

The Blue Mountain Dispatch

Courtesy of the Weston Area Development Association

WADA Receives Grants & Donations

Isham Saling House Restoration Project Awarded Two Grants

(Weston) -- Weston Area Development Association (WADA), current stewards of the Isham Saling House, was awarded a second grant to be used to bring an architect to Weston to re-survey the historic house to update the original report completed in 1999.



Photo by Sheldon Delph

WADA received the recent \$2,500.00 matching grant from the Milton-Freewater Athena Weston Forever Fund & Healthy Community Fund of Blue Mountain Community Foundation of Blue Mountain Community Foundation. This will go towards matching the National Trust Preservation Fund grant received by the group in October in the amount of \$3,065.00.

The total cost of bringing Tim Lambson, Principal at Crow/Clay & Associates from Coos Bay, Oregon is \$6,129.68. Crow/Clay & Associates was the firm which did the initial assessment of the historic house in 1999. At that time, Steve Clay, Principal with Crow/Clay & Associates and Tim

Wolden, Structural Engineer, examined and documented the historic brick home.

“We were pleased to find that Crow/Clay still had our files, and that Mr. Lambson was very interested in coming in and re-assessing the house to update the report that we had on file,” said Trish Neal, president of WADA.

The nonprofit organization became owners of the historic house earlier this year after the Umatilla County Pioneers Association felt that WADA was the better organization to oversee the house and its restoration. A Quick Claim Deed was executed transferring the property to WADA.

According to Neal, the group is still short \$345.00 of having the total funds needed. They have received recent donations by mail and are participating in this year’s Valley Giving Guide for the first time. They hope to generate more donations that will go towards the architect’s visit plus restoring the house.



Photo from Chuck McCullough collection

Neal stated that she has received several questions asking where the funds have gone over the years. There is a list of projects that the former committee accomplished

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January 2025

Vol 4 No 1



**Celebrating 150 Years
Saling & Reese Building
Weston, Oregon
Long Branch Café
and Saloon**

150
1874 2024

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online at <https://ishamsalinghouse.com/>.

“We acknowledge that this has been a slow-moving project,” says Neal. “First, there have not been a lot of large grants available and, along the way committee members have moved away or passed away while others decided that they needed to take on less projects as they grew older.”

But still, grant funds and donations allowed the committee to check off projects over the years that needed to be done as well as allowed them to maintain the house.

Now that WADA is the steward of the house, Neal states that they are digging in and making sure that the house is completely restored. Neal and Sheldon Delph, vice-president of WADA, are working together on grants for the Isham Saling House. WADA also has worked on projects funded through the Oregon Main Street Revitalization program in the historic downtown commercial district this year.

According to Delph, the biggest project will be installing a foundation under the house. “That will be the most expensive part of the project but needs to be done to fully stabilize the house,” he stated. The all-brick construction dates back to 1880, but the house is still in good condition.

Both Neal and Delph state that they are pushing to fund the restoration of the house over the next few years. It is important for Weston’s history to see the house restored and open to the public as an historic house museum.

The historic house is important to local and state history. The Isham Saling House represents a piece of Oregon Trail history. Many settlers who came out to settle in the Willamette Valley later retraced some of their steps back East, ending up in places like Walla Walla. Weston was one of the towns that grew out of this reverse migration, and the Salings were among families that came to the town because of the Oregon Trail.

The house was once the showplace in Weston. “We want to make sure that it returns to all its glory and is once again the showplace in Weston,” stated Delph.

The Kinsman Foundation Grant

(Weston) -- Weston Area Development Association (WADA), was awarded a grant in the amount of \$16,700 from The Kinsman Foundation. This will match a grant to cover the roof replacement for the

Old Post Office in the Historic Downtown Commercial District on Weston’s Main Street.

A State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) grant, *Preserving Oregon*, was awarded to the owners of the historic Old Post Office, the Darryl Clifton Estate this summer. There was no requirement to be a nonprofit organization to apply for this grant.

The Kinsman Foundation grant requires that applicants be a nonprofit to apply. The board of directors of WADA was asked to apply to The Kinsman Foundation on behalf of the Old Post Office. The board approved applying for the grant on behalf of the historic building.

The replacement of the roof completes the first phase of restoration of the building. More work is needed to fully restore the building.

For more information, please contact WADA at WADA97886@gmail.com or 541-204-0874 <https://westonoregon.com>

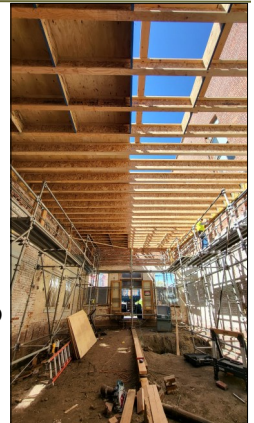


Photo from S&K Mountain Construction.

Valley Giving Guide 2024 Donations



This was the first year that WADA has participated in the program. We will definitely participate next year. This was a great program for us and we generated donations towards the Isham Saling House restoration project. The Valley Giving Guide 2024

program ran December 3-31st. We received a total of \$443.05 plus \$125.00 via Zeffy for a total of \$568.05 which covers the rest of the funds needed.

