

Salem Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) 2017 Accomplishments & 2018 Work Plan



Message from the Chair

Dear Mayor Bennett and Council Members,

We are pleased to present you with our 2017 Accomplishments and 2018 Work Plan from the Salem Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC). Partnering with City Staff, we have achieved a variety of accomplishments in 2017. With their continued help, I believe we can complete our 2018 goals.

The SESNA Neighborhood Association was designated as Salem's second Heritage Neighborhood. Working with a sub-committee of representatives from SESNA, we completed a walking tour and a neighborhood survey highlighting historic points of interest within the SESNA neighborhood boundaries, installed sign toppers and vinyl wraps on utility boxes with historic photos of the neighborhood and put together a wonderful historic calendar highlighting historic properties in the SESNA neighborhood.

The Residential Tool Box Grant Program continues thanks to our generous donor. \$11,819.00 in grants were awarded to historic property owners to assist in the maintenance of their historic resources, including grants to help offset the cost of having their historic homes seismically upgraded and retrofitted.

A major event occurred in Salem this year; Salem's first Public Archaeology Project and Open House. The HLC hosted the Open House at Salem's Pioneer Cemetery to share the results of the excavation of the Chinese Shrine, with 40 representatives in attendance!

The HLC had its third successful year hosting the "*This Place Matters*" Historic Photo Contest! A total of 33 photos were submitted for three categories: Best Historic Building, Best Historic Place, and Best Historic Neighborhood with winners being announced during Historic Preservation Month in May.

You will find more accomplishments in this document but these are my highlights. The Commission greatly appreciates the Mayor and City Council for supporting our historic efforts to maintain Salem's historic resources as well as your continued faith in our Commission to successfully complete the good work of the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Sund".

Kevin Sund, HLC Chair

Commission Purpose & Historic Preservation Plan



The Grant Theatre- Circa 1900

The Salem Historic Landmarks Commission provides expertise on identifying, designating, and preserving significant properties related to the community's prehistory and history by encouraging the rehabilitation and ongoing viability of historic buildings and structures; strengthening public support for historic preservation efforts within the community; fostering civic pride; encouraging cultural heritage tourism; and promoting the continued productive use of recognized resources, and implementing the policies contained in the Salem Area Comprehensive Plan for the preservation of historic resources. (Ord No. 34-10)

In 2010 the Salem Historic Landmarks Commission adopted a Historic Preservation Plan with the following Goals:

- ✚ 1. Improve the application and review process and revise the historic preservation code and design guidelines
- ✚ 2. Develop a Public Outreach and Education Program
- ✚ 3. Develop Economic and Recognition Incentives
- ✚ 4. Survey and Designate Salem's Historic Resources
- ✚ 5. Promote Heritage Tourism and Local History



Eaton Hall – Circa 1909

All of the work identified in the Commission's Annual Work Plan relates directly to these goals which were approved by Salem City Council, when the Historic Preservation Plan was adopted.

The HLC is comprised of nine members appointed by the Mayor. As a Certified Local Government (CLG), it is required that a majority of the members meet the United States Secretary of Interior's Historic Preservation Qualifications Standards, to the extent that candidates are available in the community. Professional fields for consideration may include archaeology, architectural history, conservation, cultural anthropology, curation, engineering, folklore, historic architecture, historic landscape architecture, historic preservation, historic preservation planning, and history. Three members of the HLC currently meet these qualification standards. The professional positions are held by two architects and a project manager. The at-large positions include an historian, a state construction project manager and residents from two of our residential historic districts. The HLC currently has two vacancies which we hope will be filled in late November of 2017 by preservation professionals.

Commission Members

Carroll Cottingham – Commissioner Cottingham was appointed to the HLC in December 2017. He holds an MA in Historic Preservation and Planning from the University of Maryland and prior to moving to Oregon, he worked for the NPS on federal and local preservation and protection in the Chesapeake Bay region. He lives with his family in Salem and works for ODOT as the Distracted Driving Project Coordinator.

