

TO: HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

THROUGH: Lisa Anderson-Ogilvie, AICP, Deputy Community Development Director and Planning Administrator

FROM: Austin Ross, Planner I

SUBJECT: Salem Heritage Neighborhood – Highland

ISSUE:

Initiation of the At Home in Highland historic architecture project.

INFORMATION REPORT:

Discuss a new project to survey and highlight the historic architectural styles found in the Highland Heritage Neighborhood.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND:

The Salem Neighborhood Heritage Program was originally authorized by City Council in 2014 for implementation by the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) as part of their public outreach and education program. This program is intended to encourage Salem neighborhoods to celebrate their history and provide an opportunity for them to engage in a positive way with the City's Historic Preservation Program.

The City of Salem currently has three designated Heritage Neighborhoods: SESNA, Grant, and Highland. The Highland neighborhood received the Heritage Neighborhood designation in 2021. SESNA and Grant have architectural guides, and now staff is working with Highland Neighborhood Association to produce a similar guide and conduct a reconnaissance level survey (RLS) in the neighborhood. Additional intensive level survey (ILS) will be completed by a historic consultant and will serve to support the development of additional educational materials for the Heritage Neighborhood.

TIMELINE: Below is a draft project schedule.

1. *June 2022 – Project Kickoff:* Initial meetings to define the scope of the project and establish a project committee chaired by Leigha Tracy-Gaynair
2. *Summer/Fall 2022 - Survey and Data Collection:* Project committee and volunteers work on RLS.
 - a. Coordinate survey training for volunteers
 - b. Volunteers to survey historic resources in the project area and locate interesting neighborhood examples of architecture or significant places for further research
 - c. Staff to Identify architectural styles
3. *Fall/Winter 2022/23 - Develop Architectural Guide and Continue Survey:*
 - a. Historic Consultant to complete research on ILS identified properties

- b. Staff to compile ILS research, preliminary RLS results, and neighborhood examples into draft guidebook with input from committee
- c. Volunteers finish collecting any remaining survey data
- d. Staff and committee to review draft, incorporate any additional survey data, and complete guidebook

4. *End of Year 2022 – Complete Guidebook and Survey:*

- a. Present completed guidebook and review of survey results to project committee and HLC
- b. Revise as needed and develop implementation plan for additional educational projects for historic preservation work in Highland

Volunteer Support Opportunities

Volunteering for architectural survey fieldwork and historic research is a great way for residents of the Highland Heritage Neighborhood to engage with the HLC and learn more about this history of their neighborhood. A draft flier with neighborhood volunteer opportunities is attached (**Attachment B**).

In addition to participating on the Heritage Committee, we also need help from neighborhood residents in these areas:

1. **Field Work Volunteers** - Essential to conducting RLS. This work will involve walking the neighborhood and recording information regarding each property on smartphones. Training will be provided to volunteers.
2. **Research Volunteers** – Support consultant research on a limited number of key properties in developing ILS.

