

ASUW Shell House Restoration



CUCAC Briefing - June 11, 2024



Welcome—

Land Acknowledgement

The University of Washington, acknowledges the Coast Salish peoples of this land, the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip, and Muckleshoot nations.

Introductions —

Sydney Thiel, Project Manager
UW Facilities, Project Delivery Group



Owner/Client:
University of Washington

Design Builder:
Mithun/Sellen

Project Overview—

The image shows the interior of a rustic wooden cabin. On the left, a large wooden door with a corrugated metal lower half is partially visible. To its right, a tall, narrow window with a grid pattern allows bright light to enter. The walls are made of dark, rich wood with vertical paneling. On the right side, there is a smaller window with a grid pattern, looking out onto green trees. Below this window, a wooden bench holds several metal buckets or containers. The ceiling is also made of dark wood with exposed beams. The overall atmosphere is warm and natural.

Location



Drumheller Fountain

UW Seattle Campus

UW Medical Center

Montlake Cut

Husky Stadium

UW Station

Conibear Shellhouse

WAC

ASUW Shell House

Union Bay Natural Area

Laurelhurst

Union Bay

Washington Park Arboretum

Google



Current Conditions —



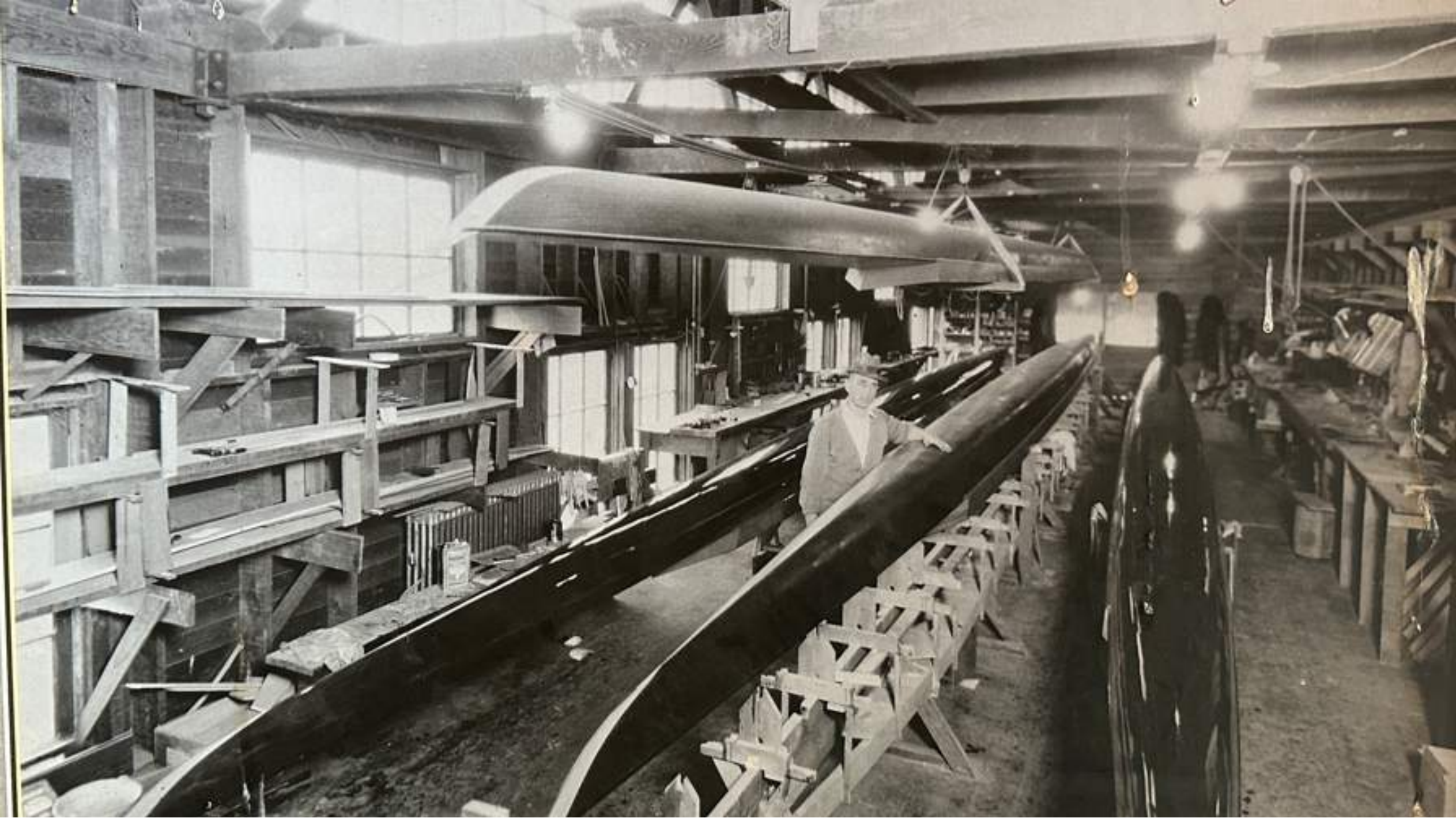
Current Conditions —

Current Conditions



Current Conditions





Project Goals—

1. Integrate the Shell House into the **UW student experience**
2. **Honor the site's former use** as a portage by Indigenous peoples
3. Create a **premier venue** for conversations and collaborations between local community leaders and the University
4. **Catalyze and activate** the UW's 2.1 miles of waterfront
5. **Build local and national visibility** for the Shell House and its history

Project Objectives—

1. **Restore and maintain** the historic landmark status of the 1918 facility as a **waterfront destination, event venue, and campus gathering space**
2. Support **transcultural teaching, learning, and community engagement** in a manner than is open and welcoming to all
3. **Preserve the unique features** of the structure including the exterior presence, exposed wood timbers, impressive hangar doors, and grand scale
4. **Modernize** utility infrastructure, overall accessibility, thermal comfort, and life-safety measures
5. **Celebrate the legacy, values, and innovative spirit** embodied by the **1936 Olympic Rowing Team** and **George Pocock** boat design

Project Scope—

The **scope of work** developed for this project will address code-related improvements required by program-related enhancements and the change of occupancy from a storage to an assembly occupancy.

Required code-related scope:

1. Structural stabilization
2. Site work + utility infrastructure
3. Accessibility improvements
4. Building envelope thermal insulation, heating and ventilation, fire and life safety, & restrooms
5. Stabilization of the existing hangar doors



Project Scope (continued)—

Aspirational Program improvements include:

