

No. 2
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2009

Cultural Heritage

C O U R I E R



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

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History and Heritage Extravaganza lives up to its name



While not listed in the National Register, the Signal Tower service station in Portland exemplifies the significance of “roadside wonders” similar to it.

Roadside Wonders: Oregon's Modern Motor Age

by Ian Johnson, SHPO Historian

In the 20th century, before freeways and sign codes, businessmen, hucksters, and quirky individuals created amazing constructions to attract the attention of passing motorists. These resources are collectively called “roadside architecture,” but it is not a style or type of building. The term refers buildings, structures, and objects built or transformed to draw the attention of passing motorists, including hotels, motels, gas stations, and other businesses along the road. While some resources reflect a recognized architectural style, often these unique highway attractions defy easy classification. What is common to all of these resources is their orientation toward the roadways and the use of signage and design to catch travelers’ attention.

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2009 Pacific Northwest Historic Preservation Field School now in progress

The University of Oregon's 15th annual Pacific Northwest Preservation Field School, which officially began August 17 and runs five weeks through September 25, is off to a great start according to field school co-director and instructor Shannon Bell.

Bell joins a host of other highly qualified instructors who will be working alongside preservation professionals, landscape architects, contractors, skilled artisans and University of Oregon historic preservation students in the study and restoration of buildings at three Willamette Valley sites: the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Gordon House (www.thegordonhouse.org) in Silverton, the historic Poultry Building at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem, and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) era rustic log and stone structures at Silver Falls State Park.



Oregon State Fairgrounds – Poultry Building



*Silver Falls State Park –
CCC Constructed Youth Camp*

Bell also says that there is still time to register for most of the week long sessions. Participants can earn two undergraduate or graduate credit hours from the University of Oregon for each one-week session. Previous preservation and building conservation skills are not required. “The field school is certainly not limited to professional types. We encourage anyone with an interest in historic preservation to sign up,” said Bell.

This year Oregon is the host state for the annual field school. Each year it is co-sponsored by the State Historic Preservation Offices and state parks departments of Oregon, Washington and Idaho in collaboration with the National Park Service and the University of Oregon, which offers the field school as part of its historic preservation academic program. Field school venue sites shift from year to year in the three states.

In addition to hands-on learning experiences that will feature different aspects of historic preservation rehabilitation techniques and methods, each session typically consists of seminars, workshops, field trips and evening lectures.

Sessions dates and times are:

Week 1: Aug. 16-21, Frank Lloyd Wright's Gordon House

Week 2: Aug. 23-28, Frank Lloyd Wright's Gordon House

Week 3: Aug. 30-Sept. 4, Oregon State Fairgrounds Historic Poultry Building

Week 4: Sept. 13-18, Frank Lloyd Wright's Gordon House
(Registration is closed for the Week 4 session)

Week 5: Sept. 20-25, CCC structures at Silver Falls State Park

Applications and additional information can be found at

<http://hp.uoregon.edu/fieldschools> or by emailing pnwfs@uoregon.edu.



Frank Lloyd Wright-Gordon House, Silverton

Hamrick receives 2009 McMath Historic Preservation Award

by David Bogan

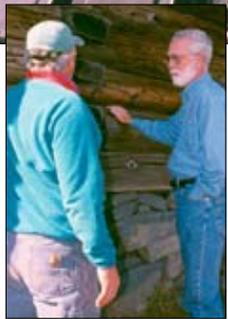
James M. Hamrick, Jr., former Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Oregon is the first recipient of the newly created annual George McMath Historic Preservation Award that honors individuals who have exhibited lifelong commitments to historic preservation.

Presented in conjunction with the University of Oregon's Historic Preservation program and Venerable Group, Inc. in Portland, the award honors McMath who is regarded as the "father of preservation" in Oregon as an early leader of efforts to preserve and restore Portland's historic buildings.

Approximately 100 fellow preservationists, colleagues and friends of Hamrick attended the award presentation luncheon in Portland at the White Stag Block on May 28.

During his remarks upon receiving the impressive bronze award, Hamrick acknowledged the challenges that he and others faced as a fledgling preservation effort began taking shape in Oregon some 30 years ago, which began as he earned his master's degree in architectural history from the University of Oregon in 1979, and later in his work with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in Salem.

"We had a great product to sell...we were advocates, true believers, with a conviction of the converted (and) this philosophy was to guide me all of my professional life although it was not always in sync with the role bureaucracy is normally expected to play," stated Hamrick. "For me it was a balancing act, wherein asking for forgiveness was always a possible outcome."



