

King County Landmark Nomination Guide



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BACKGROUND

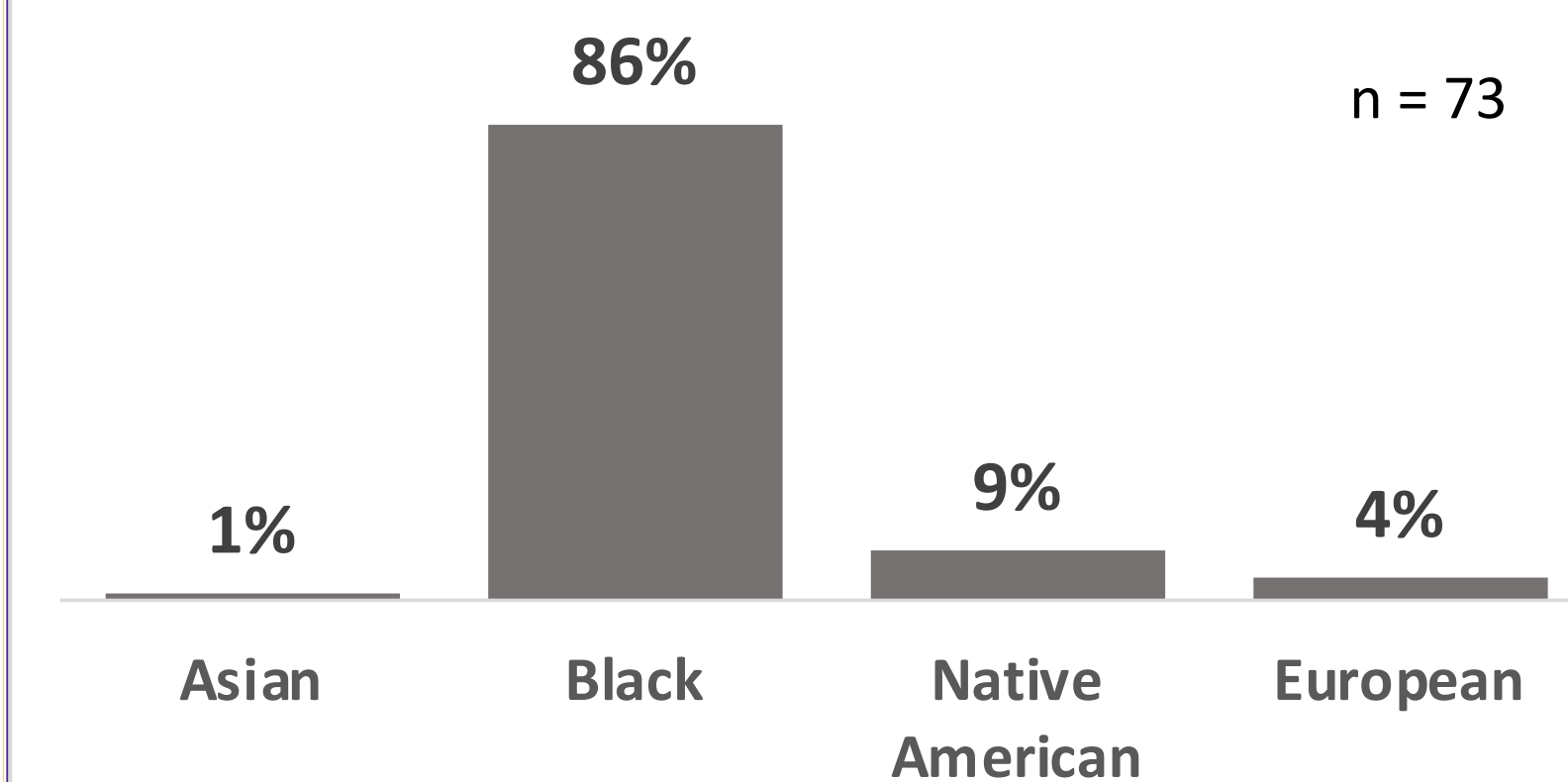
The field of historic preservation is a relatively inaccessible field as it contains multiple barriers to entry. One of the largest barriers being the direct cost of the process. This process requires hiring a consultant, which runs around \$5,000 to \$7,000. Another barrier includes the knowledge involved with public policy. The technical paperwork involved requires knowing how to complete historical/scientific research, write context statements, understand architectural infrastructure, understand government documentation, etc. These barriers result in a "diversity deficit" regarding the type of properties that get awarded nomination status.

