

HISTORIC SEATTLE



DEDICATED TO
ARCHITECTURAL
PRESERVATION

Historic Seattle

NEWS & VIEWS FROM OUR PRESERVATION COMMUNITY

FALL 2000

DON'T MISS THE BUNGALOW AND CRAFTSMAN HOME FAIR



When: Saturday and
Sunday Sept. 30 & Oct. 1
Where: Town Hall, Eighth
& Seneca, First Hill
Time: See article
Tickets: See insert

Traverse Seattle's older neighborhoods and you'll find scores of authentic Craftsman-style and Bungalow homes. Head to the suburbs and you'll find neo-Craftsman and Bungalow home developments. Stop by Town Hall on Saturday and Sunday, September 30 and October 1, 2000 and you'll find the region's largest exhibition paying tribute to this popular architectural style when Historic Seattle presents the third annual Bungalow and Craftsman Home Fair.

For two days, over 50 antique dealers, craftspeople, architects, and design professionals will gather together to inform and inspire homeowners in the areas of restoration and decoration. Attendees will gain new appreciation for restoration techniques, materials, exterior and interior finishes, furnishings, and accessories appropriate to Bungalow and Craftsman-style homes.

As an educational bonus to the fair, Historic Seattle's Arts & Crafts Guild will present its Fall Lecture Program on Saturday and Sunday. Four lectures on the topic *Surfaces* will be presented, they are as follows:

Batchelder Tiles presented by author Robert Winter
Author Robert Winter is affectionately referred to as "Bungalow Bob" for the breadth of knowledge of the American bungalows. He is the author of a long awaited book, *Batchelder Tile Maker*. He will speak on the process and products of Ernest Batchelder's Los Angeles tile company. Batchelder tile embellishes many Seattle homes, both large and small. Winter has a personal attachment to the pottery, as he now lives in Batchelder's former home.

Stencils presented by Amy Miller founder of Trimble River Studio CONTINUED, PG 7

PRESERVING YOUR OLD HOUSE HEADS WEST THIS FALL

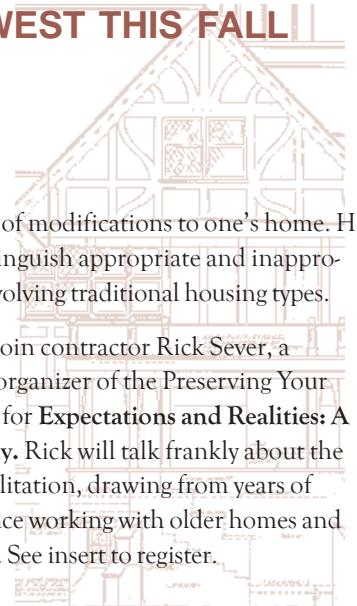
When: Monday, October 16 & 23, 7 pm
Where: ArtsWest, 4711 California Ave SW, West Seattle
Tickets: Series tickets \$12 members; \$18 general public
Individual dates \$7 members; \$10 general public

In West Seattle's Alaska Junction neighborhood, a 1929 retail building on California Avenue SW has been turned into a handsome 150-seat theatre for Arts West. On Monday, October 16 and Monday, October 23, our popular Preserving Your Old House program offers its informative Fall Series in this historic locale.

These sessions take a very practical look at the realities of remodeling older homes. On October 16, join historian, architect, and author Tim Andersen for **Remodel or Remuddle?** He will guide you past the potential pitfalls to be found amongst the good, the

bad, and the ugly of modifications to one's home. He will help you distinguish appropriate and inappropriate changes involving traditional housing types.

On October 23, join contractor Rick Sever, a founder and key organizer of the Preserving Your Old House series for **Expectations and Realities: A Rehab Case Study**. Rick will talk frankly about the realities of rehabilitation, drawing from years of personal experience working with older homes and numerous clients. See insert to register.



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**MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: THE SUNSET HOTEL,
A SAVE THE BUILDINGS FUND PROJECT**

Dear Members and Friends,

Most of the time Historic Seattle helps make preservation happen without actually doing the project ourselves. We **educate** the public to the values of preservation, we **advocate** for good public policies that encourage preservation, and less often we act to **preserve** a building by our own actions. This is an important part of our mission. I wanted to report on one of these projects to you.

