



Newsletter for the Lower Columbia Preservation Society

Astoria's Historic Building Styles Presentation Postponed

We regret the cancellation of Jack Bookwalter's presentation, due to a terrible flu-bug, which has now flown. Jack is looking forward to sharing his trove of research information on Astoria. We will reschedule as soon as possible and notify everyone.

Jack Bookwalter, an architectural historian, will be talking about Astoria's variety of historic building styles, giving an overview and then focusing on some case studies. Jack is an extremely popular speaker in the Portland area, and is a regular writer for Northwest Renovation Magazine. See <http://nwrenovation.com/?s=Jack+Bookwalter>.

2013 Garden Tour

Our 2013 Annual Garden Tour is coming up Saturday, July 13th. We are looking forward to seeing some divine local gardens this summer. Watch for our notices with more details to follow.

Art of Victorian Interiors Lecture, January 5th-Recap Submitted by Pam Chestnut

We thank Chris and Audry Bond for sharing their experiences and lovely photographs in transforming the interior of their Portland late-Victorian-era home into a warm and welcoming time-war! They have indeed been meticulous in creating a genuine period aesthetic while integrating modern technology and convenience.

Their faithfully restored kitchen, which featured as many authentic turn-of-the-last-century elements as could be found, was a special delight to see. Carefully chosen wallpapers and layers of form, colors, textures and patterns all contribute to the stunning effects throughout

the house. Many of us can relate to the hard work, research and diligence involved in our restoration/preservation project.

Chris and Audry's overall humorous attitude was evident, and their venture shines as a labor of love. The Saturday afternoon lecture was well-attended and many folks expressed their appreciation of the Bonds' efforts. Thanks also go to board member Karla Pearlstein for arranging this fine lecture.

House Renovation Workshop

Sponsored by Clatsop Community College Historic Preservation Program

If you have plans to renovate, remodel and/or improve the energy efficiency of your house, a weekend workshop "Whole House Energy Upgrade" in May could help you analyze the needs of your building and create a strategy for implementing changes, all in keeping with the historic character of your building.

Students will learn a decision-making process to find solutions to the questions: "What do we need that we don't have?" and "What problems do we have that we don't need?" The techniques learned in the class can be used to integrate all aspects of an existing house for energy efficiency, improved comfort, and livability.

Offered by Clatsop Community College's Historic Preservation program, the workshop May 3-5 will be taught by architect Anthony Stoppiello and will begin with a Friday evening slideshow. On Saturday, participants will visit two Astoria houses (pictured on this page) to hear the owner's needs and learn about potential design



decisions and techniques, including materials, off the shelf technology, and lifestyle choices that have an impact on energy use. On Sunday, participant teams will present their strategies for making improvements in each house.

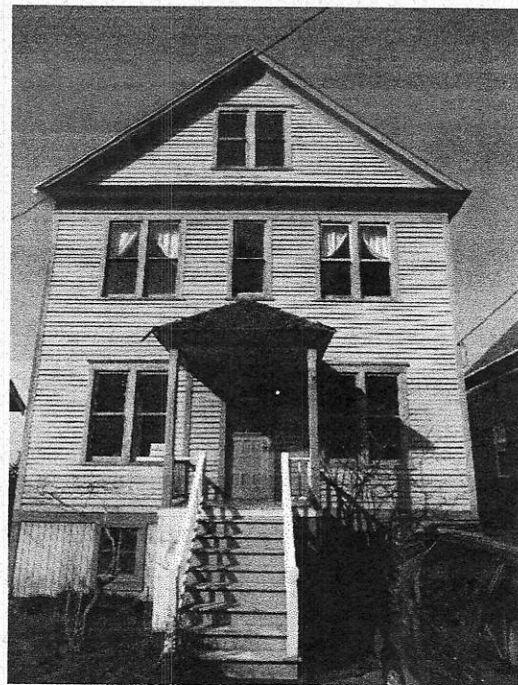
Stoppiello, an architect with over 35 years' experience, emphasizes solar design, environmentally preferable materials and a whole-systems approach in his practice. He has served as Sustainability Division Chair for the American Solar Energy Society and teaches Green Building and Thermal and Moisture Protection classes for CCC Historic

Preservation Program.

