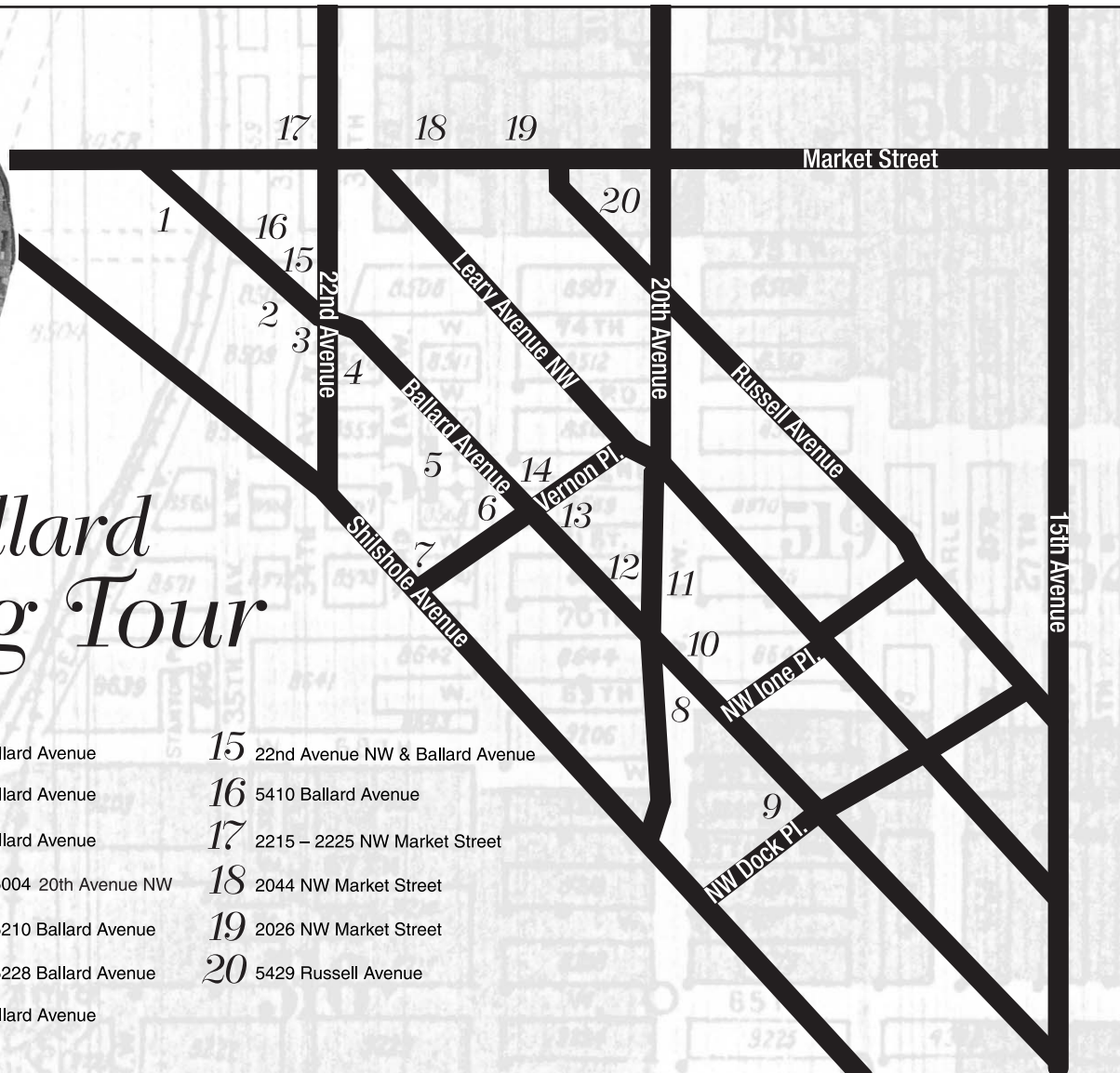




Historic Ballard Walking Tour



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|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 5443 – 5447 Ballard Avenue | 8 5135 Ballard Avenue | 15 22nd Avenue NW & Ballard Avenue |
| 2 5411 Ballard Avenue | 9 5101 Ballard Avenue | 16 5410 Ballard Avenue |
| 3 5403 – 5407 Ballard Avenue | 10 5140 Ballard Avenue | 17 2215 – 2225 NW Market Street |
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www.ballardhistory.org

