

HERITAGE FINANCIAL CORP /WA/

Form S-3

December 18, 2008

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 18, 2008

Registration No. 333-

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM S-3**  
**REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

*UNDER*

*THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933*

**HERITAGE FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Washington  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of

Incorporation or Organization)

91-1857900  
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification Number)

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201 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.W.

Olympia, WA 98501

(360) 943-1500

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

**Brian L. Vance**

**President and Chief Executive Officer**

201 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.W.

Olympia, WA 98501

(360) 943-1500

(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

*Copy to:*

**J. Franklin McCreary**

**Gerrish McCreary Smith, PC**

**700 Colonial Road, Suite 200**

**Memphis, TN 38117**

**Telephone: (901) 767-0900**

**Telecopy: (901) 684-2339**

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

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If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. "

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If this form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box. "

If this form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box. "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (Check one):

|   |                           |   |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| Large accelerated filer "   | Accelerated filer         | x |
| Non-accelerated filer " (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) | Smaller reporting company | " |

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of each class of securities to be registered  | Amount to be Registered (1) (2) | Offering Price per Unit (1) (2) | Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (1) (2) | Amount of Registration Fee (3) |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred, Series A, no par value per share                     | 24,000(4)                       | \$1,000(4)                      | \$24,000,000(4)                                   |                                |
| Warrant to Purchase Common Stock, no par value per share, and underlying shares of Common Stock | 276,074(4)                      | \$13.04(4)                      | \$3,600,000(4)                                    |                                |
| Common stock, no par value per share (5)  |                                 |                                 |   |                                |
| Preferred Stock, no par value per share (6)   |                                 |                                 |   |                                |
| Warrants (7)  |                                 |                                 |   |                                |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>   |                                 |                                 | \$100,000,000                                     | \$3,930                        |

- (1) In no event, will the aggregate initial offering price of all securities issued exceed \$100,000,000.
- (2) Certain information as to each class of securities to be registered is not specified, in accordance with General Instruction II.D to Form S-3 under the Securities Act of 1933 ( Securities Act ).
- (3) The proposed maximum offering price has been estimated solely to calculate the registration fee under Rule 457 (O) of the Securities Act.
- (4) In addition to the Fixed Rate Cumulative Perpetual Preferred, Series A, there are being registered hereunder (a) a warrant for the purchase of 276,074 shares of common stock with an initial per share exercise price of \$13.04 per share, (b) the 276,074 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of such warrant and (c) such additional number of shares of common stock, of a currently indeterminable amount, as may from time to time become issuable by reason of stock splits, stock dividends and certain anti-dilution provisions set forth in such warrant, which shares of common stock are registered hereunder pursuant to Rule 416.
- (5) Subject to note (1) above, we are registering an indeterminate number of shares of common stock as may be sold from time to time by us. We are also registering an indeterminate number of shares of common stock as may be issuable upon conversion of the preferred stock.
- (6) Subject to note (1) above, we are registering an indeterminate number of shares of preferred stock as may be sold from time to time by us.

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(7) Subject to note (1) above, we are registering an indeterminate number of warrants as may be sold from time to time by us. We are also issuing an indeterminate number of common shares and preferred shares that may be issuable upon exercise of warrants. The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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**PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS**

**\$100,000,000**

**HERITAGE FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

**Common Stock**

**Warrants**

**Preferred Stock**

FIXED RATE CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK, SERIES A

WARRANT TO PURCHASE 276,074 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK

276,074 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK UNDERLYING THE WARRANT

We may offer and sell, from time to time in one or more offerings and in amounts, at prices and on terms that will be determined at the time of any such offering, shares of our common stock, no par value per share and shares of our preferred stock, no par value per share, and warrants.

Each time we sell shares or warrants, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. This prospectus may not be used to offer or sell our common stock, warrants or preferred stock without a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading **Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference** before you make your investment decision.

We may sell our shares and warrants on a continuous or delayed basis directly, through agents or underwriters as designed from time to time, or through a combination of these methods. For additional information on the method of sale, you should refer to the section of this prospectus entitled **Plan of Distribution** on page 11. We reserve the sole right to accept, and together with any agents, dealers and underwriters, reserve the right to reject, in whole or in part, any proposed purchase of our shares and warrants. If any agents, dealers or underwriters are involved in the sale of our shares and warrants, the applicable prospectus supplement will set forth any applicable commissions or discounts. Our net proceeds from the sale of our shares and warrants will also be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

In addition to the above and included in the \$100,000,000, this prospectus relates to the potential resale from time to time by selling securityholders of some or all of the shares of our Fixed Rate Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series A, or the series A preferred stock, a warrant to purchase 276,074 shares of common stock, or the warrant, and any shares of common stock issuable from time to time upon exercise of the warrant. In this prospectus, we refer to the shares of Series A preferred stock, the warrant and the shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrant, collectively, as the securities. The Series A preferred stock and the warrant were originally issued by us pursuant to the Letter Agreement dated November 21, 2008, and the related Securities Purchase Agreement **Standard Terms**, between us and the United States Department of the Treasury, which we refer to as the initial selling securityholder, in a transaction exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act.

The initial selling securityholder and its successors, including transferees, which we collectively refer to as the selling securityholders, may offer the securities from time to time directly or through underwriters, broker-dealers or agents and in one or more public or private transactions and at fixed prices, prevailing market prices, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices. If these securities are sold through underwriters, broker-dealers or agents, the selling securityholders will be responsible for underwriting discounts or commissions or agents commissions.

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of securities by the selling securityholders.

The series A preferred stock is not listed on an exchange, and, unless requested by the initial selling securityholder, we do not intend to list the series A preferred stock on any exchange.

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Our common stock is traded on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation System (NASDAQ) under the symbol HFWA. On December 15, 2008, the closing price of our common stock on the NASDAQ was \$12.25 per share. You are urged to obtain current market quotations of the common stock.

**Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. See Risk Factors beginning on page 3.**

**The securities are not deposits or obligations of a bank or savings association and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency.**

Our principal executive offices are located at 201 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W., Olympia, Washington 98501, and our telephone number is (360) 943-1500. Our Internet address is <http://www.HF-WA.com>.

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The date of this prospectus is December 18, 2008.

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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may, and the selling securityholders may, from time to time, offer and sell, in one or more offerings, the securities described in this prospectus.

Except for the Series A Preferred Stock and the Warrant, which are described in this prospectus, this prospectus provides a general description of the additional securities that we may offer. Each time we offer additional common stock or preferred stock, we will provide a prospectus supplement and attach it to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will contain specific information about the terms of the offering.

We may provide a prospectus supplement containing specific information about the terms of a particular offering by the selling securityholders. The prospectus supplement may add, update or change information in this prospectus. If the information in this prospectus is inconsistent with a prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and, if applicable, any prospectus supplement. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) for more information.

In this prospectus, Heritage, we, our, ours, and us refer to Heritage Financial Corporation, which is a bank holding company headquartered in Olympia, Washington, and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis, unless the context otherwise requires. References to Heritage Bank and Central Valley Bank are to our wholly owned bank subsidiaries.

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**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference contain statements that are considered forward looking statements within the meaning of United States securities laws. In addition, Heritage and its management may make other written or oral communications from time to time that contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements, including statements about industry trends, management's future expectations and other matters that do not relate strictly to historical facts, are based on assumptions by management, and are often identified by such forward-looking terminology as expect, look, believe, anticipate, estimate, seek, may, will, trend, target, and goal or variations of such terms. Forward-looking statements may include, among other things, statements about Heritage's confidence in its strategies and its expectations about financial performance, market growth, market and regulatory trends and developments, acquisitions and divestitures, new technologies, services and opportunities and earnings.

Forward-looking statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties, which change over time, are based on management's expectations and assumptions at the time the statements are made, and are not guarantees of future results. Management's expectations and assumptions, and the continued validity of the forward-looking statements, are subject to change due to a broad range of factors affecting the national and global economies, the equity, debt, currency and other financial markets, as well as factors specific to Heritage and its subsidiaries.

Actual outcomes and results may differ materially from what is expressed in our forward-looking statements and from our historical financial results due to the factors discussed elsewhere in this prospectus or disclosed in our other SEC filings. Forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing our expectations or beliefs as of any date subsequent to the time this prospectus is filed with the SEC. Heritage undertakes no obligation to revise the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus to reflect events after the time it is filed with the SEC. The factors discussed herein are not intended to be a complete summary of all risks and uncertainties that may affect our businesses. Though we strive to monitor and mitigate risk, we cannot anticipate all potential economic, operational and financial developments that may adversely impact our operations and our financial results.

Forward-looking statements should not be viewed as predictions, and should not be the primary basis upon which investors evaluate Heritage. Any investor in Heritage should consider all risks and uncertainties disclosed in our SEC filings described below under the heading Where You Can Find More Information, all of which are accessible on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

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**RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our securities involves significant risks. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties and the risk factors set forth in the documents and reports filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, as well as any risks described in any applicable prospectus supplement, before you make an investment decision regarding the securities. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also affect our business operations.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

We will not receive any proceeds from any sale of the securities by the selling securityholders. Unless we specify otherwise in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from our sale of common stock or preferred stock under the prospectus for general corporate purposes, which may include repaying indebtedness, making additions to our working capital, funding future acquisitions, or for any other purpose we describe in the applicable prospectus.

**RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED DIVIDENDS**

No shares of our Series A preferred stock, or any other class of preferred stock, were outstanding during the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004 and 2003, or during the nine months ended September 30, 2008, and we did not pay preferred stock dividends during these periods. Consequently, there were no ratios of earnings to fixed charges and preferred dividends presented in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2008, which is incorporated herein by reference.

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**DESCRIPTION OF SERIES A PREFERRED STOCK**

The following is a brief description of the terms of the series A preferred stock that may be resold by the selling securityholders. This summary does not purport to be complete in all respects. This description is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to our articles of incorporation, as amended, including the articles of amendment and related certificate of designation with respect to the series A preferred stock, copies of which have been filed with the SEC and are also available upon request from us.

***General***

Under our articles of incorporation, as amended, we have authority to issue up to 2.5 million shares of preferred stock, no par value per share. Of such number of shares of preferred stock, 24,000 shares have been designated as Cumulative Perpetual Preferred Stock, Series A, all of which shares of series A preferred stock were issued to the initial selling securityholder in a transaction exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. The issued and outstanding shares of series A preferred stock are validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

***Dividends Payable On Shares of Series A Preferred Stock***

Holders of shares of series A preferred stock are entitled to receive if, as and when declared by our board of directors or a duly authorized committee of the board, out of assets legally available for payment, cumulative cash dividends at a rate per annum of 5% per share on a liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share of series A preferred stock with respect to each dividend period from November 21, 2008 to, but excluding, December 15, 2013. From and after December 15, 2013, holders of shares of series A preferred stock are entitled to receive cumulative cash dividends at a rate per annum of 9% per share on a liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share of series A preferred stock with respect to each dividend period thereafter.

Dividends are payable quarterly in arrears on each February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15, each a dividend payment date, starting with February 15, 2009. If any dividend payment date is not a business day, then the next business day will be the applicable dividend payment date, and no additional dividends will accrue as a result of the applicable postponement of the dividend payment date. Dividends payable during any dividend period are computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. Dividends payable with respect to the series A preferred stock are payable to holders of record of shares of series A preferred stock on the date that is 15 calendar days immediately preceding the applicable dividend payment date or such other record date as the board of directors or any duly authorized committee of the board determines, so long as such record date is not more than 60 nor less than 10 days prior to the applicable dividend payment date.

If we determine not to pay any dividend or a full dividend with respect to the series A preferred stock, we are required to provide written notice to the holders of shares of series A preferred stock prior to the applicable dividend payment date.

