

Enjoy Poulsbo's scenic history in this walk. Match the 13 Stickers to the Stop and the Story!

This 2.2-mile route takes approximately 1.5 hours to walk.

Complete and correctly identify at least 4 stops to pick up your prize patch →
at the Poulsbo Historical Society (19020 Front St NE):



1. At our Poulsbo Waterfront Pavilion. From 1883 until nearly 1890, this was the place where a float in the bay served as the “dock” for anyone arriving in Poulsbo. We aren’t sure when the first official dock was built, but we know that the dock where the Loft restaurant is now, was built about 1890.
2. The Jensen and Front intersection marks the heart of town. The current tattoo shop across the street is the oldest business building in town. Built-in 1885 as Adolph Hostmark’s general store, it also the home of the first post office.
3. See Tickled Pink?: From here we see the length of Poulsbo’s business district in early Poulsbo. Hav’n Veien meaning “The Way Home” was traditionally a bare spot in the wharf. In 1914, during a very hot, dry summer, a fire started in the Olympic Hotel where the tree is planted, burned down to Boehm’s Chocolates building and leapt across the street, burning one third of Poulsbo’s business district.
4. At 4th & Fjord: Sledders in early Poulsbo gathered at the top of Lincoln Hill, an early skid road, and rode their toboggans a mile to town down this stretch. Recently, the old Doctor’s office, which later served as the police station, was torn down here, and a new apartment building is ready for construction on that site.
5. The house at the corner of Fjord and Eliason was built in 1901 for Anna Hansen, whose late husband J. J. Hansen was the first steamboat captain in town.
6. From the corner of Fjord and 6th street, you can see where Liberty Bay Marina is today. From 1911-1955 this was the site of the Pacific Coast Codfish Company. The site of today’s Poulsbo Yacht Club was a sawmill, a boat way, and in the 1930s was the site of the Standard Oil Tanks serving boats as well as the oil/gas distributors in town.
7. This 6th Ave. neighborhood walks through Jorgen Eliason’s homestead. Look for Poulsbo creek which starts on 10th Ave, goes under Highway 305, and descends through a gully from the top of Harrison down to the bay. Some have said it was originally a salmon stream. Today it runs through the yard of former Mayor Donna Jean Bruce, under the street, and out into another yard on 6th Avenue!
8. From the First Lutheran Church parking lot is a beautiful view of the Olympics and a great overlook of historic Poulsbo. This land was donated to the church in 1886 by Jorgen Eliason to be used for Fordefjord Lutheran Church.
9. Near the little free library at 4th & Iverson: from this corner, you can see the summer home of the Wallin family [the blue house]. Mr. Wallin was a shoemaker and the original partner with the Nordstrom family in starting Wallin and Nordstrom Shoe store in Seattle in 1901. Ebenezer “old Folks Home” founded in 1909 still stands.
10. In 1941, when WWII broke out, the Children’s Home farm was sold to the US Government, and 460 housing units were built to house the hundreds of civilian workers who moved to Poulsbo to work in the shops at the Keyport Naval Station – tripling Poulsbo’s population from a sleepy 400 to a bustling 1,200. In the 1990s, “The Project” was replaced with these colorful single and townhomes.
11. American Legion Park/Veterans’ Memorial: WWI veteran, Selmer Myreboe, who owned part of the land, gave this piece to the city to form American Legion Park with the stipulation that it be kept as a park area. This Veteran’s Memorial was completed a few years ago, with memorial bricks honoring all veterans from the Poulsbo area.
12. In 1890 Rev. Ingebrigt Tollefson and his wife Mina (the daughter of Iver Moe) founded the Martha & Mary Children’s Home for orphans. At its height, approximately 90 children lived there. It is the second oldest corporation in Poulsbo. The core of the present building was built in 1940 and is now Martha & Mary Nursing Home.
13. 19020 Front St. The Nilsen-Sonju House was built in 1908 by a bachelor, Einar Nilsen. He built it as an apartment house, with his living quarters on the bottom floor and at least 2 apartments for rent on the second floor. The Sonju’s looked after Mr. Nilsen in his old age and purchased the house from him. The Poulsbo Historical Society purchased the building in December of 2020 and opened the museum in April of 2021.

13 Stickers: fish jumping, church cross, shoe, colorful homes, PHS, rocking chair, boat helm, postage stamp, medical bag, boat, old house, American flag, flame



Use the QR Code to download the map.

Learn more about the History of Poulsbo at the Poulsbo Historical Society! Poulsbohhistory.com

A *scavenger* is a person who searches and collects. What can you find on your journey?



AMERICAN
LEGION
PARK

On your way around this map, there are **13 landmarks** to discover, collect a sticker at each location and end up at X marks the spot...

*Liberty
Bay*

The Puget Sound is home to unique animals and plants: How many can you spot?

LIBERTY BAY
WATERFRONT
PARK

Downtown
Poulsbo

CENTENNIAL
PARK

Old Town
Poulsbo

LIONS
PARK



3RD AVE NE

NE IVERSON ST

4TH AVE NE

NE HOSTMARK ST

FJORD DR NE

NET
SHED
PARK

6TH AVE NE

11

10

9

12

2

3

8

1

4

7

5

YOU ARE AN EXPLORER



Your mission is to document and observe the world around you.

On this adventure look at your surroundings as if you've never seen them before.

Notice patterns and shapes. Record animals and plants you are drawn to.

Explorers are also historians and researchers. Ask yourself questions about what you see and why it might be that way. What kind of history does Poulsbo have? Who lived here before you? Who lives here now? Who will live here after?

DRAW YOUR FAVORITE BOAT
(DON'T FORGET TO NAME IT!)

MAKE A TEXTURE RUBBING FROM
A TREE OR PLANT HERE

ANIMALS YOU SAW:

WHAT DO YOU SEE...

(CIRCLE WHAT YOU FIND)

A PIGEON

A SEAGULL

A VIKING SHIP

A WATERFALL

A ROCK FOUNDATION

NET SHED PARK

A LION

A DECORATED TREE

A VERY SKINNY HOUSE

A RHODODENDRON

A FLAG

A CLOUD

THREE SWORDS

A PLAQUE ON A BOULDER

A VERY OLD CAR

A BIG CLOCK

A LITTLE LIBRARY

A CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE

WHAT MURAL WOULD YOU PAINT?

WHICH HISTORIC CHARACTER
DID YOU LIKE THE MOST?
(DRAW THEM HERE)

There are lots of remnants from the past hiding in plain sight.

Can you find anything that remains from the 19th century?

What about the first part of the 20th?

What in Poulsbo would you want to save for future generations?