The Sunset Hotel, a primary building in the Ballard Landmarks District, partially burned this spring on April 6th. In the following days portions of the building were demolished due to fire damage and resulting structural instability including the entire roof, primary facade to the belt course above the second-floor windows, and the rear facade to the second floor. Historic Seattle staff contacted the Sunset Hotel Building owner Jim Jones of Jones Brothers Meats. City and community leaders were also contacted about saving this important historic building. But we had little time and few real facts. The Sunset Hotel became the first **Save the Buildings Fund** project.

Quick analysis was needed. Historic Seattle staff analyzed potential uses and financing schemes for the project, contacted potential partners, and contin-

ued to work with the building owner. The Historic Seattle Council authorized feasibility analysis. Structural engineer Todd Perbix of perbix bykonen was retained to make a preliminary structural study and design a shoring scheme to preserve the remaining portions of the facade. Soon we knew that preserving the facade was physically feasible and, more importantly, financially feasible. This would not be an easy project but it was a building well worth saving.

Housing Resources Group, through its Executive Director Jim Ferris, helped with project strategies and HRG was a likely partner on the project. The City of Seattle was very supportive and began working to bring public funds through the new Opportunity Fund to help the project. The Historic Seattle Preservation Foundation authorized funds from the **Save the Building Fund** in support of acquisition and development of the Sunset Hotel. Historic Seattle made an offer to purchase the Sunset Hotel—one of two serious offers.

By June 6, the owner chose to accept the other purchase offer from the adjoining property owner. The Olsen family was the Jones' family neighbor for over 40 years and wanted to add this to their ownership. The work of Historic Seattle showed that preservation was possible and feasible. We demonstrated that the

facade could be saved. Our shoring plan would allow the opening of 22nd Avenue for car traffic, a major issue, as this access into the historic district had been closed since the fire. The structural analysis Historic Seattle commissioned was released for use by the Olsens and the shoring plan has been implemented to preserve the facade during restoration planning. Historic Seattle's willingness to explore feasibility and act to attempt to purchase the property turned the discussion from "should this building be saved" to "how can this building be saved."

The Sunset Hotel is now stabilized and in the planning stages of restoration. We did our job and helped make preservation happen. I have met with the Olsens. They indicate a strong commitment to restoration of the main facade and rehabilitation of the building. They have not developed plans for the use of the building at this time. The Olsens are receiving development advice on their larger holdings.

I hope you join me in celebrating Historic Seattle's important work in saving threatened buildings. Please consider actively supporting the **Save the Buildings Fund**. For additional information, contact Paul Morris, Historic Seattle's Director of Fund Development at 206-622-5444. Until next time,
John Chaney, Executive Director



FALL MEMBERS MEETING AT ARCHIVES

When: Tuesday, Sept. 19, 7-8:30 pm

Where: Puget Sound Regional Archives, see article for directions.

Cost: Free and open to the public

Whenever people call the office to inquire about researching their old house, we direct them to the Puget Sound Regional Archives to request a copy of the property tax record file and photographs taken by the King County assessor's office in the late 1930s. These records and photographs document the house prior to most of the remodels and upgrades, which usually occurred after World War II, and can guide homeowners to restoration of original facades and recovering the original floor plans as intended. But the archive offers more. Director Deborah Kennedy will host this autumn members meeting and reveal the many collections that fill 16,000 cubic feet and document government agencies on

both sides of Puget Sound. The Archives is located on the first floor of the Pritchard-Fleming Building on the southwest corner of the Bellevue Community College campus.

From I-90, traveling eastbound, take exit 10B, the Richards Road exit. Go straight through the stoplight and up the hill on SE 36th Street. Turn left on 142nd Place SE. Take the first right, onto Coal Creek Road, and the first right into parking lot B3. If full, use the parking lot directly across the street, parking lot 14, or the parking lot at the east end of the building, parking lot 13.