We are subject to various regulatory policies and requirements relating to the payment of dividends, including requirements to maintain adequate capital above regulatory minimums. The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, or the Federal Reserve Board, is authorized to determine, under certain circumstances relating to the financial condition of a bank holding company, such as us, that the payment of dividends would be an unsafe or unsound practice and to prohibit payment thereof. In addition, we are subject to Washington state laws relating to the payment of dividends.

***Priority of Dividends***

With respect to the payment of dividends and the amounts to be paid upon liquidation, the series A preferred stock will rank:

senior to our common stock and all other equity securities designated as ranking junior to the series A preferred stock; and

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at least equally with all other equity securities designated as ranking on a parity with the series A preferred stock, or parity stock, with respect to the payment of dividends and distribution of assets upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of Heritage. So long as any shares of series A preferred stock remain outstanding, unless all accrued and unpaid dividends for all prior dividend periods have been paid or are contemporaneously declared and paid in full, no dividend whatsoever shall be paid or declared on Heritage's common stock or other junior stock, other than a dividend payable solely in common stock. We and our subsidiaries also may not purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire for consideration any shares of our common stock or other junior stock unless we have paid in full all accrued dividends on the Series A preferred stock for all prior dividend periods, other than:

purchases, redemptions or other acquisitions of our common stock or other junior stock in connection with the administration of our employee benefit plans in the ordinary course of business pursuant to a publicly announced repurchase plan up to the increase in diluted shares outstanding resulting from the grant, vesting or exercise of equity-based compensation;

purchases or other acquisitions by broker-dealer subsidiaries of Heritage solely for the purpose of market-making, stabilization or customer facilitation transactions in junior stock or parity stock in the ordinary course of its business;

purchases or other acquisitions by broker-dealer subsidiaries of Heritage for resale pursuant to an offering by Heritage of our stock that is underwritten by the related broker-dealer subsidiary;

any dividends or distributions of rights or junior stock in connection with any shareholders' rights plan or repurchases of rights pursuant to any shareholders' rights plan;

acquisition of record ownership of junior stock or parity stock for the beneficial ownership of any other person who is not Heritage or a subsidiary of Heritage, including as trustee or custodian; and

the exchange or conversion of junior stock for or into other junior stock or of parity stock for or into other parity stock or junior stock but only to the extent that such acquisition is required pursuant to binding contractual agreements entered into before November 21, 2008 or any subsequent agreement for the accelerated exercise, settlement or exchange thereof for common stock.

If we repurchase shares of Series A preferred stock from a holder other than the initial selling securityholder, we must offer to repurchase a ratable portion of the Series A preferred stock then held by the initial selling securityholder.

On any dividend payment date for which full dividends are not paid, or declared and funds set aside therefor, on the Series A preferred stock and any other parity stock, all dividends paid or declared for payment on that dividend payment date (or, with respect to parity stock with a different dividend payment date, on the applicable dividend date therefor falling within the dividend period and related to the dividend payment date for the Series A preferred stock), with respect to the Series A preferred stock and any other parity stock shall be declared ratably among the holders of any such shares who have the right to receive dividends, in proportion to the respective amounts of the undeclared and unpaid dividends relating to the dividend period.

Subject to the foregoing, such dividends (payable in cash, stock or otherwise) as may be determined by our board of directors (or a duly authorized committee of the board) may be declared and paid on our common stock and any other stock ranking equally with or junior to the Series A preferred stock from time to time out of any funds legally available for such payment, and the Series A preferred stock shall not be entitled to participate in any such dividend.

***Redemption***

The Series A preferred stock may not be redeemed prior to December 15, 2011 unless we have received aggregate gross proceeds from one or more qualified equity offerings (as described below) equal to \$6 million,



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which equals 25% of the aggregate liquidation amount of the Series A preferred stock on the date of issuance. In such a case, we may redeem the Series A preferred stock, subject to the approval of Federal Reserve Board, in whole or in part, upon notice as described below, up to a maximum amount equal to the aggregate net cash proceeds received by us from such qualified equity offerings. A qualified equity offering is a sale and issuance for cash by us, to persons other than Heritage or its subsidiaries after November 21, 2008, of shares of perpetual preferred stock, common stock or a combination thereof, that in each case qualify as tier 1 capital of Heritage at the time of issuance under the applicable risk-based capital guidelines of the Federal Reserve Board. Qualified equity offerings do not include issuances made in connection with acquisitions, issuances of trust preferred securities and issuances of common stock and/or perpetual preferred stock made pursuant to agreements or arrangements entered into, or pursuant to financing plans that were publicly announced, on or prior to November 21, 2008.

After December 15, 2011, the Series A preferred stock may be redeemed at any time, subject to the approval of the Federal Reserve Board, in whole or in part, subject to notice as described below.

In any redemption, the redemption price is an amount equal to the per share liquidation amount plus accrued and unpaid dividends to but excluding the date of redemption.

The Series A preferred stock will not be subject to any mandatory redemption, sinking fund or similar provisions. Holders of shares of Series A preferred stock have no right to require the redemption or repurchase of the Series A preferred stock.

If fewer than all of the outstanding shares of Series A preferred stock are to be redeemed, the shares to be redeemed will be selected either *pro rata* from the holders of record of shares of Series A preferred stock in proportion to the number of shares held by those holders or in such other manner as our board of directors or a committee thereof may determine to be fair and equitable.

We will mail notice of any redemption of Series A preferred stock by first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the holders of record of the shares of Series A preferred stock to be redeemed at their respective last addresses appearing on our books. This mailing will be at least 30 days and not more than 60 days before the date fixed for redemption. Any notice mailed or otherwise given as described in this paragraph will be conclusively presumed to have been duly given, whether or not the holder receives the notice, and failure duly to give the notice by mail or otherwise, or any defect in the notice or in the mailing or provision of the notice, to any holder of Series A preferred stock designated for redemption will not affect the redemption of any other Series A preferred stock. Each notice of redemption will set forth the applicable redemption date, the redemption price, the place where shares of Series A preferred stock are to be redeemed, and the number of shares of Series A preferred stock to be redeemed (and, if less than all shares of Series A preferred stock held by the applicable holder, the number of shares to be redeemed from the holder).

