Howard Point

Thurston County - New Name

Township: 18N Range: 2W Section: 11

USGS Quad: Tumwater

Location Description: Cape; 1.2 acres; in the City of Olympia on the E side of East Bay, 1.2 mi. SE of Priest Point.

Proposal Summary: Howard Point: cape; 1.2 acres; in the City of Olympia on the E side of East Bay, 1.2 mi. SE of Priest Point; named for Alexander (1810?-1890) and Rebecca (1827-1881) Howard, African-American pioneers and business owners whose home was located near the cape in the 1860s and 1870s; Sec 11, T18N, R2W, Willamette Meridian; Thurston County, Washington; 47°03′20″N, 122°53′39″W; USGS map – Tumwater 1:24,000.

This proposal is to make official the name Howard Point for a cape on the east shore of East Bay in the City of Olympia in Thurston County. The name would commemorate Alexander (1810-1890) and Rebecca (1827-1881) Howard who, according to the proponent, lived near the cape. By 1859, the Howards had moved to Olympia from Massachusetts. By the fall of that year, they began to operate the Pacific Restaurant (formerly the Pacific House), a prominent hotel in Olympia.

The Howards were successful business owners, invested in the development of Olympia, and donated money to fund the first railroad to the city. According to a pamphlet titled "Olympia Area Black Pioneers," published in 2013, "The Howards retired to a small farm on Olympia's east side after accumulating a modest fortune from business investments." They are buried in the Masonic Cemetery about three miles south of the cape proposed to be officially named Howard Point.

The name Howard Point is used for the cape on the Whitham and Page's 1890 Map of Olympia and Surroundings and was also mentioned in a 1906 article in the Washington Standard.

Proponent:

Edward Echtle 4822 N 8th Street Tacoma, WA 98406 **Proposal Received:** 2/20/2018 **Initial Consideration:** 6/20/2018 **Final Consideration:** 12/7/2018

WA Committee Decision: Approved

WA Board Decision: US Board Decision:

Opinions:

Contacted for Opinion:
Thurston County Commissioners
City of Olympia
Olympia Historical Society
WA State Historical Society
NOAA
Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Puyallup Tribe
Squaxin Island Tribe

Opinions Received IN FAVOR:
East Bay Drive Neighborhood Association
Olympia Historical Society
Olympia Tumwater Foundation
Northwest Institute for Leadership and Change
Jennifer Crooks - Local Citizen
Drew Cooks - Local Historian
Carol Thomas - Local Citizen
Harry Thomas - Local Citizen
Richard Ditlevson - Local Citizen
Esther Mumford - Local Researcher and Writer

DOMESTIC GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSAL SUMMARY
PROPOSE NEW OR CHANGE NAME
Name Proposal ID
9375
Date Created:
14-FEB-18
14-FED-1D
Date Submitted:
14-FEB-18
Proposed Name:
Howard Point
Action Requested:
Name an unnamed feature
Existing Name:
Existing Name.
Unnamed Evidence:
Does not appear in GNIS Database, on current USGS Maps or NOAA Charts
Locally Used:
No
Locally Used Years:
-
Local Conflict:
No
Local Conflict Detail:
Additional Details:
•
FEATURE INFORMATION
GNIS Feature ID:
Feature class:
DON'T KNOW
Descriptive information:
A small point of land on the east shore of the East Bay Channel of Budd Inlet, within the city of Olympia, Thurston County, Washington State.
Meaning or significance:

Named for the pioneer Alexander and Rebecca Howard family whose home was located here in the 1860s and 1870s. The name was in local use in the 19th century. The Howards were prominent business people and one of the earliest African American families to settle in Washington Territory.

Commemorative:

Yes

Biographical information:

Rebecca Groundage Howard (1827-1881) and Alexander Howard (1810-1890) were free Black citizens who relocated to Olympia from Massachusetts in the 1850s. The Howards conducted a restaurant and hotel in Olympia Washington in the late 1950s through the 1860s. They also invested in property in Olympia and were strong advocates for the city's development. In the 1870s they donated a significant amount of money to help fund the first railroad in Olympia.

