

# ASSESSMENT OF INTRINSIC QUALITIES

# 4





*A tranquil scene as the sun sets over the islands and Salish Sea*

## *There is something for everyone...*

in the San Juan Islands. The overall experience of visiting Washington's newest state scenic byway is as unique and interesting as the experience of visiting any of the destinations along it. With an average of 247 days with sunshine annually and about half the rainfall of the greater Seattle area, the islands' year-round appeal, geographic seclusion, local culture, and diverse experiences combine for a memorable visit.

This section of the plan summarizes and highlights the unique qualities and destinations of the San Juan Islands Scenic Byway, including those of the byway overall as well as those that are part of the marine route across the Salish Sea and land routes across San Juan Island and Orcas Island.

In the development of corridor management plans for scenic byways, the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) National Scenic Byways Program (America's Byways®) requires that a byway's intrinsic qualities be identified, inventoried, and described.

## **What are Intrinsic Qualities?**

The San Juan Island Scenic Byway is already designated as a state byway. The state legislature added it to the official list of Washington's Scenic and Recreational Highways in 2009 (RCW 47.39.020). The byway organization intends to apply for national designation as well. State byways are eligible to be considered for national scenic byway status if they possess extraordinary characteristics. These characteristics are the "intrinsic qualities" of a byway.

When a corridor management plan documents that a byway possesses intrinsic qualities within one or more of the six categories recognized by FHWA, the byway may qualify for national designation. If a byway has intrinsic qualities within two more categories, it may qualify for All American Road status, the highest level of our nation's scenic byways. This is the case with the San Juan Islands Scenic Byway.

Intrinsic qualities are the important attributes of a byway—the things that make it special. These are the features and places that attract people and also may become the focus of some combination of enhancement, preservation, and/or promotion in a corridor management plan.

Intrinsic qualities are not just the things to see and do along the byway, but rather the distinctive features that create an overall sense of the corridor's character, history, or culture. These are the qualities that "tell the story" of the byway. The National Scenic Byways Program defines intrinsic qualities as the *"features that are considered representative, unique, irreplaceable, or distinctly characteristic of an area."*

The six primary categories of intrinsic qualities recognized by the FHWA are: scenic, natural, archaeological, historic, cultural, and recreational. FHWA Policy 5.18.95 describes these categories as follows.

### Scenic

A scenic quality is the heightened visual experience derived from the view of natural and human-influenced or built elements

of the visual environment. These are the characteristics of the landscape that are strikingly distinct and offer a pleasing and memorable experience. All elements of the landscape—natural landforms, water, vegetation, and even architectural features and development—contribute to the quality of the byway's visual environment. For a scenic quality to exist, everything present must be in harmony and contribute to a positive visual experience.

### Natural

A natural quality applies to those features of the visual environment that are in a relatively undisturbed state. These features predate arrival of human populations and may include geologic formations, fossils, landforms, water bodies, vegetation, and wildlife. There may be evidence of human activity, but the natural features reveal minimal disturbances.



Orca whales, which are an endangered species that can sometimes be viewed from lands along the west side of San Juan Island, contribute to the extraordinary 'natural' intrinsic quality of the byway.



*Stunning views and vistas—such as this one from the top of Mount Constitution on Orcas Island—exist throughout the islands and are an inherent part of the byway experience.*

## Archaeological

An archaeological quality involves characteristics of prehistoric or historic human life or activity that are visible and capable of being inventoried and interpreted. The byway's archaeological aspects, as identified through artifacts, middens, structural remains, and traditional use areas, have cultural and scientific significance. Visitors have opportunities to learn about and appreciate prehistory and history through

interpretation about these resources and areas. Interpretation is important, but preservation and protection of archaeological qualities is the highest priority. Byway visitors can help by avoiding any disturbance to artifacts, midden sites, or other areas of cultural significance.

## Historic

A historic quality encompasses legacies of the past that are distinctly associated with physical elements of the landscape,

whether natural or human-made. These qualities are of such historic significance that they educate the viewer and inspire an appreciation for the past. Historic elements reflect the actions of people and may include buildings, settlement patterns, and other examples of human activity. Historic features can be inventoried, mapped, and interpreted. They possess integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association.



*Lummi canoe and Washington State Ferries vessel crossing the Salish Sea during the 2007 Canoe Journey event, photo courtesy of Debra Clausen*

## Cultural

A cultural quality includes the evidence and expressions of the customs or traditions of a distinct group of people. Cultural features include, but are not limited to, crafts, music, dance, rituals, festivals, speech, food, vernacular architecture, and special events that are currently practiced. The cultural qualities of the byway may highlight one or more significant communities and/or ethnic traditions.

## Recreational

A recreational quality involves outdoor recreational activities that may be directly associated with and dependent upon other qualities of the byway. Recreational activities provide opportunities for active and passive experiences, including, but not limited to, wildlife watching, hiking, “voluntourism,” boating, fishing, beach walking, swimming, and camping. Traveling the byway itself also qualifies as a pleasurable experience. Recreational experiences may be seasonal, but the quality and importance of the experience as part of a seasonal activity must be well recognized.



Road up to Mount Constitution (a byway spur) in Moran State Park on Orcas Island

## Eligibility for National Scenic Byway and All-American Road Designation

Official designation as a national scenic byway, requires that a byway possess intrinsic qualities within one or more of the six categories: scenic, natural, archaeological, historic, cultural and recreational. An All-American Road, the highest quality of national scenic byways in the United States, must possess intrinsic qualities in at least two categories. The San Juan Islands Scenic Byway possesses a particular abundance of intrinsic qualities in all six categories. This is a rare characteristic in comparison to all byways across the nation, and serves to emphasize the byway’s eligibility for designation as an All-American Road, the highest level of national designation.

## Intrinsic Qualities of the San Juan Islands Scenic Byway

Unique places and qualities of the San Juan Islands Scenic Byway are described below. It is important to note that this description focuses on the most special places that are highly sought as visitor destinations and known for their outstanding scenic, natural, archaeological, historic, cultural and/or recreational qualities. There are by far more places and destinations in the islands than those described below. Information can be found about many of these locations and other visitor opportunities at [www.VisitSanJuans.com](http://www.VisitSanJuans.com) (which is the website for the San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau, the

official destination marketing organization for San Juan County), as well as the chamber of commerce websites on each island: [www.sanjuanisland.org](http://www.sanjuanisland.org) and [www.oracsislandchamber.com](http://www.oracsislandchamber.com).

The chart at the end of this section lists each of the intrinsic qualities described on the following pages of the corridor management plan. The chart correlates the relationship of the unique places and characteristics in the islands to the six categories of intrinsic qualities recognized by the FHWA (scenic, natural, archaeological, historical, cultural, and recreational). The chart is followed by maps showing the locations of the intrinsic qualities across the byway.

### Byway-wide Intrinsic Qualities

#### **Outstanding Scenic and Natural Qualities** (Scenic, Natural)

The San Juan Islands Scenic Byway possesses abundant intrinsic qualities in all six categories recognized by America's Byways®. Of these, the scenic and natural qualities are perhaps the most outstanding and unique. These qualities intertwine as an inherent part of the byway experience along each segment: the Salish Sea, San Juan Island, and Orcas Island. From the views of islands, water, and snow-capped peaks during the ferry crossing and at ferry terminals, to the array of picturesque landscapes on land, byway visitors and islanders can enjoy incredible views and vistas at every turn.

These scenic opportunities connect people with nature. *Real Islands ...Real Close* is the current marketing theme for the San Juans developed by the Visitors Bureau. This theme celebrates the opportunities found in the islands to make connections between people and nature. The diversity of ecosystems (marine- and land-

### ABUNDANCE FROM THE SEA

***“For the most part everything that we needed to survive was right in front of us living on the beaches or in the waters close to shore. When you ...use one of these gifts you should always use a prayer or a song to thank them for the gift that was left for us by the ancestors to survive such as the clam, the oyster, the salmon, the waters, the air, the roots, and everything else in nature.”***

An Elder's message, from the History of the Samish Indian Nation ([www.samishtribe.nsn.us](http://www.samishtribe.nsn.us))



based) and the wildlife they support further enrich the visual experience and these connections. The byway's mission and many of the projects and programs proposed in this plan will help to enhance and manage the connections between people and nature. By inspiring stewardship, protecting sensitive resources, and managing tourism in a way that preserves scenic and natural qualities, the byway holds an important role in the future of the islands.



### ***Thousands of Years of Cultural Heritage***

#### **(Archaeological, Historic, Cultural and Interrelated to Natural)**

The Salish Sea and San Juan Islands have been the homelands of Coast Salish (specifically the Northern Straits Salish) peoples for thousands of years. Archaeological investigations in the islands have documented human occupation going back at least 9,000 years. Coast Salish peoples were here for countless generations before the first contact with explorers in the late

eighteenth century. These First Peoples have an inextricable and sacred connection with this environment and resources of the Salish Sea ecosystem. These resources have historically sustained their lifeways and traditions.