Shares of Series A preferred stock that are redeemed, repurchased or otherwise acquired by us will revert to authorized but unissued shares of our preferred stock.

### ***Liquidation Rights***

In the event that we voluntarily or involuntarily liquidate, dissolve or wind up our affairs, holders of Series A preferred stock will be entitled to receive an amount per share, referred to as the total liquidation amount, equal to the fixed liquidation preference of \$1,000 per share, plus any accrued and unpaid dividends, whether or not declared, to the date of payment. Holders of the Series A preferred stock will be entitled to receive the total liquidation amount out of our assets that are available for distribution to shareholders, after payment or provision for payment of our debts and other liabilities but before any distribution of assets is made to holders of our common stock or any other shares ranking, as to that distribution, junior to the Series A preferred stock.

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If our assets are not sufficient to pay the total liquidation amount in full to all holders of Series A preferred stock and all holders of any shares of outstanding parity stock, the amounts paid to the holders of Series A preferred stock and other shares of parity stock will be paid *pro rata* in accordance with the respective total liquidation amount for those holders. If the total liquidation amount per share of Series A preferred stock has been paid in full to all holders of Series A preferred stock and other shares of parity stock, the holders of our common stock or any other shares ranking, as to such distribution, junior to the Series A preferred stock will be entitled to receive all of our remaining assets according to their respective rights and preferences.

For purposes of the liquidation rights, neither the sale, conveyance, exchange or transfer of all or substantially all of our property and assets, nor the consolidation or merger by us with or into any other corporation or by another corporation with or into us, will constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of our affairs.

### ***Voting Rights***

Except as indicated below or otherwise required by law, the holders of Series A preferred stock will not have any voting rights.

***Election of Two Directors upon Non-Payment of Dividends.*** If the dividends on the Series A preferred stock have not been paid for an aggregate of six quarterly dividend periods or more (whether or not consecutive), the authorized number of directors then constituting our board of directors will be increased by two. Holders of Series A preferred stock, together with the holders of any outstanding parity stock with like voting rights, referred to as voting parity stock, voting as a single class, will be entitled to elect the two additional members of our board of directors, referred to as the preferred stock directors, at the next annual meeting (or at a special meeting called for the purpose of electing the preferred stock directors prior to the next annual meeting) and at each subsequent annual meeting until all accrued and unpaid dividends for all past dividend periods have been paid in full. The election of any preferred stock director is subject to the qualification that the election would not cause us to violate the corporate governance requirement of the NASDAQ (or any other exchange on which our securities may be listed) that listed companies must have a majority of independent directors.

Upon the termination of the right of the holders of Series A preferred stock and voting parity stock to vote for preferred stock directors, as described above, the preferred stock directors will immediately cease to be qualified as directors, their term of office shall terminate immediately and the number of authorized directors of Heritage will be reduced by the number of preferred stock directors that the holders of Series A preferred stock and voting parity stock had been entitled to elect. The holders of a majority of shares of Series A preferred stock and voting parity stock, voting as a class, may remove any preferred stock director, with or without cause, and the holders of a majority of the shares Series A preferred stock and voting parity stock, voting as a class, may fill any vacancy created by the removal of a preferred stock director. If the office of a preferred stock director becomes vacant for any other reason, the remaining preferred stock director may choose a successor to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

***Other Voting Rights.*** So long as any shares of Series A preferred stock are outstanding, in addition to any other vote or consent of shareholders required by law or by our articles of incorporation, the vote or consent of the holders of at least 66<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>% of the shares of Series A preferred stock at the time outstanding, voting separately as a single class, given in person or by proxy, either in writing without a meeting or by vote at any meeting called for the purpose, shall be necessary for effecting or validating:

any amendment or alteration of our articles of incorporation to authorize or create or increase the authorized amount of, or any issuance of, any shares of, or any securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for shares of, any class or series of capital stock ranking senior to the Series A preferred stock with respect to payment of dividends and/or distribution of assets on any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of Heritage;



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any amendment, alteration or repeal of any provision of the certificate of designations for the Series A preferred stock so as to adversely affect the rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers of the Series A preferred stock; or

any consummation of a binding share exchange or reclassification involving the Series A preferred stock or of a merger or consolidation of Heritage with another entity, unless the shares of Series A preferred stock remain outstanding following any such transaction or, if Heritage is not the surviving entity, are converted into or exchanged for preference securities and such remaining outstanding shares of Series A preferred stock or preference securities have rights, preferences, privileges and voting powers that are not materially less favorable than the rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers of the Series A preferred stock, taken as a whole.

To the extent of the voting rights of the Series A preferred stock, each holder of Series A preferred stock will have one vote for each \$1,000 of liquidation preference to which such holder's shares of Series A preferred stock are entitled.

The foregoing voting provisions will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the vote or consent would otherwise be required, all outstanding shares of Series A preferred stock have been redeemed or called for redemption upon proper notice and sufficient funds have been set aside by us for the benefit of the holders of Series A preferred stock to effect the redemption.

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**DESCRIPTION OF WARRANT TO PURCHASE COMMON STOCK**

The following is a brief description of the terms of the warrant that may be resold by the selling securityholders. This summary does not purport to be complete in all respects. This description is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the warrant, a copy of which has been filed with the SEC and is also available upon request from us.

***Shares of Common Stock Subject to the Warrant***

The warrant is initially exercisable for 276,074 shares of our common stock. If we complete one or more qualified equity offerings on or prior to December 31, 2009 that result in our receipt of aggregate gross proceeds of not less than \$24 million, which is equal to 100% of the aggregate liquidation preference of the Series A preferred stock, the number of shares of common stock underlying the warrant then held by the selling securityholders will be reduced by 50% to 138,037 shares. The number of shares subject to the warrant are subject to the further adjustments described below under the heading *Adjustments to the Warrant*.