Hamrick in 2004 (with unidentified rehabilitation consultant) discussing progress being made at the 1889 Cloud Cap Inn on Mt. Hood, a historic resource for which he has been a leading preservation and restoration advocate.

The gathered crowd seemed to fully appreciate Hamrick's sentiments on this and other topics he touched on including his recognition of various teachers, mentors and collaborators with whom he respected and worked.

Among the many accomplishments and success stories that he was involved in during his tenure as Deputy SHPO, Hamrick cited "protecting the nation's oldest special assessment program for historic buildings; improving relations with Oregon's tribes; creating the only state-sponsored commission to protect historic cemeteries; and advocating for the preservation and restoration of the 1889 Cloud Cap Inn, the oldest building on Mt. Hood."

As he concluded his award acceptance speech, Hamrick summed up his position with the state this way: "It was a dream job. I was a lucky man to have held it."

"And to all of those current and future 'true believers' I salute you for your dedication and tenacity," said Hamrick.

Note: Click on this link for a 2010 nomination form and more information about the [McMath Award](#).



James M. Hamrick, Jr. (center) after receiving the McMath Award with Art DeMuro (left), president of the Venerable Group, Inc., Portland, and Kingston Heath (right), director of the University of Oregon's Historic Preservation program.

Oregon legislature approves several heritage-related bills

Several bills were recently passed by the state legislature that will have impacts in the heritage community of Oregon.

- Senate Bill 192: This bill extends and amends the special assessment program for historic properties, which had been due to expire during the coming year. The legislation is the end result of an effort by the Historic Property Task Force created by the Legislature. The program encourages reinvestment in historic buildings by freezing their property tax rates at pre-restoration levels. View a summary of the special assessment revision. at SHPO's [Special Assessment web page](#).
- House Bill 2086: This bill relates to the administrative dissolution of nonprofit corporations. Over the years nonprofits may have lost track of the annual report required for the Secretary of State's Office. Once the report hasn't been filed, the organization is administratively dissolved and no longer receives annual report forms. The limit to request reinstatement is 5-years from the date of dissolution; however this legislation allows the Secretary of State to waive the 5-year limit for nonprofit corporations in certain cases.
- House Bill 2087: This bill eliminates the nonprofit corporation fee to file the required annual report for organizations whose purpose is to maintain a historic cemetery. The cemetery must be listed with the [Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries](#).
- The purpose of the nonprofit corporation as set forth in the articles of incorporation must be to maintain a historic cemetery.
- Senate Bill 217: Establishes the Historic Preservation Revolving Fund to be used for enforcing cultural resource laws and promoting education regarding cultural resources.

Among the last bills passed by the Oregon Legislature before adjournment was SB 961, which authorizes a "Pacific Wonderland" license plate and divides the net revenue after expenses between the Oregon State Capitol Foundation and the Oregon Historical Society. License plate revenue should be about \$633,000 in 2009-11 and a little more than that in 2011-13.

It appears now that Oregon's Main Street program will be administered jointly by the Oregon Business Development Department and the State Historic Preservation Office, with primary day-to-day oversight by SHPO. Some of the details are still being worked out in light of directives from the most recent legislative session. The program and the position are fully funded through the 2009-2011 biennium, and there is strong support for the program and its goals from the Governor's Office and legislators alike.

Gary Van Huffel, who has been the coordinator during the program's first 18 months, has accepted a promotion within the Oregon Business Development Department, resulting in this vacancy. For more information about the Main Street program and the vacant coordinator position, visit <http://www.oregon.gov/OBDD/mainstreet/index.shtml>.

Mystery bone figure discovered along Oregon Coast

by Dennis Griffin, SHPO State Archaeologist

In March of this year Mary and Chris Nicholas from Florence were walking along a central Oregon beach and noticed a strangely shaped rock in a tide pool. Upon closer examination this “rock” turned out to be a large shaped bone that had been modified to look like the head of an animal-like figure and had a large naturally-faceted garnet set in one eye. Evidence suggests that the other eye also would have once had such a gem inset but that it had fallen out prior to its discovery.

After contacting a local museum and Oregon State University, the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office was contacted to see if any knowledge of the bone’s history could be determined. Since then conversations between professional archaeologists, scientists and several Oregon tribes have been ongoing with not much learned to date.

