

TOUR A: MIDDLE & SOUTHWEST BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

A1. From the Museum, turn right on Ericksen Ave. then left on Winslow Way. Go east 3 blocks and turn left on Ferncliff Ave. Turn right on Wing Point Way, then left on Park Ave. Continue past NE.

Dingley Rd and watch for **Yeomalt Cabin (A1)** on your right. It was originally

constructed in 1935 as a Boy Scout facility by unemployed islanders under the federal WPA program. During WWII, it was used by a US Army anti-aircraft artillery unit, and by visiting Russian merchant marines whose ship was being repaired in Winslow. Recently, after years of abandonment due to deterioration, it was renovated using early methods of hand cutting and preparing replacement logs and it was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2005.



A2. From the cabin, continue north on Park until you bend off to the left onto Grand Ave. Turn left on Aaron Ave., then right on High School Rd. past areas that in the pre-1950s were vast Japanese-ancestry farms of the famous juicy and flavorful Marshall strawberry. After crossing Highway 305 continue to the roundabout. In 1940 there were strawberry fields on all four corners of this intersection. The Christian Science Church was constructed in 1941 and St. Cecilia Catholic Church has occupied this land (given to them by the family of Fr. Esterman) since 1949. At the roundabout, go 3/4 of the way around, head south on Madison Ave., and turn into the **Bainbridge Public Library (A2)** on your left. The building and grounds are funded solely by private donations, while the books and staff are part of the county library system. The building was built in 1962 and expanded afterwards. It is enhanced by three beautiful gardens; a Haiku garden (donated by Junkoh Harui and the B.I. Japanese American Community), a fern garden and lush flower beds; all maintained by volunteers.

A3. From the library, go back to the roundabout, go 3/4 of the way around, and head west on High School Rd.

Continue 1.3 miles. Just past Strawberry Hill Park (which was an anti-aircraft missile base in the 1950s prepared to shoot down Soviet bombers), turn right into the **Filipino-American Community Hall (A3)**. Notice the strawberry planter on

your left as you turn in. In the 1920s and 1930s, many Filipino immigrants came to work on the thriving berry farms on the island. When World War II forced Japanese families to leave their property, Filipino farmhands stepped up to save the crops and manage the farms. This hall served as a social center, berry shed, and the birthplace of the annual Strawberry Festival. Built partly of wood salvaged from the 1800s Port Blakely Hotel, it was the first site of the Bainbridge Fair, an agricultural event much like our county and state fairs of today. Today Filipino-American Community Hall is one of several island sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



A4

A4. Continue to the end of High School Rd., and go left on Fletcher Bay Rd. for 1.1 mi. Turn left on Bucklin Hill Rd., continue beyond the stop sign, and note the **Bucklin House (A4)** on the right (now the Hyla School). It was built in 1887 by Nathan Bucklin, supervisor at the Port Madison Mill for 25 years.

The original house (on the WA State Historic Registry) and historic barn are now part of the school.

A5. At the end of Bucklin Hill Rd., turn right and stay on

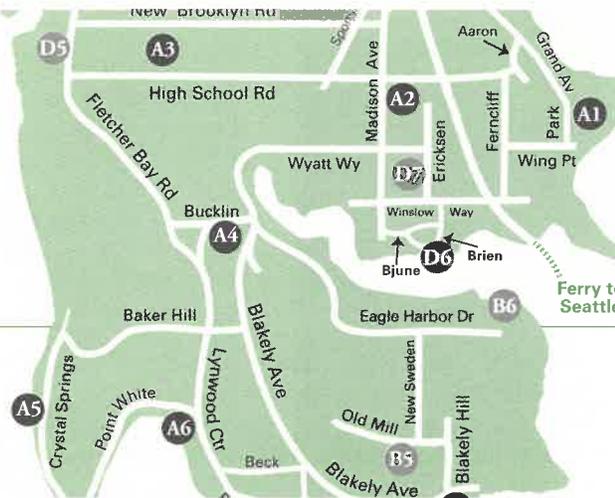
Blakely Ave. This is a portion of the mid-1800's Territorial Road that together with Old Mill Rd (ahead on left) connected Port Madison and Port Blakely. Capt. Johnston Blakely was a naval hero in the War of 1812. Continue on Blakely Rd. for 1 mi., turn right on Baker Hill Rd. and travel 2 mi. west to its end. Go left

