

# The ASHP



# Journal

Volume 9, Number 2

Winter 1997

## Students Inherit Preservation Week

by Tracey Althans

Initiated in 1971 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation Week has long been a part of an effort to bring preservation and its values closer to the community. Eugene has always embraced this event with enthusiasm and dedication, each year launching a week of exciting and educational preservation-related activities for its community to participate in. In previous years this special week has been funded by the city of Eugene, in conjunction with the adjacent city of Springfield.

As a result of Measure 47 in Oregon, however, serious and devastating cutbacks have occurred, especially in the area of education, recreation, and the arts. Measure 47 has created a strained and frustrating atmosphere especially in the field of historic preservation. Because of the necessity for the local government to downsize and reduce its budget, many programs and activities valued for years will disappear or take a drastically different form. Preservation Week is one such program. This year the cities of Eugene and Springfield announced that they could not support Preservation Week with funds, labor, or time.

This upsetting declaration catalyzed the Associated Students for Historic Preservation to take action. The External Committee of ASHP, structured to promote the community's awareness and support of preservation, has now turned all of its efforts to organizing Preservation Week and ensuring its success. ASHP has for many years been a part of Preservation Week activities, working as volunteers, tour guides, and staffing informational booths. It is an exciting and challenging time for us now to be responsible for the entire event. In addition to the involvement of ASHP members, the School of Architecture and Allied Arts at the University of Oregon as well as community members have been encouraged to volunteer.

To carry out the tasks required for a successful week of events, the External Committee separated into five work groups, which include fundraising, media, and print campaigns, as well as volunteer and events coordination. These special committees will be assisted by an organized base of volunteers. In addition to money donated by the ASHP, the fundraising campaign will target area businesses for Preservation Week sponsorship. In keeping with the theme "Preservation Begins at Home," it is our fullest intention to revive the interest and

(See Preservation Week, page 7)

### ***Building at the End of the Oregon Trail 1997 VAF Conference by Bill Morrow***

*The eighteenth annual meeting of the Vernacular Architecture Forum will be held in Portland, Oregon on June 11-14, 1997. The Vernacular Architecture Forum (VAF) was organized in 1980 by a group of scholars and activists to encourage the study and preservation of vernacular architecture in North America. This term generally applies to traditional domestic and agricultural buildings, industrial and commercial structures, twentieth-century suburban houses, settlement patterns, and cultural landscapes. Contributions to this diverse and interesting subject area include research and presentations from historians, designers, archaeologists, folklorists, architectural historians, geographers, museum curators, and preservationists.*

*The VAF publishes the Vernacular Architecture Newsletter four times a year, which informs members about upcoming events, funding opportunities, publications, exhibitions, and job opportunities. The VAF also sponsors an annual conference where scholarly research is presented in both paper sessions and on field trips. This year's conference, to be held in Portland, Oregon promises to be a spectacular "vernacular" event. Portland, located*

(See VAF, page 7)



**PRESERVATION  
BEGINS AT  
HOME**

Preservation Week May 11-17, 1997  
National Trust for Historic Preservation

## President's Column

Steven Blashfield

This year, the Associated Students for Historic Preservation (ASHP) is undertaking a process to develop an increasingly proactive approach to preservation education and its role at the University of Oregon. The first step in this process was to make a minor name change for our organization, from the Associated Students *of* Historic Preservation to the Associated Students *for* Historic Preservation. There was a unanimous feeling among the members that this was a more inclusive name, indicative of the role we wish to have within the school and the community. In the past, the ASHP has had difficulty attracting members from outside the degree program. We are currently one of the smallest student organizations on campus, and the smallest program in the School of Architecture & Allied Arts (AAA). We are hopeful that by increasing our visibility within the school we can grow in membership and action and provide an educational function to other students of AAA who may not understand the importance of historic preservation.

To facilitate this visibility, we have increased dissemination of *The ASHP Journal* and reinstated several types of public lectures. The latter includes an informal weekly lecture series given by students on historic structures as seen through their eyes and travels. We will also invite some influential members of the regional preservation community to come and speak about the various and important roles of preservation. Finally, we will look to bring individuals from outside the region for inclusion into the AAA Lecture Series, the first of which will occur this May with the invitation of

Steven Peterson, Historic Architect for the Alaska Region of the National Park Service. Along with developing increased interaction with other AAA student organizations, the ASHP is looking to inform a broader range of students about the value of historic resources - from a variety of viewpoints.