What we do know is that the bone is a sacrum bone that would have been located along an animal’s lower spine. Just what animal it came from, however, has yet to be determined. Initial thoughts were that the bone was from that of a large sea mammal (e.g., Stellar Sea lion, sea otter) or perhaps a bear. Comparisons were made with sacrum bones from each of these animals at the University of Oregon and Oregon State University but the bone figure is much larger than any of the samples in regional comparative collections. A geologist at the University of Oregon suspects that the bone may be from an extinct mega-fauna, such as a mammoth, and photographs are now being sent to researchers in several states in order to see how this bone matches up with other faunal comparative collections.

The gem inset in one of the eye sockets appears to be a naturally faceted red garnet. Not normally found along the Oregon coast efforts are now underway to track its original provenience. Dr. Loren Davis, an archaeologist from Oregon State University has taken xrf (portable X-ray) scans of the gem in an effort to determine its chemical make-up. Its chemical composition could then be compared with the composition from other garnets in the region to trace its original source. Garnets, similar in appearance, have been obtained and scanned from Alaska and Washington and we are now seeking a wider sample in order to see if this technique may help in identifying the gems original provenience.

Other efforts to trace the history and age of this figure include an examination of the glue used to attach the garnet “eye” to the modified bone. Using a hand lens it appears that a mixture of sand and some natural type of adhesive (e.g., pine pitch) may have been used to attach the garnet. Discussions with scientists at Oregon State University are currently underway to see if a small sample of this material could be examined to determine its chemical composition. In talking with Dr. Davis the SHPO office was told it would be easy to obtain a chemical reading of the material used in the adhesive. The difficulty will be in trying to match the reading with other known sources. There are no known chemical readings available in which to compare the result to (e.g., pine or fir pitch, gorilla glue, epoxy). Efforts are now underway to see if readings from glue sources (both those available prehistorically and today) can be obtained for a comparative analysis. Scientists believe the



The garnet-eyed bone of a yet unidentified animal—is it an ancient sacred object or a hoax?

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MYSTERY BONE FIGURE DISCOVERED ALONG OREGON COAST . . . continued from page 5

bone may have eroded from a buried archaeological site but want to be sure that it is not the product of a hoax. No other examples of human modified bones with gem insets have been found in western North America.

The bone figure was found in the traditional area of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indian. The final disposition of the artifact, after analysis has been completed, will be determined after consultation with the Siletz Tribe.

ROADSIDE WONDERS: OREGON'S MODERN MOTOR AGE . . . continued from page 1

In the early 20th century roadside enterprises offered essential services, including gas, food, and lodging in converted houses and barns. By the 1920s purpose-built buildings became common, and in the 1930s and 1940s corporations differentiated themselves by using unique building designs. The rise of these more extravagant and intentional creations marked the maturation of roadside architecture into a recognizable, yet eclectic type of construction. In the 1930s Shell Gasoline constructed stations in the shape of giant shells. Other establishments attracted customers by reinterpreting local history and folklore for tourists. For instance, in the U.S. Southwest "tourist cabins" featured stucco and false beams to suggest the architecture of Pueblos or Spanish Missions. The use of regional icons was particularly important in the Midwest and West where popular legends such as Paul Bunyan or Native American culture were crafted into colossal commercial images. In addition to traveler services, roadside attractions such as zoos, museums, curiosity shops, and amusement parks popped up along the highways.



A towering statue of legendary logger Paul Bunyan greets passing motorists in Portland's Kenton neighborhood. The celebrated axe-man's statue was recently added to the National Register of Historic Places.

In Oregon many businesses, and sometimes inspired individuals, created roadside attractions for commerce and amusement. Only the City of Eugene has formally studied roadside architecture; however, Harriet Baskas' book *Oregon Curiosities: Quirky Characters, Roadside Oddities & Other Offbeat Stuff* describes many of the more outlandish attractions around the state. In Portland a circa-1950 jug-shaped building sits at 7417 Northeast Sandy Boulevard. In Port Orford, Ernie Nelson opened the roadside attraction Jurassic Park in 1953 to feature his two home-made dinosaur creations, some over 40 feet tall. Recently, Portland's Kenton neighborhood had its local icon, a 31-foot statue of legendary logger Paul Bunyan, listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Constructed in 1959 by the neighborhood in honor of the State Centennial, the statue was recognized as a particularly good example of a roadside attraction and is the only resource of this type listed in the state.

While not all road-side creations are eligible for the National Register, those that are good examples of their type or represent a larger community story, like Kenton's Paul Bunyan, are. Highway commercial districts are another resource that can be recognized. Portions of Route 66 are already listed on the Register. Quirky, and often hard to describe, Oregon's roadside architecture demonstrates the growing importance of the automobile during the early- and mid- 20th century and the unique architectural aesthetic of the period.