Supporting materials:

Yes

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Fifename	Comments
Mural.jpg	Mural in Olympia near the site of the Howard's Hotel.
Olympia Area Black Pioneers.pdf	City of Olympia Historical Brochure: Olympia area Black Pioneers- see section "Pacific House Hotel"
1906-2-2 WA Standard.JPG	1906 Washington Standard newspaper article showing the name "Howard Point" in local use
Crooks - Rebecca Howard.pdf	Article by Jennifer Crooks re: the Howards.
1890 Map of Olympia - Howard Point JPG	1890 Whitham's real estate map of Olympia, detail view
1889-7-12 WA Standard JPG	Washington Standard Newspaper, 12 July 1889 showing Howards lived at the site.
1861-1-17 Puget Sound Herald JPG	1861 news article lauding Mrs Howard's hotel and restaurant.
1863-10-10 SF Pacific Appeal - Pacific House.JPG	1863 advertisement for the Howard's Pacific House Hotel and Restaurant
1874-3-19 PS Dispatch JPG	1874 article showing the Howards' support for a railroad to Olympia.

STATES AND COUNTIES

State Name County Name Washington Thurston

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

Obtained From	Describe Other	Lat Deg	Min	Sec		Long Deg	Min	Sec	Decimal Lat	Decimal Long	Details
Other	Google Maps		-	-	-	-	-		47 055546	-122.894300	-

ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS

Administrative Area Type	Administrative Area Name	Details
City	(-	Olympia

MAPS AND DOCUMENTS WITH NAME

Source Type	Details	Source Date
Map	Whitham and Page's map of Olympia and surroundings, 1890. Held by the Washington State Digital Archives	1890

OTHER (VARIANT) NAMES AND THEIR SOURCE

No information entered

AUTHORITIES

1 1	F1	Ph.	#005A # 14 .000		m.				
Last Name	First Name	Phone	Email Address	Physical Address	City	State	Zip	Occupation	Years
Sadiler	Michelle	3607538031	msadlier@ci.olympia.wa.us	601 4th Ave E	Olympia	Washington	98501	City of Olympia Historic Preservation Officer	5

SUBMITTERS AND PREPARERS

Role	Last Name	First Name	Phone	Email Address	Physical Address	City	State	Zip	Company	Title	
BOTH	Echtle	Edward	3604852396	echtle research@outlook.com	4822 n 8th st	Tacoma	WA	98406	-	-	

Comments

Received



P.O. BOX 4098, TUMWATER, WA 98501

VOICE: 360.943.2550 FAX: 360.943.6755

E-MAIL: otf@olytumfoundation.org WEB: www.olytumfoundation.org

October 25, 2018

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary Washington Committee on Geographic Names PO Box 47030 Olympia WA 98504-7030

RE: Howard Point, Thurston County

Dear Mr. Maki:

This letter is in support of a request to name Howard Point within the City of Olympia. Rebecca Howard was a noteworthy early resident of the area, and as one of the very few African American businesspeople in Olympia in the mid-1800s, certainly deserves to serve as an eponym for the designated point of land.

Please share this letter of support with your committee members. Your approval of this proposal will honor Rebecca Howard and her contributions to our state's history.

Thank you.

Karen L. Johnson, Curator

Schmidt House

November 26, 2018

Caleb Maki

Executive Secretary: WA Committee on Geographic Names

PO Box 47030

Olympia, WA 98504-7030

Dear Mr. Maki,

I am writing in support of the proposal to officially name "Howard Point" in Olympia after the Howard family. I was very excited to hear that this was under consideration when I heard it proposed at the CONGA conference in Tacoma earlier this year.

This is a long overdue honor to Rebecca and Alexander Howard, two of Olympia's foremost African American pioneers. I wrote the chapter written about Rebecca Howard in *Olympia, Washington: A People's History* that is referenced in the proposal.