Dedicated to the preservation and celebration of Ballard history, the Ballard Historical Society presents educational programs, historical exhibits, and publications on Ballard's rich history. Visit our web site www.ballardhistory.org for more information and to see our extensive archive of historical Ballard photographs. Members of the Ballard Historical Society receive a discount on all photo reproductions.



Design: Sarah O'Rourke
 Editorial: Liza Ewell
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About Ballard

At the time of Ballard's incorporation in 1889, it was the second largest city in the new state of Washington. Originally, Ballard Avenue was the central commercial district for the city and was filled with hotels, dry goods stores, taverns, and livery stables, all interspersed with residences. Just a block away was the bustling Salmon Bay waterfront where shingle and lumber mills flourished and set the pace for Ballard's growth. In 1907 Ballard was annexed to the city of Seattle.

It was not until the 1920s and 30s that many businesses moved to Market Street, ultimately fostering the decline of Ballard Avenue. During the 1970s, local residents anticipated the eventual destruction of Ballard Avenue and lobbied for landmark status. In 1976 Ballard Avenue was designated as a local and national historic district. We all now benefit from the new revival of Ballard Avenue, thanks to those forward-thinking preservationists.

We hope you enjoy this tour and in the process learn a bit of Ballard history!

Historic Ballard Walking Tour



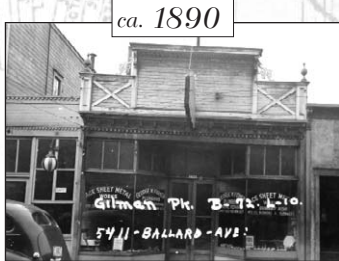
5345 – 5349 Ballard Avenue

Drugs in the region was located here until that company followed the commercial exodus to Market Street. In the 1950s it was the home of Dahlbo Sporting Goods, a small local company that grew to become the regional Olympic Sporting Goods chain.



5443 – 5447 Ballard Avenue

The building features stone window lintels and sills, as well as a decorative brick cornice with metal cap piece, and was carefully restored in the 1980s. Typical of commercial buildings along Ballard Avenue, the upper-level of this structure once served as a hotel, providing rooms for fishermen and mill workers while the street level was occupied by grocers, meat markets and dry goods stores. This 1906 photograph shows the exterior of Peterson & Jenson's "The People's Store," which occupied the ground level when the Princess Hotel was upstairs.



5411 Ballard Avenue

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5403 – 5407 Ballard Avenue

This structure is one of the best examples of decorative brick work on Ballard Avenue. Many long-standing businesses, such as Cascade Drug, Halverson's Dry Goods, and J.C. Penney occupied this building during Ballard Avenue's heyday. In the 1950s through 1970s the corner storefront was used as a tavern with various names, including The Cedars and The Buffalo. The building was painstakingly renovated in 1985.

The quaint wooden frame structure at 5341 Ballard Avenue (ca. 1880) is in the same style as the early buildings on Ballard Avenue. However, this structure is actually a transplant, made up of two homes saved from demolition in Seattle's International District. These little houses have a colorful past of their own, reportedly housing a bordello at their original location.

