

**Introduction**

Our topic is archaeological trends throughout Whatcom County. We are focusing on Fairhaven, WA and the trends between the architectural styles within the buildings/structures that have been built throughout its history. We have been researching the different materials/'trends' that have been used when it comes to the buildings in Fairhaven. Fairhaven's archaeological sense is mottled off the past, the three main styles are Queen Anne, Italianate, and Richardsonian Romanesque styles common in the district. The Pacific Northwest art culture has always been a landmark for Washington state, however what else is a noticeable trend that differs Fairhaven from the other cities in Whatcom County.

**Research Question & Background**

After reading up on Fairhaven's architectural designs, there was a realization that the main material used in the buildings have been brick. The hypothesis we came up with was that in order to have a strong structure you will need to use brick, especially at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. You go to Fairhaven you will see either a brick building or a brick hybrid dominant number of buildings, which will prove our thesis on the dominate style withing the buildings in Fairhaven. To prove our hypothesis one of us walked approximately 2 blocks of downtown Fairhaven comparing buildings to see if they were "brick/brick-hybrid or non-brick." After walking and seeing 20 different buildings. Out of those 20 buildings 12 of them were purely brick, 4 of them were brick hybrid and the other 4 were non-brick/hybrid.

**Methods**

**Materials & Location**

Notepad, pen, laptop, mode of transportation, phones camera

Bellingham, WA

Fairhaven, WA

**Procedure**

On November 19<sup>th</sup> we met up at the Bellingham bus station and walked around downtown tallying the amount of buildings comparing them from brick stye to non brick style. Once we finished we headed to Fairhaven to do the same thing. We also took pictures from our cellphones

