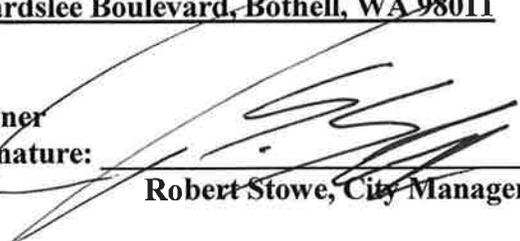




**CITY OF BOTHELL
LOCAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC LANDMARKS
NOMINATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. For aid in completing this nomination form, see applicable instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking an "x" in the appropriate space or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable". For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. Please use the official continuation sheets if additional space is needed. This form must be type written and have a 4" x 6" black and white photo of the property nominated attached above. DO NOT ENTER INFORMATION IN SHADED AREAS.

Name of Property (Common) City of Bothell 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck
(Historic) City of Bothell 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck
Street Address mobile resource, Bothell, WA
Present Owner Name and Mailing Address City of Bothell, Fire Department, 10726
Beardslee Boulevard, Bothell, WA 98011

**Owner
Signature:** 
Robert Stowe, City Manager

Original Owner: City of Bothell Original Use: Government/Transportation/road-related

Architect: none Builder: Ford Motor Company and Howe Fire Apparatus Company

Present Use: Recreation and Culture

1. Classification of Property

Ownership:	Category:	Number of Resources within Property:	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public (local)	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> public (state)	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> public (federal)	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<input type="checkbox"/> mobile vehicle	<u> 1 </u>	<u> </u>
Totals:		<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u>

Number of contributing resources previously listed on the:
 0 Local Register 0 State Register 0 Federal Register

Name of related multiple property listing: none

2. Function or Use (see instructions for assistance)

Historic Functions	Current Function
<u>Transportation/road-related</u>	<u>Recreation and Culture</u>
<u>Government/fire truck</u>	

3. Description

Architectural Classification (see instructions for assistance)

OTHER: fire truck

3. Description (continued)

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

The City of Bothell's 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck is an intact example of a fire fighting vehicle and apparatus from the early 20th century. Although the paint is not original, and some parts have been replaced to keep the truck operational, the vehicle retains a high degree of historic integrity. The 1.5 ton fire truck was outfitted with equipment by the Howe Fire Apparatus Company, founded 1872 in Anderson, Indiana. The fire truck features a self-priming Waterous rotary pump capable of 300 gallons per minute, and a 100 gallon water tank. This pump was innovative in its day and has no valves, pistons, or connecting rods. The Ford engine in the truck still operates, with a top speed of 35 miles per hour. The truck is powered with a 200.5 cid L-Head four-cylinder engine rated at 40 horsepower, three-speed manual transmission, four-wheel mechanical brakes. The engine features an up-draft carburetor, six-volt generator, two-blade fan, mechanical water pump,

mechanical oil pump, and an electric starter. The 16-inch tire rims are mounted on Ford wire wheels.

The truck came with the latest extinguishers, chemical tanks, a chemical hose, spotlights, a siren, ladders, and a fire axe. Handwritten Waterous Company records specify the truck's fire pump was shipped to the Howe Fire Apparatus Company in November, 1928 as follows:

“To the Howe Fire Apparatus Company, one Type AA 300 gallon pump, stripped, discharge ports 2-1/2 standard pipe thread, suction 3-1/2 underwriters, no heater case, and the latest style fillets.”

Other part descriptions of original equipment on the truck include: Engine displacement of 200.5 cu. Inches with a firing order of 1, 2, 4, 3. Engine torque is 128 ft-lbs @ 1000 rpm. The engine is oil lubricated by gear pump, splash and gravity feed with a capacity of five quarts. Four wheel internal expanding service brakes are operated by the foot pedal. Also an emergency or parking brake on both rear wheels is operated by the emergency brake lever. Emergency brakes are entirely separate and distinct from the four- wheel service brakes. Total braking surface is 225 1/2 sq inches. Carburetor is Zenith design, cast iron; manual adjustment and choke control on dash panel. Gasoline tank holds 10 gallons. Wheel base is 103.5 inches with a turning radius of 17 ft, circle 34 ft.