Back when I lived in the South, I heard a story from an old farmer friend of mine. Every year he would go out in his field and leave a salt lick for the deer way out at the edge. Apparently, this kept the deer satisfied and away from some of his other equipment on the property - and it provided some necessity of survival for the deer. Invariably, he said, he would go out in that field a week after he placed the salt lick, and not one deer would have touched it. As the days passed, he kept an eye on the spot from his house on the hill above, one young deer would finally wander out from the edge of the woods and start to lick that block. When the other deer saw this, and saw that nothing had happened to the one young deer who dared to step out into the open, they followed him to that spot and found the salt lick. The resources are there in our community, and if we dare to go looking for them the results could provide benefits for the whole community. As we in the ASHP continue this exploration and journey, we encourage you to do the same. Take an increasingly proactive role in your communities. It still takes that individual to take the first step which can affect the whole community in a positive way.

## Editors' Notes...

It has been a busy term for ASHP members. We are currently gearing up for Preservation Week which will take place nationally Sunday, May 11 through Saturday, May 17. The ASHP, in conjunction with Lane County businesses and residents, is coordinating tours, lectures, and other events to celebrate the architectural history of the area. We have also been involved in organizing a slide lecture series within the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, planning the annual preservation field school, and volunteering at a lecture series presented by the Historic Preservation League of Oregon.

We look forward to the Spring term and to the next issue of *The ASHP Journal*, which will offer articles on such diverse topics as a HABS project on an 1860s

house in Benton County, Oregon, a student's architectural experience in Rome, the Historic Preservation Programs webpage, and a railroad conference in Sacramento.



Submissions to *The ASHP Journal* are encouraged and can be sent to Editor, c/o Historic Preservation Program, 5233 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-5233.



*The ASHP Journal* is a publication of the Associated Students for Historic Preservation located in 231 Pacific Hall, University of Oregon. (541) 346-0726.  
Website: <http://www.uoregon.edu/~ashp>

**Editorial Staff ❖ Anne Brockett ❖ Jeannie Brush ❖ Corri Jimenez**

# Lessons Learned in Quake Country

by Mara Jones

Since the California Loma Prieta Earthquake of 1989 the California Preservation Foundation (CPF) has worked to educate community leaders, property owners and historic preservationists about how to protect the State of California's historic resources from natural disaster. Recently, CPF and a host of sponsors and cooperating statewide organizations conducted a series of three workshops (in Palm Springs, Los Angeles and Berkeley) to continue this effort.

At the day-long Berkeley workshop, fifty attendees gathered at the historic Julia Morgan Theater (formerly St. John's Presbyterian Church) to listen to and discuss the progress, discoveries and lessons learned through repeated earthquake disaster recoveries. Efforts to save damaged historic resources following the 1994 Northridge Earthquake were far more successful than those following the 1989 Loma Prieta and 1992 Cape Mendocino-Ferndale quakes.

The recently published *20 Tools that Protect Historic Resources after an Earthquake: Lessons Learned from the Northridge Earthquake* by Executive Director, Jeffrey Eichenfield, (California Preservation Foundation, 1996) served as the framework for the day's activities which were led by Eichenfield and Paige Swartley, CPF's Program Associate. Case studies were introduced to illustrate issues surrounding three major areas of concern: Preservation-Sensitive Emergency Ordinances, Building Inspection and Technical Issues (including chimney repair), and Downtown Economic Recovery.

In addition, Liz Westerfield, the Earthquake Response Manager for the National Trust for Historic Preservation introduced us to the Historic Preservation Partners for Earthquake Response Program (HPP), an exemplary partnership of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, the Califor-

nia Office of Historic Preservation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the California Preservation Foundation, the Los Angeles Conservancy, and the Getty Conservation Institute. With a \$10 million federal grant from the National Park Service HPP was able to distribute construction and technical assistance grants to owners of historic properties damaged in the 1994 Northridge Earthquake.

