

Preserving Forest Grove

Newsletter of the Historic Landmarks Board

Historic Buildings on the Pacific University Campus

By Jon Stagnitti

(Interview with Linda Saari, Public Relations Coordinator)

What are the University's plans for its historic buildings?

Pacific University has three historic buildings on its Forest Grove campus. Old College Hall, the oldest building in the West continuously used for educational purposes, was at the heart of the campus in the beginning in 1849. Today, it is used as a museum and meeting space. Old College Hall is on the National Historic Register. Marsh Hall is also an old building, although not technically "historic." Built in 1894, it will continue to be used for academic and administrative space. Carnegie Hall, current home of the College of Education, was built in 1912 as the University's first library, funded through the Andrew Carnegie Foundation and the only such library at the time in the Pacific Northwest. Carnegie Hall will continue to be used for academic purposes.

What kind of on-going maintenance program does the University have for its historic buildings? Who is responsible for this maintenance? Does the University have someone on staff with which to consult about building preservation?

The University does not employ anyone on staff with building preservation expertise, per se. The University does, however, consult with building preservation experts when the need arises. When Walker Hall needed to be moved from campus in September 2005, the University expended many hours and dollars to maintain what was possible of

the historic significance of that structure. (Walker Hall was relocated for possible future use.) While some minor renovations and repairs have been and will be required to these three buildings, the University maintains every effort to keep within the historic parameters of the buildings in such work. All the buildings on the campus of Pacific University are maintained by staff of the University Facilities department.

Will the University's master plan necessitate the relocation of any buildings? If yes, would the University allow for the expertise of a historic preservation consultant when budgeting for such a move?

No additional buildings are planned for relocation at this time.

Would the university support placing additional buildings on the National Historic Register? What about the Local Register? If not, why not?

Placing buildings on any historic register – local, state or national – requires attention to the requirements of that placement. Placement on a historic register also brings many benefits to the organization. Pacific University could possibly consider placing additional campus buildings on historic registers depending on future anticipated uses of the buildings.

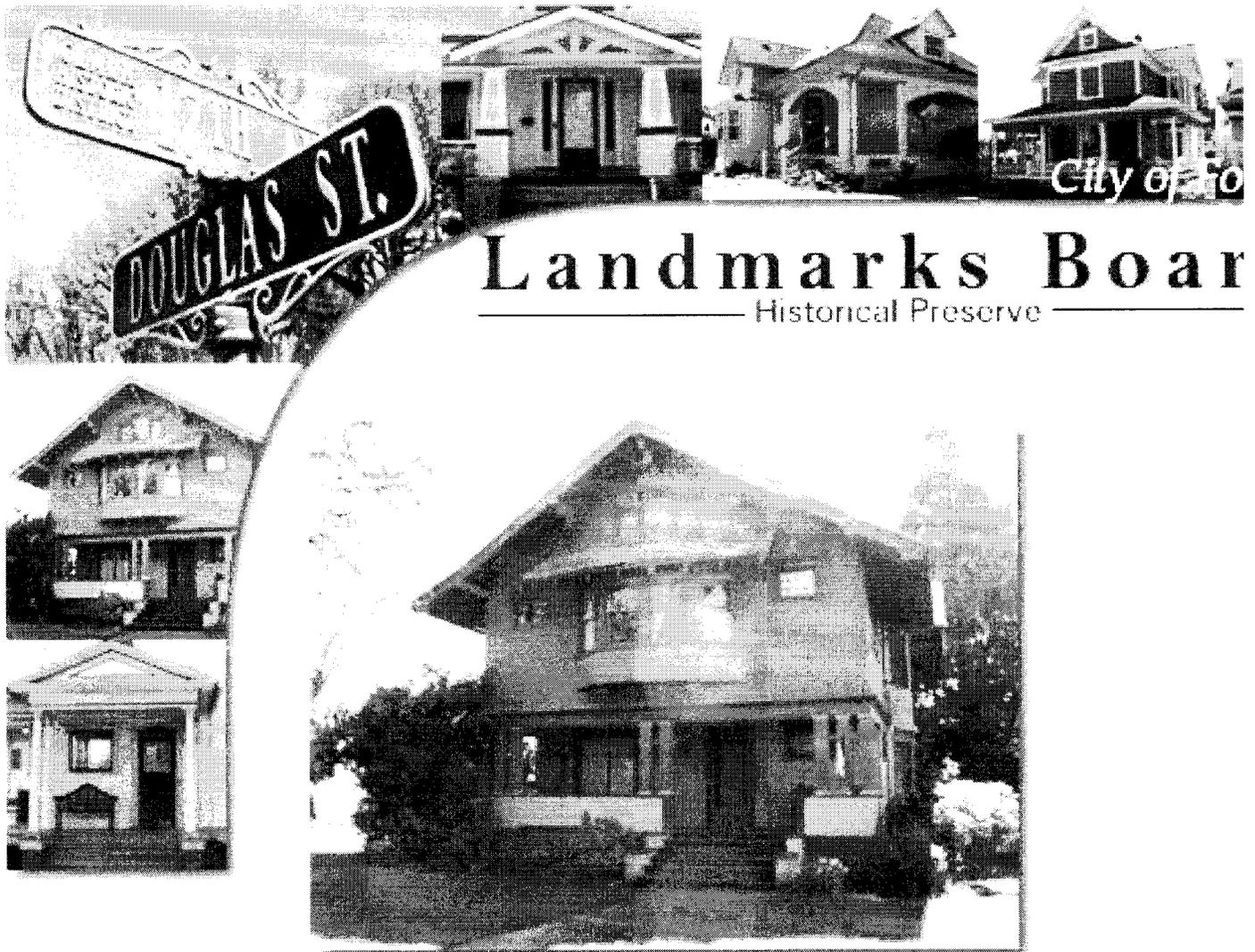
Now that the museum has been moved to such a prominent location, is there interest in expanding the hours?