Alterations include the following: In 1964, the fire truck was repainted and gold leaf added by state prison inmates in Monroe, WA. The bell currently mounted in the hose bed is from the old Bothell school house. In 1999, the heavy duty AR-style clutch was removed and replaced with a more reliable standard clutch and pressure plate, then repainted and gold-leaf replaced.

In June 2009, an identical restored fire truck in Texas was given an auction value of \$29,700.

4. **Statement of Significance**

The City of Bothell Landmark Preservation Board has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ___ Nationally ___ Statewide x Locally

Please check which of the following statements apply:

- X 1. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of national, state or local history.
- ___ 2. It embodies the distinctive architectural characteristics of a type, period, style or method of construction, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- ___ 3. It is an outstanding work of a designer, builder or architect who has made a substantial contribution to the art.
- X 4. It exemplifies or reflects special elements of the City's cultural, special, economic, political, aesthetic, engineering or architectural history.
- X 5. It is associated with the lives of persons significant in national, state or **local** history.
- ___ 6. It has yielded or is likely to yield important archaeological information.

- ___ 7. It is a building or structure removed from its original location, but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the only surviving structure significantly associated with an historic person or event.
- ___ 8. It is a birthplace or grave of a historical person of outstanding importance and is the only surviving structure or site associated with that person.
- ___ 9. It is a cemetery which derives its primary significance from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events, persons or cultural patterns.
- ___ 10. It is a reconstructed building that has been executed in an historically accurate manner on the original site.
- ___ 11. It is a creative and unique example of folk architecture and design created by persons not formally trained in the architectural or design professions, and which does not fit into formal architectural or historical categories.

Applicable National Register Criteria	___ A	___ B	___ C	___ D			
Criteria Considerations (exceptions)	___ A	___ B	___ C	___ D	___ E	___ F	___ G

List areas of significance

Period of Significance: 1929-1950

Government

Transportation

Engineering

Significant Dates:

1929

Cultural Affiliation:

City of Bothell Fire Department

Architect/Builder:

Ford Motor Company

Howe Fire Apparatus Company

Person(s) of Significance in Local, State or National history:

none

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

The City of Bothell Fire Department's 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck is significant because it has retained its historic integrity and has enjoyed only one owner since placed in service. The vehicle represents the evolution of 20th century transportation and fire fighting technology. The Bothell Fire Department purchased this truck as its second motorized apparatus with Ordinance 91 dated January 7, 1929. Previously, a Ford Model T truck chassis with a Mack pumper was used to fight fires in Bothell. When the Ford Model A Fire Truck was purchased at a cost of \$3,711, the Model T truck was sold to the town of Sultan, WA.

The first fire engines actually predate the automobile with horse-drawn, steam-powered fire engines used in the 1850s. Until professional fire departments were developed, volunteer

brigades sometimes tried to outdo each other by obtaining the biggest and best fire engines. The color red was chosen because of the stark contrast with most early horse-drawn vehicles and cars which were black. Crowded cities required newer technology with efficient water pumps that were more mobile than previous steam-driven fire engines, but many smaller fire departments continued to use steam powered fire engines until as late as the 1920s.

By 1927, the Ford Motor Company announced that their Model T vehicle was being discontinued and that an all-new Ford would soon be produced. In December of that year, the Ford Model A went on sale. Through that first season there were plenty of start-up problems with over 100 design and operational changes so that a 1928 Model A produced late in the year was improved from the first units. By the time the 1929 Model A had come into production, it was considered a premium vehicle and became the sales leader in the auto market. As with the Model T, this Ford was still economical to purchase and very easy to run and maintain with noted reliability and endurance.

Unlike the Model T, which had been sold in a stripped down form forcing the customer to buy numerous basic accessories, the Model A was relatively well appointed with nickel plated front and rear bumpers, combination tail and stop light, a driver's side windshield wiper, and even an electric "oo-gah" horn produced for Ford by Spartan. A new transmission brought Ford up to date with all of its major competition in the low price field. A total of twelve different passenger car Model As were offered, from an open roadster to elegant town cars, and included the first factory built station wagon and even purpose-built taxicabs. Trucks were also a mainstay of Ford's Model A production and included large tractor type to light-weight utility models, as well as fire trucks which used the long wheelbase chassis common to farming flatbeds.