We received donations from:

- Justin Lieuallen
- Trish Neal
- Matt and Shannon Hoehna
- Peter Viavant
- Bruce Ross
- Ken Bjorklund
- Christie Frison-Thornton
- Susan Kralman
- Dawn Aby

Additional donations were made via Zeffy.com by:

- Rosemarie Moore
- Susan DePaolo

Culley Fire

Weston Leader, April 30, 1909

BURGLARS AND FIRE

Heavy Loss Caused at Weston by Trio of Desperate Yeggs

Sim J. Culley's store at Weston was burglarized and set on fire early Sunday morning. Heavy loss was entailed to Mr. Culley and to H. A. Brandt, owner of the two-story frame building which the store occupied. Because of the high rate, the building was not insured. It represents an investment of \$3500, and was so badly wrecked that its repair may not be considered expedient. Mr. Culley carried a small amount of insurance on his damaged stock.



The fire was discovered about five o'clock, and the department was on the scene a few minutes after the alarm. Strong streams were soon playing on the blaze from three nozzles, and a smaller private hose was also utilized to advantage. At one time it looked as though the entire range of wooden buildings was doomed, but by very effective work the department confined the fire to the Brandt corner, and had it under control within an hour.

The fighters are highly praised, not only by Messrs. Culley and Brandt, who asked that their thanks be publicly expressed, but by other property owners whose interests were endangered. Allan Garnett moved out his harness stock with the assistance of many workers, but a corrugated iron wall saved his building. He feels greatly pleased at the department's work. A number of the fighters went on the roof and cut holes with axes on order to attack the flames to better advantage. Normal students were active in this dangerous task.

When the store could be entered, it was found that the safe had been blown open and rifled of \$5, all it contained. A tin box containing valuable papers was also missing but was afterward found in the lower part of town, much to Mr. Culley's relief.

The sheriff was notified and took the trail of the robbers, accompanied by Deputy Wilson. They had stolen a handcar from the O. R. & N. tool house and were last seen crossing the Dry creek trestle about four in the morning. The handcar was recovered

near Freewater, and with the aid of O. R. & N. trainmen, three suspects were arrested by the officers at Wallula.

They wore hats, shoes, and gloves supposed to have been stolen from the store, and nitro-glycerin and burglars' tools were also found in their possession. Their names are given as J. A. Murray, C. M. Clarke and Michael Burke, all three are rated as crooks. One of them is a young fellow of 20. They demanded extradition papers which were secured, and they are now in the Umatilla county jail, where they stubbornly refuse to talk. The capture is regarded as an important one, and creditable to the activity of the sheriff's office, which under Till Taylor's administration has become a terror to criminals.

There are two theories with regard to the origin of the fire – one that the yeggs were angered at their light haul and fired the building to emphasize their chagrin, because the proceeds resulting from Saturday's closing out sale had been banked by Mr. Culley.

The other theory is the fire was accidental, and resulted from the explosion, unknown to the thieves. Indications are that it undoubtedly originated near the safe, and it is pointed out, granting that the three men now held are guilty, that they would have separated and made a stronger effort to avert suspicion had they been aware of the serious consequences of their crime.

One life was lost: it was not a human life, but that of a noted female mouser name "Rusty", long a familiar and popular attaché of the store, whose dead body was found on the floor. "Rusty's" feline ghost will no doubt haunt her murderers.

Mr. Culley, who has been conducting a quit-business sale, has moved his damaged stock to the Saling corner, opposite the bank, where the remainder of his goods will be disposed of.

The Right Men

The other day, Sheriff Taylor phoned to Sim J. Culley that one of the articles found on his prisoners was a camper's purse, which contained a folding knife, fork and spoon. Mr. Culley missed this purse, which he carried while hunting, from the desk of his office. Its discovery fixes the guilt of the prisoners beyond all question.

This article was contributed by Bob Gilliland and is located on the Historic Weston, Oregon website:

<https://tinyurl.com/55cu42mh>

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 needs 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.

Board of Directors

President/Treasurer

•Trish Neal

Vice-President

•Sheldon Delph

Secretary

•Chuck Price

At Large Board Members

•Vicky Mast

•Dawn Aby

•Vacant

Advisory Board

•Bruce Ross

•Vacant

•Vacant

WADA

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501 (c) 3 nonprofit

Tax ID: 88-0783039

Facebook:

@WestonOregon2022

WADA is a Connected Communities member of Oregon Main Street

Oregon Cultural Trust approved nonprofit.

National Trust Preservation Forum Member

Nonprofit of Oregon

We are a Gold Star at

<https://www.guidestar.org>

10 Steps to Start Saving Places

By: Julia Rocchi

If you want to protect a place near and dear to your heart, but aren't sure where to begin, this toolkit is for you. It provides a solid framework for turning your concern for a historic spot into meaningful, lasting action.

So, without further ado, let's walk through the steps that can help make your vision of a protected place a reality:

1. Identify the threat. Stay alert about the status of recently vacated or sold buildings, hearings for zone changes, plans for new transportation routes, etc. Any one of these changes might affect historic resources in your area.

