

Project: Historic Clatsop County Fairgrounds House.

Partners: Clatsop County Fair Board, Clatsop Community College Historic Preservation Program, Lower Columbia Preservation Society.

LCPS Directors (alpha order): Colby, Doug, Karen, Kelly & Lucien.

LCPS Staff: Rachel.

Goal: To save house or its reuseable/recyclable components and materials from destruction by deliberate fire or demolition.

Object: To accomplish Goal, develop partnership among Clatsop County, through its Fair Board, Clatsop Community College, through its Historic Preservation Program and LCPS, through its new Opportunity Fund/Program.

Background/Narrative: In 1912/13, two competing (or perhaps complimentary) uses were proposed and executed on this property simultaneously. Both uses, a poor farm and an agricultural experiment station, are worthy of great storytelling. The Oregon Heritage Commission is currently drafting the 2020 Heritage Goals and the number 1 goal is to expand the narrative of history told and preserved in the state to capture previously excluded or marginalized voices for a more complex and accurate depiction of Oregon's historical events. We believe that the preservation of the Astor Experiment Station Superintendent House could go a long way in telling the rich history of Clatsop County, its partnerships, programs and projects that improved the lives of farmers, students, and the poor.

Although we would love to see the house remain at its original site -- because context means so much to the accurate interpretation of history -- we understand that the Fair does not wish to keep the home on the property. We do hope we can reach an agreement to save the house from demolition by being granted the time to locate and secure a suitable site where the structure can be moved. We know there was concern that historic materials be salvaged and that is admirable, but we believe that this beautifully constructed Craftsman home should be put back to use as housing, in a community where we are consistently struggling to both create additional housing and preserve our historic resources.

LCPS needs additional time to form a viable plan to save this structure. We propose a good use for it in the meantime – as a laboratory site for the Clatsop Community College Historic Preservation program student projects. LCPS will help with the cost of keeping the home secure and maintaining it during our stewardship, while we plan the next phase of this project – to move the structure off-site.

Contributions of each Partner:

Clatsop County, through its Fair Board (The Fair) :

- The Subject Property (The House): A large, two story plus full concrete basement, circa 1912, single family dwelling and it's elevated, mature-landscaped, generously sized, view site overlooking the mouth of the Walluski River, State Highway 202 and the Youngs River Valley beyond.
- An estimated \$10,000 in a 1-to1 cash funding match with LCPS.
- A limited, to-be-determined amount of staff time to serve the ongoing, cooperative needs of the Partnership.

Clatsop Community College, through its Historic Preservation Program (CCCHPP)

- Inclusion of the House in its current list of vintage structures to serve as workshops for students to learn best practices in restoration.
- Secure the exterior of the House against the weather.
- Survey, inspect and develop a preservation plan for the House, in anticipation of potential reuse at another location.

Lower Columbia Preservation Society (LCPS):

- An estimated \$10,000 in a 1-to-1 cash funding match with CC Fair Board).
- Staff and volunteer time in performing local market research and developing a relocation plan for the House which includes locating and securing a suitable site for relocation and/or other acceptable alternatives.