

FALL
2010

Cultural Heritage

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The largest number of notable persons from Oregon State University history are buried at the National Register-listed Crystal Lake Cemetery in Corvallis.

Stories in Stone: Cemeteries of the Willamette Valley

by George Edmonston Jr.

In this, the third installment of our four-part *Courier* series on the historical nooks and crannies of the Willamette Valley, we visit some of my favorite cemeteries to see what interesting discoveries await. Once we're done, you may find yourself grabbing the car keys and heading out to a nearby cemetery to make your own discoveries.

Before we get going there is something we should always keep in mind about this storied valley, omitted from this article, but certainly not for lack of importance: The epic history of the Oregon Trail pioneers—especially the survivors of each wagon train's arduous journey—is in part told by the amazing number of graves of individuals and families that can be found in every corner of every county in this region of Oregon. Just consider the wealth of information represented by the burials in these truly historic Willamette Valley cemeteries.

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Feeding the frontline

by Roger Roper, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

“Doers” at the local level are key to our success in the historic preservation and history business. Without the efforts of local historic preservationists and historical society and museum members, little would be accomplished. It only makes sense, then, to nourish those frontline providers. That’s exactly what we’re trying to do at the state government level through our programs, staff assistance, and grant funds.

Here are some of the ways we’re supporting our local partners:

- **Grant programs:** In the current biennium (2009-2011), we have awarded 152 grants to assist local partners with their projects. Some grants are as small as \$300, while others are \$15,000 or more. Most are matched by local contributions, thereby doubling the impact of the grant funds. Specific grant programs include Historic Cemeteries, Museums, Heritage (general), Preserving Oregon (building rehabilitation and archaeology), CLG (local historic preservation programs and projects), and Main Street (commercial building rehabilitation).
- **Certified Local Government (CLG) program:** Over the past few years, we have greatly expanded the number of CLG partner communities (from 23 to 34), increased grant funding, and provided extensive staff support and training, including many on-site visits. The CLG program allows local governments to become proficient deliverers of historic preservation services, and it’s a key component of the State Historic Preservation Office’s (SHPO) strategy to promote historic preservation statewide.
- **Main Street program:** Since its kick-off in 2008, Main Street has reached every corner of the state and forged partnerships with some 65 communities, a third of which are in the top two tiers of commitment and performance. Staff and consultants have made countless site visits to train and advise the local Main Street organizations as they move forward with their historic preservation and business revitalization efforts.
- **Training Scholarships:** In its 10-year history, SHPO’s Elisabeth Walton Potter Education and Advocacy award program has helped some 75 historic preservationists from throughout Oregon attend national and regional conferences and workshops, boosting local historic preservation expertise in innumerable ways.
- **Research Scholarships:** In order to stimulate research in Oregon history by university students, the Heritage Commission established its Heritage Fellowship program in 2008. Nine top students from Oregon universities have benefitted from the program (\$1,500 stipends) and have shared their research through presentations at the annual Heritage Conference.
- **Heritage Excellence Awards:** This awards program spotlights the exceptional accomplishments of individuals and organizations throughout the state. Since its inception in 2007, 35 awards have been given, bringing both recognition and publicity to the awardees.
- **Regional Partners:** It’s difficult to meet all the heritage needs throughout the state with our limited staff in Salem, so we have established a partnership arrangement with some of the most experienced heritage institutions to provide training and assistance to smaller organizations in their part of the state. This mentoring and consultation service is supported by grant funds from our office. We currently have two regional partners—Tamástslikt Cultural Institute and Southern Oregon Historical Society—with others in the works.

All of our staff here in the Heritage Programs division are dedicated to helping the frontline heritage providers around the state succeed. Local priorities are our priorities, and we’ll do whatever we can to help turn good ideas into great successes.

STORIES IN STONE: CEMETERIES OF THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY . . . continued from page 1

And here's another quick point to be made. Travelling along back roads and through communities all across Oregon, history and culture abounds in the quiet and often lonely places that are our oldest cemeteries. They exist as tangible and irreplaceable as the many structures and buildings that Oregonians have deemed worthy to protect. Here's the link to a [state list of historic cemeteries](#) compiled by the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries.

Cemeteries represent storehouses of data

To begin, for the local historian, cemeteries are like history books. For the sociologist and anthropologist, these special places reflect the culture of death and dying as it's practiced in a particular location. Cemeteries prove occupancy or some other connection to a community, that a person did indeed live or come from the area. In addition, through the markings on a person's gravestone, biographical information can often be found which isn't available anywhere else. Cemeteries can also be used to generate community pride, as for example, in the case where a famous person is buried. As we shall soon see, Oregon has numerous examples of this.

Movements of change in cemetery landscapes

Occurring primarily in U.S. regions on the eastern side of the Mississippi River, early movements that would change the notion of where cemeteries were located and how they were landscaped, illustrate chapters in the evolution of American cemeteries. In 1831, burial practices to honor the dead began to shift away from churchyards to more "rural" or "garden" cemeteries, established outside towns in park-like settings. It was a way to allow people a chance to visit the graves of their loved ones while also enjoying a stroll through nature. The success of rural cemeteries certainly stimulated the public parks movement and the profession of landscape architecture in this country.

Around 1855, the Public Parks Movement inspired "lawn" cemeteries, with graves marked off in block-like sections. Stone curbing and fences surrounding graves were characteristic of this movement. By 1920, the Memorial Park Movement influenced the look and experience of the cemetery, in which imbedded markers were emphasized, at the expense of the traditional up-right headstone.

While some of Oregon's places of interment reflect a number of these same ideas, there were also a several distinct differences, a topic which is no doubt addressed elsewhere in expert detail by historians and scholars of cemeteries in the western U.S.



Thousands and thousands of graves of pioneers—early settlers who made their way by wagon train to the Willamette Valley in the mid-1800s—and those of their families are found in cemeteries all throughout this region of Oregon.

