How Do I Find Out More About My Property?

There are several resources available for research. Start with your local library or the library of a nearby university or college to research secondary sources, articles, newspapers, maps, documents, directories, and photo archives. The local history museum and/or historical society house archival collections and members of these groups can be a wealth of local information.

- National Trust for Historic Preservation
  www.preservationnation.org
- Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
  www.cahp.wa.gov/
- Washington State Historical Society
  www.wshs.org/
- Washington State Archives
  Puget Sound Branch (For King County Properties)
  www.seattle.wa.gov/archives/archives_pugetsound.aspx#collections
- Northwest Regional Branch
  (For Snohomish County Properties)
  www.snohomishcountywa.gov/archives/Archives_Northwest.aspx
- King County Historic Preservation Program
  www.kingcounty.gov/property/historic-preservation.aspx
- League of Snohomish County Heritage Organizations
  www.snoheritage.org/category/historic-preservation/
- Association of King County Heritage Organizations
  www.aahco.org/
- HistoryLink
  www.historylink.org/
- Bothell Historical Museum
  www.bothellhistoricalmuseum.org/

The J. Skirving house was built in 1902 for Bothell businessman and farmer James Skirving. Skirving owned a feed mill in Bothell and hay fields in eastern Washington. The building is an example of American Foursquare style architecture, projecting a square dormer from each of the four roof angles. The home is one of the best surviving remnants of Bothell’s turn of the century character. It was listed on the Washington Heritage and Bothell Historic Registers in 1995. ►

Financial Incentives and Benefits of Listing

There are a number of benefits for listing a property on the local, state, and/or national registers. It enhances property values and protects homeowner investment. It helps to preserve a neighborhood’s unique character, which creates a sense of place. Additionally, it promotes sustainable development by recycling existing resources.

Owners of registered historic properties may be eligible for a number of financial incentives including tax credits and savings, low-interest loans, and grants. Funding availability varies based on the building’s use, whether the owner is non-profit or for-profit, and whether it is also listed in the National Register.

- Special Valuation Tax Credit - A local tax incentive program allows a “special valuation” for properties listed in the National Register or Bothell Historic Register. An owner who restores their building can apply for a 10-year property tax reduction. http://www.codepublishing.com/wh/bothell/
- County Grants - 4Culture is a King County organization offering funding opportunities. http://www.4culture.org/
- Federal Tax Incentives - The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation administers the Federal Rehabilitation Investments Tax Credit which helps attract capital to rehabilitate prime income-producing properties. http://www.ilawp.gov/

Bothell Landmark Designation

This 1929 Ford Model A Firetruck has been preserved as an intact example of an early 20th century fire fighting vehicle and apparatus used by the City’s Fire Department. The 1.5-ton truck was outfitted with equipment by the Howe Fire Apparatus Company, founded in 1872. The Ford engine still operates, with a top speed of 35 miles per hour. The fire engine was placed on The City of Bothell’s Local Register of Historic Landmarks as a mobile resource.

For More Information

Please visit the City of Bothell website or contact the city’s Planning Department for additional information.

Community Development Department
9654 NE 182nd Street, Bothell, WA 98011
(425) 466-852
commplanning@ci.bothell.wa.us
www.ci.bothell.wa.us/Residents/HistoricPreservationAndLandmarks.aspx?p=1340

This brochure was produced by the Bothell Landmark Preservation Board

“We shape our buildings; thereafter, our buildings shape us.”

Winston Churchill

Bothell’s first schoolhouse, built in 1885. Listed on the Washington State Heritage Register and the City of Bothell Register of Historic Landmarks in 1994.
Bothell’s Historic Preservation Program

The City of Bothell recognizes the importance of cultural and historic preservation to the community’s social and economic vitality. In 1987, Bothell received status as a Certified Local Government (CLG). As a CLG, the city is responsible for encouraging, developing, and maintaining historic preservation efforts. Bothell adopted a local preservation ordinance and created the Bothell Landmark Preservation Board to serve as the advisory body. This seven-member board is charged with:

- Enforcing protection of historic properties
- Maintaining a Bothell register of historic landmarks
- Reviewing proposed changes to properties on the register or within districts
- Providing for public participation in its activities

One of the major requirements of the preservation ordinance is that the city maintain a system for surveying and identifying historic properties as they reach the 50-year age criteria. These survey efforts serve as planning tools to meet local, state, and federal environmental review requirements, determine and minimize conflicts between development and preservation goals, and to identify potential landmarks. Bothell completed its first comprehensive survey of historic properties in 1988, with updates in 1992, 2001-2, and 2013.