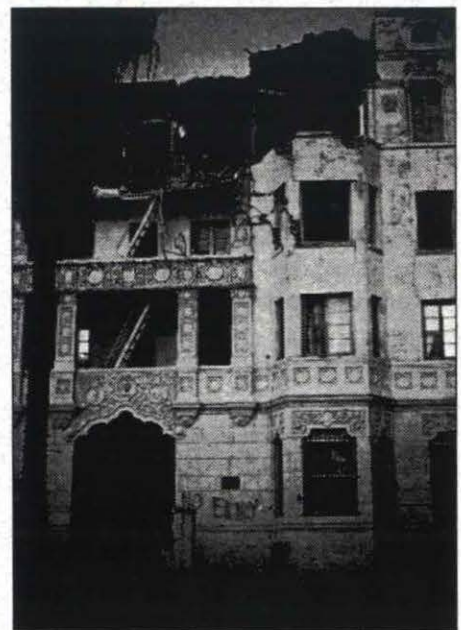
Other speakers included Christy Johnson McAvooy, Principal of the Historic Resources Group in Hollywood, Bob Mackensen, AIA, Executive Director of the State Historic Building at Safety Board, Leslie Dill, Architect and Vice-Chair, Los Gatos Historic Preservation Committee and Dan Craig, Executive Director, Downtown Berkeley Association.

As a newcomer to seismic issues, I found several points of particular interest at this informative, well-conducted workshop:

- 1) Seismic risk is great to historic properties, however, misinformation is often a greater threat. There is much confusion over "tagging," the process of assessing the degree of damage using red, yellow, or green tags. Contrary to public understanding, a "red tag" does not have to be a death sentence for a building. Shoring and stabilization are usually better, faster and more economical than demolition. Building inspectors who are not trained or sensitive to historic properties can sometimes create misleading information about a property, often resulting in demolition by anxious or uninformed property owners.
- 2) Pre-planning is essential. The costs to *prepare* are far less than the costs to *repair*. Planning and zoning issues need to be resolved in advance so that resources are not lost due to perceived economic gain. Relationships with city and community groups need to be established well in advance of a disaster so that there is an already

established "common goal" that was achieved in a clear logical manner.

- 3) A comprehensive inventory of historic resources needs to be made. This allows not only for the quick identification of buildings at risk but can also give cities and owners access to rebuilding funds earmarked for historically significant properties. Inventories need to be readily available to many in times of disaster so that parallel response efforts can happen.
- 4) Alternative historic fabric ordinances or codes need to be in place prior to a disaster. Having to conform to a standard code can drastically alter a resource. This is particularly significant with regard to fireplace and chimney repairs in domestic properties. And finally,
- 5) the California private sector has gone to great lengths to prepare and educate us about historic resources in times of disaster. However, paying for the damage should still be of major concern. Insurance companies, the government and the private sector are stretched due to many recent serial disasters. It is in everyone's best interest to *prevent* as much damage as possible.



Results of 1994 Northridge, CA Earthquake. *20 Tools*, p. 16.

# The Red-Lights of Portland

by Corri Jimenez

Prostitution or "social eroticism" was a big industry in every substantial town in America during the late-nineteenth century. Contradictory to family values stressed by today's governmental powers, the Victorian age found prostitution an acceptable part of everyday life. As a Victorian protocol, prestigious men were presumed to seek sexual relations from prostitutes instead of turning to their respectable wives. As a reliable establishment in America, prostitution was found widely in both discreet and blatant districts. In Oregon, prostitution at this time could be found in a multitude of ill-reputed brothels, cribs, and parlor houses represented in small towns, such as La Grande, Jacksonville, Cottage Grove and Pendleton, as well as the metropolis of Portland. From simple mining, logging, and farming towns to corporate communities, diverse classes of prostitutes inhabited defined districts entitled "red-light" areas. Originating in Dodge City, Kansas, the term "red-light" finds its roots with railroad employees who positioned their brake lanterns outside brothel doors either to "discourage intruders" or to indicate where they could be found in case of emergency. Noticing that this was beneficial for business, prostitutes continued this practice into the twentieth-century.

In the Northwest, the history and environment of red-light districts can be defined through architecture. As a summary of these unique districts, Portland and its diverse cultures in the nineteenth century sets a fine example.

Interestingly, the first red-light structures in the river town of Portland were houseboats. One example in 1870 was Miss Nancy Boggs' 80 x 40 foot immense river scow which operated for 10 years on the Willamette River. The domain was depicted as a bright crimson vessel which was anchored in the middle of the river. The lower half of the scow was a saloon and dance hall and the upper two floors housed rooms for 10 to 15 women. To accommodate the guests, small boats were provided by the house to shuttle them from boat to land. Floating her barge to locations where her commerce was in demand, Boggs was considered a productive businesswoman and paid no liquor fees to either Portland or East Portland, a settlement on the east side of the river. To control police raids, her scow was equipped with a pump which squirted heavy streams of water. After constant tension, the police eventually and literally grounded her business. Boggs later opened a parlor house in North Portland on Pine Street between Third and Fourth Streets.