2. Determine the property's significance. Research the history and significance of the site. Identify any political boundaries or districts that impact the property, and assess the property's overall condition (i.e. the extent of the threat). If you need help, contact your statewide or tribal historic preservation office for more information.

3. Connect with a preservation group. Strong, continuous, well-organized local action is the key to successful preservation efforts. But before developing your own grassroots advocacy group, check if any preservation-related organizations are already established in your area. Joining forces can have several benefits: The existing group can provide leadership, you can fortify their ranks, and both groups can coordinate activities to be most efficient and effective.

4. Consider non-preservation partners. Many organizations in related fields might be able to offer

support and leadership as well. For example, housing agencies, conservation groups, religious organizations, and neighborhood associations might be useful allies for your project.



Community members and supporters gathered in front of the Blue Bird Inn, Detroit, Michigan. photo by: Iian Tarver

5. Form your own group. Look to similar communities for examples of how they did it. Also, consider the timeframe of the issue you're trying to address. If it's short-term, then an ad hoc group can deal with imminent problems and disband when the issue is resolved. If it's more long-term, consider establishing a group with a more formal structure that can continue to advocate after the initial issue is resolved.

6. Know where to turn for high-level information and resources. In addition to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, there are a variety of large private and public sector organizations that can help guide your work, including Preservation Action, National Park Service, and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Check out their websites for more info.

7. Define your vision. Address the following questions to help focus your work: What condition is the

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site or property in? How will we restore it? What will the place be used for?



The Philip Johnson-designed New York State Pavilion was designed for the opening of the 1964-65 World's Fair. photo by: Duncan Kendall

8. Make a plan. Develop written goals, objectives, and a work plan for at least a one-year period. Also include planning for your budget and fundraising strategy.

9. Designate your property. Getting your property included in an inventory or register, such as the [National Register of Historic Places](#), state registers, and/or local listings, can help protect it later. These inventories also document the history of a site and include a description and photographs. (Designation is multi-faceted, so we'll share more info in future toolkits.)

10. Keep the faith. Preservation projects take time, and possible outcomes run the gamut from demolition to protection to restoration. So it's only natural to feel discouraged sometimes. But remember that your work is keeping a much-loved piece of history around for future generations to enjoy -- and that's worth celebrating!

An earlier version of this story was published on March 19, 2013.

Julia Rocchi was the senior director of digital marketing at the National Trust. By day she wrangles content; by night (and weekends), she shops local, travels to story-rich places, and gawks at buildings.

<https://tinyurl.com/bdeena5h>

**Weston Commercial Historic District
(added 1982 -- #82001515)
E. Main Street between Water and
Broad Streets, Weston, Oregon**

Historic Significance: Architecture/
Engineering, Event

Architectural Style: Italianate

Area of Significance: Architecture, Commerce,
Industry, Agriculture

Period of Significance: 1925-1949, 1900-1924,
1875-1899

Owner: Local, Private

Historic Function: Commerce/Trade, Educa-
tion, Industry/Processing/Extraction, Social

Historic Sub-function: Clubhouse, College,
Manufacturing Facility

Current Function: Commerce/Trade, Domestic,
Government, Recreation and Culture

Current Sub-function: Business, Museum

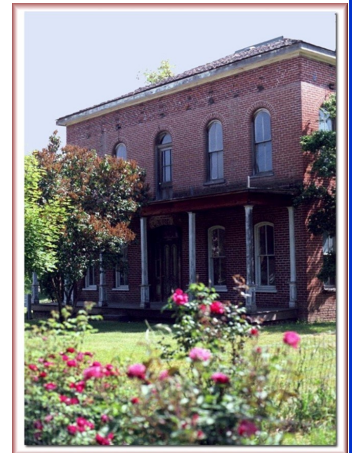
The Weston Commercial Historic District is one of only two Historic Districts in Umatilla County.

<https://historicwestonoregon.com>

**Please Support the
Isham Saling House Restoration!**

Your support is greatly needed to begin raising funds to complete the Isham Saling House Restoration. The Weston Area Development Association is the new owner of the historic property and is actively seeking donations for the house.

All donations will go to the Isham Saling House Restoration Project.



<https://ishamsalinghouse.com> Donations can be made online, at <https://tinyurl.com/2eyvyrhh>

Make checks payable to the
Weston Area Development Association and send to:
Weston Area Development Association
PO Box 256

Weston, Oregon 97886
Weston97886@gmail.com
<https://westonoregon.com>

10 Tips for Effective Advocacy

By: Lauren Cohen and Jackson Bunis

The historic preservation movement in the United States is built on the efforts of dedicated advocates to protect and preserve cultural heritage. From public awareness campaigns to community engagement and coalition building, preservationists educate the public about the value of historic sites and the importance of preservation.

This advocacy also extends to advancing legislation and policy with elected officials at the federal, state, and local levels. Advocates work with lawmakers to create or support legislation that protects historic sites. This includes advocating for new preservation laws, encouraging funding for preservation projects, or supporting policies that encourage adaptive reuse of historic buildings through [tax credits](#). It's also important for advocates to weigh in on potentially harmful policies or funding cuts to preservation. Sharing the community benefits of preservation is just as important as communicating the risk of the loss of historic resources.