Overview of the Landmark Designation Process

Designated landmarks are properties recognized by the City as important resources to the community, city, state, or nation. The Bothell Landmark Preservation Board is responsible for determining what properties meet the required criteria. The landmark designation process is outlined below:

Step 1: Nomination

To be listed on Bothell’s Local Register of Historic Places, a property or district must be at least 50 years old and meet certain “significance” criteria outlined in the City’s preservation ordinance. In addition, the property must also possess integrity or the ability to convey its significance.

A nomination for City landmark status may be submitted by any person or group, as long as the property owner agrees to the listing. Nominations form are available from the City of Bothell Community Development department. Once complete, the nomination will be scheduled for consideration by the Landmark Preservation Board at a public meeting.

The Board hears testimony as to whether or not the property meets the criteria and makes a recommendation regarding preliminary designation or alternative recommendations. The Board’s recommendation may include approval of designation, approval with conditions, denial of designation, or deferment of consideration to a future public meeting. The decision is then forwarded to City Council.

Step 2: Management Agreement

If the Board approves the nomination, a Management Agreement is negotiated with the property owner(s). This contract defines those “character-defining” features to be preserved and sets management standards for the property typically the Secretary of Interior’s standards for Rehabilitation.

Step 3: City Council Action

The City Council holds a second public meeting within 30 days and issues a decision. If City Council rejects the nomination, the property is not designated. If approved, the property owner(s) enter into the contractual agreement (above) with the City regarding the management of the property. The property is “designated” and an official Bothell register plaque is issued.

Once designated, any proposed alterations must be reviewed by the Board against the Management Agreement. If a proposed change is deemed appropriate, a Certificate of Appropriateness (CMA) is issued. The Board will provide assistance to the property owner in maintaining the historic integrity of the structure.

“Listing” or “Designation” of a Property – What does it mean?

Listing or designation of a property means that it becomes officially recognized as meeting certain criteria and having historical, architectural, and cultural significance to the heritage of the community. These properties can be given to a property on a local, state, and/or national level. Listing in the Washington Heritage Register or National Register of Historic Places comes along with some protections under the State Environmental Policy Act. Income-producing properties on the National Register are eligible for federal investment tax credits for up to 20% of costs for a certified rehabilitation. State Register properties can qualify for state tax incentives and grant-in-aid programs. Private owners of National and State Register properties using private funds may alter or demolish these properties within existing local building regulations.

Several Bothell properties have been placed on the state and national registers, including the Bothell Pioneer Cemetery, Beckstrom Log Cabin, the Bates-Tanner Farmhouse, and the Dr. Reuben Chase House. In 1990, the Park at Bothell Landing was among the 20 historic properties in the state, which won an award from the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation for the preservation of several historic structures in a park setting.

Some of Bothell’s Historic Landmarks...

- Beckstrom Cabin
  - Andrew and Augusta Beckstrom immigrated from Sweden and arrived in Bothell by rowboat in 1883. They were one of the first families to settle along the Sammamish River and lived in this one room cabin. The cabin was moved in 1978 to its current location in the Park at Bothell Landing. The structure was placed on the Washington State Heritage Register and Bothell’s Local Historic Register in 1994.

- Bothell Pioneer Cemetery
  - is the final resting place of many of Bothell’s early settlers and most notable citizens. Some of the original “Bothell” family are buried here, as well as Gerhard Bricken, the postmaster responsible for naming the town after the Bothell family.

- Bates-Tanner Farm – This historic property was originally a 10-acre poultry farm.It was purchased by Ray Bates and John Tanner from G.C. and Frances F. Hubbell in 1919. The Craftsman-style home was placed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Washington State Heritage Register in 1995.