



CITY OF OREGON CITY ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA

City Hall Chambers, 625 Center Street, Oregon City
Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 7:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE

This meeting will be held in-person at the location listed above and virtually via Zoom. Please contact agriffin@orcify.org for the Zoom link if you wish to participate virtually.

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizens are allowed up to 3 minutes to present information relevant to the Arts Commission but not listed as an item on the agenda. The Chair has the discretion to waive limitations. Prior to speaking, citizens shall complete a comment form and deliver it to the Staff Member. The Arts Commission does not generally engage in dialog with those making comments but may refer the issue to the City Manager.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Cathy Rowe Presentation of Public Art Assessment Report

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. 7th Street Sculpture RFP Status of Proposals Received
2. City Website Arts Commission Section
3. Update on Proposed Arts and Cultural Center

COMMUNICATIONS

ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES

Complete a Comment Card prior to the meeting and submit it to the City Recorder. When the Mayor/Chair calls your name, proceed to the speaker table, and state your name and city of residence into the microphone. Each speaker is given three (3) minutes to speak. To assist in tracking your speaking time, refer to the timer on the table.

As a general practice, the City Commission does not engage in discussion with those making comments. Electronic presentations are permitted but shall be delivered to the City Recorder 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

ADA NOTICE

The location is ADA accessible. Hearing devices may be requested from the City Recorder prior to the meeting. Individuals requiring other assistance must make their request known 48 hours preceding the meeting by contacting the City Recorder's Office at 503-657-0891.

Agenda Posted at City Hall, Pioneer Community Center, Library, City Website.

Video Streaming & Broadcasts: The meeting is streamed live on the Oregon City's website at www.orcity.org and available on demand following the meeting. The meeting can be viewed on Willamette Falls Television channel 28 for Oregon City area residents as a rebroadcast. Please contact WFMC at 503-650-0275 for a programming schedule.

Oregon City Public Artwork Assessment
January 2024
by Cathy Rowe
for the Oregon City Art Commission

**All artwork will be listed by the number designated to it in the Public Works
Inventory (c.2023)**

Contents

A Letter to the Oregon City Art Comissioners	0
#1 “Crescent Moon Rising” marble sculpture	1
#2 “River Dance” stone sculpture	2
#3 “Ride Again” metal sculpture	3
#4 “Ancient Voices” sculpture	4
#5 “Salmon Bench” mosaic sculpture	5-6
#6 “Over the Falls” print	7
#7 “Amtrak Dedication Plaque”	7
#8 “Elevations in Transition”	8
#9 “Bust of John McLoughlin”	9
#10 “First Drawing of Oregon City”	9
#11 “Joseph Meek” mural study	10
#12 “Hopp Family Photo” mural study	11
#13 “Pioneer Household and Family Scene” mural study	12
#14 “Dr. Forbes Barclay” mural study	13
#15 “1996 Flood Photo”	14
#16 “Prairie Scene” mural study	14
#17 “Early Days” mural/large painting	15
#18 “Historic Oregon City” artwork	16
#19 “The Falls” metal sculptures	17
#20 “Moontrap” metal sculpture	18
#21 “Future Flow” mixed media sculpture	19
#22 “John McLoughlin” oil painting	20
#23 “Mid Run, Ripple Effect” metal and stone sculpture	20
#24 “Singer Falls Lighting”	21
#25 “Gateway Sign”	21
#26 “Bridge Obelisk”	22
#27 “Willamette Compass”	23
#28 “Oregon Trail Interpretive Signs”	24
#29 “Willamette Terrace and Greenway Signs”	24
#30 “Falls View Plaza Plaques”	25
#31 “Abernathy Elm Marker” marble memorial marker	25
#32 “Oregon White Oak Marker” marble memorial marker	25
#33 “Joseph Meek” mural	26-30
#34 “Hopp Family Photo” mural	31-33
#35 “Women in History” mural	34
#36 “Dr. Forbes Barclay” mural	35-36
#37 “College of History” mural	37
#38 “Abernathy Green” mural	38-39

#39 "Ripple Rack" metal sculpture	40
#40 "The Last Stop" mural	40
#41 "OC Bridge Mural"	41-42
#42 "Painting of Andrew Carnegie"	43
#43 "1979 photo of a company picnic at the mill"	43
#44 "Willamette Falls Photo"	43
#45 "Willamette Falls Painting" colorized photograph	44
#46 "Public Library Historic Photo"	44
#47 - #64 (pieces in storage)	44-45
#65 "Prometory Ave. Viewpoint" painting	45
#66 - #68 (photographs in storage)	46
#69 "Woven Art" fiber art	46
#70 - #102 (fire station items)	46
#103 "Landscape Print 1"	47
#104 "Landscape Print 2"	47
#105 "I-205 Aerial Photograph"	47
#106 "Ogle Mountain" mural	48-49
#107 "City of Oregon City Painting"	49
#108 "Street Lamp Art A-L"	50
#109 "Storm Drain Photo"	50
#110 "Main Street Trolley Mural"	51-52
#111 "Willamette Falls" Photograph	53
#112 "Elk Statue"	53
#113 "Willamette River and Greenway Signs"	54
#114 "Jon Storm Park Restroom Wall Panels"	54
#115 "A Mountain Wreathed in Clouds" framed painting	55
#116 "CommaRaderie"	55
#117 "Top Hat Display"	56
#118 "Authors of the United States" etching	56
#119 "Map of the US with Flowers on Each State"	57
#120 "Willamette Photograph"	57
#121 "Geochron"	58
#122 "3 Tim Christopher Paintings"	58
#123 "Willamette Falls" Painting	59
#124 "River and Covered Bridge Scene" painting	60
#125 "Boat and Boat Shed in Water Scene" artwork	60
#126 "Butterfly Collage"	61
#127 "The Great Flood of 1996" composite photograph	61
#128 "After the Flood: April 1996" composite photograph	62
#129 "Charles Devore Simpson Paper Company" photo	62

#130 “A Ritual to Read to Each Other” framed poem	63
#131 “Lethe’s Poppy” framed poem	63
#132 “Commission Plaque”	64
#133 “DeMuro Award”	64
#134 “American Libraries Design Award”	64
#135 “Plaque at Entry”	64
#136 “Cascading Moons”	65
Addendum	66-67
Mural Summery	68
Recommended Actions	69-71

To the Oregon City Arts Commissioners,

Thank you for entrusting me with the opportunity to assess Oregon City's Public Art. The City's art collection of 136 documented public pieces is a wide ranging collection of sculptures, murals, paintings, signage, and historic artworks. It has been exciting to see this reinstatement of the Oregon City Art Commission bringing back the desire to respect the artwork that the City currently has on display while forging ahead and keeping culture alive in meaningful ways. I believe that murals and public art are the visualization of a community's collective values and culture, and when this art degrades, it can become a visualization of a shift in culture, values, or health of the community.