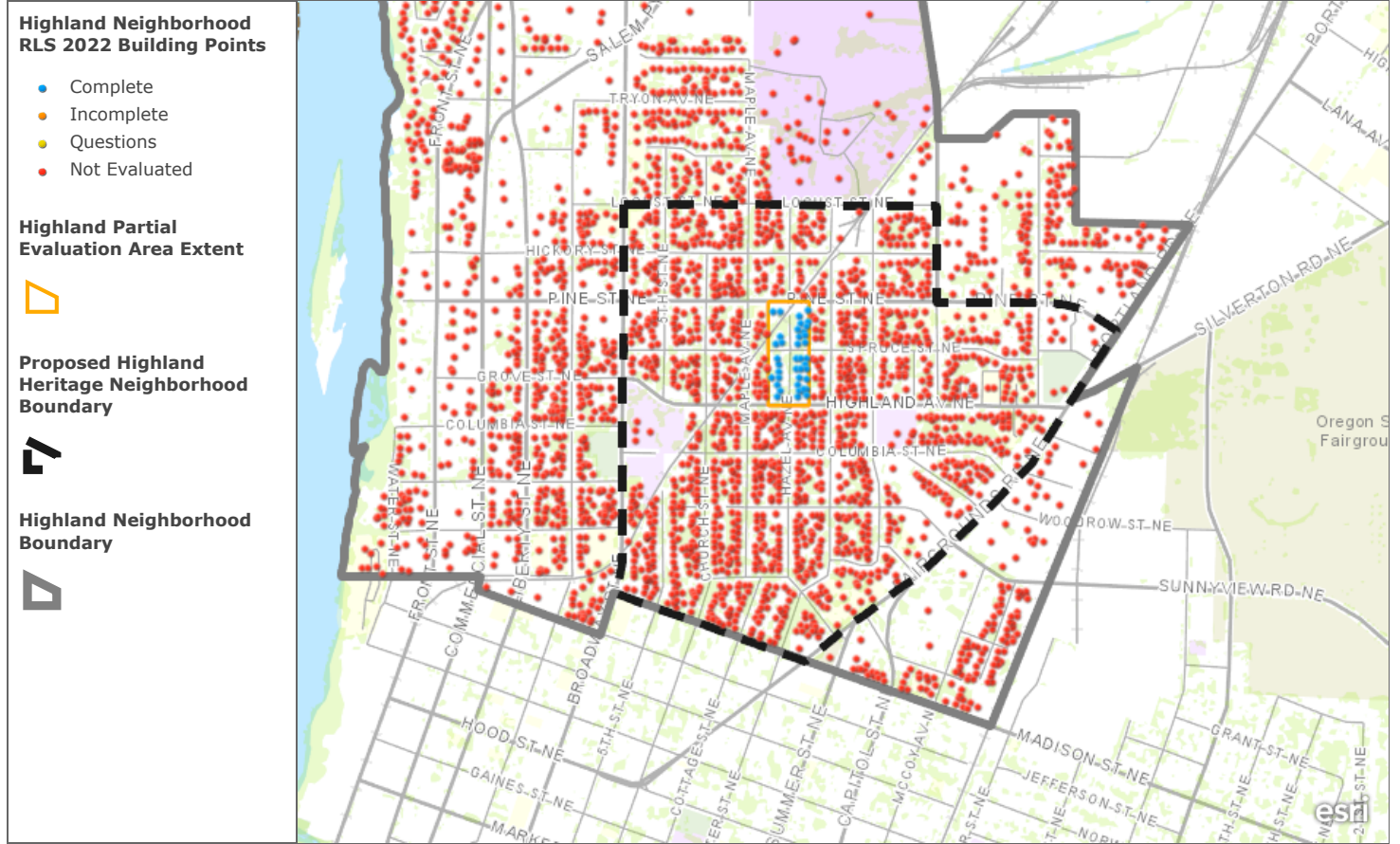
HLC Support Opportunities

Members of the HLC can support this effort in three potential ways:

1. **HLC Liaison to Highland Heritage Committee.** HLC member needed to attend regular Heritage Neighborhood Committee meetings to provide input on the project development and report back to the HLC on the progress of the project. The HLC project liaison will also provide regular content about the project to share on the HLC's social media.
2. **HLC Volunteer for RLS Field Work:** Members of the HLC can support this effort by helping to conduct the reconnaissance level survey. This is a great way to explore the Highland neighborhood, enjoy its architectural style, promote historic preservation, and get some exercise!
3. **HLC Volunteer for ILS Research:** We will be able to complete ten Intensive Level Surveys for interesting properties in the Highland Neighborhood- however if HLC members can assist with research, then we would be able to complete additional ILS work for properties in the neighborhood.

Attachment: (A) Highland Heritage Neighborhood Boundary Map and Project Area
(B) Draft Flier – Neighborhood Opportunities for Volunteering

Highland Neighborhood RLS 2022



Highland Neighborhood RLS 2022

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SALEM HERITAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

Volunteer Opportunities



Neighborhood Heritage Committee: Volunteers are needed from the neighborhood to serve on the Heritage Committee to provide input on the project development and report back to the larger Neighborhood Association.

Field Work Volunteers: General volunteers are needed to complete the historic architectural survey in your neighborhood using your smartphone. Training will be provided!

Research Volunteers: Volunteers are needed to assist with additional historic research on a key number of properties and developing content for interpretive panels in your neighborhood.