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STORIES IN STONE: CEMETERIES OF THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY . . . continued from page 3

Interpreting symbols at gravesites

One aspect of the church cemetery that went rural was the idea that tombstones can be a form of art, taking advantage of the stone maker's use of the medium to express artistic abilities, while also allowing families to use certain symbols to reflect something of the values or world-view of the dearly departed.

For example, *angels* on a gravestone represent a symbol of resurrection. A *closed Bible*? The end of earthly life. An *open Bible*? The Book of Life. Sometimes an open Bible on a minister's grave will be turned to the minister's last sermon. Symbols of fraternal organizations, for example, Masonic (square and compass) and Independent Order of Odd Fellows (three links of a chain joined together), are very common. *GAR stars*, for Grand Army of the Republic, can still be found on the graves of Union veterans of the Civil War. However, these sightings are becoming rare, as unthinking cemetery visitors, if not down right thieves, often lift them and take them home as souvenirs. A *dove* means the soul, purity, peace. A *candle* represents life, while a *lamb* is a symbol of innocence, often seen on the graves of children. *Clasped hands* represent "together forever." A *grapevine* would symbolize Jesus and His protection, while *doors* represent the entrance to Heaven.

Markers can also reveal ethnic ties, as well as a person's profession. Epitaphs are also common, which are important because they often disclose social or cultural history, as for example the identification of plagues, diseases, wars or family tragedies. Expressions such as "gone home" or "only sleeping" speak to the various perceptions people have of their religious belief systems.

By the way, [Oregon Historic Cemetery program](#) coordinator Kuri Gill has put together an excellent pamphlet that is loaded with great photographs and provides an excellent guide to symbols found in our cemeteries. Look for [Heritage Bulletin # 7](#), one of a growing list of informative bulletins from Oregon Parks and Recreation's Heritage Programs division.

A few of the famous folks buried in the Willamette Valley

For those who enjoy visiting the graves of local men and women connected to important regional, national or international events, Oregon is the place to be.

Just south of St. Paul High School on Highway 219, the town's **Old Catholic Cemetery** contains the graves of Philippe Degis (Decre) and Francois Rivet, who helped transport members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition up the Missouri River to North Dakota, then helped build and provision Fort Mandan near present day Bismarck, which the Corps of Discovery used for its 1804-05 winter quarters. Also interred at St. Paul is Entienne Lucier, the Father of Oregon Agriculture.

Friends Cemetery in Newberg, 500 South Everest Road, contains the graves of Miles Lowell Edwards, the co-inventor of the heart valve who was also the first person in the world to develop gasoline pumps that allow airplanes to fly at high altitude. Remember this the next time you fly. And, the Minthorns, foster parents to U.S. President Herbert Hoover.



The characteristic depiction of a sawn log is prevalent on cemetery markers placed by the Woodmen of the World organization.

History-rich Dayton plans downtown revitalization

by Sheri Stuart, Oregon Main Street Coordinator

With a population of only 2,500 residents, Dayton may be small in numbers but it has tremendous community spirit and pride. With a true love of their downtown, community members banded together to form the Dayton Community Development Association (DCDA) in 2008 to bring a coordinated effort to revitalize the historic central core. The organization's vision for Dayton is to establish it as "the small town 'gem' of Yamhill County Oregon...a beautiful, historic, safe, vibrant and diverse community that is both a wonderful place to live and a fun place to visit."

"It's my hope that the Main Street program will help us do a proper and thoughtful job of developing our downtown as a unique and premier destination, while retaining the historic integrity of our community and creating a 'living room' for our citizens to enjoy together," said Kelly Haverkate, Dayton's Main Street coordinator.

To provide focus and structure to their revitalization efforts, the community applied for and was accepted at the "Transforming Downtown" level of the [Oregon Main Street](#) (OMS) network in June 2009. Starting with a board retreat facilitated by OMS to establish goals and objectives, DCDA has moved steadily forward with development of a comprehensive work plan based on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's [Main Street Approach](#)® to downtown revitalization.

The plan identified four committees—Organization, Design, Economic Development, and Promotion—and following a community meeting and Main Street training session, which was attended by over 30 community members, volunteers signed up to serve on each of the committees and begin generating ideas for specific projects and activities.

Central to DCDA's efforts is a desire to strengthen the community's appreciation of historic preservation and to encourage building improvements compatible with the historic architecture, especially given that Dayton was the first Oregon city to receive designation for the area's multiple significant resources.

Design Committee

Currently, the Design Committee is working with the City and the Historic Landmarks Committee in seeking approval for the Dayton to become a Certified Local Government. The committee as also consulted with the City on improvements to the historic Fort Yamhill Block House located in the town park and are also working with the City to add landscape plantings in and around the park's historic Bandstand. The park, a central feature in the downtown and listed in the National Register of Historic Places, has had some face-lifts in the last year in the form of a new play structures, restroom facilities, pathways, lighting, and flower baskets.



A photograph of early downtown Dayton shows buildings that still exist today, part of the town's central core and key to its revitalization efforts.

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HISTORY-RICH DAYTON PLANS DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION . . . continued from page 5

Oregon Main Street selected Dayton to test out a pilot project to provide design services to OMS network communities because of their ability to quickly organize and get support to test the project and because of the potential impact improvements to buildings would have in this small downtown. The goal of the project was to provide inspiration for future improvements based on the architecture of the buildings when business and property owners were ready to invest in improvements. The project included a site visit from two of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) staff members, Julie Osborne and Cara Kaser. They met with seven business and property owners to view their buildings and to discuss any current or future plans for improvements. While on site, these historic architecture design professionals also had a chance to see the condition of the buildings.



A site visit by SHPO historic architecture specialists resulted in “before and after” concept drawings that were presented to commercial building owners for their consideration in order to both preserve these structures and create a historical ambiance that would attract visitors to Dayton.