The department of Public Works has done a lot of record keeping on this collection that they have kept in a spreadsheet document. This has been the perfect place for me to start my assessment. The 136 pieces of art documented in this file were not all readily accessible, but the majority were easy to find. I have used this file as a guide for this assessment. The numbers shown for each piece correspond to its designated number in the Public Works file. I have updated images where possible. Each art piece listing begins with a description of the piece and relevant information. Cost and value information is given in the second paragraph. The third paragraph explains the item's current condition. Some pieces will have a fourth paragraph for recommended actions.

I have focused primarily on the sculptures and murals listed. As most of my experience is focused on murals, you will find that these listings are the most in-depth. For those murals that have degraded to the point where restoration is recommended, I have also included an estimate for restoration costs. Please note that for these estimates I used a "per square foot" muralist rate of \$30, which is an average I found between several sources. This kind of mural restoration work is highly specialized and may require paying closer to \$60 per square foot for the right artist or conservator. I did not use an hourly rate since that is more variable from artist to artist in terms of how fast they work.

Some murals will require some discussion about public or community value. We are a community that values our history, and enjoy seeing that history in our public places. But, our views about how we see and interpret our history may have shifted somewhat in the 30 years since many of these murals were first painted. I recognize it may be controversial to discuss the cultural value of public art pieces, as this could feel like we are making value statements about the artworks, subject to the freedom of speech. It is not my wish that the Art Commission make any such judgements, but that they are alerted to the potential shifts in culture that may have occurred. A mural's life and death should always be the will of the owner of the building on which the mural is painted. It is my hope that the murals of Oregon City are an accurate reflection of our community's ideals, and respectfully express the views of the building owners and tenants that are their hosts. It is only through active community engagement that we can accurately evaluate the public value of a piece.

It is worth noting that at least 5 public art pieces have been destroyed in the past 10 or so years. It is my hope that this assessment will allow for the preservation of the murals and sculptures we have, while paving a path for new public art as well.

Thank you,

Cathy Rowe



#1 "Crescent Moon Rising" Marble Sculpture
by Nicky Oberholtzer
 Located at 624 7th Street at the Main Fire
 Station
 2005 installed 2006

Approximately 5 feet tall, 2 feet wide, and 1 foot deep and made of Colorado Yule Marble. The crescent moon is lying down and there are cattails winding up one side and around to meet stalks of wheat on the other side.

Cost \$10,000 in 2005. Funded by Urban Renewal.
 Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$16,100.



Statue is in good condition and does not show any significant signs of wear or damage. There is a small area of one of the wheat stems towards the bottom of the street facing side that is slightly chipped. All portions of the plinth and plaque also appear to be in excellent condition. The statue is collecting a few areas of dirt and discoloration that would be expected this close to a road in an exposed area.

I am recommending a cleaning schedule be put in place for this statue. There does not currently appear to be a cleaning schedule in place according to the public works record. Cleaning should occur every 2-3 years as needed by a professional that is familiar with cleaning marble statuary. Marble stone is very soft and can easily be degraded if cleaned with an abrasive, acidic, or alkali cleanser. The current dirt should not be allowed to stay for much longer as it could lead to permanent discoloration, damage, or biological growth.



#2 “River Dance” Stone Statue
by Craig Breitbach
Located at 1001 7th Street at Monroe St.
2005

Approximately 7 feet tall, 2 feet wide, and 2 feet deep and made of Basalt Stone. A salmon style fish is relief carved and polished on two sides of the rough pillar form with a few swirls of abstract water towards the tail. The majority of the carved area is on the top half of the form.

Cost \$6,500 in 2005. Funded by Urban Renewal. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$10,465.

Statue is in very good condition with no significant signs of wear. The plinth and plaques are also in good condition. The only issues I see are some slight wear on some of the rough edges. This is not significant and should be expected over time in such a public space. It is possible that a small portion of the lower north face was chipped or sheared, since there is an area of slightly different patina. It is difficult to tell if this is damage or a natural imperfection of the stone.

This statue has a cleaning schedule in place according to the public works record. This schedule should continued to be maintained. There is some moss at the base of the plinth that needs to be removed. This piece is installed close to an intersection about 2-3 feet from the road. Ideally this statue would have some form of protection from any potential traffic issue. A bollard of some kind could be an excellent affordable solution.



**#3 “Ride Again” Stainless Steel Statue
by Jesse Swickard
Located at 1108 7th Street between
J.Q. Adams and Jackson
2005**

Approximately 6 feet tall, 2 feet wide (widest point), and 1 foot wide and made of stainless steel. A steel column is topped with a curved cylinder and a figure of a horse head encircled by a steel ribbon.

Cost \$5,000 in 2005. Funded by Urban Renewal. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$8,050.

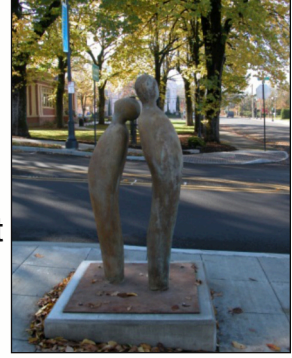
Statue is in very good condition with no significant signs of wear or damage. The plinth and plaque are also in good condition. The piece does appear to be due for a cleaning. There are some areas where dirt has collected (especially of the underside of the curved cylinder and the spaces in between the column and the encircling ribbon). The ribbon that encircles the column also has a few areas where moss and biological growth is starting to occur. There are benches facing the piece on the North and South sides which are excellent protection from any potential traffic incident, as well as providing the sculpture a natural viewing space.

This statue has a cleaning schedule in place according to the public works record. This schedule should continued to be maintained.

#4 “Ancient Voices” Fortified cement/fiber covered
statue by Carole Turner (Destroyed)
Was located at 710 Center St. at 7th St.
2005

Approximately 5-6 feet tall. Two figures leaning back to back against each other.

Cost \$5,000 in 2005. Funded by Urban Renewal. Not insured.



This piece was destroyed by a vehicle at some point in the last 3 years. There is currently a call to artists to find a replacement option.

This location is an excellent spot for a sculpture being very close to City Hall and the Historic McLoughlin House. Any future chosen sculpture should include a budget for protection from the traffic and a cleaning schedule plan.



