Philomath, Oregon

HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT

prepared for
The City of Philomath, Oregon

by

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Historic Preservation Consultants
Eugene, Oregon

2001

cover photo: Philomath c. 1902
Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon 1994-008.007A

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Acknowledgments

Many people contributed to the completion of this historic context statement. The project was funded and supported by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office and the City of Philomath. Their sponsorship is gratefully acknowledged.

Special thanks go to the Benton County Historical Society & Museum in Philomath for all their assistance with this project. The Museum collection provided much of the research material for this project, and all of the historic photographs included in the historic context statement were provided by the Museum. Mary Gallagher and Judy Juntenen were especially generous in lending their time and expertise.

Two volunteers were critical to the success of this project. May Dasch and Meg Campbell, members of the Philomath Historic Resources Commission, conducted hours of painstaking microfilm research, analyzing the records of the *Benton County Review*. Their work was invaluable to this project. The research they completed will also contribute greatly to future studies of the history of Philomath and its resources.

The Philomath Historic Resources Commission provided valuable support and commentary throughout this project. Their participation in the discussion about goals, objectives and treatment strategies was particularly important.

Leslie Heald & Sally Wright

Philomath Historic Resources Commission 2001

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Introduction

Purpose

This historic context statement provides a summary of the history of the city of Philomath, identifies historic resources associated with that history, and provides guidelines for preservation planning. It is intended to serve as a starting point for initiating a historic preservation program in Philomath.

The historic context statement describes the history and development of Philomath in broad terms and focuses on how this history is manifested in the built environment. It examines topics such as architecture, cultural landscapes and engineering. Some of the key themes addressed in this document are transportation, residential and commercial development, industry and manufacturing, education, government and other cultural institutions. The framework for this document was provided by the thematic categories and chronological periods established by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the National Park Service and the Oregon Statewide Inventory Historic/Cultural Themes List. These categories have been slightly adjusted to accommodate the unique history of the Philomath area.

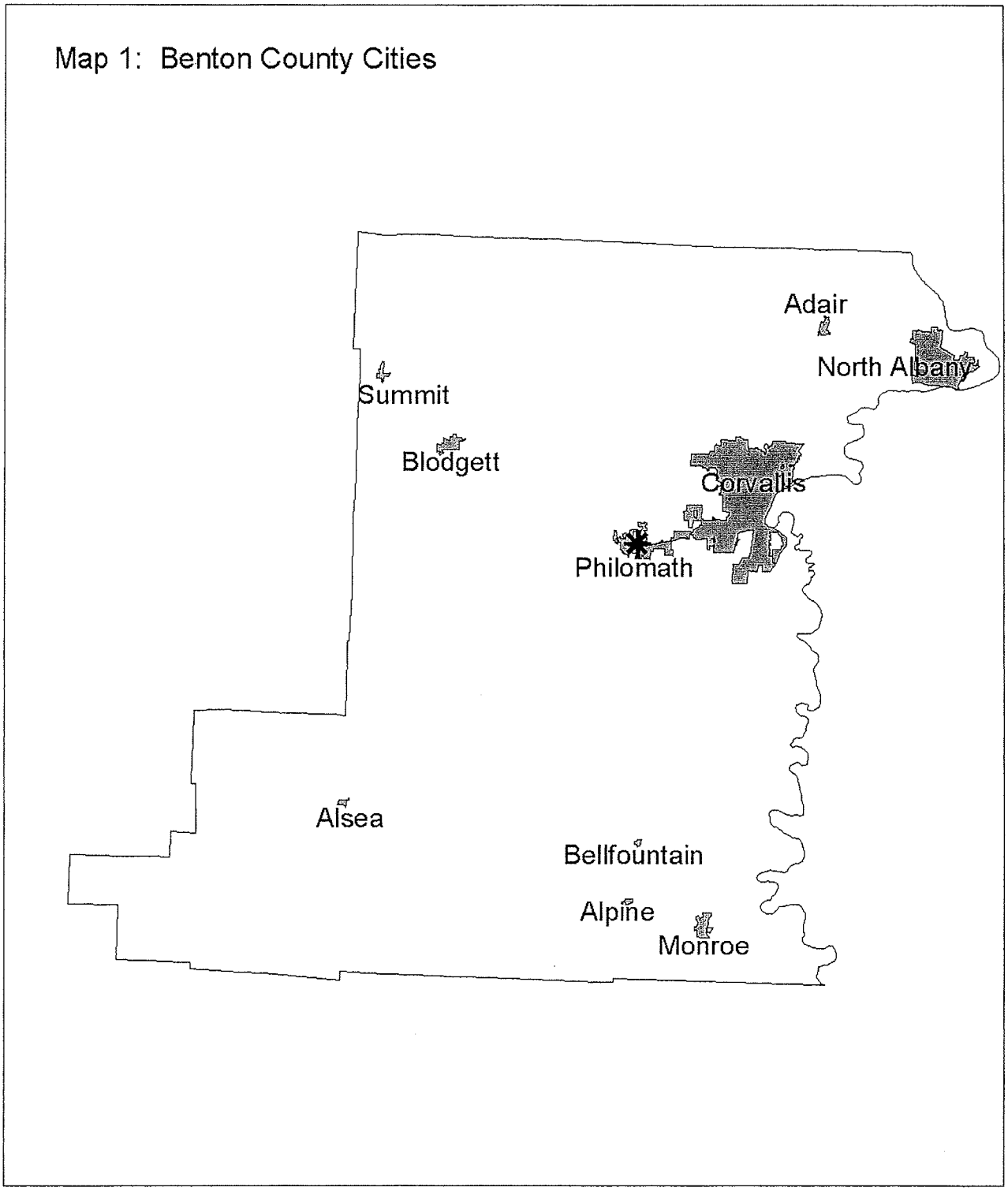
Scope of Project

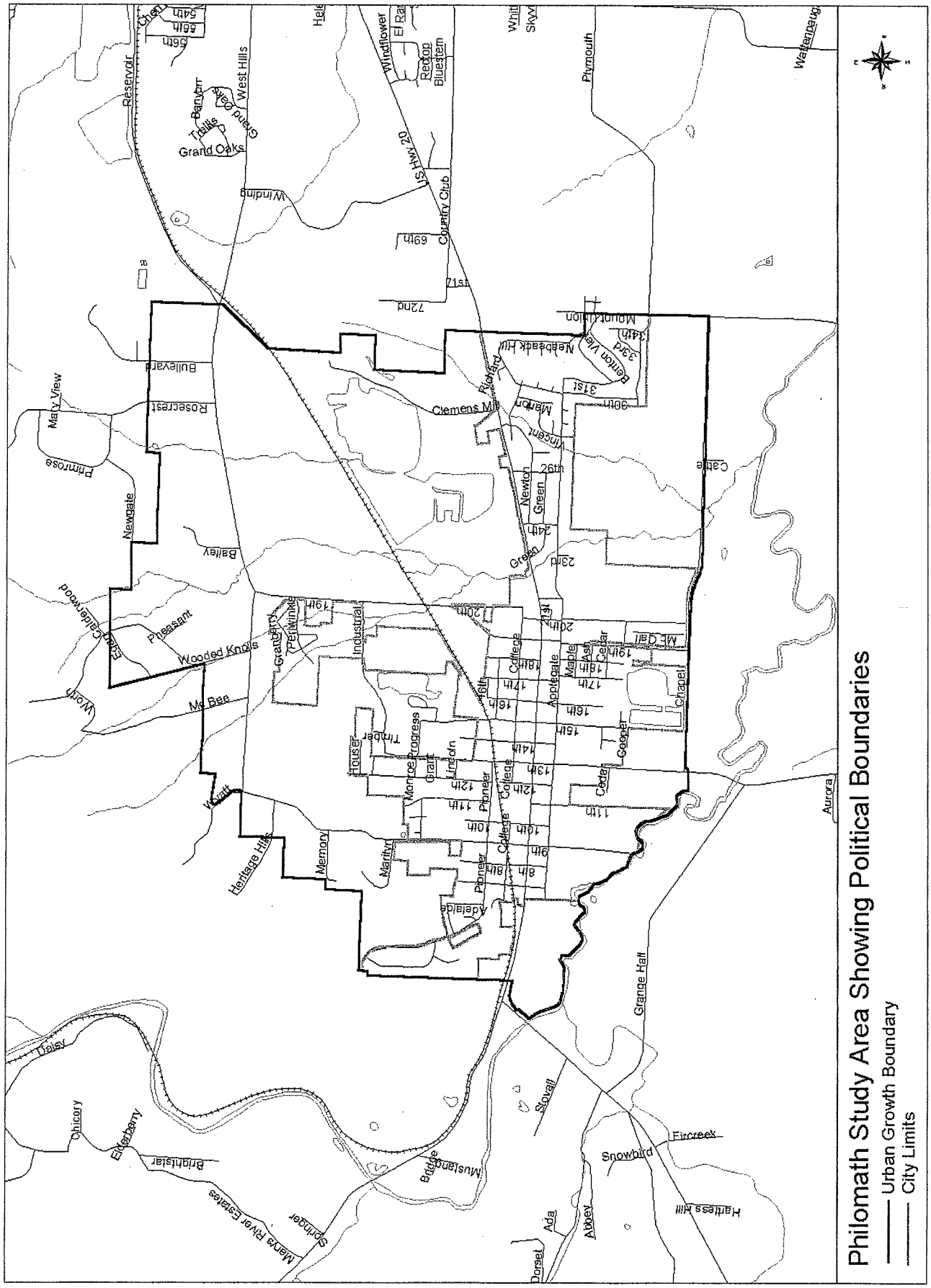
This is a geographically based study that focuses on the area encompassed by the current City of Philomath Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). In some cases, references to events which occurred outside of this area are included if they provide important context for understanding the history of the Philomath UGB area. The historic context statement includes three general sections: Historic Overview, Resource Identification and Evaluation, and Treatment. The Historic Overview is intended to provide a broad summary of the history and development of the Philomath area, particularly as it relates to the built environment. The Resource Identification and Evaluation section includes the results of a windshield survey of the Philomath area and describes and illustrates the types of historic resources found in that area. The Evaluation portion of this section provides guidelines for assessing the significance and integrity of historic resources and evaluating their potential for preservation treatment. The final Treatment section of the document provides recommendations for future preservation work in Philomath and outlines both short and long term preservation goals as well as integration with other planning documents.

Temporal Boundaries

The primary temporal boundaries of this context statement range from 1846 to 1955. The pre-settlement period is discussed briefly to provide important context and understanding of Native American history and early exploration in this area. However, this report does not address any potential archaeological resources in the Philomath area, and its main focus is on the built environment which began to evolve after Euro-American settlers arrived in the area. The span from 1846 to 1955 will be divided into chronological periods that roughly follow those outlined in the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office document, "Historic Preservation Planning in Oregon." The beginning and ending dates of these periods have been changed to fit trends and events in Philomath history. The cut-off date of 1955 was chosen to fit comfortably with the 50 year threshold for evaluation of historic resources. In the future, it would be appropriate to add chapters to this document to deal with post-1955 history and resources.

Map 1: Benton County Cities




Philomath Study Area Showing Political Boundaries
Urban Growth Boundary
City Limits
Reservoir
West Hills
Grand Oaks
Windflower
Redtop
Bluestem
Plymouth
Wattenpaugh
US Hwy 20
Country Club
Winding
69th
71st
72nd
Mount Union
Neebeack Hill
Benton View
34th
33rd
31st
30th
Bullevard
Rosecrest
Maty View
Primrose
Newgate
Clemens Mill
Marion
Vincent
26th
Newton
Green
24th
23rd
Cattle
Bailey
Pheasant
Wooded Knolls
Mc Bee
Worth
Granberry
Periwinkle
19th
Industrial
20th
21st
College
Applegate
Maple
Ash
Cedar
Mc Gall
18th
17th
16th
15th
14th
13th
12th
11th
10th
9th
8th
Chapel
Cooper
Timber
Monroe
Progress
Grant
Lincoln
Pioneer
Cedar
Aurora
Wyatt
Heritage Hills
Memory
Marilyn
Adelaide
Grange Hall
Daisy
Chicory
Elderberry
Brightstar
Marys River Estates
Springer
Bridge
Mustang
Stovall
Fircreek
Snowbird
Hartless Hill
Abbey
Ada
Dorset

Spatial Boundaries

As stated above, this historic context statement deals with the area inside the current City of Philomath Urban Growth Boundary. Some areas outside of this boundary are mentioned when they had an impact or influence on the Philomath vicinity. The UGB is roughly bounded by the Marys River and Chapel Road on the south, Bellfountain/Mt. Union Road on the east and the foothills on the north. It encompasses an area of 2,923.9 acres.

Geographic Description

The City of Philomath is a small town in the northern portion of Benton County. It lies in Oregon's fertile Willamette Valley, west of the Willamette River and east of the Coast Range. Nearby towns include the county seat of Corvallis to the northeast, the small, unincorporated town of Wren to the northwest, and Alsea to the southwest.

The winding Marys River runs just south of downtown Philomath. This narrow, but swiftly flowing river is consider non-navigable, but has historically been used as a water source and for transporting felled logs. Flooding by the Marys has improved the soil in this valley area with silt deposits, making it an excellent area for farming. Foothills, a good source of lumber, lie to the north, and prominent Bennett's Hill lies to the south. Marys Peak, the highest point in Benton County at 4,097 feet, is just west of Philomath and is a prominent visual landmark for the area.

The climate is characterized by mild temperatures, ranging from an average of 39F in the winter to 65F in the summer. Extreme hot and cold temperatures are rare. Average annual precipitation is 42.55 inches.

Methods

The Historic Overview section is the result of researching a variety of historic records, including both primary and secondary sources. The bulk of records were found at the Benton County Historical Museum, Corvallis Public Library, Oregon State University Library and the Benton County Courthouse. Key sources included aerial photos, historic maps, deed records, *A History of Philomath College* by C.G. Springer, historic photos of Philomath, newspaper records, and the Benton County Historic Resource Inventory. Much of the 20th century information was gathered through examining microfilm records of the *Benton County Review*, a newspaper published in Philomath through the first half of the 20th century.

The Resource Identification and Evaluation section includes the results of a windshield survey conducted during March 2001. The consultants drove the entire area within the UGB over the course of two days. Historic resources identified in the course of this survey were recorded on a map and representative examples of building types were photographed. Only those areas accessible by car were examined.

The Evaluation and Treatment sections were developed in consultation with the City of Philomath Historic Resources Commission (HRC). The HRC, formed in ___, is charged with administering Philomath's historic preservation program.

Historical Overview

I. Prehistory and Native Americans/Euro-American Relations: 10,000 BC - 1855

The first people to inhabit what is now the Philomath area were Native Americans. Native peoples inhabited the Pacific Northwest for many thousands of years before the arrival of European explorers and settlers. The oldest archaeological sites found in the Willamette Valley have been dated to 8,000 to 10,000 years ago.

The peoples living within the Willamette and Upper Umpqua Valleys primarily belonged to the Kalapuya tribe. They were related to the tribes of the Pacific Coast and Columbia Plateau but spoke distinct dialects. The Kalapuya were divided into several subgroups, or bands, generally based around river drainage areas and composed of a group of related families. The group believed to have inhabited what is today Philomath during the time when Europeans first entered the Pacific Northwest was the Chepenfa band of the Kalapuya, which is also referred to as the Marys River band.

Like other Kalapuya, the Marys River band practiced seasonal food gathering activities. During the spring and summer they set up temporary camps and gathered seeds, berries and roots. Hunting for large and small mammals and fishing also provided important food supplies, and trade with other Native American groups provided foods and goods which were not locally available. In the winter, the Kalapuya would return to permanent villages composed of partially subterranean houses with bark or plank roofs located in the foothills above the valley floor.

Figure 1: This drawing of a Kalapuya was made in 1841 by a member of the Wilkes expedition in southern Benton County.

The Kalapuya had an enormous impact upon the landscape of the Willamette Valley. In order to make seed plants grow abundantly and to make hunting easier, they managed the valley lands by lighting fires from late summer into fall. These annual fires burned back brush and created an open, prairie environment across the valley floor. Fire resistant species like oak trees were able to survive the blazes, while less fire resistant species like Douglas fir burned and were not able to grow.

The fires helped important food plants like camas and tarweed to grow and made them easier to harvest. Kalapuya women and children, with the help of special digging sticks, harvested camas, a bulb plant with a purple flower. They cleaned and cooked the bulbs in pits of heated rocks layered with earth. The fires also helped Native Americans gather acorns and hazelnuts. The blazes burnt away brush beneath the trees, making the nuts easier to find and collect. In addition, burning aided hunting by promoting the growth of grasses eaten by grazing animals such as deer and elk. The lush grass attracted these animals to the valley floor where hunters could spot them through the

short brush. Without the fires set by the Kalapuya, the Willamette Valley would have been completely covered with trees. Their use of fire prevented the course of forest succession and kept the valley in an open, prairie state that aided hunting and plant gathering.

Arrival of Europeans in the late 1700s dramatically altered the lives of the native peoples of Oregon and permanently altered the ways in which the land was used. Even before settlers began arriving in the 1800s, European diseases invaded Oregon and infected the Native people who had little resistance to germs such as malaria and influenza. A smallpox epidemic in 1782-83 is estimated to have killed half of the Kalapuya people. A second and even more devastating epidemic struck in 1830. Within a few years it had killed an estimated 75% of the remaining Native population. Many surviving Kalapuya then starved to death as European settlers forced them from the lands where they had traditionally gathered food. The few surviving members of the Marys River and other Kalapuya bands were confined to the Grande Ronde reservation in 1855.

II. Settlement, Statehood and Steampower: 1846 - 1864

Great numbers of settlers arrived in Oregon during the 1840s over the increasingly popular Oregon Trail. The first wagon train set out in 1841 from Independence, Missouri, and many others followed. The trail ended with a harrowing raft trip down the Columbia River or an almost equally perilous journey around Mount Hood on the Barlow Road. Many early Benton County settlers came to the Oregon Territory by this long and arduous route.

The Applegate Trail, originally known as the "South Road" or "Southern Emigrant Road," provided settlers with an alternate route to the Willamette Valley. In 1846, the Applegate Trail was forged from Fort Hall, Idaho west towards the Klamath Falls area. It then headed north into the Willamette Valley and through Benton County. During the 1840s and 1850s, the Applegate Trail was the main means of transportation up and down the Willamette Valley.

The Oregon and Applegate Trails brought increasing numbers of settlers to Benton County and other Willamette Valley locations. In 1850, a census recorded 814 people in Benton County. Of course, the county at that time was 3.6 million acres larger than it is today, extending south from Polk County to the California boundary and west from the Willamette River to the Pacific Ocean. By 1860 there were 3,047 people living in Benton County, an increase of almost 280% in just ten years (Longwood 1940:35).

Before the founding of Philomath College in 1865, the town of Philomath did not exist. Settlers were scattered up and down the Marys River valley, in a loosely defined area known as the Marys River Settlement. This area was roughly bounded by the Willamette River on the east, the Oak Creek hills to the north, the Marys River on the south and on the west by the foothills of the Coast Range and tributaries of the Marys.

Transportation

Transportation during this period was time consuming and arduous. Settlers generally made use of footpaths established by the Native Americans. These footpaths tended to follow the contours of the foothills, avoiding the annual mud near prairies and rivers. In 1863, the Yaquina Wagon Road Company built a toll road between Corvallis and the Coast, including a stage stops Matzger's Mill, west of the current day location of Philomath (Carter and Dennis 1996:21).

While many communities relied on river transport, the Marys River was never used for transportation. It was too low in summer and too wild in winter, and also had significant drops, like the 6 to 8 foot drop near Harris Mill, close to Wren (Wren Hhistorical Society 1998:20). The Willamette River was used by many steamboats, the most important means of transportation for goods and people during this period. Steamboats came down the Willamette as far as Corvallis in the early 1850s and by 1856 had reached Eugene (Carter and Dennis 1996:21). Steamboats continued to be the major form of transport in the valley throughout the 1860s.

Agriculture

Many settlers came to Oregon with the intention of establishing farms or ranches. They took advantage of laws that allowed them to obtain up to 640 acres of land at very little or no cost. These early claims were recognized by the U.S. government, and in 1850 the Oregon Donation Land Act was passed. By 1853, the claim size was reduced to 160 acres, reflecting the fact that most large parcels of prime land had quickly been claimed. The ideal land claim was located along the foothills, often near a stream or tributary, included good farming land, a water supply and trees

for construction and fuel (Carter and Dennis 1996:12). In the first years after arriving in Oregon, settlers concentrated on subsistence farming, growing food for their own families. Many settlers also relied upon wild game and plants such as berries. As Philomath settler Jacob Henkle recounted, "wild ducks and geese, grouse, pheasants and quails, deer and elk and beer meat in abundance were for the settler with his good old long-barreled Kentucky rifle" (Henkle 1914:2). As farms became more established, and transportation facilities improved, agriculture became an important enterprise in the Marys River area.

Farmers arriving in the Marys River area found that the open land created by the Kalapuya's annual burning cycle was ideal for farming and raising cattle. The landscape they encountered was quite different from the tree-covered hillsides surrounding Philomath today. One "resident on the outskirts of Philomath expressed himself in good fashion by stating that he could jump over any tree growing on the foothills which he took up as a donation land claim in the early fifties [1850s]. This same hill, due to the absence of repeated burnings, now [1940] supports a fir stand varying from seventy-five to one hundred fifty feet in height" (Longwood 1940:22).

Cattle raising was a practical enterprising for settlement era farmers. It required very few tools, and the cattle themselves could be driven to market, eliminating the problem of perishable farm goods.

> Father (Ichabod Hinkle) and some of the neighbors kept many cattle in the early days. Some of them went to prospect for grass west of Marys Peak for they had heard there was good pasture there...In 1867 my uncle and brother took 150 head of cattle to Jacksonville where there were gold mines. They opened a butcher shop and disposed of part of their animals to good advantage, but lost the rest of their head in the severe winter that followed (Jerry E. Hinkle in Aukerman 2000:179).

A census taken in 1850 recorded 2,771 beef cattle, 111 milch cows, 629 sheep, 3,586 swine, 675 horses, 26 asses and mules, and 665 oxen in "the valley and foothills." These animals were valued at a total of $19,539 - more than twice the value of all farm land, buildings and other improvements (Longwood 1940:44).

In addition to cattle, early settlers raised grain crops, particularly wheat. They usually farmed only a few acres because they lacked sophisticated agricultural implements. Fields were plowed by oxen (Longwood 1940:38-39).

> Father cleared some land and put in some wheat. He cut it with a "cradle," bound it by hand, and hauled it to the threshing floor. The threshing floor was made of heavy planks nailed to a solid foundation, very smooth, with no cracks, and was walled up about two feet. They would throw a load of grain in on the threshing floor, put the horses in on the floor, and round and round they go, treading out the grain...It was then sacked and taken to a grist mill that had been built, seven or eight miles off (Elizabeth King Wells in Aukerman 2000:378).

The Gold Rush, beginning in 1849 and continuing into the 1850s, provided a boon to farmers by creating a market for their crops. Profits made from selling goods to miners in turn allowed farmers to invest in better tools and put more land into crops. Horses replaced oxen for plowing by 1860, and reapers and mowing machines replaced hand cradles. Ditches were built for irrigation, and fruit trees planted when the settlers first arrived matured into productive orchards (Longwood 1940:41).

Industry & Manufacturing

Water power fueled industrial and manufacturing concerns during the settlement period. These businesses were built on existing waterways or made use of "millraces," small offshoot channels dug to furnish water power. Industry focused on meeting immediate needs; saw mills furnished lumber for building, and grist mills provided flour for local people and for some limited exports.

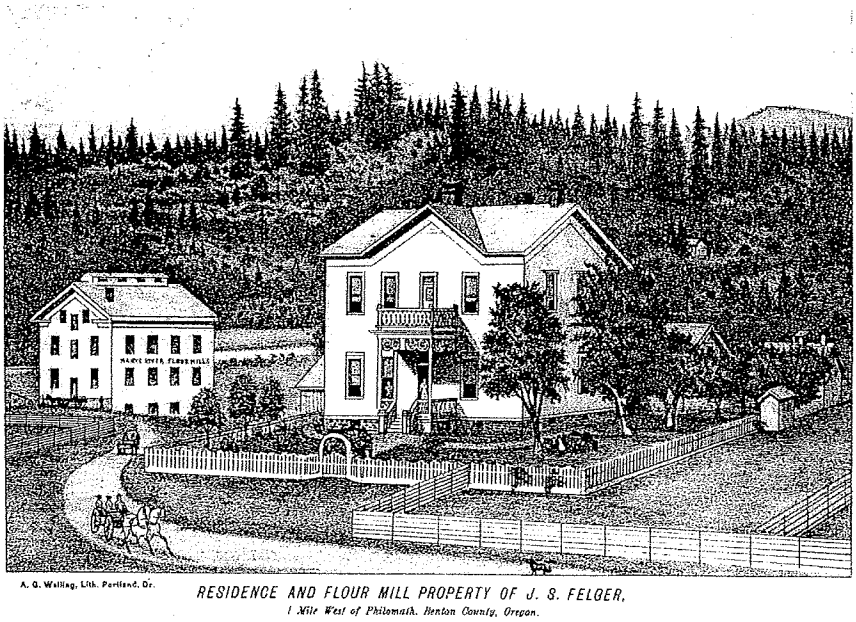


Figure 2: This lithograph from Fagan's History of Benton County *shows Matzger's Mill as it appeared in 1885, after its purchase by Jacob Felger. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1980-106.4P14)*

Industry in the present day Philomath area began in 1850, when William Matzger took a Donation Land Claim on the eastern side of the Marys River and built a saw mill at once. Matzger added a grist mill in 1854 and a tannery some time later. A small community including a church, a school and several residences grew up around this industrial center and was known as Matzger's Mill. In 1867, the mill and surrounding area was purchased by Jacob Felger.

A second saw mill was constructed in the area by Ichabod Henkle in 1853. Henkle's Saw Mill was located on Rock Creek in the northeast quarter of Section 29. According to one source, "this mill with the old fashioned jib saw furnished the lumber for the Philomath College building" (Handley 1948).

Education

Several small schools were established during the 1840s and 1850s in the Marys River area. The earliest known in the present day vicinity of Philomath was established in 1849 just south of McKissic's Butte. A second school was founded around the same time on the Liggett Donation Land Claim. By 1851, the Liberty or Newton School had been established; its location is unknown. Two other early schools reportedly existed west of Philomath, one at Matzger's Mill and another on the Kennedy Donation Land Claim, about halfway between Wren and Philomath (McDonald 1983:166-167).

East of the Philomath area, the Union School house was built in around 1850, in the southeast corner of Section 7. It was called "union" because of the strong patriotic feelings of the settlers. A new Union School house was built in 1870 about .5 miles east of the old location at a spot on Plymouth Road. This building was described as "built of 'rough cut old growth fir about two inches thick, nailed with old square handmade nails'" (Fred Hisaws in McDonald 1983:138). The Union School also had a bell to call students to class. In c. 1858, the Union School District was split, and the first school was built in the present day Philomath area. This school was known as the Maple Grove School, and it was built just west of the town of Philomath near the current 13th Street. By 1865, there were reportedly 69 children between the ages of 4 and 20 enrolled at the Maple Grove School and an average daily attendance of 11 pupils (McDonald 1983:167-168).