Stoppiello and his wife Victoria inherited an 1895 house in Ilwaco and renovated it to improve natural light, heat circulation, aesthetics, spatial function, and weatherization...and in the process reduced their electricity use by 67% without sacrificing the historic ambiance of their building.

Cost for BLD 229: Whole House Energy Workshop is \$210 with college credit available. Register online at www.clatsopcc.edu or call (503) 338-7670.

For more information: Contact Historic Preservation Program Coordinator Lucien Swerdloff at lswerdloff@clatsopcc.edu or 503.338.2301.



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Report on Historic U.S. Quarantine Station

Submitted by: Nancy Anderson, President KCHC

Clatsop Community College Historic Preservation students and their instructors continue to help upgrade the old Quarantine hospital (aka the Pesthouse) at Knappton Cove, WA. In March, their handiwork will repair two side doors to the old building. A heartfelt THANKS goes out to this talented group.

Plans for 2013 include exterior paint and landscaping improvements. The Healing Garden will start to take shape and will include a picnic area complete with table and benches. A short walking trail highlighting existing native plants is also planned.

The museum will again be open summer Saturdays 1-4 p.m. or by appointment. Group tours/picnics can be arranged, as well. A special family event will be offered in mid-July: "Digging Into the Past at Knappton Cove." The program will be an Artifact Scavenger Hunt for kids along with a Junior Archaeology Project.

Our non-profit organization "Knappton Cove Heritage Center" is all-volunteer and funded by donations and grants. Our thanks to all who support the preservation and interpretation of this historic site. More information, as well as our annual newsletter, can be viewed on our website: ColumbiaRiverQuarantineStation.org. Volunteers for any of our projects will be most welcome.

For further information:

thecove@theoregonshore.com or 503-738-5206.

Celebrate and Move Forward

Submitted by David Wigutoff, for the Board of Directors

On January 26 2013, the Board of Directors met for our annual retreat. The gift of money and real estate from the Stramiello estate is now under the ownership of the LCPS. The focus of the retreat was to plan the future use of these assets to best carry out the mission of LCPS. Before planning for the future, the board paused to reflect on what the board members want to celebrate and share with you about our experiences working for LCPS.

First, we celebrate completing the estate settlement process even with multiple crises along the way. Having a strong mission for the organization was credited as a major support for perseverance.

Board members proclaimed a number of other experiences to celebrate:

1. Creating the silent auction as a community-partnered event
2. The LCPS' taking leadership in historic preservation, by joining with other organizations, such as the Historic Preservation League of Oregon, to create strength in numbers
3. Interacting with intelligent, interesting, and passionate people
4. Creating a place for like-minded people to connect and to welcome new arrivals to the area
5. Meeting new people and learning about what they do in the community
6. Helping homeowners fix their homes

We, the board members, are learning that having significant assets is challenging in itself. We celebrate the opportunity to use those assets to go forward with the mission of the LCPS.

Why Does Historic Preservation Matter?

Last fall, students within the Clatsop Community College Historic Preservation program were asked to write an essay in John Goodenberger's *Introduction to Historic Preservation* class. Their task was to write about what changes they have seen in their lives, what inspired them to be historic preservationists, and how they intend to create wide-spread public support for their ideas.

Two essays are re-printed below. Both essays were edited for length.

The first essay is by Courtney Connolly, a Job Corps student pursuing a career in traditional plastering. The second essay is by Noah Swerdloff, a senior at Astoria High School.