The 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck arrived in Bothell when the community comprised 900 residents. The municipal government took possession of the fire truck with an initial payment of \$500 and contracted to make additional annual payments through 1932. The City's twelve volunteer fire fighters conducted a series of community fundraisers with summer carnivals to help pay for the truck.

Initially, the fire truck answered calls in Bothell, Woodinville, Kirkland, and surrounding communities, as well as southern Snohomish County without charging a service fee. The Bothell Fire Department did not purchase a third fire truck until 1940, when there was an average of sixty fire calls a year. Bothell's Ford Model A Fire Truck was decommissioned in the early 1950s. Today the fire truck leads the annual Bothell 4th of July parade and is also part of a mobile fire museum when it appears inside an enclosed trailer used by the City Fire Department for public education events.

Ford Model A Fire Trucks were commonly sold in 1929 to many American communities who have retained them among municipal fire department stock as "parade" vehicles. Examples of the same vehicle are displayed in Rocky Hill, Connecticut; Mokena, Illinois; Winnipeg Railway Museum, Ontario, Canada; Los Altos, California; and many more communities. Consequently, the Bothell 1929 fire truck lacks historic significance at the state or national levels. Preservation and restoration of Ford Model A vehicles remains popular today. There are two national hobby clubs who work to support members with technical advice and displaying members' vehicles.

5. Major Bibliographical References

Bosley, Vaughn. Transcript of the Proceedings of the Town Council of the Incorporated Town of Bothell, Washington, in the Purchase of Fire Apparatus. January 7, 1929. Clerk of the Town of Bothell.

Bothell Bylines. "City's Antique Fire Engine on Display. January-February, 2007.

Davis, Jessica. "Answering the Call: Grant Provides New Home for Fire Engine," *Bothell-Kenmore Reporter*, April 26-May 9, 2006.

Fire Museum of Missouri. <http://www.usfirehouse.com/firetruck.htm>. Accessed March 25, 2010.

Klein, Fred. "Bothell's Fire Department," *Slough of Memories*. Seattle: Peanut Butter Publishing, 1992.

Grindeland, Sherry. "Antique Bothell Engine Can Keep On Trucking." *Seattle Times*, February 18, 2006.

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Hoyt, Harold. *The Fire Districts of King County Washington*. Seattle, WA: Frontier Publications, c 1990.

Model A Ford Club of America. "Evergreen Works with Bothell Fire Department," *Evergreen Echoes*, June 1999.

Model A Restorers Club. http://www.modelarestorers.org/main/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=55&Itemid=428. Accessed March 25, 2010.

Shaw, James R. *Fire Truck History 1900-1960*. <http://www.collectibles-articles.com>. Accessed March 25, 2010.

Wikipedia. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ford_Model_AA. Accessed March 25, 2010.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Preliminary determination of individual listing has been requested (36 CFR 67)
- Previously listed in the Bothell Register
- Previously determined eligible for the Bothell Register
- Recorded in Bothell Inventory of Historic Resources
- Previously designated a National or State Historic Landmark (check and circle one)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
- Other State Agency (Name: _____)
- Federal Agency (Name: _____)
- Local Government Agency (Bothell Community Development Department)
- University (Name: _____)
- Other (Name: _____)

6. Geographical Data

NOT APPLICABLE—VEHICLE IS MOBILE
Acreage: NA
UTM References: NA

Verbal Boundary Description

NOT APPLICABLE—VEHICLE IS MOBILE

Boundary Justification

NOT APPLICABLE—VEHICLE IS MOBILE

Form prepared and submitted by: Randy Parkhurst, Christine Palmer

Date Completed April, 2010

Organization: City of Bothell Landmark Preservation Board

Mailing Address: 18305 101st Avenue NE, Bothell WA 98011

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Photographs:



Side view, 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck



Interior, driver's seat, 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck



Howe Apparatus label, 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck



Truck rear closeup view, 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck



Front view, 1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck



1929 Ford Model A Fire Truck inside enclosed trailer as the City of Bothell Fire Department's "Mobile Fire Museum"