Varied interests converge to save Luper Cemetery

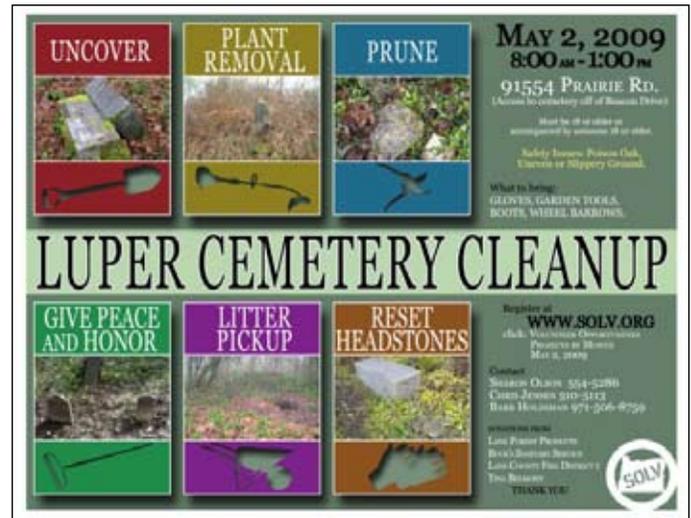
by Kuri Gill, Historic Cemeteries Program Coordinator

Over the past year, the [Historic Cemeteries program](#) has been responding to parties interested in the Luper Cemetery. The cemetery is located north of Eugene in Lane County and contains burials of the some the area's earliest immigrants.

The cemetery's history has been tied to early Donation Land Claims, the International Order of Odd Fellows, a local Grange and a cemetery association. It has moved in and out of care over the years as is common for many of Oregon's historic cemeteries.

The first inquiry was from Pam Roach of Lake Oswego, who had visited the cemetery finding it "overgrown"—indicating that such a term was quite an understatement to describe the cemetery's condition. In fact, plant life was running wild, providing cover for parties and homeless camps not to mention vandalism. Evidence of grave robbery was enough move Roach to contact our program to seek help for the cemetery. She completed the survey form to have the cemetery listed with the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries.

The next two inquiries came around the same time from descendants of people buried in the cemetery. They had visited from Portland and Idaho and were distraught about the terrible condition of the cemetery.



Luper Cemetery poster effectively got out the message for volunteers to participate in a spring cleanup effort.



An overgrown Luper Cemetery underwent a significant make-over earlier this year thanks to the work of many different people.



Last winter, Chris Jensen, contacted the program to seek help for the cemetery. The City of Eugene has property adjacent to the cemetery and city employees had observed ill-treatment of the cemetery over the years. Fed up, these folks decided to take action and formed a cadre of volunteers to clean up the cemetery.

In turn, the volunteer group contacted the other interested parties in this story as well as located yet another descendant, Kristin Meador. Additional efforts by the volunteers By using their personal contacts and reaching out for media coverage, the volunteers were successful in bringing attention to the plight of the cemetery. Designated as an Oregon 150 partner they have conducted several cleanup days. In the days following this project, which saw a nice clearing of the area, two neighbors signed up to volunteer and have accomplished amazing detail work.

Now the group is working to create a long term solution for the cemetery and as next steps, do more research, create a plot map and repair markers.

Elisabeth Potter Award recipients announced

Recipients of the 2009 Elisabeth Walton Potter Historic Preservation Advocacy and Education Awards were announced in June.

The awards are named in honor of Elisabeth Walton Potter, who as historian for the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department in 1966 was the first staff member of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Potter retired in 1998 as long-time program coordinator responsible for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.

Each year available award funds are to be distributed among recipients for the express purpose of helping them cover travel expenses to a historic preservation-related conference or workshop chosen by the award winner and approved by the SHPO. Eligible travel expenses include transportation (e.g., air fare/airport shuttle, personal vehicle mileage), lodging, meals, and conference registration fees.