“This was absolutely one of the most enjoyable projects I’ve been involved with in the past few years,” stated Osborne. “The opportunity to explore historic buildings and talk with property owners about their needs and desires set the stage and inspired us. We were able to use our experience and understanding of historic buildings to present ideas based upon Dayton’s unique character.”

Based on the site visit and review of historic photos, Osborne and Kaser prepared façade renderings to show both simple and more extensive improvements that could be made to buildings. This culminated in a public presentation attended by over 30 business and property owners, city officials, and other interested members of the community who were shown before and after renderings of nine buildings in a PowerPoint presentation as well as appropriate in-fill considerations for two vacant properties. Two owners of historic buildings were motivated to seek bids and put together ways to implement some of the recommendations.

Other committee work

To build local cohesiveness, the Promotion Committee hosted a “Dayton Family Portrait,” activity in cooperation with the “Dayton Together” celebration held as part of the National Night Out event in August. Over 250 people showed up for the photo opportunity that resulted in a poster featuring historic photos. They are also working on joining with a high school committee to create a winter event around their current tree lighting ceremony. This event will include helping building owners decorate downtown, wagon rides, music, and a future light parade.

The Economic Development Committee is currently working with a focus group of business and community leaders on a branding and development strategy for downtown Dayton. “This is a very exciting project that will shape our downtown’s future as a destination for visitors to Oregon’s wine country,” said Haverkate.

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Of fireflies and wigwam burners

by Curt Deatherage

Long ago, well over fifty years, I must have been told or read a story about fireflies. Never in my nearly sixty years of living have I ever seen one of those magical glowing insects, except in my imagination.

In 1987 I made a decision to open a business of my own, and after searching for a suitable location, I rented a shop building on an old lumber mill site in Creswell, Oregon. On the property stood a fifty foot tall rusty “wigwam burner,” one of the only remnants of the former sawmill and planing mill that once dominated the landscape.

A wigwam burner, one of the colloquialisms for incinerators that were once used to dispose of the waste materials generated in wood products operations, is a term common to Oregon. The “teepee” burner name is more commonly used in Washington, Idaho and Montana, while ‘beehive’ burner is common in Canadian vernacular. These crude devices, named for their resemblance to certain dwellings of native peoples, were typically a cone shaped structure, from 15 feet to over 100 feet tall, topped with a screen to contain embers from the fire within the burner. Because of their constant exposure to extreme heat and adverse weather, they quickly developed their tell-tale rust color.

Amid increasing public awareness of health issues due to air pollution, passage and implementation of state and federal legislation in the 1960s and 1970s rendered these devices useless. For the same reason the burner was originally developed – to prevent the mill from being consumed by its own waste - the industry was forced to develop uses for the former waste products; particleboard, waferboard and landscape bark being the most prominent examples.



PHOTO BY CURT DEATHERAGE

The Oregon Wigwam Burner Association is a newly formed group that seeks to protect the remaining wigwam burners and other historic structures associated with the state’s timber industry.

In many of my photographic journeys to former timber towns, most of them small communities that haven’t, or

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OREGON WIGWAM BURNER ASSOCIATION

We recognize the significance of the lumber industry to the history, economy and culture of the State of Oregon;

We recognize the importance of the lives and stories of the men and women who worked in the lumber industry and the families they supported, including, but not limited to logging crews, log truckers and sawmill workers;

We recognize that as the economy of the State of Oregon continues to transform itself from logging and farming to wineries, tourism and technology, important vestiges of the lumber industry are being lost and forgotten;

We recognize that only about 50 wigwam burners are presently standing in Oregon, down from an estimated one thousand that existed in the 1950s and 1960s, and those remaining are disappearing rapidly;

We recognize the importance of understanding and preserving the sites and structures of this vanishing way of life, particularly preserving wigwam burners, so endemic to the landscape of the Pacific Northwest;

We therefore, organize the Oregon Wigwam Burners Association, OWBA, whose mission is to protect and preserve the architecture, industrial sites and historic structures associated with the lumber industry, particularly wigwam burners.

STORIES IN STONE: CEMETERIES OF THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY . . . continued from page 4

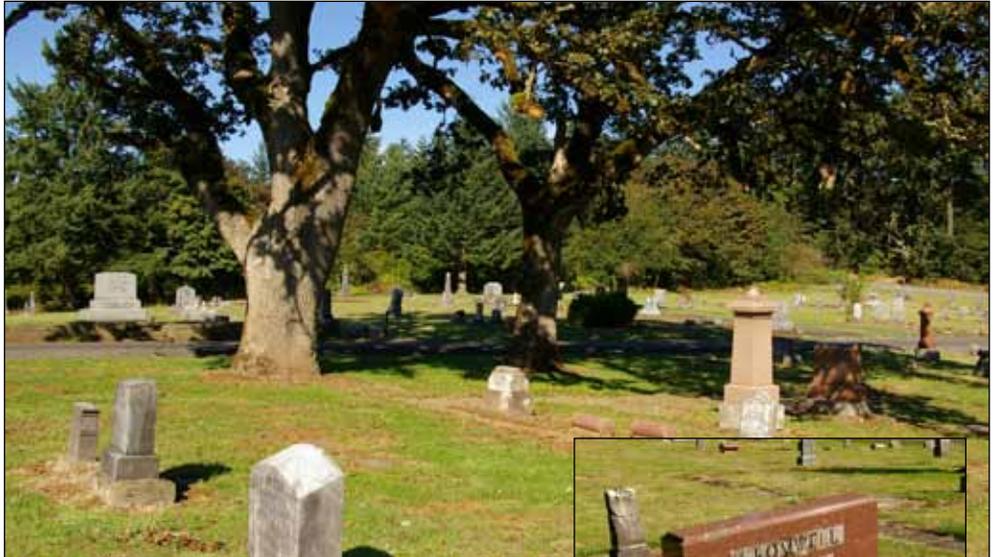
The **St. James Catholic Cemetery** on Highway 99W between McMinnville and Lafayette contains the final resting place of Billy Sullivan, catcher for the 1906 world champion Chicago White Sox, the legendary “Hitless Wonders” of Major League Baseball fame.