Example of 1930s tax-record photograph

HISTORIC SEATTLE HONORED BY AKCHO

Recently Historic Seattle was honored at the AKCHO (Association of King County Heritage Organizations) annual awards ceremony with the Single Impact Event Award for the successful 25th Anniversary Gala. This event, held in October 1999, culminated Historic Seattle's wonderful 25th Anniversary year and raised over \$120,000 to seed the Save the Buildings Fund.

Also honored at this event was Kay Bullitt, Chair of the Historic Seattle Preservation Foundation. King County's Landmarks and Heritage Commission recognized Kay's dedication to the preservation community with a certificate of distinction as part of the John D Spellman Award program.

Kay has worked tirelessly to preserve our community's heritage for a number of years. She has been involved in the preservation of Pioneer Square and the protection of the Pike Place Market, she has worked for the preservation of our community's maritime heritage with Northwest Seaport, and was one of the incorporators and first Council members of Historic Seattle.

VIDEOTAPES OF HISTORIC SEATTLE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

Members who miss some of our most popular lectures have asked about whether they are videotaped. Whenever possible, we have tried to make arrangements for this, with varying degrees of success. Thanks to the volunteer assistance of Ruth Emerson and Wayne Dodge, and with the cooperation of the Seattle Art Museum technical staff, the following videotaped programs are available for loan:

- First Hill lecture series: Spring, 1999
- Capitol Hill lecture series: Spring, 2000
- Historic Preservation Roundtable: 6-10-2000
- Arts and Crafts Lectures:
 - Richard Mohr: *Northwest Lodges Architecture*
 - Richard Mohr: *The Art & Craft of American Tile*
 - Wendy Hitchmough: *Arts and Crafts Gardens*
 - Thomas Heinz: *Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie School*
 - Grant Hildebrand: *Andrew Willatzen*

We have one loan copy of each of the above. Please call the office if you would like to borrow any of them for a one-week period.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership in Historic Seattle has continued to grow this year. Overall membership has increased 22% since the beginning of the year and we are pleased to announce that 1,038 individuals, families, and corporations currently make up our membership.

Our relationship with our members is very important to us and we want you to be pleased about being a part of Historic Seattle. We continue to work on ways to make membership in this organization valuable to you and hope that our new system for membership renewal will be useful. In an effort to better communicate with you, we have implemented a system wherein you will receive a notice a month before your membership expires, along with a renewal form and return envelope. If you do not renew membership within 30-60 days, you will then receive a reminder card. Thus far, the response to this new system has been positive; many members have renewed since we began it in May. We hope that contacting our members on a regular basis regarding membership expiration will not only contribute to maintaining quality communication, but also make membership renewal much more convenient for all of you. We greatly appreciate your continued support!

VOLUNTEERS, MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Save the date. Our annual Volunteer Recognition Party will be held on Wednesday evening, November 15, 2000. More details to follow at a later date.

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HISTORIC SEATTLE

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CALL FOR BUNGALOW FAIR VOLUNTEERS

This fall, Historic Seattle will be producing one of its most labor-intensive events, the Bungalow and Craftsman Home Fair and we will need at least 50 volunteers to take shifts during the weekend. Help is needed in a variety of tasks: registration and ticket-taking; providing directions; watching booths for vendors on breaks; space layout and assisting in setting up and taking down tables, chairs and dividers; doing basic maintenance to keep Town Hall clean; monitoring setup so there is no tacking, stapling, and mounting of objects on walls; selling books; monitoring security. If you can help with shifts on Saturday and/or Sunday, please contact Peri Muhich at 206-622-6952 no later than September 15. Of course, as a volunteer, you will receive free admission to the lectures on Saturday and Sunday mornings, as well as to the fair (a \$35 member value). We will also need volunteers immediately to distribute flyers to the front porches of bungalows and craftsman homes in residential neighborhoods in the next few weeks. If you live in the following neighborhoods (Greenlake, Wallingford, Fremont, Ballard, Magnolia, Phinney Ridge, Capitol Hill, Beacon Hill, Mt. Baker, and Madison Park) and would like to distribute flyers door to door, please contact Bryan Mead at (206) 505-0606 or bdmead@uswest.net