In addition to the Coast Salish peoples, who've always known the islands as their homelands, many new people from diverse cultures have been attracted to this place over the last two hundred years. Visible remnants of the islands' rich history exist all along

the byway, including historic sites, buildings, districts, museum displays of artifacts, and cultural landscapes that span the eras from prehistory to exploration and military occupation, to homesteading and settlement. Several of the most unique historic destinations are highlighted in the descriptions on the following pages. The diverse heritage of the islands, as well as the cultural traditions and celebrations that islanders hold each year, also provide many other opportunities for visitors.

### ***Historic Farms and Farmstands Open to the Public/Historic Barns (Various Locations)***

#### **(Scenic, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Historic homesteads, farms, farmstands, and barns can be found all along the land routes of the scenic byway. These sites are special in the islands and distinct from other historic sites because they represent a way of life that is rapidly disappearing throughout America. Farms and farmstands are open to the public throughout the islands. Check with the San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau and local chambers of commerce to confirm locations and times when facilities are open to the public (some are only open seasonally).



*Paddlers participating in the Canoe Journey*



View of the Friday Harbor Ferry Terminal and Spring Street Landing (where seasonal passenger ferries commute from Bellingham, Seattle, and Port Townsend)

On San Juan Island a wonderful lavender farm greets visitors with rolling fields of purple lavender, delicious lavender refreshments and handcrafted organic products. Education is a key component of the working farm. A demonstration garden at the farm displays more than 60 lavender cultivars, displaying a wide diversity of species. The visitor center provides multi-media exhibits and audio self-guided tours highlighting the history of the farm, lavender cultivation, and oil processing. An annual lavender festival is held in July, when visitors are invited to enjoy a weekend of tours, craft workshops, cooking demonstrations, self-harvesting, picnics, and local music.

An alpaca farm is located on San Juan Island along West Valley Road, which winds through prairies and farm valleys on the west



*Several abstract sculptures are on view at the lavender farm on San Juan Island, including this stainless steel sculpture by artist Micajah Bienvenu.*

agricultural lifestyle by strolling around the farm and browsing the country store for alpaca wool sweaters, coats and cuddly toys. These are just two examples of many farms and farmstands that can offer memorable, enjoyable experiences to byway visitors.

Old barns are iconic in the landscape of the islands. They connect us to the rich history and culture here and are essential to the sense of place in the San Juans. The barns of San Juan County, some of the oldest in the state, were built for many purposes: to store hay and fruit, shelter animals, and house equipment. Some have been modified for contemporary use by local farms; some adaptively reused for art and dance studios, homes, and even a pickle factory. Others stand empty, stoically defying the elements and time.



*Many unique and colorful, historic barns have been preserved across the islands and are still in use.*



Seasonal Farmers' Markets attract both locals and visitors with opportunities to enjoy local fresh foods and crafts.



The parachute ride is a popular family attraction at the San Juan County Fair.



Many eclectic items inspired by the Pacific Northwest are on display at a local pottery.

### ***Festivals, Events & Performances*** (Historic, Cultural, and Recreational)

The islands are alive with year-round festivals, events, and performing arts. From the Islands Playwrights Festival in January/February to the holiday celebrations in November and December, many events enrich local lifestyles as well as visitor experiences. Byway visitors also can experience Farmers' Markets on San Juan and Orcas islands with local produce and hand-made products. The San Juan County Fair in August is an annual highlight for island residents and an authentic opportunity for visitors to experience an old-time country fair. For a full listing of annual festivals and events along with websites for updated information, refer to the Appendix.

### ***Art Galleries, Studios, and Potteries Open to the Public*** (Scenic, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)

The creative culture of the islands shines through in the many art galleries, studios, potteries and crafts shops found in villages,

hamlets, and along the byway. A vibrant array of arts and crafts can be enjoyed by visitors and islanders alike. Local potteries showcase designs that are inspired by the setting of the islands and the Pacific Northwest as well as other themes. Orcas Island specifically is known as "pottery island" because of the suitable types of clay soils there that have attracted pottery makers for many decades. Some of the longest-operating potteries in the region are found on the island. Other types of arts and crafts including wood carving and wood working, glass, metalwork, textiles, yard art, watercolors, oils and pastels, photography, sculpture, jewelry, and other media can be found in various studios and galleries open to the public.

The diversity of arts and crafts on display in galleries, studios, potteries, and many outdoor settings enrich the visitor experience and reflect how the scenic beauty of the islands has inspired those involved in creative arts. A strong commitment to the arts and creativity is an important part of the local culture.

### ***Interactions with Nature and Stewardship Opportunities***

#### **(Scenic, Natural, Cultural, Recreational)**

The rich interactions with nature, and the stewardship opportunities that a visit to the San Juan Islands affords, deserve recognition as an intrinsic quality of the scenic byway. The ability to experience nature at every turn, in water and on land, is not only unique, but also a driving force behind the opportunities to foster stewardship and sustainability values with visitors to the islands and residents. Stewardship is many centuries-old in the islands and in the fiber of island living.

One of the key goals of this plan is to take the typical scenic byway visitor's experience beyond mere interactions with nature and wildlife to help them gain a deeper and more meaningful understanding of the conservation, preservation, and rehabilitation actions needed to sustain natural resources of the islands and marine environments. Many existing stewardship and ecological volunteer program opportunities already exist in the islands with this mission central to their purpose. (A current list is available in the Appendix.) The scenic byway organization supports these efforts. Additional programs and projects are recommended in this plan. Refer to Section 11.



*Visitors are encouraged to avoid impacts to fragile ecosystems and wildlife in the islands.*



Bicycling is a popular activity throughout the islands.

### ***Abundant Recreation Opportunities***

#### **(Scenic, Natural, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

The opportunities to recreate on land and in water throughout the San Juan Islands seem infinite. And many of these lead to opportunities to interact with other intrinsic qualities. Whale and wildlife watching, birding, bicycling, sailing, kayaking, walking along beaches, boating, diving, hiking, picnicking, photography, sight seeing, learning about history, experiencing local culture, camping, fishing, golfing, horseback riding, dining and wine tasting are popular activities. Encouraging visitors to experience these recreation opportunities with green tourism and sustainable tourism values in mind is an important goal of the scenic byway. For example, while visitors have the opportunities to share the waters with orcas, otters, seals, eagles, porpoises, and other wildlife, they can be educated about the importance of giving wildlife space and protection and treating habitats with sensitivity.

Visitors are encouraged to “Leave Only Footprints” treading lightly and reducing their impact on fragile ecosystems and the environment overall through the choices they make. These are values that they can experience here in the islands and take into their daily lives when they go home. Refer to Section 10 for more information about the byway’s efforts to promote sustainable tourism.

## **Salish Sea Intrinsic Qualities**

### ***Portals to the Byway: Ferry Terminals***

#### **(Scenic, Historic, Recreational)**

The San Juan Islands are accessible to visitors through various modes of water and air transportation, but the most common way to reach the islands is by vehicle/passenger ferry via the Washington State Ferries system. The Anacortes Ferry Terminal is a major gateway to the San Juan Islands Scenic Byway. The terminal offers visitor information, a café, and expansive vistas of the San Juan Islands, Salish Sea, and the snow-capped peaks of Mount Baker and other Cascade Mountains. Natural wetlands along the seashore surround the ferry terminal, where a variety of birds and wildlife can be seen, offering visitors a hint of what they will experience during their journey to the San Juan Islands.

Drivers, bicyclists, and walk-ons pay a one-time roundtrip fee to the most westerly island they will be visiting. (There is a fee to travel west, but not east.) Ferries have shuttled residents and visitors to and from the islands since the early 1900s and are an integral piece of the culture and experience of living in the San Juans. As the ferry crosses the water of Rosario Strait and the buildings and roads of Anacortes become distant, visitors onboard can relax into the encompassing scenery of the archipelago.



Scenic vista from the Anacortes Ferry Terminal



The gateway sign visible at the Friday Harbor Ferry Terminal

The ferry terminals at Friday Harbor and Orcas Village are also key portals to the scenic byway experience. These visitor hubs provide areas for waiting, public restrooms, visitor information, and other amenities to aide visitors to the San Juan Islands. Other ferry terminals at Lopez Island and Shaw Island are also portals to the byway. The Sidney, British Columbia ferry terminal is another portal to the byway via Vancouver Island in Canada. Placement of byway information and interpretation is planned for all ferry terminals in the islands.

### ***Across the Salish Sea: The Marine Route to and through the San Juan Islands***

**(Scenic, Natural, Archaeological, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Beginning at the Washington State Ferries terminal in Anacortes, the San Juan Islands Scenic Byway includes the marine highway routes to and from the islands across the Salish Sea, which follow historic Coast Salish canoe routes. To the Coast Salish peoples, the sea was their highway and canoes were their means of travel, facilitating sustenance and contact between numerous villages. Coast Salish tribes celebrate the importance of the Salish Sea with the annual Canoe Journey, an intertribal event that brings more than 100 First Nations' canoes to the sea, some from as far away as Northern Alaska. The Canoe Journey is a time of healing, hope, happiness, honor, and hospitality, and an opportunity for cultural rejuvenation.

The Salish Sea encompasses the Georgia Basin, Puget Sound, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and the Strait of Georgia. It was officially recognized in 2009 by the British Columbia Geographic Names Office and the United States Board on Geographic Names. As one of the world's largest and most biologically rich inland seas, the Salish Sea supports a complex and sensitive ecosystem.



