

Ballard Avenue Landmark District Records, 1975-2012

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Seattle (Wash.). Office of Urban Conservation
Title	Ballard Avenue Landmark District Records
Dates	1975-2012 (inclusive) 1975 2012
Quantity	1.6 cubic feet, (4 boxes)
Collection Number	5754-B
Summary	Minutes, correspondence, reports, memos, and other materials related to the Ballard Avenue Landmark District and its oversight board.
Repository	Seattle Municipal Archives Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 archives@seattle.gov
Access Restrictions	Records are open to the public.
Languages	English

Historical Note

The Office of Urban Conservation was created in 1975 as part of the Department of Community Development (DCD). It was founded in an era of citizen protests against a proposed urban renewal program that would have demolished Pioneer Square and Pike Place Market. The office's mandate was to coordinate Seattle's historic preservation programs and administer the city's landmark boards and historic districts. When DCD was abolished in 1992, the office became the Historic Preservation Program in the Department of Neighborhoods.

When it incorporated in 1890, the city of Ballard had 1,636 residents. It boasted of being "the shingle capital of the world," and its timber and fishing jobs drew many new residents, including many immigrants from Scandinavia. By 1900, its population of 4,568 made it the seventh largest city in Washington, and the town continued to boom, growing to 17,000 by 1907. Growth was quickly overwhelming the city's ability to provide services, particularly a safe water supply, and Ballard's citizens were increasingly considering asking Seattle to annex their town. The plan was voted down in 1905, but 15 months later annexation won out, and the town officially became part of Seattle on May 29, 1907. On that day, Ballard citizens showed their mixed feelings about the change by draping their city hall with black crepe and flying the flag at half mast.

The Ballard Avenue Landmark District was created by the Seattle City Council in 1976. Ballard Avenue was the core of the area's central business district for decades. When Market Street became the main arterial, Ballard Avenue's development effectively came to a standstill, preserving its character as a small-town main street with buildings from the 1890s to 1940s, along with the occasional hitching post. The Office of Urban Conservation, and later the Historic Preservation Program, provided staffing to the Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board.

Content Description

Minutes, correspondence, reports, memos, and other materials related to the Ballard Avenue Landmark District. Series are described more fully below.

Use of the Collection

Preferred Citation

[Item and date], [Title of collection], Record Series 5754-B[X]. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

The Ballard Avenue Landmark District Records are arranged into two series:

5754-B1: Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board Minutes

5754-B2: Ballard Avenue Landmark District Subject Files

Separated Materials

Publications were pulled from the collection and are cataloged separately in the Published Documents Index.

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

5754-B1: Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board Minutes, 1976-2012

0.8 cubic feet , (2 boxes)

Minutes and agendas documenting regular and special meetings of the Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board. The minutes report on issues discussed, tasks assigned, and actions taken, and include lists of board members and Office of Urban Conservation staff present. Board business primarily concerned consideration of applications for approval of architectural modifications and signage in the District. Other subjects include street lighting, zoning, parking, and transients.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	BALDB Minutes	1976
1/2	BALDB Minutes	1977
1/3	BALDB Minutes (Jan.-June)	1978
1/4	BALDB Minutes (July-Dec.)	1978
1/5	BALDB Minutes	1979
1/6	BALDB Minutes	1980
1/7	BALDB Minutes	1981
1/8	BALDB Minutes	1982
1/9	BALDB Minutes	1983
1/10	BALDB Minutes	1984
1/11	BALDB Minutes	1985
1/12	BALDB Minutes	1986
1/13	BALDB Minutes	1987
1/14	BALDB Minutes	1988
1/15	BALDB Minutes	1989
1/16	BALDB Minutes	1990
1/17	BALDB Minutes	1991
1/18	BALDB Minutes	2001
1/19	BALDB Minutes	2002
1/20	BALDB Minutes	2006