ART DECO SOCIETY NORTHWEST

The Art Deco Society Northwest is offering programs that support preservation and education about all aspects of the Art Deco period. Based in Olympia, the nonprofit organization is the brainchild of Joyce Colton, a founder of the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles. The group has a number of programs planned: September 13: Those Fabulous Deco Trains, with Dennis Karras; October 11: Film: *The Great Gatsby*; November 8: Twenty Years of Decorative Arts with Rob Johnson. For information, contact Joyce Colton at (360) 357-9408; e-mail artdeconw@home.com; or check out their handsome and informative website, www.artdeconw.org.

EXPERIENCE OLMSTED ON AN AUTUMN AFTERNOON

By David B. Williams, Friend of Seattle's Olmsted Parks

Special Edition to our 2000 Programs
FALL TOUR: OLMSTED PARKS AND BOULEVARDS FROM MONTLAKE TO DISCOVERY PARK

When: Sunday, September 24, 1-5 pm
Where: Meet at Museum of History and Industry Parking Lot, 2700 24th Avenue E. in Montlake. Advance registration required.
Tickets: \$40 members of Historic Seattle and Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks, \$50 general public; see insert to register

In 1903, the famed landscape architect John Charles Olmsted said of Seattle: "I do not know of any place where the natural advantages for parks are better than here. They . . . will be, in time, one of the things that will make Seattle known all over the world." Olmsted's words became reality with his proposed 20-mile-long series of parks and parkways that stretched across Seattle from Seward Park to modern day Discovery Park. This linkage of green spaces is considered by many to be one of the finest stretches of city parks in the country.

Fortunately for current residents, we can still follow most of this spectacular route. On Sunday, September 24, Historic Seattle and Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks will offer a unique opportunity to discover these spaces on a guided bus tour. This tour will continue the route begun in last year's popular southern park trip. Beginning at the Museum of History and Industry, we will explore Olmsted's northern parks and boulevards.

Tour highlights will include the University of Washington campus, originally designed by the Olmsted Brothers; Ravenna Park, described in 1911 as "a treat not usually afforded the people of a city"; Cowen Park; Green Lake; Woodland Park, still wild enough to be home for a pair of bald eagles; Discovery Park; and Magnolia Boulevard.

We will focus on the unique geography of Seattle and look at how Olmsted employed the design knowledge he had learned from his stepfather Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. For example, Olmsted parks and boule-

wards often have sinuous, shaded paths and roads with abundant vegetation to create a sense of wildness and mystery and are designed to take advantage of natural surroundings. See insert to register—there are a limited number of spaces left, so register soon. Please note: This is an added program for 2000 and is not part of the Preservationist Pass benefit.



FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT'S BRANDES RESIDENCE OPEN TO TOURS

For those of you who missed the opportunity to tour this wonderful house when we held a Tea and Tour there in November, 1998, here's another opportunity. The "Usonian" house was designed in 1952 for a site in Issaquah and constructed by Ray Brandes, who later was the contractor for Bill and Elizabeth Tracy when they built their concrete block Usonian Automatic house in Normandy Park—the site of Historic Seattle's August Tea and Tour. The Eco-Home Foundation and Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy are offering tours of the Brandes home on Saturday, September 30 from 9 am to 5 pm. Reservations are limited and bookings will be by timed entry. For information about registration, contact (206) 901-0305.

FRIENDS OF SEATTLE'S OLMSTED PARKS

Introduction

Historic Seattle has invited the Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks (FSOP) to introduce ourselves to Historic Seattle's members. FSOP is a public non-profit all-volunteer organization dedicated to promoting the awareness, enjoyment, and care of Seattle's Olmsted parks and landscapes, both public and private. FSOP was formed in 1983 in response to the growing recognition of the national significance of the Olmsted legacy and of the national, as well as local, importance of Seattle's own Olmsted park and boulevard system. We invite you to visit the Water Tower at Volunteer Park to view the Olmsted Interpretive Exhibit. For information about the ADA accessible version of the Exhibit, please contact: Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation at 684-4075.