I am also pleased that the name will honor the entire Howard family, both Rebecca and Alexander. Too often Alexander has been left out of historical memory and scholarship. The Howards accomplished much despite a culture of racism and sexism and naming a geographic feature after them is a well-deserved honor.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Crooks

3512 Southampton CT SE Olympia, WA 98501

Email: jncrooks@comcast.net



October 23, 2018

Washington Committee on Geographic Names PO Box 47030 Olympia, WA 98504-7030

Dear Committee:

The Olympia Historical Society and Bigelow House Museum endorses the proposal for Howard Point which is on the agenda for the December 7, 2018 Meeting of the Committee.

The documentation provided by Ed Echtle illustrates the historic connections of the name and also the importance of the Howard family to Olympia history. The name on the early maps was a tangible reminder of their role in area development and commerce. Restoring the name on maps will be another way to commemorate that heritage.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope that the Howard name for this geographic feature will provide an impetus for further interpretation of the family's history as well as bring attention to the diversity of Olympia's past.

Sincerely.

Shirley Battan, President

Olympia Historical Society and Bigelow House Museum

PO Box 1821

Olympia, WA 98507



August 16, 2018

Washington State Board on Geographic Names PO Box 47030 Olympia, WA 98504-7030



Dear Members of the Washington State Board on Geographic Names,

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust (CDLT) supports the proposed name change of Squaw Saddle (Chelan County) to Saddle Rock. We refer to "Squaw Saddle" as Saddle Rock in all of our publications and urge the official name change by your board. This very prominent geographic feature is commonly known by all in the greater Wenatchee area and across North Central Washington as Saddle Rock.

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust conserves, cares for, and delivers public access to the lands and waters that sustain North Central Washington. We work with local organizations, businesses, and individuals to protect what we all hold dear: beautiful natural areas, a strong economy, clean air and water, abundant wildlife, and the freedom to enjoy it all. We started in 1985 as a volunteer organization made up of Wenatchee Valley residents with a vision of a healthy and prosperous future for Chelan and Douglas Counties. Since then we've grown to over 2,500 members committed to preserving our natural areas. CDLT's successful Foothills Campaign concluded in December, 2013, raising \$8.67 million from more than 600 donors. The funds raised by the campaign allowed for the purchase and provision of on-going stewardship of the Saddle Rock Natural Area and other key properties in the Foothills.

The City of Wenatchee acquired the 325-acre Saddle Rock Natural Area (SRNA) from the Department of Natural Resources in 2011 with a grant from the State Recreation Conservation Funding Board, and with private funds raised by CDLT. The Land Trust owns nearby lands, holds conservation easements on adjacent properties, and manages the trail system at Saddle Rock and across the Wenatchee Foothills. CDLT provided matching funds for the City's Saddle Rock Gateway Project, funded by a State Recreation Conservation Office grant to build a permanent trailhead, parking lot, covered shelters, and an outdoor classroom, completed in 2017. Colville tribal elder, Wendell George, presented a blessing during the Saddle Rock Gateway dedication celebration on June 29, 2017.

Thank you for considering this proposed name change, and for the opportunity to provide input.

Curt Soper, Executive Director

MAKI, CALEB (DNR)

From: Steilacoom Tribe <steilacoomtribe@msn.com>

Sent: Monday, November 19, 2018 3:39 PM

To: MAKI, CALEB (DNR)

Subject: Re: Geographic Name Proposal Opinion Request

Caleb,

Your message was received and appreciated. The Steilacoom Tribe does place a level of importance in the geographic names in the State of Washington. We do not have a historical reference to this geographic location. Therefore, no opinion in favor or against is issued on behalf of the Steilacoom Tribe.

Danny Marshall, Anthropologist
Tribal Chair, Steilacoom Indian Tribal Council

From: MAKI, CALEB (DNR) < CALEB.MAKI@dnr.wa.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 16, 2018 1:16 PM

To: culture@cowlitz.org; brandon.reynon@puyalluptribe.com; steilacoomtribe@msn.com

Subject: Geographic Name Proposal Opinion Request

The Washington State Committee on Geographic Names has received a request to make an official name change for a geographic feature located in Washington State. Because Commissioner Franz recognizes that tribes have an integral and interdependent relationship with natural areas, we invite your participation in reviewing this request.