***Exercise of the Warrant***

The initial exercise price applicable to the warrant is \$13.04 per share of common stock for which the warrant may be exercised. The warrant may be exercised at any time on or before November 21, 2018 by surrender of the warrant and a completed notice of exercise attached as an annex to the warrant and the payment of the exercise price for the shares of common stock for which the warrant is being exercised. The exercise price may be paid either by the withholding by Heritage of such number of shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrant equal to the value of the aggregate exercise price of the warrant determined by reference to the market price of our common stock on the trading day on which the warrant is exercised or, if agreed to by us and the warrant holder, by the payment of cash equal to the aggregate exercise price. The exercise price applicable to the warrant is subject to the further adjustments described below under the heading *Adjustments to the Warrant*.

Upon exercise of the warrant, certificates for the shares of common stock issuable upon exercise will be issued to the warrant holder. We will not issue fractional shares upon any exercise of the warrant. Instead, the warrant holder will be entitled to a cash payment equal to the market price of our common stock on the last day preceding the exercise of the warrant (less the pro-rated exercise price of the warrant) for any fractional shares that would have otherwise been issuable upon exercise of the warrant. We will at all times reserve the aggregate number of shares of our common stock for which the warrant may be exercised. We have listed the shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrant with NASDAQ.

***Rights as a Shareholder***

The warrant holder shall have no rights or privileges of the holders of our common stock, including any voting rights, until (and then only to the extent) the warrant has been exercised.

***Transferability***

The initial selling securityholder may not transfer a portion of the warrant with respect to more than 138,037 shares of common stock until the earlier of the date on which Heritage has received aggregate gross proceeds from a qualified equity offering of at least \$24 million and December 31, 2009. The warrant, and all rights under the warrant, are otherwise transferable.

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### *Adjustments to the Warrant*

*Adjustments in Connection with Stock Splits, Subdivisions, Reclassifications and Combinations.* The number of shares for which the warrant may be exercised and the exercise price applicable to the warrant will be proportionately adjusted in the event we pay stock dividends or make distributions of our common stock, subdivide, combine or reclassify outstanding shares of our common stock.

*Anti-dilution Adjustment.* Until the earlier of November 21, 2011 and the date the initial selling securityholder no longer holds the warrant (and other than in certain permitted transactions described below), if we issue any shares of common stock (or securities convertible or exercisable into common stock) for less than 90% of the market price of the common stock on the last trading day prior to pricing such shares, then the number of shares of common stock into which the warrant is exercisable and the exercise price will be adjusted. Permitted transactions include issuances:

as consideration for or to fund the acquisition of businesses and/or related assets;

in connection with employee benefit plans and compensation related arrangements in the ordinary course and consistent with past practice approved by our board of directors;

in connection with public or broadly marketed offerings and sales of common stock or convertible securities for cash conducted by us or our affiliates pursuant to registration under the Securities Act, or Rule 144A thereunder on a basis consistent with capital-raising transactions by comparable financial institutions (but do not include other private transactions); and

in connection with the exercise of preemptive rights on terms existing as of November 21, 2008.

*Other Distributions.* If we declare any stock dividends or distributions other than our historical, ordinary cash dividends, the exercise price of the warrant will be adjusted to reflect such distribution.

*Certain Repurchases.* If we effect a *pro rata* repurchase of common stock both the number of shares issuable upon exercise of the warrant and the exercise price will be adjusted.

*Business Combinations.* In the event of a merger, consolidation or similar transaction involving Heritage and requiring shareholder approval, the warrant holder's right to receive shares of our common stock upon exercise of the warrant shall be converted into the right to exercise the warrant for the consideration that would have been payable to the warrant holder with respect to the shares of common stock for which the warrant may be exercised, as if the warrant had been exercised prior to such merger, consolidation or similar transaction.

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**DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK**

***General***

We have 15,000,000 shares of authorized common stock, no par value per share, of which 6,697,236 shares were outstanding as of November 21, 2008.

Holders of our common stock are entitled to receive dividends if, as and when declared by our board of directors out of any funds legally available for dividends. Holders of our common stock are also entitled, upon our liquidation, and after claims of creditors and the preferences of Series A preferred stock, and any other class or series of preferred stock outstanding at the time of liquidation, to receive *pro rata* our net assets. We pay dividends on our common stock only if we have paid or provided for all dividends on our outstanding series of preferred stock, for the then current period and, in the case of any cumulative preferred stock, all prior periods.

Our Series A preferred stock has, and any other series of preferred stock upon issuance will have, preference over our common stock with respect to the payment of dividends and the distribution of assets in the event of our liquidation or dissolution. Our preferred stock also has such other preferences as currently, or as may be, fixed by our board of directors.

Holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote for each share that they hold and are vested with all of the voting power except as our board of directors has provided, or may provide in the future, with respect to preferred stock or any other class or series of preferred stock that the board of directors may hereafter authorize. Shares of our common stock are not redeemable, and have no subscription, conversion or preemptive rights.

Our common stock is listed on NASDAQ. Outstanding shares of our common stock are validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable. Holders of our common stock are not, and will not be, subject to any liability as shareholders.

**DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK**

Under our Articles of Incorporation, our Board of Directors has the authority to issue 2,500,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix, determine or amend the relative rights and preferences of the shares of any series so established, within the limitations set forth in the Washington Business Corporation Act ( WBCA ), relating to the powers, designations, rights, preferences, and restrictions thereof, including, but not limited to:

Dividend rights,

Conversion rights,

Voting rights,

Redemption terms,

Liquidation preferences,

The number of shares constituting each such series, without any further vote or action by our shareholders. The Board of Directors has already designated the Series A preferred stock, as described herein and 24,000 shares have been issued. As noted above, our Board of Directors, without shareholder approval, has the authority under our Articles of Incorporation to issue the remaining 2,476,000 shares of preferred stock with rights superior to the rights of the holders of common stock.



