

The Blue Mountain Dispatch

Courtesy of the Weston Area Development Association

May 2023

Vol 2 No 5

Celebrating Historic Preservation!

National Preservation Month in May is the time of the year when numerous historical societies, the government, and preservation groups join



forces to promote the importance of preserving historical places. Many times, wealthy individuals who love art and culture, as well as businesses, join the preservation cause since a city that is rich in heritage is bound to benefit the economy in the long run. If you have also realized how important our heritage is, use this month to promote the cause. Your efforts may save many old structures from crumbling apart.

Exemplary heritage sites and cultural landmarks exist across the world. Unfortunately, not all nations realize how important the preservation of heritage sites are. For instance, many developing countries let important historic buildings suffer the test of time. On the other hand, developed nations dedicate time and money to preservation. This is because historians have realized the importance of heritage sites decades back, and have also joined forces to promote preservation.

Preservation of these sites is important to preserve history, customs, and the identity of a nation. These sites help in differentiating one nation from the other. For instance, the Colosseum in Rome stands tall as a historical landmark that explains the traditions of ancient

Rome.

Why National Preservation Month is Important:

1. It encourages preservation
Due to this month, people begin to realize why the heritage of each nation is important. This pushes the government and other societies to raise funds to preserve the heritage.
2. Exposes people to heritage sites
With this month, many heritage spots that are rich in history are reintroduced to people of all ages. The story behind each building is

From landmarks and icons, to neighborhoods and homes. Share and celebrate the places that are most important to you.

promoted and this leads to an overall increase in tourism.

3. Generates income
The month generates income for people since it encourages many to visit the heritage sites that exist in the country. The month also increases the income of heritage tour guides.

There are several activities scheduled for Weston's Historic Preservation Month. Check out the website at: <https://tinyurl.com/y35rz5sb>

- Walking Tour Brochure of Downtown
- 31 Ways to Celebrate Historic Preservation Month
- Take an Historic Selfie
- Historic Downtown Architectural Scavenger Hunt (Prizes!)
- Historic Site Presentations
- And more!



Regret goes only one way. The preservation of historic buildings is a one-way street. There is no chance to renovate or to save a historic site once it's gone. And we can never be certain what will be valued in the future. This reality brings to light the importance of locating and saving buildings of historic significance—because once a piece of history is destroyed, it is lost forever.

*From "Six Practical Reasons to Save Old Buildings" by Julia Rocchi
<https://tinyurl.com/42ezucr>*

Weston Area Development Association

WADA was organized as a nonprofit to assist in obtaining grants, appropriations, donations, and other types of funding to work on historic preservation, economic development, and more in the Weston area — not just downtown.

Weston is in need of funding to restore the downtown buildings as well as develop economic opportunities for the community. WADA will work cooperatively with local, state, and federal government resources.

For more information:

541-204-0874

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WADA

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WADA97886@gmail.com

www.WestonOregon.com

Facebook:

@WestonOregon2022

501 c 3 nonprofit

Tax ID: 88-0783039

WADA is a Connected
Communities member of the
Oregon Main Street Network.

10 Ways to Research the History of Your Home or Building

When we make friends we like to learn about them—we ask them where they grew up, where they went to school, and when they were born.

Our homes are a lot like that. We spend time with them, value them, and take care of them. So it makes sense that we want to know more about them—who lived there before, how it's changed over time, and when it was built.

If only walls could talk, right? Instead, here are 10 ways to uncover the story behind your older or historic home (or any other building you're interested in).

Look closely at your house.

Exposed rafters in the attic and bricks in the basement can tell you a lot about how old your house might be. You might find dates or stamps left by the builder; different-sized bricks will tell you that the house was built in different construction cycles. If your property has more than one building (or a second set of stairs), how were those structures used? Who may have also lived and worked in these spaces?



Tip: Closets are great places to uncover clues like old wallpaper or paint—certain paper patterns or color-schemes can be traced back to a popular period style.

Be your own archaeologist.

Scope out your backyard the next time you're in the garden and look carefully at buried treasure you might find, like old glass bottles or children's toys. Items like that can tell you a lot about who lived in the house and when. For more information on how to do this, make sure to contact your [local archaeology society for best practices](#).



Talk to people. Talk to your neighbors, local business owners, even the mailman. They might be able to tell you who lived in the house before you and remember if any changes have been made to it over time.

Explore the neighborhood. Are there other older buildings that look similar? How does your house fit in—for example, does your house face a different way? It could have been built on land that was once a farm while the rest of your neighborhood was built later.