Advocates can advance historic preservation policy priorities in a variety of ways, but central to these efforts is decisionmaker education.

These 10 tips will help guide your advocacy efforts with elected officials to ensure that valuable cultural and historic assets are recognized, protected, and maintained for future generations.



The U.S. Capitol Building in 2016. photo by: Architect of the Capitol

1. Identify the goal and do your research. Before you begin contacting every elected official in your state encouraging them to support historic preservation efforts broadly, identify exactly what you would like to accomplish. For example, if you want to see the historic tax credit protected and en-

hanced, identify legislators near you that serve on a tax writing committee.

Are you trying to secure government funding to support a specific historic site? Determine the official who represents that exact location. If you are simply trying to build a relationship with your own elected officials, find out what historic resources are in their districts, what interests they have, what committees they serve on, and where they stand on preservation-related legislation.

Also, before you start your outreach, figure out the advocacy priorities of your state and national preservation organizations. The [National Trust for Historic Preservation's Action Center](#), for example, lists several ways you can take action and provides helpful updates on key advocacy priorities.

2. Make a specific request.

Any contact with decisionmakers should include a clear statement of the action you would like them to take. These asks can include introducing pro-preservation legislation, becoming a cosponsor of an existing bill, visiting a historic site in their district or town, or speaking at an event in support of historic preservation. Advocates should make a direct, concise request each time they interact with an elected official. Consistency is key!

3. Have accurate information on hand.

Meeting with an elected official to advocate for preservation can be intimidating, but preparing yourself with up-to-date information and data will strengthen your case. Establishing yourself or your organization as a reliable source for accurate information about things like job creation, tourism dollars, historical significance, and more, will set you

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apart as the go-to authority for preservation-related issues for their office. [The National Trust, state and tribal historic preservation officers \(SHPOs and THPOs\), and statewide or local organizations](#) have useful data and case studies that you can cite in your advocacy efforts.

4. Don't make anything up.

Even if you have done your research, there may still be questions from elected officials and their staff that you do not know the answer to. The best thing to do here is simply to say, "That's a great question. I don't have the answer right now, but I will be sure to get you that information when I follow up after this meeting." You should never embellish, exaggerate, or make up information if you do not know. This also opens the door for a continuing conversation when you follow-up with them.



A group of preservationists in conversation with Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) during a site visit in Virginia. photo by: National Trust for Historic Preservation

5. Be respectful and likeable.

It is crucial to your advocacy efforts that decisionmakers and their staff want to partner with you. Our advocacy requires working at all levels of government and across party lines. Establishing yourself as a respectful and likable advocate for historic preservation with elected officials will make it easier to secure a meeting or set up a site visit. Without a personable approach, offices will be less interested in working with you even if your data, research, and ask, are sound.

6. Use real-life, local examples.

Your advocacy efforts will be stronger if you connect the policy issue with examples of how it will benefit historic resources in your community. For example, name the historic districts and types of buildings that stand to benefit from an enhanced historic tax

credit. Mention specific projects that were funded using Historic Preservation Fund competitive grants. Explain how cuts in funding would delay preservation projects, endanger historic resources, or even endanger jobs. Constituents are the most effective advocates in this sense because they can speak effectively about the communities that are served by the elected official.



Local events like ribbon cuttings are a great way to make sure your elected officials are engaged with the work of historic preservation. Pictured: Ribbon Cutting of the A.G. Gaston Motel in Birmingham, Alabama) photo by: National Trust for Historic Preservation

7. Establish an ongoing relationship.

The most successful advocates are the ones that have a well-established relationship with offices. Check in on a regular basis to keep them informed of local preservation issues. Invite them to local events and notify them of good things happening locally, like preservation awards, new historic tax credit projects, or recent grants. Take care to build that relationship and, ideally, the offices will start to proactively reach out to you for advice and information on preservation issues.

8. Try to end the meeting with a "yes."

Despite all your best efforts to be likable, respectful, and well-prepared, your advocacy meeting with a decisionmaker may take a disappointing turn. If you make your ask and the answer is "no," don't end the conversation there. Make a follow-up ask that may make it a bit easier for them to say "yes."

For instance, if you initially ask them to join as a co-sponsor of pending legislation and they say they are not interested, ask if they would consider visiting a historic site in your district with you or your preservation organization. If they say their schedule is too busy or give another non-committal response, ask if it would be okay if you follow up with them from

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Weston-Elgin Highway Celebration



The Weston-Elgin highway had its formal start at a meeting held at Tollgate, September 27, 1915, when the Blue Mountain Road association was organized and set to work on the plan to get a completed and good road. Previous meetings had been held at Weston.

The Weston-Elgin highway had its formal start at a

meeting held at Tollgate, September 27, 1915, when the Blue Mountain Road association was organized and set to work on the plan to get a completed and good road. Previous meetings had been held at Weston.

Paul H. Weyrauch of Walla Walla was named president; H. H. Weatherspoon of Elgin and A. C. Miller of Enterprise, vice presidents; L. B. Tuttle of Elgin, secretary, and Frank E. Smith of Elgin, treasurer.

A graveled road was desired--that was before the days of oiled roads.