Twin Oaks Cemetery in Turner—follow the signs to Turner from I-5, turn right on 3rd St., then left on Denver and another left at Witzel Road to the cemetery. Twin Oaks includes the grave of Dean Cromwell, (*inset photo right*) nicknamed “Maker of Champions,” who coached the

University of Southern California track team for almost 40 years, and who won 12 NCAA National Championships, including nine in a row from 1935-1943. He was also the head coach of the U.S. Olympic Team in 1948. During his career he mentored numerous gold medal and world record holders, including Fred Kelly, Charlie Paddock, Ken Carpenter and Bill Sefton, to name a few. Also interred here: Timothy Hardin, composer of the song, “If I Were a Carpenter.” Hardin performed at Woodstock.

Two of Salem’s historic cemeteries. The first, **Lee Mission Cemetery**, D and 21st Street NE, has the graves of early pioneer and Methodist missionary Jason Lee and members of his family. The **Pioneer Cemetery** on SE Commercial and Hoyt contains the graves of Hancock Lee Jackson, governor of Missouri in 1857; Asahel Bush II, founder of the Salem *Statesman-Journal*; Stephen Chadwick, Oregon governor; John Gaines, another Oregon governor; suffragette Mary Kinney; “Grandma” Tabatha Brown, the founder of Pacific University in Forest Grove, and famous bridge builder Conde B. McCullough, who built over 700 bridges in Oregon during his career, including all the significant bridges on the Oregon Coast. He was also an early pioneer in the formation of what would eventually become the Oregon Department of Transportation. This cemetery also has the largest numbers of men who signed the declaration of 1843 in Champoeq which petitioned Congress in Washington, D.C., for Oregon to become a territory of the United States.

Corvallis’ **Crystal Lake Cemetery**, 360 SW Avery Avenue, was added to the National Register in 2004 and has the largest concentration of notables from the history of Oregon State University of any cemetery in the country. Included here are many of the professors with campus buildings named after them (for example, Bexell, Covell, Weniger), as well as early president Benjamin Lee Arnold, a Confederate Civil War veteran who came west in 1872 and served in the school’s highest office until 1892. William Jasper Kerr, thought to be OSU’s greatest president (1907-1932) and Oregon’s first chancellor



Twin Oaks Cemetery in Turner.



Dean Cromwell grave.

Historic Astoria chosen as site for 2011 Heritage Conference

Astoria—a community that has creatively used heritage to strengthen its economy during the past decade—will host the 2011 Oregon Heritage Conference, April 7-9. Astoria is also taking note of its 200th anniversary in 2011.

The conference theme of “A Blockbuster Community: Heritage, Authenticity and Vision” recognizes Astoria’s moviemaking history. It also highlights the work of towns and cities across the state that employ heritage, authenticity and vision to make their communities appealing to residents and visitors alike.

Heritage leaders from communities in Oregon and southwest Washington will learn about resources and techniques for improving their operations and organizations, as well as helping their towns and cities flourish.

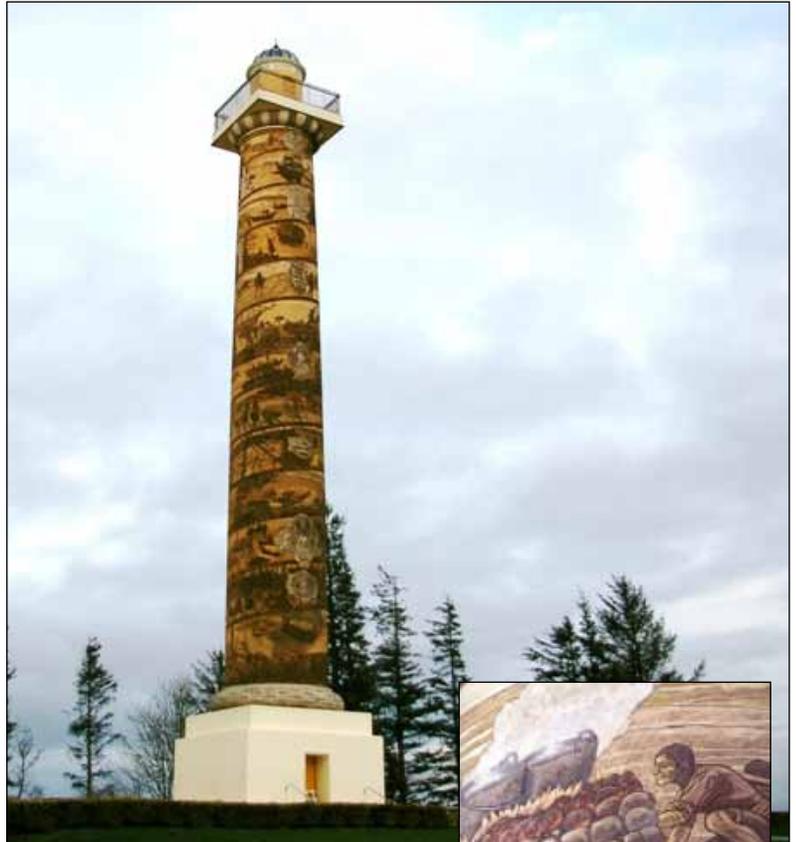
Astoria’s history with moviemaking dates back to the early 20th century. “The Fisherman’s Bride” was filmed in Astoria in 1908 and is the first full-length movie filmed in Oregon. In more recent years, at least eight other films have been made in Astoria, including some blockbusters like “Kindergarten Cop,” “Free Willy” and “Goonies.”