Thousands of species of birds, marine life, fish, mammals, and other wildlife depend on the sea's health for their survival. As byway travelers cross the sea aboard the ferries, they can enjoy the surrounding natural splendor while staying on the look-out for birds and wildlife, including a possible orca or Minke whale sighting. Throughout the summer, representatives from The Whale Museum from Friday Harbor,

the Washington State University Beach Watchers, and the Orca Network provide marine naturalists onboard the ferries to inform and educate ferry travelers.

Vessels operated by Washington State Ferries in the San Juan Islands provide an enjoyable and relaxing mode of transportation. Riding the ferry is part of the fun of visiting the islands. Journeying by ferry provides an opportunity for

visitors to decompress from the more hectic and hurried pace of the more urban environment they may be coming from. Travelers can stretch their legs, purchase refreshments, and take in a breath of fresh air from the upper decks. The ferry ride connects visitors with the islands' natural resources and local island culture, and it facilitates the transition to the gentler pace of time and motion found in the islands.

## PULLING TOGETHER

***To pull together in a canoe, this is the symbol of our feeling as people. It is how we feel about our culture, how we keep it alive - our language, carving, ceremonies and values as native people. To pull together. To listen and learn from our Elders. To pass on this wisdom to our children so they can face the opportunities of the tomorrow. This is schelangen, the Lummi way of life.***

From the Lummi Nation book, *People of the Sea*, LHAQ'TEMISH



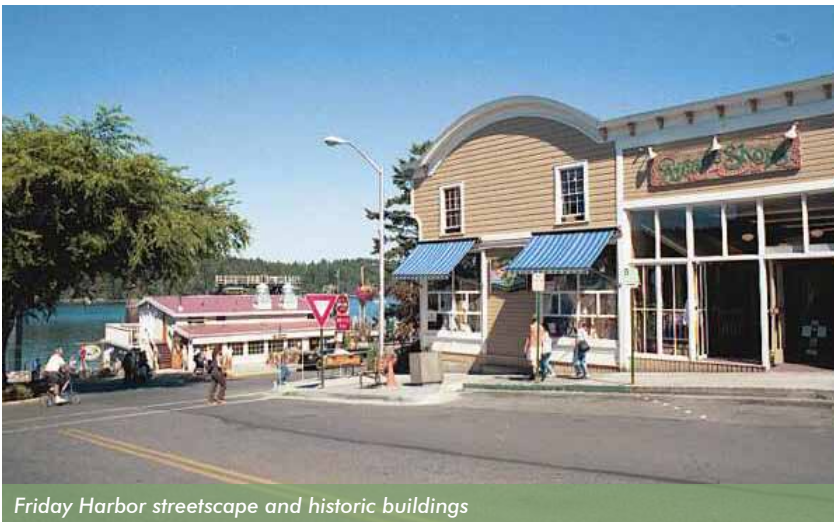
Pulling together on the Canoe Journey



At the Port of Friday Harbor, the "Portals of Welcome" artwork honors Coast Salish house posts carved by renowned artist Susan Pointe.



*Memorial Park on the Friday Harbor waterfront*



*Friday Harbor streetscape and historic buildings*

## San Juan Island Qualities

### ***Town of Friday Harbor***

#### **(Scenic, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Nestled along the eastern shore of San Juan Island, Friday Harbor is the only incorporated town in San Juan County. It is the ferry port for the island and several ferry runs are made to and from Anacortes throughout the day, along with runs to the three other islands. Seasonal ferries also travel from Sidney, BC to and from Friday Harbor as well as smaller, seasonal passenger ferries from Seattle, Bellingham, Port Townsend, and Victoria BC. Seaplanes and airplanes arrive from Seattle and other locations.

This cozy seaside village is a pleasant introduction to San Juan Island. Visitors can explore an assortment of restaurants, boutiques, bookstores, a community theater, galleries and museums—all within easy walking distance of the ferry. Friday Harbor also provides alternative forms of transportation for getting around the island, including a seasonal shuttle bus, rental vehicles, taxis, bicycles, mopeds, and scoot cars/smart cars.



*Bicycles available for guest use at a Friday Harbor lodging establishment*

The town of Friday Harbor has a rich history, evident in the turn-of-the-century wood-frame buildings in the downtown core, protected under the town's historic preservation program. In 1845, the Hudson's Bay Company laid claim to San Juan Island and a salmon curing station was built in 1850. After the peaceful resolution of the Pig War crisis in 1873, the islands became a separate county. Friday Harbor was designated the county seat and was officially incorporated in 1909. The town grew as economic activity flourished. Sailing ships and steamships of Puget Sound's Mosquito Fleet visited the harbor

on a regular basis, hauling passengers, mail, and freight.

Island products such as apples, pears, cherries, strawberries, peas, cream, eggs, chickens, grain, salmon, and lime were exported and a number of warehouses developed along the waterfront. At one time, some referred to the San Juan Islands as Washington's "bread basket" due to the heavy grain production there. During WWII and the Great Depression, demand slackened and farms received heavy competition from eastern Washington. Although tourism in the islands began in the 1880s, it wasn't until the 1960s that the

town rebounded as tourism grew, along with the real estate market, spurred by interest in second homes/vacation homes and the islands as a retirement destination.

Friday Harbor's history has influenced much of the island culture we see today. The island dwellers are protective of their history, and Friday Harbor is maintained as an authentic small town, rich with culture and the surrounding landscape of pastoral countryside and marine views. Many historic buildings and sites have been preserved throughout the town and San Juan Island. For example, Memorial Park at



*The Lydia Thompson (right) and Rosalie dock at the foot of Spring Street in 1907. Both ships kept a hectic schedule on the Bellingham-San Juans-Seattle run.*



*The City of Angeles (originally built as the City of Long Beach in 1906) was converted to a ferry in 1923 for the Anacortes to Sidney, B.C. run (with stops at Orcas and Roche Harbor). It was a vessel of the Victoria-Anacortes Ferry Company, headed by Captain Harry W. Crosby.*

the intersection of Front and Spring streets has long been the meeting place for those arriving and departing San Juan Island.

On November 11, 1921, a granite memorial—the first of its kind in the state of Washington—was erected to commemorate the nine Island servicemen who were lost in World War I. Another example, the Fribor Theater, built by contractor Frank Vining for Alfred Middleton, opened in 1915 during the silent movie era, with Mrs. Middleton playing the piano for dramatic effect. The theater (named by combining syllables from both “Friday” and “Harbor”) presented motion pictures as well as local and traveling vaudeville shows. Now called the Palace Theatre, it remains central to the Friday and Saturday nights of residents and visitors alike. The Historic Friday Harbor Walking Tour provides a window to the town’s past, sharing the history of these sites and many others. For more information about Friday Harbor and San Juan Island history including agricultural development and settlement, refer to Section 3.

### ***San Juan Historical Museum***

#### **(Archaeological, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Located at the edge of Friday Harbor, the San Juan Historical Society’s museum interprets the history of the peoples of San Juan Island. The museum complex is located on the James King homestead, which is over 100 years old. The original farmhouse, the first county jail, a turn-of-the-century log cabin, barn, milk house, and a carriage house are open to visitors. Each building houses displays and exhibits of early life on the island. The physical evidence of the historic houses and artifacts brings forth archaeological, cultural, and historical qualities. Recreational activities such as exploring the grounds and enjoying a picnic are offered, all while taking a step back in San Juan Island time.



San Juan Historical Museum

### ***The Whale Museum***

**(Natural, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

The Whale Museum in Friday Harbor is one of the only museums of its kind, a place that celebrates a living species, rather than primarily focusing on history. The Whale Museum is located in the historic Odd Fellows Hall, built in 1892 and now on the State of Washington Register of Historic Sites (Washington Heritage Register). The Museum's principal goal is to promote whale stewardship and conservation through research and education. One of the main attractions of the San Juan Islands is the prospect of seeing orca whales in their natural habitat, and the Museum provides the perfect starting point for a whale watching journey. Visitors can see whale skeletons, a genealogy diagram of the three southern resident pods, and interactive exhibits



*Inside The Whale Museum at Friday Harbor*

with sounds. Whale-based artwork is displayed throughout the Museum, and mementos can be purchased at the gift shop. The Museum contains natural qualities as well as cultural, by providing information on native species and the Salish Sea ecosystem, which have greatly influenced local values and practices throughout time.

### ***Jackson Beach***

**(Scenic, Natural, Recreational)**

This small day-use beachfront park is a favorite of locals and visitors alike. A popular picnicking spot close to Friday Harbor, many people walk and bicycle to the park, which is open from dawn to dusk. Picnic tables, grills, and boat launching facilities are available. Jackson Beach is a popular place to sit on a drift log and take in the views of Griffin Bay and beyond.