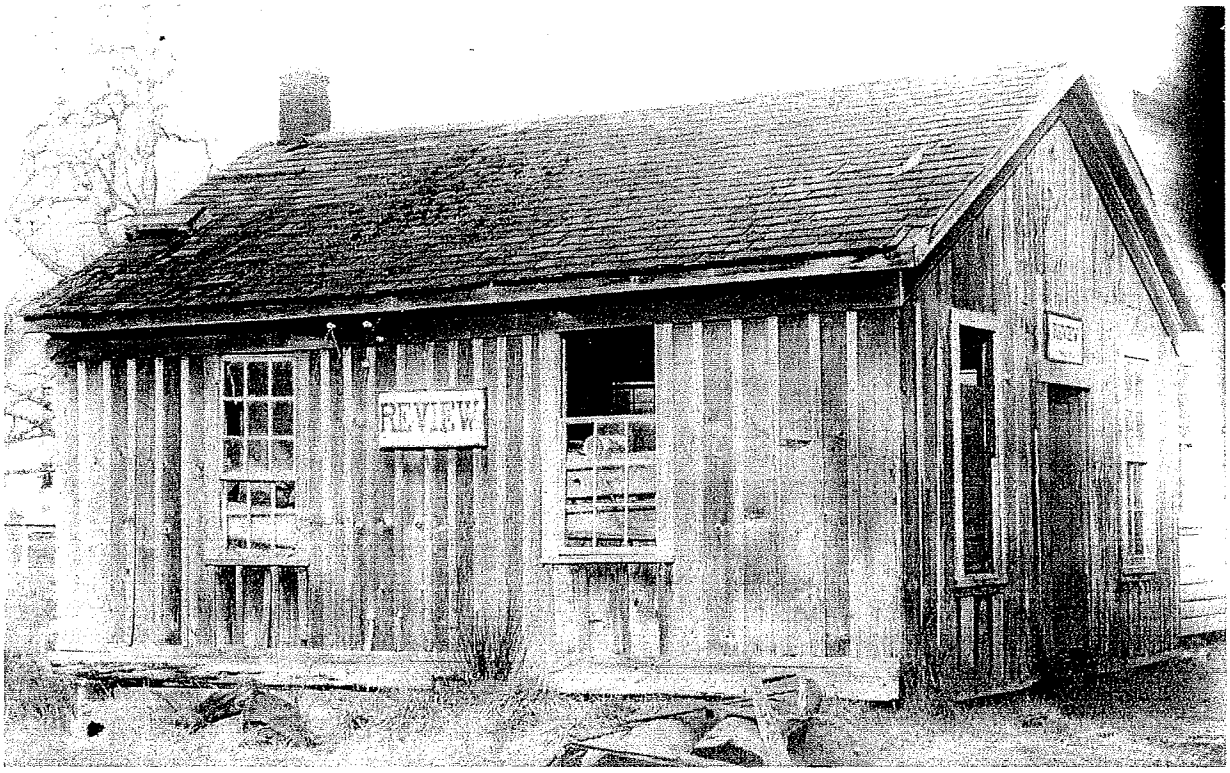


Figure 3: The Maple Grove School, which was later used as the office of the Benton County Review. *(Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon 1884-008.0392)*

Religion

Few congregations during the settlement period had their own churches or regular ministers. They often met at school houses and were served by itinerant preachers who traveled from community to community. However, there were a few chapels built in the Marys River area during this time. The Bethel Chapel was built about .25 miles south of the Union School house by the United Brethren congregation (in the northeast corner of Section 18 on the farm of George Gellatly) in 1857. A second chapel, the Beulah Chapel, was operated by the Evangelical Church and was located across the road and west of the Independent School house.

Another important religious meeting place was the Philomath Camp Ground, located at the present junction of OR Hwy 34 and US 20, an area known universally in Philomath as the "Y." This spot "was from the fifties [1850s] onward a noted camp ground, rivaled only by that of Bellfountain" (Handley 1948).

> There used to be great gatherings at the old Camp Ground at Philomath where the auto camp now stands. At the camp meetings there would sometimes be as many as two thousand people. Among the preachers were the United Brethren missionaries, T.J. Connor and J. Kenoyer. Conner was a good preacher but Kenoyer was long winded. We used to have big picnics on the Fourth of July and sometimes in the spring, and parties like every other neighborhood, but not dancing (Miss Eva Wyatt, daughter William Wyatt, in Aukerman 2000:396).

Several cemeteries were established during the settlement period. The Old Cemetery in Philomath was located at the northeast corner of the intersection of 8th and Pioneer Streets. There were about 12 burials there, and it may have been first cemetery in the county, established in c. 1845. This cemetery was later removed and the graves relocated to other cemeteries (Handley 1948).

The Mt. Union cemetery was established in the 1861 on land donated by Reuben Shipley, a free African American man, with the condition that he and his family be allowed to rest there (Mid –Valley Genealogical Society 1987-89:n.p.).

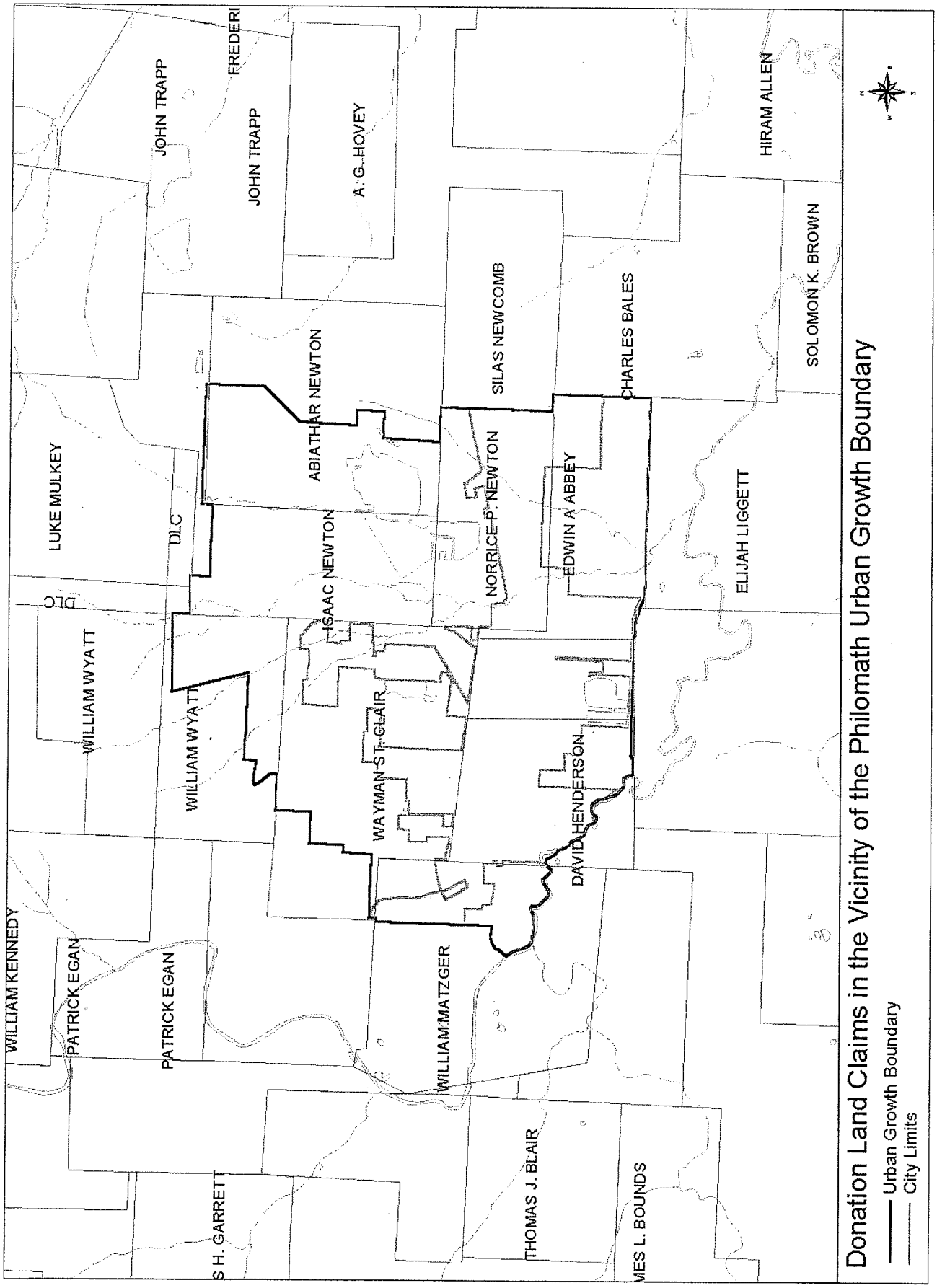
Figure 4: The Mount Union Cemetery holds many settlerment era graves. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Residential Development

Settlers arriving in the Marys River area would have built simple log cabins to provide shelter for their first winter. These cabins were built from trees cut on the site and fashioned with simple hand tools. As families became more established, and as mills were constructed, these log cabins were replaced by hewn-log or frame buildings constructed in styles popular at the time, such as Classical Revival, Gothic Revival and Vernacular Gothic.

Settlers who held donation land claims in the area of the modern day Philomath UGB included: William Wyatt, Isaac H. Newton, Abiathar Newton, Norrice P. Newton, Edwin A. Abbey, Henry Penland, David Henderson, William Matzger and Wayman St. Clair. It was typical for family groups like the Newtons to travel to Oregon together and settle on neighboring claims. The extended family would have provided great help in building houses and barns.

Figure 5: This frame house built by Abiathar and Mary Newton on their Donation Land Claim east of Philomath is typical of the second houses built by settlers as they prospered and outgrew their cabins. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon 1981-047.0P12)


Donation Land Claims in the Vicinity of the Philomath Urban Growth Boundary
Urban Growth Boundary
City Limits
WILLIAM KENNEDY
PATRICK EGAN
PATRICK EGAN
S H. GARRETT
LUKE MULKEY
WILLIAM WYATT
WILLIAM WYATT
DLC
DLC
JOHN TRAPP
JOHN TRAPP
FREDERI
ABIATHAR NEWTON
ISAAC NEWTON
WAYMAN ST. CLAIR
WILLIAM MATZGER
THOMAS J. BLAIR
A. G. HOVEY
SILAS NEWCOMB
NORRICE P. NEWTON
EDWIN A. ABBEY
DAVID HENDERSON
CHARLES BALES
ELIJAH LIGGETT
HIRAM ALLEN
SOLOMON K. BROWN
MES L. BOUNDS

Commercial Development

Very little commercial development occurred during this period. A few isolated general stores sold dry goods, tools and other necessities. Downtown Philomath did not begin to develop until shortly after the founding of the college in 1865.

Culture & Society

Little is known about culture and society in the Marys River Settlement during this period. Settlers no doubt gathered to celebrate holidays or for religious revivals like those held at the "Y" campground. School houses like the Maple Grove School traditionally provide a place for settlers to gather for social events or religious services.

Politics & Government

In 1847 Benton County was created out of part of Polk County by an act of the Territorial Government of Oregon. It originally encompassed 4,076,000 acres and extended from Polk County on the north to California on the south, from the Willamette River on the east to the Pacific Ocean on the west. Between 1851 and 1893, several other counties were created out of portions of Benton County, including Lane, Douglas, Jackson, Lincoln, Josephine, Curry and Coos. Eventually Benton County was left at its current size of 433,280 acres.

West of the Philomath area, Fort Hoskins was built in 1856 to prevent conflicts between Native Americans living at the Siletz Reservation and Euro-Americans settlers. It guards one of the central entrances to reservation land. The Fort operated until 1861 with regular US Army troops and until 1865 with volunteers from Oregon, California and Washington. It was abandoned in 1865

Some settlers from Benton County participated in the Civil War. In December 1864, a company was recruited in Benton and Polk Counties by Captain LaFollette and Lieutenant Shipley. It included about 45 men from Benton County and 55 from Polk County. As it was the first company in Oregon to complete its quota, it became Company A. The group served in Vancouver, Fort Yamhill and Fort Hoskins rather than heading east to war. During this period, there were some hostilities amongst Benton County settlers, many of who were from Missouri and pro-southern, while the United Brethren church members were strongly anti-slavery (Aukerman 2000:177-178).

III. The Founding of Philomath College and the City of Philomath: 1865-1884

The town of Philomath came into existence because of a unique event, the creation of a Christian college just north of the Marys River in 1865. Philomath College, which opened its doors to students in 1867, was responsible for the formation of the city around the campus and lent its name to the town. The College was the primary seller of real estate in the town as well as the most powerful factor in politics, culture and society. This chapter will deviate from the usual categories and subheadings in order to recount the history of the United Brethren Church and Philomath College since they played such an important role in the development of Philomath.

The United Brethren Church

The Church of the United Brethren in Christ was an outgrowth of the German Reformed Church as it developed in the United States. The German Reformed Church was established in the U.S. by settlers in Germantown, Pennsylvania in 1638 and grew rapidly in the period before the American Revolution. In 1760, a German immigrant and German Reformed missionary named Philip William Otterbein developed a close relationship with a Menonite minister named Martin Boehm. Otterbein reportedly attended an impassioned service performed by Boehm and afterwards threw his arms around the man, exclaiming in German, "we are Brethren." Influenced by Menonites like Boehm and by the Methodist-Episcopal church, Otterbein gradually moved away from the German Reformed Church. His followers came to be known as Dutch Methodists or New Brethren. In 1789, the first convention of New Brethren ministers was held in Baltimore. By 1800, Otterbein and the New Brethren had split completely from the German Reformed Church and established an independent group.

The new United Brethren Church was largely comprised of German immigrants, and in fact its first protocol and minutes were recorded in German. The character of the church was reformist. From the beginning the church was opposed to the consumption of spirits, and in 1841, its members were forbidden from using liquor. The church was also fairly democratic; it was opposed to slavery, and in 1845 it licensed women to preach. In that same year, a conference of the United Brethren Church recommended the creation of schools and other institutions of learning.

Within the next 50 years, 30 educational institutions were organized by the United Brethren. These schools and colleges were established across the country in such various locales as Virginia, Michigan, New Mexico, California and Oregon. In 1849, George W. Bethers, a settler who lived on a donation land claim 1.5 miles southwest of the present city of Corvallis, Oregon, wrote a letter to the *Religious Telescope*, the official publication of the United Brethern Church. Bethers requested that a preacher be sent to serve the Marys River settlements in Benton County. The letter was published, and the Indiana Conference decided to send two missionaries to Oregon, Thomas Jefferson Connor and Jeremiah Kenoyer.

Figure 6: A portrait of T.J. Connor. (Buzzard)

In 1853, Connor and Kenoyer set off for Oregon, leading a wagon train containing 16 wagons and 96 people. Three other ministers, J.B. Lichtenthaler, M.M. Crow and R. Price, came as assistants to Connor and Kenoyer. The wagon train suffered just one fatality, and the remainder of the party arrived safely in the Willamette Valley after a journey of five months.

Upon arrival in Benton County, the new missionaries quickly set about their work. They began offering classes at the Union School house in January 1854 and held their first regional conference at this same site on May 28th of that same year. At this first conference, the Oregon country was divided into two districts, a northern district and a southern district, separated by a line running east from the mouth of the Santiam River. This area was later further divided into five districts, reflecting the growth of the United Brethren Church in Oregon.

At their second annual conference, held in Linn County on August 16, 1856, the United Brethren resolved to build a school at Sublimity in Marion County. This school opened in the fall of 1857 and prospered for a decade, until the opening of Philomath College in 1867. By 1870, the school at Sublimity was closed, and the property was eventually sold to the Catholic Church.

Establishment of Philomath College

"By mutual agreement a number of citizens of Benton County, Oregon met at the 'Maple Grove' school house on the 14th day of February, 1865, to take into consideration the propriety of trying to build up a high school or an institution of learning of some kind in their midst" (in Springer, from Record of Actions of Board of Trustees Vol. 1, Page 3). These citizens of the Marys River Settlement area organized a committee to investigate this possibility and elected J. Beesley as the chairman and F.J. Connor as secretary. The committee was charged with raising funds in order to purchase land and raise an endowment. The committee created a subscription list of donors containing 31 names. The largest donation was $300 and the smallest $3. These donations were annual pledges to be continued over a period of five years. With these donations, the committee purchased a parcel of land for the school. A half section (320 acres) owned by David Henderson was purchased for $2,510, with $1,260 paid in May 1, 1865 and the balance plus 10% interest paid May 1, 1866. In total, the committee raised $17,500 in cash and pledges, and this was the amount they proffered to the Oregon Conference of the United Brethren Church. This offer contained two stipulations, namely:

> That the church cordially and in good faith, as proposed, unite with us in building up a first class Institution of Learning.
>
> That the proposed school be made strictly a literary institution, under the moral influence of Christianity, the Bible always being its textbook and standard of morality. (in Springer, from Record of Actions of Board of Trustees Vol. 1, Page 8-9).

The proposal of the Marys River Settlement was presented to the Oregon Conference at their 12th annual session on September 15, 1865. It was greeted with favor, and the proposal was accepted the next day. The conference moved to establish a board of fifteen trustees, divided into three classes of five each, the first to serve one year, the second two years, and the third three years. The board held its first session September 26, 1865 and formed five committees: Permanent Organizations, To Name the Institution, To Locate the College Site, On Size and Material for College Building, On Out-Lots and Terms of Sale (Springer 1929:6). By 1867, the committee charged with naming the institution had settled on the appellation, Philomath College.

At a meeting of the board of trustees on November 22, 1865, articles of incorporation for Philomath College were drawn up and filed. The newly incorporated college group moved to let a contract for the manufacture of 200,000 bricks to the lowest bidder. By February 1, 1866, Lewis Wilson had been hired to make 50,000 bricks at a rate of $6.95 per thousand. The number of bricks was reduced after the board decided to construct the planned college building in stages, with the central portion built first and wings added later. This gradual course of construction was necessary

because the financing of the college through land sales and subscriptions made ready cash hard to come by. The board also borrowed $2,000 from William Wyatt and William Pearson and empowered the executive committee to borrow from the endowment fund. According to C.G. Springer, author of *A History of Philomath College*, "Thus early in the affairs of the college a precedent was set for future actions which kept the endowment fund depleted and sapped the very life blood of the institution" (Springer 1929:6).

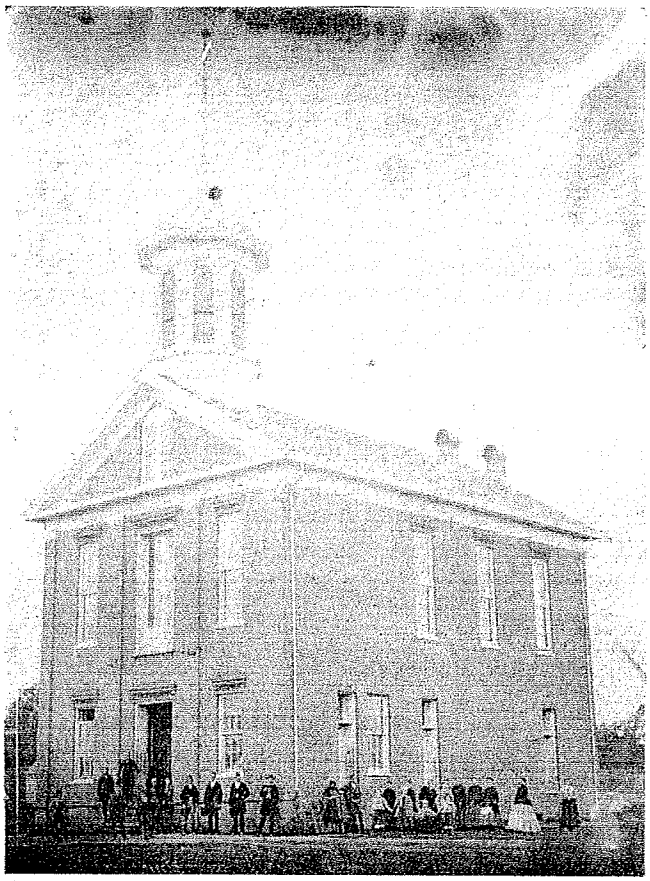


Figure 7: An early image of the Philomath College Building. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1994-008.0008)

The building was completed and opened for classes in fall of 1867. The two-story brick building served a multitude of purposes. The lower floor was divided into two classrooms while the upper floor served as a chapel for both students and the local United Brethren congregation. Students and school benefactors gradually worked to build walkways and plant trees. Local church members Samuel McLain and William Wyatt both contributed trees to be planted on campus.

The second building constructed on campus, a men's dormitory, was built in 1877. Once again a subscription effort was employed to raise funds for construction. The dormitory, when built, housed 20 students and a supervising family. Despite the subscription effort, the building incurred considerable debt, a debt which was assumed by the college in 1885 (Springer 1929:12). This building was remodeled, with the original two stories raised onto a new basement in c. 1900.

Figure 8: A Philomath College classroom. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1986-059.132E)

Philomath College opened its doors to students in October of 1867. Approximately 100 students were enrolled and began classes. The first teachers were Joseph Hannon, the principal, and Elisha Woodward, teacher in the primary department. The curriculum offered at Philomath College was quite broad. Most students in the surrounding areas attended ungraded schools which went no farther than the elementary levels. Philomath College offered a range of high school level or preparatory classes to prepare these students for college level work. More advanced instruction was offered in classics, rhetoric and logic, the sciences, mathematics, philosophy and religion. Philomath College also offered a special "Ladies' Course" which included four

terms of Latin, mathematics, four terms of history, three years of English, three years of science and courses in religion and philosophy. Students graduating from Philomath College could receive either a B.A. or a B.S. depending on their course of study. The first class, of two women and two men, graduated from Philomath College in 1875. Teachers were expected to lead seven to ten classes every day. They were paid between $500 and $800 annually for their efforts (Springer 1929:10).

In 1884, a normal school, or teachers training college, was added to the curriculum at Philomath College. The college dropped the Ladies Course and created a three year Normal School programs. Examinations in this program were geared to meet county and state standards for teachers and principals.

Transportation

During this period, transportation still relied upon foot travel or rough wagon roads. Philomath continued to be served by the Yaquina Wagon Road. By the 1860s and 1870s, residents of Philomath were anticipating the arrival of a railroad line which would connect them with Corvallis and the coast. However, this line was not actually built until 1885.

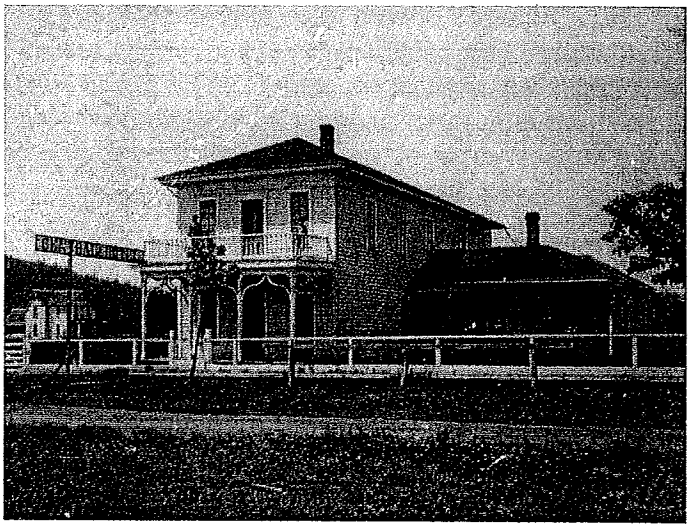


Figure 9: The Kisor's Central Hotel building, seen in this historic photograph, still stands in Philomath at 228 North 13th. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1999-083.0001)

Travelers could find some services in Philomath. In 1877-1878, George and Sarah Ann Kisor built a hotel and boarding house, which later came to be referred to as the Central Hotel. The establishment offered board and lodging to travelers on a nightly or weekly basis. The boarding house was located on the route of the Yaquina Wagon Road and reportedly served as a stage stop. In 1877, George Kisor sold a 60 foot wide right of way on the north side of his property to the Willamette Valley and Coast railroad company for $1.00. Subsequently, the rail line and depot were eventually built near the Kisor Boarding House/Central Hotel.

Agriculture

In the 1870s, Oregon farmers encountered problems with transportation, high freight costs and fluctuating prices. In response, the Oregon Grange was established in 1873 to address these issues, and organizations sprang up statewide. In addition to providing a voice for farmers, granges functioned as community centers, providing space for meetings and social activities. Schools and fraternal organizations, also served a social function as well. Dances, debates, musicals and holiday gatherings for the rural populations occurred at these locations. The Philomath Grange was established in 1873 and purchased the chapel built by the United Brethren in 1857.

Industry & Manufacturing

Industry during this period continued to be water powered and concentrated along streams or millraces. A number of mills were built around Philomath, in addition to Matzger's Mill (later Felger's Mill) and Henkle's Mill, which continued to operate. Jesse Hoffman built a mill in 1865 that lay 7.5

miles from Philomath. Newer mills included one constructed by David Enos in 1878 or 1879, one mile west of Philomath on the South Forth of the Marys River. Enos reportedly floated logs down the Marys to his mill. The Enos mill was purchased in 1881 by Hawkins and Logston (Fagan 1885:453). Because there was still no good means to transport logs or sawn lumber to other markets, these mills continued to serve only the local community, and their output was no doubt fairly limited.

Education

On October 8, 1867, officials of the local public school entered into an agreement with the trustees of Philomath College. The public school was merged with the college, and a primary department was created. The school district officials transferred ownership of their school building to Philomath College. Primary students were charged $8 per term for instruction at the college (Springer 1929:7). The school district continued to collect public school funds, which were then used to pay the primary department teachers at the college. The public school continued this arrangement until 1879, when it separated and again became an independent entity. "At the school meeting it was concluded to build a school house of the northeast of T. Wyatt's residence, the cost of the house not to exceed $900" (*Philomath Crucible* 4/3/1879).

Religion

Naturally, the United Brethren were the primary religious force in the fledgling town of Philomath. Religious services were held at the Philomath College building each week, in the upstairs chapel. It is not known if any other churches were established in Philomath during this time period.

Residential Development

In 1865, the newly established board of trustees for Philomath College accepted the land purchased by the Marys River Settlement group as the site for the school. An 8-acre tract was reserved for the college buildings and grounds, while the remaining land was split into lots ranging from .5 to 10 acres and sold. A public sale of town lots was held November 25, 1865. The total amount raised in this sale was $3,881. Only "actual settlers" were allowed to purchase land, and buyers were limited to two town lots and one "out-lot" or farm lot (Springer 1929:6). Deed restrictions were included in all the property sold by the board of trustees, including the farm lots. These restrictions stipulated that:

> There shall never be located, erected, or allowed upon said premises any Theater, Grog Shop, Tippling House, Gambling Saloon, or spirituous of malt liquor vending establishment of any kind, and in case of failure to comply with said conditions, the premises hereby conveyed, and the appurtances thereunto belonging shall revert to said Philomath College Corporation (Benton County Deed Records, 1898, Book 36, Page 528).

These restrictions were quite in keeping with the United Brethren's strong stance against alcohol. The deed covenants have had a strong influence on the character of Philomath, which remained a dry town for many years.

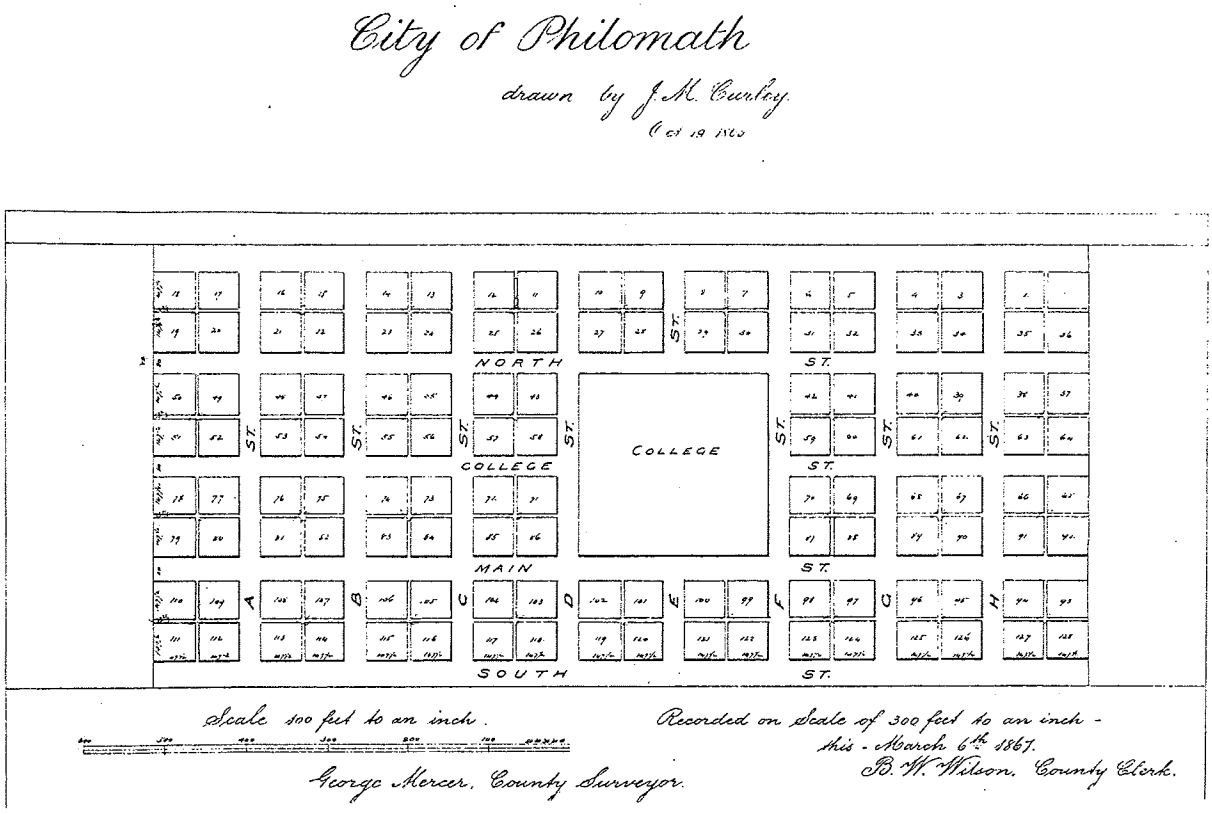
Philomath College acted as an active promoter of real estate sales and establishment of the town of Philomath. A second sale of lots was held May 5, 1866. The announcement of this sale proclaimed:

> All persons desirous of securing a site for a residence in this beautiful town should not fail to attend the sale. It is, perhaps, as fine a location as could be found in the State, and the College is destined to be a first class Institution of Learning. A plan of the building may be seen at the courthouse, from which a better idea can be obtain of its commodiousness and magnificence than we can give (*Corvallis Gazette* 4/14/1866).

