

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

February 23-24, 2023

Agenda Item:	7a	Information
Topic:	Heritage Division Update	
Presented by:	Christine Curran, Deputy Director, Heritage Programs	

2022 Annual Wrap-Up!

The Heritage Division uses the Oregon Historic Preservation Plan and Oregon Heritage Plan to help guide our work and provide a path forward. The following are results of that work for 2022. As always, this list is not exhaustive of all of the work, but it provides some highlights.

Project Review

- 296 archaeology permits and 1,234 compliance review letters were issued to help determine if a project will have impacts on properties of historic significance and assess protection strategies.
- 9 Memorandum of Agreements and 3 Programmatic Agreements were signed allowing partners to complete preservation, education, and documentation projects that address or minimize negative impacts to historic resources while also streamlining processes.

Document

- 5,879 historic sites were documented. Of those, 5,646 were archaeology sites, which are not visible to the general public in the database in order to protect their locations. 233 were built sites that have been added to the [Historic Sites Database](#) and that the public is able to view.

Designation

- Oregon had 16 listings in the National Register of Historic Place including:
 - Historic Residential Resources of Redmond, Oregon Multiple Property Document (MPD)
 - Rex Theater & Dallas Cinema: two historic theaters that were recipients of an Oregon Heritage Historic Theater grant, a special pass-through grant the Heritage Division received through a National Park Service grant.
 - Salem Civic Center Historic District: the district represents the ideals of Salem's community planning and development in the late 1960s/early 1970s and is an important local example of Brutalism architecture.
 - State Library of Oregon was listed within the [New Deal MPD](#).
 - Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Golden West Hotel and Dean's Beauty Salon and Barber Shop are all African American Historic Resources that were listed using the African American Resources in Portland MPD.
 - Sarah Helmick State Park, Oregon's first State Park.

- [Oregon Main Street](#) added 8 new connected communities making the network total 100 communities, and Klamath Falls became a nationally accredited Main Street community.
- Oregon Main Street piloted a new Rural Regional Main Street structure with the tri-county Oregon Frontier Chamber of Commerce to provide an avenue for very small towns in rural Oregon to connect with OMS.

Engagement

- Oregon’s heritage preservation promoters now have three additional reports to help them illustrate the value of their work: [Oregon Main Street Impact Report](#), [What's Up Downtown? A Playbook for Activating Oregon's Upper Stories](#) report and tools, [Economic Impacts and Value of Oregon’s Heritage Organizations and Events & Communication Tool](#).
- Oregon Main Street hosted the first in-person conference since 2019 which included the first “Open Door Pitch” contest to assist a community in moving forward a project on their workplan that helps their organization or downtown be more inclusive and welcoming.
- Even though the 2022 Oregon Heritage Conference shifted to virtual, attendees were still able to enjoy two awesome plenary speakers and had a blast with the variety of virtual networking opportunities.
- The Oregon Heritage Commission, the State Advisory Committee on Historic Presentation, and the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries all shifted to hybrid meetings. To see upcoming commission and committee meetings visit www.oregonheritage.org and scroll down to the calendar widget.
- [Northwest Digital Heritage](#) launched a new interface to increase search results related to northwest history and collections by topics such as the Vanport Flood, Women’s Suffrage, Japanese American Oral Histories, and more.
- The Oregon Heritage Exchange Blog had the highest number of views in 2022!

Preserve

- Two federal tax projects were completed.
- As part of the [Northwest Digital Heritage](#) initiative, digitization kits were piloted. Three scanner kits and three camera kits will be available in 2023 to be reserved by heritage organization to digitize their collections.
- Second approved permit was issued for work in the Camp Polk historic cemetery.
- Heritage Division was able to award a total of \$5,433,322 through the following grant programs:
 - Oregon Main Street grant program awarded \$5,000,000 to 28 projects in Main Street communities for building projects that encourage economic revitalization.
 - Historic Cemeteries grant program awarded \$63,700 to 19 historic cemetery projects.
 - Oregon Museum grant program awarded \$75,722 to 12 museums throughout the state.
 - 20 grants totaling \$293,900 were awarded for historic properties and archaeology projects. Six of the grants were awarded in the Diamonds in the Rough category. This grant funds facade enhancements that restore the historic character of the property. The other 14 grants were in the Preserving Oregon category for properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places and for archaeology projects.
- The Oregon State Historic Preservation Office embarked on gathering public input for the next [Oregon Historic Preservation Plan](#). Keep your eyes out for the draft in 2023 and be sure to comment on it.
- The Oregon Heritage Commission began outreach for the three year evaluation of the [2020-2025 Oregon Heritage Plan](#). Thank you to all those participating!

Celebrate

- Awarded 12 [Excellence on Main Awards](#) including the first Open Door Award which was awarded to [Lebanon's Family Pride Day](#).
- Awarded 3 [Oregon Heritage Excellence Awards](#) and recognized 18 [Standout Heritage Volunteers](#) across the state.
- At least two Oregon projects were recognized nationally:
 - The Oregon Chinese Diaspora Project was an American Association for State and Local History Leadership in History Award winner.
 - Salem Historic Landmarks Commission received a National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Award for best practices protection.

Eastmoreland Historic District Listed on the National Register

The National Park Service (NPS) listed the Eastmoreland Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places on December 7, 2022. The State Advisory Commission on Historic Preservation (SACHP) first reviewed and recommended approval of the nomination in February 2017. The SHPO submitted the nomination three times (May 2017, April 2018, May 2019) to the NPS, but the federal agency returned the nomination each time over issues related to counting owners and objections. SHPO staff was able to finally resolve those issues after a year-long rulemaking effort that updated the state rule for the local administration of the federal National Register of Historic Places program, OAR 736-050-0220 through 736-050-0270, which brought procedural clarity to the state's process.

Prior Action by Commission: none

Action Requested: none

Attachments: none

Prepared by: Katie Henry, Oregon Heritage Commission Coordinator
Robert Olguin, National Register Coordinator
Kuri Gill, Oregon Heritage Grants & Outreach Coordinator
John Pouley, State Archaeologist