Should We Let Go of The Past?

by Courtney Leigh Connolly

Should we let go of all the old buildings? Can we remove from our past the things that remind us of everything that happened to make us who we are? I really don't think so. For years I ran from my past; and now that I've decided to face it, there's nothing to prove it ever existed, naught but an ancient song that's really more of a mythical folk song than any factual record.



I am from Ardaigh Cuan (Cursdur Nud), an ancient village on the northern edge of County Cork near Waterford. Through two thousand years, it kept back the British regimes, the Viking raiders and even the Roman legions.

When our own Irish people turned against each other, my clan abandoned our two thousand year old home. It was left to rot in the faerie-infested forests and portcah (bogs). Half my family was killed in the violence between the IRA and the Nationalists. I suppose it was decided our small village was the perfect place to make camp. What was left of us fled to America in a refugee boat.

When we first stepped foot here, my grandmum told me, "We're naught Irish anymore girl. If anyone asks ye what ya believe, tell'um yer American." My sisters were made to learn English, hide their accents, and discard the traditions of our clan. This is the most painful reason I have come to identify with the plea to restore our pasts, good and bad. Without something to look back on, how do we know where we are going?

The only information I have about my village is what my grandfather would tell me (behind my grandmum's back). I asked him why he told us these stories, and if I recall rightly he said, "We oir,t'pat ain't triur fer nah raesun. Iffen natin else ye'll g'bagh der an' cuimnigh w'ye left. Doan forgaght yer Irish, takt pride en dat." Which, in English means, "Well, because the past isn't there for nothing. If nothing else, you will go back and remember why we left. Don't forget you're Irish, take pride in that."

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The tradition of oral history via stories and song was so important in my village that every child learned the song that told of our history. Even now I remember it though I hardly know how it translates any more.

I believe the philosophy of John Ruskin, who says even if you have to tear a building down don't let it be forgotten. Record it in pictures, drawings and stories, just don't let it be forgotten by the people of our future. They deserve to know what stood there...like my old cre teach (clay house) now lying under rubble and moss, I'm sure. Does anyone remember it? I'm sure the only one who does is standing right here, and I won't be here forever.

How could I go about restoring my old home...if I could afford to go back to the old Emerald Isle, and if there were anything left in the mess that is Ardaigh Cuan? Well, first I would tell the story. Some of our greatest faerie tales started out as oratorical legends told by bards and criers. Sure it is good to get the attention of the older folks, but if our history is to really continue on, we need to instill it in our younger people first.

Second, I'd take from the rubble whatever I could. I would rebuild, all by hand just as my ancestors did, and hope my home site had not become a faerie mound, what a mess that would be.

As I recall, the village houses were made of a wattle and daub kind of lathing, with clay or stone reinforcement with roofs of thatched straw. Many of those huts had stood for millennia. My grandfather said our home was made of rocks that came from catapults when the country was being invaded by Angle and Saxon tribes.

I suppose the only way to fix such a clutter would be little by little, from the ground up, stone by stone, tile by tile, wooden stud by wooden stud. I have my memories to draw on, and other villages that might still be around wouldn't look much different.

And then after that, there has to be some purpose to restoring it. What if we made it into a low-income housing sort of thing? Or, a rustic resort of sorts? It should have a community purpose: something everyone can see, especially the poor.

By making an old building into something lived in, you give it new purpose, new life, and new meaning in the community and in the hearts of the individuals who would live there.

If you want to save your past, or if you are tired of running and want to face it, you've got to fight a lot of monsters. The people who stand against you don't see the potential in those beautiful old building materials.

To combat the naysayers, you must use wit and reserve. Facts and evidence of all the beliefs you claim to be true are extremely important. You can gather the hearts of the people with your stories and songs, but they will do the people no good if the buildings do not serve them.

Show the people the purpose of this precious architecture. Even if it is battered, it can rise again with the proper attention and become something no one will forget.

Changes in Astoria: Which Path to Follow?

