



# RESTORICA

**The LCPS mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the historic architecture in the Lower Columbia region. These structures are important assets that contribute to the area's history, culture, identity, and livability.**



## ANNUAL MEETING: HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004, the Lower Columbia Preservation Society will present a lecture entitled "Historic Landscapes" by Dr. Gail Evans-Hatch. Dr. Evans-Hatch works throughout the United States as a cultural resource specialist, developing historic resource inventories and historic structure reports, publishing her work in historic journals, and engaging the public through oral presentations. Her lecture will discuss the importance of identifying historic landscapes and how preserved landscapes may enhance a culture. Dr. Evans-Hatch will also describe the development of Clatsop Plains. The lecture will be held at 7:00 pm at the Clatsop County Heritage Museum at 1618 Exchange in Astoria.

The evening will also include a brief Annual Meeting of the Lower Columbia Preservation Society. We will be voting on the re-election of board members Jewell Benford, John Goodenberger, Ann Gydé, and Kim Nurdin. We will also vote on the nomination of K.C. McGee and June Lake to the board. Please plan to attend.

*This lecture was made possible in part by a grant from the Oregon Council for the Humanities, a statewide nonprofit organization and an independent affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.*



## OLD HOUSE FORUM

The Hobson House (circa 1864) located at 469 Bond Street, Astoria, will be the site of the next Old House Forum, which will take place on Wednesday evening, April 21, 2004, at 7:00 pm. This home was built entirely of Port Orford cedar and was the home of John Hobson, a pioneer from England in 1843. It is on the National Register of Historic Places and is currently the home of Richard Garner and Mary MacDonald-Garner. The owners will share with us the history of the home and a technique they have perfected for the removal of wall paper. You won't want to miss this one! Attending a Forum is free but open only to LCPS members. Homeowners share the history of their home and/or restoration projects. We ask members to RSVP to Kim Nurdin, (503) 325-6273, if you would like to attend.



## THE INS, OUTS, UPS, AND DOWNS OF DESIGN REVIEW AND ITS EFFECT ON OUR SENSE OF PLACE

Mark your calendars now for the May lecture, scheduled for 7:00 pm, Wednesday, May 5, 2004, in the Astoria Library Flag Room. The lecture will cover everything you ever wanted to know about design review and its effect on our sense of place and community. This lecture will highlight building and neighborhood design, form, function, and context.

The lecture will be presented by Astoria's Community Development Director, J. Todd Scott. Todd will share his wealth of experience on the topic, drawing from a variety of perspectives. Todd has been an advocate for better building design and compatibility as president of the historic Paseo Neighborhood in Oklahoma City, as president and co-founder of The Criterion Group, an Oklahoma City preservation advocacy group that encourages neighborhoods to become involved in preserving their historic resources, as state architect for the Oklahoma Main Street Center, as Historic Preservation Officer for Oklahoma City, and currently as Community Development Director and resident of the City of Astoria.

Bring your questions and learn how design review can add real and true economic development opportunities while enhancing our sense of place for developers, historic preservationists and activists, and local businesses. The lecture is free for LCPS members and non-members.

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## MAY WORKSHOP: EVERYTHING AND MORE ABOUT THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF WOOD-SASH WINDOWS

The Lower Columbia Preservation Society will hold a window workshop on May 15, 2004, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, at the home of Kim and Steve Nurdin, 1393 Franklin Street in Astoria. This workshop will be conducted by Kevin Palo, a highly talented local craftsman and expert in superior quality care and restoration of wood and wood-sash windows. Kevin has extensive experience in this subject matter, most notably his skilled work on the interior and exterior restoration of the Flavel House. Kevin will show us how to get that painted-shut window unstuck and how to rehang window weights. He will also demonstrate how to cut glass, glaze a window (and explain what the terms like "glazing" mean!), and tell us what is involved in weather stripping our old wood-sash windows (it's not as difficult as it seems!). Kevin will bring us up to date on the latest in maintaining wood-sash windows and will end this valuable lecture with a question-and-answer period. Kevin's last window workshop was a big success — you don't want to miss out on this one!

The workshop will be free for LCPS members, \$5.00 for non-members.

## CALL FOR FILM

The Lower Columbia Preservation Society will sponsor a film festival this summer at the historic Columbian Theater in downtown Astoria. In 2003, the LCPS hosted the successful "Astoria on Film," a collection of films made in and around the Astoria area including "A Day in the Life of Astoria: 1954."

This August, the LCPS will host "Astoria in the News," a retrospective of news reels and private films depicting significant persons or events in the area. Tentative films include JFK visiting Astoria, the last day of horse seining on the Columbia River, the Svenson sisters in their father's blacksmith shop, and the implosion of the flour mill.

The LCPS is seeking additional private films of our area. Do you have old home movies of celebrities, natural disasters, parades, industry, construction, or other items of historic interest? Please call organizer John Goodenberger at (503) 325-0209 if you or someone you know might be willing to lend a film to the festival.