The following is a list of this year's award recipients and the conferences they are planning to attend:

- Frederick Zal, Portland, lead architect Architectural Resources Group, Society of Architectural Historians conference, Portland, OR
- Chrisanne Beckner, Eugene (UO), Historic Preservation master's student, Vernacular Architecture Forum, Butte, MT
- Patricia Dawson, Pendleton, preserving history of century Farms & Ranches, Oral History Association annual meeting, Louisville, KY
- Lucien Swerdloff, Historic Preservation program staff, Astoria, Clatsop Community College, National Preservation Conference, Nashville, TN
- Laura Wollam, Redmond, Central Oregon Irrigation District, National Preservation Institute seminar, "Conflict Resolution & Negotiation Tools for Cultural & Natural Resource Projects," San Francisco, CA
- Alexander Krach, Ashland, commissioner, Ashland Historic Commission, National Preservation Conference, Nashville, TN
- Calvin Lewis, West Lake, park ranger, Oregon State Parks, International Preservation Trades Workshop, Leadville, CO
- Pam Chestnut, Astoria, instructor, Historic Preservation Program, Clatsop Community College, International Preservation Trades Workshop, Leadville, CO

Clatsop Community College Historic Preservation and Restoration Program to begin in Fall 2009

Clatsop Community College (CCC) in Astoria has announced that the Historic Preservation and Restoration Program has received state approval and will begin offering courses in Fall 2009.

The program offers students two degree options: a one-year certificate or a two-year Associate of Applied Science degree in Historic Preservation and Restoration.

The one-year certificate curriculum will provide students with general construction skills and a basic understanding of the issues facing historic preservation and restoration. The second year focuses on planning and completing historic preservation and restoration projects. Students will further their knowledge by developing a deeper understanding of the history, materials and methods for working with historic structures. Completion of the second year leads to an Associate's degree.

The newly approved program is not only designed for degree seeking students. It will be a valuable asset to the Columbia-Pacific region as a whole, providing individuals interested in any aspect of historic preservation an opportunity for training in this area. The College will work in conjunction with various organizations—including the City of Astoria, the Lower Columbia Preservation Society, and Columbia Pacific Preservation—to provide a well-rounded and hands-on curriculum.

CCC Instructor Lucien Swerdloff says, "Although the complete program is designed to prepare individuals for work in the building trades with an emphasis on the preservation and restoration of historic and vintage residential and commercial buildings, it is flexible enough to accommodate a variety of interests. Individuals interested in obtaining a degree can enroll as full-time or

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CCC HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION PROGRAM TO BEGIN IN FALL 2009 . . . continued from page 8

part-time students. Students may also take specific courses; for example, a homeowner may want to learn how to document a historic house or a carpenter may want to learn techniques for preserving vintage windows.”

Linda Oldenkamp, a member of the CCC Advisory Committee for the Historic Preservation and Restoration Program says, “Receiving State approval for this program is fabulous; it is exactly what our area needs. Per capita, Astoria has the most historic housing stock of any city in Oregon. It will be helpful to owners of commercial and residential buildings. I can see some owners signing up for classes to obtain the skills to work on their own projects. Those who want to hire the work to be done will now be able to find people who have knowledge of historic preservation and training in restoration. It seems almost too good to be true.”

“This program is an important step in establishing historic preservation as an economic motor by creating a well trained workforce that can work on both historic preservation and new construction projects,” says Jay Raskin, a local architect who does historic preservation projects. “It also ties into other efforts to promote and build upon the economic importance of historic preservation for the region.”

For information about CCC’s Historic Preservation and Restoration program or if you are interested sharing your skills by being an adjunct faculty for the program, please contact Kristen Wilkin at 503-338-7696, email at KWilkin@clatsopcc.edu, or Lucien Swerdloff, lswerdloff@clatsopcc.edu.

For information about the program and/or to register for classes, please visit the CCC website at www.clatsopcc.edu where you may download both the 2009-10 CCC catalog and 4-term academic schedule.

Clatsop Community College is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.

Save America's Windows

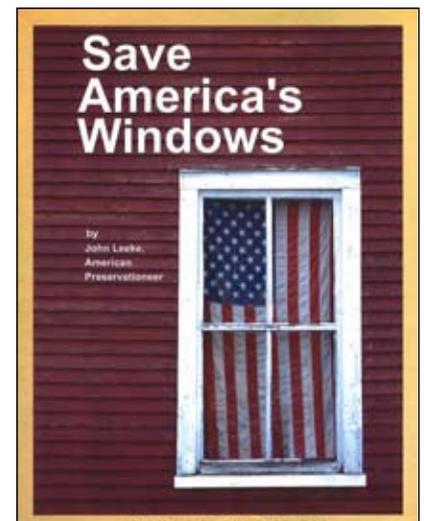
A review of a newly released report from Historic HomeWorks

by Joy Sears

If you believe everything you see in advertising no matter what the media format, then why wouldn't everyone replace their old drafty inefficient wood windows with new energy efficient vinyl or other replacement window? And do those who extensively and aggressively market these products really care about what's best for your home or the environment?