Hours of open operation of Old College Hall could be expanded if staff and/or volunteers were made available.

Historic Landmark Board's New Website

The Historic Landmarks Board is in the process of designing and developing a web site. The site will include everything you ever wanted to know about the board itself, as well a wealth of information about historic preservation and

renovation. Current as well as past renovation projects will be featured, including both before and after photos of the projects. Stay tuned for further developments, but it looks as if the site will go live in the very near future....



Screen shot from the Landmarks Board's new website:
<http://www.ci.forest-grove.or.us/newsite/Landmarksboard/>

National Preservation Month 2006

Sustain America-Vision, Economics, and Preservation

Sustain America-Vision, Economics, and Preservation is the theme of National Preservation Month 2006. The National Trust is highlighting different areas of preservation related to this theme throughout the month of May with various



activities and events including educational activities at National Trust Historic Sites, special events, and select vacation packages offered through the National Trust's Historic Hotels of America, to name a few.

National Preservation Month serves as a showcase for our country's diverse and unique heritage. Thousands of state and local community groups will honor

their distinct histories through various activities and bring historic preservation to the forefront of Americans' daily lives by emphasizing the vital importance of protecting our nation's past.

For millions of Americans, preservation begins at home. For this reason, the National Trust is highlighting the vital role that individuals play in protecting our nation's heritage through the Preservation Month theme "Preservation Begins at Home." Whether it is historic homeowners or concerned citizens lovingly restoring a historic home or community landmark—or city planners and community leaders advocating for better policies to protect the diverse heritage of our nation—people are fast-becoming involved in every facet of preservation and recognizing the value that it brings to every city and state in

America. Explore the links at www.nationaltrust.org to learn more about how you can become involved in preservation in your community during Preservation Month and year-round.

How is Forest Grove marking the event? As we do every year, the Board has a banner placed across Pacific Avenue to remind everyone of the city's heritage. Secondly, on May 8th the City Council adopted a resolution in recognition of the event. And lastly, the Board selected Monty Smith as recipient of the Eric Stewart Award. This award was given in recognition of his outstanding commitment to the preservation of Forest Grove's history. Monty has recently retired from the Board, and was selected due to his contribution as Board chair and newsletter editor, as well as the restoration work he had performed on one of the city's more significant houses, the Blank house (a.k.a. the Stage Coach Stop). Congratulations Monty!

New Grant Funding Available

As most readers know, the Historic Landmarks Board operates a renovation grant program to help property owners offset the cost of doing historically accurate renovation projects. This money is provided by the waste transfer station on the west side of town and is handed out to various groups by the city council. So with each new fiscal year, the HLB gets renewed funding - this year our grant was \$13,500! Have a project that you've been thinking about taking care of on your historic home? Come talk to us. We'll reimburse up to half the cost of the work. Contact James Reitz at 503-992-3233 for more information.

This publication receives federal financial assistance for the identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, sex, or handicap in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office for Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, PO Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013.

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The Forest Grove Historic Landmarks Board Grant Program

Is your house on our local register? If it is, did you know that your house is eligible for restoration / rehabilitation grant funding? The Historic Landmarks Board has funds to help you with your projects. If you are planning any exterior restoration work such as restoring architectural features or if you have structural work to do such a foundation repair, we'd love to help. We fund projects up to 50% of the cost of the job per grant. Come see us! We can also help you find historically appropriate solutions to any problems you may have.

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Preserving Forest Grove is a quarterly newsletter published by the Forest Grove Historic Landmarks Board to help fulfill its duty of public education regarding the preservation of cultural resources. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please call James Reitz at 503-992-3233, or JReitz@ci.forest-grove.or.us.

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