on Crystal Springs Drive along the water. This area was settled by several families in the late 1800s; the Munros, Hansens, Syversens, and Lindquists. Mrs. Munro sometimes took her small children along when rowing her husband across the passage to his workplace - the old days, when life was slow and easy! When you see two beached derelict boats on the right, look left at the 1904 Munro grocery store. There is a brass commemorative plaque along the road. You may want to walk back to this point, called Gibson's Landing where the old pier pilings are visible in the water, after you make the next stop. Continue 0.7 mi. south to **Point White Dock (A5)**. Park across the street from the dock. Look across to Port Orchard (on the left) and Bremerton (on the right). The Suquamish name for this area was Tux'waxa'detc or goose droppings. This waterway eluded explorer George Vancouver in 1792, who never knew that Bainbridge was an island. As you continue ahead you are traveling where Native Americans camped and gathered food as late as the early 1900s.



A6. Continuing around the bend, the road becomes Point White Dr. (the waterway is Rich Passage). At **Lynwood Center (A6)**, turn right onto Pleasant Beach Dr. and stop at the shopping center. In 1898, Mr. Emil Olson purchased this land and built a farmhouse across the road. In the 1920s and 30s, Olson's son, Emanuel, built a Tudor style house on the hill and (on this side of the street) a grocery store and the 70-year-old Art Deco Lynwood Theater. The shoreline area ahead along Pleasant Beach Dr. was once the 1880s Sylvan Grove, aka "Coney Island of Puget Sound", a destination resort that once hosted a world championship prize fight. The hotel, heated swimming pool, and bowling alley were destroyed by fire in 1900.

THIS COMPLETES TOUR A. TO RETURN TO WINSLOW, turn around and go north on Lynwood Center Rd., then follow Bucklin Hill Rd. and Wyatt Way to town. **TO CONTINUE WITH TOUR B,** continue southeast on Pleasant Beach Dr.



A5

TOUR B: SOUTH BAINBRIDGE ISLAND



B1. Follow the signs to Lynwood Center, then go southeast on Pleasant Beach Dr. for 0.3 mi. Turn left at Beck Rd., which you follow to its end. Notice a number of historic homes. The last house on the left is the large former Beck home. The family became known nationally in 1912, when the Beck boys (with a cousin, a friend and a dog) rode their

horses to every state capital in the country, a three year journey. Turn right on West Blakely Rd. to its end at Pleasant Beach Rd. Many of the homes in this West Blakely area were built by mill workers, shipyard carpenters and cabinet makers who “scrounged” the lumber. There once was a boardwalk all the way from the Port Blakely Mill to the Pleasant Beach resort area. Turn left on Pleasant Beach, continuing until you enter **Fort Ward Park (B1)**. You can park here and walk through the park where you will come to some gun emplacements, built before WW I, used by the military encamped on the bluff above. Retrace your route to West Blakely Rd., turn right, continue one block to Oddfellows Road. The historic Oddfellows Hall, now a private residence, is across the street on the left hand corner. Turn right on Oddfellows, then bear right onto Blakely Ave.

B2. From Blakely, turn right at Country Club Rd. and turn uphill to the right at Ft. Ward Hill Rd. To your right along the deeply wooded ravine, was a late 1800s Japanese millworker town, with a population of over 300, named Yama (meaning mountain). At the top, pause at the sign for the **Fort Ward Historic District (B2)**, which is on the Nat’l Register of Historic Places. Originally an 1890’s US Coast Artillery Fort, it was used by the Army in WWI to guard the entrance to the Bremerton Shipyards, and by the Navy in WWII as a radio listening post. When you reach Parkview, turn left and stop by the Parade Ground. To your left is the Commandant’s Headquarters, and at its right an outbuilding and the Radio Building where intercepted Japanese messages were sent to Washington D.C. for decoding. Breaking the Japanese code helped turn the tide of the war in the Pacific. Continue on Parkview and turn right at Evergreen. Pause at the T intersection; on the left is the original jail. Turn left onto Fort Ward Hill Rd. Note the buildings on your left; first a warehouse, then barracks for women, and finally a firehouse. These remaining historic military buildings are now privately owned.