*Sunrise at Jackson Beach, near Friday Harbor on San Juan Island*



American Camp at San Juan Island National Historical Park

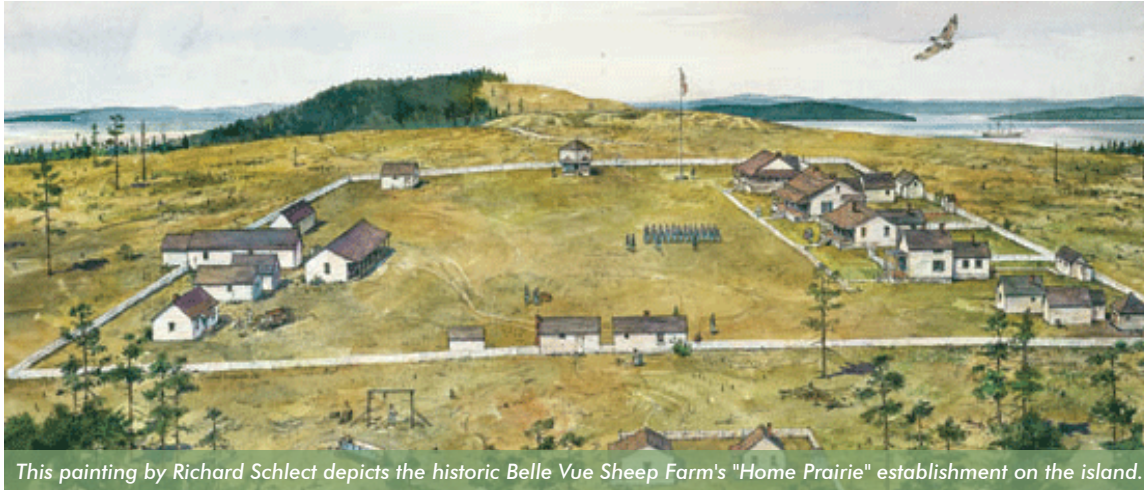
### ***American Camp Unit of San Juan Island National Historical Park***

**(Scenic, Natural, Archaeological,  
Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

San Juan Island National Historical Park was established by Congress in 1966 for the purpose of “*interpreting and preserving the sites of the American and English camps on the island, and for commemorating the historic events that occurred from 1853 to 1871 on the island in connection with the final settlement of the Oregon Territory boundary dispute, including the so-called Pig War of 1859.*”

According to the General Management Plan for the Park, San Juan Island National Historical Park (SJINHP) is an important site that illustrates, in its dramatic and largely intact physical setting, how war can be averted and peace maintained through positive action by individuals and governments—a powerful message in unsettled times.

SJINHP consists of two distinct units, American Camp (1,223 acres) and English Camp (841 acres), which together comprise 2,064 acres. Both camps are reminders that the San Juan



*This painting by Richard Schlect depicts the historic Belle Vue Sheep Farm's "Home Prairie" establishment on the island.*



*The laundry quarters at American Camp*

Islands and Pacific Northwest were once contested by Imperial Spain as well as the United States and Great Britain. American Camp was purchased by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission in 1963, and both American Camp and English Camp were transferred to the National Park Service in 1966. SJINHP was, and still is, the largest area of public land to be created on San Juan Island.

American Camp served as the location of the United States Army camp during the joint occupation of the island. This unit of San Juan Island National Historical Park occupies a portion of

the southeast peninsula of San Juan Island and is comprised of a broad ridge overlooking Griffin Bay to the north and Haro Strait to the south.

American Camp includes an open prairie landscape with expansive views to the Salish Sea and surrounding mountain ranges and approximately six miles of shoreline. Historic qualities are abundant, including three of the original military buildings, reconstructed military fence, flagpole, and numerous archaeological sites. The cultural landscape also includes the sites of the Hudson's Bay Company agricultural outpost, Belle Vue Sheep Farm, and San Juan Town.

The historic Belle Vue Sheep Farm once ran approximately 4,500 sheep from several stations throughout the island. Wool, mutton, salted fish, and timber were shipped via Fort Victoria across the North Pacific basin. Salmon from salteries in the Pacific Northwest were exported to the other areas of the Pacific as well, including the Hawaiian Islands, which resulted in "lomi lomi" salmon becoming an acquired food of Hawaiian Islanders. The Belle Vue Sheep Farm was ordered closed in 1861, which ended the Hudson's Bay Company's chapter on San Juan Island.

The redoubt is a significant feature of American Camp as a cultural landform





Red fox kit (non-native species) in American Camp, photo courtesy of the Jane Buck Collection (janebuck@planetgrateful.com)



The "Home Prairie" of American Camp

that was constructed to protect American troops from three British warships mounting 70 guns directly off the island during the Pig War crisis. Under the direction of 2nd Lieutenant Henry M. Robert (an engineer and future author of the *Robert's Rules of Order*), the soldiers constructed a fortification where they could mount guns from United States warships on wooden platforms. Even though the redoubt required much effort and many resources to construct, the guns were never fired towards the British. The redoubt is protected as a historical structure of national significance. Today the redoubt is accessible by a popular trail where people can walk through the former grazing

meadows of the sheep farm and enjoy stunning vistas from the elevated landform.

American Camp prairie provided important vegetation resources for Native Americans. It is one of the last surviving natural prairies in the Northern Straits and Puget Sound regions and the San Juan Island National Historical Park managers are working to restore it to its original state by fostering the growth of native grasses and wildflowers, which were crowded out by exotics and woody species. These changes occurred because fire was no longer used as a way to regularly maintain the prairie, and because Europeans who arrived in the 1850s introduced livestock

and nonnative plants. The prairie contains significant culture, history, and natural qualities that are worth enhancing.

Key sites within the American Camp Unit with facilities for visitors include:

- **South Beach** - picnicking and views of the Olympic Mountains
- **Fourth of July Beach** - picnicking and beach walks
- **Jackle's Lagoon and Mount Finlayson** - picnicking, hiking up Mount Finlayson for spectacular views and wildlife watching

(See Sections 5 & 6 for more information.)



*View from Mount Finlayson in San Juan Island National Historical Park*

### ***Cattle Point Interpretive Area and Lighthouse*** **(Scenic, Natural, Archaeological, Historic, Recreational)**

The Cattle Point Interpretive Area, on the southeastern arm of San Juan Island, provides outstanding opportunities for wildlife watching and local history. Open windswept meadows overlook the water, offering an unbeatable panoramic view of wildlife moving through the narrow channel (Cattle Pass) between San Juan and Lopez islands. The area's unique mix of wetlands, grasslands, gravelly beaches, and forests draw species of all kinds. Along with marine mammals such as seals, whales, porpoises, and sea lions, visitors may also spot deer, foxes, river otters, raccoon, mink, owls, hawks, and eagles. This is a wonderful place to picnic, walk, and soak in the stunning views of the Olympic and Cascade Mountains, Mount Rainier, and surrounding islands.

At Cattle Point Interpretive Area, visitors can see remnants of glacial forces, including grooves in the basalt where granite erratics were dragged across the underlying rock during the retreat of the glaciers. This area was an attractive spot for fishing, shell fishing, and gathering roots for Coast Salish peoples. Most evidence suggests that this site was seasonally occupied, especially during summer salmon runs.

Cattle Point was part of the American Camp during the Pig War crisis. The Cattle Point lighthouse, erected in 1935, is surrounded by grazing land that was once a Hudson's Bay Company cattle and sheep ranch. Though the lighthouse itself was not yet built, a light on the point was established in 1888, which consisted of a single brass lens lantern on a post. The lighthouse was automated in 1950, and today the light and foghorn are powered by solar-cell batteries. The lighthouse can be accessed by trail, and while the lighthouse isn't open for touring, the nearby interpretive center provides historical information.



Cattle Point Lighthouse



The lighthouse at Lime Kiln Point State Park is a popular island attraction.



Lime Kiln Point State Park is a great spot to watch resident orca whales from land.

### ***Lime Kiln Point State Park (a.k.a. Whale Watch Park) and Lighthouse***

**(Scenic, Natural, Archaeological, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Lime Kiln Point State Park is also known as “Whale Watch Park,” which alludes to its reputation as a fantastic spot to see whales. The Park is dedicated to shore-based orca whale watching. Hiking trails, a seasonal interpretive center, the lighthouse, and restrooms make this an excellent stop for kids and adults. A trail originating at the parking lot leads to interpretive displays at the water’s edge and along the shore to the charming lighthouse. The lighthouse offers seasonal tours and is used as a research facility by The Whale Museum. Many of the paths and trails in the Park are wheelchair accessible, including paths with whale interpretation and to the lighthouse.

Due to the unique bathymetric properties of the site, visitors on the shore can be in close proximity to the whales. From shore, visitors can clearly see the orcas' prominent dorsal fins and watch them make spectacular breaches (full bodies rising) and spyhops (heads rising) out of the water.

The Park’s true namesake, Lime Kiln Point, is a historical reference to the lime kilns that operated there beginning in 1860. One kiln has been restored for public viewing and interpretation. To reach it, visitors take a scenic trail winding along rocky bluffs and madrona trees, offering magnificent views. This park offers a little something for everyone.