Jamie French - Commissioner French serves as a Professional member, holds a M.A. in Historical Archaeology and works for the Oregon SHPO as an archaeologist. She's worked at locations such as Salem Pioneer Cemetery, Champoeg State Park, Fort Yamhill State Park, Camp Adair, and Fort Hoskins County Park. A life-long Salemite, Jamie enjoys educating people about archaeology in urban environments and watching current developments in Salem that join the history of the town with new opportunities for its residents.

Andrew Hendrie, Commissioner Hendrie has served as an At-Large member since June 2013. He was elected Chair in August 2014 and served as Chair through December 2016. Andrew is an Oregon State University alumni and works as floor staff for the state legislature in the chief clerk's office. He is also an avid home remodeler in his spare time. He is a third generation Salemite.

Nicholas Larson – Commissioner Larson serves as an At-Large member and works for the State of Oregon DAS as the Manager for the Planning and Construction Management section. He appreciates and enjoys learning about the evolution of the Capitol Mall and managed several projects in and around those buildings as a project manager Nick is an Oregon State University alumni and has lived in Salem since 1996.

Lindsey Kerr – Commissioner Kerr serves as a Professional member and works as a curator/garden manager for a non-profit organization in Salem. Lindsey holds a Master of Historic Preservation degree from the University of Georgia and a Master of Science in Public Horticulture from the University of Delaware. She has a professional background in public gardens and historic landscape preservation.

Sarah Pearson- Commissioner Pearson serves as a Professional member with over 5 years' experience in historic preservation focused non-profit organizations. She loves seeing the impact of historic preservation on communities, and has a deep appreciation of historic architecture and creative re-use. Prior to joining the HLC, she served as the vice-chair for the Salem Heritage All-Star Forum. She holds a B.S. in History and is currently pursuing her MBA for Willamette University.

Russell Schutte – Serving as a Professional member Russell works for CB Two Architects. He's worked on numerous historic projects in Salem and understands the importance these resources have to the community. Russell holds 4 degrees, including a Masters of Architecture and volunteers teaching students about Architecture through the AVID and Architects in Schools programs.

Kevin Sund – Commissioner Sund serves as a Professional member and works for Hoffman Construction Company as a Project Manager. He has a long heritage in the Salem Community and enjoys helping the area develop while preserving its history. Professionally, Kevin had the opportunity to be involved in the OSH Hospital Renovation and the ODOT Renovation on the Capitol Mall. Kevin was voted in as the new HLC Chair in January 2017.

Jennifer Maglinte-Timbrook – Commissioner Maglinte-Timbrook serves as an At-Large member and works at the State of Oregon Department of Revenue. She has a B.A. in History and pursued a M.S. in Historic Preservation and Urban Planning from Eastern Michigan University. Before joining Salem's HLC, she served as a Commissioner on the West Chicago HLC for six years. Jennifer took over the role as Vice-Chair of the Commission in January 2017.

*** 2017 Accomplishments ***

Between January 1, 2017, and December 2017, the Salem Historic Landmarks Commission held twelve public meetings and seventeen public hearings. Out of a total of forty -five Historic Design Reviews processed, twenty-eight were Minor Administrative Alteration Reviews completed by staff while the other seventeen went before the HLC as Major Historic Design Reviews.

2017 Projects

Salem Heritage Neighborhood Program

In 2010, the City Council approved the Salem Historic Preservation Plan which has stated goals regarding the City's preservation program. One of the goals is to develop a public outreach and education program for historic preservation.

In 2013, the City Council authorized the Planning Division of the Community Development Department to apply for and receive a CLG grant from the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, which included funding for the development of a historic preservation educational and outreach program specifically for the Grant Neighborhood.

The South East Salem Neighborhood Association (SESNA) was designated as Salem's second Heritage Neighborhood by the HLC on November 19, 2015. SESNA participated in this program through 2017. The HLC liaison and staff worked with a sub-committee of representatives from the SESNA neighborhood to develop a 2017 calendar which was sold as a fundraiser for future historic preservation programs and projects in the SESNA neighborhood.



