



Blue Star Memorial By-Way

Artist Stuart Nakamura honors the rich, local history of the Kent Japanese-American community and the tragic impact of the incarceration during World War II. The ties between the Issei, immigrants from Japan, and their succeeding generations are symbolized by the rope design leading from the rock to the concrete pillar. The bench, a partial outline of a flower, and the granite vegetable and flower engravings, represent the agricultural heritage of the Issei. Memories of the Japanese American Legacy in the White River Valley are quoted from the Nisei community, their friends and neighbors are imbedded in the walkway.



Greater Kent Historical Society

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Thank You!

Thank you to 4Culture for our Historical Heritage Kent Grant. Also, to the City of Kent for their continued support of the Greater Kent Historical Society and the Kent Museum.



National Trust for Historic Preservation®

Welcome Figure



Another Place, Another Time



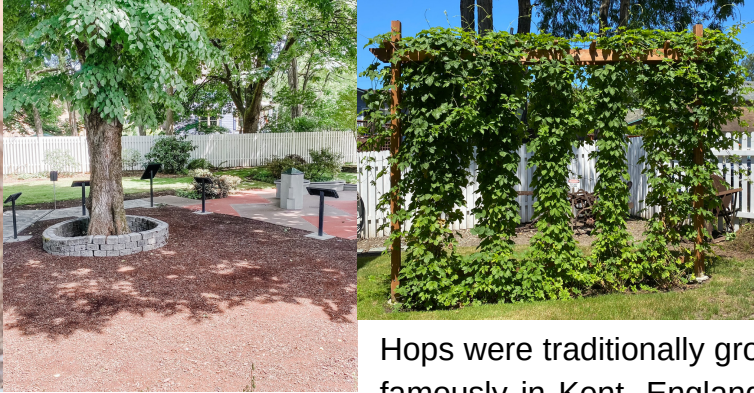
Mike 'didahalqid' Evans from the Snohomish Tribe of Indians (STI), is carving the "Welcome Figure" which is a traditional wood carving. These figures were found on the beach in front of the Longhouse. It is made of Western Red Cedar. Cedar is rot resistant and easy to carve. It was used for house post and beams and for wall and roof planks. It was used for various canoes. Cedar roots, limbs and bark was used to make baskets. Cedar bark was used to make clothing, ropes and many other things.

ANOTHER PLACE. ANOTHER TIME
Stuart S. Nakamura, 1997
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Stuart S. Nakamura, artist

City of Kent Arts Commission
Kent Parks and Recreation Department

1997.06

850 FEET SOUTH OF THIS MONUMENT
IS THE SITE OF
FORT THOMAS
ERECTED IN 1825 BY THE 14th REGIMENT US INFANTRY
FOR THE PROTECTION OF PIONEER SETTLERS
IN THE WHITE AND GREEN RIVER VALLEYS
DONATED BY
AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 15, KENT
AND THE WHITE RIVER VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SPONSORED BY
355TH CIVIL AFFAIRS BRIGADE US ARMY RESERVE
21 APRIL 1974



River Boat Landings

There are eight elevated, restored plaques explaining the historic monument sites, positioned north to south, just as the landings geographically functioned more than 160 years ago. Each plaque represents a landing and its pioneer, bearing such names as Van Doren, Neely, Downey, Langston, Saar and Alvord. Pioneers of the 1860s and '70s established small port-like boat landings along its winding reach through, the heart of a fertile, agricultural valley. As many as 16 riverboats drifted up and down the river at one time, historians say, along with the occasional canoe and pole-driven scow. The landings were important places, connecting communities with the outside world, a portal where goods were shipped out and brought in and where mail was delivered. Many of the landings supported a cable ferry crossing, an important service since there were no bridges across the river at the time, and Military Road represented the area's only significant route connecting north and south.

Local Hops

Hops were traditionally grown in Europe, most famously in Kent, England. But in the 1860s, Europe's hops fields were destroyed by aphids, the market looked to another source for hops. Washington had similar growing conditions to England, abundant available land, and a fertile valley close to a major port. Hops flowers that were grown, picked, and dried, could be sold at high prices and shipped around the globe. The hops on our grounds are from some of the original hop crops grown here in Kent. They were found, saved and replanted here at the museum, and continue to flower and flourish.

Bereiter House Window Tour



Even though the interior of the museum is closed, feel free to walk along the porch and peek in the windows. There are brief descriptions in each window of the rooms at the front of the Bereiter House. View Mayor Bereiter's office, staircase leading to the bedrooms, and the living room where the Bereiter family relaxed. Enjoy this sneak peek,



GREATER KENT
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Self-Guided Walking Tour

Welcome to the Greater Kent Historical Society. Please use this as a guide to explore the Bereiter House grounds. For more information, please visit our website:

kenthistoricalmuseum.org