B3. Travel down the hill to **South Beach Rd. (B3)** and turn left. From a wharf here, a steam donkey train took supplies straight up the bluff to a warehouse. A salmon farm is offshore on the right. Look across Rich Passage to Manchester where a deep underwater net defended the naval shipyard at Bremerton



from WWII enemy submarines. Continue on South Beach, past the old wooden barracks turned into condos. The remains of concrete gun emplacements top the surrounding hills.

B4. Continue on South Beach which becomes a one-lane road for 0.2 miles. Watch for a view of Mt. Rainier. Make your way left, up and over steep Toe Jam Hill, pondering the source of that name. At the bottom, turn left onto Country Club Rd. for 0.7 mi. Turn right onto Blakely Ave. Take a right into parking for **Blakely Harbor Park (B4)** to see remnants from the late 1800s Port Blakely Mill. Walk the trail across 3T Road and

continue to the concrete “generator building” and the stone jetties which corralled floating logs for the mill. Return to 3T Road and just before the interpretive sign find another trail to the water on your right.



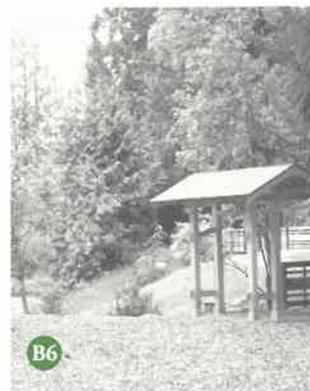
Imagine the hustle and bustle here, over 100 years ago when it was the world’s largest sawmill and employed an international collection of workers. Also located here was the Hall Brothers shipyard that built 77 large sailing schooners to transport

Port Blakely lumber all over the world, including for construction of the Panama Canal. To your left find a trail back to the parking area.

B5. Exit right from the parking area and then turn left at the intersection up Blakely Hill Rd. Turn left on Old Mill Rd. and go 0.2 mi. to **Blakely Cemetery (B5)** on the left. Drive the lane and park just outside the cemetery gate. Walk toward the left flag pole to see many of the oldest graves, which reflect the area’s ethnic diversity. Find a Knights of Pythias “memorial to brother Knights lost in the sinking of the steamer Dix” on Nov. 18, 1906.



B6. Retrace your route to Old Mill Rd. Across the road note the HeyDay Farm, a vintage farm newly reborn as a working farm, including a “farm to table” program for school classes. Turn right on Old Mill, and left on New Sweden Road. This area was a Scandinavian neighborhood during the mill period of 1870-1910. Turn right on Eagle Harbor Drive. After Taylor Road look for **Pritchard Park (B6)** on the left. Turn into the parking area and keep turning left to the lower lot. Here you may visit the Kiosk and Memorial Wall, telling of the WWII incarceration of the Island’s people of



Japanese ancestry. It is an adjunct to the Minidoka National Memorial Site, and the location of the ferry dock from which they departed. Farther east on Eagle Harbor is an industrial site that treated lumber with creosote from 1903 until 1987; now an EPA Superfund site. From Pritchard Park, turn right and proceed west on Eagle Harbor Dr. for 1.7 mi. Along this area of Eagle Harbor were early 1900’s settlements of Croatian fishermen. Turn right at the stop sign, and right onto Wyatt. As you travel Wyatt, the Nakata farm is on your left; strawberries were the cash crop here in

the early 1900’s, and now vegetables to be sold in the family-owned Town and Country markets.

THIS COMPLETES TOUR B. TO RETURN TO DOWNTOWN WINSLOW, just follow Wyatt. TO CONTINUE WITH TOUR C, turn left on Madison Ave, and go to the roundabout.