Sign Toppers

were installed as well as vinyl wraps on utility boxes.

Education and Outreach



Publication of quarterly newsletters with articles written by the HLC Commissioners has continued and the HLC has successfully created, printed, and distributed four newsletters to over 600 Salem residents in both hard copy and electronically from January to December 2017. These newsletters include technical articles about how property owners can maintain their historic properties as well as information about the history of Salem. The newsletter mailings were funded by a grant obtained through the Certified Local Government (CLG) program through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).



The HLC hosted a Window Workshop in June of 2017 which was attended by over 25 historic home owners. Chris Gustafson of Vintage Windows was the presenter. Attendees worked on restoring windows at the Willamette Heritage Center.



More information for residential window restoration can be found at this link:

<http://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/remodel-and-repair-historic-buildings.aspx>

Historic Preservation Month – May 2017

This year, the HLC participated in several events during Historic Preservation Month including hosting a table at the 8th Annual Historic Preservation Fair, held at the Capitol Mall on the north side of Court Street NE.



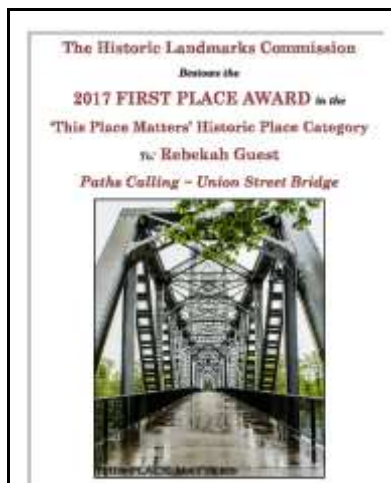
The free event showcased 27 heritage organizations that are helping to preserve historic events, persons, and places that tell Oregon's story.

The HLC booth was a popular stop this year for kids as they took turns spinning the trivia wheel and testing their historic knowledge!

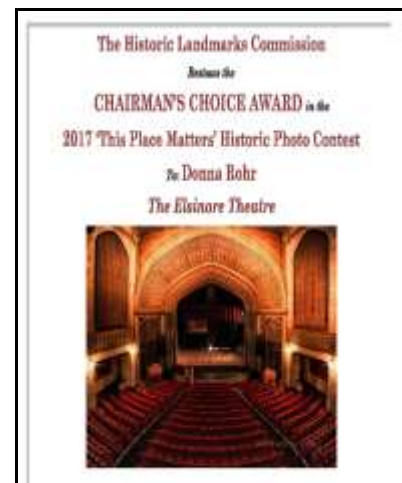


Annual Historic Photo Contest

The HLC had a third successful year hosting the “*This Place Matters*” Historic Photo Contest! A total of 33 photos were submitted for three categories: Best Historic Building, Best Historic Place, and Best Historic Neighborhood. Winners were announced at the June HLC meeting and all photos were displayed at the Oregon State Capitol during Historic Preservation Month.



Chair Sund & Commissioner Pearson present a prize to a photo winner



Residential Toolbox Grant Program

Another goal of the adopted Salem Historic Preservation Plan is to develop both economic and recognition incentives for historic property owners. In June 2011, City Council adopted Resolution 2011-52, approving guidelines for the historic Residential Toolbox Grant program and directing staff to implement the program consistent with these guidelines. This program also serves to implement an existing 2015-17 Council Goal: *Preserve the Community's Viable Historic Assets*. In 2017, \$11,819.00 in grants was awarded to private residential property owners. In addition, this program has provided over \$61,369.00 since 2011 to private homeowners to help them maintain and preserve their historic homes.



Seismic Retrofit Grants

Under the umbrella of the Residential Toolbox Grant Program, a new opportunity arose for historic property owners this year. Following the success of the HLC's Seismic Work Shop in 2016, homeowners were offered grants to help offset the cost of having their historic homes seismically upgraded and retrofitted. Several individuals took advantage of the grants and had their homes secured to their foundations.



