

NORTH K STREET LINE - WSHS 1895 Image

Trolley Times

North Slope Historic District Inc. May 2025

YOUR HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD

Volume 114

North Slope Historic District May 22nd Presentation reveals some little-known history of this great neighborhood.

The Great Gulch and Mysteries of the Howard Carr Addition

Tacoma's gulches were an early hinderance to expansion. One, the "Great Gulch," was particularly problematic for the

North End and affected the development of the North Slope. Ever wonder why N. Tacoma Ave. does that jog at North 6th St. or why N. 7th St. dead ends at N. J St.? Learn the location of the Great Gulch, how and when it was bridged and how it (mostly) disappeared. All will be revealed!

Where in the North Slope are Howard, Eugene, and Libby Streets? Who was Howard Carr? Learn the mysteries of the Howard Carr Addition, an area roughly between N. M and N. Cushman and N. 6th and N. 8th, and about two of the oldest houses in our historic district.

Join Marshall McClintock, NSHD board member and preservationist, for this double feature excursion into early North Slope history. Meeting location: Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 901 North J Street. Doors open at 6:30 with beverages & dessert. Program starts at 7pm. Let your neighbors know and invite them!

May 22 Immanuel Presbyterian Church
901 N J St. Enter on N 9th St.
Social begins at 6:30, Program at 7 pm

Save The Dates 2025

July 12th NSHD Neighborhood Garage Sale – Check this issue of Trolley Times for registration form

August 5th National Night Out-- Organize a potluck with your neighbors for National Night Out

August 28th General Meeting – Program TBD

Nov 20th NSHD Holiday Party – Tacoma Triva with Debbie Freeman

New, City-Wide, Residential Zoning Regulations went into Effect February 1, 2025

What does this mean for NSHD property owners and residents?

In November 2024, the City Council unanimously voted to upzone most of the land designated for residential use across the city, including in the residential historic districts, to new multi-family base zoning categories called UR1, UR2, and UR3. In the NSHD, this means that our previous base zoning category, “Historic Mixed Use Special Review District” (HMR-SRD), is ... history.

However, the City Council left existing zoning overlay categories in effect, so the North Slope Historic Special Review Zoning Overlay that created and regulates the historic district remains in effect. Likewise, the View Sensitive District 25-Foot Zoning Overlay, which regulates the height of the buildings around St. Patrick Catholic Church, remains in effect. While the Tacoma Planning Department had considered changing the zoning of two parcels in the NSHD commercial district at the intersection of N. K St. and N. 6th St. from C1 to UR3, all the parcels in the two NSHD commercial districts remain C1. The City Council made zoning regulations in the NSHD more confusing by replacing one base zoning category (i.e., HMR-SRD) with three new base zoning categories (i.e., UR1, UR2 and UR3). To see which new base zoning category the city assigned to your parcel, go to: <https://dart.cityoftacoma.org/#20230815> .

Note: The speed at which the interactive map responds to your mouse clicks may vary a lot. After clicking on the map, pause and wait for the mapping software to redraw the map on your screen.

First, center the NSHD on your screen. One way to do this is to double-click on the map in the vicinity of the NSHD. Repeat this step until you see all the details you want to see, double-clicking on the part of the map you want to see in the center of your screen.

Second, make the map easier to read. Click on the “Layer List” icon in the upper right corner of the screen. (It looks like a stack of paper.) Remove information (that’s irrelevant to this task) by clicking on the blue boxes labeled Plat-ROW-Legal, Environmental, Infrastructure/Utilities, Storm, Sewer, and Community to erase these details from the map.

Third, customize the map to display the information that you want to see on the map. Click on the little gray arrow to the left of the blue box named:

- Labels. In the sub-list that drops down, click on the “Street Name” checkbox to turn on street names.
- Land Use. In the sub-list that drops down, click on the “Zoning Districts” checkbox to turn on the base zoning category names.

Fourth, turn on the map legend to help you interpret the meaning of the colors, acronyms, symbols, etc. on the map by clicking on the Legend icon (to the right of the “Layer List” icon) with the little triangle, square and circle in it.

If your parcel is in the:

- Cream-colored area, the Urban Residential 1 (UR1) base zoning regulations apply to your parcel. To study the UR1 zoning regulations, go to:
https://www.cityoftacoma.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_6/File/cms/Planning/Affordable%20Housing/AHAS%20Planning%20Actions/UR1%20Tip%20Sheet_Jan%202025.pdf
- Yellowish area, the Urban Residential 2 (UR2) base zoning regulations apply to your parcel. To study the UR2 zoning regulations, go to:
https://www.cityoftacoma.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_6/File/cms/Planning/Affordable%20Housing/AHAS%20Planning%20Actions/UR2%20Tip%20Sheet_Jan%202025.pdf
- Orangish area, the Urban Residential 3 (UR3) base zoning regulations apply to your parcel. To study the UR3 zoning regulations, go to:
https://www.cityoftacoma.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_6/File/cms/Planning/Affordable%20Housing/AHAS%20Planning%20Actions/UR3%20Tip%20Sheet_Jan%202025.pdf

For more information about the “Home in Tacoma Project,” go to:

https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/planning_and_development_services/planning_services/current_initiatives_and_projects/home_in_tacoma_project_ahas_planning_actions.

