



Quilcene Historical Museum

151 Columbia Street ♦ PO Box 574 ♦ Quilcene, WA 98376
www.quilcenemuseum.org ♦ quilcenemuseum@olympen.com ♦ 360-765-4848

Worthington Park, Quilcene



Why We Need Help to “Raise the Roof”

Progress to Date

Begun in 2011 and completed in 2013, the Quilcene Historical Museum succeeded in a capital campaign for the purchase of the Worthington estate, raising \$360,000. This was accomplished through fundraisers, private donations and match programs, and a \$57,000 grant from the C. Keith Birkenfeld Memorial Trust. It also turned a private residence into a community asset by providing a place for public events and community activities. The campaign, “Ten Acres of Possibilities,” served to revitalize the community.

In July 2013, the Museum received a Washington State Historic Preservation Registry by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. The nomination was based on the historic and cultural significance of the Hamilton and Worthington families, and on the architectural significance of the house.

Also in 2013, the Museum embarked on a program to rehabilitate the 1892 Victorian Hamilton-Worthington House, barn, outbuildings, and adjoining ten acres. The 14-room mansion is the only one of its style, size, and historic/cultural significance in rural Jefferson County. The long-range plan was divided into Five Phases. Phase I was to purchase the entire property and rename it Worthington Park. Phases II–V include the exterior and interior rehabilitation of the House, creating trails along the adjoining Little Quilcene River, repurposing the barn, and managing the land and forested areas.

For Phase II — building a new foundation, removal of the existing roof and returning the third-floor Mansard roof of its day to the mansion — the Museum was awarded a Washington State Commerce Department grant of \$210,000. The critical foundation project was completed late fall 2013/early winter 2014 with significant volunteer labor and financial support from Phase I funds.

What is the Current Need?

In 2011, when the Museum first approached Eileen Worthington with the possibility of the Museum acquiring her home, it was almost entirely shrouded in trees and brush. As a result of this shrouding, the home had evidence of pest infestation (post beetles), dry rot, and extensive weather/moisture damage. In the 1930s, the 1892 Mansard roof was removed and replaced with a gabled roof. Since that time a series of devastating leaks to the shell and interior of the house have occurred.

In November of 2013, the Museum hosted a meeting to gather together and capture the vision that the community and Museum members held for Worthington Park. All aspects of the mansion and the ten acres were explored. Doing whatever it took to restore the Mansard Roof and the third floor was unanimous.

Because of the age and significance of the Hamilton-Worthington House, an Historic Structures Report from the firm of Tonkin Architecture was completed, providing cost estimates that have been used for budgeting and engineering purposes.

The longer the house sits in its current condition, the more work and expense is created. The sooner that Phase II is completed, the sooner work can begin on Phase III—the interior restoration and rebuilding the two porches. When Phase III is completed, the mansion can be safely returned to public use and revenue generation.

Proud members of the following:

National Trust for Historic Preservation ♦ Washington State Historical Society ♦ Washington Museum Association
Jefferson County Historical Society ♦ North Hood Canal Chamber of Commerce

Why We Need Your Help Now?

While the Museum is grateful to have the Washington State Commerce Department's \$210,000 grant, it is not enough financial support to cover the cost of Phase II. While the Museum's Fund Development Committee is dedicated to finding private foundation and corporate funding, they cannot do it alone.

We know from our contact with various historic preservation agencies and organizations that the extraordinary role of volunteers and donors has captured the attention of many people. We have the support of our elected state and local representatives, and are guided by professionally determined costs and timelines for completion. We received project validation through community goal-setting meetings, and are supported by the incredible "people" resources in the form of over 6400 volunteer hours dedicated in 2013 to the Museum and Worthington Park. All of these factors bolster our confidence that this is the best time for your support. We are, as the funders like to say, "shovel ready" to complete Phase II.

When Phases I – V are completed, Worthington Park will:

- Increase the intended audiences, goals and vision of the Quilcene Historical Museum to provide a learning space, artifacts, documents, and photos to be accessed by visitors—young and old.
- Offer a specific historical destination for visitors with events and activities.
- Provide a large park-like setting for group events and the opportunity for visitors to experience specific cultural and historic periods in the mansion.
- Raise local awareness of the cultural aspects of Quilcene and the Olympic Peninsula as well as the value of historic preservation.

Taking on a project the size and scope of the Hamilton-Worthington House and Park has a steep learning curve. There is fundraising, managing volunteers, working with architects and engineers, complying with various codes, and meeting the complex requirements of state funds we've received for preservation. What the Museum board, volunteers, and the community *didn't have to learn*, but have come to value even more, is the power of preserving a town's history. What could have been allowed to fail is in the process of being saved. It is a daily reminder to the community and visitors alike that our history and culture matter.



Phase I – Purchase, site preparation and the Linger Longer Performance stage construction. Completed July, 2013 Total cost booked - \$372,932.

Phase II – Shell rehabilitation of the Hamilton-Worthington House based on the Historic Structures Report done by Tonkin Architecture. Remove and rebuild failed foundation. Completed in Spring 2014. Replace existing failing roof with Mansard style roof circa 1892. Projected Completion: Fall of 2015. Estimated costs: \$469,455.

Phase III - Rehabilitation of the interior spaces and porches of the Hamilton-Worthington House. An ADA bathroom will be retrofitted in the former ground floor bath area. The kitchen will be renovated, repairs and other code changes will be made, and new lighting will be installed. Damaged walls and ceilings will be repaired, painted or papered. Windows will be repaired and insulated, and the floors will be refinished. Projected Completion Winter of 2016. Estimated costs: \$365,928.

Phase IV - Furnishings. Cash allowance to provide movable furnishings for the house. Projected Completion: Spring of 2017. Estimated Costs: \$75,000.

Phase V - Grounds and site work for outbuildings and the ten acres. Projected Completion: Summer of 2017. Estimated Costs: \$140,186.

*The mission of the Museum is to preserve
the past for the present and future generations.*