One of the many challenges in helping steward our historic park and landscape resources is being able to capture in words the intangible nature of parks, especially how and why landscapes and their design are so important to us. As Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. said, "Landscapes move us in a manner more nearly analogous to the action of music than anything else... Gradually and silently the charm overcomes us, the beauty has entered our souls; we know not exactly where or how." Designed landscapes are like a piece of art and, as such, need to be respected and treasured. Yet, all too often they are viewed simply as vacant spaces waiting to be filled.

In addition to helping with education about Seattle's Olmsted legacy, FSOP members help to monitor, advise, or implement other projects related to Olmsted parks and boulevards. Here are the highlights of three current projects:

Lincoln Reservoir on Capitol Hill (historic Lincoln Park)

Most recently FSOP has joined with the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board in helping defend their decision to require greater historic preservation efforts at the site of the Lincoln Reservoir on Capitol Hill. This park was designed by the Olmsted Brothers in 1904. The hearing has been

postponed pending the outcome of the vote in November on the ProParks Levy which would help provide the needed funding for creating a water feature when the reservoir is placed underground. In addition, FSOP is working with our community partners Groundswell Off Broadway and Seattle Central Community College and our agency partners Seattle Parks Department and Seattle Public Utilities to implement a Neighborhood Matching Grant for Olive Corridor improvements including a new park shelter house which hopefully will be reminiscent of the original one on the site.

Cheasty Boulevard: Sound Transit and the McClellan Station

Cheasty Boulevard which runs up the east side of Beacon Hill from the Rainier Valley to Jefferson Park and Beacon Avenue has been cut off from Mt Baker Boulevard for decades by Rainier Avenue South and Martin Luther King, Jr Way South. As part of the station area design for Sound Transit, the placement of a round-about at this six-way intersection is being explored thus the two historic Olmsted boulevards could be reconnected.

Document Access Project

FSOP has a grant from King County funded by the Hotel Motel Tax to acquire copies of the original drawings of Seattle's parks from the National Park Service Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site in Brookline, Massachusetts. The copies will be available for research at the City Archives later this year.

Please join the Friends

We welcome your support for our efforts to preserve our very special Olmsted legacy for future generations to enjoy. The Board meets the first Monday of the month at 100 Dexter Avenue North in Seattle. For more information about the Friends, to join or volunteer, please contact: Douglas E. Jackson, Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks, P.O.Box 9884, Seattle, WA 98109, 206-284-6182 or dougasejackson@hotmail.com, and/or send in the enclosed membership form on the newsletter insert.

Background graphic: Green Lake Boulevard Preliminary Plan, Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects, February 1910

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Allied Arts Urban Environment

Committee. For information on the date and time of the next meeting call 206-624-0432.

Historic Seattle Council Meetings.

The third Thursday of the month at 8 a.m. at 1117 Minor Ave. Call 206-622-6952 for information.

King County Cultural Resources Division, Landmarks, and Heritage

Commission. Meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the 4th Floor Exec. Conference Room of the King County Courthouse, 516 Third Ave. Call 206-296-7580 for the location of the meeting and agenda.

Seattle Landmarks Preservation

Board. First and Third Wed. at 3:30 p.m., Arctic Building, 700 Third Avenue, 10th floor. 206-684-0228

EVENTS OF INTEREST

Preserving & Interpreting Pacific NW

Heritage. The Oregon/Washington Heritage Conference 2000 takes place September 28 - 30 at the Vancouver, WA National Historic Reserve and the Sheraton PDX Hotel in Portland, OR. This is the annual conference of the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, and it is organized by the Heritage Resource Center, Washington State Historical Society, and the Oregon Heritage Commission. For information and registration, contact (360) 586-0219.

Society of Architectural Historians,

Pacific Northwest Chapter hosts their annual conference in Vancouver B.C. on October 13-15. The theme is "Other Architectural Histories" and architectural tours are included. For information, contact Miriam Sutermeister at (206) 324-2610, e-mail Msutermeister@aol.com.