TOUR C: MIDDLE & NORTHEAST BAINBRIDGE ISLAND



C1. From the roundabout, head west on High School Rd. At the 4-way stop, turn right onto Sportsman Club Rd. On your left you will pass Sportsmen's Club, formed in 1929 as the Bainbridge Island Rod and Gun Club, and moved to this location in 1939, with pistol, rifle, and

trap ranges. The clubhouse is built in the rustic style of architecture popular in the 1930s, reflecting romanticism about nature and the country's western frontiers. Continue on Sportsman Club Rd. through the 4-way stop at New Brooklyn Rd. You will drive past the school named for local newspaper owners Walt and Millie Woodward, who courageously spoke out against the Japanese internment, and the Sakai School, named for an internee whose family offered land for island schools. Cross Highway 305 and bear right on Manitou Beach Dr. The water on your right is Murden Cove, and you may have a great view of Seattle and Mt. Rainier. Continue until you have to turn left, onto Falk Rd. At the end of Falk, turn right on Valley Rd. which turns right and becomes Manitou Beach Drive. Shortly before you get back to the water, turn left onto Manitou Park Blvd. As you approach Puget Sound, **stop at the marker on your left (C1)**. Early in its history the area was a Chautauqua resort with such luminaries as William Jennings Bryan and John Philip Sousa as entertainers. Later, the Moran School (an elite school for boys) and the Puget Sound Naval Academy occupied these buildings.

C2. Retrace your route back to Valley Rd.

and proceed to Sunrise Drive; park near this intersection. The old community of **Rolling Bay (C2)**, first homesteaded by Dona Falk, grew from the lumber milling activity at Port Madison to the north. No liquor was allowed in Port Madison and workers sought areas to make moonshine. As homesteaders arrived, a community evolved to meet their needs. Rolling Bay claims it had the island's first ginseng farm and first nudist camp. Many farms developed in this area, including a large dairy farm to the west owned by Leo Lovgreen and his wife. The present Bay Hay and Feed building on the corner, was constructed in 1912 by Lucas Rodal as a grocery but has since sheltered an eclectic mix of businesses. The Rolling Bay Post Office was once one of eleven island Post Offices; now it is the only one other than the main Post Office in Winslow.



C3. Go north on Sunrise Dr. for 2.6 mi. to **Fay Bainbridge Park (C3)** on the right. The land, formerly owned by the Fay family, is a public park with picnic and camping areas and a sizable stretch of beach. Near the park entrance is the Port Madison Bell. In the lower area one can see the "sandspit"

residential area and read interpretive signs about the geology and natural history of Puget Sound.

C4. Continue to the north end of Sunrise Dr. and go left on Lafayette Ave. On your right, pause at **Kane Pioneer Cemetery (C4)**, the final resting place for several local historic figures, including George Meigs, Port Madison Mill founder, and Charles Vickers, an English engineer killed when his ship's boilers exploded in 1875. He died without heirs and his savings were used to build his memorial.

C5. Follow Lafayette until you reach the water, turn left, and stop to read the interpretive signs overlooking the water at this intersection. This is the site of the oldest nonnative community on the island, **Port Madison (C5)**. George Meigs built his sawmill here and became, for a time, the richest man in Washington Territory. Port Madison was an international seaport, the county seat, and the Port Madison Hotel was located at this intersection.

C6. Drive ahead along Madison Bay until the road takes you to the intersection with Washington Ave. and Phelps Rd. Pause to read the sign about the **Port Madison Community (C6)**. The first fish oil refinery north of San Francisco was located here.



C7. Turn right onto Phelps and go one block to **Frog Rock (C7)**. Here you will turn left onto Madison Ave. Frog Rock, a beloved island landmark, was once a single boulder. Blasted by road workers who were hoping to shatter and get rid of it. The rock broke into two pieces and was abandoned. Years later, local folks painted it to look like a frog, with a ladybug as its smaller companion. It was so well liked that people in the community keep it painted, and the tradition endures.