Smallpox Bay and San Juan County Park

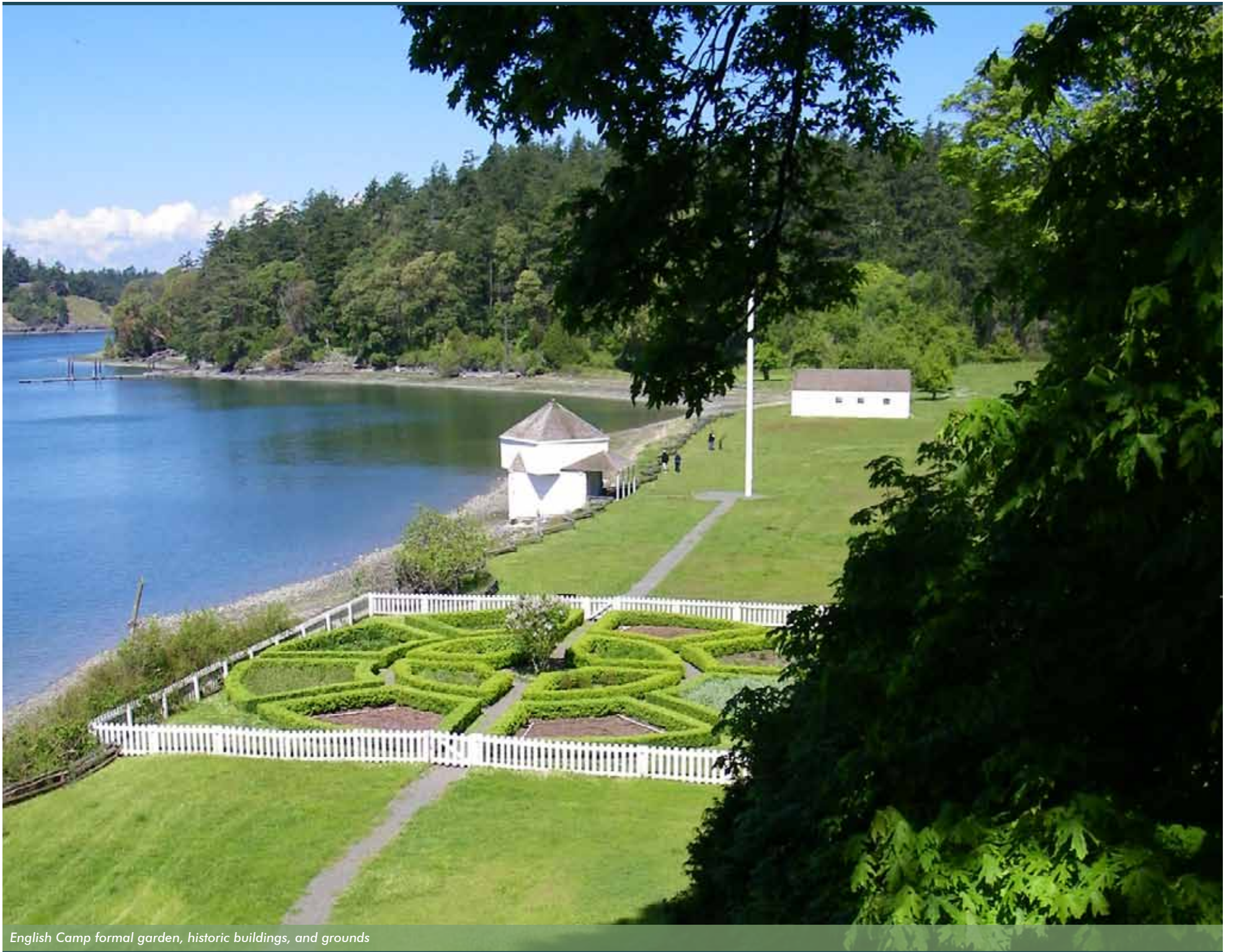
***San Juan County Park***  
**(Scenic, Natural, Archaeological,  
 Historic, Recreational)**

San Juan County Park is a natural and rustic gem, tucked along the western shoreline of San Juan Island, providing panoramic views of the sea. It is the perfect spot to enjoy a picnic, camp, and watch wildlife. Rocky bluffs and gravel beaches overlook Haro Strait with panoramic views of the Salish Sea sunsets and Vancouver Island. Most of the camping sites have water views

across an open meadow surrounded by trees. It is a very popular spot for kayakers who set out for sea and hope for orca sightings.

The Park has been described as having a “rich and colorful” history. Smallpox Bay was named after the Native Americans who once waded into the waters to cool off and ease the burning of small-pox fever. This was also a bay used by smugglers, as they cunningly dropped off moonshine, wool, opium,

and workers for the lime quarries. Today, campers enjoy taking in the surrounding scenic beauty and can frequently see eagles, herons, seals, orcas, porpoises, and river otters. The Park has two trails and the 1890s-era, two-story Brann Cabin, which is being restored. The cabin is on the state historic register, and the Park also has two registered archaeological sites. San Juan County Park offers a pleasant hideaway where one can relax and take in breathtaking views.



*English Camp formal garden, historic buildings, and grounds*

### ***English Camp Unit of San Juan Island National Historical Park***

**(Scenic, Natural, Archaeological, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

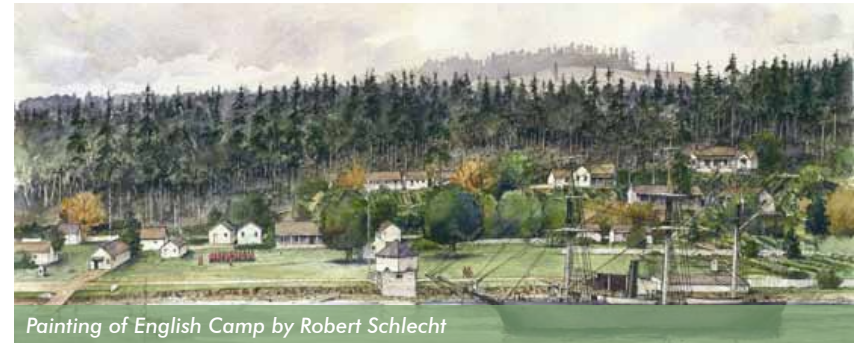
English Camp was the location of a British Royal Marines Camp during the joint occupation. This unit of the San Juan Island National Historical Park is situated on Garrison Bay, with approximately one mile of shoreline. English Camp features significant historic qualities, including four buildings from the military period, large bigleaf maples, a formal garden, orchard, extensive earthworks and masonry work, and numerous archaeological sites.

English Camp has been an important place to Coast Salish peoples for thousands of years. It was a winter village site for at least 2,000 years, as evidenced by the extensive shell midden found there. Early photographs of the site show a large cedar longhouse and fish drying racks, which were later dismantled by the Royal Marines. The early villagers ate camas bulbs and other plants, and practiced woodworking, weaving, fishing, and carving. They also likely manufactured stone tools.

Following the military encampment era, the Crook family lived on and farmed the land of English Camp from 1875 until it was acquired by Washington State in 1963. Reenactments involving period dress and storytelling are performed every summer, keeping the story of this important period of history alive.

A Garry oak woodland and prairie, an important natural ecosystem in the islands and Pacific Northwest, has been preserved at English Camp.

This unit of the San Juan Island National Historical Park offers a seasonal visitor center as well as various recreational opportunities (see Section 6 for more information).



*Painting of English Camp by Robert Schlecht*



*Reenactments involving period dress and storytelling are performed every summer.*



"Silent Words" by Lloyd Whannell,  
Texas limestone/bronze sculpture



"Florence," a kinetic sculpture by Troy Pillow (at The San Juan Islands Museum of Art and Sculpture).



Loons with Chicks, by Georgia Gerber, bronze

**San Juan Islands Museum of Art and Sculpture Park**  
(Scenic, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)

Art is a highly-valued aspect of the culture in the islands. The San Juan Islands are renowned for the wealth of artistry among local residents. A number of galleries and potteries dot the path of the scenic byway. The San Juan Islands Museum of Art and Sculpture Park, set within a 19-acre natural area, displays over 100 sculptures. The Park's mission is to connect people with art that inspires, challenges, enlightens, and educates. The Park was established in June 2001 and is operated by a non-profit organization on land loaned by the Roche Harbor Resort. Many volunteers, neighbors, islanders, and businesses

have contributed time and money to help support the Park. Open every day from dawn to dusk, byway travelers can stop, take a stroll, and view a variety of forms and styles of art, all contributed by noted artists from the Pacific Northwest. Sculptures include works in bronze, stone, wood, metal, glass, and ceramic. In addition, the park offers a pleasant mosaic of forests, meadows, freshwater wetlands, saltwater wetlands, and rocky outcroppings. Winding throughout the property are trails complemented with nature-oriented interpretive displays. The cultural qualities are exhibited within the displays of art, while the scenic quality is created by the preserved, natural ecosystem of the Park, creating a beautiful palette for the works of art.





The historic Roche Harbor Lime & Cement Company was a large-scale American business.



Historic Hotel de Haro at Roche Harbor

### ***Historic Roche Harbor Resort***

***(Scenic, Natural, Archaeological, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)***

Tucked between two wooded hills above serene harbor waters, the Historic Roche Harbor Resort paints a picturesque scene. Roche Harbor is a historical company town, created when the richest and largest deposit of lime in the Northwest was discovered in the late 19th century. Roche Harbor is on the National Register of Historic Places as a historically significant district in the US. By 1886, the Tacoma and Roche Harbor Lime and Cement Company had been incorporated and became a large-scale American business. In addition to the hotel, the town had a modern lime factory, barrel works, warehouse, docks, ships, piers, offices, a company store, church, school, barns, and homes. At its peak, Roche Harbor boasted about 800 residents.