VIEW FROM THE PRESERVATION COMMUNITY: WORLD CLASS AT WHAT PRICE? *By Lawrence Kreisman*

I have been struck of late by media coverage that invariably uses the term “world class” to refer to all the seemingly positive and progressive new buildings in Seattle—the stadiums, the Experience Music

Project, the library, civic center, expanded exhibition center, and aquarium to name just a few. Concurrently, journalists have offered up stories that question whether Seattle has lost its soul. They also tap into our nostalgia for past time—whether that be dancing the night away at the Trianon Ballroom or enjoying a late night burger at Dick’s Drive-In, or diving into the heated saltwater of Crystal Pool.

Seattle has fallen into the trap of every “world class city” wannabe, which puts it in danger of making it indistinguishable from thousands of cities in America. It has cast its historic roots aside to accommodate the fad of the moment, which usually means bigger and showier developments. Egocentric architectural statements completely ignore the traditional pattern of streetscapes and the scale of buildings that are in place. Designers claim the existing surroundings are “boring” and assume that they will be gone in a few years anyway. “Naming” opportunities make any and every new civic enterprise a billboard opportunity.

Recently, a journalist asked me to comment on Seattle’s conservative attitude toward design and how it came by it. I had to say I did not see Seattle this way. In terms of its planning and design history, there have been some remarkably bold efforts. The plans by the Metropolitan Building Company for its Metropolitan Center in the first decade of the century was years ahead of any similar comprehensive scheme for a unified commercial center in central city. The earth moving and filling projects of in the Denny Regrade and throughout downtown by R.H. Thomson were radical approaches to accommodate future growth. L.C. Smith’s audacious attempt to bring Manhattan to Seattle resulted in its most significant downtown landmark in 1914.

While the growing community resisted the move away from 19th century traditions, a new generation of architects did just that. There is the regional metaphor of the monumental mountain in the Northern Life Tower of Albertson, Wilson, and Richardson; the radical white stucco

residences of Paul Thiry in 1936; the curtain wall, concrete, and steel Norton Building by SOM in 1959, the modernist School District headquarters by J. Lister Holmes; an inspirational symbol of progress for the Century 21 exhibition—the Space Needle; the Magnolia branch library by Kirk, Wallace, McKinley, the structural engineering marvel of the recently demolished Kingdome, and countless buildings that have moved Seattle’s cityscape successfully into the millennium. If Seattle has an inferiority complex about its architectural accomplishments, it is because the city ignores and under appreciates the gems that it has—its residential neighborhoods, its magnificent park and boulevard system, and many architecturally and structurally distinctive—if not “world class” buildings.

Conservative taste is not, in itself, a negative. The dictionary meaning of conserve is “to keep from being damaged, lost, or wasted.” To be conservative is to be moderate and prudent. It connotes a respect for the past and a cautious approach to accepting the new or the different. With a conservative approach, for example, the city would not have lost the White Henry and Stewart Building, the Music Hall Theatre, The Burke Building, the Fraser Paterson Department Store (J.C. Penney), or the Perry Hotel (Cabrini Hospital).

Reviewing some of the projects just completed and ones now being proposed in Seattle’s striving to become noticed as “world class,” the conservative approach rather than the shortsighted, instant gratification, approach has great merit. It prevents the quick and poorly considered dismissal of small buildings on small but valuable lots because they are not “economically viable” and are not worth the effort to save in light of the economic potentials of the land and the location.

So why is it so important that Seattle be “world class?” “World class” appears to mean that the city inevitably loses most of the character-defining built features that long-time residents appreciate and that help form their collective memory of the magic that makes the city unique—the Seattle soul of recent Times articles.

Ironically, “world class” defines the city by some of its top tourist highlights, such as the Pike Place Market and Pioneer Square—vestiges of the past that have largely survived because of city policies

that protected them from ill-advised redevelopment. What has drawn newcomers to the city in recent years—the quality of livability, of close proximity to the natural environment, the colorful mix of interesting and different neighborhoods with attractive and affordable housing, and an accessible downtown—all are being sacrificed to make us a “world class” city. Perhaps it is time to cry, “stop” before Seattle is all but swallowed up in the great jaws of World Class City.com.