In summary, the proponent would like to name "Howard Point" in honor of Alexander (1810?-1890) and Rebecca (1827-1881) Howard, African-American pioneers and business owners whose home was located near the cape in the 1860s and 1870s

The WA State Committee on Geographic Names will be hearing this proposal on **December 7,2018.** You may respond to this email with your official opinion, or fill out and return the attached opinion form.

For more detailed information regarding this name issue, please visit the committee's website at:

http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/board-natural-resources/committee-geographic-names

I have also attached the proposal to this email for your review.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mike Iyall, Cowlitz Indian Tribe, mikenjoan@comcast.net, (360) 456-8720 or myself (contact information below). If your office is not the correct one to contact on this issue, I would appreciate it if you would let me know, and if possible, forward this to the appropriate office.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter and I look forward to hearing from you.

Caleb A. Maki

Photogrammetrist 3 – Engineering Division

Executive Secretary – Washington State Committee on Geographic Names

Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Phone: 360-902-1280 / Fax: 360-902-1778

caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov

November 25, 2018

Caleb Maki

Executive Secretary: WA Committee on Geographic Names

PO Box 47030

Olympia, WA 98504-7030

Dear Mr. Maki,

As a local historian interested in the history of Olympia, I strongly support making "Howard Point" the official name for a small point on the eastern shore of Budd Inlet in Thurston County, Washington. Rebecca and Alexander Howard contributed much to the development of Olympia in the nineteenth century. Their achievements are even more remarkable if you consider the often racist environment they lived in. The couple deserves recognition. Because of the Howards historical connection to the point, it makes sense to name the geographical feature after them.

Sincerely,

Drew Crooks

dwchistory@comcast.net 3512 Southampton CT SE

Olympia, WA 98501

WASHINGTON STATE COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

P.O.Box 47030, Olympia WA 98504-7030 Fax (360) 902-1778

Please comment on the following name proposal. Attached you'll find the information regarding this proposed name that will assist you in your comments. If needed, attach additional sheets or information. Note: The proposed name is not yet official and should not be published on any official documents.

Proposed Name: Howard Point	County: Thurston County					
I'm in favor of this proposal I oppose	this proposal I have no objection to proposal					
Comments, Please explain:						
history of Olympia as it relates to the co success of the downtown area. For quit building next to the parking for that serv As the downtown continues to develop,	"Howard's Point". I have just begun to delve into the ntribution of the Howard family to the growth and e a long time I have looked at the Mural on the yed as the site of the "hotel" and wondered about it. Who knows how long that building will stand? If this proper display will be install in a place visible to the ear the actual cape.					
pedestrians who constantly want past in	the detail cape.					
Please sign and return the completed conference of the complete of the complet	Carol Ditlevson Thomas Printed Name	Text				
11/28/2018 Date	cardit@msn.com Email					
() 206-219-7374 Telephone Number	Representing:					

It is important to make copies and keep originals of referenced material, historical documentation, articles, and other information relating to the above names.

WASHINGTON STATE COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

P.O.Box 47030, Olympia WA 98504-7030 Fax (360) 902-1778

Please comment on the following name proposal. Attached you'll find the information regarding this proposed name that will assist you in your comments. If needed, attach additional sheets or information. Note: The proposed name is not yet official and should not be published on any official documents.

Proposed Name: Howard Point	County: Thurston County
I'm in favor of this proposal I o	oppose this proposal I have no objection to proposal
Comments, Please explain:	
	to name "Howard Point". I believe it is a fitting way to
	ribution made to the Olympia community by this generous
family. The historical records note	e that both Alexander and Rebecca earned the respect and
gratitude of their neighbors over a	a number of years despite the undercurrent of racism and
bigotry the made their lives very o	difficult.
	eted comment sheet to the Washington State Committee on
Geographic Names	
	Harry Thomas
Signature	Printed Name
11/28/2018	Harry_C_Thomas@msn.com
Date	Email
Date	Ellian
206-369-8972	Representing:
Telephone Number	representing:
r cichitotic iaminoci	

It is important to make copies and keep originals of referenced material, historical documentation, articles, and other information relating to the above names.