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/21	BALDB Minutes	2007
1/22	BALDB Minutes	2008
1/23	BALDB Minutes	2009
1/24	BALDB Minutes	2010
2/1	BALDB Agendas	1976
2/2	BALDB Agendas	1977
2/3	BALDB Agendas	1978
2/4	BALDB Agendas	1979
2/5	BALDB Agendas	1980
2/6	BALDB Agendas	1981
2/7	BALDB Agendas	1982
2/8	BALDB Agendas	1983
2/9	BALDB Agendas	1984
2/10	BALDB Agendas	1985
2/11	BALDB Agendas	1986
2/12	BALDB Agendas	1987
2/13	BALDB Agendas	1988
2/14	BALDB Agendas	1989
2/15	BALDB Agendas	1990
2/16	BALDB Agendas	1991
2/17	BALDB Agendas	1992

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2/18	BALDB Agendas	1993
2/19	BALDB Agendas	1994
2/20	BALDB Agendas	1995
2/21	BALDB Agendas	2001
2/22	BALDB Agendas	2002
2/23	BALDB Agendas	2006
2/24	BALDB Agendas	2007
2/25	BALDB Agendas	2008
2/26	BALDB Agendas	2009
2/27	BALDB Agendas	2010
2/28	BALDB Minutes	2011
2/29	BALDB Agendas	2011
2/30	BALDB Minutes	2012
2/31	BALDB Agendas	2012

5754-B2: Ballard Avenue Landmark District Subject Files, 1975-1995

0.8 cubic feet , (2 boxes)

Correspondence, memos, clippings, and other materials relating to the work of the Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board. A significant portion of the collection deals with elections for positions on the Board. Another sizeable set of records contains legal documents, correspondence, and background information relating to a series of lawsuits against the city relating to the historic district.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Ballard Avenue Post	1991-1993

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/2	Ballard Avenue Street Improvements	1976
1/3	Ballard Avenue Street Improvements	1977-1978
1/4	Ballard Avenue Street Improvements	1979
1/5	Ballard Avenue Street Improvements	1980-1988
1/6	Ballard Historical Society	1988-1990
1/7	Ballard Historical Society	1991-1992
1/8	Board Elections	1976
1/9	Board Elections	1977
1/10	Board Elections	1978
1/11	Board Elections	1979-1981
1/12	Board Elections	1982
1/13	Board Elections	1983
1/14	Board Elections	1986
1/15	Board Elections	1987
1/16	Board Elections	1988
1/17	Board Elections	1989
1/18	Board Elections	1990
1/19	Board Elections	1991
1/20	Board Elections	1992
1/21	Board Elections	1993-1994
1/22	Board Elections	1995

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/23	Board Elections	1999
1/24	Board Elections	2000
1/25	Board Elections	2001
2/1	Bylaws & Procedures	1978-1988
2/2	Correspondence	1975
2/3	Correspondence	1977
2/4	Correspondence	1977
2/5	Correspondence	1979-1980
2/6	Correspondence	1982-1983
2/7	Kustina Lawsuit - Correspondence & Memos	1975-1976
2/8	Kustina Lawsuit - Correspondence & Memos	1976
2/9	Kustina Lawsuit - Correspondence & Memos	1977-1979
2/10	Kustina Lawsuit - Correspondence & Memos	1980-1987
2/11	Kustina Lawsuit - Correspondence & Memos	1990-1992
2/12	Kustina Lawsuit - Legal Documents	1977-1978
2/13	Kustina Lawsuit - Legal Documents, Appeals	1978-1979
2/14	Kustina Lawsuit - Legal Documents, Appeals	1986-1992
2/15	News Clippings	1976-1977
2/16	News Clippings	1978-1980
2/17	News Clippings	1989-1992
2/18	SEPA Declaration	1976

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2/19	Slides	

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Historic buildings--Washington (State)--Seattle

Historic preservation--Washington (State)--Seattle

Corporate Names :

Seattle (Wash.). Office of Urban Conservation

Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board

Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)

Finding aid prepared by Julie Kerssen
2006