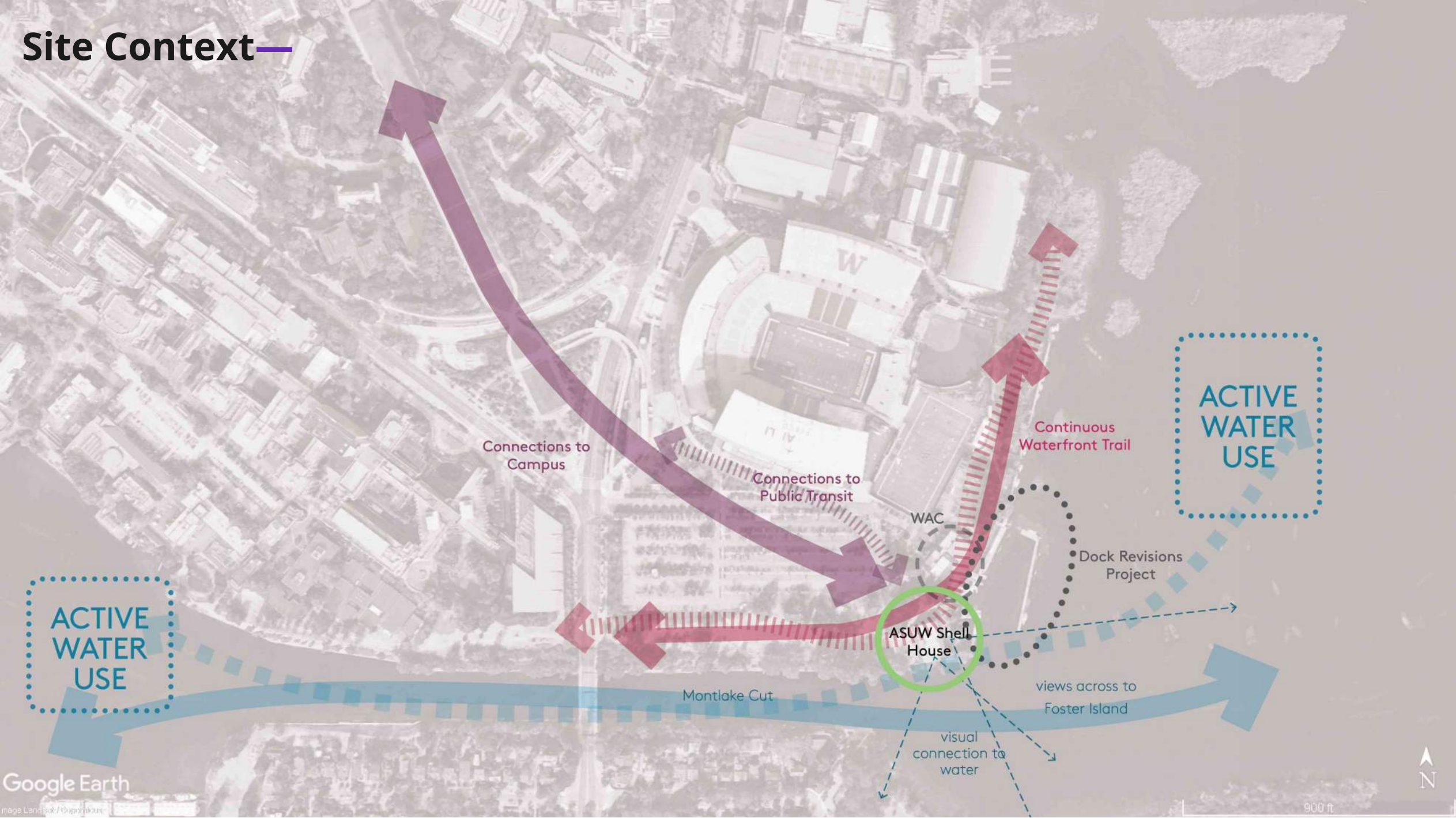
1. Event Space for large groups in the main hanger
2. Retention of the Pocock boat building workshop
3. Active learning and support spaces
4. Interactive exhibits displaying the building's rich history
5. Creation of an exterior deck as an extension of the interior space on the south side of the building





Active Pursuits—

Site Context



Connections to Campus

Connections to Public Transit

Continuous Waterfront Trail

ACTIVE WATER USE

ACTIVE WATER USE

WAC

Dock Revisions Project

ASUW Shell House

Montlake Cut

views across to Foster Island

visual connection to water

Landmark Preservation

The features of the Landmark to be preserved include: the exterior of the building; the interior building volume and roof trusswork; and a portion of the site around the building perimeter measured twenty feet out from base of the building.