1901 5323 Ballard Avenue

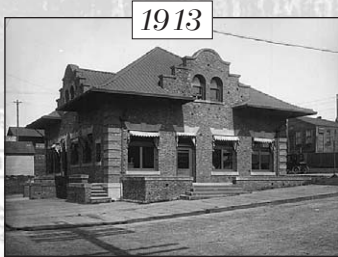
5 G.S. Sanborn Building. The Sanborn Building is one of the most noteworthy Ballard Avenue structures. It is the sole example in the district of the Romanesque architecture style popularized by architect H.H. Richardson in the eastern United States in the 1880s-1900. The building is wholly faced in sandstone. The central tripartite bay of its third story is surmounted by a bold round arch, the division pierced by many small openings. Early on it housed French & Nelson Dry Goods, later followed by Hauff's Department Store (from 1913-18), both landmark businesses during Ballard Avenue's early years.



5301 Ballard Avenue

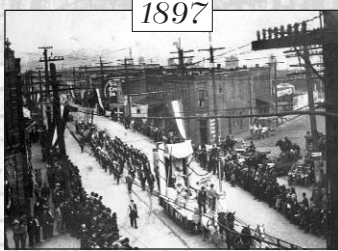
"Thrift." Ballard Savings and Loan moved here in 1917 and flourished, surviving the Great Depression. In 1946 it was ranked first among Seattle's savings institutions in increases in savings, number of deposits and assets – a real testimony to Ballard's thrift-minded Scandinavian and Midwestern population.

4 This triangular corner building is distinguished by its rusticated stone facing. The clustered column piers are topped with heavy caps carved in a stylized leaf motif. For many years this storefront was the home of the A.W. Preston Drug Store. From 1915 to 1929 the fourth Bartell



2116 Vernon Place NW

Ballard and was located across the street on the shores of Salmon Bay.



5135 Ballard Avenue NW

This was the site of the Ballard Feed Company. In 1903 the owner of Ballard Feed, A. J. Boyd, purchased the Ballard Livery & Transfer Company and under his stewardship the Livery & Transfer Company became one of the largest companies of its kind in Seattle. The William Appleman Barber Shop was located here at a later date. The present owners meticulously restored the building in 1982.



5101 Ballard Avenue

From 1905-1918 this building housed the North Star Bar and Hotel. A typical mill worker haven, the North Star was a place where men could relax after long hours in treacherous working conditions at the mills and then retire upstairs to their sleeping rooms. During Prohibition the business changed to the Ballard Hand Laundry, but in fact it may have continued to function as a speakeasy. In 1971, Bob and Ann LeCoump began restoring the old building, which sparked the preservation movement on Ballard Avenue.



5140 Ballard Avenue

This establishment is reportedly one of the oldest taverns still operating in the Seattle area. Charles Swanson and Nick Johnson acquired a liquor license in 1902 for their establishment, the Owl. Shortly thereafter Axel Johnson took over as owner and barkeep. He was described as "a big, genial man, who knows practically everybody in Ballard." During Prohibition, the bar was renamed the Owl Café. The ornate mahogany bar seen in this picture still exists in the current establishment.

7 C.D. Stimson Company Office. This compact Arts and Crafts style brick building was designed by nationally known architect Kirtland and K. Cutter of Spokane, who also designed the Stimson-Green Mansion. Originally this was the Paymaster's Building for the Stimson Lumber Mill, which was the largest lumber mill in Ballard and was located across the street on the shores of Salmon Bay.

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1893

11 Cors and Wegener Building. Through the 1890s this was the most imposing structure in Ballard, and was unrivaled for grandeur and style with its elaborate sheet metal cornice. Owners Cors and Wegener operated an elegant wine room in the

5000 – 5004 20th Avenue NW

1890s-1910s at street level, with a separate ladies entrance and a private room. The clacking of typewriters and pounding of presses in the second floor offices of the *Ballard News* could be heard for many years.