Roche Harbor's centerpiece is the Hotel de Haro. Built in 1886, it has been a favorite destination throughout its history. President Theodore Roosevelt reportedly visited the hotel twice. Hotel guests have the opportunity to experience an era gone by in one of the twenty rooms adorned with original antique pieces.

The story of Roche Harbor is told in the details of the property. The brick road in front of the hotel was paved in 1975. The pavers are the yellow fire bricks that once lined the lime kilns. Many of these bricks have been reused as paving throughout the property. Another distinct feature found at the resort is the Afterglow Mausoleum, which was built by John S. McMillin as a "memorial to the dreams and aspirations of the things he and his generation believed in." In the center of the mausoleum is a limestone table around which all the family would symbolically gather in the hereafter. There is a chair for all of the sons and daughters of the family, and the chairs



*The mausoleum, built by John S. McMillin, is another distinct feature of Roche Harbor.*

are also the crypts for their ashes. This is just one of many interesting features found in the national historic district at Roche Harbor.

Since 1992, Roche Harbor has actively pursued the process of site planning and design with the primary focus of enhancing the sense of place and community. The primary objective was to maintain the principle that a town must have a center that takes no more than five minutes to travel by foot. New homes have been added to the resort radiating out from the center, each home designed to be compatible with the architectural context that has been long established by the original town buildings. Historic preservation has been an important part of the low



*New low impact development has sprouted up in Roche Harbor since 1990s.*

impact development efforts. Historic qualities can be seen in the remnants of the mining operations, and cultural qualities are present in the layout of the town and form of the buildings.

Many people visit Roche Harbor via boat, car or bicycle to enjoy a "resort" vacation. Sailing, boating, kayaking, diving and exploring the property are a few of the activities available for visitors. Seasonal theatrical performances at the Stage Left Theatre are also offered. Roche Harbor extends a variety of activities and well-maintained historic setting to all who visit, including an extensive trail network that provides access throughout the resort and to the San Juan Islands Museum of Art & Sculpture Park.

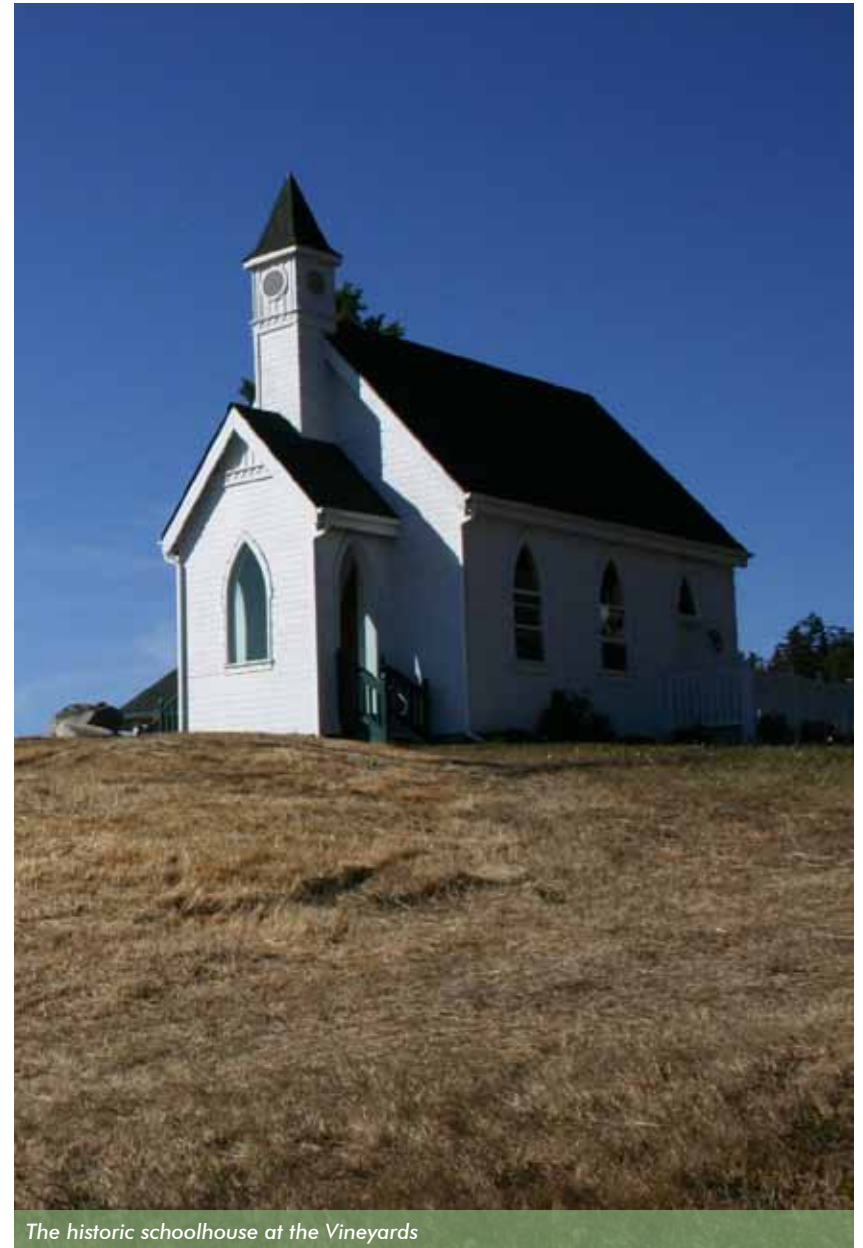
### ***Historic Schoolhouse at the Vineyards***

**(Scenic, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

A historic schoolhouse, restored and painted white, greets visitors along the Roche Harbor Road on the northeast side of San Juan Island. The schoolhouse is located at a popular vineyards site and houses a tasting room. Four thousand cases of wine are produced there each year. At least 30 percent of the wine is produced from grapes grown on the property, while the remainder is trucked in from the Yakima and Columbia valleys of eastern Washington. Grapes grown at the vineyards include Madeleine Angevine, Siegerrebe and some Pinot Noir. These varieties were chosen due to their ability to grow well in the cool, coastal climate of the island. The schoolhouse, formerly Sportsman's Lake Schoolhouse No. 22, provides a glimpse of history to visitors. Built in 1896, the schoolhouse educated island children until 1915. The vineyards are an excellent diversion along the byway, where visitors can sip wine on the sunny deck and overlook the vineyards, taking full advantage of "island time."



*The vineyards are covered to protect the grapes.*



*The historic schoolhouse at the Vineyards*



*Snowberries are commonly found in hedge rows and elsewhere across the islands*



A view of the Orcas Village waterfront from the doorway of the historic Orcas Hotel



The Deer Harbor marina

## Orcas Island Qualities

### ***Historic Orcas Hotel/Orcas Village***

**(Scenic, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Abundant with historic, cultural, scenic and recreational qualities, Orcas Village welcomes visitors to Orcas Island. This quaint community has been the island's ferry port since 1889. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the stunning 1904 Orcas Hotel graces the village and exudes the charm of its Victorian heritage. Outdoor enthusiasts can join a whale watching excursion or launch for the sea by kayak. The small, quaint village provides lodging, dining, and shopping opportunities.

### ***Deer Harbor***

**(Scenic, Archaeological, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

A quiet hamlet that offers recreational and scenic qualities, Deer Harbor is a 15-minute drive west from Orcas Village. Vacationers can choose from recreational opportunities such as sea kayaking, hiking, sailing, whale watching, and fishing excursions. Once visitors are done recreating, they can relax and enjoy comforting lodging and dining amenities.

Early exploration of the area took place in 1792 by the Spanish and in the 1840s by both the Americans and British. When they first arrived in Deer Harbor, they found a Lummi Indian encampment along the slough. The first non-native settlers arrived in 1852. Deer Harbor is home to several historic buildings from the late 1800s and early 1900s. The historical architecture of Deer Harbor provides lovely and distinct ambiance to travelers wishing to escape modern life. In 1891, the first schoolhouse was built, followed by the first post office in 1893,



Deer Harbor Inn on Orcas Island

which is still in use today. During the 1900s a community developed and a new two-room school house was built in 1905, still in use as the Deer Harbor Community Club. A local family by the name of Norton managed a small orchard from which they made a modest living. In 1910 they began boarding a small group of teachers from Seattle. This evolved into the establishment of the first resort on Orcas Island, which continues in operation today as the Deer Harbor Inn.



Eastsound Village is full of shops, galleries, and cafes.

***Eastsound Village, Village Green, Historic Outlook Inn, and Crescent Beach***

**(Scenic, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Eastsound Village is the most populated community and activity center of Orcas Island. It is situated at the northern end of East Sound and offers a spectacular setting for visitors and residents alike. Eastsound’s charming and walkable downtown area includes the Orcas Island Historical Museum, Village Green, Orcas Center, and numerous galleries, cafés,

and shops. The historic Outlook Inn has been operated as a lodging facility since 1891 (renamed the Outlook Inn in 1941). The Farmers’ Market (seasonal on Saturdays) is located in the Village Green in the heart of town, selling items grown or handcrafted by Orcas Island farmers. The Stage on the Green, which has been recognized for its award-winning architectural design, hosts many events throughout the year. Nearby opportunities to connect with nature include Crescent Beach, where visitors can walk along



*A bicyclist checks out the map of Crescent Beach*

the water's edge, relax, and take in the beautiful beach surroundings of Orcas Island. The Indian Island Marine Health Observatory located at Eastsound Waterfront Park, just a short walk from Main Street, offers a unique opportunity to see rare and unusual sea creatures at low tide. The Funhouse is another great attraction for families and kids with a variety of activities and amusements. Eastsound is an ideal location for byway travelers wishing to experience the Orcas Island lifestyle.