Monthly Jazz Concerts at Immanuel Presbyterian

If you're a fan of jazz, or any live music, check out Jazz on J Street's monthly concerts at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, at North J Street and North 9th. Concerts are held in the church sanctuary at 7:00 pm on the third Saturday of each month and feature terrific local and regional jazz musicians. Admission is free, and Jazz on J Street takes up a free-will offering to support the musicians. Immanuel is within walking distance of most of the North Slope neighborhood, so it's a good opportunity to get out for a good evening walk and enjoy some fantastic live music with your neighbors.

May Is Historic Preservation Month

May is when historic preservation organizations and agencies celebrate the accomplishments and values of historic preservation. So why is historic preservation such a big deal?

Historic preservation – whether through preserving and protecting historic neighborhoods, buildings, or other locations – helps us to preserve and learn from aspects of history that aren't necessarily covered in history classes. Historic residential buildings help us to see not only how those structures were built at an earlier time, but also how people lived during that time. History classes teach us about who was elected president and who fought what wars, but they often don't spend much time teaching about how ordinary people lived. Tacoma's residential historic districts help to tell us about the lives of Tacoma's past residents. These include people who were some of the city founders as well as people who owned or worked at various businesses, taught at our schools, or led our city and state governments.

In addition, the downtown commercial districts tell the story of Tacoma's business and industrial development, including the development of railroads, utilities, banks, and other institutions that supported a growing community.

Historic preservation also preserves the work of the architects who were instrumental in designing early Tacoma buildings, as well as the work of craftsmen and artisans whose skills are no longer reflected in modern buildings. And the old growth wood that was used in framing, siding, and windows is a building material that is no longer available. If you've ever tried to drill or nail into old growth wood, you know what a solid building material it is; these buildings will last a very long time with ordinary care and maintenance. Because old growth was slow-growing, it sequesters a lot of carbon.

In addition to the North Slope Historic District, the Wedge District is also on the city historic register; both are also on the state and national historic registers. In addition, there are four neighborhoods that are on the National Register of Historic Places— Stadium/Seminary, Salmon Beach, Buckley's Addition, and College Park. Owners in these districts are dedicated to preserving and maintaining these historic buildings and neighborhoods. This May, celebrate historic preservation!

North Slope Historic District Plaques

Start 2025 out by adorning the entry to your home with a contributing property brass plaque in the North Slope Historic District which is on the National Register of Historic Places. This beautiful plaque is available for \$100. Price is subject to current inventory and may change with additional orders. To reserve your plaque call or email Judith Martin at Judithkmartin@outlook.com or call 253-307-7949

Tacoma Historical Society Home Tour is May 3-4

The Tacoma Historical Society is bringing back its popular Historic Homes of Tacoma Tour on May 3-4. More details and information on buying tickets can be found on THS's website, <https://tacomahistory.org/hometour>.

For 25 years the Historic Homes Tour has welcomed thousands of community members and visitors into some of the most significant and grand houses and buildings in Tacoma. Visitors will have the opportunity to inside seven historic homes and buildings in north Tacoma. The tour offers a rare chance to visit otherwise private historic residences, where you will see architectural details, design features, and clues about how Tacomans lived in years past. This closeup look will give you a unique view of the city of Tacoma as you learn about the history of the houses' architecture and the personal stories of their former residents. It is also a chance to see how some of these beautiful homes have been updated over the years.

Homes and buildings that were part of previous tours have included large, medium, and smaller-sized homes as well as apartment buildings and churches. Don't miss this opportunity to support the Tacoma Historical Society and get a close-up view of some of the amazing homes that you've admired from the street!

**Buy Tickets Here: <https://tacomahistory.ludus.com/200477994>
Or at the Museum: 406 Tacoma Ave S**

Tickets include a souvenir informational booklet with a map. Tickets will be available for pick up at the Stadium High School gym from 10am to 4:30pm on May 3rd and 1pm to 4:30pm on May 4th. Each structure may only be toured once. You will receive a stamp on your booklet once you have toured a building. Booklet must be presented to enter.

Rest area, bathrooms, and refreshments will also be available at the Stadium High School gym.

\$5 parking will be available at the Stadium High School Garage. The tour can be accessed by walking or by driving. Note: There will be limited street parking at each tour location.