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## GARDEN TOUR 2004

Planning is underway for the LCPS annual Garden Tour! The tour will be held on July 10, 2004. Tickets will be available at 670 17th Street, Astoria, on the day of the tour. Watch our website for updates; a reminder card will be mailed a few weeks before the tour. The Garden Tour committee this year is Ann Gydé, Joy Brewer, Linda Oldenkamp, and K.C. McGee.

Do you have/know of a garden you would like to see on the tour? If so, contact Ann Gyde at (503) 325-8541 evenings, or email [agyde@intergate.com](mailto:agyde@intergate.com). We also need volunteers to work the day of the tour selling tickets and greeting people at the gardens — contact Ann if you can help.

## RECAP: RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF YOUR OLD HOUSE

More than 40 people attended a workshop reviewing sources for the historic research of local houses. Held at the newly remodeled Clatsop County Historical Society archives, attendees were instructed by historic preservationist Bruce Berney and curator Liisa Penner. It was rewarding to see the archives filled with enthusiastic house detectives, culling through old photographs, Polk Directories, Sanborn Maps, and internet web sites.

Some discovered the original owners of their house. Others found answers to when mysterious additions were attached to their house. LCPS member Mary MacDonald appreciated the workshop but said locating historic photos of her house "really opened up a can of worms." She and her husband Richard Garner had underestimated the number of alterations to their 1864 house. "Now we have a lot more work to do," she added with a moan.

## OLD HOUSE FORUM RECAP

January's Old House Forum drew a curious crowd to the home of Linda and Mitch Price, 1188 Harrison, Astoria. Now known as the Andrew Young Bed and Breakfast, this is another example of Astoria's growth and appreciation surrounding historic homes. If it were not for the guest book displayed in the foyer, you would not be aware of the changes. The Prices have created a relaxed atmosphere for their guests by allowing them to wander from private room stays into cozy library/sitting areas. The new owners quickly educated themselves to the pleasure of wallpaper removal (knowing nods from LCPS members) and all the other fun projects associated with owning an historic home. From the beautiful woodwork and spacious rooms, to the great views and Mitch's cookies, we thank them for inviting us in.





## WATER HORRORS

by Fred White

Do you know how and where to shut off the water to your house? My neighbors' friend who collects their mail while they're gone didn't, and her attempt to shut off a dripping faucet resulted in a major flood, if all the activity I recently witnessed is any indication. My neighbors spend the winter in the California desert, and they apparently didn't show their mail collector where the shutoff was. I probably wouldn't have either. My neighbors were fortunate, however, because somebody was there to know there was a problem.

My cousin wasn't so lucky. He came home after a weekend away to find that his third floor washing machine had burst a hose, flooding his entire home, which needed to be completely re-sheetrocked.

Just over a year ago, my brother's Pacific City retirement home, which he and his wife had nearly finished after six years of work, was entirely flooded by the structural failure of a toilet supply line. The toilet was on the third floor. His horror was much worse than my cousin's, however, because he had been away from the house for five weeks, probably the only time in six years that he had missed more than one weekend working on the house. By the time a neighbor called him to report water running out of the garage, the entire house was saturated. In addition to the physical damage, there continue to be concerns that mold is present. Furthermore, water-damaged upholstered furniture, even if salvageable, had to be disposed of, because they were contaminated by toxins released from the saturated floors (particleboard and plywood are bound together with toxic glues that contain formaldehyde). Now, a year later, my brother's house is nearly back together. But the value of the house has been lessened because of the flood, mainly as a result of the potential presence of mold.

Other less horrible horror stories I'm aware of include a basement flooded when a hot water heater rusted out, a toilet tank falling off after the internal works broke, an undetected leak in a dishwasher which caused extensive damage to the sub-floor, and a malfunctioning washing machine switch which prevented the water from turning off.

Now, once again — do you know how and where to shut off the water to your house? If you don't, look for a pipe that enters your basement below the outside ground level. Usually the pipe will be a straight shot in from your water meter, which is probably located near the street in front of

your house (look for a rectangular in-ground box with a removable lid). Inside the basement, there should be a shutoff valve on that pipe close to where it enters the house. If you don't have a basement, you may have a shutoff valve in the utility room, or under the kitchen sink.

When you have your plumbing upgraded, consider installing shutoff valves on the water lines to your bathroom and kitchen plumbing, so you can shut off portions of your water system when you go on vacation. Also, have the plumber check your water pressure valve, if you have one. My valve had ceased to function, allowing the full pressure of the city water system (about 120 pounds per square inch) to pressurize the house. A new valve was adjusted to about 80 pounds, which reduces wear and tear on my faucets and fixtures and prevents possible leaks.

## HELPFUL HINTS

Start thinking now about what hazardous waste items you want to get out of your basement or garage. Look for an announcement in the newspapers or call Western Oregon Waste (formerly Sunset Refuse and Recycling) at (503) 738-5717 for the next Household Hazardous Waste Day for free disposal of those nasty chemicals that should NEVER go in the regular garbage or down your sink drains or street storm drain, such as wood preservatives, paints, thinners, and strippers.

## NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION WEEK

Don't forget — May 10-14 is National Historic Preservation Week. Check your local Historic Preservation Department, Historic Museum, or State Historic Preservation Office to learn about events happening in your area to commemorate this special week!

