Manhole Bingo

Abstract

This report highlights a birds-eye view of the location of 54,005 maintenance holes spread across Seattle. The visualization was created using Tableau and the data was sourced from the City of Seattle's website. Additionally, contained within this document is a brief explanation of the inspiration behind the visual, a manhole bingo board, a brief history of Seattle's manhole art, and examples of covers found in the city. The data to create the visual is listed in the appendix.

Data Visualization



Source: https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/ryan.page/viz/Seattle-ManholeBingo-Satellite/ManholeBingoSatellite

Description of the Above Image

This visualization showcases the greater metropolitan area of Seattle, WA and the location of all of the maintenance holes in the City of Seattle; further, it displays the geographic landscape surrounding Seattle. The source listed above will route you to the visualization and allow you to more easily explore the visual. You will be able to zoom-in and navigate around the city.

The Inspiration

In the summer of '22, I visited my brother and sister-in-law for their wedding ceremony in Seattle, WA and prior to the event they presented me with a manhole bingo board that had:

- Images of the artistic iron covers,
- The name of the design (if any),

AND

• The artist of the manhole design

My brother shared with me that there was a prize for anyone who completed their bingo board and I became captivated with the idea of my girlfriend and I being the first two to finish and claim our prizes. While participating in this game, I tried to search online for the location of manholes but to my surprise wasn't able to find an easily navigable map. That's why I decided to create one after we won.

Manhole Bingo Board

I have included an example of a possible game of manhole bingo below and would encourage you to participate if you currently or in the future find yourself in Seattle, WA:



Name: Your Address:							
Directions: Find the manhole cover designs featured on your bingo board and write the address or intersection under each cover you find. Complete 5 in a row (vertical, horizontal, or diagonal) including free-space for a BINGO!!! When you have a Bingo, hand your completed sheet to Jacquie or send a photo to (206)617-9942 to claim your							
Border Color Legend	Several Locations- Write unique address for each box with this manhole design		to fi	A Couple of Known Locations- Challenge yourself to find unique addresses for each OR use the same address for all boxes with this manhole design		Only One Location- Use the same address for all boxes with this manhole design	
Betsy Best-Spadaro, Write address or intersect manhole cover was found	ion near where	Barbra Earl Thomas, "Raven Shouts V Write address or intersection near who manhole cover was found:		Betsy Best-Spadaro, "Water Ring" 2001 Write address or intersection near where manbole cover was found:	Michele G. VanStyke, "Bainbridge Island" Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:	, 1990	"Mutual Light and Heat Cove", from between 1991 and 1995 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:
"Ersest M. Corond Dolleans Washingson Cargus Affacers Write address or intersects cover was found!	to Drumheller Fountain, 1976	Ellen Sollod, "The Web" 2 Write address or intersection near whe manhole cover was found:		Nancy Blum, "City Light, City Bright" 2002 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found;	"Mutual Light and Heat Coree", from het 1904 and 1905 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:	ween	Ellen Sollod, "The Web" 2012 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:
Garth Edw Write address or intersect manhole cover was found	ion near where	Anne Knight, "Scattle Grid" Write address or intersection near wh manhole cover was found: FUNDET The rive position show the mash	ere	FREE SPACE!	Nancy Blum, "City Light, City Bright Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:	° 2002	"Docr'tes Don'tes, Doubsers and Deatheads" 1988 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:
Manganese Prism Sh Write address or intersect manhole cover was found	ion near where	Anne Knight, "Seattle Grid" Write address or interaction near whemanhole cover was found: ENEME To one posion shows the mash.	ere	Anne Knight, "Seattle Grid" 1975 Write address or intersection near where mashole cover was found: JUN FACTUThe ever position shows the mashole location!	Anne Knight, "Seattle Grid" 1973 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found: FEN FACE The mer position shows the mathole los	_	Barbra Earl Thomas, "Raven Shouts Water", 2001 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:
Anne Knight, "St Write address or intersect manhole cover was found	ion near where	Elizabeth Connor and Linda Broday, " Map" at Waterway 15, 1993 Write address or intersection near who manhole cover was found:	Lake Union	Garth Edwards 1986 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:	Betsy Best-Spadaro, "Water Ring" 2 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:		Manganese Prism Skylight Cover, -1890 Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:

Brief History of Seattle's Manhole Art

In a letter dated June 2, 1976, to then - Director of Seattle's Department of Community Development Paul Schell, the Board of Public Works granted its approval of a design for the first 25 manhole covers to be cast into bronze for City Light. Designed by Anne Knight, it featured a map of the waterfront and downtown areas, with the city seal inset into Elliott Bay.

Three other designs were reviewed by the board as part of the public arts project. Two of these intricate designs, one signed by Tlingit artist Alex Jackson, incorporated the mythical Thunderbird as Native American totems done in the Coast Salish formline style, while the third one showed the profile of Chief Seattle in the center.

The concept of using art to decorate city manhole covers (today known as "hatchcovers") originated with arts patron Jacquetta Blanchett after she visited the city of Florence, Italy, in the 1950s. It was Blanchett who donated funds for the new City Light covers to be made. Her support of the arts included serving on the Municipal Art Commission in the 1960s.

The project was a unique example of supplementing private donations with the city's One Percent for Art Program to create public art within the city. The letter to Schell confirmed that additional manhole covers would be cast using the One Percent for Art Program funding. A whale design by Chilkoot-Tlingit artist Nathan Jackson was commissioned in 1976, with 32 additional covers cast in iron from his original design carved in wood. Finally, nine other hatch covers, weighing 350 pounds each, were made from a third design by artist Garth Edwards.

Source: https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/CityArchive/coloring.pdf

Note: This source outlines Seattle's history of manhole art and includes coloring pages!

Examples of Manhole Art Found throughout Seattle



Nancy Blum, "City Light, City Bright" 2002

Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:



Anne Knight, "Seattle Grid" 1975

Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:

FUN FACT: The rivet position shows the manhole location!



Betsy Best-Spadaro, "Water Ring" 2001

Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:



Betsy Best-Spadaro, "Water Ring" 2001

Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:



Garth Edwards 1986

Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:



Ellen Sollod, "The Web" 2012

Write address or intersection near where manhole cover was found:

Appendix

In the Appendix, I have included the dataset that was used to create the Tableau visualization that I have shown on the first page and linked to on Tableau Public. I hope that you are able to leverage this dataset to explore manhole covers throughout the City of Seattle and identify the location of different designs. Have fun with Manhole Bingo!



Source: https://data.seattle.gov/dataset/Maintenance-Holes-and-Other-Structures/kv5w-ifqa

I found the data on the City of Seattle's website and have linked to the location above. The data contained within the source that they have publicly listed is using the specific state plane system for Washington State. So, I had to convert from the NAD 83/91 reference system State Plane Coordinate System 4601 WA North Zone to latitude and longitude coordinates. Once I had the latitude and longitude coordinates, I was able to plug these points into Tableau.