This gap in representation, despite the lack of resources available to diverse cultural groups, can also be attributed to the type of structures that were connected to these groups. Many cultural histories remain unaccounted for due to their lack of architectural integrity, because of the status these groups carried in early periods. Many significant sites for diverse cultural groups involved open fields, labor camps, barrios, union halls, street-front churches, tenements, bunkhouses, cabins, factories, all places that did not survive intact. As a result of this inequity, the field of historic preservation has shifted to looking beyond architectural integrity and focusing more on the cultural significance of a site.

PURPOSE

This project, partnered with King County's Historic Preservation Program, aims to make the Landmark Registration more accessible by providing the necessary tools to individuals or members of the community, and lowering the barriers of the process, so that they can nominate their own culturally significant spaces without needing to hire a consultant.

Ethnic Heritage Associations



THE TECHNICAL GUIDE

Nomination Framework

- Breaks down the 9 sections involved in the nomination form, to create the framework for general landmark nomination.

Policy Review

- Provides explanations of criteria, policy terminology, and content that should be included.

Resource Sharing

- Directs users to useful online resources to find site information, images, archival material, legal descriptions, etc.

PART 1 – POLICY REVIEW

One portion of this project involved providing King County explanations of designation criteria as well as other desired content. It also involved discussing the meaning behind each section and providing resources for further discovery.

To be a designated, a nominated building, site, structure, object, or district must meet the designation requirements.

Once a user has identified their nomination criteria, they must provide evidence of why their space deserves to be nominated. This includes providing legal descriptions, legal documentation, as well as supporting significance documentation.

To be a King County landmark, a property must be proven to possess historic or cultural significance and integrity. Expanding on the chosen Criterion in Section 8, start by providing a summary of the designation criterion and how it applies to the property broadly.

King County's outstanding Context Statements, which provides the framework or the historical context for the property serve as useful examples.

King County's Midcentury Postwar Residential Context Statement that details the national economic, social, and cultural trends from the post-war era of 1946 to 1975 with specific determinants in the county's history.

PART 2 – RESOURCE SHARING

Another aspect of this project involved steering users towards available resources. This includes linking GIS systems, archives, available context statements, other historic preservation guides, and the like.

With this, descriptions on the type of content users should be looking for as well as where in these shared resources to find their desired content.

A guide that shares descriptions of the types of content as well as where they can be found is included.

PARCEL DATA			
Parcel	094200-0810	Jurisdiction	SEATTLE
Name	SEATTLE CITY OF FAS	Levy Code	0011
Site Address	600 4TH AVE	Property Type	C
Geo Area	30-40	Plat Block / Building Number	31
Spec Area	280-140	Plat Lot / Unit Number	ALL
Property Name	SEATTLE CITY HALL (SEATTLE MUNICIPAL BUILDING)	Quarter-Section-Township-Range	SW-32-25-4

Legal Description
BORENS C D ADD TGW VAC ALLEY LESS POR THOF FOR 4TH AVE
PLat Block: 31
Plat Lot: ALL

IMPACTS

Encouragement to protect culturally significant spaces.

Deeper knowledge of the Landmark Nomination Process and how to navigate it.

Tools to provide culturally significant spaces for community members in King County.

REFERENCES

- Olson, Anneka (2017) "Integrity & Incentives: Seeking Equity in Historic Preservation Law," Access*: Interdisciplinary Journal of Student Research and Scholarship: Vol. 1 : Iss. 1 , Article 2.
- Data analyzed using the National Register of Historic Places
- Historic Preservation Program and Department of Natural Resources and Parks. King County Landmark Designation and Certificate of Appropriateness Process. Technical Paper No.4. King County, Seattle, WA. Revised 12/22.
- <https://kingcounty.gov/en/legacy/services/gis/maps/parcel-viewer>