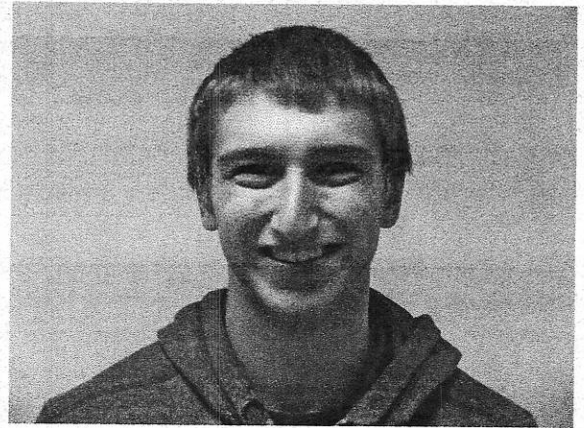
by Noah Swerdloff

Astoria's physical appearance is constantly changing. Existing buildings are restored, neglected, or demolished. New buildings are constructed. Astoria evolved from a busy fishing community into a decaying city, then revived itself as a tourist town. Some of the cityscape is restored, but many historic buildings in Astoria still stand waiting restoration.

For example, the Mill Pond development has changed dramatically over the last 15 years. It began as a plywood factory, and then was a toxic cleanup site for some time until a developer began building houses and later condominiums.

But several old storefront buildings between 9th Street and 11th Street on Commercial remain un-restored. The buildings are owned by the Flavel family and have been wasting away and decaying from years of water damage. This block has value because it lies on the main drag of our historic town. I'm glad it hasn't been destroyed or burned down. These old buildings are the heart and soul of the historic landscape.

Hopefully, when I return to Astoria for my retirement, after my world travels, Commercial Street will be complete again, and the Flavel buildings restored and occupied by local businesses. This would bring back the feel of the old fishing town that once was Astoria.



The downtown district will always be my home. It represents where I came from. I remember spending countless hours in the old Safeway parking lot as a young kid: biking and goofing around, being surrounded by old buildings and local businesses.

My former neighborhood is on 12th and Grand. Many of the houses on this block are part of the historic fabric of the neighborhood and are local landmarks in a Historic District. Most of these houses are beautiful and old. Their form, detail and rarity, along with the careful craftsmanship, caught my eye and gained my appreciation. There are a few houses on the block that are not well maintained and create an eyesore. I feel that the entire block of houses should be maintained because it would recreate a beautiful piece of old Astoria.

Across the street from our former house is a four-story Victorian Italianate-style house that belonged to Roberta Stramiello. She worked for years on the house, relentlessly trying to restore it. Unfortunately, I only saw the exterior changes. I was never allowed in the house, except the basement, for fear that I would break something. The constant color change of the house's exterior drew my attention the most. I wasn't sure if she was trying to make the house look original or construct a clever color scheme. The house must have been painted four times during the years I lived nearby.

Roberta's husband, Tony, worked side by side with her on it until his unfortunate death in 2005. Alongside them was their faithful handyman, Larry, who assisted them in any way they needed. Larry helped with the house, along with maintaining the several other properties that Roberta and Tony owned together.

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Roberta was always working on something in the house, yet somehow she found time to tend to the most beautiful residential flower garden I have ever seen. From roses to Syringas to Chinese maple trees, she had it all, and they were perfect.

Roberta's hard work and fine house serve as a prime example to Astoria as a historic home in the restoration process. Her persistence and dream to complete the restoration of her house rubbed off on the entire neighborhood. The houses along 12th Street began to look more presentable, showing off their original beauty.

Roberta not only inspired the neighborhood, but she also inspired the boy who lived across the street to appreciate beauty and restoration.

Roberta's house is similar to the town. It will never be finished, but it is changing continuously. There is much work left to do on the house and city. Whether we choose to restore old buildings or construct new ones, the future is within the power of the community.