Three years passed after the Tollgate meeting before a survey was made, and nine years more before much was done.

The survey was made in 1918 and in 1927. Umatilla County graded and graveled a stretch of road out of Weston leading into the mountains for seven miles. In 1930, a stretch of road 5.4 miles in length was finished from McDougall camp to Tollgate, and in 1932 the seven-mile gap between the end of the Weston road and McDougall camp was completed, making a splendid road from the Walla Walla valley to Tollgate, but leaving many miles of bad and worse road from Tollgate to Elgin.

In 1932 the bureau of public roads let contracts for 10.5 miles of clearing on the Weston--Elgin route. Then the federal authorities and Union County cooperated in grading out from Elgin. The grading was completed in 1935 and surfacing work started in 1936. It was completed in 1937, except for a 3.22-mile gap near Elgin. It was not until last fall that the

contract was let for this, the last link.

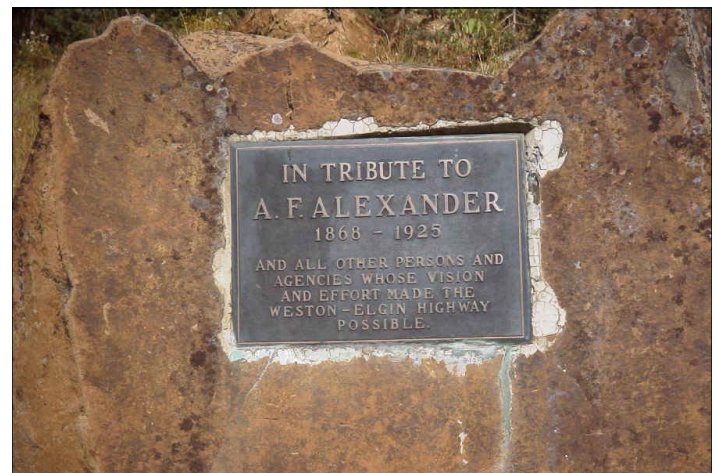
The first wagon road across the mountains to connect the two valleys was built in 1873 with money raised in Walla Walla and elsewhere by the Summerville-Walla Walla Wagon

Road company, later known as the Woodward Road company, and it was built to intersect the old emigrant wagon road from Elgin to Weston at Spout springs. Most of the Grande Ronde valley farmers hauled their products to Walla Walla in the early days over the toll road down Linnton mountain to the valley near Milton.

Later came the agitation to do away with tolls on the road and for improvement of the route, and this developed into the proposal to have a new route.

Many of those most keenly interested in the road did not live to see the plans work out.

Numerous men played important parts in the effort to get a good road constructed across the Blue Mountains to connect the Grande Ronde and Walla Walla valleys. Much preliminary effort in the way of



talk and promotion was necessary even before the meeting was held at Tollgate in 1915.

A. F. Alexander of Walla Walla, associated with the Up-to-the-Times magazine, had much to do with it. It was his dream and he never failed to talk about it when out in the field. Weston and Elgin men also were alive to the needs and worked unceasingly for it.

Considerable confusion has arisen among participants in the earliest promotion of the road relative to

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dates and meetings dealing with the formation of the promoting group. Some remember the original meetings were held in Tollgate, and others remember the association was created at Weston, on dates widely separated. After some research into old files and letters and interviews with many of the original promoters, it develops that there were two associations, which, each in its turn, took an active part.

By 1922 the original association had become rather inactive and need of a revived association was felt to exist. Consequently, a meeting was held in Weston, July 8, 1922, at which were present some 100 leading men from the two states and three counties.



Clark Wood of Weston presided as temporary chairman and Pal Clark of Walla Walla as temporary secretary.

Formation of the Blue Mountain Highway association was a result of the meeting, and the officers elected at that gathering were:

Paul H. Weyrauch of Walla Walla, president; E. G. Bailey, then school superintendent at

Elgin, vice president; E. M. Smith, then of Weston, secretary-treasurer. Other directors included Philip H. Dater, forest service officer of Portland; Roy W. Ritner of Pendleton; L. C. Scharpf, then a Pendleton banker; A. F. Alexander, then editor of the Up-to-the-Times magazine, Walla Walla; H. A. Barrett of Athena; H. O. Hales of Adams; H. S. Murray of Freewater; R. T. Bean of Freewater; F. H. Moes of Helix, Charles L. May of Weston mountain; S. A. Barnes of Weston; H. M. Cockburn and S. A. Miller of Milton; F. D. McCully of Joseph; L. Couch of Wallula; and judge U. G. Couch of La Grande.

E. M. Smith was the first elected secretary, being cashier of the bank at Weston at the time. When he moved to The Dalles duties of secretary were taken over by C. W. Avery, now dead. Thereafter the papers fell into the hands of S. A. Barnes, Weston, who now has them.