Characteristically, the hierarchy of prostitutes is reflected in the architecture of red-light districts where prostitutes ranged from prestigious courtesans or mistresses, to parlor house madams to the lowest, the crib girls. All were accepted to a degree in the community as they led their lives on the edge of credibility.

In Portland, the red-light district was geographically titled the North End, or Whitechapel. It encompassed Couch, Davis, Everett, Flanders, Glisan, Hoyt, and Irving Streets, going from First Street all the way to Twenty-third Street. As early as the 1890s, Portland acquired the reputation of a sin city, centered around the area of Burnside north of the river. By the turn of the century, there were four hundred brothels of various classes. Besides floating scows, any house, hotel, saloon, shanty or theater was an adaptable structure for prostitution.

One building in which prostitution occurred, which is typical to Oregon, is the boxhouse. These "variety theaters" were a mixture of a saloon, dancehall, burlesque theater and bordello. With a stage at one end and a bar at the other, 'pretty waiter girls' entertained men in a multitude of ways. The chief features of the boxhouse were the mezzanine tiers of curtained cubicles which gave this establishment its title of "boxhouse." In these upper levels were rooms where prostitution was conducted for patrons of the theater. Wearing costumes designed to accentuate their charms, the girls made their profits by the amount of liquor sold and from the tips around the gambling tables.

The lowest kind of prostitution occurred in the "cribs," a string of small frame shanties or tents in a section of town usually entitled an "alley" or "row." Typically the facade had a door and two small windows and the interior was barely furnished. The structure was divided by either a wall or a curtain which separated the box space into two rooms: a front parlor and a rear bedroom. Cribs were devoid of comfort and were rented anywhere from eight to twenty dollars a week in advance. Smelling of lysol carbolic acid, the bed was dirty and covered with coarse sheets and a bright bed spread. Across the foot of the bed was thrown a piece of red or brown oilcloth which protected the spread from soiled boots of customers.

On a more optimistic note, brothels like the Paris House and Mansion of Sin were two flamboyant businesses in town which catered to the wealthy. The Mansion of Sin, owned by Madam Lida Fanshaw, was one popular establishment in Portland during the 1890s. Located at 151 Seventh Street near Broadway, the Mansion was an elegant house and Fanshaw, like most madams, did not exit her establishment without jewels, furs, or, in her case, a glass carriage. Another high class brothel was the Paris House constructed in 1904 for the 2.5 million people coming to the internationally acclaimed Lewis and Clark Exposition of 1905, which ran for 137 days straight. Occupying an entire block, the Paris House was located on Davis Street, between Third and Fourth and employed 100 "doves" for the multitude of gentlemen traveling to Portland. Unfortunately neither

(See *Red Lights*, page 7)

## NIGHT TRAIN FROM KOSICE

by David Singer



**Recently**, I was traveling through Eastern Slovakia on my way from Krakow to Budapest. My companion and I spent several days riding buses between small towns and villages, visiting several World Heritage sites at Spisske Kapitula, Spisske Podhradie and the castle ruin of Spisske Hrad (1209), the largest ruin along the ancient trade route through southeastern Slovakia.

I arrived in Kosice (Ko-sheet-ze) by nightfall expecting to catch a late train straight to Keleti station in Central Pest, but what I encountered was a gem of a city, ripe with a strong sense of pride, history and an eye on the future.

The following journal entry from the night I spent wandering through the streets of historic Kosice is a colorful escapade sprinkled with a touch of the surreal and tainted by the influence of tourism.