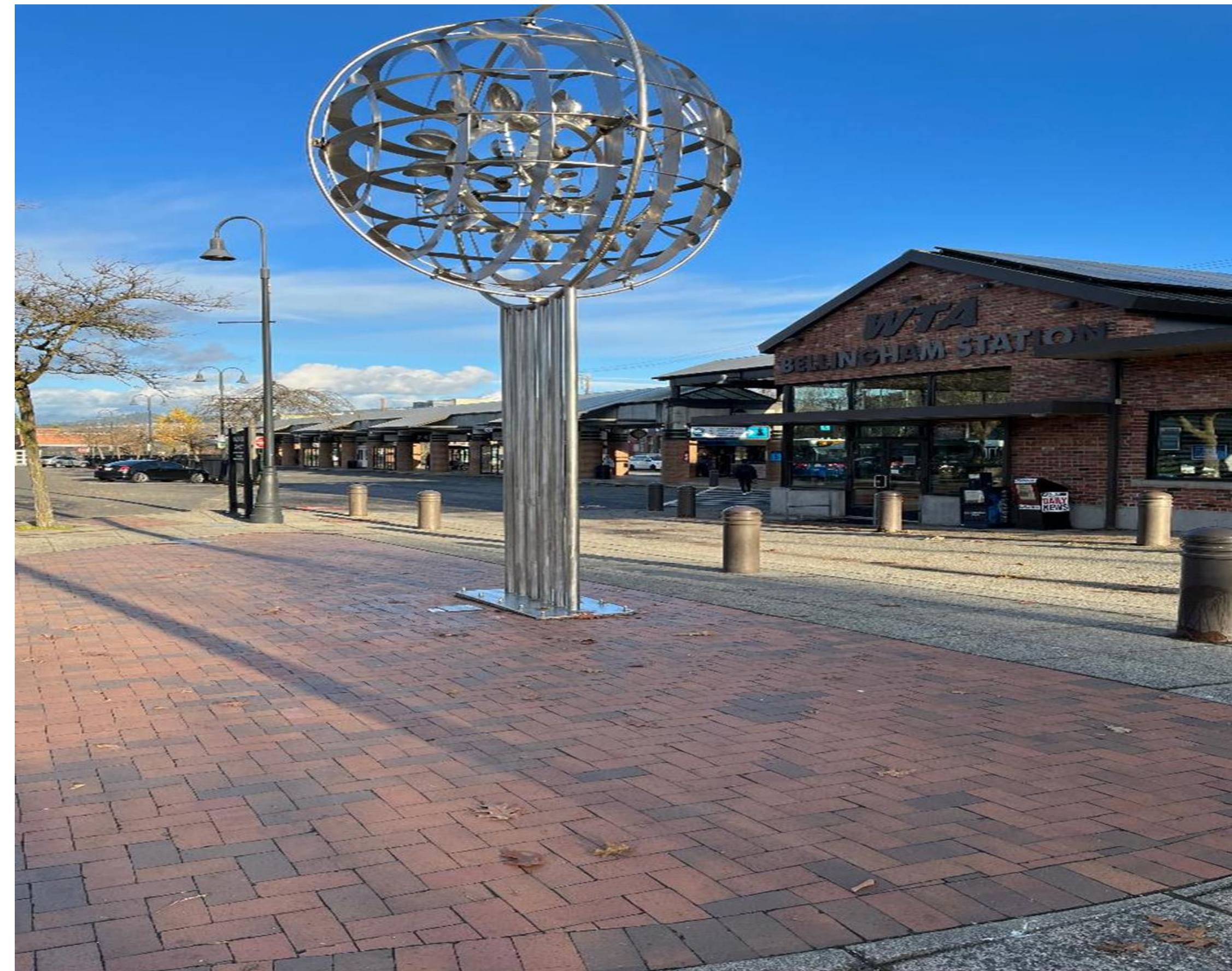


*Fairhaven Bank*

**Whatcom County and it's architectural background**

Baku Kamihara, Carter James, Jeremy Spotted Bear

ANTH 204: Archaeology



*Bellingham bus station*

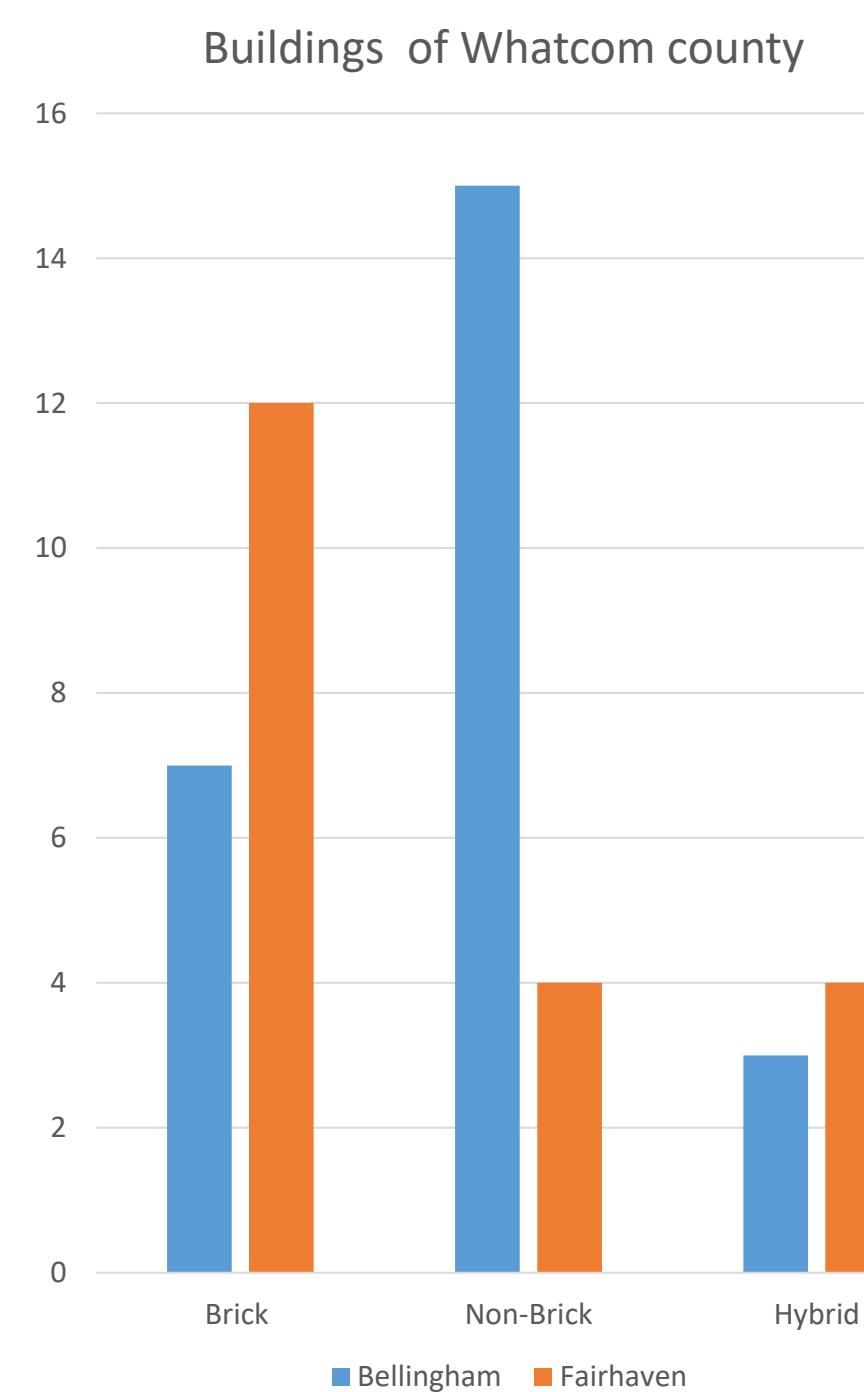
**Discussion**

After collecting our data and researching our hypothesis of the further you walked into downtown the more brick you would see. While we walked into downtown Fairhaven we noticed 12 brick buildings, 4 hybrid brick buildings and 4 non-brick buildings. This supported our original hypothesis, although the results when looking at Downtown Bellingham were different and contradicted our hypothesis. While walking into downtown Bellingham we noticed that there were 15 non-brick, 7 brick and 3 brick hybrid.

"The assumption that buildings are a means of conveying meaning is not, of course, a new one. In 1745 Germain Boffrand contended that "An edifice, by its composition, expresses as on a stage that the scene is pastoral or tragic, that it is a temple or a palace, a public building destined for a specific use, or a private house. These different edifices, through their disposition, their structure, and the manner in which they are decorated, should announce their purpose to the spectator."

Wile our hypothesis for seeing more brick buildings the further you walked downtown was accurate, the assumption that it was for a structural reason was inaccurate. After researching further into the history of Fairhaven we realized that the reason for the brick buildings were actually different from what we