#5 “Salmon Bench” mosaic bench
by Nora Brodnicki
Located at 905 7th St.
2005

Approximately 6 feet wide, 2 feet tall, and 2 feet tall glazed ceramic mosaic tiles. Various shades of blue glazed ceramic tile form scenes of salmon swimming through water.

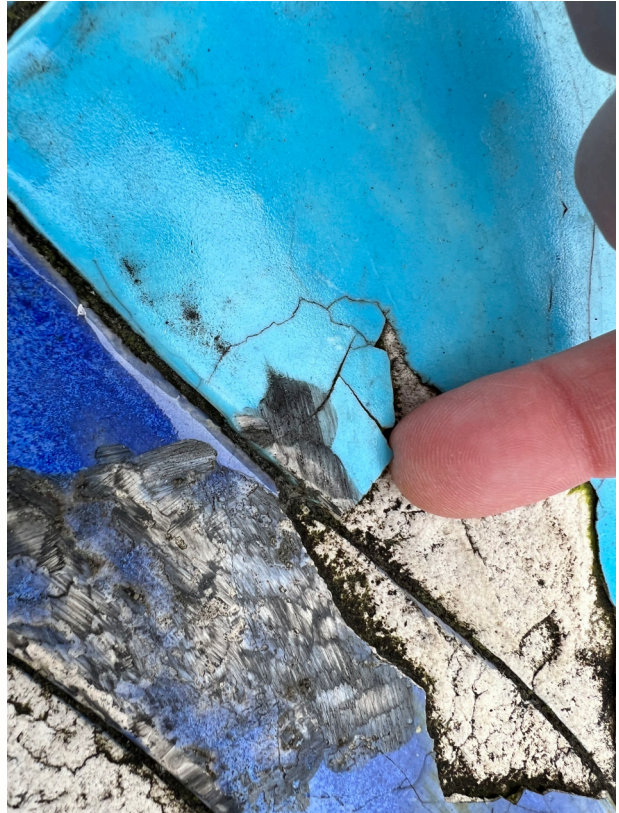


Cost \$10,000 in 2005. Funded by Urban Renewal. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$16,100.

There is a significant amount of damage on the top of the bench. Large areas of the glazed portions have been cracked and chipped off. There is a significant amount of dirt collecting in the cracks, edges, and exposed areas. There are also places where vandalism from skateboarding is evident. The chipping and cracking has left areas that are sharp and pointy in the area that should be a seating platform. These sharp areas could catch on skin and clothing, causing problems or injuries to the user. The side panels are in better condition with almost no cracking or chipping. The wear on the side areas is significantly less than the top area due to a combination of suggested use (people sitting and setting things down) and non-standard use (skateboarders misusing the platform in a destructive way).

A cleaning schedule should be put into place to remove the collecting dirt. The heavily damaged top portion should be addressed soon. There are several potential solutions

that could address the issue. The artist should be consulted to see if they have recommendations for an ideal solution. Other solutions could include: filling the damaged areas with a grout or epoxy to recreate the flat smooth surface or installing a new “seat” of durable material that would completely cover the seat area. Any solution should also include some additional metal pieces (such as “skate stoppers”) that are installed on these kind of surfaces to prevent “grinding” and other vandalism from skateboarding. The image that includes my finger (on this page) shows some dark scuffing that is evidence of skateboarding misuse.



#6 “Over the Falls” Linoleum Blockprint (linocut)
by Jonnel Covault
Located at 122 S Center St. in the Public Works
Operations Building.
Date unknown.

I did not observe this piece.

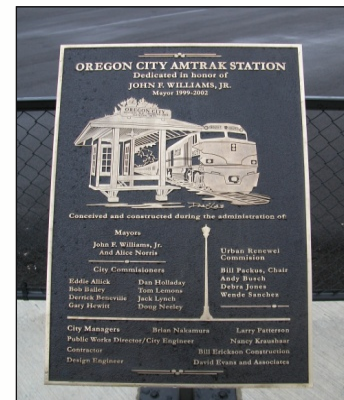
cost \$450 at an unknown date. Insured.



#7 “Amtrak Dedication Plaque” with artwork by Darla
Cole-Bowen, The Graphics Doctor and constructed
by Calcagno Studio & Foundry
Located at the Amtrak Station
2007

I did not observe this piece.

Cost \$3,414 in 2007. Funded by Urban Renewal. Insured.
Current value adjusted for inflation: \$5,180





**#8 “Elevations in Transition” Elevator art
by Michael Asbill
Located at Municipal Elevator, 300 7th St.
2008**

122 individual panels; floor art; deck housing for art under windows in upper elevator. Artwork imagery is holographic photography juxtaposing historic and current Oregon City scenes.

Cost \$25,250 in 2008. Funding unknown. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$36,730.

Public Works has noted some damage to the composite frame housing (see photos) “Some composite frames are broken, recommended to replace with wood for expansion and contraction, floor should have light cleaning and sealant applied”. The photograph image panels are in good condition. The majority of damage is to the top slats of the art framing. The composite material in this location gets a lot of wear and tear from weather exposure (temperature and sunlight) and user contact (people physically leaning against the slats). There are spaces where slats/panels are cracked, broken, and completely missing. Sharp edges from broken pieces could pose a liability for users.

I agree with the public works recommendations of cleaning and sealing the floor and replacing the composite frame slats with wood for contraction and expansion. The wood may also be easier to replace as needed. This part of the frame is often used as a rail or platform by visitors and should be replaced with a material that can withstand that kind of abuse and meant to be used as a railing. The remainder of the composite art framing is in good condition and does not need to be replaced.

**#9 “Bust of John McLoughlin”
by Adrien Alexandre Voisin
Located on the McLoughlin Promenade
date unknown**

Life sized bronze bust placed on a rough stone plinth positioned looking outward over the falls.

Cost unknown. Owned by Oregon Department of Transportation. Not insured by City of Oregon City (Since owned by ODOT).

Public Works noted: “Plaque is in really good shape, can be buffed to show gold finish on top. Rock is in terrible condition, needs to be cleaned immediately, considerable pollution and biological accumulation. Light abrasive blasting should be done, sealant should be placed in rock to prevent cracking, bust needs to be cleaned and waxed”. Bust is discolored from pollution and weather. The statue’s “view” of the falls is blocked by a tree, diminishing the overall message of the bust and its placement. The current state and surrounding of the bust feels slightly disrespectful.