"Kosice has the most impressive main street that I have ever laid eyes on. With bent neck and stumbling feet, twisting and turning, I was in a mad rush to take it all in before the train was due. A two minute walk takes you from the dirty bustling train station to Jacob's Palace, a Hungarian influenced masterpiece of unrelenting detail and ogee arches. Further along, passing nice Baroque and Renaissance facades, you land on top of the Cathedral of St. Elizabeth built in 1345-1508. Very high gothic! The town's incredible Gothic Urban Tower and 14th century Romanesque/Gothic St. Michael's Chapel sit immediately to the south. These town centerpieces are like the Alaskan sun in that they radiate colors in the night so intense on the streetscape that what the viewer experiences is heightened by a sense of magic in the architecture. Slovakian influence is evident in style after style on a number of structures, from civic to private to religious. The Rococo town hall built in 1780 is flanked by Baroque Burgher residences and shops. The wonderfully ornate State Theater, built at the turn of the 18th century in a Renaissance style, is illuminated in the night as if a chess board had come to life and I walked amongst the sculpted players of Bishop and Castle. At the end of one of these radiating treasure vein streets lies the State Museum. Beautiful! And in its shadow a tiny wooden vernacular church, complete with three onion domes. The

number of individual pieces of wood and shingle on this heavenly jewel is mind-boggling.

Post-Communist Kosice is in the process of pulling up the trolley tracks from the town center, and is reorganizing its pedestrian main street with new cobble tracks and landscaping. The amusing part of this story stems from the town planning department's attitude of determination. The Preservation Police are everywhere with billy-clubs, handcuffs and walkie-talkies. Marching the streets in pairs. Kosice may have had a crime problem after Communism was ousted, and in order to establish a tourist industry and protect their preservation investments in the town's cultural resources, they hired hundreds of young rent-a-cops. Every corner I turned I was accompanied by several of these individuals, who were probably secretly hoping I'd commit some crime so they could break from the routine. Perhaps this was a solution to provide jobs for swarms of youths to channel their aggressive behavior. Feeling safe to walk the streets at night by myself in a foreign land, I headed back to the train station to catch the train to Budapest and begin yet another adventure."

Photo: St. Elizabeth's Cathedral in Kosice. From *Treasures from the Past: The Czechoslovak Cultural Heritage* (1992).

### ☀T-SHIRTS☀T-SHIRTS☀T-SHIRTS☀

Landmarks Association of St. Louis is proud to offer its new "Building Hugger" T-shirt. The front of the shirt features "The Ultimate Throwaway Society," a cartoon by political artist Tom Engelhardt which depicts landmark buildings poking out of a trash can. Text emblazoned on the back proclaims the wearer to be a Building Hugger. White screens on a red background.

All proceeds benefit Landmark Association's preservation initiatives. To order, send \$17.00 (includes postage) to:

Landmarks Association of St. Louis  
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# Planning and Preservation: An Important Association

by Steven Blashfield

As resources become increasingly scarce, developing and expanding alliances will become an important task for preservationists in achieving their identified goals. Planners play a significant role in the development of urban and rural areas, and have established vast resources related to land-use and property issues. Increasingly, planners are becoming more aware of and incorporating preservation ideals into their actions and procedures. On the other hand, planners have significant power to overlook or disregard the importance of preservation to the community, choosing instead to rely on other methods to achieve their goals of establishing thriving communities. As these two professions become increasingly involved in common activities, the effort to reach an understanding and develop mutually beneficial relationships is significant.

Planners and preservationists are generally looking to achieve the same goal of developing healthy and vibrant communities. Unfortunately, the methodologies for reaching this goal do not always follow the same path. Interest in preserving historic resources is viewed by some as conflicting with growth and development, which is the goal of most cities. Preservationists have provided significant evidence to the contrary, suggesting that historic preservation is viable both socially and economically. Nevertheless, in a seminal article discussing this relationship in the *Journal of the American Planning Association* 50 (1984), Birch and Roby describe the two professions as having an "Uneasy Alliance." Their interpretation stems primarily from the discrepancy between methods and goals. While planners operate the tools that could make preservation a more significant goal within the city, they have failed to provide any comprehensive protection for historic resources. In Oregon, we have seen numerous examples of this failure, most recently with the Amazon Housing Complex in Eugene and the Royal Bakery Stable in Portland, where property owners were able to eliminate historic structures despite community or government opposition.

Preservation is a relatively young profession, only reaching its current level of significance in the last twenty years. Conversely, planning reached professional status in the first decade of this century. Through such tools as master planning, zoning and land-use limitations, planners wield significant power to shape cities, but the results have not always been favorable for preservation efforts. This incongruity stems from several reasons, including various political pressures and the lack of significant models to prove that preservation can be universally successful. In a more recent article in the *Journal of the American Planning Association* 61 (1995), one planner, William C. Baer, even

suggests that current historic preservation efforts may fill up the closet," not providing space for future development or activity.