Attracting the largest annual gathering of statewide heritage leaders, Oregon Heritage Conferences inform

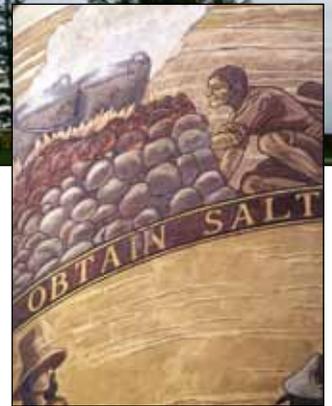
and inspire Oregonians involved in cultural heritage efforts. Attendees include community leaders, staff and volunteers from historical societies, museums, historic cemeteries, ethnic organizations, schools, historic preservation commissions, humanities groups, Main Street programs, the tourism industry, economic development, history buffs and professional historians, archaeologists, youth, and local, tribal, state and federal governments.

The 2011 conference will include keynote speakers, panels, workshops, and behind-the-scenes visits to some of the area’s heritage sites and historic buildings. Oregon Heritage Excellence Award presentations, Oregon Heritage Fellowship research talks, and, of course, the conference’s always popular Oregon movie night are also scheduled.

Learn more about the [Oregon Heritage Conference](#), or contact [Kyle Jansson](#).



Astoria boasts many historic buildings and heritage sites, including the National Register-listed Astoria Column with its spiraling mural that depicts events in Oregon history.



OF FIREFLIES AND WIGWAM BURNERS . . . continued from page 7

couldn't attract alternative employment, it felt that they were clinging to their heritage by a thread, and the rusty burner in the corner of the old mill yard was providing the fabric for that thread. Once a beacon for the timber towns, many of the remaining burners stand like a silent sentinel over a barren landscape, often the only indication that a mill was ever located there.

I took quite an interest in Creswell's last remaining burner, photographing it hundreds of times over the years. It was a landmark when I gave directions to my business. It also became a bit of an odd attraction, as I can recall numerous people pulling down the driveway, taking a picture or two of it, and walking over and asking me what it was. They knew it was unique, yet they had no idea what its former use was.

The old burner, built in about 1950, stood silently for a number of years until a very unusual weather event occurred on December 2, 1999. I remember looking out my shop door, pondering the source of the deafening roar, when I saw swirling pieces of debris – roofing and boards - blowing through the darkening skies. Seconds later I watched the wind lift the burner a foot or two from the ground and slam it back to earth.

I had just witnessed a tornado, virtually unheard of in the Willamette Valley. In only minutes the wind had calmed and things were back to normal. Left in its aftermath were shattered windows, destroyed fences, damaged roofs and one bent and a twisted wigwam burner.



PHOTO BY CURT DEATHERAGE

Mill yard burners were once a beacon for timber towns throughout the Northwest.

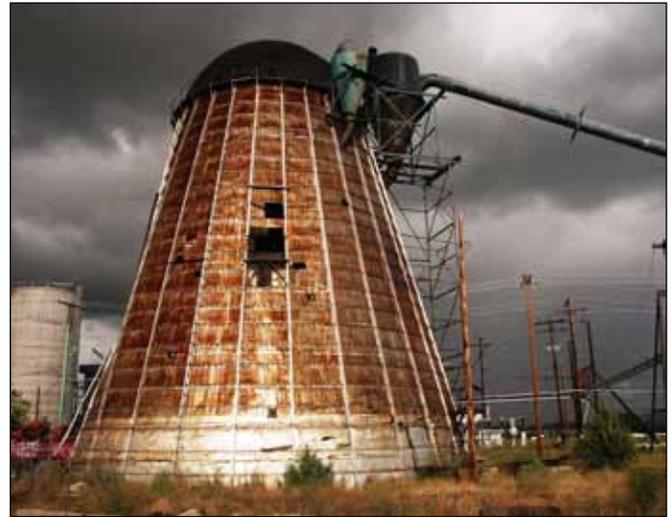


PHOTO BY CURT DEATHERAGE

Will lumber mill burners like this one in Prineville survive as tangible examples of Oregon's timber industry history?

The news of the tornado certainly spread quickly, as it wasn't long before there was a steady stream of cars in my driveway, many of the older people seemed to be paying their last respects to one of the last monuments to the former glory days of the lumber industry. Television news crews filmed the aftermath, and like tourists from earlier days, walked over, with cameras rolling, asking what that 'thing' was.

The property owners decided that the burner needed to be removed due to potential liability concerns. While photographing and videotaping its demolition, I remarked to a couple of my friends who were there that early January morning - "Somebody should find and photograph the remaining old burners. There can't be many of them left standing." Although they agreed, neither of them volunteered to undertake the task.

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OF FIREFLIES AND WIGWAM BURNERS . . . continued from page 10

I also thought about fireflies, and somewhere in the recesses of my memory, I remembered as a child seeing one of these burners glowing in the night sky, imagining the glowing embers swirling and dancing under the screen must be what a firefly looks like.

For the past ten years I have been locating and photographing these ghosts of the past, from southern California near Bakersfield to Washington, Idaho and Montana. I have befriended a number of individuals with similar interests who



PHOTO BY CURT DEATHERAGE

A wigwam burner in Lostine still stands "like a silent sentinel over a barren landscape."

have assisted in the quest. This past spring I met Jay Critchley, an artist from Provincetown, Massachusetts who has burner memories of his own, and we have collaborated to form an organization to preserve these vestiges of the earlier days of the lumber industry - the Oregon Wigwam Burner Association (OWBA). We welcome your support of participation in this newly formed preservation group. Anyone with questions or comments about wigwam burners or the OWBA can send an email message to owba1@yahoo.com.