WESTON-ELGIN HIGHWAY CELEBRATION	
by the principal towns and cities in the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Walla Walla Valley, the Tollgate Celebration fittingly commemorates efforts of those, who made this important new road possible.	
CELEBRATION OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEES	
Officers	
W. RITNER, Pendleton -----	Chairman
P. NELSON, Walla Walla -----	Secretary
S. BARNES, Weston -----	Treasurer
Executive Committee	
The three officers and C. R. Wheeler, Elgin; Cecil Chrisman, Wallowa; Ira Snyder, Enterprise; C. L. Spence, Walla Walla; R. E. Bean, Freewater.	
Finance	
Carl Chambers, Pendleton, chairman; F. A. Jackson, Weston; Arthur Hallgarth, Elgin; Howard Mansfield, Freewater; Charles H. Reynolds, La Grande; Bruce Cox, Wallowa; Merrill Rutherford, Enterprise; Glenn Strickler, Milton; Bill Steele, Walla Walla; Velton Read, Athena; A. Daisley, Joseph; H. L. Campbell, Helix; T. J. Lieuallen, Adams.	
Publicity	
A. W. Nelson, Walla Walla, chairman; Mrs. Etta Sanderson, Free water; Clark Wood, Weston; Frank Wheeler, Milton; Arthur Taylor, Athena; Fred E. Guthery, Elgin; Harold Hamstreet, Wallowa; Clint Haight, Joseph; George Cheney, Enterprise; Elsie Dickson, Pendle- ton; Frank G. Mitchell, Walla Walla; Harold Finlay, La Grande; Don MacPherson, Union.	
Historians	
C. L. Spence, Walla Walla, chairman; S. A. Barnes, Weston; Wilbur Brock, Summerville; Harley Horner, Enterprise; Lee Tuttle, Elgin; M. L. Watts, Athena.	
Water Sports	
R. D. Monahan, Milton; A. J. Mathison, Walla Walla; Fred Kenwor- thy, Tollgate; W. F. Mathes, Elgin; W. J. Stringham, Elgin.	
Speakers	
B. M. Huntington, Walla Walla; E. B. Aldrich, Pendleton; Cecil Chrisman, Wallowa.	
Parking State Police	
Program	
Roy Ritner, Pendleton, chairman; R. E. Bean, Freewater; C. R. Wheeler, Elgin.	
Grounds	
Dan Kidwell, Tollgate; Frank Keller, Elgin; H. O. Mansfield, Free- ater; E.C. Gentry, Weston; H.R. Smith, Elgin; Albert Baker, Tollgate.	



2025 Weston Calendar

Weston History Exhibit Opens at the Long Branch Cafe

—Come view the exhibit’s photos and related historical research. Sponsored by WADA. Hours are the restaurant’s open hours.



Support WADA with your donation at

<https://westonoregon.com>

List your meetings and events here!
Deadline is 25th each month.

WADA is a Member of:



National Trust for Historic Preservation

Preservation
Leadership Forum



Nonprofit Association of Oregon
<https://nonprofitoregon.org/>

WADA uses Zeffy .com for its donation platform.

It is a safe site and allows WADA to be good stewards of funds donated by our supporters. We chose Zeffy.com because we receive **100%** of the donated funds. We are not charged a percentage of the donated funds.



While it is suggested that donors cover the fee, it is not required. That is pretty amazing considering PayPal, GoFundMe, and others charge around 3% or more of the total donation. It is a safe site. For more information on Zeffy.com here is our link: <https://tinyurl.com/bdfjwrr8>

Support WADA with Business Card Ads

Business card size ads for your business, event, or just to wish someone a Happy Birthday or Happy Anniversary. \$25 per month. Send your business card or we can design the ad for you. Deadline is the 25th of the month to appear in the next month’s newsletter.

WADA97886@gmail.com



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Keep up to date on what’s happening, important notices, etc. Be sure to invite your friends and family to “Like” our page, too.



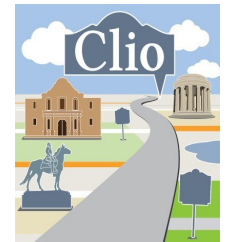
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Keep up to date on what’s happening in the community, important notices, etc. Be sure to invite your friends and family to “Like” our page, too.

Walking Tour is Online at:
www.WestonOregon.com

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



Local Links

- Weston-McEwen High School: <http://wmhs.athwest.k12.or.us>
- Athena-Weston School District: <http://www.athwest.k12.or.us>
- Weston Middle School: <http://wms.athwest.k12.or.us/>
- Athena Elementary School: <http://aes.athwest.k12.or.us/>
- Weston Planning Commission: <https://tinyurl.com/ypz5fdn6>
- Weston Community Development: <https://tinyurl.com/ypz5fdn6>
- Weston Historic Landmarks Commission: <https://tinyurl.com/ypz5fdn6>
- Weston Parks and Recreation Commission: <https://tinyurl.com/ypz5fdn6>
- Umatilla County Pioneer Association: <https://umatillacounty.pioneerassociation.com/>
- Domestic Violence Resources: <https://www.dvs-or.org/>



24 Hour Crisis Line 1-800-833-1161 Pendleton 541-276-3322 Hermiston 541-567-0424

WADA Annual Meeting Report for 2024

The following report was presented at the annual meeting of the Weston Area Development Association outlining the work conducted during 2024.

