

Historic Sites City of Edmonds

Please respect the owners' privacy by remaining on the sidewalk as you enjoy this walking tour.



1 Hill House (1901) 757 Main Street
This American Foursquare house is a good example of the Colonial Revival Style in Edmonds. After 1920, the foundation was raised and the house has been remodeled extensively several times.

2 Bassett House (1888) 729 Main Street
This house was built by a logging company and purchased in 1900 by F. H. Bassett, a local preacher and missionary in Japan, and his wife, Anna who taught piano using one of the rooms as a music studio. It is one of the oldest houses still standing in Edmonds.

3 Edmonds Grade School/ Frances E. Anderson Center (1927/28) 700 Main Street
In 1891, the Edmonds Elementary School was built on this site. Originally a three-story Victorian frame schoolhouse, it served school children until it was replaced by the current Spanish Mission Revival Style building in 1927. The school closed in 1972 due to decreasing enrollment. It became the local community center in 1979, named in honor of a beloved student, teacher and principal in the Edmonds School District.

4 Bettinger House (1907) 555 Main Street
Built by William and Ina Bettinger, this house showcases Queen Anne details such as multiple gables, a wraparound porch, fish-scale shingles and decorative woodwork.

5 First Congregational Church Parsonage (1898) 610 Dayton Street
This house was built as a parsonage for the First Congregational Church, which was located across the street at the corner of 6th and Dayton (where the American Legion Hall is located.)

6 Edmonds Athletic Club/ Opera House/ Masonic Temple (1904) 515 Dayton Street
Built on the site of the old Socialist Hall, the building was built for the Edmonds Athletic Club by A.M. Yost.

It housed a complete gymnasium along with billiard and card rooms. Later known as the Edmonds Opera House, it offered public dances, theatre productions and served as a bowling alley and movie house. It was sold to the Masonic Lodge #165 in 1944.

7 Yost Garage/ Old Milltown Centre (1913/1917) 201 5th Avenue South
Considerable enthusiasm for automobiles was created in Edmonds by prominent businessman and developer Allen Yost, the first city resident to acquire a car. He established Edmonds' first automobile agency, garage and fuel station when he opened a Ford dealership in 1914. From this concrete building, Yost housed the Suburban Transportation system and began "auto stages" to Richmond Beach and Seattle and jitney bus service in 1915. The second story was added in 1917. It was converted into a mixed-use commercial building in 1973.

8 Engel's Pub (1922-23) 113 5th Avenue South
Originally built by Louis Engel with the idea of opening a meat market, the end of Prohibition caused Engels to change course and in 1933 he obtained the first beer license in Edmonds, opening Engel's Lunch on the premises.

9 Leyda/ Fournier Building (1924) 103-105 5th Avenue South
Built on a prominent corner by former Edmonds Mayor Fred Fournier, this is an early mixed-use commercial building with residential apartments on the second floor. Dewey and Cecelia Leyda bought the building in the mid-1940's. It was extensively renovated in 1985 as part of the city's Main Street program for downtown revitalization.

10 Princess Theater/ Edmonds Theater (1923) 401 Main Street
This theater was constructed originally as a vaudeville theatre and is currently a movie-house. Although damaged by fire in 1928, it retains its Art Deco style marquee.

It was the site of civic meetings in war-bond drives during World War II. In the 1960's it was one of the few "art houses" in the Puget Sound region and is currently one of the last independently owned, single screen movie houses in the state. New seats and flooring were installed in 1999, but the original balcony remains in place.

11 Beeson Building (1909) 402-410 Main Street
Florence Roscoe Beeson built this reinforced concrete structure in 1909 after a major fire leveled the entire block. Built in the Spanish Mission Revival style as well as in full block-width scale, it is one of the most architecturally distinctive commercial buildings on Main Street.

12 Bank of Edmonds (1907) 324-326 Main Street
Associated with the early commercial development of Edmonds, this building was constructed as the city's first bank serving as the State Bank of Edmonds. It has had many renovations through the years with a recent restoration of the original façade.

13 Kingdon's General Store/ Edmonds Variety Store (1910) 318 Main Street
This simple, wood frame and heavy timber commercial building was first occupied by William Kingdon's general merchandise store and later by the Fuller Paint Company.

14 Schumacher Building (1890) 316 Main Street
William A. Schumacher, the city treasurer who founded the Bank of Edmonds, built this retail building in 1890. He sold it to E. Heberlein in 1908 who moved his hardware business to the site. It remains as a largely intact example of a western "false front" storefront building.

15 Site of Edmonds' Shingle Mills (1880's-1951) Railroad Avenue
At the height of their productivity, lumber and shingle mills played a major economic role in early

Edmonds. The number of mills grew rapidly because of the availability of quality timber close by, sources of water power and good transportation especially after the railroads were established. A historic plaque is at the site (220 Railroad Ave) of the Quality/Big Swede Shingle Mill that closed in 1951.