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### ***Transfer Agent and Registrar***

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Computershare.

### ***Restrictions on Ownership***

The Bank Holding Company Act requires any bank holding company, as defined in the Bank Holding Company Act, to obtain the approval of the Federal Reserve Board prior to the acquisition of 5% or more of our common stock. Any person, other than a bank holding company, is required to obtain prior approval of the Federal Reserve Board to acquire 10% or more of our common stock under the Change in Bank Control Act. Any holder of 25% or more of our common stock, or a holder of 5% or more if such holder otherwise exercises a controlling influence over us, is subject to regulation as a bank holding company under the Bank Holding Company Act.

## **PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**

### **The Company**

We may sell the securities being offered hereby to one or more underwriters for public offering and sale by them and may also sell the securities directly or through agents. We will name any underwriter or agent involved in the offer and sale of securities in the applicable prospectus supplement. We have also reserved the right to sell or exchange securities directly to investors on our own behalf in those jurisdictions where we are authorized to do so.

We may distribute the securities from time to time in one or more transactions (a) at a fixed price; (b) at market prices prevailing at the time of sale; (c) at prices related to such prevailing market prices; or (d) at negotiated prices.

We may also, from time to time, authorize dealers, acting as our agents, to offer and sell securities upon the terms and conditions set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. In connection with the sale of securities, we, or the purchasers of securities for whom the underwriters may act as agents, may compensate the underwriters in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions. Underwriters may sell the securities to or through dealers, and those dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent. Each prospectus supplement will indicate if an agent will be acting on a best efforts basis and a dealer will purchase securities as a principal, and resell the securities at varying prices to be determined by the dealer; or if the underwriter has undertaken to sell the securities in a firm underwritten offering.

### **Selling Securityholders**

The selling securityholders and their successors, including their transferees, may sell the securities directly to purchasers or through underwriters, broker-dealers or agents, who may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the selling securityholders or the purchasers of the securities. These discounts, concessions or commissions as to any particular underwriter, broker-dealer or agent may be in excess of those customary in the types of transactions involved.

The securities may be sold in one or more transactions at fixed prices, at prevailing market prices at the time of sale, at varying prices determined at the time of sale or at negotiated prices. These sales may be effected in transactions, which may involve crosses or block transactions:

on any national securities exchange or quotation service on which the preferred stock or the common stock may be listed or quoted at the time of sale, including, as of the date of this prospectus, NASDAQ in the case of the common stock;

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in the over-the-counter market;

in transactions otherwise than on these exchanges or services or in the over-the-counter market; or

through the writing of options, whether the options are listed on an options exchange or otherwise.

In addition, any securities that qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act may be sold under Rule 144 rather than pursuant to this prospectus.

In connection with the sale of the securities or otherwise, the selling securityholders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers, which may in turn engage in short sales of the common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrant in the course of hedging the positions they assume. The selling securityholders may also sell short the common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrant and deliver common stock to close out short positions, or loan or pledge the Series A preferred stock or the common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrant to broker-dealers that in turn may sell these securities.

The aggregate proceeds to the selling securityholders from the sale of the securities will be the purchase price of the securities less discounts and commissions, if any.

In effecting sales, broker-dealers or agents engaged by the selling securityholders may arrange for other broker-dealers to participate. Broker-dealers or agents may receive commissions, discounts or concessions from the selling securityholders in amounts to be negotiated immediately prior to the sale.

In offering the securities covered by this prospectus, the selling securityholders and any broker-dealers who execute sales for the selling securityholders may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of Section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. Any profits realized by the selling securityholders and the compensation of any broker-dealer may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions. Selling securityholders who are underwriters within the meaning of Section 2(a)(11) of the Securities Act will be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act and may be subject to certain statutory and regulatory liabilities, including liabilities imposed pursuant to Sections 11, 12 and 17 of the Securities Act and Rule 10b-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or the Exchange Act.

In order to comply with the securities laws of certain states, if applicable, the securities must be sold in such jurisdictions only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, in certain states the securities may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with.

The anti-manipulation rules of Regulation M under the Exchange Act may apply to sales of securities pursuant to this prospectus and to the activities of the selling securityholders. In addition, we will make copies of this prospectus available to the selling securityholders for the purpose of satisfying the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act, which may include delivery through the facilities of the NASDAQ pursuant to Rule 153 under the Securities Act.

At the time a particular offer of securities is made, if required, a prospectus supplement will set forth the number and type of securities being offered and the terms of the offering, including the name of any underwriter, dealer or agent, the purchase price paid by any underwriter, any discount, commission and other item constituting compensation, any discount, commission or concession allowed or reallocated or paid to any dealer, and the proposed selling price to the public.

We do not intend to apply for listing of the Series A preferred stock on any securities exchange or for inclusion of the Series A preferred stock in any automated quotation system unless requested by the initial selling shareholder. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market, if any, for the Series A preferred stock.

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We have agreed to indemnify the selling securityholders against certain liabilities, including certain liabilities under the Securities Act. We have also agreed, among other things, to bear substantially all expenses (other than underwriting discounts and selling commissions) in connection with the registration and sale of the securities covered by this prospectus.

### **SELLING SECURITYHOLDERS**

On November 21, 2008, we issued the securities covered by this prospectus to the United States Department of Treasury, which is the initial selling securityholder under this prospectus, in a transaction exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. The initial selling securityholder, or its successors, including transferees, may from time to time offer and sell, pursuant to this prospectus or a supplement to this prospectus, any or all of the securities they own. The securities to be offered under this prospectus for the account of the selling securityholders are:

24,000 shares of Series A preferred stock, representing beneficial ownership of 100% of the shares of Series A preferred stock outstanding on the date of this prospectus;

a warrant to purchase 276,074 shares of our common stock, representing beneficial ownership of approximately 4.0% of our common stock as of November 21, 2008; and

276,074 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrant, which shares, if issued, would represent ownership of approximately 4.0% of our common stock as of November 21, 2008.