For questions, please email info@tacomahistory.org or call (253) 472-3738.

North Slope Historic District GARAGE SALE

JULY 12th 9-4pm

The saying goes, "one man's junk is another man's treasure." It's time to clean out your attic, garage, basement, and closets in preparation for the annual North Slope Historic District Garage Sale! When you fill out this form and return it with \$10, your sale and address will be included on a list that will be distributed to garage sale shoppers at 9:00 am on the day of the sale. NSHD will take care of the advertising.

Fill out this form and attach \$10 cash or check made payable to NSHD, and mail or deliver to:

Judy Martin, 515 North M Street

Contact Judy Martin with questions at

253-307-7949

Name _____

Address _____

Where will your sale be? Circle one: Parkway or Alley

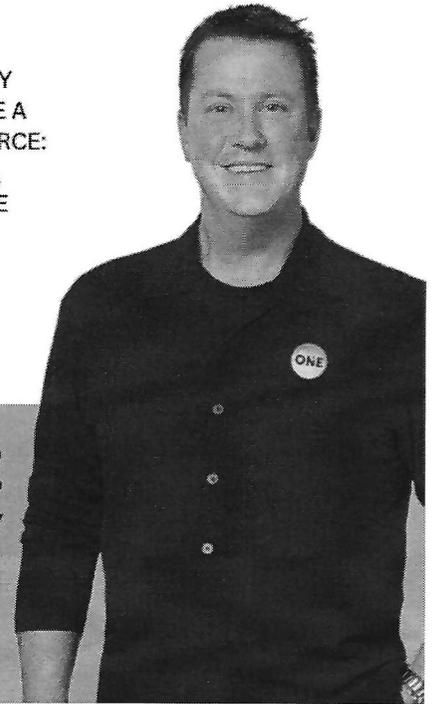
One item you would like to feature in the map and advertising (such as baby clothing, plants):

Mail or drop off with \$10 by July 9th to Judy Martin, 515 N. M St.

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HELLO NORTH END NEIGHBORS!

I'M CRAIG TUTTLE, BROKER ~ RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL EXPERT AT REALTY ONE GROUP TURN KEY. I'M A BORN AND RAISED TACOMAN, PASSIONATE ABOUT ALL THINGS LOCAL. FOR OVER 20 YEARS, TEAM TUTTLE, HAS HELPED BUYERS AND SELLERS ACROSS THE TACOMA, SPECIALIZING IN HISTORIC HOMES IN THE NORTH END. MY DECADES OF SUCCESS SERVING THE NORTH SLOPE HAVE GIVEN ME A PERSPECTIVE THAT IS UNBEATABLE. I'M YOUR REAL ESTATE RESOURCE: I KNOW THIS NEIGHBORHOOD AS ONLY A LOCAL CAN. THE UNIQUE, CHARMING AND DIVERSE PROPERTIES OF THE NORTH END REQUIRE AN IN-DEPTH UNDERSTANDING OF THE HISTORY OF THE HOMES & OF THE CITY. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR HOME. OR ARE BEEN CONSIDERING LISTING YOUR PROPERTY, TEAM TUTTLE IS HERE TO HELP! REACH OUT ANYTIME, FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS.



CRAIG TUTTLE: TEAM TUTTLE
BROKER - REALTY ONE GROUP TURN KEY
253.224.5500 TEAMTUTTLE@ROGTK.COM
1302N. I ST TACOMA, WA 98403

Best of Pierce County Winner

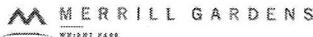
Thank you for voting for Merrill Gardens at
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LOCAL

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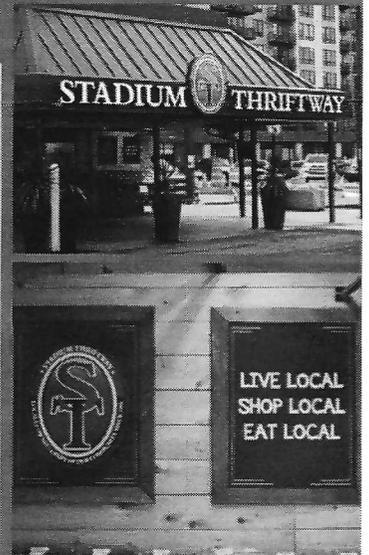
Locally owned and operated since 1985, Stadium Thriftway is located in the beautiful historic Stadium District of Tacoma. We offer a huge variety of delicious goods made by various local artists, cooks, and small businesses.

Stop by and check it out!

VARIETY

Hand-made treats to custom bouquets and everything in between.

Our store features a top-tier deli, beautiful baked goods section, a variety of custom made bouquets made by our expert florists, a huge variety of locally made goods, and just about anything else you could want from a grocery store.



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Contact us at:

<https://tacomanorthslope.org/contact.php>