

More Than Ever, This Place Matters

May 2022

Historic Preservation Month

Join us in celebrating the history of Benton County

Some events require registration, all are free

This is a collaboration by the Benton County and Corvallis Historic Resources Commissions. All events are operated by volunteers – please remember to thank them for their service.

Spectres of Benton County Past was created through the fantastical imagination and technological wizardry of Adrienne Fritze and Mark van der Pol of Conundrum House, a local Corvallis business dedicated to the art of fun through games. Spectres is historically factual with a twist of fiction. Enjoy the first season of Spectres during the month of April – spectres.conundrumhouse.com The second season of Spectres starts May 7th and a new episode will release on the 14th and the 21st, with a culminating grand finale at the Corvallis Museum on the 28th.

Date	Day	Event
2	Monday	Franklin School Neighborhood & Tree Walking Tour – moved to the 16th
4	Wednesday	South Central Park Walking Tour Time: 4 pm Meet: In front of the Art Center at 700 SW Madison Ave Guide: Doug Eaton Quality historic resources enrich this pedestrian-friendly tour. See Gothic and Colonial Revival, Italianate, American Foursquare, Craftsman, and High-Style Bungalow homes, while learning about adaptive use. This walk begins at an 1889 church (now an art center) and includes an 1892 Grocery (now a home).
7	Saturday	Willamette Grange Open House Time: 2-5 pm Location: 27555 Greenberry Road Guide: Jay Sexton Tours of the Historic Willamette Community and Grange Hall built in 1923. Walk through this lovely Hall and see the restoration progress, most notably the new roof structure. Tours are free and will take about 15 minutes, starting at the hour, 20 minutes after the hour and 40 minutes after the hour.
8	Sunday	OSU Walking Tour, Mothers' Day Time: 2–4 pm Meet: east side of Benton Hall, SW Pioneer Pl, OSU Campus, Corvallis Guide: Larry Landis The tour is limited to 25 persons; for reservations email tro2005@gmail.com OSU is Corvallis' most recent historic district with more than 80 contributing structures and it's the only Oregon Campus listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Learn

about the development of campus structures, and early Olmsted and Taylor campus plans, quads, and viewsheds. Appreciate the most comprehensive collection of distinctive John V. Bennes-designed buildings.

14 Saturday

Four Open House Events

1. Independent School

Time: 10 am - 1 pm **Location:** 25381 SW Airport Ave, corner of Airport and Fern Roads, Philomath

Guides: members of the Independent Community Club

<http://www.independentcommunityclub.org/>

Visit one of Benton County's few remaining one-room school houses. The Independent School was built in 1919, and is a good example of a Craftsman style schoolhouse with a Bungalow floor plan. Ask to hear the school bell ring.

2. Adair Barracks Building

Time: 11 am - 2 pm **Location:** 6030 William R Carr Avenue in the barracks building closest to that street

Guides: members of the Adair Living History group

<http://adairlivinghistory.org/>

It's been a long two years and Adair Living History is eager to get back to the business of historic preservation! Meet members of the board and see artifacts from our history. Hear tales of when Camp Adair, seven miles north of Corvallis, was Oregon's second largest city in the 1940s. Find out what the Adair Air Force Station used the big, gray "Block Building" for in the 50s and 60s. There is so much history in the Adair area that we can't put it into one small paragraph. For those of you who have wondered over the last ten years just when that building will be completed, and when the Adair History Interpretive Center will be done, we have some great news! We hope to see many of you there.

3. Palestine Church

Time: 11 am - 2 pm **Location:** 7273 NE Arnold Ave, Adair

Guides: members of the Willing Workers, a group organized in 1916 by farm women to provide a support system for women and families who lived in isolated rural areas

https://www.oregonencyclopedia.org/articles/north_palestine_baptist_chur...

The Palestine Baptist Church was built in 1883 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Come share the memories of the ladies who used and maintained the structure over many decades until ownership was transferred to Benton County and it was moved to Adair Village.

4. Lumos Winery – Home of the Historic H bar H Dude Ranch

Time: Tours on the hour at 3, 4, and 5 PM **Location:** 24000 Cardwell Hill

Guide: winery owner PK McCoy

<https://youtu.be/RQK6mTzhkpY>

The tasting room is in the old dude ranch barn and that is all you normally get to see of the old barn, but for these tours you will get access to the back room. You also get to tour one of the original ranch cabins. And taste some wine while you visit.

15 Sunday

North Central Park Walking Tour

Time: 1 pm **Meet:** SW 8th St and NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis – southwest corner in front of the Presbyterian Church

Guide: Courtney Cloyd

Diverse historic resources and walkability mark this downtown neighborhood tour. See Gothic, Queen Anne, Italianate, Colonial Revival and Arts & Crafts bungalow homes. The walk begins at the 1909 Presbyterian Church and includes a 1940s courtyard apartment and Corvallis' first college fraternity house.

16 Monday

Franklin School Neighborhood & Tree Walking Tour

Time: 2-3 pm **Meet:** Franklin School, 750 NW 18th St, east entrance, Corvallis

Guide: Lyn Larson

Discover the beauty above you! Celebrate the enduring companionship of heritage trees in the historic Franklin School Neighborhood. This one-hour guided tour includes the 1889 Franklin Square Park, Corvallis' oldest park and home to more than 15 different tree species.