At the time this was published, there was no "beautiful town" to be seen, but the leaders of Philomath College seemed confident in their ability to attract property buyers to the town site.

A.M. Witham and T.J. Connor, president and secretary of the board of trustees for Philomath College, filed the first town plat on July 13th, 1867. This plat was known as the "City of Philomath" and encompassed 32 residential blocks surrounding the central eight-acre college site. The square college site was bounded by North Street, F Street, Main Street and D Street (today Pioneer, 12th, Main and 10th). Each square residential block was divided into four equally sized square lots measuring 147.5 feet on each side. Two intersecting alleys ran between the lots in each block (Benton County Plat Book 1, Page 12).

In December of 1867, Philomath College filed a second plat, the "Farming Lots." These lots were located just south of the City of Philomath plat, south of South Street (now Applegate). There were 18 farming lots, ranging in size from 5 acres to 14.5 acres (Benton County Plat Book 1, Page 13). The sale of both the town lots and the farming lots was a primary source of funds for the fledgling college. The lots began to sell in 1868, with five being purchased in that year alone, and continued to sell until the last two were purchased in 1881.



Map 4: The original City of Philomath Plat, recorded in 1867. (scanned image courtesy Benton County GIS)

Commercial Development

As Philomath College sold off these lots, a small downtown district began to develop along Main Street, which ran just south of the college campus, and adjoining blocks. A general store was built by George Hinkle in 1867 at Main and F Streets (now Main and 12th), and a blacksmith shop was erected by Eli Mason. During this time, Main Street and the other streets laid out in the town plat were mere trails with slabs of wood for sidewalks and were very muddy in winter (Aukerman 2000:180).

However, a diverse array of business quickly sprang up in this area. By 1879, just fourteen years after lots began to sell, downtown Philomath had: two drug stores, three blacksmiths, one milliner one good doctor "with a second on the way," a tin and feed shop to follow, and a new photo gallery (*Philomath Crucible* 4/3/1879). The city was also home to Philomath Job Printing Co., which was run by W.A. Newell, E. Whitehead's boots and shoes store, M.S. Woodcook, attorney, a new meat market run by L.W. Mulrony and G.M. Stroupe, and gunsmith Richard Langdon (*Philomath Crucible* 4/17/1879 & 3/27/1879). By 1880-81, the *Pacific Coast Directory* also lists a carpenter, a butcher and a stage line operator in downtown Philomath (1880-81:281).

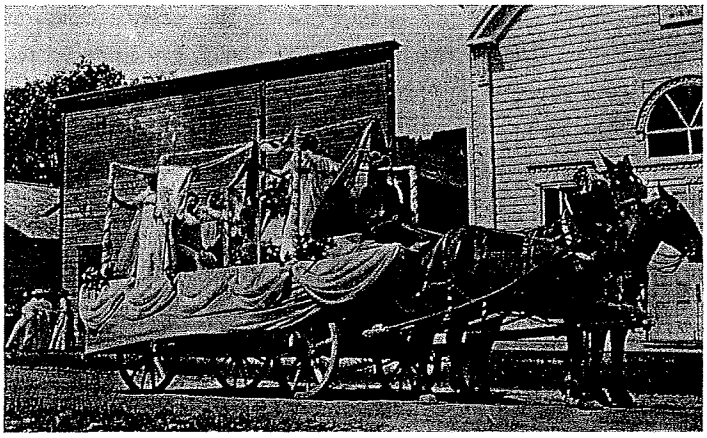


Figure 10: The Odd Fellows Hall appears in the right background of this photograph. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1995-015.0042)

Culture & Society

After the establishment of the College and as the town of Philomath grew, there were increasing opportunities for social gatherings. The College was a primary source of cultural events and included a number of literary and other societies, which met for debates and discussions.

In c. 1870, the International Order of Odd Fellows Hall was built at the southwest corner of 13th and College. This building served not only as home to the Odd Fellows and their female counterparts, the Rebekahs, but as a gathering place for numerous local organizations.

Politics & Government

As early as 1868, Philomath was offering some civic services. In that year, it became a voting precinct, and a post office was established for a new route between Corvallis and Newport.

However, Philomath was not incorporated until October 20, 1882. In that year, the town charter set up provisions for electing a mayor and city council. The first officers were: W.T. Bryan, mayor; Julius Brownson, recorder; J.H. Grant, marshall; J.L. Akin, treasurer; and a council of six members. One of the first orders of business was the purchase of a house built by Mr. W.H. Bryan for $125, with the intention of using the house as the city jail. Other early government directives include ordinances making it illegal to allow swine to run at large in the city, banning stores from operating on Sunday, and disallowing ball games, horseshoes, marbles and croquet playing on Sundays (*Corvallis Gazette Times* 7/29/1958).

IV. Railroads and the Progressive Era: 1885 - 1913

When the railroad arrived in Philomath in 1885, it opened many new possibilities to the town. For the first time, farmers were able to easily export their agricultural products to near or distant markets. The lumber industry was also eager to take advantage of the services of the railroad. It was during this period that logging emerged as a key industry for Philomath, a trend that would continue well into the 20th century. The town began to grow substantially and moved from having a small commercial center to a full slate of goods and services. An 1896 newspaper article proudly proclaims that Philomath was "the Hub of Benton County – a Seat of Learning, an Historical City, the Home of Wise Men and Pretty Women" (*Philomath Journal* 2/14/1896).

Benton County as a whole experienced low population growth between 1880 and1900 (Longwood 1940:65). Between 1885 and 1900, for example, the population of Philomath grew from around 175 to only 343. However, in the early 1900s, the population of Philomath grew dramatically, according to figures provided in the business directories. From 1900-1904, the number of residents increased from 343 to 500, nearly doubling in size. By 1908, the population reached 650, a 30% increase within a four year period. Although the number of residents continued to grow after this boom period, it was at a much slower pace. By 1913, Philomath boasted 800 residents and was the second largest town in Benton County.

To accommodate this growing population, three residential additions were platted, the first since 1867. Both a new grade school and a high school were constructed to increase the capacity of the local educational system. Commercial enterprises grew and diversified, with most businesses located on Main Street and its adjacent blocks.

Throughout this period, Philomath College continued to be the educational and cultural focus of the town, although during this period it experienced a challenge from the rival College of Philomath. This chapter will continue to chronicle the history of the college, as well as the development of the city of Philomath.

Division in the United Brethren Church

Figure 11: These Radical and Liberal students during the dispute between the two United Brethren factions. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1994-008.529aj)

Philomath College and the United Brethren Church experienced a divisive crisis in the 1880s and 1890s. During this time there was growing dispute within the national body of the church over certain constitutional provisions and a controversial vote cast at the general conference of 1889. At this general conference, four propositions were presented: the first, a revision of the confessions of Faith; second, amendment of the constitution of 1841; third, for appointment of a lay delegation; and fourth, for the enforcement of the church's anti-secret society rules. Out of the total membership of the church, 166,323, only 54,369 members cast ballots, generally greatly in favor of all four provisions. A provision of the conference required that measures pass by a two-thirds majority. Dispute soon broke out as a minority group, known as the "radicals," claimed that two-thirds of the entire

membership were required to vote on amendments, and hence, that the 1889 vote was not valid. The majority, or "liberal" group took the opposing view: that only a two-thirds majority of those casting votes was necessary and therefore the vote was constitutional. This debate quickly wound up in court, with both sides claiming to be the true United Brethren in Christ Church and to be the owners of all church property. Court cases were handled on a state-by-state basis, and some states found for the radicals while others found for the liberals (Springer 1929:15-16).

In Oregon, the court was divided on which side had the legitimate claim. The case dragged on from 1889 to 1895, at which time one judge found for the liberals and one for the radicals. During this period of struggle, the liberals first gained possession of Philomath College. However, on September 14, 1889, the board of trustees, most of whom belonged to the radical group, secured an injunction against the liberals, forcing them off school grounds. The result of this injunction was that neither side used the campus buildings for a period of three years.

The College of Philomath

The liberals continued to operate as Philomath College, moving classes to the Methodist Church. In response, the radicals opened their own school, known as the College of Philomath. The radicals opened this school in a building on Main Street known as Whitney Hall and conducted their work there for one year. The College of Philomath began construction of their own school building in 1890. This was a three room wooden building located on two lots donated by William Wyatt. Just as the building was nearing completion, the newly elected president, J.C. Keezel, fell from collapsing scaffolding and was killed. His wife, Sarah L. Keezel, was then elected president. The school building was completed in December 1890, and the 39 students and three teachers moved in. However, in February 1893, the building, known as the Keezel Memorial Chapel, burned to the ground. The students, who after the fire had dwindled to only 12, moved their classes to the home of Sarah Keezel. A new building, again known as Keezel Chapel, was ready by the fall of 1893. The College of Philomath was incorporated in 1895. During the later half of the 1890s, attendance average between 30 to 50 students. Sarah Keezel continued to serve as president and instructor until 1897, when she resigned and became postmaster in Philomath.

Figure 12: Thrid College of Philomath Building, constructed in 1900. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon)

The College of Philomath building burned again in the late 1890s. The school was rebuilt for the third time in 1900 and christened Barclay Hall after Bishop H.L. Barclay, who had led fundraising efforts. Despite this success in rebuilding the school hall, the College of Philomath fell on difficult financial times. The school was forced to close in 1912. Barclay Hall stood empty for more than ten years until it was purchased by Philomath College.

Struggles and Successes at Philomath College

In 1892, the liberals were able to secure the dissolution of the injunction and regained control of the Philomath College property. Despite this success, the split caused both short and long term problems for the church and the college. The finances of Philomath College were left in a weakened state, and they now had a nearby competitor offering the same sorts of educational services to a limited population of potential students.

Figure 13: Students at work on the PC campus. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1986-059.131q)

With increased debt and the new presence of competition, Philomath College was in a precarious position by the 1890s. To address these problems, the college hired Dr. J.R. Parker as business manager in 1896. Dr. Parker found the college deeply in debt, with a debt of between $10,000 and $12,000 from the endowment, as well as a large floating debt. Dr. Parker quickly moved to make the college more financially viable. He refused to incur any new debt and worked to reduce the existing sums owed. The college was to be operated on a cash basis, and no buildings or other improvements were to be undertaken without sufficient funding to complete the project. Students were also given the opportunity to do a sort of work study, by working around the campus grounds in exchange for a reduction in their tuition. Dr. Parker's methods proved to be effective, and by the early 1900s, Philomath College was less deeply in debt and on a somewhat more secure financial footing.

Two new buildings were constructed on campus between 1897 and 1899. The first was a two room building erected on the east side of campus, which housed the primary department. The second was the music school. In 1902-03, Philomath College built a 40 by 48 foot gymnasium to the west of the main building. In 1904, work began on enlarging the main college building. The west wing was added first, and was completed in 1905. The addition of the east wing was completed in 1907.

Figure 14: Philomath College Gymnasium. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1986-059.131d)

Transportation

Roads during this period were still mainly dirt and were often in poor condition. Benton County divided its land into road districts, and a road supervisor was appointed for each. County residents had to provide road improvements based on the assessed value of their property; they were asked to provide one day of work per year for each $2,000 in property value (Carter and Dennis 1996:24). From the 1880s up into the first decade of the 1900s, wagons and stages continued to be a primary means of transportation. Stages ran tri-weekly from Philomath to Corvallis; the fare was $1. Gazetteers from the 1880s show that Philomath had a wagon-maker, livery operator and a harness and saddle maker (*Oregon*

Figure 15: Driver Wade Malone and his freight wagon bound for Alsea park in front of the Moses Bros. Store on Main Street. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1981-106.0P22)

Washington & Idaho Gazetteer 1886-87:277). A second stage line, the Philomath and Alsea Stage Line, was running between Philomath and Alsea by the early 1890s. By 1903, daily stage service was available between Philomath and Bellfountain, for the round trip fare of $1.00. However, within a few years, Corvallis and Alsea were the primary destination points for the stage lines, which still ran daily. By 1913, two companies were serving the community, the local Big Elk Stage Line, operated by Marion Lytle, and the Philomath-Alsea Stage Line, run by Davis & Finnel of Alsea (*Polk's Benton County Directory* 1913).

Shipping on the Willamette continued to be an important form of transportation during the late 19th century. However, the arrival of the railroad created an important alternative. In 1868, a federal land grant offered free parcels of land to the first railroad company to complete a line through the central Oregon valley. Rail crews laid tracks for competing companies on either side of the Willamette River. The eastern line finished first, and within years tracks connected Portland and California. This delayed the arrival of the railroad to communities on the western side of the river, including Corvallis. The west side line of the Oregon and California Railroad entered Benton County from the north in 1879 and arrived in Corvallis in 1880.

Work began on the Corvallis and Yaquina Bay Railroad, a line connecting Corvallis with the coast, running through Philomath, in 1874, although the company intending to build this line was first incorporated as early as 1867. The route was not completed until 1885, by which time it was called the Oregon Pacific Railroad Company. The tracks closely followed the old Corvallis-Yaquina Bay Wagon Road, west from Corvallis, through Philomath to Flynn, following the Marys River. The line was intended to provide a connection to the seaport at Yaquina Bay; unfortunately, the construction of a line from Oregon to San Francisco in 1884 took much of the trade to that larger port. However, this line was very important on the more local level and provided a key means of shipping goods as well as personal transportation. The Philomath line was soon running daily trips to Corvallis.

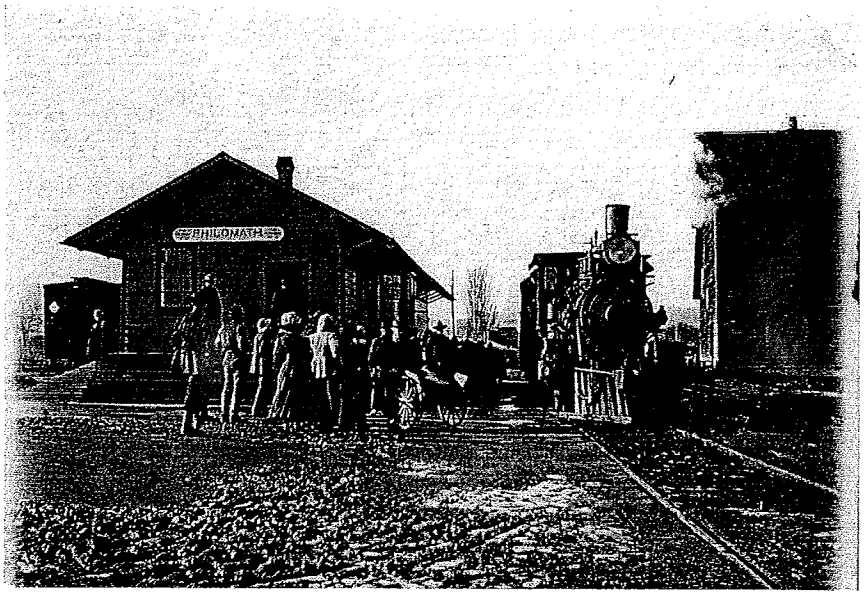


Figure 16: Philomath train depot, seen c. 1915. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1994-008.0390)

Automobiles, available in Corvallis since 1905, did not

reach Philomath until a few years later. An April 11, 1908 notice on the front page of the local newspaper (*Benton County Review*) stated "Dr Newth is now the most important citizen in Philomath, as he just received a new automobile." It would be years before the majority of citizens owned vehicles and before automobile-related services were offered locally.

That same year, the state legislature created and funded the State Highway Commission. The Commission was established to develop and build a statewide network of highways to accommodate the automobile. Within years, thousand of miles of roadways had been constructed.

Services for travelers continued to be fairly limited. At least two hotels were operating in Philomath during this time. The Kisor Boarding House was joined by a second hotel, opened by 1886 by E.L. Dixon (*Pacific Coast Directory* 1886-87:1024e). Other services demonstrated the trend away from animal powered transportation and towards automobiles. According to available city directories, Arthur Tongeland ran one of the first garages in Philomath, which was in operation by 1913.

Agriculture

Agriculture flourished in the Philomath area as increased markets were opened by the railroad. By 1885, Benton County farmers began diversifying their crops, moving away from raising only wheat to a variety of crops including oats, rye, clover, hay, barley and fruit orchards (Longwood 1940:65). In part this shift was a result of increased wheat farming in Eastern Oregon, encouraging Willamette Valley farmers to pursue other crops. Farming also became increasing mechanized during this time. Combines cut the cost of harvesting in half and could be moved from farm to farm. Such mechanization enabled farmers to process larger tracts of land, spreading agricultural fields across the landscape. Farmers practiced primitive irrigation techniques, such as diverting the flow of creeks onto harvested lands, which increased yields. Showing this new diversity in crops a 1891-92 gazetteer lists Eldredge Hartless, a hop grower, John Huffman, a poultry breeder, and two fruit growers, Samuel McLane and R.L. Henkle (*Oregon, Washington & Idaho Gazetteer* 1891-92:413). Although cultivated land increased, individual farms decreased in size during this period, as they were divided amongst heirs or sold off. In 1860 the average farm size was 388 acre; by 1900 the average was only 170 acres (Carter and Dennis 1996:15).

In the early 1900s, farming and ranching were the primary means of livelihood, with the railroad used to ship "grain, hops and produce" (*Oregon, Washington and Idaho Gazetteer* 1903-4). Philomath boasted 27 farmers and a handful of stock raisers and dairymen. They helped support two local flour and feed mills, owned by Ernest E. Gray and Albert W. Watkins, respectively.

Fruit trees continued to emerge in the early 20th century as an important local product, as technology allowed produce to be shipped farther, quicker and fresher. In early 1907, H.L. French, a county fruit inspector, sought to create a local organization for fruit growers. In December of that year, the Marys River Fruit Growers Association was established. As few years later, Albert Shriber opened his Cider Factory and solicited produce from local farmers.

The 1910s were prosperous times locally, as war torn Europe demanded American agricultural exports. Farmers were able to increase production due to technological innovations, such as the introduction of reapers and mowing machines, and experiments with irrigation. These changes were reflected on the landscape, with an increase in the number and scale of related outbuildings. Raising cattle also left its mark, with increased land used for grazing and fences crisscrossing the countryside, to control the movement of the cattle. Additional land was allocated to farming, with the plat of the Philomath College/Samuel McLain Farm Plot in 1910. Located at the top of the Y, the addition was comprised of 17 lots of 5 to 6 acres each, and one larger parcel containing 17 acres.

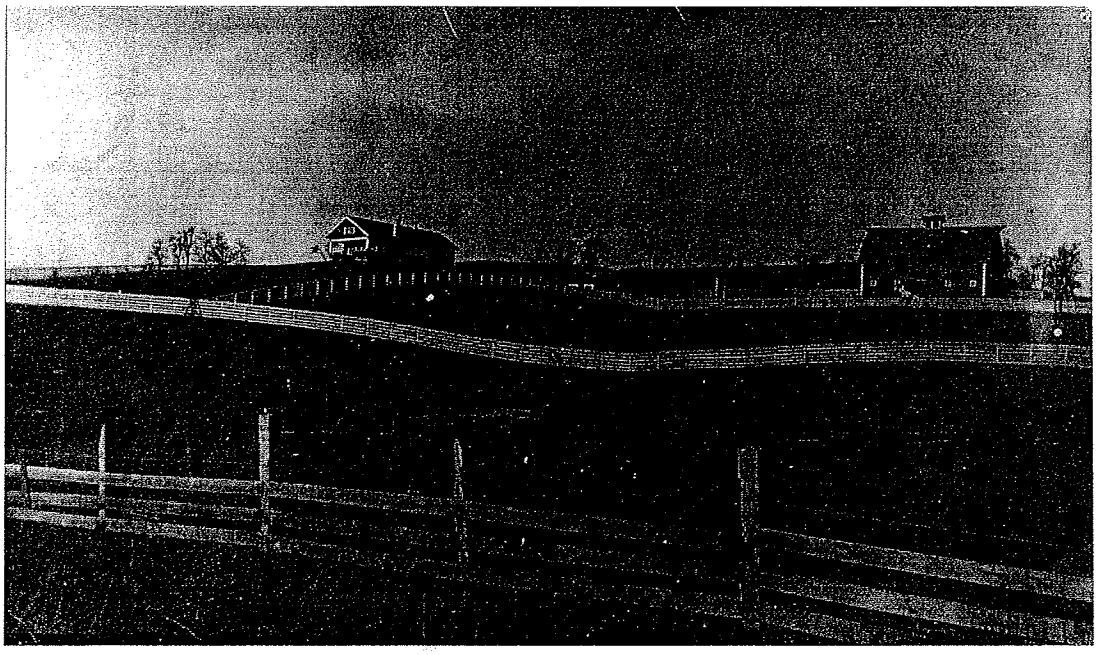


Figure 17: McClelland cattle ranch, north of the "Y," c. 1912. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1994-008.0384)

Between 1870 and 1900, the numbers of dairy cattle in Benton County nearly tripled. A number of local ranchers were well known for their purebred Jersey herds, including Dr. Newth and I.D. Wonderly. R.P. McClelland had a cattle ranch located just north of the Y, where his family home and barn can still be seen today. The growth of dairy farming in the early 1900s led to a new industry focused on the increased production of butter and cheese. In1908, Octav Voget opened the Philomath Creamery on North G Street (13th) near the depot. He solicited supplies from local farmers with offers of cash for cream and eggs. The business closed in 1917, claiming a lack of cooperation with farmers and unfair competition. However, the building continued in operation by the Albany Creamery Association, one of state's oldest, for a number of years.

Industry

Most mills continued to be water powered during this period, although some began to transition to other forms of power. The growing population increased the demand for building lumber, and the timber industry began in earnest after development of railroads made transportation of lumber more feasible

In 1885, four mills were operating in the Philomath area: Felger's Tannery and Mill, Hawkin's Mill, Henkle's Saw Mill, and Moore's Saw Mill. All remained in operation in 1896, although one, Felger's Tannery, had switched to electric power and was operating on a 16 horsepower engine. Other industries continued to be powered by water, and even new mills were still using this traditional source of energy. Kleppin's Roller Mill was built one mile west of Philomath on the North Fork of the Marys River in 1895. It was powered by water and produced 50 barrels of flour per day. Some increased mechanization did aid lumber production. Lumber companies began using steam donkeys, rather than horse or oxen teams, to get logs down the hill, although the logs were still cut by hand using long crosscut saws (Russell 1998).

In 1901, the Benton County Lumber Company (BCLC) constructed a planer at "the fork in the road." Its partners, E.A. Cone, Mike Flynn and Sam Ewing, began buying land in the area the following year, and soon built a mill seven miles south of town. By 1903, BCLC operated a flume, which ran

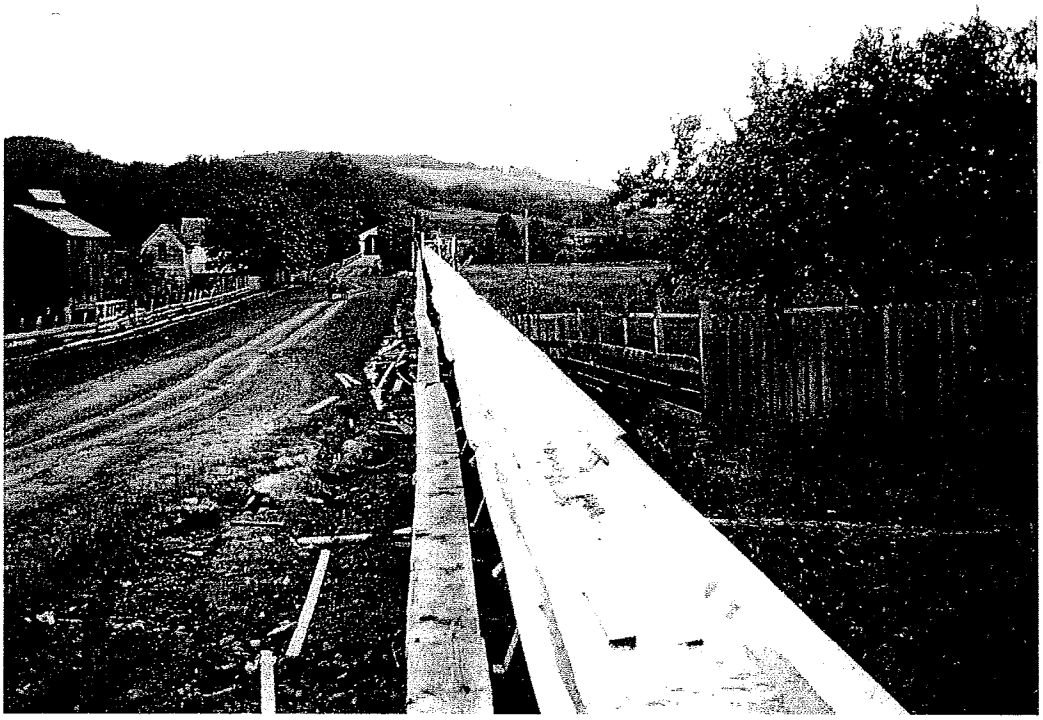


Figure 18: Benton County Lumber Company, log flume, c. 1905. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1986-059.132i)

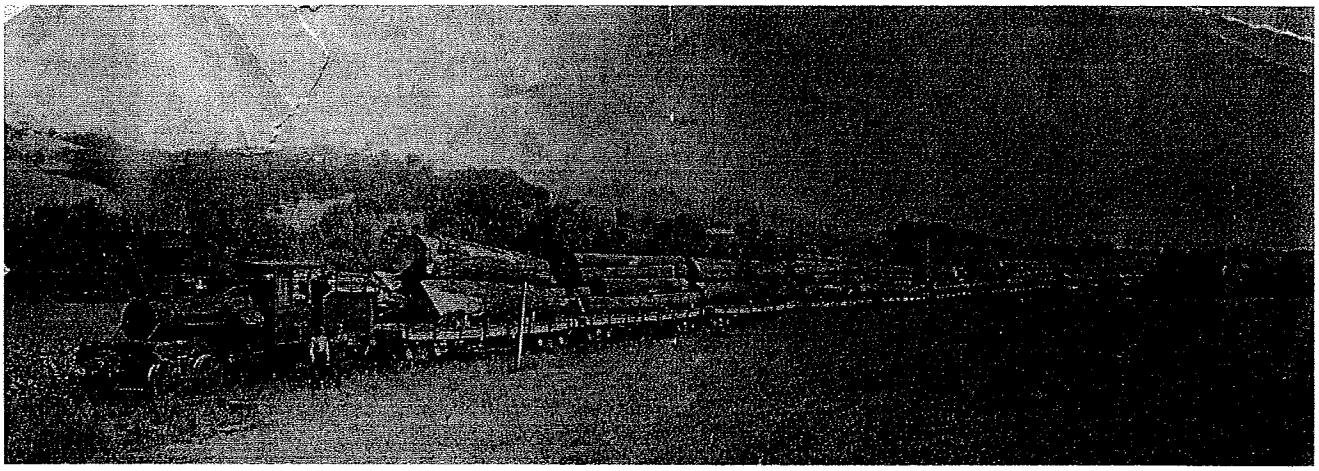


Figure 19: Noon Lumber Company logging train, c. 1907. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1994-008.0341)

along the South Fork of the Marys River, connecting the mill to the site at the Y. "The flume had a walkway along it and it was a common way for loggers to walk to Philomath" (*Corvallis Gazette-Times* 6/5/82). Within a few years, a lumberyard was opened in Corvallis to market the company's products. By 1913, the BCLC was the largest employer in Philomath, with 28 workers identified in city directories.