16 Site of Brackett's Landing (1874) Main Street and Railroad Avenue
This is where George Brackett landed when he arrived by canoe from Ballard in the early 1870's looking for timber. He built a house nearby and by 1876 had begun logging operations along the shore. Today this area is a well-used beach/scuba park.

17 Mowatt/Wells House (1891) 120 Edmonds Street
Built by Arthur Mowatt, an owner of a local shingle mill, this house sits on one of the original lots platted by the George Brackett. It is listed on the Washington Heritage Register.

18 Briggs House (1920) 131 3rd Avenue North
Built after World War I, this house is representative of the Craftsman Style bungalow popular in the region. Clay and Nellie Briggs were the first occupants. Today it is a good example of a residential structure adapted for commercial use.

19 Becklund/McGibbon House (1901) 115 3rd Avenue North
Peter Bucklund built this house; he was the city's Street Commissioner in 1888 and a City Council member in 1909. Mayor and Mrs. Paul McGibbon later owned it. It is known as the "Chestnut House" because of a large tree on the site.

20 Edmonds Baptist Church/North Sound Church (1909, 1929, 1950) 404 Bell Street
This is the oldest operating church remaining in downtown Edmonds. Built in 1909 on donated land at 6th and Hebe Way, it was moved to its present site in 1929 and a basement was added. In 1950 it was extensively enlarged and remodeled. Its design with a prominent Palladian window and steeple captures the character of New England church architecture.

21 August Johnson House (1905) 216 4th Avenue North
This Queen Anne style house makes use of architectural details such as decorative shingles, gabled rooflines and elaborate carved roof brackets.

22 House (1926) 228 4th Avenue North
Like its neighbors, this house is representative of early residential development in Edmonds. It is a Tudor Revival style distinctive for its gabled roof and covered entrance porch.

23 Edmonds High School/ Edmonds Center for the Arts (1910, 1939, 2006) 410 4th Avenue North
The cornerstone for the high school was laid on November 30, 1909. It was Edmonds' only high school until 1957 and then a junior high school until 1975. It later was the Puget Sound Christian College, but was torn down in 2005. The Art Deco auditorium built in 1939 with assistance from the Public Works Administration (PWA) is one of the few examples of this style in Edmonds and has been retrofitted to be a state-of-the-art auditorium as part of the Edmonds Center for the Arts.

24 Ganahl-Hanley Log Cabin (1930's) 120 5th Avenue North
This hand-hewn Douglas Fir cabin was built in the early 1930's for Gaston Alfred Beck Ganahl in Seaview Heights as a guesthouse. The property was sold to Lee and Dorie Hanley in 1945 and was in the family until 1975 when they donated it to the City of Edmonds. In 1975, it was moved to its current location and became the Edmonds Visitors Information Center. After restoration, it was listed on the Washington Heritage Register in 1999.

25 Carnegie Library/ Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society & Museum (1910) 118 5th Avenue North
Along with 1,681 U.S. towns, Edmonds received a \$5,000 gift from Andrew Carnegie in 1910 to build a library building. Opened in 1911, the building is typical of many Carnegie Libraries due to its symmetrical design, a central stairway "leading upward to the halls of knowledge", and a large reading room located on a raised main floor. Beaux-Arts details include Tiffany glass over the main entrance and terra cotta masonry on the outer corners, window and door surrounds. Only 271 of these libraries remain intact and Edmonds is fortunate that it has been adaptively reused as the home of the Edmonds-South Snohomish County Historical Society Museum. It is on both the National Register of Historic Places and the state register.

26 The Rynearson House (1890) 524 Main Street
Built in 1890, this house was occupied by the local blacksmith Winfield Rynearson and his family. His daughter Myrtie Otto remained in the house until 1970. It is significant for its vernacular style and for its association with early residential development in Edmonds.

27 IOOF Hall (1890/1927) 542 Main Street
Built in 1891 for the Independent Order of Oddfellows, the lower floor was used as a community hall. Political rallies, church services and road shows used this facility. In 1896, the Rebekah Lodge #65 Order for Women used the building. The first motion picture in Edmonds was shown here in 1909. The high gabled portion on the east is the original building. The wing to the west was added in 1927. The building is on the Washington Heritage Register.



H # Indicates site listed on Edmonds Register.

For information on public art in Edmonds see the Edmonds Public Art Walking Tour brochure.

Tour

W a l k i n g



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**An Edmonds
Historic
Preservation
Commission tour
of historical and
architectural sites
in Downtown
Edmonds**



Enjoy the natural beauty of South Snohomish County and take time to explore our cultural and architectural heritage. Edmonds is located less than 15 miles north of Seattle at I-5 Exit 177.