*The Farmers' Market is located in the heart of Eastsound Village.*



The Orcas Island Historical Museum recently added this whimsical sculpture outside the building



### ***Orcas Island Historical Museum***

#### **(Archaeological, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Located in the center of Eastsound, the Orcas Island Historical Museum's mission is to educate, inspire, connect, and involve the community and visitors in the stewardship of the unique island history. A visit to the historical museum unveils the rich history and cultural activities of Coast Salish peoples and early settlers. The museum offers new exhibits, presentations, speakers, tours, research assistance, the annual Historical Day Fair, open house celebrations, regular visitation hours, and opportunities for special appointments. The museum also provides newspaper articles and quarterly publications.

In the 1950s and 1960s, various island families donated six original homestead cabins built during the 1870s and the 1890s to the society. Volunteers disassembled the structures at their original sites, then moved, reconstructed, and linked the structures together to create the main museum facility. Each cabin is a space for interpreting island history as told through the life stories and culture of the First Peoples and early European-American settlers. The museum is unique in being the only object-based, interpretive heritage facility for the island, with a permanent collection comprised of approximately 6,000 objects, paper documents and photographs. Visitors also have the opportunity to see a replica of a 14,000-year-old bison skull on display.

### ***Historic Rosario Resort and Moran Mansion***

#### **(Scenic, Archaeological, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Tucked amongst windswept conifers, the stately Moran Mansion is the centerpiece of the historic Rosario Resort. Robert Moran, a ship builder and former mayor of Seattle, completed the



*Older photo of historic cabin at Orcas Island Historical Museum (before construction of the new building that protects it).*



*Historic relics on display inside the museum*



*Moran Mansion, nestled within the Rosario landscape*



*A grand piano sits among the rich mahogany paneling in the Moran Mansion.*

mansion in 1909. He purchased the grounds in 1904, a total of 7,000 acres that were originally used for hunting and fishing by the Lummi Tribe of the Coast Salish. The design of the Moran Mansion was inspired by Moran's nautical background and the Arts and Crafts Movement. Moran's dedication to the Arts and Crafts mindset is evident throughout the mansion with its rich mahogany paneling, earthen tone tiles, stain glass lighting and unique fireplace hearths. There were no pictures on the walls of the home, for Moran felt that "at Rosario you view the outside beauties of nature." He hired the leading landscape architectural firm of the day, the Olmsted Brothers, to enhance the grounds with their trademark naturalistic landscapes, water features, and paths.

In 1938, Moran sold Rosario to Donald Rheem. Rosario was Rheem's vacation home for 20 years, but his wife Alice ended up making it her permanent residence, literally. Stories of her ghost still haunting the mansion make for a unique paranormal attraction. Rosario was sold to Texan Ralph Curtain in 1958, who intended to make it into a resort. This dream was not realized when his oil wells dried up, and he was forced to sell it for half the original purchase price in 1960 to Gil Geiser of Seattle. Geiser opened Rosario Resort on April 1, 1960. The Resort is now under new family ownership, and a master plan has recently been developed that protects the resort's unique history, while also maximizing its long-term viability.

Recognized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the property still retains a link to its turn-of-the-century origins, as is evident by the artful restoration. The building boasts an impressive 6,000 square feet of teak parquet floors and houses

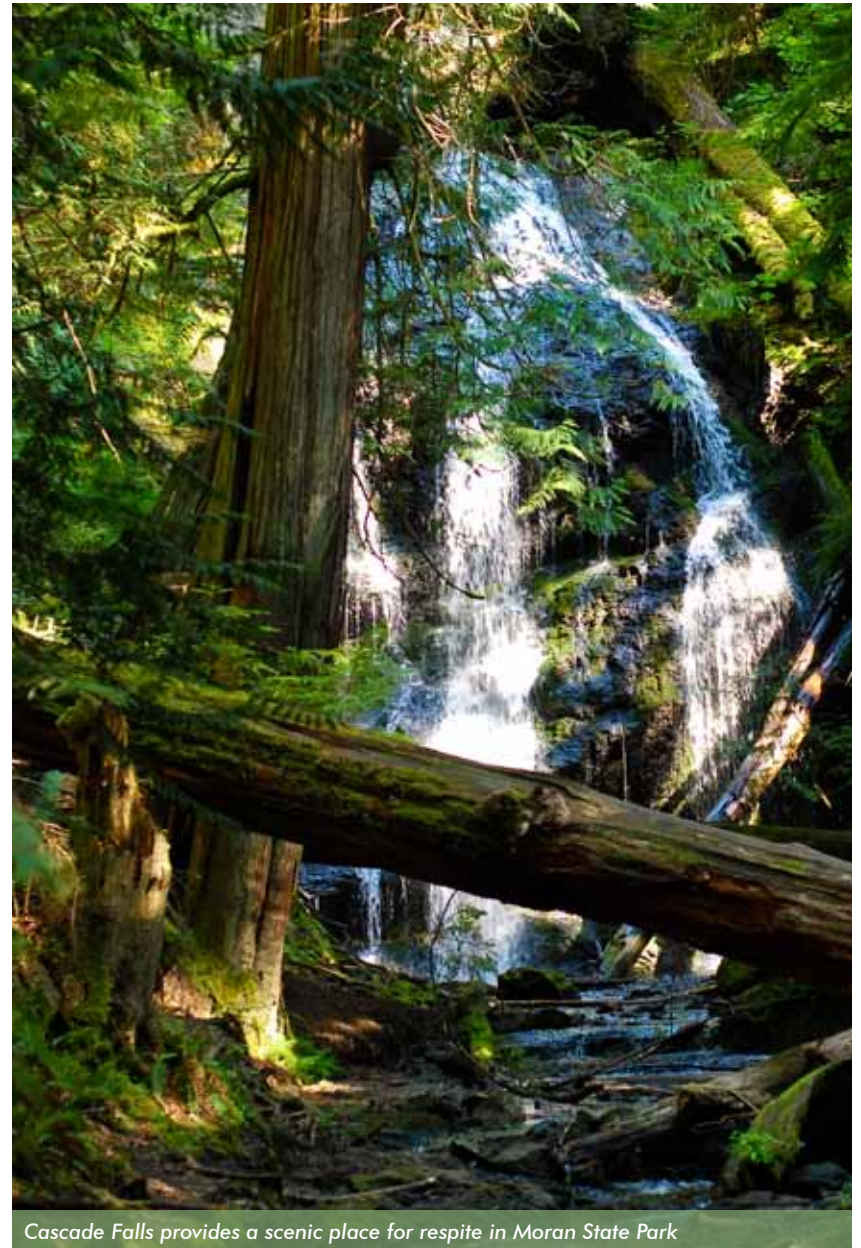
the resort's art gallery, historical museum, and famed music room featuring Tiffany chandeliers, a Steinway grand piano, and a renowned Aeolian pipe organ. Rosario is a popular destination for weddings, whale watching/wildlife cruises, kayak tours, swimming, and boating. It provides an ideal escape for those who love nature, outdoor activities, and cultural attractions.

### ***Moran State Park and Mount Constitution***

**(Scenic, Natural, Archaeological, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

Donated by Robert Moran, Moran State Park includes 5,252 acres with five freshwater lakes, waterfalls, campsites and over 30 miles of hiking trails. Mr. and Mrs. Moran presented the original 2,600 acres to Washington State in 1921. By 1928, they had added another thousand acres, and since then the park has been enlarged by various means of acquisition. People come to enjoy picnicking, camping, swimming, hiking, bicycling, boating, fishing, and the Environmental Learning Center. The Park has over 38 miles of foot trails, many of which were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930s. The CCC also constructed 21 buildings throughout the Park. The trails range in difficulty level from a fairly level two and a half mile walk around Cascade Lake to the more demanding climb from Cascade Lake to the summit of Mount Constitution. The Park bustles with wildlife activity, and people often spot black tailed deer, river otters, mink, and raccoons. Bald eagles, kingfishers, and great blue herons can be seen year round. In the winter, trumpeter swans and a variety of ducks are found on Cascade Lake.

The highest point in the San Juan Islands is 2,409-foot-high Mount Constitution, offering panoramic views of the surrounding San Juan Islands, Cascade and Olympic Mountains, and



*Cascade Falls provides a scenic place for respite in Moran State Park*



Historic entrance arch at Moran State Park (on the byway)



*Preparing for some mid-day canoeing in Cascade Lake at Moran State Park*

Vancouver Island. Mount Constitution is entirely contained within Moran State Park. The historic stone tower at the summit, constructed by the CCC in 1927, was patterned after the twelfth-century watchtowers of the Causcaus Mountains in southeastern Europe. The tower underwent extensive restoration during the winter of 2003-2004. The Friends of Moran volunteers operate the Summit Gift Shop and are working to open a new interpretive center at the summit. The top of Mount Constitution is a must-see "side trip" from the scenic byway. It takes less than a half hour to reach the top by car.