HLC Annual Awards

In 2010, the HLC established the Benjamin Maxwell Award to recognize outstanding contributions to the preservation of Salem's historic resources. In 2013, the Virginia Green Award was established to recognize exemplary service on behalf of Historic Preservation within the Salem Community. These awards were presented by Mayor Chuck Bennett at the June 2017 HLC meeting. Chief Justice Thomas A. Balmer received the Benjamin Maxwell Award for his efforts in restoring the Supreme Court Justice Building. David Holton was the winner of the Virginia Green Award for his outstanding service and commitment to historic preservation throughout his career as an architect and designer.



Mayor Bennett, Chief Justice Balmer & Chair Sund

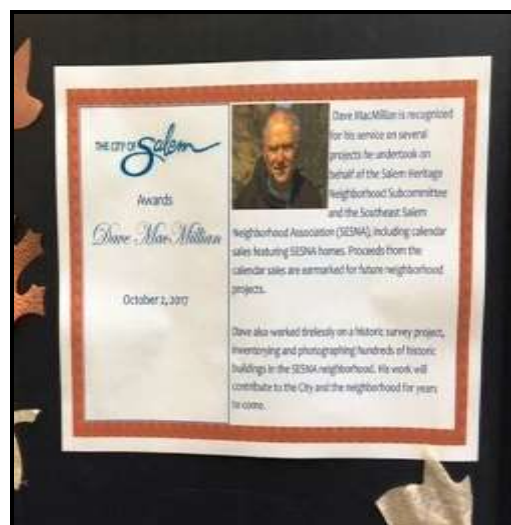


David Holton & Virginia Green (award namesake)

Additional Awards



In September 2017, a City of Salem At Your Service Award was presented to David McMillian in recognition of his volunteer services on behalf of the Salem Heritage Neighborhood Subcommittee and the Southeast Salem Neighborhood Association



2018 WORK PLAN

GOAL1: Improvements to Existing Codes and Processes

The Historic Landmarks Commission and staff continue to work to ensure that the Historic Preservation Code reflects the policies within the Comprehensive Plan as well as City Council's goals. Minor Updates and improvements to SRC Chapter 230 as part of the UDC update will be completed in the spring of 2018.

The Historic Landmarks Commission will coordinate with the Planning Commission (PC) to receive training on land use and ethics from the City Attorney in 2018.



Land Use & Ethics Training presented by:
Assistant City Attorney, Natasha Zimmerman

GOAL 2: Public Outreach and Education

The HLC plans to work with a new Heritage Neighborhood in the fall/winter of 2018.

The HLC will continue its development of their social media and multi-media educational outreach program in order to share the wealth of information about Salem's historic resources.

As well, the HLC plans to offer both a window workshop and a seismic upgrade workshop for residential historic property owners in Salem.

In addition to celebrating Historic Preservation Month each May, the HLC will add a number of new historic and heritage commemorations to their calendar

in order to educate and further honor the diverse heritage within our community.

2018 Historic & Heritage Commemorations

- African American Historic Month - February
- Historic Preservation Month – May
- Asian Pacific Heritage Month - May
- Archaeology Month – October
- Hispanic Heritage Month - September
- Native American Heritage Month – November

In order to improve public outreach and education to the Native American Community in 2018, the HLC will work with the Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS) to identify the tribes with deep historic and cultural ties to the City of Salem. As a result, the HLC will provide recommendations to the Salem City Council to improve and strengthen communication and cooperation between the tribes and the city on matters of mutual interest.

GOAL 3: Economic & Recognition Incentives

The HLC will offer two cycles of the Residential Toolbox grant in 2018, including grants for seismic upgrades of historic residential properties. Information about the program and how to submit an application can be found at this link:

<http://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/apply-for-a-residential-toolbox-grant.aspx>



Awards recognizing both exceptional individuals and projects in historic preservation will be given out in May 2018, during Historic Preservation Month. We will also host our 4th annual “This Place Matters” historic photo contest in the spring of 2018, with the winners announced at the May HLC meeting.



