workshops to introduce applicants to the program, answer questions and assist with applications will be held in several locations, including our office. For details visit our website at: <http://www.seattle.gov/arts/funding/organizations.asp>.

The deadline to apply is Monday, May 19. For more information about the Civic Partners program, contact Melissa Hines at (206) 684-7175.

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*Educate, Advocate, Preserve*