1890

12 Junction Building. This building, once boasting a third floor and corner turret, was one of the largest early brick structures along Ballard Avenue. In the early years Junction Hall was an important part of the Ballard community as the site of many community dances and meetings. The

5200 – 5210 Ballard Avenue

Crystal Theater once occupied a space at street level. A variety of cafes, saloons and other businesses occupied the many storefront spaces, and professional offices were located upstairs. H.E. Peck, attorney and the last elected mayor of Ballard, once had offices in this building.



1903

13 Elks Building. This block was built by the Matthes Brothers, proprietors of the Old Home Saloon, and was originally a two-story building. The Elks purchased the building in 1905 and for many years the Elks Hall was located on the upper floor. The entry-

5226 – 5228 Ballard Avenue

way tiles proclaim that during the “dry years” of Prohibition this was the home of the Ballard Branch of the Dexter-Horton Bank. In the 1980s the Olympic Health Club purchased the building and incorporated the neighboring building on Leary Avenue.



1902

5300 Ballard Avenue

cornerstones and keystones, together with a low mansard roof and curvilinear corner crest ornaments, complete the expression of this style. The Scandinavian American Bank was housed here and was the focus of a local scandal when it was closed in the late 1920s.



1899

22nd Avenue NW and Ballard Avenue

15 Commemorative Bell Tower. Upon this corner the City Hall of the Municipality of Ballard once stood. City offices, the jail, meeting rooms and even the fire department hose company were at one time quartered here at “Hose Hall.” A ballroom and banquet hall occupied the third floor and after annexation, this building became the local precinct house. The earthquakes of 1949 and 1965 weakened the building, however, and the old landmark was demolished in 1965. The building’s columns and bell were saved from the wrecking ball and were incorporated into a commemorative bell tower.

Directly across 22nd Avenue NW is the former site of the Sunset Hotel. Constructed in 1891, the Sunset housed Ballard’s original post office, meeting and dance halls, and retail shops. The Ballard landmark was demolished in 2003 due to extensive fire damage.



1908

5410 Ballard Avenue

residence. During the 1950s the building housed the *Ballard News Tribune* printing plant.

14 Scandinavian American Bank Building. This two-story structure is an example of the Second Empire Baroque style. The concrete veneer is treated to give the appearance of smooth-dressed stone, an example of the art of imitation fashionable in this period. “Vermiculated”



1923

2215 – 2225 NW Market Street

lunches as well as prescription service, occupied the street level for many years. The third floor housed Ballard’s community hospital from 1928 to 1954.

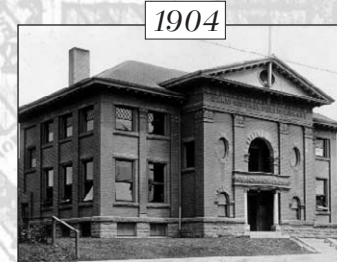


1914

2044 NW Market Street

75th anniversary and was believed to be the oldest single-screen movie house still in operation west of the Mississippi. Subsequently Ken and Marleen Alhadeff bought the building and built a new \$5 million theater on the site.

18 Majestic Theatre. When the Majestic Theatre opened in 1915, it was a “picture palace” offering a show that combined vaudeville acts with silent movies. In 1929, with the advent of “talkies,” it became the Roxy movie house. In 1948 architect B. Marcus Priteca created a new façade and the theater was renamed the Bay. In 1988 the Bay celebrated its



1904

2026 NW Market Street

library, and center for language and naturalization classes for sixty years.

19 Carnegie Library. The women of early Ballard established a public reading room in the late 1890s. A few years later Andrew Carnegie funded the construction of this library, the first Carnegie Library in the region. Well-known architect Henderson Ryan designed the Classical Revival style building which served as a community lending library, school



1907

5429 Russell Avenue

was spared and a new station was built a few blocks to the east.

20 Fire Station #18. This picturesque brick building with stepped gables and strut-supported eaves was designed by the Seattle firm of Bebb & Mendel. It served the community for 62 years and was the oldest active fire station in Seattle. In the 1970s a battle over construction of a new facility threatened its survival but fortunately the old firehouse