Issued: April 20, 2018



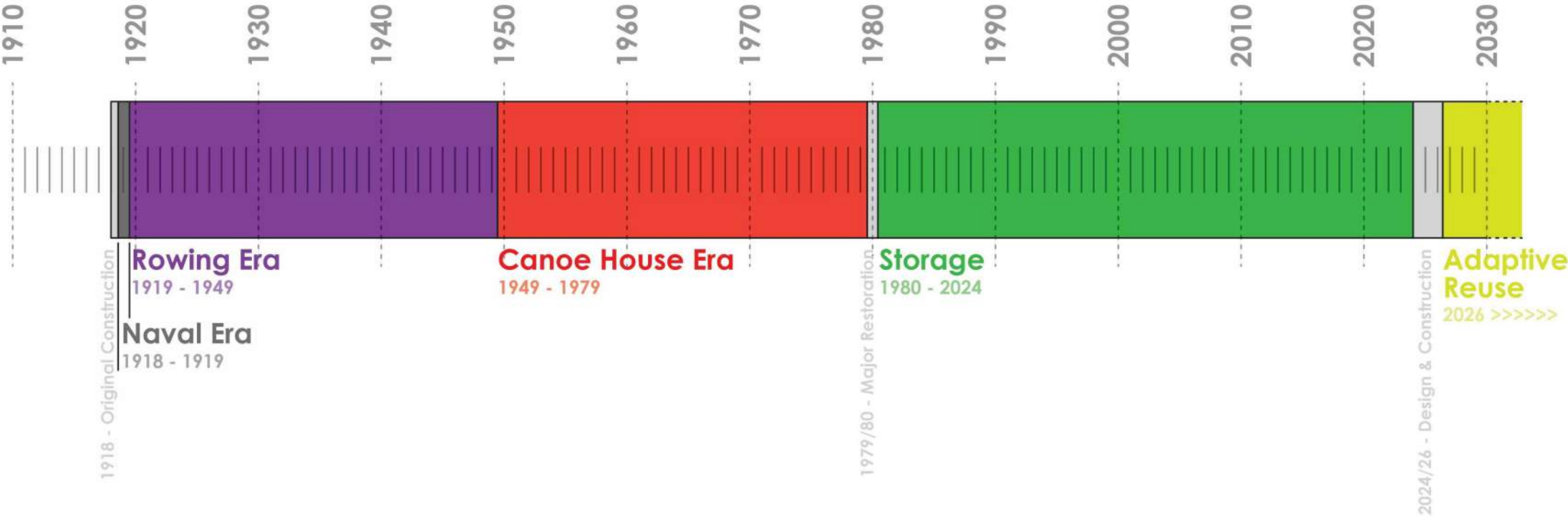
Sarah Sodt
City Historic Preservation Officer



Timeline & Research—

The team is building a site and building timeline and analyzing what existing elements are historic, from the era of significance, or have been altered through subsequent renovations.

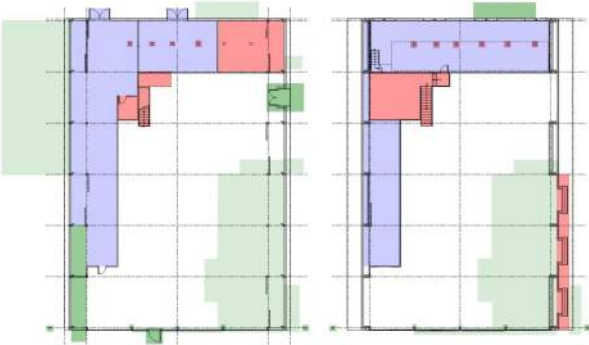
This information and analysis will inform the landmark approach to the building exterior and interior, as well as the site design.



Timeline & Research

Building History

1980 - Current



- 1980-Current
- 1949-1979 Canoe House
- 1918-1949 Rowing Era
- 1918 Navy Era

1980 - Current



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Site Development Highlights—

No in-water work

Seismic upgrades and restoration of building envelope

Negligible change in massing associated with added exterior insulation

Improved emergency access and creation of a front-door experience for the renovated shell house



Exterior Renewal Highlights—

Replace exterior finishes to improve envelope performance and add insulation without modifying landmark interior.

Restore historic windows where possible, replace later-era windows as needed with insulated glazing.

Improve egress, entry sequence, and explore opportunities to increase water-side visibility and access.



Next steps—

Milestone Schedule

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Project Definition/Design | Nov 2023 – Dec 2024 |
| 2. Permitting | Apr 2024 – Apr 2025 |
| 3. Construction | April 2025 – June 2026 |
| 4. Target Move-In | Summer 2026 |



Thank you! —