Self-Guided Tours

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1) Walk Tour Brochure

The Tour Brochure provides brief descriptions of 30 Historic Downtown area sites and nine structures of the early 20th Century.

2) AHPB Interpretive Signs

Visit five Heritage Sites with interpretive signs.

Anacortes High School
Columbian School
1600 20th Street
Outside Anacortes High School’s Brodniak Hall

Cap Sante Park
Mill Row
Guemes Trail
Ship Harbor

Ship Harbor Blvd. to Edwards Way

Turn off Oakes Ave. onto Ship Harbor Blvd. Make your way left on Edwards Way down to the cul de sac on the Guemes Channel. If you walk to the left towards the ferry, you will find yourself at the Ship Harbor Interpretive Trail. Walking to the right puts you on the beginning of the Guemes Channel Trail and the interpretive sign.

Tommy Thompson Trail
Rail Link, Rogers Saw Mill Box Factory, Cavanaugh & Sons Shingle Mill, Anacortes Glass Company

Between 22nd and 30th Streets (parking lot adjacent Tommy Thompson Trail at 20th Street between T and V Avenues)

The Depot Arts & Community Center
Great Northern Depot
611 R Avenue
3) Find It!

_FIND IT! This Scavenger Hunt_ begins first with a description of a historic architectural feature and an example as described below. Then, hunt around Anacortes to find more examples.

**Susan Fahey’s Find It!**

_**Bow Ties**_

Many houses in Anacortes have a full or partial-width front porch with post and lintel construction. The posts, usually square columns, support the horizontal beam or lintel upon which the porch roof (or a wall) rests. Some porches, especially on craftsman houses, may have curved shapes attached to the beam between the columns as a decorative element.

Among many variations of this basic porch design is one that includes the “bow-tie,” a pair of elongated triangles with a central rectangular “knot” between columns in the front and side openings. The bow-tie is seen primarily on pre-1915 houses in Anacortes. Here is a bow-tie porch at 1120 8th Street. See if you can find other examples of this design.

**Susan Fahey’s Find It!**

_**Hood**_

A hood is a covering above a door or window that provides shelter as well as adding a decorative element to a building. Door hoods are attached with brackets, weight-bearing structural elements with two sides that form right angles with one side against a wall and the other under a projecting surface, often with a scroll-shaped profile. There are no posts to support the roof. In Anacortes, one can see the resulting small porch entries in many neighborhoods. They add architectural character to modest homes as well as to grander structures.

4) Anacortes Listed Properties

Visit these listed properties:

- Anacortes Carnegie Library, 1305 8th Street
- California Fruit Store, 909 Third Street
- Causland Park., Eighth Street And M Avenue
- Curtis Wharf, NW Corner Intersection of 0 Avenue and 2nd Street
- Fraternal Order of Eagles’ Anacortes Aerie #249, 901 7th Street
5) Downtown Then and Now

The Museum's online Then and Now database shows many downtown buildings. First visit the online resource to plan your own tour around downtown.

6) Completed House Histories

Enjoy a self-guided tour of the houses that received plaques for researching the history of the structure.

Completed House History Tour with map, architectural type/style, and historical summary.

PDF Completed House Histories. This document contains a list of houses, naming the original owners and researchers, as well as a brief explanation of the House History and Plaque program which encourages owners to research the history of their house and its residents. For comparison, houses that have maintained historic integrity (Lowman, Judd, and Eagles Hall) are eligible to become Registered properties.

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