The development of the railroad assisted the local timber industry in two ways: first, by providing them with an alternative way to access timber, and second, by opening up markets for the sale of their product. Mills no longer needed to rely solely on waterways to transport their timber to the mills, and their lumber to their customers. The railroad allowed logging to occur at sites that had been virtually impossible and impractical to reach. Lumber companies, who by then owned large tracts of timberland, began laying their own rail lines.

In 1905, the Noon Lumber Company, located two miles west of town, built the first exclusive logging railroad in the area. J.E. Hawkins and A.B. Horning & Company were also operating sawmills at this time. The Webster Lumber Company opened a mill just west of Philomath in 1907. Their advertisements in the local paper offered lumber for houses, barns, bridging and fencing.

Education

By the late 1880s, more than 55 school districts in Benton County served its widespread rural populations. In the 1890s, Oregon began separating school children into grade levels. A Benton County schoolteacher devised the grading system placed in use, the first of its kind in Oregon. After 1900, the county established high school curriculum in its districts. Larger schools were built to accommodate these students.

This trend can be observed in Philomath, were schools gradually increased in size and were divided into primary and secondary in the early 20th century. In 1885, the Philomath public school had 113 students in its mixed grade schools, the largest class in its history (*Oregon Oracle* 7/9/1885). On December 7, 1896, School District #17 purchased Lot 46, Block 12, City of Philomath Plat from Philomath College (Benton County Deed Records). In 1900, the West School was built at Main and B Streets (8th) to replace the one-room Maple Grove schoolhouse. West School, or the Philomath Public School, was constructed with four classrooms and incorporated features that were modern at the time, such as large banks of windows and a basement for indoor play. By 1907, the school boasted 5 teachers and 150 students.

Figure 20: Philomath Public or West School, c. 1905. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1986-059.132ab)

Philomath was growing tremendously in the first decade of the 19th century, and

enrollment in the schools was steadily increasing. As such, in 1911 the first high school building was constructed on South K Street (17th), just off Main. The 1913 *Polk's Benton County Directory* credits Philomath with a $4,000 public school, a $15,000 high school, and two colleges.

Religion

During the 1880s, two churches maintained congregations in Philomath, the United Brethren and the Methodist Episcopal. However, after the 1889 split in the United Brethren church, three congregations appear in historic records. Two separate United Brethren congregations are listed, one specified as "conservative," as well as the Methodist Episcopal (*Philomath Journal* 2/14/1896). These two churches continued to be the primary religious forces in Philomath in the early 20th century.

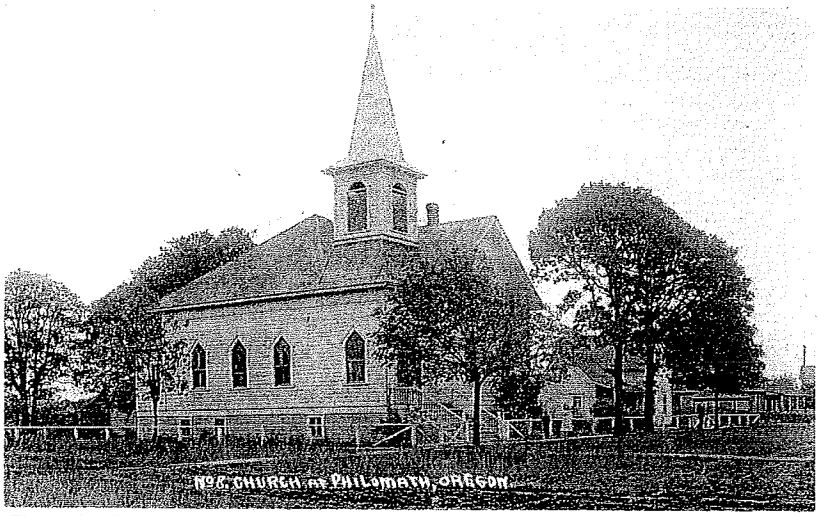


Figure 21: Radical church at Philomath. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1994-008.0538)

In May 1910, the Supplemental Plat to the Mt. Union Cemetery was filed, with an additional 75 plots joining the original plan of 120.

Residential Development

Philomath College apparently continued to rely on real estate sales as a funding source well into the 1880s. On January 6, 1887, John A. Henkle, president, and Erza Wyatt, secretary, of Philomath College filed a plat for Brown's Addition to the City of Philomath, which lay east of the original city plat. Brown's Addition included 15 residential blocks, plus 11 more farm lots to the south and east (Benton County Plat Book 1, Page 18). Although the Brown's plat was filed in 1887, lots began to sell in this addition as early as 1880. Lots in Brown's and Brown's Farm Lots sold steadily up into the early 1900s, with peak sales in 1884-1887 and 1898-1900.

In 1901, most homes in Philomath were on quarter-block lots, including those near downtown, and were accompanied by fenced yards. As livestock was allowed to roam freely about town, residents enclosed their vegetable and flower gardens for protection.

The construction of homes and sale of real estate tended to be handled directly by the individual property owner. However, in the early 1900s, these activities were developing into businesses. City directories from 1903-1910 identify three carpenters who were assisting residents to construct homes. By 1907, two real estate and insurance offices were operating in Philomath, Ambler & Waters and Caldwell & Durkee. By 1908, the community boasted 114 residences (*Benton County Review* 12/14/1907) and had land values varied from $10 to $100 an acre, depending on improvements (*Benton County Review* 2/1/1908).

A dramatic increase in the population of Philomath at this time caused a demand for housing. In 1909, three additions were filed, adding over 115 residential lots to the local inventory. Two of these were re-plats of farm lots from Brown's Addition, lending a more urbanized look to the landscape. The Rose Park subdivision contained 77 lots in 12 blocks, located between the current

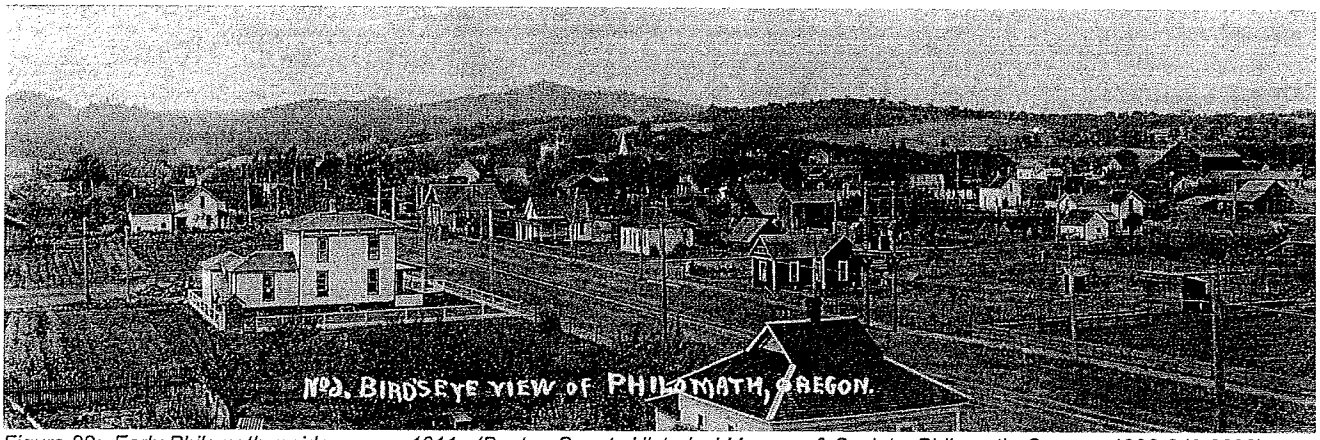


Figure 22: Early Philomath residences, c. 1911. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1993-049.0033)

South 17th nd South 19th Streets, from Main Street south. Octav and Mary Voget platted Sunset Park, comprised of 20 lots bound by Main, North 19th, College and North 21st Streets. The Watkins Addition, filed by Stanley and Lois Watkins, contained 19 lots running north from Pioneer along North 12th and North 13th Streets.

Dr. Newth constructed his home on Main Street in c. 1912. At the time, it was common for a prominent citizen to build his residence in such a visible location, so that the structure might be admired by the townsfolk. During this period, deed restrictions continued to prohibit onsite gambling, saloons or the sale of liquor. These restrictions did little to slow construction, as in 1913, one builder and nine carpenters, including J.P. Hummer, Fred Seedenburg and John Linsey, were providing services to the growing community.

Commercial Development

By 1885, the year in which the railroad finally arrived in Philomath, the small town had developed a good sized commercial center. The town had a newspaper, the *Oregon Oracle*, published by J.M. Miller and E.C. Wyatt. Some of the businesses mentioned in the *Oregon Oracle* in 1885 include a meat market, acabinet maker, two blacksmiths, two dressmakers and a drug store. It is interesting to note that in addition to these basic services, these articles also contain mention of such luxury stores as a jeweler and a piano shop (*Oregon Oracle* 6/11/1885, 7/9/1885, 9/10/1885, 10/1/1885). As Philomath's commercial center began to thrive, supporting services were installed, such as telephone lines and poles, which were put up by J.E. Henkle & Co. in 1885. In that same year, a walk was built from J.H. Barker store west, to connect the business part of town with the depot (*Oregon Oracle* 10/8/1885).

By the first decade of the 1900s, the city had electric lights, mountain water, two telephone systems, a telegraph office, and a bank building (*The Oregonian*10/4/82). Main Street was a dirt road, with five-foot wide boardwalks on both sides of the street, lined with hitching posts. Most of the businesses were located in the two blocks between North F and North H Streets (12th and 14th). Buildings were of wood construction, with false fronts hiding gabled roofs.

Commercial enterprises in the early 1900s focused on providing necessities to residents, such as groceries, hardware, shoes, and clothing. Other business provided basic services, such as the doctor, blacksmith, tannery, harness shop, and livery stable. However by 1908, such offerings began to specialize and diversify. Philomath boasted a tin shop, bakery, confectionery, photograph gallery, furniture and clock repair shop, and two real estate offices (*Benton County Review* 2/1/ 1908).

Figure 23: Main Street looking west, c. 1911. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1982-002.0003)

By 1910, the look of Main Street and its buildings was changing, as "the cement building stage" had arrived in Philomath. The First State Bank and post office were both constructed of this contemporary material. By 1913 the Palace Theater was operating on Main Street, and Philomath had secured the services of a dentist and a chiropractor. Specialty businesses continued to expand and included a plumber, gardener, author, jeweler, and engineer.

Media and Communications

By 1903, Philomath had both telephone and telegraph service. Within a few years, however, the community was served by two phone companies, Independent Telephone and Pacific States Telephone. Most businesses maintained two lines, one with each company.

In 1904, Fred S. Minshall founded the *Benton County Review*, using equipment purchased from the old *Yaquina Post* for $40. The newspaper office was originally located in the Maple Grove School house, which had been moved to the rear of the I.O.O.F. Hall. As three other publications in Philomath had all failed, the locals viewed these efforts as a bit foolish. However, Minshall knew that the government was required to publish notices of homestead and timberland sales in the newspaper nearest these tracts. "As all the timber land in Western Benton County was then being surveyed for entry [into sales agreements], I knew that if I started a paper in Philomath, I would get all of this government advertising. And that the income it amounted to would be considerable" (*Benton County Review* 2/9/1933). By 1909, the newspaper proved to be profitable, and Minshall obtained a proper office on East Main Street.

Culture & Society

During this period, the I.O.O.F. building continued to serve as an important social center. Groups meeting there included the I.O.O.F. Blankensto Lodge No. 120, the Rebekah Lodge and the Philomath Forum (*Philomath Journal* 2/14/1896). The Women's Christian Temperance Union,

which had an anti-liquor stand popular among the local United Brethren and Methodist population, was active in town. In 1896, the Woodmen of World contemplated forming an organization at Philomath, and the McKinley Republican Club was meeting at Whitney Hall.

Social and academic clubs continued to be associated with Philomath College, and now appeared at the College of Philomath as well. One of these groups, the Philomathic Society, met in 1896 to debate the question "That it is more essential for a young lady to be a good cook than to have a finished education" (*Philomath Journal* 2/14/1896).

Samuel Moses, a Philomath College graduate and downtown merchant had established the Philomath Brass Band by 1891. Moses served as band leader for many years, and the brass band was on hand for parades and other celebrations in town.

By 1903, the community was home to two doctors, C.H. Newth and Robert Loggan, and one dentist, G.A. Smith, an impressive number for the size of the town. In 1908, the state board of health initiated record keeping for local births, deaths, and contagious disease. Philomath was deemed to have "healthful conditions" due to the low number of child deaths and the lack of typhoid and pneumonia that typically strike river towns.

In 1908, the Oddfellows made an addition to their building on G Street. The Philomath I.O.O.F. was said to have one of the best-arranged and commodious meeting halls in the area (*Benton County Review* 2/29/1908). Their hall continued to be used by other social organization that lacked their own building, such as the Woodmen of the World, Women of Woodcraft, and the Rebekahs.

Social gatherings during this time period tended to be held on the Philomath College campus. Typical community events included musical presentations, singers, recitals and political speakers.

Politics & Government

Civic improvements in the late 19th century continued, but were fairly limited. They included a resolution passed by the city council to gravel Main Street in front of the business blocks (*Oregon Oracle* 7/16/1885). In November 1907, the Philomath city charter was amended authorizing the city to complete a more ambitious project: to construct, purchase, maintain and operate water works. A bond for $3,000 was approved for the purchase of real and personal property, and a Water Commission was formed the following year. The first water main was laid at Main and G Streets (13th), and the water supplied by the City of Corvallis. In 1911, the Guy and Dora Frink House on South I Street (15th) was the first to boast indoor plumbing.

V. The Motor Age: 1914-1940

The population of Philomath fluctuated between 800 and 985 residents during this period. The growth was sufficient for the schools to be near capacity and for the community to experience a housing shortage in the 1930s. Agricultural pursuits diversified, logging dominated local industry, and the automobile industry made its mark on the landscape. Commercial development continued to focus on Main Street, in the blocks just west of Philomath College. However, during this time, Philomath lost the college which had given it its name and caused the town to come about.

Demise of Philomath College

During the 1910s and 1920s, Philomath College continued to offer a Christian oriented classical curriculum, including classes in such fields as philosophy, languages, Bible and religious studies, music and commercial studies. However, enrollment declined as the public schools drew students away from the primary and preparatory departments.

In 1923, Philomath College purchased Barklay Hall, the two story wood building built by the College of Philomath in 1900. Philomath College used this building to house the Conservatory of Music. The College purchased a bungalow at 1544 Main Street to serve as president's residence, also in 1923.

Unfortunately, the college continued to be in poor financial circumstances. It was affected not only by the loss of primary and secondary level students when the Philomath School District split from the college, but by growing competition from Oregon Agricultural College (now Oregon State University), the University of Oregon and other schools. Without the leadership of a strong fiscal manager like Dr. Parker, Philomath College could not stay in business. The College closed its doors forever in 1929.

After the school closed in 1929, the building was used to house church services. The United Brethren merged with the Evangelical Association in 1946, becoming the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB). Then, in 1968, the EUB merged with the Methodist denomination to form the United Methodists. The United Methodists used the old college building until 1969, when they decided to build a new church immediately to the east.

Transportation

Travel on the Corvallis and Eastern Railroad continued through the 1910s, although the number of passengers was declining. However, the railway saw much greater freight activity, as spruce was being shipped from the coast range. Only one daily round trip was available to Corvallis, which combined freight and passenger cars. Trains left Philomath in the morning and returned in the evening. In the summer of 1917, the Southern Pacific Lines began offering "regular Sunday excursions to Newport, a charming resort by the sea" (*Benton County Review* 7/12/1917). Passengers from Philomath traveled 3.5 hours by train to Yaquina Bay, then caught a boat to Newport.

Stage lines were beginning to see competition from the automobile, as evidenced by a pair of ads in the 1917-18 *Oregon & Washington State Gazetteer*. Directly above an advertisement for the Philomath Livery Stable, with daily stage service to Alsea and feed and hay for sale, was an advertisement for the Philomath Garage, which offered automobiles for hire. The following year two additional companies were providing regular auto service to Corvallis. In 1925, both the Philomath-Alsea Stage Line and the Corvallis-Newport Stage Line continued to operate horse-powered stages

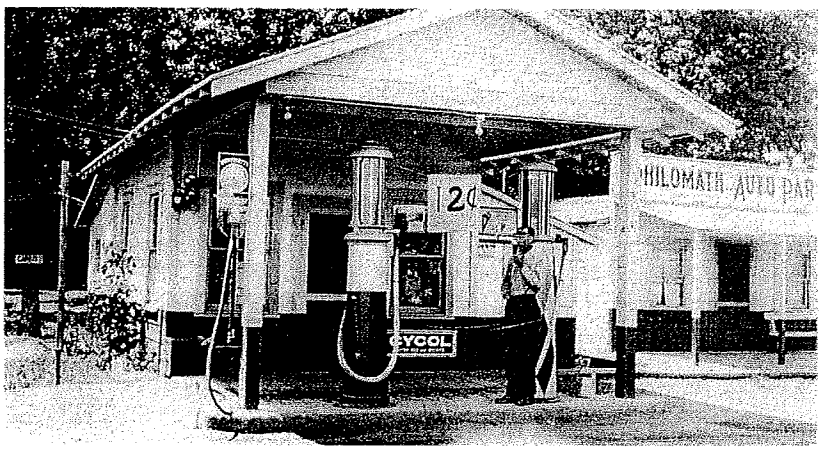


Figure 24: Frank Plunkett's Philomath Auto Parts, Main & the "Y," c. 1930. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1994-008.0383)

and livery stables. However, travel by stage lines began to decline in the late 1920s, being replaced by the faster and more comfortable auto stages. By 1935, bus service, which had operated sporadically for years, offered two round trips between Philomath and Corvallis per day.

Automobiles were becoming more prevalent and could be obtained locally by the late teens. These vehicles drove over dirt roads that tended to be poorly maintained. In 1918 a number of roads in Philomath were graded, some above the high water mark to ease travel in rainy weather. By 1919, plans were underway for the Benton-Lincoln Highway, connecting Corvallis to Waldport, and running through Philomath and Alsea. The next summer, Main Street was graded in anticipation of the construction of the highway. In 1921, local improvements included a sidewalk repair program on Main Street and the graveling of South G Street (13th) "from the Moses store to the city limit" (*Benton County Review* 8/4/1921).

By 1917, new and used automobiles were available for purchase at the Philomath Garage from E.E. Gray. Others offered cars for hire or regular round trip service to Corvallis. Support services for the automobile were slowly beginning to appear. By 1918, George A. Bennett operated a repair garage that boasted an "expert machinist."

In the mid-1920s, a handful of garages were in operation, including the Gardner Brother Garage. Howard Lutz operated one of the first filling stations in Philomath, opening for business in the summer of 1924. He built a station on East Main Street, which was followed by the construction of a house on the site. The paper reported that "his new visible compressed air pump is the latest model, operated simply by pressing a button" (*Benton County Review* 7/16/1924). By 1930, Frank Plunkett was also operating a gas station on Main Street, and he was joined by another four operations within the next few years.

In 1924, a new bridge was being constructed over the Marys River near the Noon Station, one mile west of Philomath on the Newport Highway. It consisted of a single steel span containing 20,000 pounds of metal and was the longest span of any of the county bridges.

Also in 1924, after months of debate about an alternate route one mile north, the State Highway Commission decided that the highway to Newport would follow Main Street through Philomath. It was determined that the road would be crushed rock, and its cost split fifty-fifty by the Commission and the City of Philomath. In 1930, the section of the highway running through town was widened from 16 to 26 feet, with cement curbs. In 1936, the Oregon Department of Transportation offered to pave Main Street. Concrete sidewalks were installed two years later with the assistance of the Works Progress Administration.

Agriculture

In 1919, A.H. Graves of Sheridan, purchased the old creamery building on North G Street (13th) for conversion into a cannery. "One of the greatest helps to agricultural advancement in this section of

the county is undoubtedly a canning plant. We can raise fruits and vegetables equal to the best..." (*Benton County Review* 7/31/1919). In the mid-1920s, another profitable industry for farmers in the Philomath area was the raising of prunes. There were several orchards, and in 1924, Jens Petersen constructed an up-to-date prune dryer (*Benton County Review* 9/10/1924). By the end of the decade, Philomath also had four fruit growers and two walnut growers, and there were fifteen farms of three or more acres located with the city limit.

In the early 1920s, poultry breeding was a popular endeavor in Philomath, with Dr. Farra having "the finest flock of White Leghorns in town" (*Benton County Review* 1/8/1920). W.D. Overton had a hatching outfit that consisted of four incubators and over two hundred pullets. In 1921, Charles Poff purchased a Hummer property on North A Street (7th) at the west end of town with the intention of remodeling it into a poultry estate (*Benton County Review* 2/3/1921).

In September 1923, a fire partially destroyed John Daniel's Philomath Feed Store. The fire was so severe that the local fire crew needed support from the Corvallis Fire Department. "The buildings near the fire and in the path of the breeze were mostly of fireproof material, and this fact alone probably saved the fire from spreading to Main Street" (*Benton County Review* 9/20/1923). The following spring, Daniel began foundation work for a new feed and seed store and warehouse of G Street (13th). The building was to measure 50 by 60 feet, have a sheet iron exterior and fireproof roof, and cost between $4,000 and $5,000 (*Benton County Review* 5/21/1924).

In the 1930s, agriculture remained popular as "everyone raised grain and kept stock," and Philomath continued to have an agrarian feel and look. Farmland surrounded the downtown area, and extended east from South and O Streets (Applegate and 21st). Census data from 1935 reflects an expansion of local agriculture, with an increase in farm and ranch land, and an increase in land from which crops were harvested. Farming supported the Philomath Feed Store and Zeal's Flour and Seed Store.

Figure 25: Workers in front of Jim Dandy Feeds & Seeds, c. 1930. (Courtesy of May Dasch)

Another sign of the importance of agriculture locally was the construction of the 1934 Marys River Grange off Highway 34. The grange held a weekly Farmers Night School, where locals could discuss problems related to dairying. That same year, Ray Lien established a cheese factory in the former creamery building. He distributed cheese and butter along established milk routes. The factory remained just over a year, due to financial difficulties experienced by its suppliers.

Industry & Manufacturing

In 1917, the *Benton County Review* reported that: "Times Look Mighty Good. Sawmills are all about us, with a dozen of them nearly all running full head of steam and clamoring for men. Second growth fir is in demand, and being sent to central states in shape of bridge and mining timbers" (7/12/1917). The success of the mills had its price, with a shortage of manpower striking the industry. Help wanted ads appeared in the local paper for over a year. In 1918, sawmills that had government contracts, but few workers, were provided assistance from soldiers stationed nearby (*Benton County Review* 2/28/1918).

Beaver Wood Products Company opened in 1917, offering tools, brush and broom handles, and ladders made from Oregon hardwoods. Their plant was in Philomath and received its raw material from the Wyatt ranch north of town.

Figure 26: Philomath mill, c. 1940. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1982-002.0003)

A local organization of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen was initiated by Fred Minshall in 1919. The Legion was a cooperative labor union, organized for the purpose of protecting the 8 hour day and establishing a fair living wage for workingmen. They demanded a minimum wage of 50 cents per hour for common labor in mills and camps. According to Minshall, in 1920 the lumber industry was in the midst of its most prosperous period to date. The mills were all running, new ones were being constructed and "old fashioned ones are being modernized" (*Benton County Review* 4/1/1920). That same year, the Siletz Spruce Company made extensive renovations to its plant west of town, with old buildings being torn down and replaced with new ones on a "broader and more convenient plan" (*Benton County Review* 7/29/1920).

The introduction of trucking greatly advanced the timber industry, opening up vast tracts of lands that even the railroads could not reach. Availability of product combined with great demand led the timber industry to really boom in the 1920s and 30s. This is evidenced by the companies operating in Philomath in 1921-22: Evergreen Lumber Co.; Holman, O'Neil & Porter, loggers; Philomath Lumber Co.; Siletz Spruce Co., planing and saw mill; and Spaulding Lumber Co. Within a few year, these would be joined by Rex Clemens sawmill, at the west end of town, and the Griswold and Greer Mill, located at the intersection of Highways 34 and 20.

In the late 1930s, the timber industry in Philomath was represented by these companies: Best Lumber Manufacturing, Clemens Mill, Griswold & Greer Lumber Co., Philomath Lumber Co. and Planet Lumber. Logging operations spread out across the foothills, bringing lumber from the Alsea Mountain region. By 1940, timber was the largest employer in Benton Company (Russell 1998).

Education

By 1917, the Public School was suffering from overcrowding, and 43 pupils were placed in a 5th/6th grade room in the High School. That same year, a Parent-Teacher's club was organized. In 1922, teachers organized a city school club, called Eudokia, the Greek work for "goodwill." The aim of the group was threefold: social, inspirational and instructional.

In the fall of 1923, the student population was approaching 200. As a result, the lower grades, or 1st through 6th, had courses in the West School building, while the higher grades attended class at the high school. In the early 1930s, enrollment was increasing at both schools. The grade school opened with almost full enrollment of nearly 200 students. The high school enrollment was 100, which would nearly double, to 175, by 1938. That same year, plans were made for the first kindergarten in Philomath to begin operation.

Religion

A variety of religious activity was occurring in Philomath in 1917, showing a new diversity of congregations active in the town. In February, the *Benton County Review* reported that the Christian Scientists had acquired a space to be fitted up for services on 15th Street. In June, the Christian Endeavor District Convention for Benton and Lincoln counties was held at the United Brethren Church and on the Philomath College campus. Later that same month, the 64th Annual Conference of the Oregon United Brethren Church convened.

Figure 27: Students in front of Philomath High School c. 1919. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1981-088.00P3)

Residential Development

Homebuilders and carpenters remained busy throughout this period, with new housing development located primarily in the central part of town. Although newspaper articles indicate that modern bungalows were being constructed on outlying farmland, the bulk of development in the late teens occurred near the Philomath College grounds. The quarter block sized residential lots on North B and North C Streets (8th and 9th) began to be subdivided into smaller parcels. A typical *Benton County Review* blurb read: "Mr. Ambler sold one of the Hummer houses on North C Street" (4/3/1919). Other early carpenters, such as John Linsey and F.H. Seedenburg were also frequently referred to, generally with the title of contractor.

A May 1917 newspaper advertisement refers to another hotel in Philomath, the Home Hotel. It was "centrally located on Pacific Highway," with Aldora Lewis serving as proprietor (*Benton County Review* 5/11/1917). By October 1918, the Home Hotel was operating under the ownership of Frank Follett. The following January, the property was rented by two couples relocating from Portland.

In the 1920s, housing construction could barely keep pace with the demand. Philomath was a very desirable place to live, both for its beautiful setting and its affordability. In 1921, it was estimated to cost four to five times as much to live in Corvallis as in Philomath (*Benton County Review* 3/24/1921).

By the mid-1930s, Philomath was experiencing a shortage of available housing. This contributed to a number of older properties being remodeled, generally with the assistance of local contractors. In 1935, S.H. Moses had his theater building renovated into apartments, complete with modern amenities. "Inasmuch as there has been a shortage of houses here for some time, especially housekeeping apartments, this addition to residences will meet a real need" (*Benton County Review* 7/11/1935). The lack of residential units was so acute that a builder of "homes on West Main Street is unwilling to have publicity because too many prospective renters come around" (*Benton County Review* 11/18/1937).

Commercial Development

Although a fair amount of commercial development and construction occurred during this period, businesses still tended to concentrate on Main Street, between F and G Streets. By 1918, 35 businesses in were operation, including such "newcomers" as a notions shop, a bookstore, a printer and the Philomath Garage.