C8. Continue south on Madison (part of the Pt. Madison/Pt. Blakely Territorial Road of 1865). On the left is a small brick home that began as the first telephone exchange building for the phone line between Ports Madison and Blakely. You also see the original building of the Port Madison Lutheran Church, built in 1912, which continues to be actively used by a



congregation established in 1907. At Day Rd., turn right noting the Capt. Charles Wilkes School on the corner. Wilkes' 1838-42 round-the-Americas expedition first mapped Bainbridge as an island, and also explored many parts of the South Pacific and Antarctica. After 0.3 mi., stop at the entrance to historic **Suyematsu Farm (C8)** on the left. This is the only continuously operating farm of the large family farms that once made Bainbridge Island a strawberry capital. Akio Suyematsu's parents began farming the land when he was seven years old. The family was forcibly removed to Manzanar in WWII, and Akio was subsequently drafted into the army. Afterwards, he returned and rebuilt the ruined farm. He continued to work the land until his death at age 90 in 2012.

C9. Continue on Day Rd. to Highway 305 and turn right. Proceed two miles and turn right on Agatewood Rd. At the end of Agatewood, you must turn right on Dolphin Dr. At the end of Dolphin is the entrance to **Bloedel Reserve (C9)**. This beautiful 150 acre public garden is the former home of Prentice Bloedel, heir to a large family lumber business, who devoted the last decades of his life to creating this unique woodland garden and nature preserve.

C10. Return to the highway and turn right. In about half a mile, just before the bridge, turn right on Reitan Rd. Follow this road down and under the bridge, where you can pull over and admire the **Agate Pass Bridge (C10)** from a unique perspective. The bridge is on the Nat'l Register of Historic Places. It was built in 1950, providing an alternative to ferry crossings to the mainland. There was initially a 5¢ toll for crossing the bridge. Do not expect to find agates along Agate Pass. The Pass was named for Alfred Agate, the official artist of the US Exploring Expedition, led by Wilkes that charted this area in 1841 and gave Bainbridge its name. Go back to the highway, turn right, and cross the bridge.



THIS COMPLETES TOUR C. TO CONTINUE WITH TOUR D, turn around and come back. A half mile south of the bridge, turn right onto Seabold Rd.



TOUR D: MIDDLE & NORTHWEST BAINBRIDGE ISLAND



D1. From Winslow, go north on Highway 305 about six miles and turn left onto Seabold Rd. Stop at Rotary Gateway Park to see an anchor recovered from Hood Canal. Next go south on Komedal Rd. On the left is Seabold Methodist Church, built in 1909. It is one of three original early church buildings on the island which still have active congregations today. Continue to **Seabold Hall (D1)** on the left, a one-room school built in 1893 that is now a community center for dances, concerts, and community events. The first teacher, William Beedy, was hired for \$35 per month.

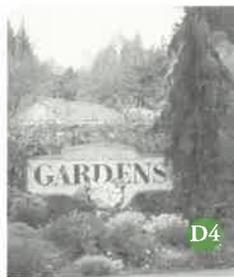
D2. Continue south on Komedal to the end, go right one block to Manzanita and turn left. Just where the road bends left, turn right on the **Manzanita Dock Road End (D2)**. You have come to an early Mosquito Fleet landing that was in use from 1895 until 1927. A fleet of small steamers served about 30 docks on the island, and other Puget Sound ports, from the 1860s through the 1920s. For example, the steamers Kitsap and Hyak made two roundtrips daily from Poulsbo to eight Bainbridge landings (Port Madison, Seabold, Tolo, Venice, Manzanita, Crystal Springs, Pleasant Beach, Fort Ward) and Seattle. This bay, originally Mosquito Bay, was renamed by Margaret Wheeler, the first postmistress here, in the mistaken belief that the Madrona trees were Manzanitas.