For purposes of this prospectus, we have assumed that, after completion of the offering, none of the securities covered by this prospectus will be held by the selling securityholders.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC and includes voting or investment power with respect to the securities. To our knowledge, the initial selling securityholder has sole voting and investment power with respect to the securities.

We do not know when or in what amounts the selling securityholders may offer the securities for sale. The selling securityholders might not sell any or all of the securities offered by this prospectus. Because the selling securityholders may offer all or some of the securities pursuant to this offering, and because currently no sale of any of the securities is subject to any agreements, arrangements or understandings, we cannot estimate the number of the securities that will be held by the selling securityholders after completion of the offering.

Other than with respect to the acquisition of the securities, the initial selling securityholder has not had a material relationship with us.

Information about the selling securityholders may change over time and changed information will be set forth in supplements to this prospectus if and when necessary.



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**LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the Series A preferred stock, the warrant and the common stock offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Gerrish McCreary Smith, PC.

**EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of Heritage Financial Corporation and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2007, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated herein by reference, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing. The audit report on the aforementioned consolidated financial statements, dated March 5, 2008, refers to Heritage's adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), *Share-Based Payment*, as of January 1, 2006.

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of certain information filed by us with the SEC are also available on our website at <http://www.hf-wa.com>. Our website is not a part of this prospectus. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference room.

Because our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ, you may also inspect reports, proxy statements and other information at the offices of NASDAQ, One Liberty Plaza, New York, New York 10006.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to other documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. In all cases, you should rely on the later information over different information included in this prospectus.

We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and all future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the termination of the offering, except to the extent that any information contained in such filings is deemed furnished in accordance with SEC rules:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2008, June 30, 2008 and September 30, 2008;

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 28, 2008, April 24, 2008, July 14, 2008, July 24, 2008, October 24, 2008, November 5, 2008, and November 25, 2008; and

Registration Statement on Form S-1 (relating to our common stock) declared effective November 12, 1997.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Heritage Financial Corporation

201 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.W.

Olympia, Washington 98501

Edgar Filing: HERITAGE FINANCIAL CORP /WA/ - Form S-3

Telephone: (360) 943-1500

Attn: Corporate Secretary

**Table of Contents****PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.**

The following table sets forth the various expenses to be incurred in connection with the sale and distribution of the Securities being registered hereby, all of which will be borne by Heritage (except any underwriting discounts and commissions and expenses incurred by the selling securityholders for brokerage, accounting, tax or legal services or any other expenses incurred by the selling securityholders in disposing of the shares). All amounts shown are estimates except the SEC registration fee.

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| SEC registration fee         | \$ 3,930  |
| Legal fees and expenses      | \$ 25,000 |
| Accounting fees and expenses | \$ 10,000 |
| Miscellaneous expenses       | \$ 5,000  |
| Total expenses               | \$ 43,930 |

**Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.**

Sections 23B.08.500 through 23B.08.600 of the WBCA contain specific provisions relating to indemnification of directors and officers of Washington corporations. In general, the statute provides that (a) a corporation must indemnify a director or officer who is wholly successful in his defense of a proceeding to which he is a party because of his status as such, unless limited by the articles of incorporation, and (b) a corporation may indemnify a director or officer if he is not wholly successful in such defense, if it is determined as provided in the statute that the director meets a certain standard of conduct, provided that when a director is liable to the corporation or was adjudged liable on the basis that the personal benefit was improperly received, the corporation may not indemnify him. The statute also permits a director or officer of a corporation who is a party to a proceeding to apply to the courts for indemnification or advance of expenses, unless the articles of incorporation provide otherwise, and the court may order indemnification or advancement of expenses under certain circumstances set forth in the statute. The statute further provides that a corporation may in its articles of incorporation or bylaws or by resolution provide indemnification in addition to that provided by statute, subject to certain conditions set forth in the statute.

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Heritage's articles of incorporation (Article 16) provide the following:

16.2: No director, officer-director, former director or former officer-director of the corporation shall be personally liable to the corporation or its shareholders for monetary damages for conduct as a director or officer-director unless the conduct is finally adjudged to have been egregious conduct, as defined herein.

16.3: No director, officer-director, former director, or former officer-director of a subsidiary corporation shall be personally liable in any action brought directly by this corporation as a shareholder of the subsidiary corporation or derivatively on behalf of the subsidiary corporation (or by any shareholder of this corporation and the subsidiary corporation) for monetary damages for conduct as a director or officer-director of such subsidiary corporation unless the conduct is finally adjudged to have been egregious conduct, as defined herein.

16.4: The corporation shall indemnify any person who is, or is threatened to be made, a party to any action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative, and whether by or in the right of the corporation or its shareholders or by any other party, by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director or officer-director of the corporation or of a subsidiary corporation against judgments, penalties or penalty taxes, fines, settlements (even if paid or payable to the corporation or its shareholders or to a subsidiary corporation) and reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, actually incurred in connection with such proceeding unless the liability and expenses were on account of conduct finally adjudged to be egregious conduct, as defined herein. The reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, of such person incurred in connection with such proceeding shall be paid or reimbursed by the corporation, upon request of such person, in advance of the final disposition of such proceeding upon receipt by the corporation of a written, unsecured promise by the person to repay such amount if it shall be finally adjudged that the person is not eligible for indemnification. All expenses incurred by such person in connection with such proceeding shall be considered reasonable unless finally adjudged to be unreasonable.

16.5: No action by the board of directors, the shareholders, independent counsel, or any other person or persons shall be necessary or appropriate to the determination of the corporation's indemnification obligation in any specific case, to the determination of the reasonableness of any expenses incurred by a person entitled to indemnification under this Article 16, nor to the authorization of indemnification in any specific case.