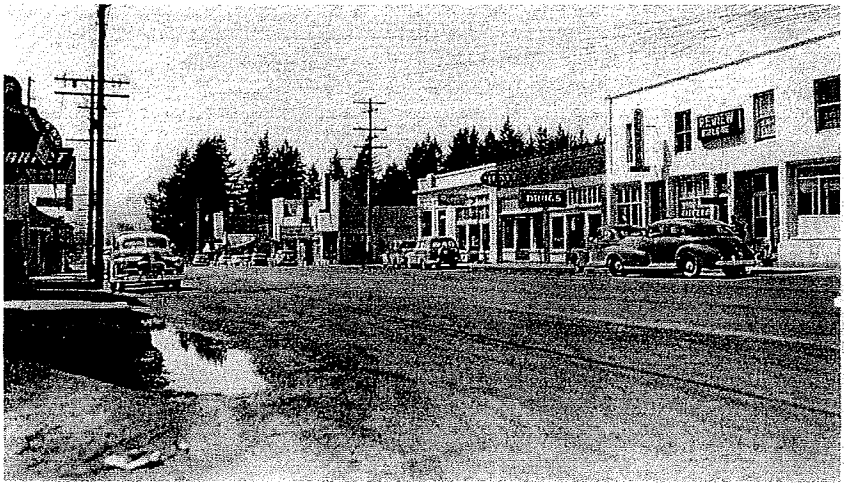


Figure 28: Main Street, looking west, c. 1940. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1982-002.0003)

Rather than construct new buildings, businesses tended to relocate when space became available. R.E. Pugh moved his hardware and furniture store into the Henkle Building in 1919, following the closure of D. Rosenbaum's grocery store. Other business began expanding their range of goods. George Bennett's grocery store added baked goods and a confectionery, while the Economy Cash Store began carrying groceries.

In the 1920s, businesses catering to the automobile began to appear on Main Street, such as gas stations and repair garages. Not surprisingly, this corresponded to the disappearance of enterprises that served horse and wagons, such as blacksmith shops and livery and feed stables. The 1931 city directory listed two gas stations, two garages, and an automobile dealership, but no liveries.

Not only did the types of businesses change in the 1920s, but the appearance of the buildings they operated from changed as well. New construction no longer favored wood; the preference was for more durable, fireproof masonry materials. In 1922, J.S. McMurtry commenced work on a hollow brick building just east of the bank. The 27 by 60 foot plan included an L-shaped projection on G Street (13th). The following year, A.L. Hathaway constructed the first brick business building in Philomath, after deciding it was the most substantial and economical material. This building was located on a vacant lot between the *Benton County Review* office and McMurtry's grocery store. The bricks, provided by the Corvallis Brick and Tile Company, were laid on their edge, not their flat surface. This saved 25% of the cost of the brick and 50% of the labor (*Benton County Review* 8/23/1923).

By the 1930s, the streets had been graded and an ordinance passed for sidewalks on the highway and side streets. Restaurants begin to appear on Main Street, along with former "home" businesses, such as the Philomath Beauty Shop. The proprietor relocated to "two vacant rooms over the post office from her home, citing the need for more space" (*Benton County Review* 12/31/1936).

The trend of relocating was strong in the late 1930s. As noted in the March 18, 1937 *Benton County Review*, "more property had changed hands in the past two years than in any previous 10 year period."

Culture & Society

The cultural and social offerings available to Philomath residents greatly increased during this period. Local groups included the Community Club, the Kloshe Tilicum Club, the Y.W.C.A. and the

Y.M.C.A., the T.O.P. Club, the W.C.T.U., and the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumberman. These organizations benefited from a wide choice of meeting places, which now include the high school and the Palace Theater. The Palace Theater offered both movies and live performances by jugglers, wire walkers and comedians.

In 1915, the community sponsored a Cowmen's Carnival and Rodeo, the precursor to the Great Philomath Round Up of 1916 and 1917. R.P. McClelland and Julian N. McFadden were early rodeo promoters and organizers who provided financial backing for the Round Up. Buildings and grandstands were constructed north of town to serve this event. In 1917, over 10,000 spectators attended the Round Up, which offered prizes of $10,000 in cash. General admission was 50 cents, while grandstand seats cost $1.00 and box seats $1.50. Although quite successful, a February 1918 newspaper article stated that "the Philomath Round Up is history. The buildings are being torn down and the lumber moved away to be used for other purposes" (2/28/1918). The success of the Round Up led other communities in the Willamette Valley to offer their own rodeos, diluting the enthusiasm and support for the Philomath event.

A third physician and surgeon, R.A. Jayne, located his practice in Philomath, "over Duncan's Drug Store" in 1917 (*Benton County Review* 11/22/1917). However, these general doctors were unable to provide all the services required by residents. To meet local needs, opticians and dentists from Corvallis would practice from one day a week to an entire summer in Philomath.

The Chautauqua was an important social event in Philomath in the late teens. It lasted up to one week long, and offered a variety of renowned speakers, singers, musicians and dramatists on the Philomath College campus.

The early 1930s were full of activities and opportunities. In February 1931, the Philomath public library officially opened with 150 books. That same year, a local Boy Scouts troop was organized and the Lions Club was started. These were followed by the formation of a 4-H club and the Pathfinders, the precursor to the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber began sponsoring 4th of July events, which included a parade of both floral and novelty entries, speeches, games and a picnic.

Figure 29: Philomath Round Up rodeo competition, c. 1916. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1998-024.0007)

Politics & Government

Figure 30: Firemen in front of the 1938 City Hall, c. 1942. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1982-002.0003)

Philomath was very involved in the efforts related to World War I. In April 1917, a big rally was held at the I.O.O.F. Hall to organize a home guard. Later that year, citizens were encouraged to affiliate with the American Red Cross. In 1918, a naval recruiting office was established at Philomath College, which was designated a military training unit.

In 1928, after years of relying on volunteer firefighters, a fire department was organized. "A banker in town walked up and down Main Street collecting donations from all the businesses. Philomath had suffered two or three serious fires and this prompted citizens into action" (*Benton Bulletin* 6/7/1978). The first new equipment, a Chevy pumper, was purchased the following year to supplement two hose carts. A siren was installed, replacing the former alarm system, the bell at the grade school. In 1938 the fire department relocated to the new city hall building, and three year later, it purchased its second truck.

A variety of city ordinances were passed in the early 1930s. In 1931, it became unlawful to possess any intoxicating liquors within the city limits. Old buildings could be destroyed by the city council if they posed a "nuisance," effective 1933. The following year an ordinance was passed to provide sidewalks on Main Street and side streets.

In 1938, 7,000 people are said to have attended the dedication of the new Philomath City Hall, which was constructed on the same site as the original. Leone Minshall donated land for the building, with the provision that it always house a library. The city hall included space for motorized fire trucks, quarters for permanent fire attendants, a library room, a public auditorium, and the usual facilities for the city council and other officials (*Benton County Review* 7/2/1938).

In 1940, Philomath became the first city west of Denver to have the then-new vapor streetlights.

Media and Communications

Figure 31: L.T. Ward in front of Benton County Review *offices, c. 1940. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1982-002.0003)*

In the mid-teens, a battle for control of telephone service took place in Philomath, which was still being served by the Independent and Pacific State companies. Bell Telephone unsuccessfully attempted to take over the Independent Telephone lines, but lacked any local support. A few years later, in June 1919, Henry Lutz sold the Independent Telephone line to G.H. Jones of Toledo. Jones "immediately

consolidates it with the Bell, buying the poles so the people could not start a rival line" (*Benton County Review* 9/11/1919). Bell increased the phone rates from 38 cents per month to $2.25, despite public outcry. In protest, the majority of the town's residents and businesses, including the *Benton County Review*, the bank, and the post office, removed their phone lines. By 1925, Pacific State Telephone was the sole provider of telephone service.

Local newspaper service also changed hands during this period. By 1934, J. Leonard Manire and Ray McGuire were publishers of the *Benton County Review*. The paper was purchased in 1939 by L.T. Ward and still operated out of its Main Street location.

VI. World War II and the Post War Era: 1941-1955

In the 1940s, the population of Philomath increased by 50%, reaching 1,289 residents by 1950. This growth created a need for larger schools, supported the formation of new religious congregations, and resulted in businesses being spread out the length of Main Street.

Transportation

Improvements to roadways and transportation related services occurred during the mid40s-mid50s. In 1944, the state highway department resurfaced Main Street from curb to curb. Two years later, Robert Hancock of Corvallis initiated hourly bus service to Philomath. Service stations continued to be prolific and prosperous. In 1946, Clark & Hathaway constructed an addition to their garage. By 1948, eight service station/repair garages were operating in town. These would be joined in the early 1950s by two tire stores and one used car sales lot.

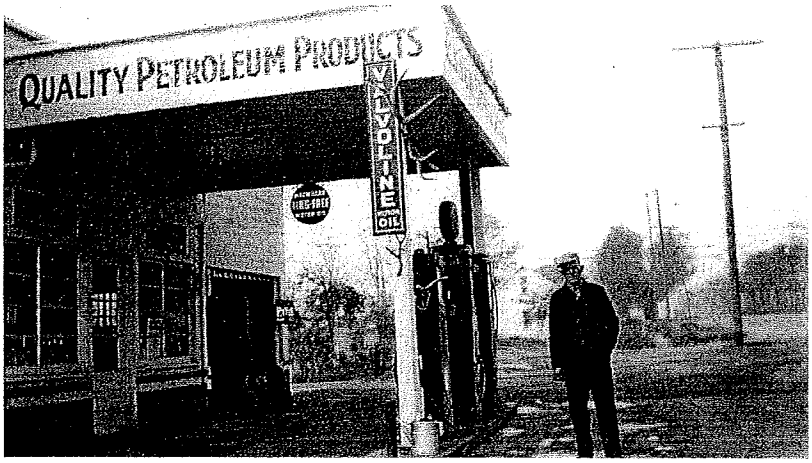


Figure 32: Verne Clark, Clark & Hathaway Garage, Main & M (19th), c. 1945. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1982-002.0003)

Agriculture

Chicken and stock were popular mainstays in the 1940s and 50s. Aside from being an agricultural staple, raising poultry was also a hobby of sorts. In August 1943, permits were issued for the construction of six chicken coops, two of which accompanied Main Street residences. By 1950, production costs for poultry breeding skyrocketed. Commercial operations began to close and were replaced by home egg flocks, leading to an even greater number of chicken coops dotting the local landscape.

Cattlemen continued their prominence throughout this period. I.D. Wonderly maintained the purebred Jersey herds he started in the early teens, while C.W. Mann had one of Oregon's top registered Polled Hereford herds (*Corvallis Gazette-Times* 6/10/1965).

Field seed production covered a few thousand acres, as the Philomath area was an ideal location for the production of foundation seed stock for various field seeds, including potatoes (*Corvallis Gazette-Times* 6/10/1965). In 1951, Dave's Feed and Seed, on North G Street (13th), constructed a warehouse along the railroad tracks to help handle this production. Support was also provided by Kidder's Feed and Seed, located on South M Street (19th).

Industry & Manufacturing

Following World War II, timber profits are said to have fueled the Philomath economy and made many local families rich beyond their wildest dreams (Russel 1998). The local timber boom gave rise to other related industries. Some businesses were wood products related, such as the Roy E. Scott planing mill and Gooch Logging Supply. Other businesses, such as trucking companies,

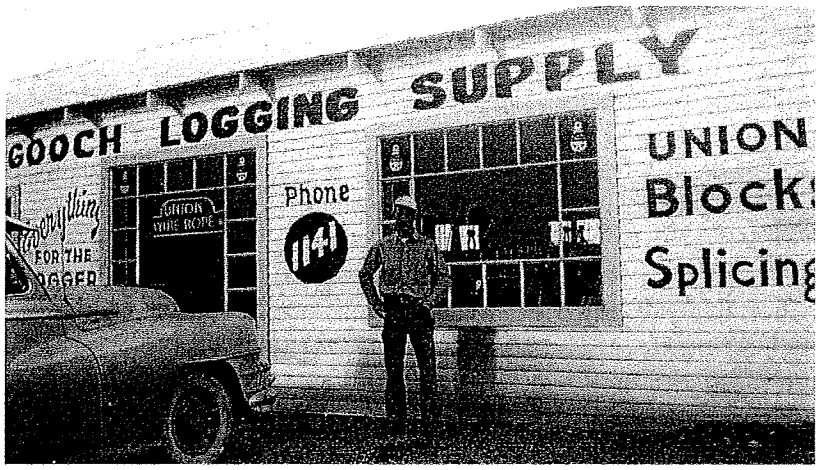


Figure 33: Gooch Logging Supply, c. 1943. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1982-002.0003)

supported the operational side of the logging industry. In 1945, Clifford Gee opened a large log truck service shop and garage on North E Street (11th).

By 1946, Philomath was home to nine lumber related businesses and services. Within two years, the number had increased to fourteen, and included eleven lumber or logging companies, two planning mills and one forest products producer. A number of these companies proved to be short lived. Of the twelve related businesses operating in 1953, only six existed in 1946: R.E. Scott Planing Mill, Charles Smith Lumber, Clemens Forest Products, Rose Brothers Lumber, Ben Ellis Lumber Company.

Education

The Public School continued to experience a shortage of space throughout the early 1940s. The school board began leasing the former Philomath College music hall, which they operated as "Hill School." In 1946, the board paid $3,000 for five acres of land on East College for the site of a new elementary school. Residents passed a $63,000 bond measure, 113 to 7, to secure construction funds. In 1947, however, a different school site was chosen, located on South 16th Street near the High School. The new building was dedicated in May 1949, by Charlene Edwards, the principal. Fall's enrollment totaled 353, up from 267 two years earlier.

In 1956, amid discussion about the need for a new high school, the existing building burned to the ground. The community quickly constructed a new school on the same site that was ready for students in the fall. Within the next few years, a gym and swimming pool were added with funds donated by Rex Clemens. Both the elementary and the high school constructed during this period are still in use today.

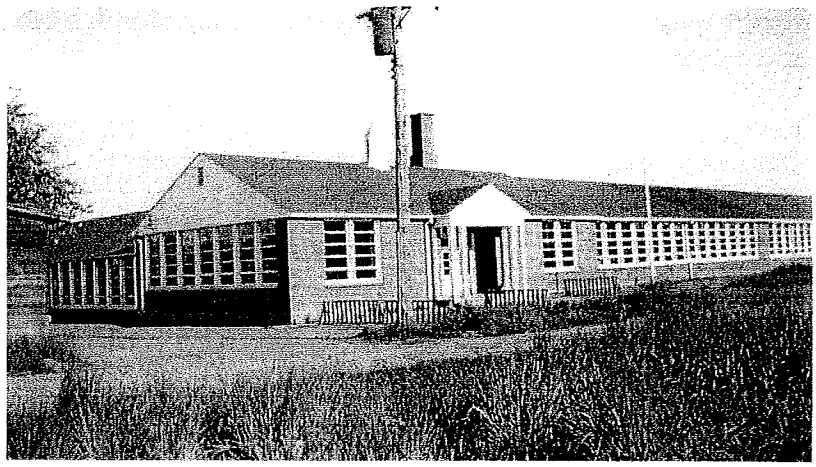


Figure 34: Philomath Grade School, c. 1949. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1982-002.0003)

Religion

In 1942, the Pentecostal Church of God was damaged by fire. However, the congregation was quick to rebuild, and dedicated its new building on South G (13th) in less than one year. In 1948, the Nazarene Church obtained a permit to build a $20,000 church on South I Street (15th). The following year, a new edifice was constructed and dedicated. The following year, Zion Lutheran established a location in Philomath for its services.

By 1953, Philomath claimed the following five churches: First United Brethren, on North H Street (14th); Evangelical United Brethren, Main and E Streets (11th); Peace Lutheran, on Main Street; Philomath First Baptist on North H Street (14th); and Pentecostal Church of God on South G Street (13th).

Residential Development

By 1942, building permits were issued for both new construction and remodeling projects. Ironically, a random review of permits issued in 1942 and 1943 indicate that the number of new residences was equal to or surpassed by the number of chicken houses being constructed. In August 1943, six chicken coops were permitted, but only two residences.

In 1946, Philomath experienced a shortage of building materials, such as pipes and fittings, electrical appliances and oil heating equipment, which held up construction (*Benton County Review* 2/28/1946). Permits indicate that the general price range of a new residence was between $5,000 and $7,000.

In January 1948, Erb Kisor obtained building permits to "construct three cabins separated by garages, under one roof, on his property south of the post office" (*Benton County Review* 1/8/1948). In December, the Hill School property, formerly the Philomath College music hall, was remodeled into eight modern apartments. Building permits reached an all time high in 1948, with construction estimated at $271,375. Demand for housing remained strong into the 1950s. In 1955, Clifford Gee filed the plat for Gee's Addition, containing 13 building lots.

Commercial Development

Many properties on Main Street obtained a "new look" during this period as owners remodeled and modernized their storefronts. The commercial district was beginning to expand beyond its traditional core, stretching out in both directions along Main Street. Businesses continued to change hands at a brisk pace. In the fall of 1944 alone, a fuel business, automobile garage and food market changed owners and monikers.

During this time period, the greatest change to the commercial landscape of Philomath was the proliferation of automobile service station and garages. In 1946, Clayton Mann built a gas station and repair garage and G.P. Purtner erected a tire shop and service station, both at the intersection of East Main and M Streets (19th). About this time, Clark & Hathaway expanded their garage, adding additional service bays. The February 27, 1947, newspaper reported that Albertson's Tire Service opened in a new building on West Main Street. This represented one of the largest business investments in Philomath in recent years.

Figure 35: Main Street looking east, c.1948. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1999-001.0044)

In December 1947, Mr. Mika opened the Waucomah Theater on Main Street, between F and G Streets (12th and 13th). The theater was beautifully decorated with ultra-modern effects throughout and used the latest theatrical lighting, both inside and out. It included a "cry room" where disruptive children could be taken, but from which the screen could be viewed and the action heard with a "special sound device" (*Benton County Review* 12/11/1947).

A variety of commercial buildings were constructed in the fall of 1948. Permits were issued for a greenhouse at East Main and M Streets (19th), and a plumbing shop of concrete pumice block on East South Street (Applegate). That same year, an ordinance passed repealing the local prohibition against alcoholic beverages. This event was followed shortly by the construction of a liquor store and a pool hall within the city limits.

In the early 1950s, downtown commercial development was a reflection of the larger economy, and was dominated by automobile garages, feed and farm machinery services, and lumber and logging companies. However, it also included a building supply store, a jeweler, a dry cleaner, two beauty salons, a floor service shop and an accountant. Dairy Queen opened in 1951 at the corner of Main and North I Street (15th), assisting the five grocery stores and five restaurants in keeping local residents fed.

Main Street continued to dominate commercial activity in Philomath. By 1953, seven service stations were located here, three of them within a two block stretch. All six grocery store/markets were clustered in the 100 block of East and West Main Streets. The six eateries were all situated here as well, but were stretched out along its length.

Culture & Society

Local residents remained committed to social causes and clubs throughout the 1940s. In 1945, the Philomath Youth Center opened at city hall and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (V.F.W.) post started. The following year saw the introduction of the Garden Club and the Camp Fire Girls, and in 1948, the Philomath Buckaroos saddle club. Local organizations continued to meet at the I.O.O.F. Hall, the local schools and in private residences.

Politics & Government

In 1948, sewers were installed in Philomath at the cost of $250,000, a financial sacrifice for its 1,200 residents. That same year, an ordinance passed repealing the local prohibition on alcohol, and the first liquor store opened within the city limits. In 1952, a new water system was installed, relieving the community of reliance on Corvallis.

Figure 36: Sewer lines being installed on Main Street, c. 1948. (Benton County Historical Museum & Society, Philomath, Oregon, 1982-002.0003)

Resource Identification and Evaluation

I. Previous Surveys

To date, Philomath area resources have been included in two previous surveys. The first survey took place in 1976 as part of the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office's *Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings*. The properties surveyed in the Philomath area can be found in the Benton County volume. This survey focused primarily on 19th century resources and, as a statewide inventory, was necessarily broad in scope. Only a few resources in the Philomath area were recorded in the *Statewide Inventory*. A second survey took place in 1984-1986. This survey, known as the *Historical Overview of Corvallis' Fourth Precinct and the Philomath Precinct of Benton County, Oregon* (Patricia Johnson), was more local in its focus but includes a similarly small number of resources from the Philomath area. As a result of these surveys, only a very small fraction of the historic resources in Philomath have been surveyed and recorded.

Two individual resources in Philomath have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Philomath College building was listed on the National Register in 1972. It is currently home to the Benton County Historical Museum and Society. The 1873 George W. Bethers House was listed on the National Register in 1997.

II. Methods

Because so little previous inventory work had been done, a windshield survey was conducted to identify the types and distributions of resources in the Philomath area. A windshield survey focuses on quickly identifying potential concentrations of historic resources as well as individual resources that appear to merit further research. As the name suggests, this survey was conducted by car. The consultants drove all the roads within the Philomath UGB over a period of two days. The locations of resources which appeared to be 50 years old or older were marked on a map of the area. A number of resources were photographed, with the goal of recording a range of the resource types observed. Address numbers for photographed resources were recorded. The results of this windshield survey form the basis of this section of the historic context statement. It should be remembered that such a survey relies on the exterior appearance of a building to determine an approximate date and function. Since no site by site research is conducted, resources that are associated with important people or events almost certainly remain unrecorded.

III. Historic Resource Types: Descriptions And Distribution Patterns

A "resource type" indicates a generic class of related historic properties generally sharing a similar use or function. The current windshield survey identified a number of resource types in the Philomath UGB area. These resource types can be associated with the broad themes described in this historic context statement: Transportation, Agriculture, Industry and Manufacturing, Education, Religion, Residential Development, Commercial Development, Culture and Society, and Politics and Government.

The location and distribution pattern of possible historic resources can be predicted based on these themes. The quantity and type of existing historic resources within each thematic grouping can be identified through historic inventory work. Although a few examples of these resource types have been identified through previous surveys, further study is needed to record and evaluate the quantity and quality of remaining historic resources in Philomath.

Specific resources associated with each broad theme and their distribution patterns are described in this section. To provide a context for evaluation of relative integrity and significance of individual resources, the discussion focuses on the historic function of the resources as well as the physical and/or architectural elements believed to be representative of the type. Those resource types that are more likely to still exist have been described in greater detail than those resource types that are less likely to be found extant.

Transportation

Description

Resource types associated with transportation and communication may include trails, ferry crossings, wagon roads, stage routes, highways, railroads, depots, bridges, stage stops, hotels and motels.

Trails, ferry crossings, wagon roads, stage routes: These types of resources, developed during the settlement period, or even earlier by Native Americans or fur trappers, often continued to be used as towns grew. They were often paved over, or in the case of ferry crossings, replaced by bridges. Trails which have not been re-used in this way are sometimes visible as remnant paths or wagon ruts.

Highways: Early highways were generally unpaved and might have been surfaced with graded dirt or gravel. Like earlier trails, these routes were generally updated over time, often paved and widened.

Railroad: Many types of resources can be associated with rail lines. These include the materials of the actual lines, such as raised rail beds, steel rails and wooden rail ties, railroad bridges, trestles and crossings and switches. Other types of rail related resources include rail yards, storage sheds and water towers.

Depots: Each town along a rail line generally had its own depot. These buildings were fairly small, usually one story, and could be built of wood or masonry in the variety of architectural styles popular at the time. The depot space was divided into a passenger waiting area and a freight storage space. The depot might also have a ticket booth.

Bridges: Early bridges were built of wood, while later bridges were generally constructed of steel or reinforced concrete. Bridges appear in a variety of configurations including truss bridges and deck girder systems.

Distribution Pattern

Since the settlement era, the Marys River Valley has served as a transit corridor between the coast and the Willamette River. The first trails were forged by Native Americans and were later used by Euro-American explorers and trappers such as members of the Hudson's Bay Company. The Hudson's Bay Pack Trail, which led from Fort Vancouver to California, reportedly crossed the Marys River in the vicinity of Philomath; however its exact path is not known. In 1863, the Yaquina Wagon Road Company built a toll road between Corvallis and the Coast. The railroad that was built in 1885 closely followed this old wagon road. The rail line which runs through Philomath today still follows this original path and may contain historic rail-related resources, such as trestle bridges, although none were identified during the windshield survey. During the railroad era, Philomath did have a typical, one story wood frame depot. This depot no longer stands.

As automobiles became the prevalent form of transportation in the 20th century, highways were constructed across Oregon. Two main highways pass through Philomath, Highway 34 and Highway 20.

Agriculture

Description

As defined in *Oregon's Agricultural Development: A Historic Context 1811-1940*, prepared by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (Speulda 1989), farmsteads may be described as: "basic farms," a small complex of a farm house and one outbuilding; "multi-unit farms" which also include other outbuildings; and "isolated agricultural buildings," single buildings left as remnants of a farm. The *Agricultural Context Statement* further categorizes farm ensembles into historic periods. Many farm sites do not fit into a single period, but developed from one period to the next, often changing crop types and adding buildings as uses changed. Other farms may have been used only for a specific purpose. Such specialty farms include hop yards, dairies and poultry farms.

Although they were an integral part of farmsteads, farmhouses are discussed elsewhere in this section (see Residential Development).

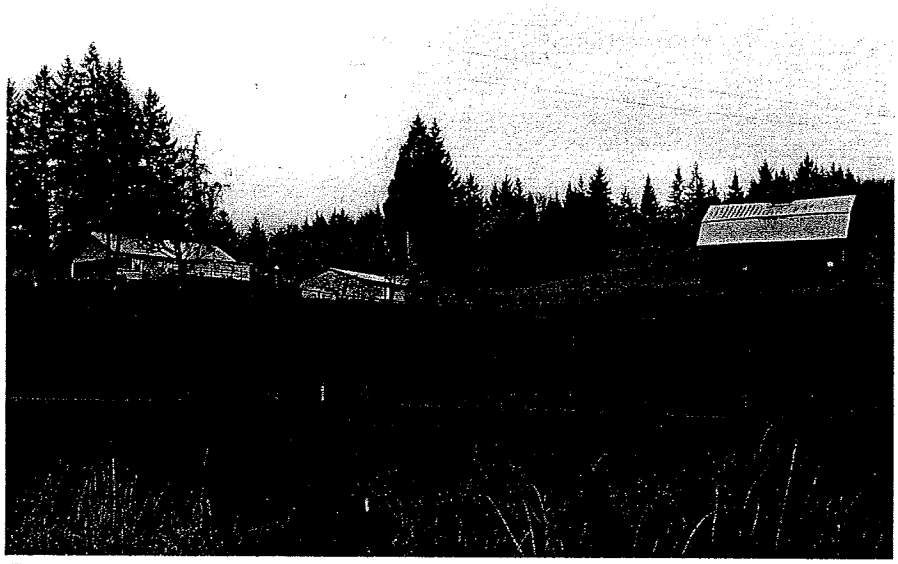


Figure 37: This well preserved farm complex dates to c. 1912 and is located north of the "Y." Compare this image to Figure 17 on page 26. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Evolutionary – General

These types of farm operations spanned more than one historical period and produced different crops in response to market demands. The resulting complex exhibits a wide variety of functional outbuildings that were either built for a specific purposes or adapted over time for different uses. Many of the outbuildings associated with the evolutionary farm will occur regularly with other farm types. Farmsteads may be divided into two distinct groups: house-related outbuildings clustered in close proximity to the rear or side of the main farmhouse and farm-related outbuildings located in the area of the barn, which historically was the center of operations.

House-related outbuildings may include:

Garages: Garages appeared in the early 20th century as automobiles replaced animals as the primary means of transportation for rural families. Garages may be free standing or attached to the house, and may mimic the style and materials of the house. They are usually constructed of wood and have one or two automobile bays accessed through end opening doors.

Cool houses: Coolhouses were used to store perishable food items before the advent of refrigeration. These buildings are usually small and rectangular and are often built of structural clay tile. The roofs may be gabled or hipped and sometimes have cupolas or vents to allow for air circulation.

Woodsheds: These buildings supplied dry storage space for the massive amounts of wood used to heat early houses. They may be free standing or attached to the rear of the house, and are generally small to medium sized and single story. Woodshed may be plain and utilitarian in style or built to mirror the design of the house.

Pumphouses: Pumphouses are generally small, square or rectangular buildings constructed over the site of a well. These buildings are usually constructed of wood or masonry and may have a single door and no windows. Pumphouses can sometimes be identified by the presence of a power line running to one corner of the building, providing electricity to run the pump inside.

Chicken houses: Appearing in suburban areas as well as on farms, chicken houses were simple utilitarian buildings for housing chicken flocks. These were not large scale operations, and the eggs and meat were used by the family. They are generally built of wood and have a gable roof. There may be an attached wire pen and/or small doors for the birds to pass in and out of the building.

