

Historic Preservation

Heritage Grant Program - Thurston County

Drew Hodges & Brittany Gillia August 20, 2025

Objective:

- Digitize all Historic Records from 1984 to present.
- Complete it in a timely manner.
- Create a database that can be used by the public and Staff.

Tasks:

 Scan every single file and store it into a manageable Database structure for our present Historic Preservation Official and for future officials efficiently.

- Establish an interactive database that can be traversed efficiently and easily with little to no knowledge of GIS.
- Create a publicly accessible Story map and Dashboard for anyone interested in the History of Olympia

Purpose:

- Ensure that our History as a city is transparent and viewable for future generations.
- To protect valued establishments that helped shape our culture.
- Create proper documentation for Historic Preservation Officials.
- Fascinate public viewers about History.

04/08/2025

City Of Olympia recieves approval for grant

01/07/2025

Grant receives extention to extend deadline.

6/30/2025



Grant officially ends,
All Digitizing complete
and next phase
begins.

6/30/2025

Begin to organize internal data structure.

7/28/2025

GIS integration is beginning to develop.

8/05/2025

2 different Companies are in the final selection process to be used as an online database.

TBD

Once the Online database distributor is chosen, the last step in integrating all the data into an interactive GIS application will be put into full swing!

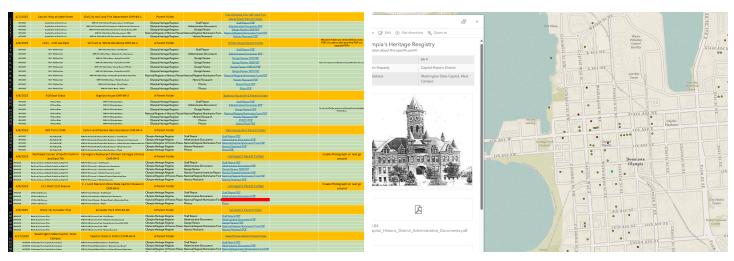
Progress of The Grant





One box worth of OHR Files out of 8.

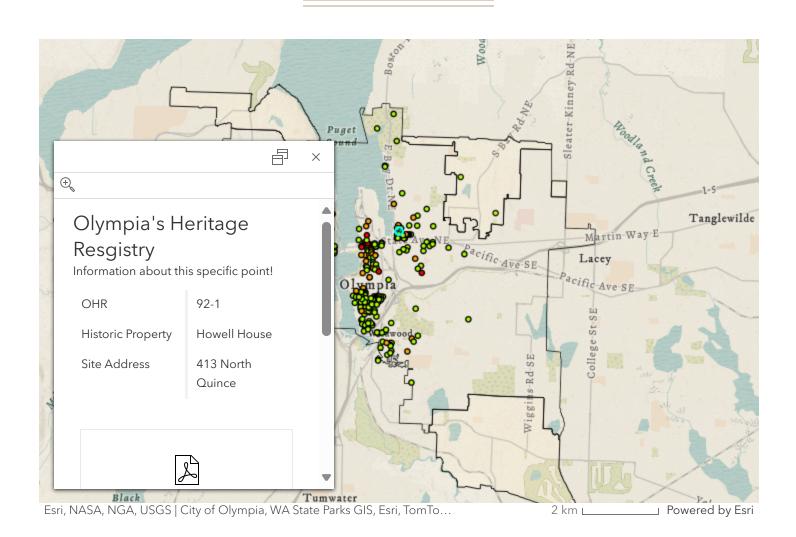
How do thousands of PDF files integrate into GIS?



Placeholder for Conversion

• The beauty of GIS is that you are able to integrate a complex excel spreadsheet into a simple interactive map that can be easily digested and traversed for public and private use.

 Instead of looking at an address through a spreadsheet with values that may confuse the intended audience, you are given access to an interactive map that doesn't overload your senses when trying to learn about our history!