## KUDOS

To Sunset Empire Transportation District, for the fine renovation under way of the old Astoria Bottling Works on 9th and Marine Drive in Astoria. The building will serve as the area's new Intermodal Transit Center.

To Will Perkins and Avery Loschen, building owners, for their beautiful restoration of the historic Gilbert Building in Seaside.



### TEN BEST WAYS TO KNOW IF YOU LIVE IN A HISTORIC HOUSE:

10. Sawdust falls out when you open up your wallet.
9. All the guys at City Lumber know to just charge it against your account.
8. You think that the uneven floor has "character."
7. The toilet uses way more than 1.6 gallons per flush, and you don't care.
6. You get up earlier on Saturdays than you do during the workweek so you can get started on the project.
5. You already know that the new 2 x 4's won't match up with the old 2 x 4's.
4. You find a "Dear John" letter on Monday, but it's dated Friday.
3. You know better than to start the coffee pot, turn on the microwave, and put in some toast all at the same time.
2. While soaking in a claw foot tub you have had a glass of wine by candlelight.
1. You find a bat in your house hanging on a picture rail, and you think it's cute.

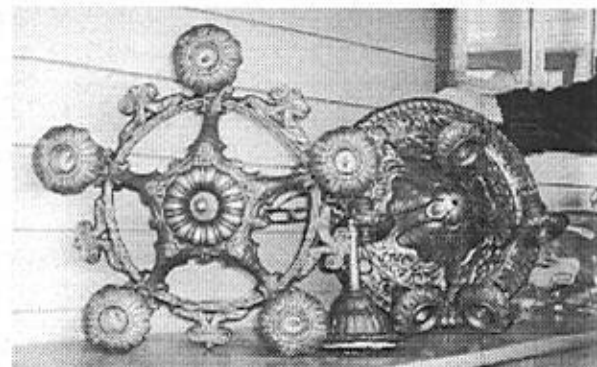
### LCPS EMAIL LIST

LCPS has an email list with "Yahoo Groups" for members to join if they wish to receive updates about LCPS events, as well as other preservation-related news. If you'd like to be a part of this list, please visit: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LCP-Society/join>. If you think you've already joined but are not receiving messages, please sign up again. Many email addresses had to be removed recently because messages sent to them were bouncing.

## CLASSIFIEDS

Sample ornamental plaster pieces by the late Julian Orlandini of Orlandini Studios, Milwaukee, WI. Call Jane Audrey at (503) 325-9381 to see.

For Sale: Variety of original light fixtures, original 24 inch five-panel door, already in a frame, from our 1922 Craftsman house. Please call Yvonne at (503) 338-7202 for prices and appointment to view items.



**ANNUAL MEETING**

Wednesday, April 28, 2004  
 "Historic Landscapes"  
 by Dr. Gail Evans-Hatch  
 Clatsop County  
 Heritage Museum  
 1618 Exchange, Astoria  
 7:00 pm

**Lower Columbia  
 Preservation Society  
 Current Board Of  
 Directors:**

John Goodenberger, Chair  
 Jewel Benford  
 Joy Brewer  
 Susan Bryant  
 Ann Gydé  
 Beth LaFleur  
 Lee Miller  
 Kim Nurdung  
 Linda Oldenkamp  
 Pat Roberts  
 Lisa Studts  
 Fred White  
 Melissa Yowell

*Restoria Editor: Marty White*

**WHAT'S IN AND  
 WHAT'S OUT**

Out: Talking about the  
 1950s in disparaging  
 terms.  
 In: Gushing over "mid-  
 century" details and  
 colors.

**LETTER FROM THE CHAIR**

This Spring and Summer will offer LCPS members several opportunities to get involved in local preservation. First, the City of Astoria received a grant to remove historic blueprints from the musty basement of City Hall. The drawings will be scanned and made available at City Hall, the Astoria Public Library, and the Clatsop County Historical Society (CCHS). LCPS members will be called upon to organize and clean the drawings before they are donated to the CCHS. Then during the first week of June, Astoria will host a national conference on preservation. Called *Preservation Leadership Training*, the National Trust will sponsor a week-long "boot camp" for preservationists. LCPS members will be called upon to host a social and hobnob with preservationists from around the country. Finally, the City of Astoria received a grant to submit a nomination of the Fort Hill (Central) neighborhood to the National Register of Historic Places. LCPS members will be relied upon to support the nomination as it proceeds through the Historic Landmarks Commission and City Council. I hope all of you will be eager to assist.

*fl*

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME   
 ADDRESS   
 CITY  STATE  ZIP   
 PHONE NUMBER (  )  EMAIL

- ☐ \$10 Membership (Individual)  
☐ \$20 Contributing (Two at same address)  
☐ \$50 Supporting  
☐ \$

Please indicate which areas you would be able to assist the organization as a volunteer:

- ☐ Planning meetings  
☐ Publicity ☐ Membership  
☐ Education  
☐ Advocacy  
☐ Newsletter  
☐ Grant Writing  
☐ Other

**Please make checks payable to:**  
 Lower Columbia Preservation Society  
 Post Office Box 1334  
 Astoria, Oregon 97103





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