I agree with the Public Works’ recommendations for this piece. It needs cleaning and sealant applied to the plinth rock to prevent crack expansion. I would also recommend that the tree blocking the bust’s symbolic view of the falls be trimmed or removed if feasible. This bust may not be the property of the City of Oregon City, but as a historical figure of the city, it would be good to show the piece a certain amount of care and respect where possible.



Bust’s View

**#10 “First Drawing of Oregon City”
by Captain Henry J. Warre
was located in City Records
(Public Works shows “MISSING IN ACTION”)
1845**

Artwork - wall art. Picture drawn in 1845, first picture of Oregon City ever drawn.

Cost listed: \$1,000. Not insured.

This piece is listed in the “DEAD” portion of the Public Works record. I did not attempt to find/locate this piece.





#11 "Joseph Meek"
Framed Oil on Canvas, study for Mural
by Mark Utz
Located in Storage
at City Records (City Hall closet)
1994

Early pioneers - Statesman / Mountain Man / Lawman. This painting study measures about 18" x 36" and would have been created for the large scale mural of the same design at OR-99E and 6th St.

Cost \$1,000 in 1994. Funding unknown. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$2,100.

Current condition is good. Storage condition is not ideal. This would be a valuable resource for any future restorations of the mural of the same design. The City Historian told me that he had placed this up by his office for a short time, but it was not well loved so he placed it back in storage. That should speak to the cultural value and contemporary view of the design, that it may not be an appropriate image even when placed next to the historian's office in City Hall.

#12 "Hopp Family Photo"
 Artwork, study for Mural by Larry
 Kangas, Roger Coke, and Leo
 Lauc
 Located in Storage
 at City Records
 1992

Shoe & Auto Top Repairing - Frank Hopp,
 Oregon City. Appears to be a small scale
 painting study for the large scale mural of
 the same design at 916 Main St.



Cost \$1,000 in 1992. Funding unknown. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$2,224.

I did not observe this piece in storage. Current condition is unknown. This would be a valuable resource for any future restorations of the mural of the same design.



#13 "Pioneer Household and farming scene" Artwork, study for Mural, by
Jennifer Joyce
Located in Storage at City Records
Date unknown

Appears to be a small scale pastel study (about 12" x 30") for the large scale mural of the same design that was at 818 Main St. and is now listed as "DEAD" in the public works document. The "DEAD" mural at 818 Main St. was listed as "Women in History" (#35).

Cost \$1,000 at unknown date of acquisition. Insured.

Current condition is good (minor damage to one spot on the frame edge), although the storage situation is not ideal. This would be a valuable resource if a future recreation of the lost mural was ever desired. The historical content of the mural is of interest and value if lacking in diversity and representation (there may be an indigenous woman and child on the right side towards the back).



#14 "Dr. Forbes Barclay" Artwork, study for Mural, possibly by Roger Cooke
 (artist of the mural)
 Located in Storage at City Records
 Possible date 1992

Appears to be a small scale (about 12" x 16") painting study for the large scale mural of the same design at 610 Main St. I can't tell what medium this is (possibly oil or colored pencil on paper or board).

Cost \$1,000 in (possibly 1992). Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$2,224.

Current condition is good. Appears to have a small imperfection in the sky of the top left corner. Not sure if this is damage or not. This image could be a valuable resource for any potential future mural restoration.



#15 "1996 Flood Photo" Photograph by an unknown photographer
Located in Storage at City Records (City Hall Basement)
1996

No listed cost. Not insured.

I was able to observe this piece in storage. Condition is good. Potentially historically interesting and valuable. Storage condition is not ideal.

#16 "Prairie Scene"
Artwork, oil on canvas
study for mural
by Larry Kangas
Located in Storage at
City Records
1993



Prairie Scene - horses,
wagon, pioneer family.
Appears to be a small scale
(about 18" x 36") oil painting
study for a large scale mural
of the same design. This

image design matches closely the mural "Abernathy Green" by Larry Kangas and others that is listed as being located at 719 Main St., but I was unable to locate. I believe the mural was destroyed.

Cost \$1,000 in 1993. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$2,153.

Current condition is good, although storage situation is not ideal. One of the other paintings in the stack had a corner leaning into the canvas of this piece making a slight dent. This could potentially permanently damage the painting by weakening and cutting into the canvas over time. I moved the other painting so that this would not continue, but a better, more permanent storage solution should be explored. Could be a valuable resource for any potential future mural restoration/recreation.



#17 “Early Days” Mural (large painting) of Oregon City
by Leland John
Located in the Carnegie Library
1988

About 3 feet tall and 18 feet wide oil painting on panel. Painting depicts early settlers arriving at the Willamette Falls and future site of Oregon City. Indigenous people are shown on the West Linn side of the river with settlers and a few buildings on the Oregon City side. A steamboat, a sailboat, and several canoes are on the river. The Public Works document notes that this piece “used to be located behind dais in Municipal Court”. Painting is visible from the front entrance of the Carnegie Library just to the left of the fireplace and is securely hung above the shelves.

Cost \$5,000 in 1988. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$13,270.

Painting appears to be in good condition. Piece is well framed (frame is also in good condition) and is securely hung in a place that can not be easily accessed directly by the public, while still being easily visible. There is no direct sunlight on the painting and no other obvious hazards.

#18 "Historic Oregon City"
painting or drawing (?)
by Robert Jackson
Located at Municipal Court
behind the entrance desk
1994

Public Works record notes:
"Celebration art of Artbeat & First
City Festival on 8-27-1994". This 2D
art piece depicts Oregon City and
Willamette Falls from a historic era
with a few buildings fairly close to
the river. Likely medium is pastel.



Cost \$1,000 in 1994. Funding
Unknown. Insured. Current Value adjusted for inflation: \$2,100.

I did not observe this piece. Current condition is unknown.

#19 “The Falls” waterfall
sculptures
by Adam Kuby & Brian Borrello
Located at Willamette Terrace,
1224 McLoughlin Blvd., West
side of McLoughlin Blvd. between
12th and 14th.
2011

Three stainless steel sculptures 18 feet high and 8 feet wide each. Public works notes: “Three waterfall shaped structures with stainless steel exterior and interior steel supporting structure. Three structures measuring 18 feet high and 8 feet wide varying to decreasing width at top. Downward-cascading LED lights strips along sculpture edges that are programmed to change color.

Cost \$190,000 in 2010/2011 (\$63,333 each). Funded by Urban Renewal. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$264,912 or \$88,304 each.