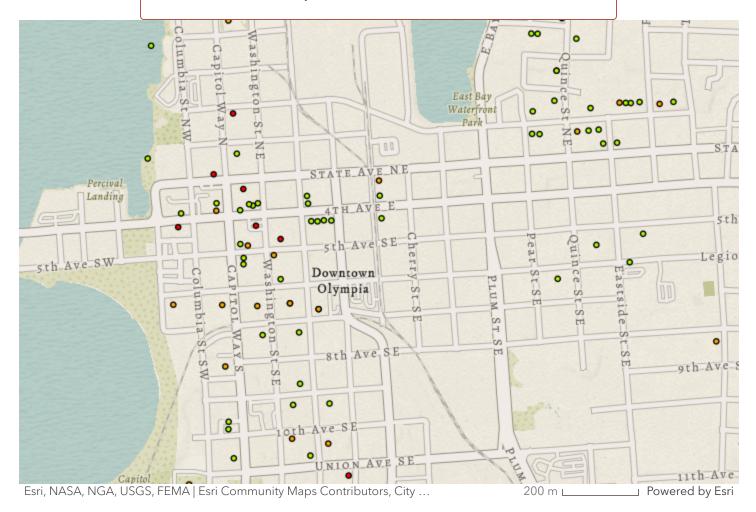
This is an example of what we're looking forward to in the future of integrating GIS with our Historic Preservation!

These buttons are to simplify this presentation but when interacting with the map, clicking any point will open up simple information on what the point is and will give you attachments that further explain the properties history!

Howell House!

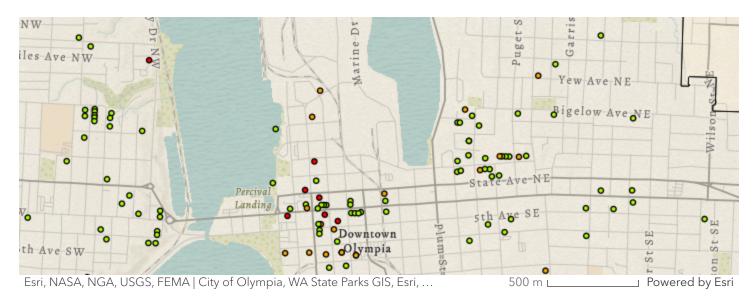
Old Thurston Courthouse!

Capitol Historic District!



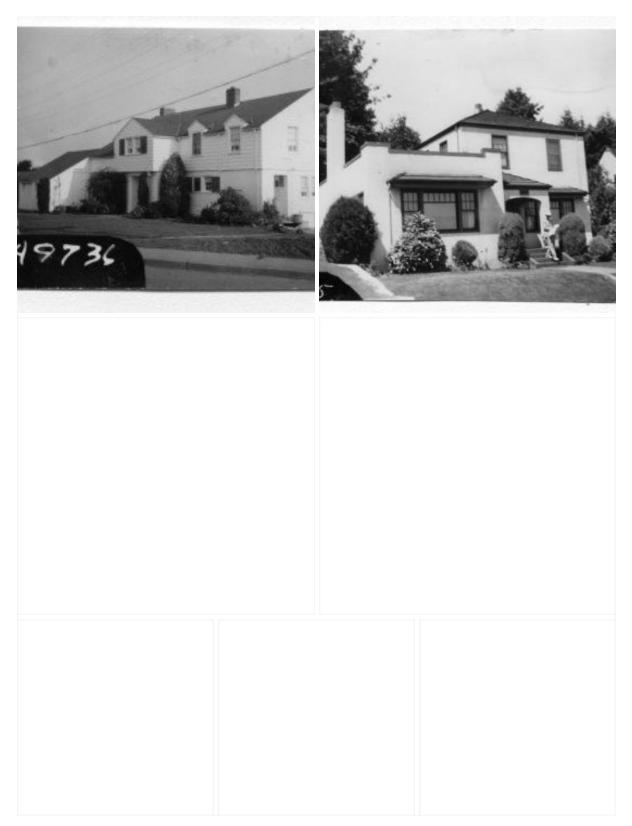
With the GIS implementation, the Historic Preservation Officer can use the integrated GIS tool to develop tours with the most optimal route. This tool will also be available for public use as well!

Tour Route!



For Historic Preservation Officer use, the user can easily search up the OHR Number or the Historic Property by name and it will populate and focus on the said feature point pulling all the data related to the property!

Interesting Photos I've gathered from the Olympia Heritage Register So Far



All photos included were submitted for their OHR Submittal/Request.

I am grateful for this given opportunity to work on this project!

- Drew Hodges, Brittany Gillia