Historic Photo Collection Online

Submitted by Mitch Mitchum

You can view several extensive collections of historic photographs of the Lower Columbia area on the Lower Columbia Preservation Society's web page, www.lcpsweb.org. Several hundred photographs from prominent local photographers include Elmer Coe, Frank Woodfield and others.

The photographs come from various sources, including a 160-glass plate negative set from Elmer Coe, a collection from Millie Bosshart of Warrenton, and personal collections from Mitch Mitchum. New to the site in 2013 is a collection of 202 postcard images from the collection of Michael Foster. We are grateful they have been generously shared with LCPS.

Sara Meyer of Sara's Old Photos and Mitch Mitchum are conducting a program of scanning and digitizing photographs from the collections of local collectors. Work is currently in progress on a collection of 350 to 400 postcards provided by a local individual who has collected historic photo postcards for a number of years.

It is a pleasure to see these old photographs of our local area. You will enjoy a visit into the past by going to www.lcpsweb.org and click on "See Historic Photos."

Membership Report

Submitted by Pamela Holen, Membership Chair

Since the last *Restoria* publication, LCPS has renewed 11 individuals, 12 families, three businesses, and one supporter. We had only one new member. There are 187 members at this time. Sadly, we lost 25 of our valued members.

I am finishing my three years as a LCPS Board member and chair of membership. Richard Gardner, a new Board member, is taking over my responsibilities. If you have questions about your membership status or looking for a volunteer opportunity, please contact Richard Gardner or an LCPS Board member. I have enjoyed my involvement in Lower Columbia Preservation Society and encourage everyone to think about ways you can contribute to improving our unique community.

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Ales and Ideas Lecture

Clatsop Community College and the Fort George Brewery are pleased to announce the next public event in the Ales & Ideas lecture series featuring free multimedia presentations by members of the CCC faculty and staff.

Instructors Lucien Swerdloff and John Goodenberger will present "Historic Preservation: The Original Sustainable Building Technique," on Thursday, April 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fort George Lovell Showroom. Swerdloff and Goodenberger will discuss how historic buildings were meant to function and their naturally "green" characteristics. Restoration projects, undertaken by CCC historic preservation students, will be highlighted. Doors open at 6:00 pm; event begins at 7:00 p.m. Seasonal beers on tap, food and other beverages are available for purchase. Minors are welcome. For more information, contact Nancy Cook 503.338.2355 or ncook@clatsopcc.edu.

Board Elections

Board elections will be held at the May meeting. Postcards will be mailed with more information closer to the event. If you are interested in serving on the LCPS Board, contact Ann Gyde at anngyde@gmail.com for more information by April 1.

Moving Forward

Submitted by John Goodenberger

News Flash from Vintage Hardware

FIRE SALE at 16th & Exchange, Warehouse Inventory Sale April 6, 10-4 pm

Visit Vintage Hardware at the Crab, Seafood, Wine Festival April 26-28

FIRE SALE at 16th & Exchange, Warehouse Inventory Sale May 4, 10-4pm

Four years ago, I agreed to chair LCPS through the closing of the Stramiello Estate. The Estate should be closed shortly. In January, the LCPS board participated in a retreat facilitated by a member of the Nonprofit Association of Oregon. We discussed the need for the existing executive committee to hand off responsibilities to others.

Ann Gyde has graciously stepped into the role as chair. Ted Osborn has taken on the vice-chair position; Richard Garner will fulfill the role when Ted is unavailable. Mark Brown will continue as our treasurer, and Pam Chestnut will be our secretary. We have a talented group to lead us forward.

Thank you to everyone who sustained the organization during the last four years. The membership was ready to help at a moment's notice. In addition to organizing the workshops, lectures, Restoria, office, website, and fundraisers, volunteers moved furniture from Roberta's house, organized two gigantic estate sales, and have taken upon themselves to sell unique items such as automobiles.