These sculptures are in good condition greatly enhancing the pedestrian experience along this busy stretch of roadway. There does not currently appear to be any cleaning schedule listed on the public works document. They have lost some of their original shininess and may need to be cleaned. A cleaning schedule should be put into place for these.



#20 “Moontrap” stainless steel wall sculpture
by Lee Kelly

Located at 299 8th St. at the bottom of
Singer Falls
2011



Public Work notes: “A gateway and link between uptown and downtown Oregon City, Moontrap is a legacy gift from the Rotary Club of Oregon City to embody and reflect the Club's mission and motto: Service Above Self.” Piece includes several stainless steel forms attached to the wall just below the Singer Falls. Lee Kelly is a modern artist of note with several pieces prominently located in public and private collections in the Pacific Northwest. Lee Kelly passed in 2022.

Cost: \$36,000 in 2011. Donated by Oregon City Rotary. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$50,194.

The piece is in good condition overall with the exception of a cut/scratch/crimp running 8-18 inches horizontally along one of the forms to the left of center. The damage appears to start as a scratch along the rightmost point and then cuts through the surface at the final 8 inches. This is likely damage that was sustained from a vehicle since there is no protection between the street traffic and the art piece. Public works has listed a cleaning schedule which should be kept to prevent corrosion: “Lightly buff and wax to slow rusting. Corrosion should be buffed out before waxing; 1-2 times per year.” I recommend that Public Works assess this damage soon to prevent any corrosion to the internal structure of the damaged form. Some welding or other form of sealant will likely be necessary to repair the damage. The overall piece is weathering well with only a slight patina that enhances the the overall beauty. The piece seems to have more warm tones than the original picture. No spots of corrosion/rust or biological growth were seen. The retaining wall behind the sculpture does have a joining crack right down the middle of the piece (this is a crack that is in the wall, not a crack in the artwork), along with a horizontal crack about 2.5 feet down from the top of the wall. The areas around these cracks should be inspected more closely to see if there are any points of contact where moisture could get inside the piece from these substrate flaws.





#21 “Future Flow” suspended mixed media sculpture
by Nick Thomas of Trovo Design
Located at 625 Center Street in the City Hall Entryway
2011/2012

A permanent artwork at the entryway of City Hall in downtown Oregon City, privately funded by numerous donors, and intended to honor the legacy of former Mayor Alice Norris (Mayor 2003-2010)

Cost \$5,400 in 2011. Donated by the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce with additional funding through community donations and the Clackamas County Arts Alliance. Public works list the replacement cost at \$10,000. Insured.

Current condition is good. No cleaning schedule is listed in the public works file. It could benefit from some light cleaning on a regular basis to remove dust, dirt, and webs.

#22 "John McLoughlin" oil painting
by Lilian Pherne Bain
Located at 619 6th St. Ermatinger House
dated 1933

An original oil painting of John McLoughlin.

Appraised value is: \$8,000. Insured.

I did not observe this piece. Current condition is unknown.



#23 "Mid Run, Ripple Effect" metal and
stone sculpture
by Ben Dye
Located at the entry to Clackamette
Park
2013

Primarily recycled metal river debris in a boulder base. A "RiPPLe Legacy Sculpture" to promote the intersection of river restoration, recreation, stewardship, and art.



Replacement Cost: \$7,800. Funded through collaboration between "We Love Clean Rivers, Clackamas County Arts Alliance, and Oregon City." Insured.

Current condition is good. There is a level of corrosion that appears to be intended. Public Work has no cleaning schedule listed.

#24 “Singer Falls Lighting” lighting
art
by Fountain People
Located at Singer Falls
2012

Lighting installed to highlight the sculpture quality of this portion of Singer Falls.

Cost unknown. Funded through community donations. Not insured.

I did not observe this piece at night when the lights would have been active. Current condition is unknown. Although the step system of the creek and waterfall component appear to be working in good condition. Public Works has no cleaning or maintenance schedule listed. I would be concerned that lights may go out and go unnoticed for an extended length of time. Public works likely responds as needed when alerted of an outage.



#25 “Gateway Sign” welcome to Oregon City sign
located at Hwy. 213 and Washington
2012

Appears to be painted on unknown substrate. Unknown if there is any protective coating to prevent fading from the sun or vandalism damage.

Unknown cost. Funded by the Jughandle Project. Not insured.

I did not observe this piece. Current condition unknown. No cleaning or maintenance schedule is listed.

#26 “Bridge Obelisk”
stone architectural element from
Oregon City Arch Bridge
Located at 8th Street and Main Street
Installed 2012

An Original obelisk from the Oregon City Arch Bridge. Includes a plaque for historical context.

Cost/value unknown. Downtown businesses funded plaque & obelisk donated by ODOT as part of the Main Street Improvement Project (5th to 10th). Not insured.

Obelisk, plaque, and plinth appear to be in good condition. Obelisk has a few minor cracks (by the metal panel towards the top) and chips at the corners (likely from pedestrian wear and tear). Does not appear to need any cleaning at this time. There is no cleaning or maintenance schedule listed by public works.



#27 “Willamette Compass” steel sculpture by Brandon Zebold

Located at NW Corner of 8th and Main st
directly in front of the Courthouse
2012

Willamette Compass was inspired by the natural beauty of the area, the dramatic basalt wall which gave rise to the (city's outdoor) municipal elevator, and the great potential for Oregon City as it expands towards Willamette Falls. Steel sculpture has a purposely rusted patina even over the whole surface. Sculpture sits on a short cylinder concrete plinth, which serves well to protect it from vehicles and pedestrians.

Cost \$13,000 in 2012. Funded by Main Street Oregon City. Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$17,611.

Sculpture is in good condition with no apparent scratches, cracks, or major discolorations. It could use a cleaning as there are a few spots of bird poop. It is positioned very near a tree that at least partially obscures the top diamond portion of the sculpture when the nearby tree is in full leaf. The public value of this sculpture might be heightened if the sculpture were moved to a more prominent location. Alternatively, the nearby tree could be trimmed well back every year. Public Works has a maintenance schedule listed: Would benefit from light washing 1-2 per year.

I discussed this piece with the Executive Director of the Clackamas County Arts Alliance, Dianne Alves. She agrees that this piece could potentially find an excellent home at a more prominent location near one of the County Buildings at the Red Soils Campus. It could be beneficial to pursue an exchange of sorts between the city and the county that would give this piece the space and respect that it deserves.