Lawrence Kreisman is Program Director for Historic Seattle and Director of the Viewpoints tour program for the Seattle Architectural Foundation. He is author of Made to Last: Historic Preservation in Seattle and King County and serves on the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board. This editorial appeared in the Seattle Times Opinion page on Monday, August 21, 2000.

HISTORIC SEATTLE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The Campaign to rehabilitate the Dearborn House and create the Northwest Center for Architectural Preservation and establish the Save the Buildings Fund is going well. Our Campaign Steering Committee is working hard to identify and solicit contributions. Recent contributions include:

- A grant from The Seattle Foundation in the amount of \$15,000 for work at the Dearborn House.
- A grant from the Paul G. Allen Charitable Foundation in the amount of \$25,000 to assist in the establishment of the Save the Buildings Fund.
- A recommendation of \$200,000 from the Capital Projects for Washington’s Heritage fund from the State of Washington.

OTHER FUND RAISING NEWS

Historic Seattle has been recommended for funding from the State’s Building for the Arts program for work at the Good Shepherd Center. We have been recommended to receive \$390,000 for work on the former chapel space and the artist live/work housing project.

MATRIX PROJECT

Existing data on historic buildings and properties is hopelessly out of date. The most recent information is more than 20 years old. As a result, development decisions are being made by property owners and the Department of Design, Construction, and Land Use without full appreciation of the consequences of those decisions for historic preservation. In addition, the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board is being asked to evaluate specific buildings and sites without sufficient comparative qualitative or quantitative data.

Historic Seattle has been concerned for some time about the lack of reliable data on the City's historic resources. For more than a year, our Advocacy Committee has been working on a strategy for conducting a citywide survey of historic buildings and properties. There needs to be a proactive effort by the Department of Neighborhoods to do a comprehensive, consistent professional-quality historic resources survey in addition to providing support to neighborhood requests. Such a survey also needs to be adequately funded and staffed. A professional survey may take a period of years. We cannot assume that all that is needed is technical support for neighborhood volunteers. Hardly any of the completed neighborhood plans indicates willingness for these neighborhoods to attempt to do their own historic resource survey. In fact, many of the plans do not address preservation specifically. They promote neighborhood character only through design guidelines for *new* buildings—not for preserving existing ones.

This year Historic Seattle was awarded a small King County Heritage Special Projects grant to begin developing a city historic preservation database. The project is called Matrix. That database design is now underway. The data entry will take place over a number of years and be ongoing as the city survey is updated. It will eventually include all city landmarks, all national and state registered buildings, and all potentially eligible landmark buildings recommended by the citywide survey done in 1978-79 (and the desired update), the Historic Seattle

urban design resource survey done in 1975, and other relevant surveys. The compilation of this data will allow us to review protected and non-protected properties with GIS data to pinpoint those most threatened by zoning and other policies. The database will also reveal how many landmark-eligible buildings have been demolished since the mid-1970s. Ultimately, such information will form the basis of a thorough and prioritized landmarks designation program for individual buildings and historic districts—something Seattle has never had but which guides other metropolitan preservation programs with great success.

BUNGALOW FAIR, CONTINUED FROM PG. 1

A stenciler by trade, Amy Miller fell in love with the Arts & Crafts period after completing stencil-work for a restaurant built in 1917. Her presentation will share the patterns and unique applications of this distinctive period.

Wallpapers presented by Bruce Bradbury, founder of Bradbury & Bradbury Art Wallpapers. Bruce Bradbury, a reproduction wallpaper experts, will talk about the use of wallpapers, describe the aesthetic and technical changes that occurred during the 19th and early 20th centuries, and describe the process by which his firm recreates historic designs.

Textiles presented by Ann Wallace, owner of Ann Wallace and Friends Ann Wallace is the owner of Ann Wallace and Friends, a design studio and catalog business specializing in textiles inspired by the decorative and popular graphic arts of the early 20th century. She also authored the recent book, *Arts & Crafts Textiles*. Wallace will discuss influences in architect & European textile design, the philosophical ideals of the Arts & Crafts movement, and special problems in identifying, and collecting vintage textiles. She will also show the work of contemporary designers following the Arts & Crafts style.

