Waterfront District Heritage Trail

Bellingham, WA



An industrial past shapes Bellingham's newest neighborhood

The Port and City of Bellingham are redeveloping the site of a former pulp and paper mill in Bellingham's downtown Waterfront District into a vibrant, mixed-use neighborhood. AldrichPears was hired to design a Heritage Trail for the site that follows the story of Bellingham's pulp and paper industry and honors the waterfront's industrial history.

As part of an outdoor trail at this evolving development, APA knew that the designs had to be durable and flexible. Working with project architects and stakeholders, APA developed a concept plan that uses robust, modular exhibit structures to interpret the large-scale equipment and buildings preserved at the site. Each exhibit pairs historical photos and interpretive text with intriguing, touchable artifacts to help visitors contextualize the industrial processes that have shaped Bellingham's waterfront for over 100 years.