Since there is only a relatively small number of qualified craftspeople that know how to repair historic and old wood windows it is understandable why these so-called “no-maintenance windows” would be a tempting purchase for a majority of homeowners. Many people simply don't know where to turn to find an overall good solution—combining considerations such as monetary outlay, efficiency, workmanship, and in today's parlance, “thinking green.”

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Oregon cannon conservation update

by Dennis Griffin, SHPO State Archaeologist

Conservation efforts on the two cannon recovered off Arch Cape in February 2008 has moved to a new phase. The two cannon, believed to be from the USS Shark that wrecked near the mouth of the Columbia River in 1846, have been sitting in tanks of fresh water at Oregon State Parks since their initial discovery. On April 8, 2009, the cannon were delivered to the Conservation Research Lab, at Texas A&M University in order for specialists to take over their care and begin the removal of the accumulated concretions that currently cover the cannon and prepare them for their eventual return to Oregon.

During the period that the carronades lay buried beneath the Pacific Ocean large concretions formed around them as the iron corroded and it reacted to the surrounding sea water. Essentially, contact between salt water and the iron cannon resulted in the dissolving of calcium carbonate and carbon dioxide in the sea water to form an insoluble precipitate of calcium carbonate and magnesium hydroxide around each cannon. These precipitates and other corrosion products, intermix with the surrounding sand and marine life to form a hard dense layer of encrustation, or concretion, around the metal artifact. The next step in the conservation effort is to slowly remove the concretions exposing the cannon that lies buried within.

Removal efforts will concentrate on one cannon at a time with initial efforts focusing on the cannon that most resembles the actual shape of a cannon (*photo 1*). While this process takes place, the other cannon, the one most heavily covered by concretions, is undergoing a scanning process to produce a 3-D model prior to its conservation. Prior to removing its concretions the Wilder 3-Dimensional Imaging Lab at the Center for Maritime Archaeology and Conservation at Texas A&M University will undertake laser and digital imaging of the cannon. This Lab operates a Minolta Vivid 910 Non-contact 3D scanner, which uses a laser beam to scan artifacts and digitizes them into 3D models (*photo 2*). The laser light is reflected off the scanned artifact and read by a camera in the scanner, and the distance calculated through triangulation. Tens or hundreds of thousands of points are generated, then meshed together to create a 3D computer model of the



object. The same laser beam can also be used by the camera to capture color information from the artifact producing accurately-colored VRML files. The Lab also has the ability to reduce the scale of the computer image, so that the concretion can be replicated. Oregon State Parks intends to use the scan to create a life-sized model of the cannon to be used for interpretive purposes along side of the fully conserved cannon. Conservation efforts are still expected to take up to four years before they are ready to be returned to Oregon for display. Stay tuned for more updates regarding continued conservation of the cannon.

SAVE AMERICA'S WINDOWS . . . continued from page 9

Even with the availability of well-respected guidelines specifically dealing with the various issues that home owners face when repairing or replacing windows in old and historic houses, lots of folks are left scratching their heads. One complaint centers around National Park Service's "Preservation Brief #9: The Repair of Historic Wooden Windows" as simply not being user-friendly for the average home owner.

In response to such negative assertions, John Leeke, American Preservationeer, has published his latest Practical Restoration Report from his company, Historic HomeWorks entitled "Save America's Windows." The report is practical enough to give most anyone, homeowner or contractor, usable information on how to stabilize and repair almost any wood window. Below is an excerpt from the opening page:

"Thousands of wood windows are ripped out of this country's older and historic buildings each year and hauled to the dump. This astonishing loss is due in large part to the fact that few people know how to care for existing wood windows. (This) report provides an economical and practical alternative to trashing your fine old windows and buying replacements made of plastic."

Leek's publication covers all the aspects of window repair from project planning, understanding the basics, to sill and sash repairs. All repairs are covered step by step with lists of tools and materials needed to illustrations to guide anyone through the work necessary. He ends the report with excellent reprints from early trade manuals as well as suppliers of various items used in the restoration projects.

Most importantly, Leeke maintains an ever growing list of window repair specialists from around the country. Over the years, he has conducted practical workshops on many subjects from maintenance of historic buildings, wood window repair and steam paint removal either in person across the country or via the Internet where he runs Historic HomeWorks.

To order this Practical Restoration Report or any of the others he has published, check out <http://www.historichomeworks.com/hhw/reports/reports.htm>

Another worthwhile book is *Working Windows* by Terry Meaney that is a valuable reference tool for most do-it-yourselfers or those looking to be come one.