D3. Continue on Manzanita as it becomes Bergman. Turn right on Petersen Hill, right again on Miller, and right again on Arrowpoint. Proceed to Battle Point Park. Battle Point Park was named because the area was said to be the site of one of Chief Kitsap's victorious battles against tribes from the north. In the park, directly across from the entrance, you will see the WWII transmitter building that housed electronic equipment for radio communications to Washington, D.C. and across the Pacific. Antenna arrays here supported the radio listening post at Ft. Ward on the south end of the island (on Tour B), which intercepted Japanese radio messages and relayed them to Washington D.C. for decoding. Exit left from the park and continue around its perimeter on Arrowpoint, Frey, and Battlepoint Drive. Reenter the park from the west side and find the Edwin E. Ritchie Observatory, atop the **WWII Helix House (D3)**, which contained the "coil" used to generate radio waves. The concrete foundation next to it supported an 800 foot radio antenna, half-again taller than the Seattle Space Needle.



D4. Exit the park to the left continuing south on Battle Point Dr. Turn left on Tolo Rd. and return to Miller Road. Turn right and go to **Bainbridge Gardens (D4)**. This nursery/garden, with many beautiful flowers, fountains, water lily and goldfish pools, was established by Zenhichi Harui and his brother Zenmatsu Seko after they came to the island in 1908. It attracted visitors from far away, but was deserted during WWII when the family was forced to leave the island. On their return, it appeared beyond restoration. In the 1980s, Mr. Harui's son, Junkoh, moved his in-town nursery out to the family property. There is a small memorial garden that includes an intriguing "pear" tree, a beautiful example of skillful grafting by Zenhichi Harui.



D5. Continue south on Miller which becomes Fletcher Bay Road. Shortly after the 4-way stop at New Brooklyn, stop at **Island Center Community Hall (D5)** on the right. Built in 1916 by volunteers and funded by donations it was used for community dances, concerts, lectures, meetings; it is still



used that way today. From Island Center Hall, turn left, go back to the 4-way stop, and turn right on New Brooklyn Road. Follow it to the end, and turn right on Madison. Ordway School, on your right, is named for an early teacher on the island. Miss Lizzy Ordway was one of the "Mercer Girls," 11 young ladies brought to Washington in 1864 from Massachusetts to work as teachers and increase the number of marriageable women in the Territory.

D6. Continue south on Madison through the roundabout to the 4-way stop at Wyatt. On the corner on your right is the lovely 1909 home of Cyprian Wyatt, an early settler and captain of *Liberty*, the first Seattle/Bainbridge auto ferry.

Also on your right, just past the corner, is the William Grow farmhouse, which dates to 1889. Continue south on Madison through the 4-way stop at Winslow Way. Take the next left on Bjune Dr., then right on one-way Brien. Park and walk down to the waterfront, the city boat dock and the boat launching ramp, to read interpretive signs about **Eagle Harbor (D6)**. This was the site of the Hall Brothers Marine Railway and Shipbuilding Company, moved from Blakely Harbor in 1902. (A marine railway is a device for hauling ships up out of the water for repair.) Minesweepers were built here during WWII. The Pacific Creosoting Company (later named the Wyckoff Company) was across the harbor. Also find the stone monument with a bronze tablet about Commodore William Bainbridge, for whom the island was named. He was the skipper of the *USS Constitution* ("Old Ironsides").



D7. Continue on Bjune back to Winslow Way. Turn left and immediately right onto Ericksen. Turn in at the **Bainbridge Island Historical Museum (D7)** on the left. This was the site of the beautiful home of shipbuilder Henry Knox Hall and his wife Elizabeth. Their home burned in 1936. The town of Winslow was named for another of the Hall Brothers. The large metal cylinder and hatch in front of the Museum was part of a retort, used for cooking creosote preservative into wood. The treatment plant was in the town of Creosote, at the entrance to Eagle Harbor. The three large trees came by ship from Kew Gardens in England, around Cape Horn, and were planted here in 1903. The main Museum building is a 1908 schoolhouse which served at several sites around the island before being moved to its present location. Come inside the Museum to learn much more about Bainbridge history. You can also pick up a Winslow Walking Tour map and visit a dozen historic downtown structures. Or you can start the Road Tour A from the Museum.