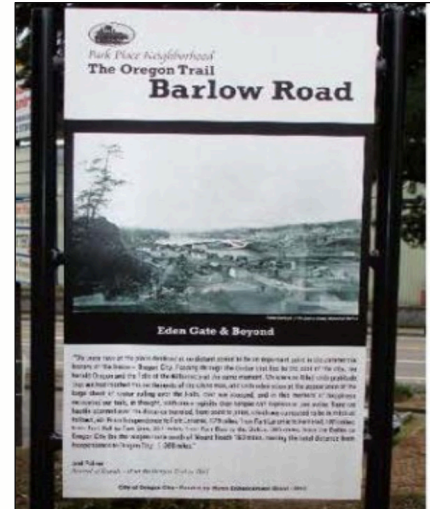


**#28 “Oregon Trail Interpretive Signs”
by Security Sign
Located on Holcomb Blvd.
2013**

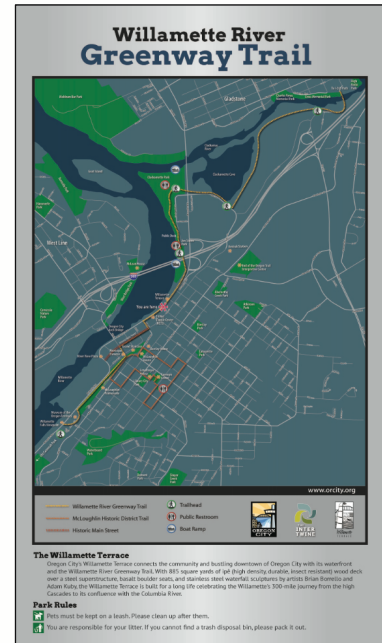
A series of 6 interpretive signs along Holcomb Blvd.

Cost \$10,500 in 2013. Funded by Metro Enhancement.
Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$14,000.

I could only easily locate 2 of the 6 signs. I could not find anyplace that listed more specific locations for the signs. The signs that I was able to locate are well made and in good condition. Images are not faded, and there is no obvious damage or decay.



**#29 “Willamette Terrace & Greenway Signs”
with artwork by BergerABAM Inc., fabricated by
Security Signs, and Installed by Todd Hess
Building Co.
Located along the Willamette Terrace
2012**



This series of interpretive signs includes 1 greenway trail sign and 3 Terrace signs: Tumwater, A Place of Significance, and Willamette Falls Locks.

Total Cost in 2012: \$31,859. Funded by Clackamas County Community Partnership Program c/o M. Beneville (\$12,000). Insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$43,158.

I did not observe these signs. Current condition is unknown.

**#30 “Falls View Plaza Plaques” bronze
plaques with artwork
by Darla Cole-Bowen, ODOT
Located at Falls View Plaza
2001**

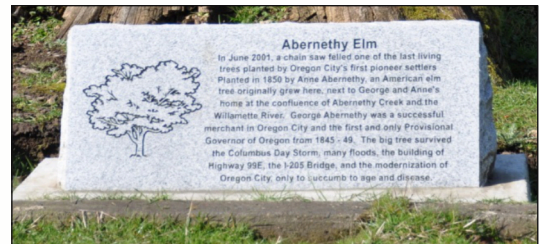
Three bronze plaques dedicated to Oregon City, Willamette Falls, and Enhancement. Plaques are set in a short concrete wall. There is bench seating on the other side of the short wall.



Cost \$4,356 in 2001. Funded by Urban Renewal. Not insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$7,639.

I did not observe these plaques. Current condition unknown. Public Works does not have a maintenance schedule listed for these pieces.

**#31 “Abernathy Elm Marker” marble
memorial marker
by Oregon Memorials
Located at Jon Storm Park
2010**



Cost \$779 in 2010. Funded by Parks SDC. Not insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$1,104.

I did to observe this piece. Current condition unknown. Public Works does not have a maintenance schedule listed for this marker.

**#32 “Oregon White Oak Marker” marble
memorial marker
by Oregon Memorials
Located at Jon Storm Park
2010**



Cost \$779 in 2010. Funded by Parks SDC. Not insured. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$1,104.

I did not observe this piece. Current condition unknown. Public Works does not have a maintenance schedule listed for this marker.



#33 “Joseph Meek” mural by Mark Utz
 Located at 610 McLoughlin Blvd.
 1995

The Joseph Meek mural details the three main phases of his life: mountain man, lawman, and statesman. One of the first territorial governors, Mr. Meek was present at the coin toss for the naming of Portland (held in Oregon City at the historic Ermatinger House). The mural wraps around the corner of the Elks Lodge Building facing OR 99E (McLoughlin Blvd.) where it meets 6th St. It can easily be seen when heading east along this road. The mural is painted directly onto the building. This mural is about 10 feet tall and 20 feet wide.

Cost and funding source is unknown. Not insured. The public works file lists the mural as privately owned.

This mural is very faded but is in fairly good condition for an unprotected 30+ year old mural at street level. The fading has occurred in a uniform and even way. All words and lettering are clear and legible. There is an area on the “plaque” that appears to have some damage from previously removed graffiti. When this piece is compared to the image of the mural study (piece #11 in storage) one can easily see the degradation of colors over time. The wall itself appears to be in moderate condition with no substantial





structural chips or cracks. There is a significant amount of wear and chipping on the wall just below the mural. There are a fair number of small chips (the size of a quarter or smaller) and pits (most smaller than a pea), but these are mostly superficial surface damage. The biggest area of damage is a spot on the lower left portion with significant scraping and scratches (likely from a vehicle). There is also an area with dark circles (likely from where a tire rubbed along the wall).

The Public Works file lists a maintenance recommendation: "Needs to be maintained for Graffiti and biological growth. Suggested cleaning with a biological cleaner and sealing with UV sealant to preserve life." I would suggest this piece be restored or otherwise considered before a new sealant/coating is applied. At this point in this mural's life it could easily be restored to its original bright colors without any significant remediation or structural work (some light surface work would be needed to fill small cracks, chips, and pits). The art piece in storage (#11) would be an important resource for this endeavor. There is also a significant amount of wall space (about 30') along either side of this mural. The current content of this mural is historically significant, but feels dated and somewhat disconnected from our current Oregon City culture and identity. This mural could be greatly improved by an addition(s) by another artist or artists to expand upon the theme and create a better connection with current ideas of representation and cultural values. This would add some much needed context to the historic mural and potentially make it more approachable for a contemporary audience. Perhaps something that similarly educates on an indigenous person or peoples of historical importance. It would be nice to see something (in addition) that had a more welcoming feeling than this stern looking man along this very busy road.