Calling All Photographers!! (Amateur or Professional)

The Salem Historic Landmark Commission (HLC) announces the 4th annual “*This Place Matters*” Historic Photo Contest. Every person in Salem has a place that is important to them, places they care about, a place that matters! We want to see and celebrate the places that matter to you, so the HLC is looking for photos highlighting Salem’s historic buildings, neighborhoods and historic places. **All photos** will be on exhibit at the Capitol during **Historic Preservation Month May 2018**. There will be prizes awarded for the winning entry in each category.

3 Categories

Best Historic Building Photo
Best Historic Neighborhood Photo
Best Historic Place Photo



2015- Best Historic Neighborhood Winner
Place Winner



2015 - Best Historic Building Winner



2015 - Best Historic

Photo submission rules: One entry per category and the wording **THIS PLACE MATTERS** included in the picture.

Submissions due by **March 31, 2018** to
Kimberli Fitzgerald at kfitzgerald@cityofsalem.net or
Sally Studnar at slong@cityofsalem.net

GOAL 4: Survey and Designate Resources

We will complete a necessary update of the survey information and historic context for Salem’s Downtown Historic District, updating eligibility information and historic data regarding historic resources downtown.



We will work with the Oregon State Archaeologist to transfer existing information about Salem’s archaeological resources and incorporate this protected data into our internal GIS, in order to improve our ability to protect these valuable resources and help property owners and developers better plan their projects in order to avoid impacting known archaeological sites within Salem.

GOAL 5: Promote Heritage Tourism and Local History

The HLC will continue to provide a liaison to the Salem Heritage and Culture Forum, a group that is working to promote Salem’s heritage and local history.



For more information about the Forum, visit their website: <https://salemcultureandheritageforum.org/>

The Salem Landmarks Commission will work with the Friends of the Pioneer Cemetery, Willamette University and the Chinese American Community to interpret and share the history of the Chinese community in Salem through development of a plan to restore and interpret the Chinese Shrine at the Salem Pioneer Cemetery.



Rediscovered Chinese Shrine within Salem's Pioneer Cemetery, 2017

New Direction to Interpret Diverse Histories:

The National Historic Preservation Act, which is the basis of our protections for historic resources was originally adopted in 1966. We celebrated 50 years last year, and in honor of this anniversary, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) developed their priorities and recommendations for the future. One of the priorities identified by the ACHP in 2016 is to encourage the identification and interpretation of historic places associated with underrepresented communities. In particular the ACHP stated that a more expansive approach to understanding and interpreting historic significance of diverse communities is needed. The National Park Service has further demonstrated their commitment to this policy through their Underrepresented Communities Grant which supports the survey and designation of historic properties that are associated with communities currently underrepresented in the National Register of Historic Places.

The State Historic Preservation Office has recently completed their State Historic Preservation Plan (the Plan). The Plan establishes policy 6.1 to work with the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation (SACHP) and seek the input of youth, the public, traditional preservation partners, and the larger heritage community. They will develop priorities for state-level survey and designation projects to create a more *thematically representative* state inventory and National Register of Historic Places list.

The Plan also establishes policy 6.3 which prioritizes working with appropriate partners to identify archaeological sites that are *thematically representative* of the state's diverse population.

It is clear that it is a priority at the National, State and local level, for diverse communities to be more effectively engaged and supported in preserving their own heritage and telling their part of the American story. Our local community has learned valuable lessons from our history, and yet we have a lot more work to do in order to heal the past.

Unlike the leaders of previous the century, our local leaders in Salem today have committed to a policy of inclusiveness (i.e. Salem City Council's Resolution to become an Inclusive City in February of 2017). Inclusivity and interpretation of the history of underrepresented communities is an important goal of the Salem Historic Landmarks Commission. Through our Chinese Shrine Project, we hope to begin work toward accomplishing this important goal within Salem's community.