And here are some very useful websites on window repair:

<http://kshs.org/resource/windowrepair.htm>

<http://www.oldhouseweb.com/how-to-advice/windows/historic-wood-windows/>

<http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/TPS/briefs/brief09.htm>

<http://www.windowrepair.com/>

http://www.oldhousejournal.com/how_to_restore_sash_windows/magazine/1600

Bush House Conservatory restoration

by Joy Sears, SHPO Restoration Specialist

Just behind the historic Ashael Bush House in Salem, located in Bush Pasture Park, sits a small building—a conservatory—that Mr. Bush built for his daughter Sally in 1882. Constructed to serve as an all season retreat, the conservatory was retrofitted in later years with a new greenhouse and remains in this configuration today. The Bush Family donated the house and property to the City of Salem in the 1950s, and though previously rehabilitated in the 1970s, the conservatory is in dire need of restoration.

Friends of Bush Gardens have launched a fundraising effort to restore the city-owned conservatory to its early 1930s appearance with work slated to begin in 2010.

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is helping the friends group prepare the specifications and planning with help from the consulting firm URS and the City of Salem.

Current restoration plans call for a subsurface concrete footing to be poured for the stuccoed brick stem walls, dismantling of greenhouse structure to repair/replace sections of the supports and replacement of all the glass.

The Bush House conservatory appears to be the only existing small scale conservatory built for a private individual or family. Three other extant early conservatories, west of the Mississippi River, are the San Francisco's Conservatory of Flowers in Golden Gate Park (1879), the Linnean House in St. Louis's Missouri Botanical Garden (1882), and the Tower Grove Park's Piper Palm House (1883) also in St. Louis, Missouri. Both the Linnean House with Shaw's Gardens and Piper Palm House with Tower Grove Park are National Historic Landmarks.

For more information on fundraising for this project, contact Gretchen Carnaby at 503 588-2410, or theholow@teleport.com.



Friends of Bush Gardens in Salem have launched a fund raising effort to move forward the rehabilitation of this historic conservatory built in 1882.

Reconnecting people with places along an historic highway

by Kristen Stahlman, Columbia Rivr Gorge National Scenic Area Coordinator, Oregon Department of Transportation

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has recently completed an oral history project that compliments a larger ODOT effort to reconnect abandoned sections of the Historic Columbia River Highway.

The *Historic Columbia River Highway: Oral Histories* project was initiated in an effort to capture first-hand accounts of the historic highway, construction of Interstate 84 (originally designated I-80), and of the surrounding Columbia River Gorge area. Built between 1913 and 1922, the Historic Columbia River Highway was America's first scenic highway. Known as the "King of Roads" the highway served thousands of travelers and took full advantage of the Columbia River Gorge's natural beauty.

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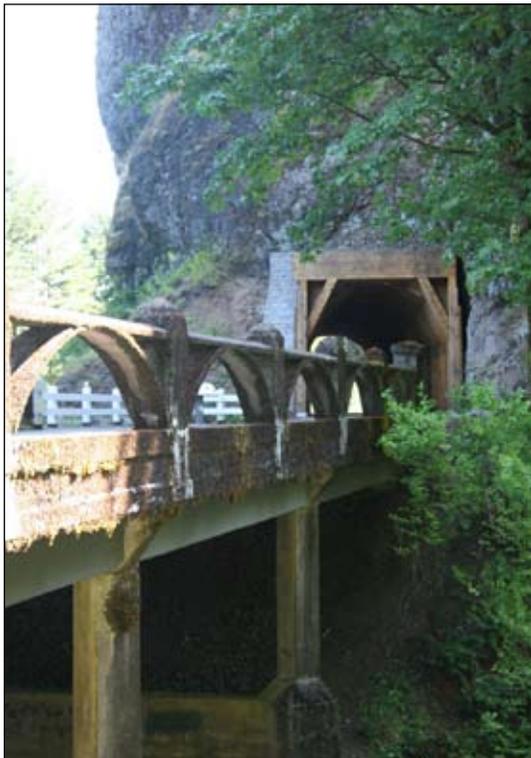
RECONNECTING PEOPLE WITH PLACES ALONG AN HISTORIC HIGHWAY . . . continued from page 12

By the late 1940s, and early 1950s the initial construction of Highway 30, and later Interstate 84, obliterated many sections of the old highway, leaving what remained disconnected and abandoned. In 2007, ODOT announced the [“Milepost 2016 Reconnection Project”](#) to ‘remember, restore, and reconnect’ sections of the historic highway.