Planners have the difficult task of balancing an interest in development and retaining community character and identity. The power to either acknowledge or overlook historic districts through zoning and development recommendations is integral. Planners are often faced with difficult decisions and must choose between two equally valid activities. The urban growth boundaries in Oregon are indicative of this dichotomy. While planners preserve rural and farm land from sprawl and overdevelopment, they vastly increase the pressures within the urban core where many historic structures are located.

In Portland, aside from master planning procedures and zoning, planners affect the urban environment through recommendations identified as the "buildable lands analysis." This procedure provides property owners and developers with recommendations for future development or potential constraints of given locations, sites or districts. The buildable lands analysis is a determining factor in identifying both the urban growth boundary and permitting developments. Policy decisions currently in place to omit such areas as wetlands from potential development are binding, and have prevented designated wetland areas from being eliminated. Similar omissions of historic properties are conceivable but have not been enacted. This situation is not unique to Portland.

The reality, it seems, is that preservation must be approached through a focused and comprehensive effort in order to be successful. The one thing ultimately established in the restoration versus new construction debate is that there is no rule of thumb that can adequately address the economic viability of either solution without in depth individual analysis of historic properties. Nevertheless, it seems increasingly important, though preservationists generally resist this activity, to provide target goals or estimations of structures to be preserved, so that planning can adequately address these issues. In current methods, under which the significance of any structure can be argued, the proverbial door seems to be left open to threaten all historic structures in the effort to save all historic structures. In his article, Baer suggests the need for these identified percentage restrictions for adequate planning. Planners, in addressing the needs of preservation, must recognize that exact quotas are dangerous to both development and preservation, however, the suggestion should not be lost for its overall point. Planners and preservationists increasingly need to work together to help shape the city in an effective manner. This approach requires planners to think in the "romantic" notions of preservationists, and preservationists to think in the "rationalist" notions of planners as identified by Birch and Roby, while realizing that these stereotypes are not wholly accurate representations.

Once again, it is obvious that preservation is a subset of planning goals, similar to the way that preservation is a subset of sustainability goals as identified in the Fall issue of the ASHP Journal. The thing that becomes increasingly apparent, however, is that preservation can provide an important link among multiple professions.

**From Preservation Week, page 1**

participation of local enterprises and the community at large in the efforts of historic preservation.

ASHP has scheduled several events, among them a local historic district walking tour guided by preservation students and faculty, a preservation lecture held at the University of Oregon, children's activities including mural paintings and fun-educational talks, and architectural tours of the Oregon campus and downtown Eugene. As sponsorship and volunteer support grow, we hope to expand this list in depth and scope.

Although we are disappointed at the inability of Eugene and Springfield to be a part of Preservation Week this year, we are at the same time excited and proud that the event will continue under the auspices of ASHP. Local organizations will prove to be invaluable in the insecure future of preservation. As the preservation support mechanisms of local governments in Oregon dwindle due to budgetary constraints, a reliance on grass-roots community organizations will become increasingly important. It appears that a new era in preservation is being ushered in, an era in which preservation truly does begin at home.

**From VAF, page 1**

near the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers, will provide a scenic and exciting backdrop to scheduled activities. Portland's lively downtown will invite meeting participants to explore the Willamette River waterfront park, the terra cotta and cast iron districts, and the brick warehouse district just to the north of downtown. Portland's location near Oregon City, the "end of the Oregon Trail", will allow visits to both the rugged mountain and river landscapes that were close to

the end of the trail, and the gentler valley where many people settled and established farms once they arrived. The first day's tour will explore the northern Willamette Valley. This tour will highlight Oregon City (the end of the Oregon Trail, and the first capital of Oregon), the Aurora Colony (a utopian community built in the 1860's and 1870's), and a still-functioning sawmill that began operations in the late nineteenth century. The day will also include Willamette valley farms, barns and hops barns, two of the earliest standing houses in the Valley, in the town of Molalla, and a unique house dating from the 1860's surrounded by a colonnade of slender Doric columns.