December 2023

- Adopted Form 990 forms that are required by IRS for board members to complete.
- Vicky Mast attended the Eastern Oregon Visitors Association (EOVA) meeting in Hermiston.
- Discussed Bike Friendly signage for Weston. Not that many businesses downtown might work for this. It will bring visitors to Weston. We need to try again in 2025.
- F. resigned due to work responsibilities.
- Discussion on transferring Isham Saling House to WADA continues. The Pioneer Association wants to reduce their responsibilities, and WADA would be a good fit.

January 2024:

- Raised \$1,450.00 to date for the Long Branch restoration project.
- Received another donation to be designated for the history exhibit.
- SHPO Heritage Grant for Weston Exhibit approved for \$3,000.
- Discussion continued on transfer of ownership of Isham Saling House to WADA.
- Approved agent change to Sheldon Delph. Agent required by State of Oregon.

February 2024:

- Contracts signed off by WADA for start of restoration of Old Post Office Main Street Revitalization grant project.
- Umatilla County Coalition grant for \$708 was approved to print brochures for the History Exhibit.
- Work started on Weston History Exhibit.

March 2024:

- Approved setting up checking account for the Isham Saling House Committee. Sheldon Delph designated to have access to mobile deposit. WADA bank account change for Sheldon Delph to be designated to have access to mobile deposit.
- Old Post Office project started.
- WADA needed more detailed information to be able to apply for an appropriation through Senators Merkley and Wyden. Will work on this for 2025.
- Transfer of Isham Saling House to WADA was approved. Quit Claim Deed to be transferred from

the Pioneer Association to WADA

- Planning for Historic Preservation Month in May started.
- Hired Lyle Tax Services to file our Form 990 tax return.

April 2024

- Contracts signed with Pioneer Waterproofing for the Long Branch Main Street Revitalization Grant project. Reinstated fundraiser for the Long Branch. Short of funds to complete all three walls.
- AWERE grant awarded to print \$708 to print brochures for the Weston History Exhibit. Requested that WADA have them printed in Umatilla County. AWERE increased the amount of the award to cover the increase in price to \$1,120.00. 2,000 printed of each brochure.
- LOI accepted by SHPO for Long Branch Preserving Oregon grant.
- Dawn Aby approved to join WADA board of directors.
- Approved meeting with architects regarding the Isham Saling House re-survey the house. (We decided to work with Tim Lambson, Crow/Clay Architects which is the same firm that did the original report in 1999.)
- Drafted MOU covering the existing Isham Saling House Restoration Committee to work under WADA outlining WADA's responsibilities and expectations of committee.
- Discussion on fundraiser proposal from Lonnie Shurtleff. Board decided we do not have sufficient funds or volunteers to help put this one. Will revisit in 2025.
- Items for the Isham Saling House that had been stored at the Frazier Farmstead in Milton-Freewater were moved to the Isham Saling House. Frazier Farmstead wanted them to be moved.

May 2024

- Closed out Wildhorse grant for Long Branch Café & Saloon for \$20K.
- Weston History Exhibit installed at the Long Branch Café & Saloon.
- Historic Preservation Month kick off May 1st with website. Sheldon Delph gave a walking tour to Middle School Students. Prizes were given out for completing the scavenger hunt. YouTube video presentation on Isham Saling House created.
- Brochures for the Weston History Exhibit picked up and left with the history exhibit. Brochures:

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<https://IshamSalingHouse.com>



www.HistoricWestonOregon.com

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>

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 had expired. **New digital map is online!**



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

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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



Continued from page 7

time to time to keep them informed about preservation-related issues in your community. Chances are, they will finally give you the “yes” you’re looking for, and you’ll have ended the meeting on a positive note instead of a sour one.

9. Diversify your contacts.

Advocacy is a multi-level, multi-contact endeavor. At the local level, build relationships with your mayor, city counselors, and small business commissioners. At the state level, engage with your state senators, state representatives, governor, and their associated staff. At the federal level, remember that U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives have offices in Washington, D.C., and back home in the state.

Connect with staff in Washington, D.C., through events like Preservation Advocacy Week, but keep the momentum going with state or district staff who you could engage with on a more frequent basis right in your community. While staff members who work in the district office are often not directly involved in the legislative process, they are more readily accessible and familiar with local issues.

10. Use the calendar to your advantage.

Be aware of the normal schedule of work for your decisionmakers. Focus any program or site-specific funding advocacy ahead of the annual budget and appropriations schedule. For state legislatures and the U.S. Congress, this is in the late winter or early spring. If your organization is interested in inviting an elected official to make a site visit or attend an event, put the ask into their office at least six weeks in advance and aim for recess periods which include most state and federal holidays. Making timely and considerate scheduling requests will demonstrate that you are paying attention to their often-challenging time constraints.

Lauren Cohen is an associate director in the Government Relations department at the National Trust for Historic Preservation. She has worked in nonprofit government relations and on Capitol Hill. She earned her Master's degree in Public History from James Madison University and her Bachelor's degree in History from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Jackson Bunis is the associate manager of Policy Communications in the Government Relations department for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. He previously worked in Media Relations for the Trust, and he received his Bachelor's degree of Political Science from the University of Michigan.

<https://tinyurl.com/msxujvnf>

Continued from page 11

History Exhibit brochure and Walking Tour Brochure funded by AWERE and Umatilla County Coalition.