When considering whether or not to restore this mural, purposely destroy it by painting over it, or replacing it with a new mural design, the building owner/group should be consulted and considered. What do the building owner(s) and tenet(s) want to express



to the community? Does this mural accurately express their values? Would a different piece of art serve their purposes better?

If this mural is restored to its original color depth (or repainted in whichever way the owner finds most valuable), certain protections should be put into place: a UV/Graffiti Protectant coating as well as the installation of bollards or some other form of protection from the street traffic along the edge of the sidewalk. There are currently some lightweight aluminum tube partitions that appear to have been put into place as protection. These could serve as a temporary solution, but a more long term solution should be explored if this spot receives any further artistic investment.



Estimate for Restoration of Joseph Meek Mural

	rate		area	cost
muralist for restoration area	\$30	per square foot	200 sq ft	\$6,000
surface repair and preparation	\$2	per square foot	200 sq ft	\$400
insurance, permits, and fees	\$400			\$400
protective coatings for restoration area	\$2	per square foot	200 sq ft	\$400
bollards	\$400	(x2)		\$800
total estimated cost for restoration				\$8,000

This estimate assumes the mural is in its current condition (January 2024). If additional damage occurs the estimate would likely increase. Some of the items listed should be applied or installed by Public Works (if willing) to reduce cost and redundancy.

An expansion of the mural would probably be best considered separately, but not separated by too much time. If a restoration occurs without an addition expansion or change of any kind it could be seen by the public as the city placing greatest value on its history as viewed through a white male lens. It could even be divisive to restore this mural without adding a level of diverse narrative. For example: the main figure (a white male) is shown always holding a gun (in all three scenes). Gun rights is a divisive issue. If this mural was restored, the guns would become more obvious and could be seen as threatening to some modern viewers. But to remove one or more of these guns from the original could be seen as an inappropriate edit. And so, to add something to the sides of the original that would redirect the overall theme to a more welcoming and inclusive feeling could be an excellent solution. The murals of our city should reflect the values of our citizens and culture. To estimate the potential cost of a mural expansion consider \$25-30 per square foot to pay the muralist. These side spaces extend 30 feet wide and are about 10 feet high. With 600 potential square feet available, the muralist cost could be \$18,000 or less (if a smaller portion of the wall was designated). Even if only an additional 200 square feet were designated for an expansion (muralist cost estimate \$6,000) the overall cultural value and narrative of this mural could be greatly improved.



#34 “Hopp Family Photo” mural
by Larry Kangas, Roger Coke, and Leo Lauc
Located at 916 Main St.
1994

Lead artist Larry Kangas oversaw the production of this first Mural in a Day, a depiction of the Hopp family business. Six artists followed Kangas' instructions, working on separate pieces of the grid, as he coordinated the overall flow of the finished art. This mural is listed on the “DEAD” list of the Public Works file, but it is still in place and was not removed or destroyed. This multi-panel mural is painted on a series of high quality exterior rated panels (likely an MDO sign board or some other weather resistant material). There is no bowing or waving in the surface, and the edges are very tight and square. The boards are mounted very securely to the wall with flush mount hardware that was originally touched up with paint after the mounting process for a uniform look. Mural is approximately 24 feet wide by 12 feet tall.

There is no cost or funding source listed. In the Public Works file this piece is listed as being removed in 2014, but it is currently installed and visible facing East. It is listed as

privately owned and not insured by the city.

The overall damage to this mural includes some fading, biological growth, and chipping. All of these issues could be easily fixed with cleaning and restoration. Fading has occurred uniformly with the greatest loss to the depth of the darker tones and the brightness of the greens and reds. All of the information in the image is still crisp and visible. The level of fading is slightly less than I would usually expect in an unprotected 30 year old mural. There are areas of the mural painted with high relief texture (the bricks rise off the panel slightly and have a brick-like texture at the lower right. These high relief areas are experiencing some moss growth in just the way you might see with real bricks. These areas need



to be delicately cleaned so as not to damage the high texture paint (could be prone to cracking or chipping if cleaned aggressively). A study painting is listed as existing in storage (piece #12) which could be an excellent resource for any restoration endeavor. The chipping damage should be repaired soon to prevent further damage. The worst of the chipping is along the edges and mounting hardware, especially towards the top left. Once the restoration is completed a UV/anti-graffiti coating should be applied to slow and prevent future damage. Overall this mural is an excellent example of how well exterior grade paneling can work as a mural substrate for 30+ years of wear and weather. I recommend that this restoration occur within the next 2-5 years.

Estimate for Restoration of “Hoop Family Photo” Mural

	rate	area	cost
muralist for restoration	\$30 per square foot	288 square feet	\$8,640
cleaning and repair	\$1 per square foot	288 square feet	\$288
insurance, permits, and fees	\$400		\$400
protective coating	\$2 per square foot		\$576
Total estimated cost for restoration			\$9,904

This estimate assumes the mural is in its current condition (January 2024). If additional damage occurs the estimate could likely increase.



#35 "Women in History" mural

by Jennifer Joyce

Was located at 818 Main St. (DEAD)

date unknown possible 1993

This mural depicts the artist's vision of daily life in the early 1800s for women of the Oregon Territory. This female-themed mural was painted by female artist Jennifer Joyce on a building that, in 1993, housed a female-owned drapery shop business. The mural has been destroyed and is currently listed on the "DEAD" list in the Public Works document. The original mural was likely based off the study "Pioneer Household and farming scene" (#13) artwork in storage.

The original cost and funding source are unknown.

This spot is no longer an ideal location for a mural of any kind. The building facing has been decoratively painted with several facade details that are better suited to business signage than artwork.





#36 "Dr. Forbes Barclay" mural
by Roger Cooke
Located at 610 Main St.
1992

Forbes Barclay was an early Oregon City physician, one of the first doctors to bring modern medicine west of the Mississippi. He served many important roles in Oregon City including County Coroner, School Superintendent, City Councilman, and Mayor. This mural is located on the Homelife Furniture Building facing west.

Original cost and funding unknown. Privately owned. Not insured by the city.