WASHINGTON STATE COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

P.O.Box 47030, Olympia WA 98504-7030 Fax (360) 902-1778

Please comment on the following name proposal. Attached you'll find the information regarding this proposed name that will assist you in your comments. If needed, attach additional sheets or information. Note: The proposed name is not yet official and should not be published on any official documents.

Proposed Name: Howard Point County: Thurston County

I'm in favor of this proposal I oppo	ose this proposal I have no objection to proposal
Comments, Please explain: My wife and I live on or near the property once	owned by the Howards and we support the proposal to name Howard Point.
We were totally unaware of the Howards or the their home was located where ours now is. We	eir significance in early Olympia history. We are fascinated by the fact that the think it is entirely fitting and appropriate to recognize these significant
people and their significant contribution to our	community by naming the point in their honor.
Please sign and return the completed Geographic Names	comment sheet to the Washington State Committee on
of the of the	Richard L. Ditlevson
Signature	Printed Name
November 28, 2018	nipnm@msn.com
Date	Email
(360) 943-5838 Telephone Number	Representing:

It is important to make copies and keep originals of referenced material, historical documentation, articles, and other information relating to the above names.

November 26, 2018

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committe on Geographic Names
P O Box 47030
Olympia, Washington 98504-7030

Dear Chair Maki:

I am writing in support of the naming of the point of land on the east shore of the East Bay Channel of Budd Inlet after Alexander and Rebecca Groundage Howard, prominent African American pioneers. I am a researcher and writer who became familiar with the Howards more than thirty years ago. As the years have passed and I continue to acquire more information about them, I have come to appreciate their significance to the history, culture and economy of Olympia during the territorial period.

The Howards are two examples of early settlers who were well known to their contemporaries, but awareness of their presence and contributions has disappeared from common knowledge.

Because of their civic and business activities the location of their home site has significance both locally and statewide. During their lifetimes at the nominated site their neighbors and townspeople were readily familiar with them and their agricultural successes which ranged from bountiful crops, samples of which were exhibited at Thurston County fairs, to Mrs. Howard's sale of dried vegetables to San Francisco markets processed on a newly-invented produce drier in which she was partial investor.

Practically everyone in town knew of their hosting of territorial legislators and national officials including President Rutherford B. Hayes, the first sitting president to visit Washington Territory, at their Pacific House Hotel. Visiting clergy at the St. John's Episcopal Church found lodging with the Howards, parishioners whose generous monetary donations, and near-famous ice cream for the church's Ladies' Society fundraisers, were much appreciated.

Like other residents of similar circumstances during the Civil War, they paid a luxury tax for valuables, in their case, for Mrs. Howard's watch. She was counted among the supporters of the campaign for women's suffrage. When the proposal for a railroad to Olympia was introduced the Howards joined the effort without hesitation, donating land for a railroad right of way. They also purchased goods and services from local vendors and employed local people at the hotel.

Though a small site, formal designation of Howard Point has the potential to inspire African American children and people of all races to further their awareness of the contributions of the Howards and people of all races to the growth and development of our state. Such recognition is an important step towards a lasting connection to this couple and a more representative history of Washington State.

Yours truly,

Esther Mumford

Cc: City of Olympia Historic Preservation Office

Northwest Institute for Leadership & Change

November 26, 2018

Washington State Committee on Geographic Names PO Box 47030 Olympia, WA 98504-7030

RE: Howard Point Naming Project

Dear Committee Members;

On behalf of the Northwest Institute for Leadership and Change (NWILC), we enthusiastically endorse and lend our support to the efforts of Mr. Ed Echtle in the naming of Howard Point in Olympia. The NWILC is actively working and committed to researching, identifying, and documenting the Black History of the greater Thurston County area. Black pioneers who occupied the area of Olympia being sought to be named Howard Point are a significant part of this history. As an historian, I have been engaged with local historical societies and other historians in documenting and interpreting the lives and contributions of Olympia-area Black pioneers. We are currently working on the Thurston County African American Oral History Project for the years 1950-1975.