June 2024

- Liability insurance acquired to cover the Isham Saling House.
- Fundraiser Adopt a Brich brochures printed for Long Branch and Old Post Office to be left at history exhibit. Printing costs came out of donations to each entity. Printing in color too expensive.
- The Kinsman Foundation awarded \$4,000 grant for the Long Branch restoration project.

July 2024

- Work completed on Long Branch North and East Walls. Approximately 450-500 bricks from the city's brick storage were used. We need to find more bricks for future projects.
- Preserving Oregon grant submitted for Long Branch was not successful.

August 2024

- National Trust grant application was approved. This is to bring architect to Weston to inspect the Isham Saling House. Waiting to hear back about agreement, etc. \$3,065.00. We need matching funds.
- Joined the National Trust Forum. \$250.00 annually. Need to be a member to apply for National Trust grants.
- Discussion on participating in the annual Potato Show in October.
- Board approved applying for grant from the Kinsman Foundation for \$16,662 on behalf of the Darryl Clifton Estate. The Foundation requires applicants to be nonprofit entities. MOU between Cliftons and WADA executed and submitted to the Foundation as requested.

September 2024

- Remaining funds in the Main Street Grant for Long Branch can be used to patch the roof. It is leaking into the kitchen area.
- Old Post Office roof was completed ahead of approval for Kinsman Foundation grant but confirmed that this would still could be funded.
- Hart Family Foundation grant was declined. This was to bring the architect to Weston. National Trust grant was approved for same project so this was good.
- T-Mobile grant was declined. Will resubmit new grant request for Long Branch.
- Blue Mountain Foundation/Valley Giving Guide:

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Set up an account. Waiting to find out if we will be allowed to participate. This is for the Isham Saling House during the month of December.

- Potato Show planning to feature new digital cemetery map for Blue Mountain/Keys Cemetery. WADA brochures and related information to be shared. Dawn Aby and Vicky Mast will be at the booth.

October 2024

- Long Branch roof to be patched. C&C Roofing bid \$3,500 to do the work. Bernice Charlton agreed to cover the balance not covered by the Main Street Grant.
- Submitted grant application to Blue Mountain Community Foundation for funds to cover architect for Isham Saling House.
- Nomination for the 11 Most Endangered Historic Property submitted for the Isham Saling House. This would bring national attention to the property.
- Approved purchase D&O insurance for the board.
- Participated in the Annual Potato Show.

November 2024

- Long Branch roof was patched. Request for payment submitted to SHPO.
- Call for proposals for 2025 Main Street Revitalization Grant published in newsletter.
- Blue Mountain Community Foundation awarded WADA \$2,500 towards match for the architect to come to Weston. Still need about \$500 to have the full \$6,129.98 needed.
- Attending Potato Show went well for the first time participating.

Throughout the year:

- Trish Neal attended weekly Morning on Main Street (MOM) Zoom meetings representing Weston, attended EOVA quarterly meetings, and other meetings pertinent to WADA. Participated in trainings.
- Vicky Mast distributed WADA's newsletter and brochure around the downtown area.

For questions about the report please send email to WADA97886@gmail.com or call 541-204-0874.

City of Weston
PO Box 579
114 Main Street
Weston OR 97886
<https://www.CityofWeston.org>

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Recorder@CityofWestonoregon.com

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www.CityofWestonOregon.com/library

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WCDC Facebook: <https://tinyurl.com/3vktkunj>

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Weston Area Development Association
PO Box 256 | Weston, Oregon 97886
541-204-0874 WADA97886@gmail.com <https://WestonOregon.com>

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Individual/Household Member

- \$15 Student
- \$25 Individual
- \$45 Household
- \$50 Preservation Friend
- \$100 Preservation Contributor
- \$250 Preservation Advocate
- Other \$ _____

Business/Non-Profit/Government Member

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- \$100 Preservation Contributor
- \$250 Preservation Advocate
- \$500 Preservation Patron
- \$1000 Preservation Circle
- Other \$ _____

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In addition to my membership, I am enclosing a gift to help support:

- WADA (Unrestricted – use donation as needed.)\$ _____
- Isham Saling House (Unrestricted – use donation as needed.) \$ _____
Online: <https://ishamsalinghouse.com/donations/> (Secure site)
- Historic Preservation Fund for future projects.\$ _____
- Please send me information about including WADA in my Will or making gifts of stock.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Enclosed is a check payable to Weston Area Development Association. Total: \$ _____
Send check or money order to PO Box 256, Weston, OR 97886
- Pay online at: <https://westonoregon.com/support-wada/> (Secure site)

All donations to WADA are tax deductible as allowable by law. 501(c)(3) Tax ID: 88-0783039

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- Historic homeowner Historic building owner Historic Society member Architect/Engineer
- Contractor/Consultant Part of an historic district Preservation Assoc. Member Non-profit
- Historic Preservation Commission Member Planning/Zoning Board Member Government
- I am interested in volunteering to support WADA’s mission of building alliances, education, and advocacy.



Search GuideStar for the most complete, up-to-date nonprofit data available. <https://www.GuideStar.org>