HISTORY-RICH DAYTON PLANS DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION . . . continued from page 6

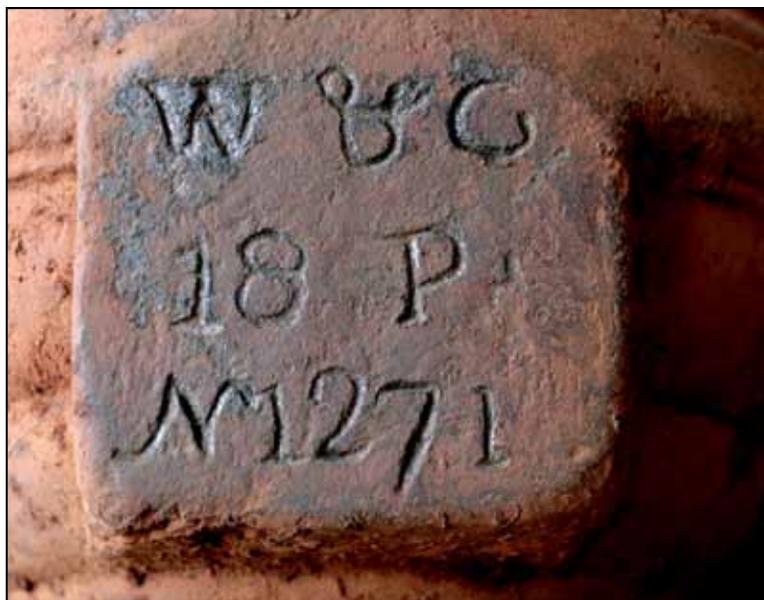
The committee also conducted a survey of citizens during the "Community Portrait/Night Out" event to find out how many people stay in town to frequent downtown businesses and what types of businesses they would like to see. This will continue during the next event, the "Harvest Festival." In addition, the city has purchased the historic Masonic Lodge for use as a community center. It is anticipated the Economic Development Committee and the Design Committee will work with the city on its rehabilitation and re-use.

The Organization Committee continues to work on the fundamental structure of the program and the DCDA. "They're working on recruiting and acknowledgement of our volunteers, the financial structure, and future funding," commented Haverkate, "as we all work towards achieving the final level of the Main Street program, that of a 'Performing Main Street' community."

Origin mystery continues for Arch Cape cannon

by Dennis Griffin, State Archaeologist

Conservation efforts on the two historic cannon, discovered off Oregon's coastline in February 2008, are continuing and recent lab results are providing some interesting information. In February a graduate student at the Nautical Archaeology Program at Texas A&M was working to remove a piece of the concretion from one of the cannon and found that it revealed evidence of an insignia, the British Broad Arrow (*photo right*). A weight molding had also been exposed at this time that reads 10 0 4 which equates to 1124 pounds. This discovery caused us all to rethink the origin of the cannon in that the USS Shark, the most likely suspect for the wreck associated with the cannon, was an American Naval vessel. What was a Royal Navy carronade doing on an American military vessel? An additional line of enquiry these inscriptions raised was that the last records (1842, 1846) we have for the USS Shark is that she carried 24 pound cannon and not the 18 pound cannon that she was originally commissioned with in 1821. The weight inscription matches that of an 18 rather than 24 pound carronade. Does this discovery mean that the cannon are not from the USS Shark at all but another vessel that wrecked off Oregon's coastline?



Subsequent concretion removal on one of the Arch Cape cannon revealed further markings on the cannon's base which read "W&G 18 P N1271".

Complete answers to these two questions still remain but we are moving closer to shedding light on portions of these mysteries. With regards to the history of British cannon on American ships, historical records research has discovered that it was not uncommon for American military vessels to be armed with British cannon. Spencer Tucker, in his book *Arming the Fleet* comments that the US military had a tremendous number of English guns in their inventory in the 1830s and perhaps into the 1840s. He further states that many of the guns purchased for American ships had a "P WG" designation, or a variation of this mark that probably represented a release mark.

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ORIGIN MYSTERY CONTINUES FOR ARCH CAPE CANNON . . . continued from page 12

Ruth Rhynas Brown, an expert on early British ordinance, has provided the following information regarding the cannon's inscriptions:

***Broad Arrow** indicates the gun met government guidelines and passed into British Service*

***10-0-4** indicates the weight of the gun: 10 hundred weight (10 x 112 pounds) 0 quarters (0x28 pounds) 4 pounds)*

***W&G** is one of the marks by the firm Wiggin and Graham that began supplying carronades in 1798 with the first use of this mark being found in 1804.*

***18 P** refers to the caliber of the carronade (the weight of the shot that it fired).*

***No. 1271** represents the serial number of the carronade. W&G 18 pounder carronades assigned serial numbers in the range 1000-1400 were being proofed in the autumn of 1805, between September 18 to November 1, 1805. It is likely that is the period that this cannon was constructed.*

The reason for the discrepancy in listed armament in the records of the USS Shark with what was discovered here remains unknown and further research is needed to truly ascertain if these cannon are from the USS Shark.

The first cannon to undergo conservation at Texas A&M has had all concretions removed and has been separated from its wooden base (*photo right*). The carronade has been placed into electrolysis with work continuing on the wooden base to separate it from all its component pieces so that the iron can go into electrolysis and the wood into its own treatment regime—a polyethylene glycol (PEG) solution. Once these components have been separated attention will be focused on the second cannon so that it too can have the concretions removed and receive long-term treatment for its eventual return to Oregon. Once work on the second cannon begins we are interested in seeing if it also is of British manufacture. The earliest cannon recovered from the Arch Cape beach, in January 1898, is an American cannon that is believed to have been from the USS Shark. Efforts will be made to compare these three cannon to see if they can tell us more about their true ship of origin.



STORIES IN STONE: CEMETERIES OF THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY . . . continued from page 8

of higher education beginning in 1932, is also here. Add to the list Wallace Nash and his wife Dorthea and several of their children. The two are credited with recruiting OSU's first national faculty. Prior to moving to Oregon from his native country of England, Nash did legal work for Charles Darwin and Henry Bessimer. Three members of OSU's first football team (1893) are interred here; a number of early supporters of Corvallis College, the school that gave birth to OSU, are here; and the builder of the university's Memorial Union building, Ed Allworth, is also here. Allworth is one of only 14 Oregonians to have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the U.S. military's highest honor for battlefield heroism.