One of the disconnected sections includes the area between Cascade Locks and Hood River that was abandoned or destroyed as part of construction of a water-level route of Highway 30 and I-84. In addition to complimenting the larger reconnection project, the main objective of the oral histories effort was to capture historical information this Cascade Locks-Hood River area.

As part of the project, 19 people were interviewed who had either lived in the area, helped to build sections of highway or interstate, or who have helped to preserve the historic area. Much of the cultural history of this section of highway has been lost since its abandonment over 50 years ago. This research project was aimed at reconnecting the highway culturally and providing information useful to overall restoration of the highway as a trail.

Included in this final report are historic recollections of the towns of Dodson, Bonneville, Cascade Locks, Viento, Sonny and Hood River, as well as memories of destinations along the Historic Columbia River Highway such as Crown Point, Multnomah Falls Lodge, Mitchell Point Tunnel and others. Experiences from the highway builders and preservationists are also shared.



The recently restored Oneonta Bridge and the “reopened” Oneonta Tunnel in the background.



A bake oven still marks the campsites of workers who cut the Oregon Northern rail route through the Gorge during the late 1880s.

By the mid- to late- 1980s, a number of initiatives have been developed to preserve and enhance remaining sections of the HCRH and reconnect others. Since that time, 62 of the original 73 miles of the highway have been opened to travel, either by motor vehicle (Historic Highway or connecting county roads) or by foot and bicycle (State Trail). Today 11 miles of State Trail have been constructed, while an additional twelve miles await reconnection. The Historic Columbia River Highway Advisory Committee and the Friends of the Historic Columbia River Highway have joined together to develop the Milepost 2016 Reconnection Strategy, which advocates for the completion of the State Trail by 2016, the 100th anniversary of Samuel Lancaster’s masterpiece.

In compliment to the reconnection effort, the Historic Columbia River Highway Oral Histories project provides data on the memories of individuals who had either lived in the area, helped to build sections of the highway or interstate, or who have helped to preserve the historic area. This understanding can help guide the future development of the State Trail alignment and interpretive opportunities, especially between the Cascade Locks and Hood River sections.

Historic Preservation League of Oregon is back in business

After a long period of dormancy, the [Historic Preservation League of Oregon](#) (HPLO) has gone through a “historic renovation” of its own.

Executive Director Peggy Moretti recently sent a note to the State Historic Preservation Office with an update of HPLO’s good progress.

“Our Easement Committee has reformed and is currently updating monitoring materials and process. We’re updating our contracts and easement property owner contacts have been updated and letters are out alerting to upcoming inspections. And our Advocacy Committee will be holding their first meeting to outline HPLO policies, initiatives and begin outlining the HPLO Preservation Round Table,” said Moretti.

“Donations have been doing pretty well. We’re at 30% of our goal,” added Moretti. “Memberships are coming in every day, along with online sign-ups for our newsletter which is slated to be published this fall.”

Moretti also mentioned that the organization has completed preliminary versions of a brochure, website, and Facebook page and are in the process of compiling a list of heritage organizations from around the state with the intent of contacting them in September.

HPLO will be moving into its new office in the White Stag Building in Portland’s Old Town next month.

For more information contact Peggy Moretti, Executive Director, Historic Preservation League of Oregon at (503) 502-8270 or Peggy@HistoricPreservationLeague.org

History and Heritage Extravaganza lives up to its name

When the first [Oregon Heritage Conference](#) took place in 1998, fewer than 70 people attended the one-day event. This year, about 400 people gathered for four days of speakers, panels, tours, meals, movies, exhibits, workshops, dancing and other fun.

The conference, which was held as part of the Northwest History and Heritage Extravaganza, took place jointly with the Pacific Northwest History Conference and the annual meetings of the Northwest Archivists and the Northwest Oral History Association. It attracted participants from nine states.

“Because it is the Oregon statehood sesquicentennial year, we wanted to create a memorable gathering that sets the stage for the future of heritage in Oregon,” said co-coordinator Kyle Jansson. “With more than 100 speakers from a variety of disciplines and cultural backgrounds, we think we did that. More than 80 percent of the attendees said it was worth their time and money to attend.”

The conference also included presentations by three university students selected as Oregon Heritage Fellows, as well as the Oregon Heritage Excellence Awards banquet.

The next statewide Oregon Heritage Conference will take place in 2011. Plans are being developed to create other types of gatherings during 2010.