Smokehouses: These tall, wood-framed buildings served to prepare and preserve meat. They generally have no windows and only a single entrance. Sometimes they have a cupola or vent on the roof ridge.

Privies: Before indoor plumbing arrived in Philomath in 1911, the privy was no doubt a common form on the landscape. These buildings were also tall and narrow in shape, constructed of wood and having a shed or gabled roof.

Water towers: These buildings served to provide water directly to the farmhouse and may be attached to the house or located nearby. They are quite tall, multi-story buildings with a square plan. The building may have a truncated shape up to the top level, which would have contained a water tank and windmill. Water towers may be utilitarian in appearance or finished to resemble the house style.

Second dwelling(s): Second houses were sometimes added to farm complexes to house family members or hired hands. Their forms tended to mirror styles popular at the time they were constructed (see Residential Development).

Migrant housing: Migrant labor did not come into use on Oregon farms until the 20th century. Buildings used to house migrant labor were generally quite plain in appearance, sometimes rectangular wood frame buildings with gable roofs. These buildings may appear in groups on larger farms.

Farm-related outbuildings may be generally arranged in one of two ways in relation to the main barn: around a common work area or courtyard that is or was anchored by the barn, or in a linear pattern along a major service road that leads to or from the barn. Fencing systems connecting the building group and encompassing the fields and pastures may still be in existence. Farm-related outbuildings may include:

Barns: These are probably the most common and widely recognized farm outbuilding. Barns constructed by early settlers were generally of hewn logs with low pitched roofs. Foundations were usually built of field stones. These early barns usually had no windows, but could have doors on either sides or ends. These buildings were multi-purpose and housed animals, stored equipment and feed and provided space for threshing.

By the 1870s, barns in western Oregon were being built with a higher, steeper profile. Instead of being built of hewn logs, these barns were built of sawn lumber. By 1890, barns were almost always a full two stories tall. The second story usually had a hay door, hay hood and lift assembly to allow for the storage of hay on the second floor. While many barns were still multi-purpose, others were built for specialized purposes such as dairy cows or feed storage.

Between 1900 and 1920, barns continued to be of sawn wood construction, now sided with horizontal wood siding, board and batten or wood shingles. Around 1910, gambrel roofs began to predominate over the earlier gabled forms. Often, these early 20th century barns had attachments or lean-tos, generally on the long side of the barn.

Granaries: These farm buildings served to store grain and protect it from rodents and spoilage. They vary in size, but are usually rectangular, wood-framed, single-story buildings. Most have gable roofs and many feature vented cupolas or metal ventilators at the roof ridge. Granaries usually have few windows.

Machine sheds: As mechanized farm equipment became more common, machine sheds were built to house and protect equipment. These buildings are usually long and rectangular, with multiple pays for parking farm machinery. Machine sheds are usually wood-framed and have gable roofs.

Shop buildings: Shops buildings were used for the repair of farm equipment and machinery and sometimes contained a blacksmithy. These buildings were usually free-standing, and like machine sheds were single-story, wood-frame buildings with gable roofs.

Fuel sheds: This outbuilding type appeared in the 20th century along with fuel powered machinery. They are generally small and square in plan, with gable roofs. Fuel sheds may be built of wood or masonry and usually have a single door and no windows.

Hog sheds/barns: Hogs were housed in rectangular wood-frame buildings with gable roofs. These buildings could be medium or large in size and others had an attached pen.

Multi-purpose buildings: These generic types of farm buildings often served many uses over time. They can be small or quite large. Most are wood framed, but they can sometimes be built of masonry. Some have windows, but most will have a drive through entry bay of some type.

Dairy

Philomath has been home to a small number of cheese factories and creameries that were supplied by the area's dairies. Dairy farms became popular in the Marys River area during the Progressive Era (1885-1913) and continued to thrive up into the 1920s and 30s.

Dairy barns: These barns are similar to general barns, but may be distinguished by the banks of low windows that usually line at least two elevations. Dairy barns may be of wood construction, with horizontal or board and batten siding, or of combination wood and structural clay tile construction. These barns usually have gable or gambrel roofs, often with cupolas or metal ventilators.

Milkhouses: These small to medium sized buildings were used for separating cream from milk as well as cooling the milk. They are generally positioned near the dairy barn and use similar construction materials.

Silage pits: These pits held the silage used to feed dairy cattle before tower silos became popular. They are built into the ground and usually have a concrete retaining wall around at least three sides.

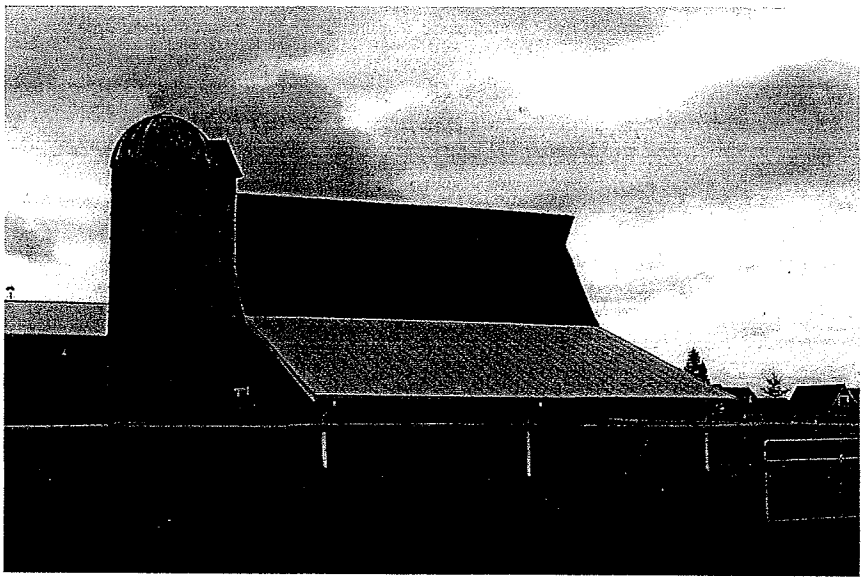


Figure 38: This barn and tower silo stand at 402 South 13th. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Tower silos: Replacing silage pits, tower silos came into use around the turn of the century. These buildings are tall and round and may have domed roofs. First made with wooden staves, concrete staves came into use after 1906. These staves may be circled by metal bands which hold them in place. Later silos were sometimes made of metal or other materials.

Stock sheds: These buildings housed bulls, heifers or calves and were medium to large in size. They were generally of wood construction and had vertical siding and gable roofs. Some stock sheds may be open on one or more sides to allow animals access to outdoor pens and feeding areas.

Poultry Farm

Several poultry farms were operating in the Philomath area during the early 20th century. There are some specialized types of outbuildings associated with poultry farming that may occur in the study area.

Poultry houses: These outbuildings are much larger and better designed than the average chicken coops. Poultry houses are especially designed for raising large numbers of chickens or turkeys. The buildings are usually long and rectangular, single-story buildings with low pitched gable roofs. They may be constructed of wood or structural clay tile and usually have low banks of windows along the long side elevations. A poultry farm may contain several poultry houses grouped together.

Incubators: Incubators provided a warm, safe space for hatching fertilized eggs. These buildings may be small, single story buildings constructed of wood or structural clay tile. Brooder houses are similar in material and appearance and were used to shelter newborn chicks.

Hop Culture

Hops were being grown in the Philomath area as early as 1890, and continued to be a locally grown crop well into the early 20th century. Several types of unique outbuilding are associated with hop growing and may be found in the Philomath study area.

Hop dryers: Hop dryers, also known as hop houses or kilns, are buildings used for the drying and processing of hops. These buildings may be large, two-story wood framed buildings with hipped or gabled roofs. They are generally sided with vertical board and batten siding and almost always have distinctive, large cupolas or roof dormers. Hop dryers typically have no windows and only a single large bay for loading and unloading hops. In larger dryers, the interior space may be divided into drying and cooling facilities.

Hop pickers' shacks: Local people often made extra money picking hops during harvesting time. These shacks served as shade and shelter during the long daytime hours. They are very simple, wood-frame buildings, sometimes without windows.

Fruit and Nut Orchards

Commercial fruit orchards were being operated in the Philomath area as early as 1890. In 1907, H.L. French, a county fruit inspector, sought to create a local organization for fruit growers. In December of that year, the Marys River Fruit Growers Association was established. By the late 1920s, walnuts were also being grown in the Philomath vicinity.

Fruit and nut dryers: Individual fruit growers most likely would not have built their own fruit and nut dryers. Rather, it seems likely that they may have brought their crops to a large commercial dryer that was located in a central area. It is not know if the Marys River Fruit Growers Association operated such a dryer, but it seems likely. Early dryers are long, rectangular wood-frame buildings known as "tunnel dryers." Tunnel dryers have gable roofs, no windows, and may be open on all sides, except for the drying tunnel itself. The drying tunnel is generally built of structural clay tile and runs above a series of wood fired furnaces. The fruit or nuts were cleaned and sorted outside the building, then stacked on trays and loaded into small rail cars which ran through the heated tunnel. By the 1930s, dryers were enlarged to provide interior space for washing and sorting produce, and the furnaces were converted to oil or natural gas heat.

Nut cleaning sheds: These utilitarian structures were used for cleaning newly picked nuts. The sheds are single-story, rectangular buildings with wood frame construction. They may have a shed roof and be open on one or more sides.

Distribution Pattern

Farming has traditionally been an economically important activity in the Philomath area. Beginning in the settlement period, farmers in the Marys River area have raised a variety of crops in the fertile local soil. The leaders of Philomath College started an important trend in the area when they began selling land as "farm lots" in 1865. These lots were generally five to ten acres in size, adequate for

a modest farm. The three areas that were subdivided as farm lots most likely contain the greatest concentration of agriculture related resources in the Philomath vicinity. Other farm resources have been identified in the northern section of the UGB, along West Hills Road, and to the south, along Chapel and Grange Hall Roads. Most qualify as "basic farms" or "isolated agricultural buildings," but some multi-unit farms containing a house, barn and other outbuildings do exist.

Industry & Manufacturing

Description

Resources associated with industry and manufacturing may include resources such as mills and factories (such as grist mills, sawmills, sash and door factories), mill-related resources (such as millraces and log ponds), machine shops, energy-related resources (such as dams and hydropower systems), and agricultural industry facilities (such as canneries, creameries, and cheese factories).

Resources associated with the timber industry include:

Sawmill buildings: These buildings are long and rectangular, often several stories tall. They are usually wood framed and may have a gable or combination gable/gambrel roof. The buildings are generally open on one or more sides and may be sided with wood or corrugated metal. Most sawmill buildings have no windows.

Planing mills: Like sawmill buildings, planing mills are long, rectangular buildings with wood frame construction. They can also be several stories in height and open on one or more sides. These buildings typically have "sawtooth," or clerestory roofs mounted with a number of suction fans. These fans pull sawdust out of the building and have pipes to send the dust to a wigwam burner.

Wigwam burners: These structures are large, conical metal buildings which burn wood waste. Their use was outlawed in Oregon in the 1960s, but some unused wigwam burners still stand at older mill sites.

Machine sheds: Like machine sheds on farms, these are simple, rectangular buildings used to house machinery. They are generally wood frame and have multiple drive-in bays.

Lumber sheds: These buildings are large, open buildings used to store finished lumber. They are generally rectangular in shape, constructed of wood and covered by a gable roof.

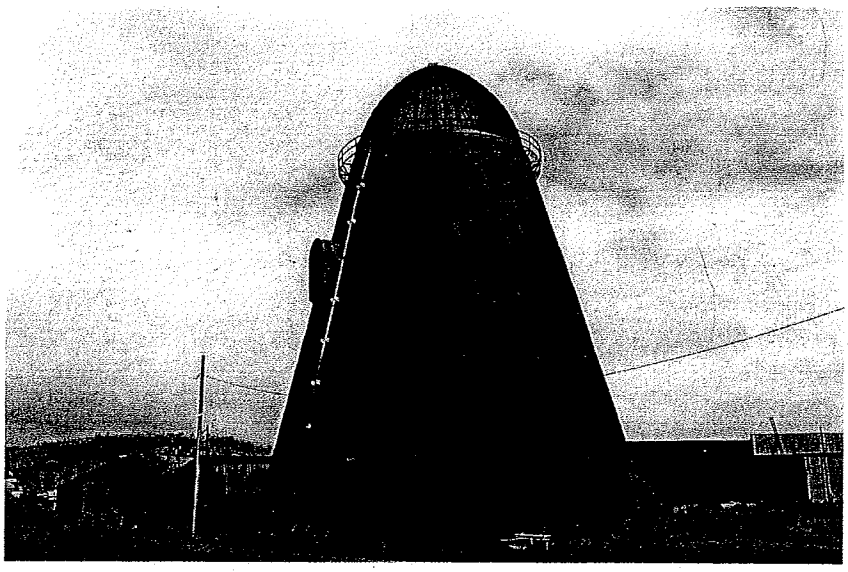


Figure 39: This disused wigwam burner is found at the Clemens Mill site. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Dry kilns: Dry kilns are brick buildings used to dry green lumber before it was planed.

Power plants: Mills often generated their own power, first using steam and later electricity. Generators were housed in single story, rectangular buildings with gable roofs. These buildings could be built of wood or brick and often had numerous windows.

Log ponds: Mills used logs ponds to store logs for processing, keeping them wet to prevent warping of the wood. The ponds might be man made, but were usually fed by some nearby source of natural water.

Distribution Pattern

Lumber mills were being constructed in the Philomath area as early as 1850, when William Matzger built his mill on the North Fork of the Marys (outside current Philomath UGB). Early mills used water power and were consequently located on or near waterways. Around the turn of the century, mills began to use other sources of power. This greater flexibility, combined with new forms of transportation like the railroad and trucking, cause the lumber industry to grow tremendously in the first half of the 20th century.

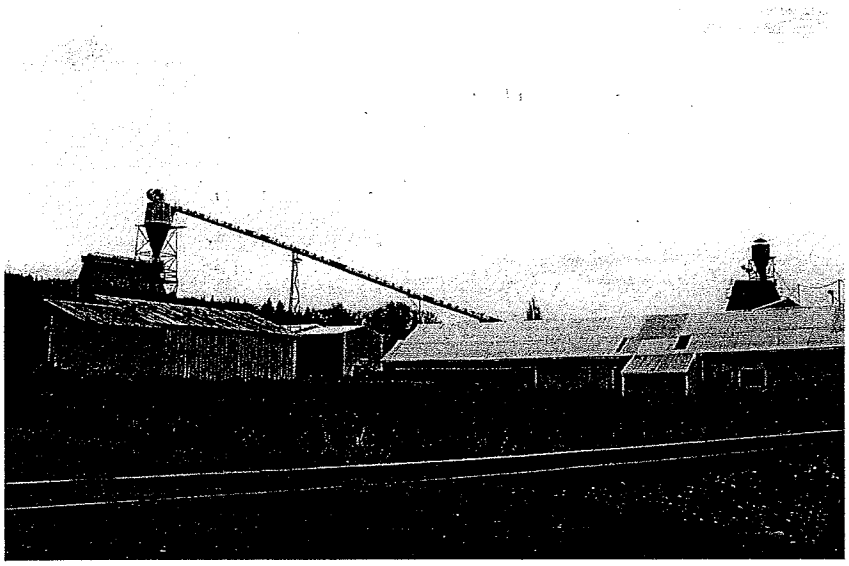


Figure 40: This historic 20th century millsite north of the "Y" appears to be abandoned. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

No resources dating from the early period of water powered mills have been identified, and it seems unlikely that any remain. Researchers should look for landscape features associated with early mills such as dams and millraces, which may still be in existence. The Philomath UGB does contain a number of historic 20th century mills. These are located near the "Y," both to the north and south of Highway 20/ 34. The mill to the south appears to be on the site of the historic Benton County Lumber Co., but any historic resources are obscured by current mill operations. The mill to the north, no longer in operation, does contain a number of historic elements. Several additional mills are found in the center of the Philomath UGB, north of Main Street and south of West Hills Road. Clemens Mill, which is still in limited operation, contains a number of historic resources, including a wigwam burner and log ponds. Several other mills, clustered around Industrial and 20th may contain historic resources, but are difficult to evaluate due to current operations.

Education

Description

During the settlement period, schools were usually one-room schoolhouses, built of hewn or sawn lumber. As towns like Philomath grew, schools were enlarged to several room buildings, still of wood construction, but with increased numbers of windows, often banded on one side of the

building, and more stylistic detail. Around 1900 to 1920, schools split into grade levels and primary schools were separated from high schools. School buildings constructed during this period were again larger, often two story and might be built of brick or other masonry material. By the 1940s and 1950s, these early 20th century schools were replaced with models that were long, low and sprawling, with classrooms extending along wings projecting from a central core of offices.

Distribution Pattern

Philomath has been home to several schools which meet the criteria described above. The Maple Grove School, built in c. 1858, was a one room schoolhouse with board and batten walls. It survived into the 20th century and was used for a time as the office of the *Benton County Review*, but it has since been lost. The West School, built in 1900, and the Philomath High School, built 1911, have also been lost. The West School was a two story wood frame building while Philomath High was a more classically inspired building constructed of brick. Two new schools replaced these in the 1950s. Philomath Elementary was built in 1949 and still looks much as it did when built. The current Philomath High School was built in 1956, the same year the old high school burned down, and retains much of its historic integrity.

The town of Philomath also has a unique type of educational resource related to the two colleges that once operated there. Philomath College, founded in 1865, had a campus of eight acres, and constructed five buildings before it closed in 1929. Only the main college building, constructed of hand fired brick in 1865-67, with wings added in 1905 and 1907, remains. The Philomath College building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The College of Philomath was founded in 1889, after the split in the United Brethren church. The radicals built their first college building in 1890, on a hill overlooking the Philomath College campus. This building burned in 1893. It was replaced that same year; however the second building was also destroyed by fire in c. 1899. The third College of Philomath Building was completed in 1900. The building was quite similar in appearance to West School, a square two story wood building with a square tower in front. This building still exists at 916 Pioneer Street. It has been highly altered, and has fairly low integrity; however it does have significant historical associations.

Figure 41: The 1900 College of Philomath building as in appears today. Compare this image with the building's historic appearance in Figure 12 on Page 22. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Religion

Description

Churches built in Oregon during the late 19th and early 20th century tend to be simplified versions of the traditional church plan. They are usually rectangular or sometimes cross shaped, constructed of wood or masonry, and have gable roofs, some steeply pitched. The entrance is usually at the

end of the building, opposite the altar, although it may also be on the side of the building. The long side walls contain banks of windows, which may be in Gothic or Romanesque arch forms and which can contain stained glass. Some churches of this type have bell towers or steeples.

Distribution Pattern

With the influence of Philomath College and the United Brethren church, Philomath has traditionally been a very religious community. During the settlement period, before the construction of the college, congregations met at schoolhouses, or at the few small chapels constructed in the Mary's River area. As the town became established, larger and more permanent churches were built.

None of the early chapels are extant, although there are some cemeteries dating from the settlement period. The Mt. Union cemetery, located on the eastern flank of Neabeack Hill, was established in 1861. It contains a large number of early headstones and also maintains much of its historic design and layout. The cemetery is located just outside the Philomath UGB, but it is an extremely important resource for the town. It holds the graves of many prominent Philomath residents and was the primary burying place for local citizens. During this early period, another important religious site was the campground located west of the "Y." It is currently occupied by a c. 1920 motor court and gas station/grocery store, and no remnants of its early history are visible. However, because of the large gatherings once held here, it may be an important archaeological site (it is also just outside of the UGB, but like the Mt. Union cemetery, holds important historical associations for Philomath).

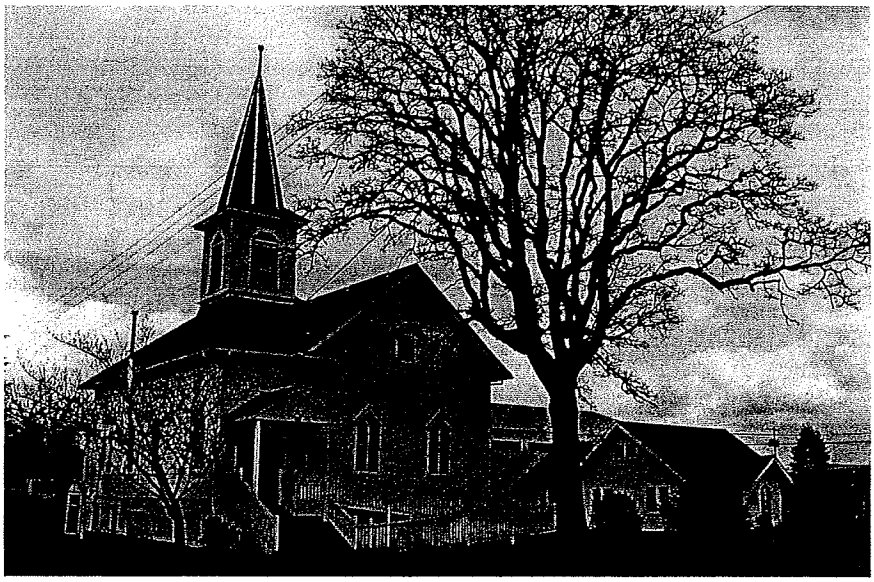


Figure 42: The radical United Brethren Church, now the Philomath Community Church, stands at the southeast corner of College and North 14th. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Very few late 19th and early 20th century religious resources remain in Philomath. The Philomath College building can be considered in this category, as well as under education, as it served as the United Brethren church for many years, including several decades after the college closed in 1929. The only other historic religious resource identified is the radical United Brethren church, located at the southeast corner of College and North 14th Street. This church dates to c. 1890, and was probably built shortly after the split in the church. It is a modest wood frame church with simplified Gothic windows and a steeple at the northeast corner. It maintains high integrity, as does the adjacent parsonage, and is a significant resource for Philomath.

Residential Development

Description

When settlers first arrived in Oregon, they built log cabins to provide immediate shelter. These dwellings were built with crude hand tools and were usually quite small. They had few windows and frequently had dirt floors. As settlers became established, they might replace this first cabin with a more substantial hewn log house. Such a house would be larger and considerably more finished, containing glass windows and a puncheon floor. The establishment of sawmills allowed settlers to abandon log construction in favor of milled lumber dwellings. Early houses built with milled lumber are generally vernacular in style, built following building traditions brought with settlers from their previous homes.

By the 1880s, residential architecture in Oregon had become more standardized. The proliferation of architectural pattern and plan books popularized certain styles and designs. More professional builders were also working in the state, and fewer houses were built by their owners. From the late 19th century, Oregon houses followed trends that were popular throughout the northwest, and in many cases nationwide. A number of styles identified in the Philomath area are described briefly here:

Vernacular: Vernacular homes are quite common in Oregon, and span a wide range of time during the historic period, from as early as 1850 well into the 20th century. These houses are characterized by their simplicity and lack of distinctive decorative elements, although they may sometimes borrow elements from popular styles like Italianate or Queen Anne. Vernacular homes are usually of wood frame construction and can range from one, one and a half, or two stories. They may have gabled or hipped roofs and have an "L" or "T" shaped plan. These buildings often evolve over time, with additions built into the side or rear elevations.

Classical Revival: This early style was popular in Oregon between 1840 and 1865. The Classical Revival incorporates elements of classical style into wood frame construction. These houses have low pitched gable roofs, sometimes with eave returns or pedimented gables. The facades are symmetrically arranged and the porches will often incorporate classical columns or pilasters.

Gothic Revival: The Gothic Revival arrived in Oregon in the 1850s and remained common up to the turn of the century. These houses draw on the European Gothic tradition and were popularized by the publication of architectural pattern books by Andrew Jackson Downing. They are characterized by steeply pitched gable roofs, sometimes with prominent dormers, and by their

Figure 43: Two Vernacular Gothic homes on North 9th Street. This style is also sometimes referred to as the "Western Farmhouse." (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

asymmetrical composition. More elaborate Gothic Revival homes might include jigsawn bargeboards and other fancy trim. A more simplistic dwelling, characterized only by the irregular massing and steep gable, might be considered as Vernacular Gothic. This simplified form of the Gothic Revival is a particularly common style for the Philomath area.

Italianate: This style was based on Italian Renaissance palaces and villas and like the Gothic Revival, was popularized by pattern books. It appears in Oregon from around 1855 to 1890. These dwellings usually have low pitched hipped, flat or gabled roofs with overhanging bracketed eaves. They may be asymmetrical in massing and have tall arched windows with decorative hoods. Italianate homes may be built of masonry, or more commonly of wood with decorative elements meant to simulate masonry, such as quoins and columns.

Figure 44: A high style Italianate house can be found at 500 Pioneer. This is a rare style for Philomath. (Photo by Leslie Heald) 2001)

Queen Anne: The Queen Anne style was popular in Oregon from the late 1880s through the early 1900s, however it seems to be quite uncommon in the Philomath area. This style is characterized by irregular massing and elaborate wood detailing. Queen Anne houses often use contrasting surfaces and textures, such as combining shingles and horizontal siding. These houses usually had generous porches or verandas, often decorated with spindlework, brackets or other jigsawn elements. The larger Queen Anne houses might have a tower or turret. After the turn of the century, the Queen Anne became more restrained and was sometimes combined with elements of the Colonial Revival style.

Colonial Revival: The Colonial Revival style, in use in Oregon from about 1890 to 1915, drew its inspiration from indigenous American sources, the 17th and 18th century architecture of the American Colonies. These homes usually have low pitched gable, gambrel or hipped roofs. Like the Classical Revival, they may be symmetrical in form and incorporate classically inspired details such as dentil moldings and columns. The doors may be framed by sidelights and transom lights.

Figure 45: Bungalow at 1547 Applegate. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Bungalow: The Bungalow was an amazingly popular house form in Oregon during the early 20th century. The bungalow

typically has a low-slung form with a gable or hipped roof. The building has a horizontal orientation emphasized by wide, overhanging eaves. Bungalows almost always have a wide front porch with square or tapered posts and partially enclosed by a knee wall. Surfaces include rustic materials such as river cobbles, wood shingles and brick and were often used in combination.

Craftsman: Craftsman homes are sometimes described as deluxe bungalows. They are generally larger, some two stories tall, and have more ornamentation and attention to detail.

American Foursquare: Descended from the Prairie School of architecture fathered by Frank Lloyd Wright, the American Foursquare is a quintessentially American design. This house is characterized by a large square mass, two stories in height, and capped by a low pitched hipped roof. Like the bungalow, it has wide overhanging eaves which give it a horizontal emphasis. The house type gets its name from the interior arrangement of four rooms on each floor. A Foursquare generally has at least one hipped dormer.

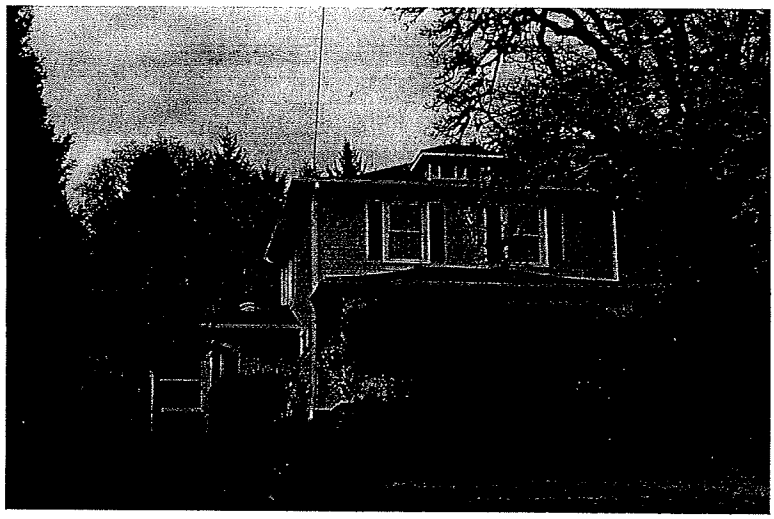


Figure 46: This house, located at 1380 N 9th, is an excellent example of the American Foursquare style. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

20th Century Period Revivals: During the 1920s, house styles in America became increasingly eclectic. Styles drawing on historical precedents from a variety of regions, such as England, France, Spain and Italy, came into vogue. Typical revival styles include Dutch Colonial Revival, Mediterranean Revival and the English Cottage. Most of these homes did not truly replicate their historical models, but drew on certain decorative elements in a creative way. These revival styles continued to be popular through the 1930s and 40s.