This small parcel of land on the eastern shore of Budd Inlet was the residence of the Howard Family, significant contributors to the social and economic fiber of Olympia during the mid-1800s. Formally naming this small parcel Howard Point would add significantly to the historic landmarks that represent Black pioneers and their contributions to the settlement of Olympia.

We encourage you to approve this proposal and recommend inclusion to the US Board of Geographic Names. Thank you for your serious consideration and support of this request.

Most sincerely,

Thelma A. Jackson

Dr. Thelma A. Jackson Founder and President thelmajackson@comcast.net www.nwilc.org

RESOLUTION

December 5, 2018

In a meeting called by President Richard Wolf, the Board of Directors of the East Bay Drive Neighborhood Association fully endorsed the proposal made by Edward Echtle to make official the name Howard Point for the small cape entirely within the bounds of our neighborhood.

Richard Wolf

President

Den Law

Vice President

Marcia Wolf, Secretary

Marin Waly

Marc Webster

Treasurer

Kelli Morgan



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESDURCES

CONDUTTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

PO Box 47030 Olympia, WA 98504-7030

350-902-1280 BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

November 26, 2018

Edward Echtle 4822 N 8th Street Tacoma, WA 98406

Dear Edward Echtle,

Your proposal to name **Howard Point** is scheduled for its *final* hearing before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names on **12/7/2018** in Olympia.

Proposed names may receive two or more hearings before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names. Meetings are usually held twice a year. At the first meeting, the Committee decides whether or not to consider the name, and at the second, the Committee makes a decision to approve, deny, or defer the proposed name.

In the intervening months, the Committee staff solicits opinions and comments from historical societies, county officials, federal agencies, mountaineering clubs, and any other group or person who can provide information or an informed opinion on the proposal. The Committee uses this information to make a decision according to guidelines previously established by the Committee.

If there is additional pertinent information (names and addresses of longtime residents, property owners adjacent to the feature, or historical information to help us in our research) beyond what is provided in the Geographic Name Application, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

You are welcome to attend the hearing on your proposal, and will be given an opportunity to make a statement or provide information or clarification at that time. An agenda for the next Committee on Geographic Names meeting will be mailed to you prior to the meeting.

If you have any questions or additional information to convey, please call me at (360) 902-1280, or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary

Washington Committee on Geographic Names

PO Box 47030

Olympia, WA 98504-7030

(360) 902-1280

caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov

an M.



DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES PO Box 47030 Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280 BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

December 7, 2018

Edward Echtle 4822 N 8th Street Tacoma, WA 98406

Dear Edward Echtle.

At the **December 7, 2018** meeting of the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names, the Committee voted to send your application to name **Howard Point** located in **Thurston County** to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve.

All information on your proposal will be forwarded to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names for their consideration at a future meeting.

When the Board selects a date to hear your proposal, a letter will be sent to you informing you of the date and time your proposal will be heard.

If you have any questions, please call me at (360) 902-1280 or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in geographic names.