16.6: Notwithstanding section 16.4, the corporation shall not be obligated to indemnify any person for any expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred to assert any claim against the corporation (except a claim based on section 16.7) or any person related to or associated with it, including any person who would be entitled hereby to indemnification in connection with the claim.

16.7: The Corporation shall indemnify any person granted indemnification rights under this Article 16 against any reasonable expenses incurred by the person to enforce such rights.

16.8: Any person granted indemnification rights herein may directly assert such rights set-off of any claim raised against the person by or in the right of the corporation and shall be entitled to have the same tribunal which adjudicates the corporation's claim adjudicate the person's entitlement to indemnification by the corporation.

16.9: The indemnification rights provided in this Article 16 shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director or officer-director and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of such person.

16.10: Any amendment or repeal of this Article 16 shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a director, officer-director, former director or former officer-director existing at the time of such amendment or repeal with respect to acts or omissions occurring prior to such amendment or repeal.

16.11: Each of the substantive provisions of this Article 16 is separate and independent of the others, so that if any provision hereof shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the other provisions.

In addition, Heritage maintains a directors' and officers' liability insurance policy.

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**Item 16. Exhibits**

| <b>EXHIBIT<br/>NUMBER</b> | <b>DESCRIPTION</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|
| 4.1                       | Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 declared effective on November 12, 1997, and Articles of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 25, 2008 both of which are incorporated herein by reference). |
| 4.2                       | By-laws of the Registrant (filed with the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on November 29, 2007 and incorporated herein by reference).  |
| 4.3                       | Purchase Agreement, dated as of November 21, 2008, between the Registrant and the United States Department of the Treasury (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 25, 2008 and incorporated herein by reference).   |
| 4.4                       | Warrant, dated November 21, 2008, to purchase shares of Common Stock of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 25, 2008 and incorporated herein by reference).  |
| 5.1                       | Opinion of Gerrish McCreary Smith, PC.   |
| 23.1                      | Consent of KPMG LLP.   |
| 23.2                      | Consent of Gerrish McCreary Smith, PC, included in Exhibit 5.1 filed herewith.   |
| 24.1                      | Powers of Attorney (included in the signature pages to the Registration Statement).  |

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**Item 17. Undertakings.**

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act of 1933 );

(ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in the volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement; and

(iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this registration statement or any material change to such information in this registration statement;

*provided, however*, that paragraphs (1)(i), (1)(ii) and (1)(iii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of this registration statement.

(2) That, for the purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at the time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:

(i) each prospectus filed by a registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(ii) each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii) or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof. *Provided, however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

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(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of a registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) the portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant; and

(iv) any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

The registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the indemnification provisions described herein, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Olympia, State of Washington, on December 18, 2008.

HERITAGE CORPORATION

By: /s/ Brian L. Vance  
 Name: Brian L. Vance  
 Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

SIGNATURES AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, the undersigned officers and directors of Heritage Corporation hereby severally constitute and appoint Brian L. Vance, Donald J. Hinson, Edward D. Cameron and Kaylene M. Lahn and each of them singly, our true and lawful attorneys with full power to any of them, and to each of them singly, to sign for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below the Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed herewith and any and all pre-effective and post-effective amendments to said Registration Statement and generally to do all such things in our name and behalf in our capacities as officers and directors to enable Heritage Corporation to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and all requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming our signatures as they may be signed by our said attorneys, or any of them, to said Registration Statement and any and all amendments thereto.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| <b>Signature</b>                         | <b>Title</b>  | <b>Date</b>       |
|--|---|-------------------|
| /s/ Brian L. Vance<br>Brian L. Vance     | President, Chief Executive Officer and Director<br>(Principal Executive Officer)                | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Donald J. Hinson<br>Donald J. Hinson | Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer<br>(Principal Financial & Accounting Officer) | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Kaylene M. Lahn<br>Kaylene M. Lahn   | Senior Vice President and Corporate Secretary   | December 18, 2008 |



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|  |   |                   |
|--|---|-------------------|
| /s/ Edward D. Cameron<br>Edward D. Cameron         | Senior Vice President and Assistant Corporate Secretary | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Donald V. Rhodes<br>Donald V. Rhodes           | Director and Chairman                                   | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ John A. Clees<br>John A. Clees                 | Director  | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Philip S. Weigand<br>Philip S. Weigand         | Director  | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Brian S. Charneski<br>Brian S. Charneski       | Director  | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Gary B. Christensen<br>Gary B. Christensen     | Director  | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Daryl D. Jensen<br>Daryl D. Jensen             | Director  | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Kimberly T. Ellwanger<br>Kimberly T. Ellwanger | Director  | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Peter N. Fluetsch<br>Peter N. Fluetsch         | Director  | December 18, 2008 |
| /s/ Jeffrey S. Lyon<br>Jeffrey S. Lyon             | Director  | December 18, 2008 |

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EXHIBIT INDEX

| <b>EXHIBIT<br/>NUMBER</b> | <b>DESCRIPTION</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|
| 4.1                       | Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 declared effective on November 12, 1997, and Articles of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 25, 2008 both of which are incorporated herein by reference). |
| 4.2                       | By-laws of the Registrant (filed with the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on November 29, 2007 and incorporated herein by reference).  |
| 4.3                       | Purchase Agreement, dated as of November 21, 2008, between the Registrant and the United States Department of the Treasury (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 25, 2008 and incorporated herein by reference).   |
| 4.4                       | Warrant, dated November 21, 2008, to purchase shares of Common Stock of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 25, 2008 and incorporated herein by reference).  |
| 5.1                       | Opinion of Gerrish McCreary Smith, PC.   |
| 23.1                      | Consent of KPMG LLP.   |
| 23.2                      | Consent of Gerrish McCreary Smith, PC, included in Exhibit 5.1 filed herewith.   |
| 24.1                      | Powers of Attorney (included in the signature pages to the Registration Statement).  |