Also in Corvallis at **Oak Lawn Memorial Park**, 2245 SW Whiteside Drive, is drummer Barrie James "B.J." Wilson, who performed with the band Procol Harum from 1967-1977, later joining Joe Cocker's touring band from 1979-1984.

In Silverton, at the **Silverton Cemetery**, located at the edge of town on Silverton Road NE at McClaine Street, you'll find the grave of Homer Davenport, son of Oregon pioneers and world-famous political cartoonist for the *San Francisco Examiner* from 1892-85, and the *New York Journal* starting in 1895. He was also the first horse breeder to bring Arabian horses to the United States. Concerning his death, Wikipedia states the following: "His last assignment was to illustrate the sinking of the RMS Titanic in 1912. He caught pneumonia while waiting on the docks of New York City for the arrival of the survivors, and died shortly after." William Randolph Hearst had his body shipped back to Silverton for burial.

Eugene's Masonic Cemetery, also listed on the National Register of Historic Places and found at 2575 University Street, has such notables as Eugene city founder Eugene Skinner, and John Whiteaker, Oregon's first governor under statehood. The city's **Pioneer Cemetery** is the final resting place for many of the valley's Civil War veterans.

And even though this series of feature stories is centered in the Willamette Valley, I would be remiss if I didn't mention to our Portland readers that two cemeteries in the city are well worth exploring.

Portland's **Lone Fir Cemetery**, located along SE Morrison Street on the east side, contains the graves of many of the great names in the history of the state, including Thomas Dryer, founding editor of *The Oregonian*, and George Law Curray, last territorial governor of the state. This may also be the most democratic cemetery in America, with thousands of examples of rich and poor alike buried next to one another. This is Portland's longest surviving public cemetery.

On the west side, Portland's **Riverview Cemetery** on Taylor's Ferry Road has in residence Abigail Scott Duniway, one of the most historic names in American history in the fight for a woman's right to vote; Salmon Brown, son of abolitionist John Brown, the man whose actions at Harper's Ferry in Virginia in 1859 helped spark the Civil War. Other notables include Virgil Wayne Earp, brother of Wyatt Earp, both of "Gunfight at the OK Corral" fame; Lyle Alzado of the National Football League, whose death at age forty-three from cancer triggered the first national outcry (Alzado's) about the dangers of steroid usage; and baseball player Carl Mays, who hit batter Ray Chapman in the head with a baseball in 1921, which killed him, and which is still the only example of such tragedy recorded in Major League Baseball history. Henry Weinhard, one of America's best-known brew masters, is also here.

George Edmonston Jr. is the retired editor of the *Oregon Stater*, the alumni magazine of Oregon State University. He currently serves as history and traditions editor for the magazine, and has published hundreds of articles sharing Oregon's fascinating history in area newspapers, magazines and on websites.

Further reading:

Friedman, Ralph. *This Side of Oregon*. Caxton Press, 1985.

Friedman, Ralph. *In Search of Western Oregon*. Caxton Press, 1990.

Oregon Museum grant provides funds for art inventory

by Kyle Jansson, Oregon Heritage Commission coordinator

A museum grant of \$6,965 from the Oregon Heritage Commission has made possible a much needed inventory of nearly 1,000 artworks in the collection of the Southern Oregon Historical Society (SOHS). It is the first such inventory of this art by SOHS.

“By conducting this inventory, we were able to perform preventative conservation of hundreds of artifacts, and gain physical and intellectual control over the art collection,” said SOHS executive director Allison Weiss.

Collections contractor Michael Golino and 15 volunteers worked five months in the society’s collections facility to find, photograph, dust, affix an archival barcode tag, and return each piece to the location indicated in the inventory catalog. The backing of individual pieces was replaced in some instances, and works in need of immediate attention were noted on a condition report. All non-archival board separating artwork was replaced with archival boards.

Most notable about the collection are the works by Peter Britt and Dorland Robinson, however, there are a significant number of charcoal and photographic portraits that tell a compelling

story about the history

of Southern Oregon. There is also a great variety of high quality work that makes this a notable collection of regional artists.

Established in 1965, the Oregon Museums Grant program, managed by the Oregon Heritage Commission, is the oldest state cultural grant program in the state. The program has provided financial assistance to dozens of Oregon museums, large and small, rural and urban. For more information, visit www.oregonheritage.org and click Financial Assistance.



Volunteers from the Southern Oregon Historical Society at work examining and photographing pieces from an art collection that had never been inventoried.



An Oregon Museum grant made possible the inventory of nearly 1,000 pieces of artwork belonging to the Southern Oregon Historical Society.

Cold and wet: weatherizing for Winter

by Joy Sears, SHPO Restoration Specialist

We had a short summer here in Oregon so our weather was not ideal for doing large maintenance projects outside in the last few months. Now, the raindrops of Fall have already begun, marking an early return of stormy weather and hopefully you got your big outside projects done. If not, you still have time to prepare for the upcoming colder and wetter months.

Always think of your house as a holistic system when planning and carrying out your maintenance or preservation work. First thing, have you insulated your attic? Houses are like our bodies. If your body is cold, you'd probably put a hat on your head. Adding insulation to your attic space and sealing attic bulkheads or access points accomplishes the same thing. Insulation should be at least at or over your floor joists in depth. By adding 3 ½ inches of additional insulation into your attic will save more money in a year than replacing your windows. Now, while it is tempting to fill that whole space with insulation, remember it still needs to be ventilated and breathe so don't cover up vents or cram insulation right to the end of the eaves. Either pull back the insulation or install baffles to continue the air circulation.

Secondly, you need to think of your basement, crawlspace or foundation walls. In a basement or accessible crawlspace, turn off the lights and see where light is shining through. Particularly pay attention to plumbing, venting, windows and other areas where air can penetrate through walls. Seal up cracks or holes with exterior grade caulk or spray foam in a can. Make sure to use the right type of spray foam and if it is visible on the exterior, paint it or it will turn orange from the sun.