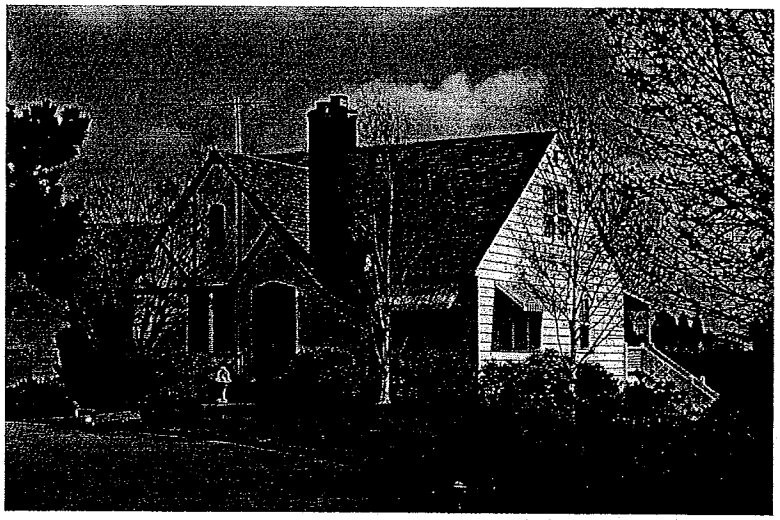


Figure 47: This house at 1741 Rosecrest exhibits elements of the Tudor Revival style including a mix of wood and stucco siding, false timbering in the gable end and a prominent brick chimney. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Minimal Traditional: The Minimal Traditional can be seen as a simplified version of the Period Revival styles. Common in Oregon from around 1935 until 1950, these houses are similar in scale and massing to the Period Revivals, but lack their decorative detailing. They are usually one to one and a half stories tall and are constructed of wood and finished with wood siding, brick or stucco. Minimal Traditional houses are characterized by their low to medium pitched gable roofs and by their lack of eave overhangs. Unlike the Bungalow and Prairie homes, the eaves of a Minimal Traditional house are nearly flush with the wall surface.

Figure 48: This Minimal Traditional house at 1431 College has an inset entry framed by arches, but is otherwise devoid of ornamentation. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

World War II-Era Cottage: A second small and simple house, the World War II Era Cottage, was built in Oregon from about 1938 to 1948. This house type is generally small and one story and is characterized by a low pitched hipped roof. These Cottages are usually sided with horizontal wood siding or wide shingles, but may be clad in brick or stucco. They have windows with horizontally oriented muntins, and windows may be paired on either side of a building corner. The World War II Era Cottage generally has little stylistic ornamentation, but may sometimes incorporate highly geometric decorative elements such as entry hood brackets.

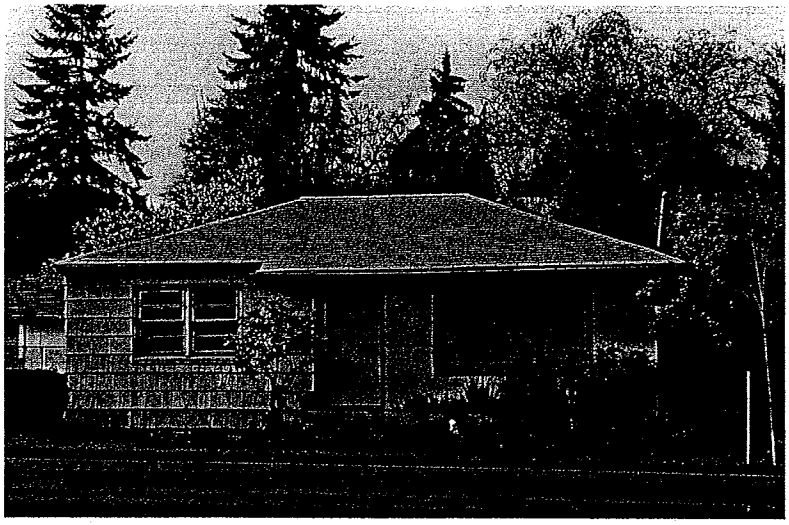


Figure 49: This World War II Era Cottage at 817 Main has been somewhat altered but still displays the small size, hipped roof and horizontally oriented windows typical of the style. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Early Ranch: Beginning around 1932 and continuing into the mid-1950s, the Early Ranch became a typical Oregon housing type. This style was a one-story, ground-hugging house with a low pitched roof and wide eaves. The house was usually just one room deep and might be built in a "U" or "L" shape. These Early Ranch houses often incorporated a built in garage or carport.

Suburban Ranch: Developing from the Early Ranch, the Suburban Ranch has the same low slung form. It tends to be more compact in form, usually at least two rooms deep and is more rectangular and less linear in design. These houses feature large, single pane picture windows and may have a patio or courtyard to the rear.

Figure 50: This house at 2239 Applegate is a fine example of the Suburban Ranch style. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Distribution Patterns

Philomath contains a wide variety of residential architecture, dating from as early as the 1870s through the 20th century. The earliest homes tend to be concentrated in the original City of Philomath plat, stretching north from Applegate to Pioneer and east from 7th to 15th. The distribution of later residences also tends to follow plat dates (See Map 4). Some historic residences are scattered in the outer areas of the UGB, such as along West Hills Road and Chapel Road. These are generally associated with farms and range in date from the late 19th through the mid-20th century.

In general, residential architecture in Philomath tends to be fairly vernacular in character. That is, it tends to eschew high style ornamentation in favor of basic utilitarian forms. Most Philomath residences were built by the owners, or by local carpenters and contractors, without the use of a professional architect.

Commercial Development

Description

Commercial resources include a variety of buildings used for business purposes. These include such diverse uses as banks, theatres, restaurants, offices, gas stations, grocery stores, drug stores and bakeries. The earliest commercial buildings in Philomath, from 1865 to 1900, were built of wood-frame construction. They were one to two stories tall and sided with horizontal wood or board and batten siding. These wood commercial buildings generally had gable roofs, many hidden behind false fronts. Around 1900, it became more common for commercial buildings to be constructed of masonry materials, including brick, stone, structural clay tile and concrete. These buildings might be surfaced with stucco and usually had large shopfront windows facing the street. Masonry commercial buildings generally have flat roofs; some have a slight stepped or flat parapet wall hiding the flat roof. Some commercial buildings have decorative elements or materials,

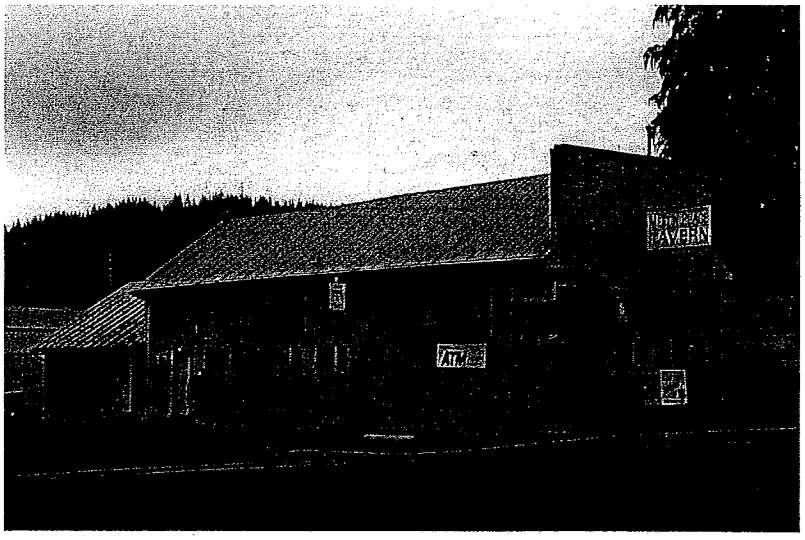


Figure 51: The Meet'N Place Tavern, located at ___ Main, is a good example of a pre-1900 wood frame commercial building with a gable roof and false front. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

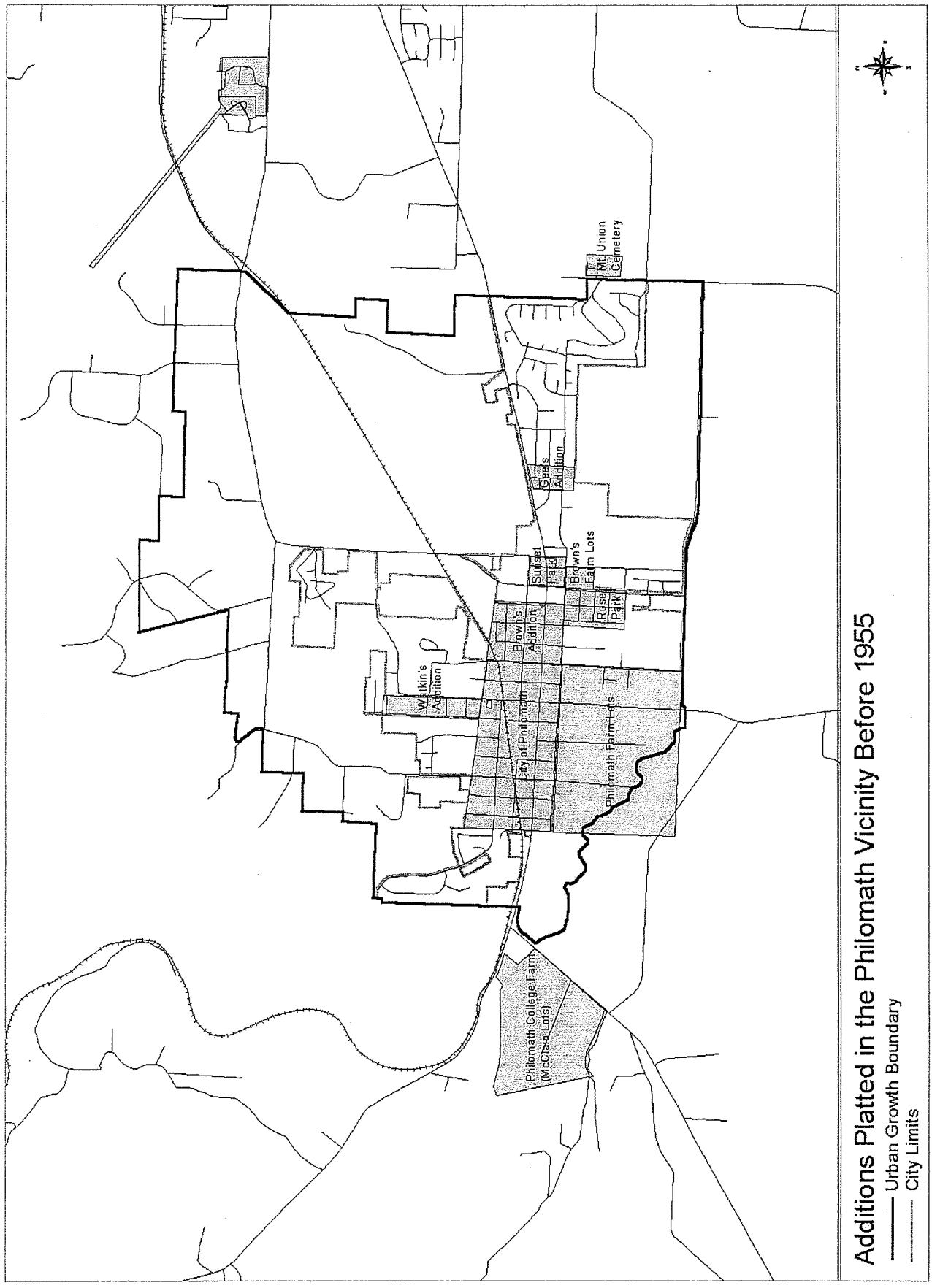

Additions Platted in the Philomath Vicinity Before 1955
Urban Growth Boundary
City Limits
Mt. Union Cemetery
Gaels Addition
Sunset Park
Brown's Farm Lots
Rose Park
Brown's Addition
Wilkin's Addition
City of Philomath
Philomath Farm Lots
Philomath College Farm (McClain Lots)

Figure 52: The 1300s block of Main Street contains several masonry commercial buildings constructed shortly after the turn of the century. Compare this image to the Figure 35 on page 44. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

incorporating features popular at their time of construction, but most in Philomath are quite plain and could be categorized as vernacular.

Distribution Pattern

Commercial buildings in Philomath are concentrated along Main Street, with some spreading in blocks immediately north and south of Main. The oldest buildings on Main Street lie between 12th and 14th Streets, including some which date to the late 1800s. As Philomath grew, the downtown area spread somewhat to the west, but more significantly to the east towards Corvallis.

Culture & Society

Description

Buildings associated with culture and society include those built by fraternal, social and humanitarian groups. They tend to vary in size and style depending on the needs of the group sponsoring construction. One common characteristic is that they tend to include some kind of large interior space for meetings and gatherings.

Distribution Pattern

Philomath contains few buildings known to be associated with fraternal and social movements. Certainly, its most significant resource in this category is the Odd Fellows Building at the southwest corner of College and North 13th Street. This building has been preliminarily dated to the 1870s, making it one of the oldest buildings in town. While it has been altered, primarily by the removal of the original second floor, this building has been the site of countless social gatherings and meetings, and is very important to Philomath history. A second building which might fall into this category is the Marys River Grange, located on the north side of Grange Hall Road. This building, constructed in 1934, lies outside of the UGB, but has important historical associations with agriculture in the Philomath area. Unfortunately, it has suffered numerous alterations, and its integrity should be evaluated carefully.

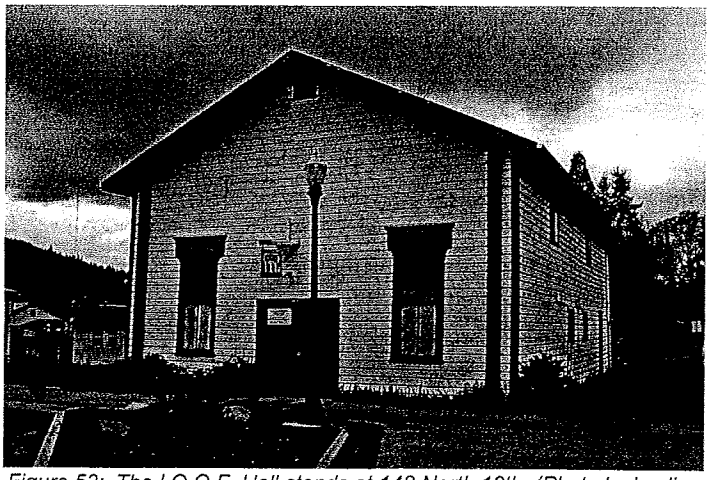


Figure 53: The I.O.O.F. Hall stands at 148 North 13th. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

Politics & Government

Description

Resources associated with politics and government may include city halls, post offices, parks, fire and police stations, jails, libraries and homes of significant politicians. Buildings associated with politics and government are similar to commercial resources. Before 1900, they tended to be built of wood and clad with wood siding. Buildings constructed after 1900 are usually of masonry and may be surfaced with brick, stucco, terra cotta or stone. Government buildings constructed in the early 1900s were often influenced by the Beaux Arts classicism of the American Renaissance. Those built in the 1930s and 40s often incorporated elements of Art Deco or Art Moderne styles.

Distribution Pattern

Philomath has recently, c. 1990s, constructed a number of new government buildings, including a city hall, public library, and post office along the south side of Applegate. Historically, these services were housed in buildings on Main Street. One historic city hall building does still stand on the north side of Main Street, at 1215 Main. This 1938 building of brick and concrete displays some Art Deco influences. The post office was historically housed at ____ Main. This building also still exists, and other unidentified resources may also be located in this area.

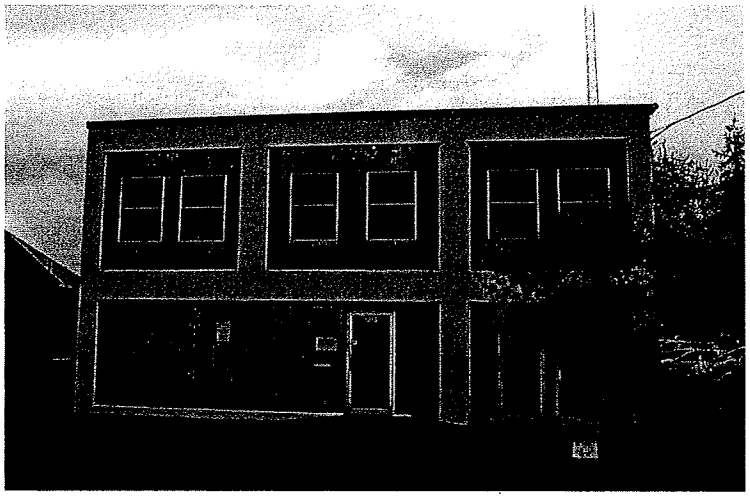


Figure 54: The 1938 City Hall building at 1215 Main. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

IV. Criteria For Evaluating Historic Properties

Evaluation is the process by which the significance of identified resources is determined. Because age alone is insufficient grounds for historic designation, evaluation of historic resources is based on architectural, historical and/or cultural significance. Resources identified through previous surveys have been evaluated for significance; those determined to have some level of architectural, historical or cultural significance have been listed in the statewide inventory of historic properties maintained by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). As further study is completed, newly surveyed resources should also be evaluated for significance.

Philomath currently does not have established criteria for evaluating historic resources. Those resources previously identified were evaluated using criteria developed for that purpose at that time. It is recommended that the City develop a set of standard criteria that can be used for the evaluation of any historic resources identified through future projects. The basis for Philomath's evaluation criteria should follow closely the criteria used for the National Register of Historic Places, an accepted model endorsed by the SHPO. Modifications to these criteria may be made to address Philomath's historic and architectural contexts. The National Register criteria address the significance and integrity of historic resources, including districts, buildings, sites, structures, and objects.

Generally speaking, a resource must be at least 50 years of age to be considered historic. The National Register makes exceptions for "younger" resources, but the exceptions are stringent and based on truly exceptional quality or importance of the resource.

There are numerous examples of evaluation criteria used successfully by other cities and counties in the state. Examples of these can be obtained from the SHPO. The National Register Bulletin #15, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation," may also provide direction for the City in developing standard evaluation criteria.

Significance

The National Register criteria recognize that historic resources may have associative value, design or construction value, or information value. When evaluated within its historic context, a resource must be shown to be significant in at least one of the following areas to be considered potentially eligible for listing on the National Register:

> Events/Patterns of History: The resource is associated with an event (or events) and/or with a pattern of events or historic trend that has made a significant contribution to the history of Philomath, the region, the state, or the nation; or
>
> Person(s): The person(s) associated with the resource is (are) individually significant and made demonstrated contributions to the history of Philomath, the region, the state, or the nation; and the resources is associated with the person(s)'s productive life, reflecting the time period in which he or she achieved significance; or
>
> Design/Construction: The resource embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method or construction; and/or the resource represents the work of a master; and/or the resource possesses high artistic value; or the resource represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
>
> Information Potential: The resource has yielded information important to history or prehistory; or the resource may be likely to yield information important to history or prehistory.

Integrity and Condition

Integrity is the authenticity of a resource's historic identity, or its intactness of historic form and original construction materials. Integrity is integral to the resource's ability to convey its significance. Alterations, either historic or contemporary, should be examined for compatibility. There must be identifiable evidence in all or some of the following aspects of integrity for a historic resource to be considered eligible for the National Register. Which aspects must have integrity should be determined on a case by case basis, as some aspects are more important in conveying significance than others given specific contexts and resource types.

Condition of a historic resource should not be confused with integrity. Condition is generally defined as "state of repair." A resource can be in poor condition, but retain a high degree of historic integrity. The reverse also may be true when a resource is in very good condition, but may have lost a great deal of its historic integrity. Ideally, a historic resource will have a high degree of integrity and be in good condition, but it is not necessary for a resource to be in good condition in order to be considered eligible for the National Register. The use of condition as a criterion for evaluation, however, may be useful when deciding which resources to preserve and protect. Those

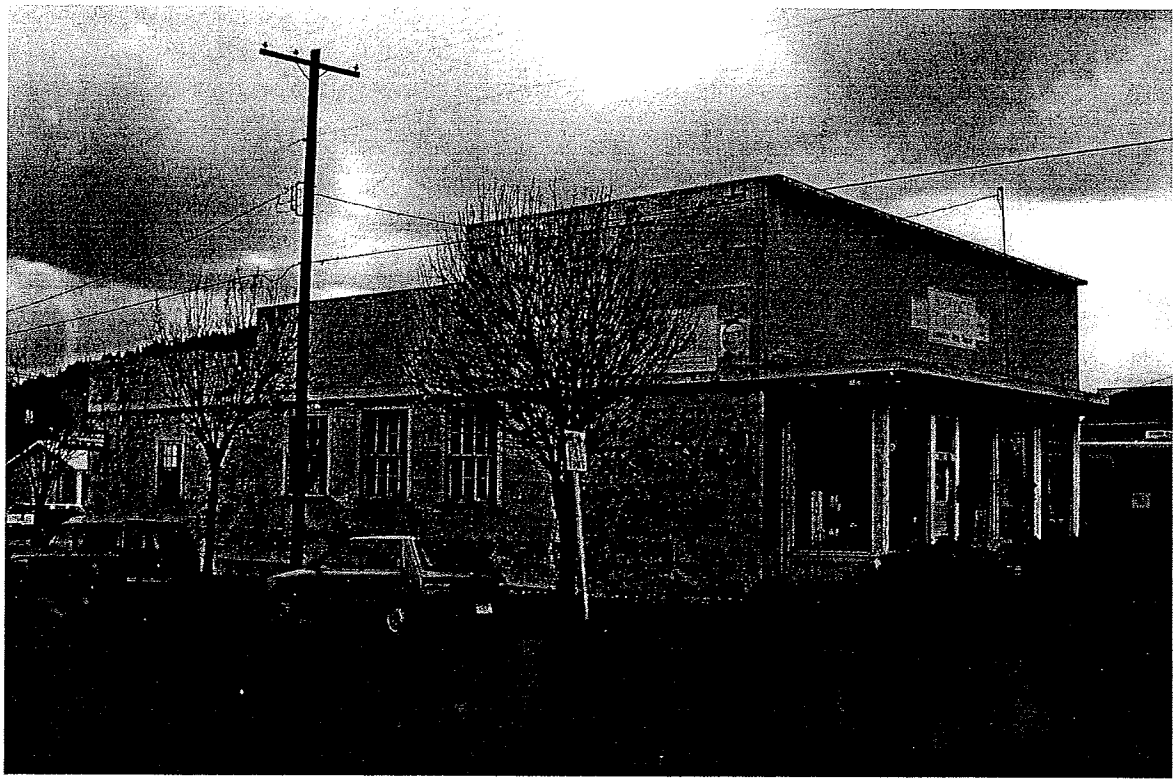


Figure 55: This former garage at 1348 Main may be in poor condition, but its original design and materials are largely intact, and it possesses high integrity. (Photo by Leslie Heald 2001)

that are determined to be significant and have a high degree of integrity, but are in very poor condition, may be a low priority for preservation simply for practical reasons.

The seven aspects of integrity are:

Location: Is the resource in its original location or has it been moved?

Design: Is the original design intact?

Setting: Has the character of the setting stayed the same or has it changed over time?

Materials: What portion of the original materials is retained?

Workmanship: Does the resource show craftsmanship of the period?

Feeling: Does the resource evoke an aesthetic or historic sense of the past?

Association: Is this the site of historic event or activity or is the site associated with an important person historically?

Ranking

After significance and integrity are assessed, historic resources should be ranked in relation to their significance, integrity and condition. Resources can be ranked individually or, if in a district, ranked for contributing status to the district. Just as different evaluation criteria have been developed by different municipalities, so have ranking criteria. Philomath currently does not have a ranking

system and should develop one that works for the community and would be adaptable to both potential National Register eligible resources and a possible local landmark listing.

Several factors may enter into ranking individual properties. Significance and integrity must be considered first. If a resource has a high level of significance, but has been altered to the point of lost integrity, its ranking may be lower than a resource that possesses strong historical associations or high architectural merit and a high degree of integrity. The ranking system used by Philomath will need to address various combinations of significance, integrity and condition.

The SHPO currently uses the following ranking system for historic districts. This system of ranking was adopted in 1999.

> Historic/Contributing: properties constructed during the historic period that retain and exhibit sufficient integrity to convey a sense of history.
>
> Historic/Non-Contributing (in current condition): properties constructed during the historic period that retain, but do not exhibit sufficient historic integrity to convey a sense of history.
>
> Non-Contributing: properties from outside the period of significance, and properties constructed during the historic period that do not retain sufficient historic integrity.

The process of survey and inventory is an on-going process that requires revision on a regular basis. Historic resources may shift from one ranking category to another as time passes. A Historic/Contributing resource may be altered to the point of compromising its integrity, resulting in a re-ranking of that resource to a non-contributing status. Or a Historic/Non-Contributing resource may be restored so that its integrity and condition warrant re-ranking as a contributing resource. It is also important to note that as additional resources reach 50 years of age, they too may contribute to the community's history. These resources should be surveyed, ranked and added to the local and state inventories of historic resources as appropriate.

Treatment

I. Goal Identification

The historic context statement creates a framework for identifying, evaluating and protecting historic resources within the Philomath urban growth boundary. Although historic significance is a key criteria in directing future research and activities, other local considerations may also be important. By establishing goals and strategies, context based planning attempts to balance the importance of historic properties against these other factors.

The information in this section was developed in conjunction with the Philomath Historic Resources Commission (HRC). The first step in this process was the identification of local considerations that may affect historic preservation efforts in the community. This includes both local conditions and parties that may influence the development or outcome of preservation activities. The second step involved the establishment of goals and objectives, and a discussion of possible strategies for accomplishing them. The final step in the process involved setting properties for future historic preservation activities. However, these priorities will evolve over time, based on the changing needs and goals of the HRC and the community. As such, this section of the historic context statement should be revisited and revised periodically to respond to changes in local conditions and considerations.

Identifying Other Considerations

These considerations include the people and conditions most likely to have an impact on local historic preservation activities, whether favorably or unfavorably. There will always be specific threats and opportunities directing preservation efforts, but an awareness of the general constraints and prospects that exist in a community will help guide these efforts most effectively.

The first step in determining these consideration is the identification of stakeholders. These are people who are in a position to influence the outcome of local preservation activities or whose interests will be affected by the process. This includes, but is not limited to, residents, property owners, business owners, the City of Philomath staff and elected officials, the Philomath Planning Commission, the Philomath school district, the Benton County departments whose jurisdiction includes Philomath, the Benton County Historical Museum and Society, the Benton County Historic Review Board, the Philomath Historic Resources Commission, the State Historic Preservation Office, the Historic Preservation League of Oregon, the Philomath Chamber of Commerce, the Rebekahs, the local board of realtors, the *Corvallis Gazette-Times*, and Native American groups with ties to the area.

The next step in determining other considerations are the identification of threats to local preservation efforts. Threats may be direct or indirect, such as the impending demolition of a significant resource versus public apathy. Specific threats identified by the HRC were the impact of increased traffic on Main Street on the quality of life for home owners lining the artery, and how the notion of the "highest and best" use for land will impact sites currently occupied by historic resources. Other threats include the need for funding preservation activities, fear and resistance based on a lack of information or education, development and redevelopment issues, and the lack of protective measures for historic resources in the local code.

Identifying opportunities for preservation is the final step in determining considerations. Like threats, these can be both specific and general. Specific opportunities include having the political support of the city and mayor, and the local presence and clout of the Benton County Historical

Museum and Society. Rehabilitation work is underway on two local historic resources, the Bethers House and the barber shop. These projects can be used to illustrate the benefits of preservation to both the individual property owner and the community at large. In addition, the publication of this historic context statement can be used to promote an interest in and understanding of the development of the community and its related resources. General opportunities identified by the HRC include participation in Historic Preservation Week activities, public support, education and research, survey and inventory, and regulatory issues. These opportunities would be enhanced through partnerships with local schools, the Benton County Historical Museum and Society, and the Benton County Historic Review Board.

As local public support can be either the greatest threat or the greatest opportunity for historic preservation efforts, citizen participation is key. The community should not only be informed of preservation activities, but also involved in the process. This will help to build support and create alliances, which is a necessary component in reaching the goals identified herein.

