

PRESERVATION NEWS

Vol. 21 No. 1

King County, Washington

February 2015

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RETIRES

On December 31, Julie Koler, King County's Historic Preservation Officer, retired after more than 25 years serving the county. She was responsible for many innovative preservation programs the county instituted during that time. Landmark owners, former and current landmarks commissioners, and Councilmember Kathy Lambert joined many of Koler's colleagues for a celebratory party on December 11th. Ms. Koler plans to move on to other endeavors. A recruitment process is underway for her replacement; until then, J. Todd Scott, the program's architect, will serve as acting preservation officer.



NEWLY DESIGNATED LANDMARKS

Kirkland Ferry Clock is significant as the last surviving remnant of ferry service between Kirkland and Seattle. Built in 1935 by the Fred Zable Sign Company it was recently restored and equipped with a new mechanism. Donated by Captain John Anderson, the first private builder of ferries in the Puget Sound region, it is located near the foot of Kirkland Avenue, site of the original ferry slip.



Louis Marsh House, Kirkland, is significant both for its French Eclectic style and for its owner, Louis S. Marsh, a pioneer aviation engineer and philanthropist. He was hired by



Boeing in 1917 and was chief metallurgist for the company at a time when metals were replacing wood and cloth in the design of aircraft. The house, built in 1929, was designed by famed Seattle architect Edwin Ivey and has many intricate details.

Delta Masonic Temple, Tukwila, exemplifies the strong influence of fraternal organizations in King County in the early 20th century, and reflects the rapid growth of Tukwila as during the 1910s and '20s. It was built in 1926-27 and has continued as a fraternal hall ever since. The Delta Masonic Lodge is currently raising funds to repair the brick veneer on the building after the south side collapsed in 2013.



Mill Creek Historic District, Kent, is the first residential historic district in King County, and is important as a well-preserved concentration of homes reflecting the physical evolution of domestic architecture in the first half of the 20th century. It was home to many of Kent's early businessmen and several mayors. The houses are modest and date back as early as 1903.



Kenmore Community Clubhouse is significant as it represents the importance of clubs and civic organizations in the development of Kenmore. Built in 1929-30 it continues to serve the same functions and is the meeting space for a variety of organizations today. The interior includes an important canvas advertising drape as part of the stage.



2014 KING COUNTY HERITAGE AWARDS

On May 15th, at the Keewaydin Clubhouse on Mercer Island, Assistant Deputy County Executive Rhonda Berry presented the annual John D. Spellman Awards for Exemplary Achievement in Historic Preservation. These awards are presented to projects and people who have made a significant difference in preservation efforts throughout the county. This year, additional career achievement awards were presented to Colonel Carl B. Lind, US Army, Retired for his selfless dedication to enhancing King County's cultural heritage and to Leon Leeds, PhD, archaeology, for his work to enhance the protection and understanding of archaeological resources in King County. Spellman Awards were awarded in the following categories:

Reconstruction

Presented to Teddy Jo Ryder and Charlie Brown for reconstruction of the Whistling Post after a devastating fire.



Adaptive Reuse

Presented to New Community Church for their transformation of the Olof Olson Barn into a worship center.



Planning and Compliance

Presented to King County Wastewater's Environmental Planning Team for conscientious and proactive stewardship of cultural resources.



Restoration

Presented to the Neely Mansion Association for their detailed restoration of the mansion's ornate porches.



NEW COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENTS

King County Executive Dow Constantine has made the following appointments to the King County Landmarks Commission:

Caroline Lemay is a principal with Bassetti Architects. In her 20-year career as an architect, her experience in preservation includes a wide variety of public and private projects ranging from careful rehabilitations and additions to technically challenging structural, mechanical and architectural retrofitting of historic structures.

Ella Moore has been a resident of East King County since 1947 and is currently president of the Sammamish Heritage Society. In 2013, the group received the John D. Spellman Award for Exemplary Achievement in Advocacy category for the volunteer group's successful efforts in moving an endangered structure, the Reard House, to a future city park. She was previously the Special Commissioner representing Sammamish.

Rebecca R. Ossa, CPM, joined Seattle City Light in 2011 as their Historic Resource Specialist and leads City Light's historic preservation program. Prior to City Light, she worked for the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office for 13 years as their Architectural Historian where she also served as a commissioner for the Carson City Historic District and the Comstock Historic District in Virginia City.

David Pilgrim is the former president of the Greater Maple Valley/Black Diamond Chamber of Commerce and a long-term resident of Maple Valley. He has a 20-year history of involvement with many local organizations, and currently serves on the boards of the Maple Valley Historical Society and the Greater Maple Valley Community Center. David also served on the Maple Valley City Council for 8 years and was previously the special landmarks commissioner for Maple Valley.

In other Commission news, Poppi Handy was recently elected chair of the King County Landmarks Commission and Lorelea Hudson was elected Vice Chair.

• • •

Published semi-annually by the King County Historic Preservation Program, 201 S. Jackson, Suite 700, Seattle, WA 98104. This newsletter is also available at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/landmarks>. For information, contact J. Todd Scott, Editor.