The fair will be held Saturday, Sept. 30, 12 noon-7 pm and Sunday, Oct. 1, 12 noon-5 pm Two lectures will be held on Saturday from 10 am-12 noon (Robert Winter/ Batchelder Tiles and Amy Miller/Stencils) and Sunday from 10 am-12 noon (Bruce Bradbury/Wallpaper and Ann Wallace/ Textiles). See insert for admission prices and to register. You can also purchase tickets on-line at RestorationCentral.com, one of the this year's sponsors, or type in www.seeuthere.com/events/25696&partnerid=108 to directly access the order form.



Yes! I want to join Historic Seattle to help preserve the future of our city's past. Please clip and return this form to:

**Historic Seattle
1117 Minor Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101**

- \$15 Student/Senior
- \$25 Individual
- \$35 Family
- \$100 Contributing
- \$250 Corporate
- \$500 Associate
- \$1,000 Patron
- \$2,500 Benefactor

- New Member
- Renewing Member
- Please contact me about volunteer opportunities
- Please send information on leaving Historic Seattle in my will
- I'd like to make an additional contribution of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Paying by check or MasterCard or Visa

Account number: _____

Expiration date: _____

CONTINUED, NEXT COLUMN

Historic Seattle was established in 1974 as a "legal entity for the mutual pride of all citizens, and the creation of a more livable environment," through which citizens may participate in preservation of the historic heritage of the City of Seattle.

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JOIN US FOR A LOOK AT WESTERN ARCHITECTURE IN 19TH C. JAPAN

When: Saturday, November 18, 1 pm
Where: Seattle Asian Art Museum, Volunteer Park
Tickets: \$10 members; \$15 general public

Lest we forget that Seattle billed itself from its pioneer days as the "Gateway to the Orient," Historic Seattle and the Asian Art Council of the Seattle Art Museum are pleased to present a lecture by Dallas Finn, author of *Meiji Revisited: The Site of Victorian Japan*. Finn shows how Western design ideas were incorporated into Japanese public and private buildings as that country transformed itself from an isolated feudal society into a modern and cosmopolitan nation-state. Ms. Finn will show us a conglomeration of buildings inspired by European and American prototypes that broke away from traditional Asian design molds. Please see insert to register.

PIONEER SQUARE HISTORY PROJECT PRESENTS A SERIES OF FREE LECTURES

Pioneer Square: Journey to the Future. Plan to attend one or all three of these free lectures featuring discussions about Pioneer Square's social and economic history and future trends emerging in Seattle's oldest neighborhood.

Talk the Walk: Evolving Art Scene of Pioneer Square. Speakers: BJ Krivanek, Art and Legends public artist and Greg Kucera, owner Kucera Gallery. Moderated by Cath Brunner, Executive Director, King County Public Art Program. Thursday September 14, 2000, 5:30 to 7 pm. NBBJ Gallery 111 South Jackson St.

Sex and Drugs in Old Pioneer Square Speakers: Mildred Andrews, director Pioneer Square History Project and Dana Cox, public relations director of The Underground Tour. Moderated by Leonard Garfield, executive director Museum of History and Industry. Thursday, September 21, 2000, 5:30 to 7 pm, Klondike Gold

Rush Museum Auditorium, 117 S. Main St.

Titans and Tightwads
Speakers: Walt Crowley, executive director HistoryLink and David Brewster, executive director Town Hall. Moderated by Leonard Garfield, executive director Museum of History and Industry. Thursday, September 28, 2000, 5:30 to 7 pm. Dome Room, the Arctic Building, 700 Third Ave, 3rd Floor.

Sponsored by Pioneer Square Community Council. Made possible in part through grants from the Washington Commission for the Humanities, the City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods Matching Fund Program and the Seattle Arts Commission. For more information contact Mildred Andrews at 206-524-1426 or Renee Tanner at 206-622-3460.