The second day's tour will begin in Troutdale with a look at a grouping of buildings that was once the Multnomah County Poor Farm, then the group will head east along the Columbia River. The trip will include visiting concrete and stone masonry construction sites along the old Columbia River Highway; the Bonneville Dam; heavy timber structures from the 1930's at Eagle Creek; the town of Hood River; and a hundred-year old orchard in the Hood River Valley. The day will end festively with a reception at Timberline Lodge, a massive, hand-hewn Depression-Era timber and stone building at the 6000 foot elevation of Mount Hood.

Following the Saturday papers and the Saturday night banquet and dance, two optional Sunday tours will be available. One tour will include Portland's early twentieth century suburbs on the east side of the Willamette River, concentrating on housing near what was once an extensive streetcar system. The second will allow a look at twentieth century "non-vernacular" architecture, including buildings by Pietro Belluschi, John Yeon, and the Finnish architect Alvar Aalto, who designed the library at Mt. Angel Abbey, which is one of his two buildings in the U.S.

The steering committee for this year's conference includes Howard Davis, Professor of Architecture; Leland Roth, Marion Dean Ross Distinguished Professor of Architectural History; and Don Peting, Associate Professor of Architecture and Director, Historic Preservation Program. Assisting in the extensive preparation for the conference are Historic Preservation graduate students Steven Blashfield, Erin Hanafin, Bill Morrow, and Planning, Public Policy & Management graduate student Gabrielle Schiffer.

For further information about the meeting, please contact Howard Davis at (541) 346-3665 or <hdavis@aaa.uoregon.edu>. We look forward to seeing you all there.

**From Red-Lights, page 4**

structure remains standing today.

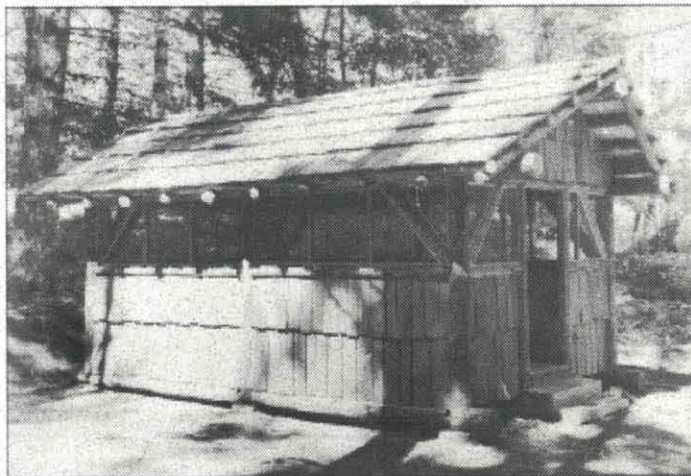
By 1912, prostitution officially came to a close in the North End when Portland mayor A.G. Rushlight discovered that the land owners of the bordellos were prominent businessmen in the city. Attempting to eliminate the immense red-light district of Portland, Rushlight created the "tin plate law" whereby tin signs were put on buildings to identify their owners. Wealthy businessmen who owned red-light structures would therefore be identified and ashamed. The ordinance was invented not only to disgrace these building owners but to encourage the eviction of their ill-reputed tenants.

For the most part, these districts and structures which once housed many women are gone and only a trail of history can be found. To a preservationist, these rare districts are an extremely valuable asset to the field of architecture as well as women's studies. Their architecture can help us understand a truly fascinating time in America's social history.

Sources:  
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Meier, Gloria. *Those Naughty Ladies of the Old Northwest*. Bend: Maverick Publications, 1990.  
Seagraves, Anne. *Soiled Doves*. Hayden, Idaho: Wesanne Publications, 1994.

## 1997 Field School at Silver Falls State Park

The 1997 Pacific Northwest Preservation Field School is around the corner. This year's field school will be held at Silver Falls State Park and is sponsored by the University of Oregon, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, National Park Service, YMCA, the State Historic Preservation Office and the USDA Forest Service. This summer's focus is the documentation, stabilization, and restoration of several Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) log structures in the park. Six one-week sessions, from June 23 to August 2, 1997, will provide participants with comprehensive training in preservation related issues through hands-on craft experience supplemented by workshops, lectures, and seminars. Workshops will include log repair and replacement, general wood repair techniques, masonry analysis and repair, and finish work including door and window fabrication. Participants will address issues related to historic building assessments, interpretation, National Register nominations, CCC history, and the role of the National Park Service in preservation. Each one week session, which offers two hours of graduate or undergraduate credit, is open to all college eligible students.



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