Sincerely,

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary

Washington Committee on Geographic Names

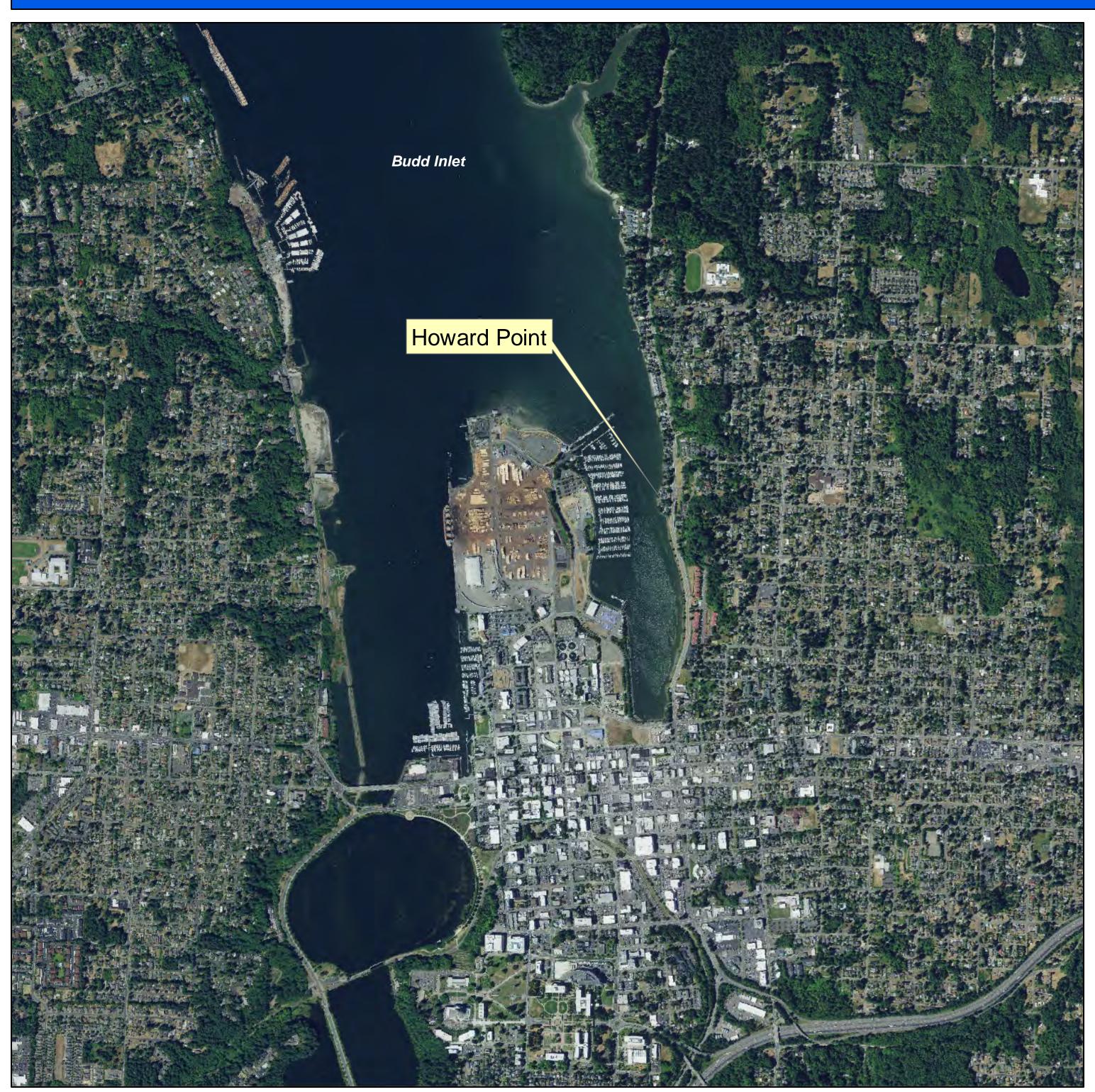
P.O. Box 47030

Olympia, WA 98504-7030

(360) 902-1280

caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov

HOWARD POINT - THURSTON COUNTY



Cape; 1.2 acres; in the City of Olympia on the E side of East Bay, 1.2 mi. SE of Priest Point.

This proposal is to make official the name Howard Point for a cape on the east shore of East Bay in the City of Olympia in Thurston County. The name would commemorate Alexander (1810-1890) and Rebecca (1827-1881) Howard who, according to the proponent, lived near the cape.

By 1859, the Howards had moved to Olympia from Massachusetts. By the fall of that year, they began to operate the Pacific Restaurant (formerly the Pacific House), a prominent hotel in Olympia.