*The tower at the top of Mount Constitution is a must-see at Moran State Park.*



Flowers adorn the windows of the historic strawberry packing building at Olga Corner

### ***Olga/Historic Strawberry Packing Building and Artists' Cooperative***

**(Scenic, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

An artists' cooperative and gallery is housed in a 1936 strawberry-packing plant in the hamlet of Olga. Nearly fifty Orcas Island artists and crafts people, working in pottery, sculpture, jewelry, glass, wood, paintings, prints, fiber, and more display their works at the cooperative, one of the oldest the country. The onsite café is a favorite destination for islanders and visitors alike. The homemade cinnamon rolls are a very popular item on the menu and have been known to sell out an hour after they've been baked!



The beach at Obstruction Pass State Park

### ***Obstruction Pass State Park***

**(Scenic, Natural, Recreational)**

This small but popular recreational state park is less than two miles from the Olga to Doe Bay road on the southeast tip of Orcas Island. Visitors can take an easy half-mile hike to find ten campsites scattered among the trees above a unique pebble beach. (Boaters can access the campsites from the water.) South facing views of Lopez Island, Blakely Island, and Obstruction Island are visible from the campsites. Three mooring cans sit offshore, and there is sufficient space for anchoring boats. The beach makes a great spot to land kayaks. Obstruction Pass State Park is part of the Cascadia Marine Trail, a network of over 50 campsites throughout the Puget Sound. Visitors often enjoy their stay at the park by hiking through the forest, strolling along the beach, picnicking, and taking in the surrounding sights and sounds of nature. There are soaring eagles and osprey, and many sea birds. Providing a very secluded setting on the water, the Park is a camping jewel.

### ***Historic Doe Bay Resort***

**(Scenic, Historic, Cultural, Recreational)**

The scenic experience of the byway comes to a fitting terminus at this rural hamlet on the southern end of Orcas Island known as Doe Bay. Towering trees, blankets of wildflowers, and the soft sea breeze create a relaxing natural ambiance. Beautiful, quiet shorelines and forests can be enjoyed at the resort or one of the few

vacation cottages available for guests. A rustic Northwest icon, the historic Doe Bay Resort offers a unique alternative to the traditional destination resort.

On over thirty-three acres of pristine waterfront property, the small, historic resort provides a variety of accommodations in a relaxing, down-to-earth environment. Guests enjoy massage, yoga, sea kayaking,

hot tubs, garden tours, tide pooling and relaxing in an Adirondack chair overlooking the spectacular water view. The onsite café draws on the abundance of Orcas Island farms and fishermen for fresh ingredients. Some of the produce is even harvested from the onsite organic garden. The Resort is often described as “neo-hippie” for its clothing-optional soaking tubs and laissez-faire style.



*The historic Doe Bay Resort and Retreat attracts visitors and Orcas islanders alike.*



*Clothing is optional in the hot tubs at historic Doe Bay Resort and Retreat.*

**FIGURE 4.1 SCENIC BYWAY INTRINSIC QUALITIES MAP**





INTRINSIC QUALITIES & SPECIAL PLACES	SCENIC	NATURAL	ARCHAEOLOGICAL	HISTORIC	CULTURAL	RECREATIONAL
<b>BYWAY-WIDE</b>						
• Outstanding Scenic and Natural Qualities	✓	✓				
• Thousands of Years of Cultural Heritage			✓	✓	✓	
• Interactions with Nature & Stewardship Opportunities	✓	✓			✓	✓
• Festivals, Events & Performances	✓			✓	✓	✓
• Abundant Recreation Opportunities	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
<b>SALISH SEA</b>						
1 Portals to the Byway: Ferry Terminals	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
2 Across the Salish Sea: The Marine Route to and through the SJIs	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
<b>SAN JUAN ISLAND</b>						
3 Town of Friday Harbor	✓			✓	✓	✓
4 San Juan Historical Museum			✓	✓	✓	✓
5 The Whale Museum		✓		✓	✓	✓
6 Jackson Beach	✓	✓				✓
7 American Camp Unit of San Juan Island National Historical Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8 Cattle Point Interpretive Area/Lighthouse	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
9 Lime Kiln Point State Park a.k.a. Whale Watch Park/Lighthouse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10 San Juan County Park	✓	✓		✓		✓
11 English Camp Unit of San Juan Island National Historical Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12 San Juan Islands Museum of Art & Sculpture Park	✓			✓	✓	✓
13 Historic Roche Harbor Resort	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
14 Historic Schoolhouse at the Vineyards	✓			✓	✓	✓
<b>ORCAS ISLAND</b>						
15 Orcas Village/Historic Orcas Hotel	✓			✓	✓	✓
16 Deer Harbor	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
17 Eastsound Village, Village Green, Historic Outlook Inn, and Crescent Beach	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
18 Orcas Island Historical Museum			✓	✓	✓	✓
19 Historic Rosario Resort and Moran Mansion	✓			✓	✓	✓
20 Moran State Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21 Mount Constitution/Interpretive Center	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
22 Olga/Artists' Cooperative in Historic Building	✓			✓	✓	✓
23 Obstruction Pass State Park	✓	✓				✓
24 Historic Doe Bay Resort	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
<b>BOTH ISLANDS</b>						
25 Farms & Farmstands Open to the Public	✓			✓	✓	✓
26 Art Galleries, Studios & Potteries Open to the Public	✓			✓	✓	✓

**FIGURE 4.2 SAN JUAN ISLAND INTRINSIC QUALITIES MAP**



**SAN JUAN ISLANDS SCENIC BYWAY  
INTRINSIC QUALITIES**

**SALISH SEA**

- 1 Portals to the Byway: Ferry Terminals
- 2 Across the Salish Sea: The Marine Route to and through the San Juan Islands

**SAN JUAN ISLAND**

- 3 Town of Friday Harbor
- 4 San Juan Historical Museum
- 5 The Whale Museum
- 6 Jackson Beach
- 7 American Camp Unit of San Juan Island National Historical Park
- 8 Cattle Point Interpretive Area/Lighthouse
- 9 Lime Kiln Point State Park a.k.a. Whale Watch Park/Lighthouse
- 10 San Juan County Park
- 11 English Camp Unit of San Juan Island National Historical Park
- 12 San Juan Islands Museum of Art & Sculpture Park
- 13 Historic Roche Harbor Resort
- 14 Historic Schoolhouse at the Vineyards

**BOTH ISLANDS**

- 25 Farms & Farmstands Open to the Public\*
- 26 Art Galleries, Studios & Potteries Open to the Public\*

**LEGEND**

- Byway Land Routes (Main Routes)
- Byway Marine Routes
- Byway Spurs and Loops
- Alternative Bicycle Routes\*\*
- Ferry Route from Sidney B.C.
- Public Lands

\*Note: Only locations on and near the byway are shown. For a full list of farms, farmstands, art galleries, studios, and potteries contact the Visitors Bureau and local chambers ([www.visitsanjuans.com](http://www.visitsanjuans.com), [www.sanjuanisland.org](http://www.sanjuanisland.org) and <http://orcasislandchamber.com>)

\*\*Note: Portions are gravel.



LEGEND	
	Byway Land Routes (Main Routes)
	Byway Marine Routes
	Byway Spurs and Loops
	Historic District

**SAN JUAN ISLANDS SCENIC BYWAY INTRINSIC QUALITIES**

**SALISH SEA**

- 1 Portals to the Byway: Ferry Terminals
- 2 Across the Salish Sea: The Marine Route to and through the San Juan Islands

**SAN JUAN ISLAND**

- 3 Town of Friday Harbor
- 4 San Juan Historical Museum
- 5 The Whale Museum
- 26 Art Galleries, Studios & Potteries Open to the Public\*

*\*Note: Only locations on and near the byway are shown. For a full list of farms, farmstands, art galleries, studios, and potteries contact the Visitors Bureau and local chambers ([www.visitsanjuans.com](http://www.visitsanjuans.com), [www.sanjuanisland.org](http://www.sanjuanisland.org) and <http://orcasislandchamber.com>)*

**FIGURE 4.4 ORCAS ISLAND INTRINSIC QUALITIES MAP**



FIGURE 4.5 DETAIL MAP OF EASTSOUND ON ORCAS ISLAND



LEGEND	
	Byway Land Routes (Main Routes)
	Byway Spurs and Loops
	Alternative Bicycle Routes

**SAN JUAN ISLANDS SCENIC BYWAY INTRINSIC QUALITIES**

- 17** Eastsound Village, Village Green, Historic Outlook Inn and Crescent Beach
- 18** Orcas Island Historical Museum
- 26** Art Galleries, Studios & Potteries Open to the Public\*

\*Note: Only locations on and near the byway are shown. For a full list of farms, farmstands, art galleries, studios, and potteries contact the Visitors Bureau and local chambers ([www.visitsanjuans.com](http://www.visitsanjuans.com), [www.sanjuanisland.org](http://www.sanjuanisland.org) and <http://orcasislandchamber.com>)