17 Tuesday

Benton County Courthouse Tour

Time: 12 pm **Meet:** 120 NW 4th St, Corvallis, meet inside at the elevator.

Guide: Jill VanBuren **Limited to 15 people**, Jill is willing to schedule another tour if more people are interested **Sign up with Inga.Williams@co.benton.or.us**

This requires going through the security scanner, do not bring in any sharp objects and you may wish to leave your purse in the car as a time saver.

Tour this 1888 beauty. The oldest courthouse in the state that has been in continuous operation, this courthouse is a regional icon and graces the logos of both Benton County and the City of Corvallis. The interior and furnishings have been respectfully preserved.

21 Saturday

Owens Farm History Walk

Time: 9 am – 12 pm **Meet:** registered attendees will receive directions and details on where and when to meet

Register at: Proof of Covid-19 vaccination is required, register here: <https://greenbeltlandtrust.org/events/>

Join Greenbelt Land Trust and explore the fascinating history of Owens Farm. Learn about the Knotts-Owens family, their influence in Benton County, uses of the farm over time, and hear about the exciting vision for this property in the future. This property is rich with cultural history and accessible by guided tours only. This is a free and family-friendly walk.

22 Sunday

College Hill West Walking Tour

Time: 12 pm **Meet:** Intersection of NW Jackson Ave and NW Arnold Way, Corvallis

Guide: Dan Brown

The College Hill West Historic District contains over 250 houses dating from 1905 through 1945, and the neighborhood was developed by the builders of OSU. This tour will focus on bungalow, colonial and Tudor architecture, and the original local personalities connected to the homes and the college.

25 Wednesday

Historic Downtown Corvallis Walking Tour

Time: 1 – 3 pm **Meet:** Corvallis Museum, 411 SW 2nd St.

Guide: Mary Gallagher

The tour will begin in the education room with a 20 minute quick history of Corvallis prior to the walk. Once a shipping point, warehouse district, and industrial area, today's Riverfront Park honors downtown Corvallis' early past. Appreciate the sites that built the early local economy. Linger where historic rehabilitation projects fostered dynamic retail growth along 2nd Street. Learn how downtown changed, and yet remained the same inviting place to meet friends, dine, shop and conduct business.

- 26 Thursday** ***HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS CEREMONY***
Time: 6 – 8 pm **Location:** Corvallis Museum, 411 SW 2nd St., downtown Corvallis
Keynote Speaker: **WILLIAM G. ROBBINS**, *Emeritus Distinguished Professor of History* at Oregon State University, will speak on the topic of his soon-to-be published book about the history of Benton County. Books in publication can be found at this website <https://osupress.oregonstate.edu/author/william-robbins>
Awards will be presented to those persons in our community that are exemplary historic preservationist and educators. Savory bites and non-alcoholic drinks will be served.
- 27 Friday** **Samuel Whiteside Family House and Barn Tour**
Time: 5:00 pm **Location:** 6154 Bellfountain Road
Guide: Autumn Peterson
Tour of the Samuel Whiteside 1880s house and 1901 Skipton barn. We'll go over the basic history of the structures and farm outbuildings, discussing the plan for their restoration, preservation and adaptive re-use. In the case of the Skipton barn, when is your building too far gone to save? We'll discuss how to determine the pros and cons of saving such a barn, what options one could consider in salvaging, re-using or re-building. We will not be able to go inside these structures as they are very unstable but we can see inside to the barn and move around and discuss structural issues, ideas on how to best preserve the history and character of these vernacular structures that were a part of early Benton County settler history.
- 28 Saturday** **Spectres of Benton County Finale - Live**
Time: 5:30 pm **Location:** Corvallis Museum, 411 SW 2nd St., downtown Corvallis
Registration will be required.
- 29 Sunday** **Van Buren Bridge Video and Guided Tour**
Guide: Roz Keeney
This historic structure will be removed and destroyed, most likely this year. Roz has been a tireless advocate for saving the bridge. Please join her in learning the history of the bridge and getting an up front tour of its unique features before it disappears forever.
Video Viewing Time: 1 pm **Location:** Majestic Theater, Community Room
"Van Buren Bridge, A Visit From the Past." The video presents a story about two ghosts returning to Corvallis. They both magically materialize in front of the Van Buren Bridge at the same time. Mary Oppen, a young artist, is in the process of painting the bridge when a man materializes in front of her and blocks her view of the bridge. The man is C. B. (Mac) McCullough, Oregon's most famous bridge engineer. They begin to talk and discover that they both had lived in Corvallis when they were young and were drawn to the bridge at this time because they had heard that the bridge was going to be torn

down. They had fond memories of Corvallis and the bridge and needed to see it and relive their young lives before it was gone. They take a walk across the bridge and talk about their lives. As they walk Mary talks about the history of Corvallis and Mac talks about the uniqueness of the bridge. They walk across the bridge then disappear into the sunset.

Guided Tour Time: 2 pm **Meet:** in front of Kinetic Bagel, 250 NW 1st Street

For more information contact:

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