Goals, Objectives & Priorities

The Historic Resources Commission developed the following goals and objectives as part of its mission to preserve the community's significant historic resources. These goals create a focal point for the Commission's efforts in the community and form a basis for the development of their annual work plan.

While all the goals are important, the one related to obtaining designation as a Certified Local Government (CLG) was seen as a priority. The historic preservation program in Philomath is in its infancy and this designation would provide the community access to funds and expertise to support its efforts. Certain other goals, by nature, must precede others. For example, a registry and evaluation criteria must be established before resources can be designated at the local level. However, as it is possible to pursue several objectives simultaneously, the Commission can direct efforts to education, for example, while pursuing CLG status.

These goals should be reviewed and evaluated on a regular basis, for example, as part of the annual work plan. They should then be prioritized according to the current threats to and opportunities for historic preservation work in the community.

GOAL A: OBTAIN CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT DESIGNATION FOR PHILOMATH

Objective:
(1) Complete the CLG application and process as required by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).
(2) In the interim, continue to apply for SHPO funding available to non-designated communities.

GOAL B: DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION (HRC)

Objective:
(1) Clarify jurisdiction between Philomath and Benton County for resources located in the Urban Growth Boundary.
(2) Obtain additional Commissioners for the HRC.
(3) Educate Commissioners on the basics of historic preservation and their role in local efforts.
(4) Establish an annual work plan.

GOAL C: FORMATION OF A LOCAL REGISTER AND CODE LANGUAGE

Objective:
(1) Establish evaluation criteria for local designation.
(2) Determine ramifications of local designation.
(3) Create language for city code identifying the HRC and its role, as well as the criteria for and effects of local designation.
(4) Create incentives for locally designated resources, such as a low interest rehabilitation loan program or a historic overlay zone.
(5) Create design guidelines for Main Street area commercial resources.

GOAL D: EDUCATE THE PUBLIC AND ENCOURAGE SUPPORT

Objective:
(1) Continue to offer activities during National Historic Preservation Week.
(2) Create a walking tour map for downtown area historic resources.
(3) Sponsor a public workshop or educational program, for example, on double hung window repair or conducting historic research.
(4) Work in cooperation with the *Corvallis Gazette-Times* and the *Entertainer* to promote preservation events and activities.
(5) Encourage local participation in the Century Farm Program.
(6) Create programs introducing school-aged children to preservation.

GOAL E: DEVELOP COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Objective:
(1) Inform public of HRC meetings and keep updated on activities.
(2) Solicit volunteer assistance and input.
(3) Develop partnerships to enhance and promote efforts.
(4) Provide outreach to other individuals or organizations with an interest in the contribution of historic resources to community life.

GOAL F: IDENTIFY AND DESIGNATE RESOURCES

Objective:
(1) Pursue SHPO grant funding to support these activities.
(2) Conduct reconnaissance level survey to identify local resources potentially eligible for historic designation.
(3) Conduct intensive level survey work for qualified resources.
(4) Hold educational sessions regarding designation and incentives.

GOAL G: CONDUCT HISTORIC RESEARCH

Objective:
(1) Determine themes and priorities for research work.
(2) Pursue grant funding for research projects.
(3) Development and implement an oral history project.
(4) Develop partnerships with the Benton County Historical Museum and Society and local schools to develop and implement research projects.

Strategies

Using a strategic planning approach will help meet the objectives and realize the goals identified by the Historic Resources Commission. Identify methods of involving and working with other stakeholders. Determine ways others can support and promote your historic preservation efforts. As a means to this end, the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has identified the following strategies:

Networking: Encourage attendance by interested persons, members of city staff, or other preservation-minded individuals at a historic preservation conference or workshop. SHPO and the National Trust for Historic Preservation offer several opportunities annually to exchange ideas and learn about preservation-related problems and solutions.

Partnerships: Develop working relationships between property owners, business organizations, City officials, and/or others to work together on specific preservation activities. This might involve the identification and nomination of historic resources to the National Register or the planning of Historic Preservation Week activities. The Benton County Historic Review Board and the Corvallis Historic Preservation Advisory Board would be logical partners.

Piggybacking: Work with other organizations to disseminate information about historic preservation activities through the organizations' newsletters. A likely candidate would be the Benton County Historical Museum and Society newsletter.

Volunteers/Interns: Solicit volunteers and interns from local groups, service organizations, public schools, Oregon State University (departments of History and Anthropology), and the University of Oregon (Historic Preservation, Folklore and History) for special preservation-related projects. They can help conduct surveys, perform research and prepare National Register nominations. Walking tours, interpretative displays, and oral histories may also be developed with their assistance.

Grants: Make use of grant funding for preservation-related projects when possible. Use appropriate city staff, volunteer, and Commission member time to match grants from SHPO and other organizations and foundations.

Repackaging: Use the Historic Overview section of this document or the associated Historic Preservation Week slide presentation for multiple purposes. Create a web site or publication for use as a community educational tool or fund-raising effort.

Coalitions: Combine efforts with those working on other efforts involving historic resources. Examples include natural resource managers trying to preserve historic rural landscapes threatened by development or downtown development groups who might capitalize on the presence of historic commercial resources.

Leveraging: Use money or resources to help insure a favorable result from preservation efforts by others.

Mentoring: Connect new historic homeowners with those that have already restored or rehabilitated their own historic homes. For example, the owners of the Bethers House could provide advice to others utilize federal funding for rehabilitation projects.

Modeling: Register key historic resources on the National Register or local landmarks register. Rehabilitate or restore the buildings to demonstrate how the process can benefit others in the community.

As different approaches may work better in certain situations or under particular circumstances, the City of Philomath is encouraged to evaluate ways to combine these strategies. Due to time and fiscal constraints, such strategies may be crucial to accomplishing identified objectives.

II. Integration

The activities of other agencies and organizations have an impact on historic resources. Therefore, it is important to consider their long-term plans for particular sites and landscapes. Other groups may have already conducted research, or prepared contexts, which support local preservation efforts. As such, this section looks at how other documents and contexts can be integrated with local preservation planning efforts.

Connection with Other Plans

The City of Philomath developed a Comprehensive Plan, revised in June 1993, in accordance with statewide land-use planning Goal 5. Section VII - 3 of this plan states that the existing inventory of scenic and historic sites shall be updated during future plan updates. Recent revisions to the Administrative Rule governing Goal 5 (OAR 660-023) encourage communities to plan for historic and cultural resources using a context-based model developed by the National Park Service. The NPS model was used to develop this historic context statement.

Other local plans that could impact historic resources include the 1999 Philomath Strategic Plan for Community and Economic Development (revised 2000). This envisions an attractive, historic commercial district for the community and calls for the development of design guidelines reinforcing the same. Project Philomath 2000 calls for the visual enhancement of the commercial core, which includes a mix of new and old buildings, and the 2001-2002 city council goals include creating a redevelopment plan for abandoned mills sites within the city.

State law requires state agencies and political subdivisions, such as counties, and fire districts, to develop programs to preserve significant historic properties, which they own or for which they are responsible. These documents may be internal and should be requested when the possibility of such a plan exists. Specific resources, such as the Marys River Bridge, may be included in transportation plans developed by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). This agency is also responsible for the maintenance and improvement of Highway 20/34, which runs through Philomath and is lined with some of its oldest buildings.

Other agencies whose activities may impact historic resources include railway companies, such as Southern Pacific Railroad, with lines running through the Philomath UGB. In addition, timberlands containing remnants of early logging operations could now be under the ownership of the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

Connection with Other Contexts

There are three historic context statements that overlap geographically and thematically with the City of Philomath Historic Context Statement. Two are the statewide: *Agricultural Context Statement* (Speulda 1989) and *Railroad Logging in Oregon Draft* (Tonsfeldt 1993). The third, the *Benton County, Oregon, Historic Context Statement, 1845-1945* (Carter and Dennis1996) is more local in scope and contains specific references to local resources. There will be additional overlap with Philomath as other topic-specific contexts, such as dairying or the timber industry, are developed for the state.

Future Related Studies

Due to the nature of this document, which is a general historic overview, some key events or industries that contributed to the growth of Philomath may deserve more intensive study. Of interest

to the Commission may be several thematic contexts, such as the lumber and mill industry, cattle raising and dairying, and fruit growing. As several women were key figures in the early years of the community, intensive research into the role women have played in the town's history would also be appropriate.

Important People in Philomath History

Albertson, Ed

During the 1940s, Ed Albertson was one of the most extensive property owners in the city.

Amber, Henry

Henry Ambler lived in Philomath from 1905 to 1925. He worked in real estate and insurance for timberland, farm and fruit lands and stock ranches. In 1918, Ambler was a member of the United War Work campaign committee and in the early 1920s he served as city treasurer. He died in 1925 at age 67.

Anderson, Dr. H.J.

During the mid to late 20th century, Dr. Anderson owned and operated one of the larger dairy farms in Benton County.

Bennett, Alexander

Alexander Bennett came to Oregon from Ohio in 1852 and in 1855 settled in the Marys River area. He was a local pastor who helped to organized the Oregon Annual Conference of the United Brethren Church. In 1913, Bennett served as city treasurer, in 1919 he was a member of the College Sunday School Board, and in 1931 he was president of the new Lion's Club. Bennett's Hill, just south of Philomath is named for him.

Berreman, Jim W.

Jim W. Berreman arrived in Philomath in 1904. He opened a meat market on Main Street in 1923. He owned and operated this business until he sold it to N.C. Newton in 1945.

Bethers, George W. and Kezia

George and Kezia Bethers were married in 1844 and arrived in Oregon in 1848. George Bethers is remembered for writing a letter to the United Brethren Church, requesting that a minister be sent to the Marys River settlement. In 1853, Bethers' request was granted and two ministers arrived with a train of 16 wagons. Bethers later was instrumental in the founding of Philomath College and served as a trustee for the school. Bethers purchased land near the College in 1869 and built a home there in 1873. This home still stands and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Bethers had 10 children, and at the time they died had 47 grandchildren and 54 great grandchildren.

Brooks, Quincy A.

Quincy Brooks was a postal agent and established the first post office in Philomath in June 1868. This office served as a key stop for a new mail route established between Corvallis and Newport.

Castle, Bishop

Bishop Castle entered the United Brethren ministry in 1856. He came to Oregon in 1877 when he was elected a bishop and assigned to the Pacific District, as a circuit preacher. Castle married Caroline Hummer in 1860 and Ellen Livengood in 1881. He retired from the ministry in 1909.

Castle, Ernest H and Eva

Ernest Castle was the son of Bishop and Ellen Castle and was born in Philomath in 1882. He was a graduate of Philomath College and later taught there. He also taught at an adult Bible school and sang in the church choir. He was superintendent of Benton County Schools for 24 years and worked at the First National Bank in Corvallis. Ernest Castle died in 1948.

Clemens, Rex

During the 1930s, Rex Clemens was a leader in building the timber based economy that fueled Philomath for 30 years. He operated a mill just northeast of downtown, and Clemens Road, which leads to this site, is named for him. Clemens donated the funds to construct the first indoor swimming pool at the high school and sponsored the high school baseball team in the 1950s.

Cone, E.A.

E.A. Cone was one of the original partners in the 1901 Benton County Lumber Company, which operated at the Y until 1959. Cone ran the mill himself until 1910, then he established a lumber yard in Corvallis. He later operated a dairy farm, until retiring from dairy work in 1954.

Davis, Charles

Charles Davis was a long-time pharmacist in Philomath. His father founded a drug store in Philomath in the 1800s, and Davis carried on this tradition. He built a home in c. 1905 in the vicinity of 1043 Pioneer.

Drury, Marion R. and Lucinda

Marion Drury served as Philomath College president in 1913. In that same year, he was mayor of Philomath and vice president of Philomath State Bank.

Edwards, Charlene (Mrs. H.B.)

Charlene Edwards was a teacher in Philomath schools, and taught continuously from 1933 to 1951. In 1936, she served as president of the 4-H Local Leaders Association. In 1944, she was initiated into the Beta Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma national honor fraternity, in recognition of her leadership skills. In 1948, Edwards was elected as the first vice president of the newly formed Oregon Business and Professional Women's Club. By 1949, she was president of this organization.

Ewing, Sam

In 1901, Sam Ewing helped to found the Benton County Lumber Company with E.A. Cone and Mike Flynn. By 1913, Ewing was working as the manager of this company. He died in 1920.

Felger, Jacob

In 1867, Jacob Felger purchased the mill site established by William Matzger in 1850. Felger opened a flour mill as well as a tannery on this site.

Fisher, W.G.

After served as a minister at a United Brethren church in California during 1897 to 1898, W.G. Fisher came to Philomath where he served as an instructor of ancient languages and as athletic director at Philomath College. He had an eclectic career and also served as the manager and bookkeeper of the Philomath Creamery Company, as well as mayor of Philomath.

Flynn, Mike

Mike Flynn, together with E.A. Cone and Sam Ewing, was one of the original partners in the 1901 Benton County Lumber Company, which operated at the Y until 1959.

Follett, E.B.

E.B. Follett ran the Philomath to Alsea stage line beginning in 1908.

Gee, Clifford

Clifford Gee arrived in Philomath in 1916. He started his own logging company in 1945, after working as a truck driver for 17 years. He served as mayor of Philomath from 1941 to 1952 and 1962 to 1964. In 1950, Gee was appointed Deputy Supreme Governor of Oregon, a high honor in the Moose Lodge. In 1951, he served as head of the local civilian defense work, finding homes to care for evacuees in case of bombing. Gee was responsible for platting Gee's Addition in 1955.

Gellatty, Andrew and Isabella

In 1870, the Gellattys purchased 350 acres just south of Philomath. This property originally belonged to George Boone, a relative of the famous Daniel. In 1892, the Gellatys built a home on this property; it was still standing in 1986.

Gellatty, Robert

Robert Gellatty was the son of Andrew and Isabella Gellatty. He was born in 1875, and was considered to be the oldest living Philomath native in 1965.

Gray, Laurence V. and Gladys

The Grays came to Philomath in 1919. The were longtime owners of a local restaurant. Mr. Gray was secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Master of the Marys River Grange.

Hawkins, Frank

Frank Hawkins was born in Philomath in 1882, the son of Joseph and Vashti Hawkins. He attended Philomath College, then began a career in the logging and sawmill industry, working at the sawmill operated by his father.

Hawkins, Joseph & Vashti

The Hawkins arrived in Philomath in 1876. In 1881, they purchased a sawmill founded by David Enos one mile west of town in 1878 or 1879.

Hawkins, Melvin

Melvin Hawkins was the son of Frank Hawkins and grandson of Joseph Hawkins. Like his relatives, he owned and operated a logging outfit. He served on the Benton County Commission beginning in 1959, served on the school board for at least 15 years, and supported the rural fire district.

Henkle, Ichabod

A second saw mill was constructed in the Philomath area by Ichabod Henkle in 1853. Henkle's Saw Mill was located on Rock Creek in the northeast quarter of Section 29. According to one source, "this mill with the old fashioned jib saw furnished the lumber for the Philomath College building" (Handley 1948).

Henkle, Jeremiah E.

Jeremiah Henkle was born in 1843, the son of Ichabod Henkle. He worked in his father's sawmill and in 1867 graduated as one of four students in the first class from Philomath College. He married Nancy A. Hunt in 1878, and they had two children. Henkle served as postmaster for 12 years and was a 25 year member of the Philomath City Council. From the 1870s until 1891, he operated a general store with J.L. Shipley. Henkle established the first telephone line in Benton County.

Henkle , George

In 1867, George Henkle opened a general store near Philomath College, at 13th and Main Streets. This was one of the first commercial ventures in the newly established town.

Hughart, Joseph T.

Hughart was an early settler in the Philomath vicinity, establishing a claim in 1846 on land near where Philomath College came to be located with his wife and Peter C. Zumwalt.

Keezel, James C. and Sarah L.

The Keezels came to Philomath in 1887 and lived in a house at 1446 Main Street. After the split in the United Brethren church in 1889, James Keezel was elected president of the new established College of Philomath. Sadly, just as the new college building was nearing completion, J.C. Keezel, fell from collapsing scaffolding and was killed. His wife, Sarah L. Keezel, was then elected president. The school building was completed in December 1890, and the 39 students and three teachers moved in. However, in February 1893, the building, known as the Keezel Memorial Chapel, burned to the ground. The students, who after the fire had dwindled to only 12, moved their classes to the home of Sarah Keezel. A new building, again known as Keezel Chapel, was ready by the fall of 1893. The College of Philomath was incorporated in 1895. During the 1890s, attendance average between 30 to 50 students. Sarah Keezel continued to serve as president and instructor until 1897, when she resigned and became postmaster in Philomath, a post she held for at least 16 years.

Kisor, George and Sarah Ann

The Kisors moved to Philomath after first living on a donation land claim near Monroe. In 1877, they purchased land from the trustees of Philomath College and constructed a boarding house, Philomath's first such amenity. By April 1879, Kisor advertised to the traveling public that he was open for boarders, by the single meal, day or week. By the early 20th century, this boarding house was known as the Central Hotel.

Linsey, J.M. and Ida M

Linsey was a United Brethren minister in Oklahoma before coming to Philomath in 1909. From at least 1917 on, Linsey worked as a contractor. Ida Linsey ran a boarding house and was involved in church activities.

Matzger, William

William Matzger brought the first beginnings of industrialization to the Philomath vicinity. In 1850, he established a water powered mill west of the modern day Philomath area. He was joined in operating this mill by William Pitman in 1851. A small settlement known as Matzger's Mill, rose up around this site and contained a school, church and number of homes. In 1867, Matzger sold this site to Jacob Felger.

McClelland, R.P.

R.P. McClelland was a local cattle rancher who was the earliest promoter of the great Philomath Round-Up. He donated money to finance the Round-Up and was heavily involved in producing the event. McClelland operated a ranch just north of the Y.

McCurty, Jim S. and Margaret

In 1919, the McCurty opened a grocery store of Main Street, which the family operated until it was sold in 1945.

Minshall, Fred S.

Fred Minshall founded the *Benton County Review*, Philomath's most successful and longest lasting newspaper, in 1903. In 1919, Minshall organized a mill and camps on the Santiam River for Hammond Lumber Company, which employed a force of 600 men. In the early 1920s, Minshall served as city recorder.

Minshall, Leone

Daughter of Fred Minshall, Leone Minshall was the first librarian of a local library run by the Philomath Women's Club, established in 1931. She later donated land for the city hall built in 1938, with the condition that space in the building always be reserved for a public library.

Moses, Samuel H. and Ida

Samuel Moses moved to Oregon from Virginia after the Civil War. He enrolled in Philomath College in 1887. By 1888, he owned a store in tangent. Moses opened a second store in Philomath in 1902. This store stood on the south side of Main, facing onto 13th, in a location now occupied by Citizens Bank. Moses installed an early telephone system, and his daughters served as switchboard operators. By 1913, he was manager of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. Moses is also remembered for his role as leader of the Philomath town band, which he led in many parades. Moses was also a member of the school board and served as treasurer of the Philomath Fire Department.

Newth, Dr. C.H.

Dr. C.H. Newth was a physician and surgeon who lived and worked in Philomath in the early 1900s. He built a prominent house at ___ Main Street. In 1908, he became a most important citizen in town, as he was the first to own an automobile.

Overman, Flossie

Flossie Overman arrived in Philomath in 1902, at age 14. She graduated from Philomath College in 1912 and went to work as a teacher in a local one room school. She was a long time resident of Philomath who led the campaign to save a restore the Philomath College building. She served as Grand Marshall of the Philomath Western Frolic in 1976.

Pitman, William M.

William Pitman was an early arrival in the Marys River area. In 1851, he joined William Matzger in operating the mill founded by Matzger in 1850.

Sedenberg, Fred

Fred Sedenberg was a Philomath building contractor during the 1920s and 30s. He is known to have remodeling the Watkins house on East College in 1937.

Sheak, Henry

Henry Sheak arrived in Philomath in 1877. He was a very influential figure at Philomath College, where he taught for more than 50 years, and in the town of Philomath. He wrote the town incorporation charter in 1882, and served as the second mayor of Philomath in 1884. He was also president of the Marys River Fruit Growers Association, established in 1907. Sheak was known as the "father of prohibition in Oregon" because of the leadership role he took in advocating for state and national laws prohibiting the manufacture and consumption of alcohol. Henry Sheak died in 1931.

Shipley, Reuben

Reuben Shipley was an African American man who came west as a slave, and was freed in return for helping his master drive an oxen team across the continent. Shipley donated the land for the Mt. Union cemetery, with the stipulation that he and his family be allowed to rest there.

Stoval, Dennis

In 1917, Dennis Stoval served on the school board, and in 1918 he was a member of the United War Work Campaign Committee. He is also remembered as an author of children's story books.

Voget, Octav and Mary

Octav Voget opened the Philomath Creamery in April of 1908. He was also responsible for platting the Sunset Park Addition in 1909.

Von Lehe, R.C. and Erna

The Von Lehes came to Philomath in c. 1912 from Minnesota and purchased the R.L. Henkle farm. Von Lehe was a farmer and both R.C. and Erna were involved in community activities. Mr. Von Lehe served on the local school board, was a member of the County Fair Committee and acted as chairman of the Philomath Precinct Agricultural Committee. Mrs. Von Lehe helped with the Home Economics Club and with Red Cross war work. The family was quite musical and the family comprised Von Lehe orchestra was recognized as one of the best in the county.

Ward, Loren Thoreau

L.T. Ward purchased the Benton County Review in 1938. He owned the paper until its last edition was published in 1964. Ward was involved in local politics and served as the City Record and as a Municipal Judge in the 1940s.

Watkins, Stanley O. and Lois

Stanley Watkins was a local builder in the Philomath area. He platted Watkins Addition in 1909.

Webster, John S.

In 1909, John Webster platted the Rose Park Subdivision with C.C. and Alice K. Bell. This subdivision was created out of lots 3 and 4 in Brown's Farm Lots.

Whittlesey, Rev. Charles Terrill and Penelope

Charles Whittlesey was a minister who came to Portland in 1890. He was later one of the founders of the Roseburg Academy. He worked at Philomath College from 1915 to 1922 as a professor of ancient languages. Whittlesey also taught Latin at Dallas and Albany Colleges. For a time, he served on the Philomath City Council.

Wonderly, I.D.

I.D. Wonderly operated a large dairy farm south of Philomath from at least 1915 to 1965. He was known as one of Oregon's champion dairymen and bred pure Jersey cows.

Wyatt, Samuel and Mary

William Wyatt's son Samuel was born in 1859 on the family Donation Land Claim just north of Philomath. Samuel was an active member of the community and was involved with the Elks Club and the IOOF. He also served as director of the Philomath State Bank in 1913. Samuel Wyatt died in 1924.

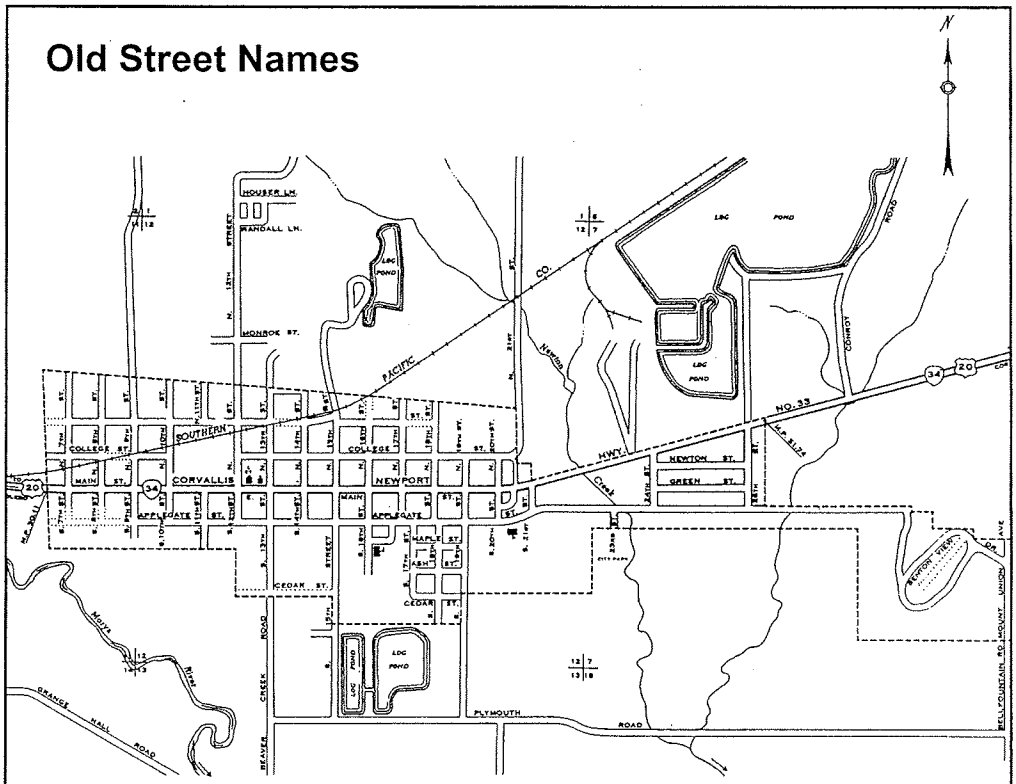
Wyatt, William and Mary

The Wyatts were a very important family in early Philomath. They arrived in Oregon in 1847 via the Applegate Trail. In 1850, they settled a Donation Land Claim just north of the current town of Philomath. William Wyatt eventually expanding his land holdings to 3,900 acres, and was the second wealthiest man in Benton County. In 1858, the Wyatts converted to the United Brethren fellowship and became very involved in the church. William Wyatt served as a trustee of Philomath College for over 30 years.

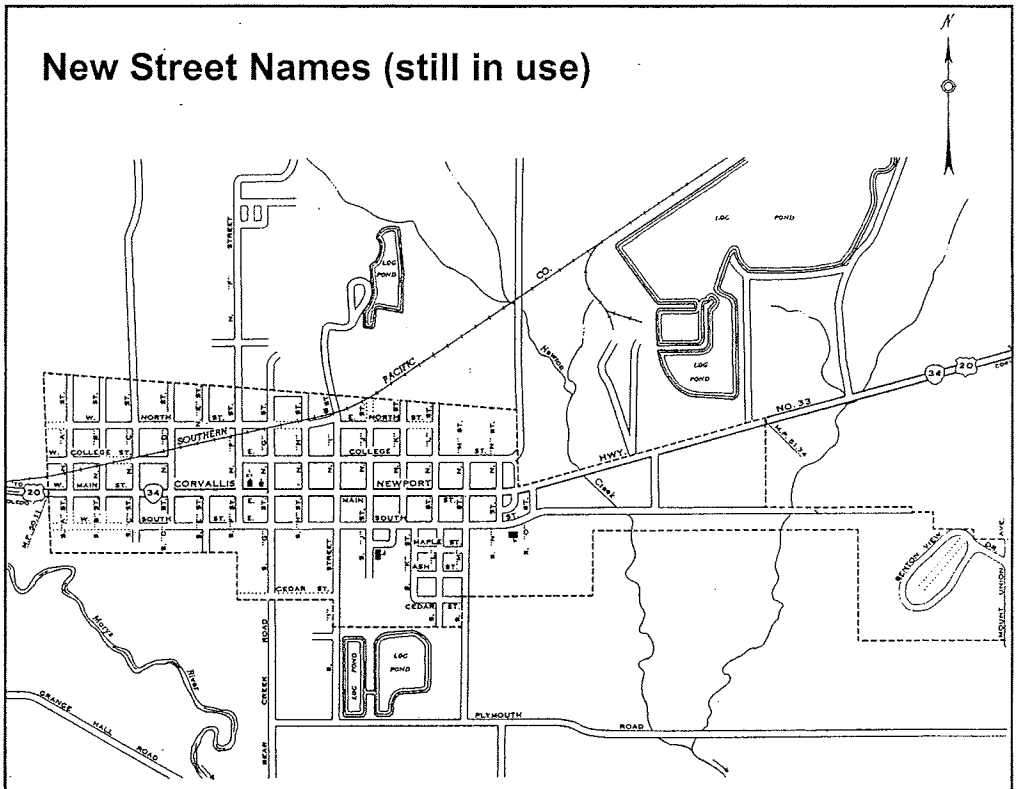
Zumwalt, Peter C

Peter C. Zumwalt arrived in the Marys River area in 1846. He settled a claim near Philomath with Joseph T. Hughart and his wife.

Guide to Street Name Changes in Philomath



Oregon State Highway Department, 1961



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