LCPS received professional advice and services from many: attorneys Hal Snow, Jim Cartwright and Amy Davidson; financial institutions Bank of Astoria, Clatsop Community Bank, Craft3, and US Bank; accountants WWC Business Solutions; property management Easom Properties; retailers Vintage Hardware, What Nots & Whimsy and Clatsop Coin; City of Astoria; and contractors Artisan Engineering, Bergeman Construction and Wilkins Consulting.

We have had an incredible, tenacious board that was great to work with. I am thankful for their personal support and encouragement during these four years. Finally, many thanks to Roberta and Tony Stramiello whose estate provides us the opportunity to transform LCPS.

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**Clatsop Community College
Historic Preservation and Restoration
Spring 2013 Schedule**

Spring term begins 1 April 2013

Register online at www.clatsopcc.edu or call 503.338.7670

For more information contact Lucien Swerdloff at 503.338.2301 or lswerdloff@clatsopcc.edu

Clatsop Community College is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution
www.clatsopcc.edu

Arch 215: History of Pacific Northwest Architecture

Students study Pacific Northwest regional building types, stylistic characteristics and architects. They explore the influence of political, social, environmental and economic impacts on architecture.

Instructor: John Goodenberger

Times: Tuesdays, 6:00-8:50pm

Location: Columbia Hall 221

BLD 228: Ft. Columbia Column Restoration

Students develop skills and techniques to analyze, document and restore historic wood columns and plan for their installation in the 1896 Officer's House at Fort Columbia State Park.

Instructor: Kevin Palo

Times: 9:00am-4:00pm, Sat-Sun 27-28 April

Location: Ft. Columbia, Chinook WA

BLD 229: Whole House Energy Workshop

Students learn a decision-making process to aid in planning to remodel or add on to an existing home. Techniques are developed to find solutions to the questions: "What do we need (that we don't have)?" and "What problems do we have (that we don't need)?" The techniques learned in the class can be used to integrate all aspects of an existing house for energy efficiency, improved comfort, and livability.

Instructor: Anthony Stoppiello

Times: 6:00pm-9:00pm, Fri 3 May

9:00am-4:00pm, Sat 4 May

10:00am-1:00pm, Sun 5 May

Location: Astoria OR

BLD 228: Ft. Vancouver Facade Restoration

Students develop skills and techniques to document, analyze and restore the facade of the gymnasium building at the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. The Vancouver Barracks, established in 1849, is one of the nation's most historic military posts.

Instructor: Kevin Palo

Times: 9:00am-4:00pm, Sat-Sun 11-12 May

Location: Ft. Vancouver, Vancouver WA

BLD 226: Yeon House Window Restoration

Students restore/replace deteriorated windows on the 1956 Norman Yeon house. Students will also learn techniques for rot repair and facade restoration, and examine substitute materials. The house is an example of the Northwest Regional Style.

Instructor: Roger Hazen

Times: 9:00am-4:00pm, 1-2 June

Location: Sunset Beach, OR

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LOWER COLUMBIA
PRESERVATION
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97103

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Astoria OR 97103

101183294 BMGWN5B 97103



LCPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____
EMAIL* _____

Annual Dues:

_____ \$15 Individual
_____ \$25 Family
_____ \$50 Business
_____ \$100 Supporter

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

_____ Advocacy	_____ Newsletter
_____ Education	_____ Planning
_____ Grant Writing	_____ Publicity
_____ Membership	_____ Other _____

*LCPS will not share or sell members' email addresses

Lower Columbia Preservation Society
Board of Directors

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Pam Chestnut, Secretary
Mark Brown, Treasurer
John Goodenberger
Pam Holen
Ted Osborn
Karla Pearlstein
Todd Scott
David Wigutoff

LaRee Johnson, Restoria Coordinator

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1170 Commercial, Suite 210
Hours: Mondays, 3:00pm – 7:00pm
Website: www.lcpsweb.org
Phone: 503-791-1236

Submissions to Newsletter
Articles, Kudos, For Sale notices,
Restoria@lcpsweb.org