



The City of Seattle

## Landmarks Preservation Board

400 Yesler Building

~~XXXXXX Building~~ Seattle, Washington 98104 • (206) 625-4501

LPB-121/78

### REPORT ON DESIGNATION

May 30, 1978

NAME OF PROPERTY: The Brill Trolley #798

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Not Applicable

OWNER: METRO (Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle)  
821 2nd Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98104

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DESIGNATION

On May 14, 1978, the Landmarks Preservation Board conducted a Public Hearing to consider the designation of the Brill Trolley #798 as a Seattle Landmark. After receiving evidence and hearing testimony, the Board voted to approve designation of the object as a Seattle Landmark; those significant features of the object are:

- the exterior including color scheme, and  
the interior of the trolley.

The Board finds that this object merits designation on the basis of the following criteria of Landmarks Preservation Ordinance 106348:

Sec. 3.01

- (3) It is associated in a significant way with a significant aspect of the cultural, political, or economic heritage of the community, city, state or nation; or

This trackless trolley was one of a fleet of 100 ordered by the City and constructed by



Sec. 3.01 (3) cont.

Pacific Car and Foundry Co. in Renton as an attempt to counteract Seattle's depression era economy; this was not only to be accomplished by having the cards manufactured here, but to demonstrate faith in the city by improvement of its transit system. This "act of faith" was of immeasurable importance in providing much needed transportation facilities with the influx of workers and the military with the advent of World War II.


Sec. 3.01

(4) It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, or period, or of a method of construction;

Late thirties form; art deco details (paint job, fabric, etc.)

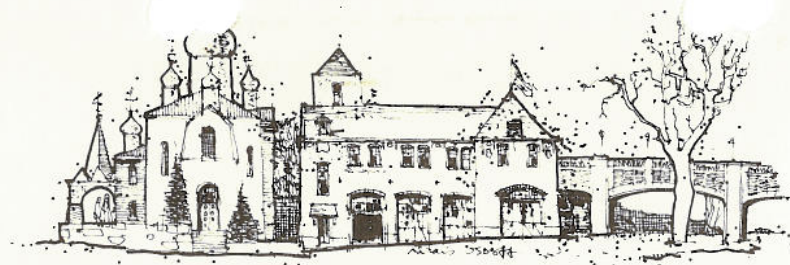
Issued May 30, 1978

Earl D. Layman  
City Historic Preservation Officer

By:   
Roberta Deering  
Board Coordinator

RD:hg





## City of Seattle

Department of Community Development/Office of Urban Conservation

## Landmark Nomination Form

Name Brill Trolley No. 798 Year Built\* 1940  
(Common, present or historic)

- ☒ Landmark  
☐ Landmark Site  
☐ Both

Street and Number NA

Assessor's File No. NA

Legal Description Plat Name NA Block NA Lot NA

Present Owner Metro, Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle Present Use Trolley bus

Address Exchange Building, 821 Second Avenue, Seattle

Original Owner Seattle Transit System Original Use Trolley bus

Designer

Architect J.C. Brill Company, Philadelphia Builder Pacific Car and Foundry Co., Renton

## Designation Criteria:

Standards for Designation of Landmark Sites and Landmarks. (Ordinance 106348 Section 3.01). An object, site or improvement which is more than twenty-five (25)\* years old may be designated for preservation as a landmark site or landmark if it has significant character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, state, or nation and if it falls into one of the following categories:

Explain and list documentation supporting each criterion checked: (use additional sheets if needed for detailed descriptions of property, historical significance, etc. as applicable.)

- ☒ (1) It is the location of, or is associated in a significant way with, an historic event with a significant effect upon the community, city, state or nation; or

- ☐ (2) It is associated in a significant way with the life of a person important in the history of the city, state, or nation; or

- ☒ (3) It is associated in a significant way with a significant aspect of the cultural, political, or economic heritage of the community, city, state or nation; or

This <sup>trrolley</sup> trolley was one of a fleet of 100 ordered by the City and constructed by Pacific Car and Foundry Co. in Renton as an attempt to counteract Seattle's depression era economy; this was not only to be accomplished by having the cars manufactured here, but to demonstrate faith in the city by improvement of its transit system. This "act of faith" was of immeasurable importance in providing much needed transportation facilities with the influx of workers and the military with the advent of World War II.

- ☒ (4) It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, or period, or of a method of construction; or

Late Thirties form; art deco details (Paint job, fabric etc.)

- ☐ (5) It is an outstanding work of a designer or builder; or

- ☐ (6) Because of its prominence of spatial location, contrasts of siting, age, or scale, it is an easily identifiable visual feature of its neighborhood or the city and contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of such neighborhood or the city;

Photographs:

Submitted by Councilman Benson  
Earl D. Layman

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date 15 October 1977

Reviewed   
Historic Preservation Officer

Date 22 May 1978