With the basement walls and foundation taken care of, then you have to think about the floor, especially if its dirt. Crawlspaces are normally not conditioned space and needs a vapor barrier added. This vapor barrier should be heavy mil plastic sheeting lapped up on the walls and weighted in place with sand, rocks or gravel to keep it in place. Also, if any duct work or hot water pipes are in this area, they should be insulated or wrapped to keep warmth where it is needed.

Once you have the top and bottom of your house handled, you then need to address the exterior of your house in your effort to make the entire house weatherized. Any place where two materials meet needs to be checked. Repair and caulk these areas as necessary, paying attention to where windows and doors meet siding or other openings. You don't have to caulk every joint on your house. A couple I know caulked *all* the seams between the siding of their house which in turn resulted in removal of the caulking since the siding could no longer breathe properly.

Next step: pay attention to your doors and windows and determine if they need any weather stripping or upgrading of some kind to seal better and keep the cold out. Historically, storm windows and doors were installed for the winter months and screens were substituted in the warmer months. Most of us don't want to do this exchange every six months or so, but the reality is that storm windows and doors will help with overall comfort and increase the energy efficiency of your entire house. Single pane, older windows are getting an undeserved bad rap these days. Yet in many cases, adding weather stripping and attaching a relatively inexpensive storm window will virtually equal the a new double pane replacement window for a lot less money and quicker payback on energy savings.

The last thing to be addressed on the exterior is a chimney. Does your chimney still function or used to ventilate? If you have an older wood burning fireplace in your home, does it have an adequate damper? If you don't use the fireplace regularly,

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COLD AND WET: WEATHERIZING FOR WINTER . . . continued from page 16

you can stuff insulation in the throat of the chimney or buy an inflatable balloon that will prevent warm air escaping from the house interior. Remember to remove this blockage if you decide later to use the fireplace!

All of the maintenance and repair items mentioned in this article would be things listed as part of a professional energy audit, which may be to your advantage if the professional is familiar with older and historic buildings and can offer some common sense remedies like the ones presented here.

On the other hand, it is not unusual to hear that an owner of a historic house who gets an energy audit is told to throw away the old windows and doors. It is simply not necessary in most cases. Furthermore, dumping perfectly good windows and doors into a landfill without attempting to solve energy loss problems with less drastic methods is not very green or sustainable given that many people want to reduce their carbon footprint as responsible citizens.

Contact [Joy Sears](#) if you have weatherization questions about your historic house or commercial building.

Summer dig at Fort Hoskins reveals new information

Historical archaeologist Dr. Dave Brauner, a professor in Oregon State University's [Anthropology Department](#), conducted an archaeology field school this July at the Fort Hoskins site in Benton County. Brauner has also done numerous field school digs at the [Fort Yamhill State Parks Heritage Area](#) near Grand Ronde.

Two main goals for this dig at the fort site, which was a U.S. Army post established in 1856 and decommissioned in 1865, were 1) to excavate a parallel trench alongside another such excavation done by Brauner in 1979 in order to determine the degree of deterioration of metal objects of the type that had previously been discovered, and 2) to find the approximate locations of two fort structures—the root cellar and powder magazine.

The following photographs were taken by *Courier* editor David Bogan, during a visit to the site. Picture captions are based on his conversations there with Molly Manion, a former SHPO archaeologist and director for this field school excavation.



In this artist's sketch of Fort Hoskins, the officers' quarters (foreground) and enlisted men's barracks (background) are seen located on the edge of the fort's parade ground. The OSU archaeological field school work this summer was concentrated in an area generally situated on the left side of this drawing.



Cultural Protection Specialist Erik Thorsgard (left) from the [Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde](#) chats with Professor Dave Brauner (center), State Archaeologist Dennis Griffin and OSU Field School Director Molly Manion at the Fort Hoskins dig site. Grand Ronde tribal members include living descendants of the Luckiamute band of Kalapuya peoples who were earlier inhabitants of the lands including and surrounding what became the site of Fort Hoskins.

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SUMMER DIG AT FORT HOSKINS REVEALS NEW INFORMATION . . . continued from page 17



Several test pits were dug this summer to help locate Fort Hoskin's root cellar and powder magazine. Weeks after the dig was completed, the OSU archaeology team received news that a painting belonging to the family of the fort's first commander, Captain Christopher C. Auger, shows proof of a wagon road's existence during the era of the fort that led to the root cellar, a warehouse and other buildings. The road cut (not visible in this photo, but indicated by arrow) had been discovered during earlier archaeological work at the site, yet it was unknown until now whether the road was indeed part of the fort's layout as opposed to it being constructed after a farm was established here by the Franz family in the late 1800s.



A stepped, parallel trench (in background) revealed that metal objects—brass, iron, and especially copper—unearthed this summer show a marked degradation compared to the condition of the same metals 31 years ago by Dave Brauner. He feels that more excavation is needed at the Fort Hoskins site so that metal artifacts—buttons, buckles, coins, gun parts, various kinds of containers and other items—be recovered before they turn to mere dust.



OSU historical archaeology graduate student and SHPO intern Jamie French holds one of many ceramic "effigy" pipes found at the Fort Hoskins site. These pipes were quite common during the 1800s. Similar ones to these as well as several with the faces of U.S. presidents have been discovered at Fort Yamhill.



This fully intact ink bottle, which also had its cork stopper still in place, was found by OSU field school students while digging what was presumably a refuse pile near the fort's enlisted men's barracks. Refuse area excavations can very often uncover objects that better inform archaeologists as to the daily life of a site's inhabitants.

Another style of ceramic pipe was discovered this past summer during the Fort Hoskins dig that has archaeologists scratching their heads. The bowl portion of this pipe is of a woman's skirt and her adjacent torso; however, where the head of the figure would have been is in fact the place where the pipe's stem was inserted. In their work throughout the Pacific Northwest over many years, neither Griffin nor Brauner has ever come across this unusual pipe design.