You can find old samples of wallpaper in closets, attics, and other forgotten rooms.

Tip: If you live near a city, measure the distance to the city center. The farther you are from the original core, the younger your house might be.

Learn the history of the area.

How old is the city or town you live in? Did any major events take place in the area? (For example: Was it the scene of a battle? Was your home, or any other nearby building, designed by a noted architect?) Don't be afraid to ask questions in order to see beyond the surface, i.e. what Indigenous communities live (or used to live) in the area? What are the stories related to migration and immigration that might be connected to demographic changes?

The answers you receive can offer important clues to your house's own history.



Check your historic district status. If you don't already know if your house is designated as a historic structure, you can check with your State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) or other local planning department or historic preservation commission. They will also be able to tell you whether you live in a historic district.

Tip: Look for properties in your area on the [National Register of Historic Places](#).

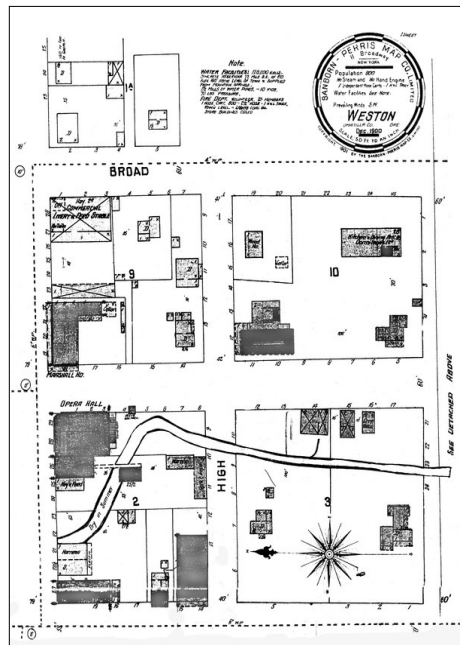
Research land and property records. A simple deed or title search can tell you who owned the property and when and tax records can tell you how the property has changed over time. Many city or county records

offices also have Sanborn fire maps, which can date back as far as the 19th or 20th centuries and show the footprint of your house and layout of the neighborhood.

Look up local census data. Census records can tell you more about the lives of previous owners, like the number of children in the house, cost of the home, whether the home had a radio, and more.

As you read through these records consider demographic shifts over time. Is your home near a major roadway or highway? This might provide clues to how your neighborhood was impacted by urban renewal.

When looking at maps and property records, [pay attention to notes that may indicate redlining](#)—just one example of discriminatory practices related to home ownership. Understanding the role of racial covenants and how your property may have changed hands is an important way to see the full history of your home.



Tip: Stop by your local public library and look for a city directory—a precursor to the modern phone book—which might offer more details on previous occupants.

Contact with your local historical society and visit your public library. Ask to see old photographs they might have of your house or the surrounding land, historical maps of the area, or newspapers with specific articles that reference history of the local town.

Read! There are many books out there to guide you further in your research, such as [Nearby History: Exploring the Past Around You](#) by David E. Kyvig and Myron A. Marty; or [Discovering the History of Your House and Your Neighborhood](#) by Betsy J. Green. Search your public library or local bookstore for more titles.

You don't need a master's degree to learn about the history of your home, public building, or any other place. All you need is a little time, your eyes, ears, and feet ... and 10 helpful tips to get you started.

Bonus: Check out the [University of Maryland University Libraries' webpage on researching historic houses](#). You'll find the information there can be applied to places nationwide.

By: Emily Potter and Priya Chhaya
<https://tinyurl.com/4wfm9wr7>

Visit a local library, historical society or preservation foundation. Your local library can contain a wealth of information,

Spotlight On Weston's Historic Buildings

Building No. 5 111 East Main Street

NW corner of East Main Street and North Franklin St
Common name: Smith Canning Company Building
Historic Name: Saling Building
Date of construction: c. 1895-1900
Significance: Primary

Description: Single story brick masonry building of locally manufactured brick, rectangular in plan. Approximate frontage on

Main Street is 52 feet. West wall is shared in common by neighboring Prutsman Building. Rear and Franklin Street facades are brick with assorted openings with segmental arch heads. Service access to this building and its neighbors to the west is provided by a rear alley.



An historic view of circa 1915-1920 (Photo No. 1 of 29) shows that the Main Street facade historically has had little or no brick structural elements. A wood lintel finished as a rudimentary classical cornice was supported, apparently, by wood posts, and traditional display windows with wood bulkheads filled the spaces between.