Edmonds
Historic
Preservation
Commission
www.edmonds.wa.gov

Photographs from the collection of the
Edmonds-South Snohomish County
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Chuck Erickson

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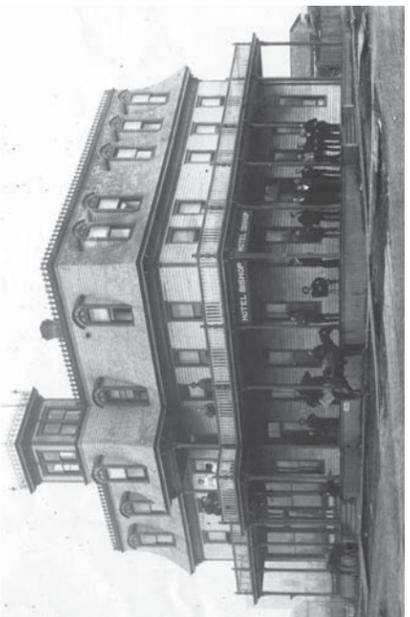
Edmonds Historic Sites Tour

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Edmonds celebrated its centennial in 1990 as one of Washington State's heritage cities. Preservation of historic resources has become an important community value as evidenced by the enduring presence of many historic buildings in the city. It is shown also in the current vitality of the commercial buildings along Main Street and 5th Avenue South, and the successful adaptive use of historic buildings such as the former Carnegie Library (Edmonds Historical Museum), Edmonds Grade School (Frances Anderson Center), and the Edmonds High School (Edmonds Center for the Arts). The pride that many homeowners take in their historic homes confirms the presence of preservation values.

The mission of the Edmonds Historic Preservation Commission is to educate the public on the value and benefits of historic preservation and encourage the owners of historically significant structures to join in the Edmonds Register of Historic Places. By doing so, these properties become eligible for benefits. Please visit our website at: www.edmonds.wa.gov.

**This brochure
highlights historical
and architectural
treasures of the
City of Edmonds**



The Bishop Hotel at Second and Bell Street (1890)
This grand structure was the first hotel built in Edmonds. Over the years it was known as the Stevens Hotel, Olympic View Hotel and Olympic View Apartments. It was torn down in 1975 to make way for new condominiums.

About Early Edmonds

Edmonds is located in an area that was inhabited seasonally by the Squamish Native Americans. Dependent upon available resources, they moved throughout this region for fishing, hunting and plant collecting. Edmonds' waterfront, with its relatively flat beach and nearby wetlands, was a berry picking and clam digging area for these indigenous tribes.

As a pioneer settlement, Edmonds had modest beginnings as a logging town. It began as part of a land claim taken out by Pleasant H. Ewell in 1866. The land was sold in 1870 to early pioneers: Morris H. Frost, Jacob D. Fowler and Nat B. Fowler. In 1872, George Brackett and his wife Etta bought 147 acres full of red cedar and firs and they started a logging

operation two years later. Brackett is responsible for carving out the town along the beaches of Puget Sound; slowly acquiring land as his operations grew.

The town was named Edmonds in 1884, but was not incorporated until 1890 as an official "village fourth class" of Snohomish County. In that same year, Brackett sold 455 acres to the Minneapolis Realty and Investment Company. The town was platted and a wharf was added along the waterfront. Modest houses and commercial structures sprouted up with a row of shingle mills dominating the cityscape.

In 1891, the Great Northern Railroad came through and early settlers and investors grew hopeful that Edmonds would prosper. Unfortunately, the Panic of 1893 created business setbacks and the town owners foreclosed. Brackett reclaimed his town and along with other early settlers continued to develop its infrastructure. By 1900 there was regular passenger ferry service available by the steam-powered "mosquito fleet" of private ferryboats from Edmonds to Seattle.

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According to the Edmonds Chamber of Commerce, in 1908 there were 15 mills and factories along the waterfront:

- a telephone plant, four churches, a school house and "the following business concerns established in the city:
- Edmonds State Bank, which, though small, is one of the strongest banks in the state; two drug stores; ladies' and men's clothing and furnishing store; furniture store; cigar factory; two butcher shops; two hotels; two restaurants; two confectionery stores; photograph studio; plumbing shop; three rooming houses; harness shop; custom tailor; two jewelers; bakery; pool and billiard hall; steam laundry; greenhouse and nursery; two blacksmiths; two livery barns; woodworking shop; two weekly papers; three lawyers; three doctors and dentist parlors"

The Coast Magazine, 1908

Edmonds suffered from major fires in 1909 and 1928, and many buildings were lost. The first car arrived in Edmonds in 1911—a sign of the future. As more roads were established, Edmonds experienced steady growth along with commercial and residential development.

Although there have been many changes to Edmonds' physical appearance over the years, the preservation of historic resources has become an important community value as evidenced by the enduring presence of many historic structures and sites. The Edmonds Historic Preservation Commission hopes that more residents will be inspired to place their property on the Edmonds Register of Historic Places.