had thought. The brick was actually used for a stylistic point for the town during its early development. Fairhaven at the time of its boom was home to a large business community who poured money into the infrastructure of the ton in order to draw more people to it. The main reason we see so much brick is because brick was considered flashy in 19<sup>th</sup> century architecture, same with extravagant wood houses. The results of Bellingham were the opposite of Fairhaven as well. While surveying Downtown Bellingham we noticed that the further we moved into downtown the less brick or brick hybrids there were. Our assumption for this was that Bellingham is more modern than Fairhaven and its architecture uses a more modern style in order to attract people just like Fairhaven did back in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

*Bellingham Streetview*



*Fairhaven Streetview*

*Bellingham & Fairhaven's architectural styles*



**References/ Work Cited**

- <https://www.fairhavenhistory.com>
- <https://dahp.wa.gov>
- [Fairhaven Historic District | SAH ARCHIPEDIA \(sah-archipedia.org\)](https://www.fairhavenhistory.com/)

"Fairhaven Historic District." SAH ARCHIPEDIA, 24 Sept. 2019, sah-archipedia.org/buildings/WA-01-073-0098.

"Fairhaven on Bellingham Bay." Fairhaven History, <https://www.fairhavenhistory.com/>.

Whyte, William. "HOW DO BUILDINGS MEAN? SOME ISSUES OF INTERPRETATION IN THE HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE." Whatcom Community College, file:///C:/Users/carcj/Downloads/Whyte\_2006%20(1).pdf. Accessed 24 Nov. 2022