The parapet wall appears to have been wood with a plain cornice in the "boom town" tradition, which is the simplest expression of the Italianate Style. The front has been resurfaced with stucco, and all its openings modified. The photo shown was taken prior to demolition. The building was demolished in 2000 by the City of Weston.

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Walking tour link:

<https://www.theclio.com/entry/163815>

*Information from the National Register for Historic Places
—Weston Commercial Historic District*

Support Historic Preservation in Weston!

Help support our work to create lasting change for real people.

Weston Area Development Association is guided by the principle that historic preservation is about more than saving old buildings; it's about creating real change for our community. It is about helping the local economy.

This work is not possible without support from our donors, and our work is saving history to build a stronger and more equitable future for Weston.

We are just getting started so donations are very important for us right now to be able to save our historic buildings.

We have made a commitment to Weston preservation projects that will continue to create impact in the years ahead of us. Your investment will help us to meet those goals.

A gift today helps support our important Weston brick-and-mortar preservation projects that we have planned for 2023 and beyond!

We are a 501 (c) 3 Nonprofit. Donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law. Tax ID: 88-0783069

**Support
Weston's
Historic
Preservation!**



Donations may also be mailed to:

Weston Area
Development Association
PO Box 256
Weston, OR 97886
or online at:

<https://tinyurl.com/yckn3uv7>

RECEIVED

APR 26 2023

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UMATILLA COUNTY

UMATILLA COUNTY RECORDS

STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Proclaiming)
May 2023 as National Historic) Order No. BCC2023-020
Preservation Month)

WHEREAS National Preservation Week began in 1973 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and in 2005, the National Trust extended the celebration to the entire month of May and declared it Preservation Month to provide an even greater opportunity to celebrate the diverse and unique heritage of our country's cities and states;

WHEREAS every year in May, local preservation groups, state historical societies, and business and civic organizations across the country celebrate Preservation Month through events that promote historic places and heritage tourism, and that demonstrate the social and economic benefits of historic preservation;

WHEREAS historic preservation is an effective tool for managing growth and sustainable development, revitalizing neighborhoods, fostering local pride and maintaining community character while enhancing livability;

WHEREAS, it is important to celebrate the role of history in our lives and the contributions made by dedicated individuals in helping to preserve the tangible aspects of heritage that has shaped us as a people and a community, and many Umatilla County residents, groups and organization work hard to preserve the county's past for future generations.

NOW THEREFORE the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners orders and proclaims May 2023 as National Historic Preservation Month and encourages all citizens of Umatilla County to join their fellow citizens across the United States in recognizing and participating in this special observance and in activities that are happening in our county during the month of May.

DATED this 26th day of April, 2023.

UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Daniel N. Dorran, Chair



John M. Shafer, Commissioner



Celinda A. Timmons, Commissioner

ATTEST:
OFFICE OF COUNTY RECORDS



Records Officer



Historic Weston, Oregon

A Town Rich in History



www.HistoricWestonOregon.com

Blue Mountain (Kees) Cemetery

www.BlueMountainCemetery.com

Information on Burials including photos of headstones, some obituaries, and other related historical information can be found on this website. There is also a map on the website. The original website was a labor of love by Bob Gilliland. It was a miracle that it could be recovered from an archive website with only a few items not recoverable as the domain expired.

Revitalize and Attract Investments to Neighborhoods

Historic preservation can add character and/or charm to a community and emphasize its uniqueness.

The preservation of old buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes can be the basis for the look, feel, or function of a community. If these elements are historically significant or unusual, they can also be a source of community pride, which can lead to other improvements.

Historic preservation can attract investment and change the nature of a deteriorating neighborhood or area. A rehabilitated historic building or neighborhood might be the focus of a new residential or commercial development.

An area restored to its original appearance could serve as a magnet for tourists, while providing jobs for local residents.

Historic preservation can attract investment and change the nature of an existing neighborhood or area. A rehabilitated historic building or neighborhood can be the focus of a new residential or commercial development, such as the historic shop buildings at The Sacramento Railyards.

And, like the Ferry Building, Market Square, and many other examples of historic preservation throughout the country, restored properties stimulate the local economy and act as a magnet for tourists while providing jobs for local residents.

The preservation of historic properties is a smart growth opportunity that allows communities the chance to not only celebrate their cultural heritage and engage in meaningful placemaking, but also preserves significant histori-



<https://IshamSalingHouse.com>

Weston Area Development Association (WADA) was organized as a nonprofit to encourage restoration and revitalization in downtown Weston and the general area that results in economic development and a positive sense of community.

