



Yamhill County Museum, 6th and Market Street, Lafayette, Oregon

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, October 9, 1979, 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: First Christian Church, 1300 Brooks St., McMinnville

POTLUCK: Bring your own table service

PROGRAM: Historic Preservation, Speaker, Al Staehli

Al Staehli is a Portland Architect who has long been active in historic preservation. He has served as Oregon's historic preservation chairman for the American Institute of Architects and on the Board of Directors of the Historic Preservation League of Oregon. He is also an adjunct professor at Portland State University in the public history program.

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MUSEUM NEWS

We are still having good museum attendance. A group of 65 school children and four adults visited one day from Salem. The children commented on our large number of nice exhibits and took special note of our photos of Lafayette Locks in operation as they were on their way for a visit to the "Locks" after stopping to have their lunch in City Park.

The lovely old house across from the Museum where Williamsons lived was burned down in place of repairing. Now a mobile home replaces it. Another very old landmark gone. There are several old homes still standing that need to be marked - history preserved.

The new Senior Citizens Meeting Center is very nice and they are enjoying their meetings - as well as we did having our meeting there on September 11th. We will go again another time.

The book shelves we received from Carlton Library will have some remodeling done before we can use them as one was to be used for shelf space to display typewriters etc.

We have some new window shades and will be doing some more repair and rearranging to make more room. Can you imagine having to build on more room? We grow some every week in some manner.

We have an exhibit from Yamhill County at the State Capitol Building in the new wing. Do go by and see it as well as the ones from other counties. It will be there until January 1st.

We also have some articles on display at the McMinnville Association of Arts Center, 417 N. Adams Street, until the last of September.

We have been able to help with requests for family history information several times this past year - from as far away as Idaho.

We still have school desks to sell as well as our book "OLD YAMHILL". Call for appointment any time- 472-7935.

ROMA SITTON

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Historic Preservation:

Historic preservation has come of age. Since 1966, when the United States Congress passed the Historic Preservation Act, Americans have been cognizant of their history as it is embodied in the built environment, and the need to preserve that heritage. Each state has an Historic Preservation Office which oversees federal funds which are appropriated for historic restorations and manages National Register of Historic Places nominations. The private sector is deeply involved in historic preservation through the National Trust for Historic Preservation, an organization chartered by Congress in 1949.

It is now time for local governmental bodies and local organizations to carry on their own historic preservation programs so that structures and sites which symbolize and chronicle the past events of local communities will not only be saved from destruction, but continue to function as vital parts of the environment. It is hoped that the film we will see at the meeting, A Place in Time, made by the National Trust for Historic Preservation will give us inspiration to look around us here in Yamhill County and to take note of those fine old structures still standing. We can, as interested citizens and historians, help maintain, preserve, and utilize these sites. If a community is allowed the opportunity to enjoy its old buildings, pride in them follows. But first, the citizens of a community must be made aware of the treasures they have. This is perhaps where the Yamhill County Historical Society can play an important part in our own historic preservation programs.

Some of the aspects of preservation programs already in existence around the state which may interest the various communities in Yamhill County are: Historic Preservation ordinances which seek to maintain the historic integrity of older buildings, National Register of Historic Places nominations for the more outstanding examples of historic structures, and complete, city-wide inventories of the historic resources within a community. Other activities interested citizens might undertake are walking tours, brochure printing, and sending resource persons to local schools to talk about historic preservation with youngsters.

Al Staehli, active preservationist from Portland, will give us some options to think about when he speaks about preservation at the local level. The film and the remarks should inspire us all to do what we can to preserve our historical sites.

JANICE RUTHERFORD

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DUES TIME AGAIN: Local Society dues are \$2.00 per person, or \$50.00 for life membership. If you wish State Affiliate membership (which includes the State Historical Society newsletter and Historical Quarterly) send an additional \$7.50. Make checks payable to Yamhill County Historical Society and mail to Evelyn Nieman, 1501 S. Baker St., McMinnville, Oregon, 97128.

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