We have a vision to preserve and enhance the historic charm and uniqueness of the history of Weston.

www.WestonOregon.com

WADA is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. All donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law. We recommend that you consult your CPA or Tax Attorney regarding donations. Tax ID: 88-0783069

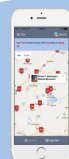
Walking Tour is Online at:
www.WestonOregon.com

Download the phone app at
www.TheClio.com
or on our website.

Enjoy your walking tour!

**DISCOVER HISTORY
ALL AROUND YOU!**

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New entries and tours added daily by museums, libraries, and universities



WWW.THECLIO.COM

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**CELEBRATE
WESTON'S
HISTORY
IN THE
HISTORIC
COMMERCIAL
DISTRICT
IN
DOWNTOWN
WESTON**

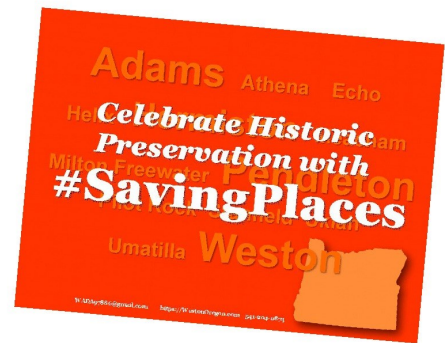


Weston Public Library Photo Collection W-101-5- Farmers Bank of Weston

**MAY 2023
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
MONTH**

Established in 1973 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the event is co-sponsored by local preservation groups, State historical societies, business and civic organizations across the country.

During the month of May many events are planned to promote historic places for the purpose of instilling national and community pride, promoting heritage tourism, and showing the social and economic benefits of historic preservation.



Weston's Historic Preservation Month is sponsored by Weston Area Development Association.

- ◆ Architectural Scavenger Hunt playing card!
- ◆ Take a Selfie! Post on Social Media.
- ◆ 31 Ways to Celebrate Historic Preservation
- ◆ Take a Walking Tour of Downtown Weston.
- ◆ Presentations during May on local historic sites.
- ◆ Check online for more events!

Walking Tour Maps are available downtown or online:

- ◆ Long Branch Café & Saloon
- ◆ Daisy's Central Station
- ◆ Online at: www.WestonOregon.com

For more information:
call 541-204-0874 or
email WADA97886@gmail.com



HODAKA DAYS 2023 JUNE 22 - 25 ATHENA & WESTON OREGON



Welcome to Bad Rock 2023.

All makes of "vintage"* - twin shock, air cooled, drum brake - bikes welcome! Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first ISDT held in the US - Dalton, MA, 1973. This is your chance to ride through some of the back country and actual trails used during the original Bad Rock ISDT qualifiers of the 1970's. This is where Hodaka motorcycles were designed, developed and put to the ultimate test. The event takes off from the intersection of Broad and High Street in the historic town of Weston, Oregon, approximately four miles east of Athena.
<http://hodakadays.org/>

Bad Rock Reunion Trail Ride 2023 Weston, Oregon Date: 23 Jun 2023 9:00 AM PDT
https://www.hodakclub.org/Hodaka_Days_News/13136336



129th Annual Umatilla County Pioneer Picnic June 3, 2023 at Weston, Oregon

National Trust Preservation Funds: Guidelines & Eligibility

Grants from **National Trust Preservation Funds (NTPF)** are intended to encourage preservation at the local level by supporting on-going preservation work and by providing seed money for preservation projects. These grants help stimulate public discussion, enable local groups to gain the technical expertise



National Trust for
Historic Preservation

needed for preservation projects, introduce the public to preservation concepts and techniques, and encourage financial participation by the private sector. A small grant at the right time can go a long way and is often the catalyst that inspires a community to take action on a preservation project. Grants generally start at \$2,500 and range up to \$5,000.

For the June 1, 2023 grant round, the National Trust Preservation Funds grant program has dedicated funding to award in the following states: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and Washington, D.C.

If your project is located in a state not listed above, we encourage you to contact us at grants@savingplaces.org to discuss other National Trust grant opportunities that might be available.

<https://tinyurl.com/mtch24pp>



The most comprehensive database of funding sources available for historic preservation and restoration, cultural resource management, and the arts.

Grants - Loans - Tax Incentives
Rebates - CLG Funds - Easements
Scholarships - Fellowships/Internships
Apprenticeships - Residencies - More!

Funding Categories Include:

Historic Preservation - Museums
Archaeology - Downtown Revitalization
Arts - Humanities - Libraries - More!

HistoricFunding.com