This mural is severely degraded on a



wall that is itself in poor condition. The mural has faded to the point where information is beginning to be lost. Areas of the faces and clothing are almost completely washed out with definition lost. Signage has been installed into the wall directly onto the mural surface. The wall substrate has large cracks in the stucco. The stucco has degraded in these areas to the point where the outline of the underlying bricks can be clearly made out in places. There is even a section of wall (the area with the large portrait) that is so degraded that it is coming away from itself at the top. There is a large crack right above the portrait where a small (about 2 inch) ledge has formed posing a potential hazard. This wall would need to undergo dramatic repairs before I could recommend any repainting. I do not think this mural can be saved because the wall itself needs so much work. Perhaps the building owner could be issued permission to paint over this mural and repair the wall? I do not think this is a widely loved mural due to its disrepair and morbid theme, even though it has historic value. There is a study of this mural (#14) that is currently in storage, and could be used to replicate this mural in a different location if the loss is seen as profound.





#37 “College Of History” mural
by Larry Kangas
Was located at 503 Main St.
1992

This mural project is a composite of several historical photographs found at the Clackamas County Historical Society that depicts the history of trade at Willamette Falls. The mural also honors the mill industry, which has used Willamette Falls to generate power dating back to the 1850s. As face models for the lumberjacks, Kangas used local community members and even a few celebrities. This mural was painted over at some point in the last 10 years or so and a new mural was recently installed in its place (“Reflections of the Falls” by Brian Krehbiel). This location currently houses the business “White Rabbit Black Ink”. Wall is about 20 feet height and 60 feet wide with a doorway, signage, and several windows interrupting the surface.

Original cost and funding unknown.

I recommend that the Public Works file be updated, placing the Larry Kangas mural on the “DEAD” list and starting a new entry for the Brian Krehbiel mural.





#38 "Abernathy Green" mural
by Larry Kangas, Michele Nunnally, Don ?
Was Located at 719 Main St.
date unknown (likely 1993)

The scene portrays the early settlers at the End of the Oregon Trail on Abernathy Green, marking the end of their journey where they would register with Oregon City founder, Dr. John McLoughlin. Dr. McLoughlin provided food and medical assistance to those who needed it after their journey. The mural has been painted over and destroyed. It had faced west towards a parking lot. The current building tenet is 5 Zero Trees. This tenet appears to be the one that painted over the mural with a dark green color and placed their logo signage off to the top left. This mural was based on the study "Prairie Scene" (#16) in Storage. It appears to have been about 25 feet wide and 15 feet tall.

Original cost and funding source unknown. It was privately owned and not insured by the city.

The "Abernathy Green" mural has been destroyed and needs to be placed on the "DEAD" list. The current state of the wall would need further attention before another mural could be painted here. There is a significant amount of minor cracking occurring in the stucco surface. The outline of the mural can be seen fairly obviously on the

building as a slightly darker area. There are some areas in the ex-mural region where the paint is bubbling and separating from the wall (likely from not properly cleaning and preparing the surface before painting). This bubbling could also be the mural material itself if it was applied paper (see #41 “OC Bridge Mural” for an example of Larry Kangas using this method in another area). The ground below the wall has a minor grade, uneven surface, and obstacles that could make mural painting difficult (but not impossible). The biggest issue with this spot is the wall itself needing repair, before any future artistic considerations.



#39 “Ripple Rack” sculpture
by Ben Dye
Located at 1726 Washington St.
2013

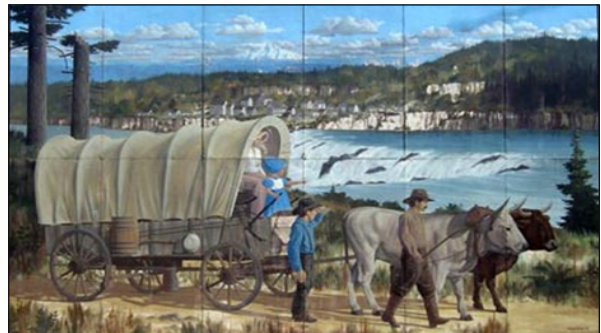
This metal sculpture replicates a wagon wheel while also serving the practical purpose of a bike rack.



Cost \$3,500 in 2013. Funded by We Love Clean Rivers, Clackamas County Tourism & Cultural Affairs Development. Insured by Oregon City. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$4,667.

I did not observe this piece. Current condition is unknown.

#40? (Public Works file did not
number this piece, but this number
was missing) “The Last Stop” mural
by Roger Cooke
Was located at 1001 Main St.
Date unknown (“DEAD” list shows
“Removed 2014”)



This mural shows a family during the final stages of their trip to Oregon City, standing on the West Linn side of the Willamette River. An interesting note is that the boy walking was modeled on the artist's son, Brady, and the little girl on the wagon seat was modeled after his daughter, Stephanie. It was unclear as to where exactly this mural was located.

Cost and funding source unknown.

I could not tell from my observations if this mural had been painted along the back of the building (facing north, towards OR-99E/McLoughlin Blvd.) or if it had been facing west towards 10th st.. This building is currently painted a red color. I did not see this grid pattern on the building anywhere. Perhaps this mural was originally painted on panels and installed. There may be some remnants of the mounting system still embedded in the wall. (see listing #106 “Ogle Mountain”). There are presently quite a few minor obstacles that would make a new mural on this building (1001 Main St.) less than ideal. The back wall has electrical wires that would pose a hazard to a painter, while the 10th st. wall is well blocked by foliage and trees for most of the year.



#41 “ OC Bridge Mural”
by Larry Kangas
Located at 502 7th St.
date unknown

Mural depicts a landscape scene of the old Oregon City/West Linn Bridge (the wooden suspension bridge that was replaced by the Arch Bridge in 1922). Appears to be the view of Oregon City from the West Linn bank of the Willamette River approximately 1890 (guess based on the fashion of the figures). Also visible in the scene: a steam boat, downtown Oregon City, and the old wooden municipal elevator. Mural measures 30 feet wide by about 10 feet tall. This mural may have been painted on a paper type substrate and then applied (like wall paper), but it is directly applied to the wall. I could see some very slight seams where the sheet material met and was expertly aligned. The mural is applied to the building directly across Center St. from City Hall and faces City Hall (faces North).

The cost and funding source are unknown. This privately owned mural is not insured by the city.

This mural is in good condition if quite faded. The fact that this may be a painted paper poses a slight issue. Care should be taken when cleaning and restoring since papers and other thin sheet materials can grow increasingly delicate over time. The wall itself is in excellent condition with no visible cracks or flaws. Several large scratches are minor enough that they are not obvious in my photo. There is a small area in the bottom right corner that looks like a plaque, but there is nothing written there. On several of Larry Kangas' murals he would often sign the piece in a spot just like this. I'm not sure why there is no signature or other information visible here. The content of this mural has significant cultural value due to the historic nature. The scenic quality of the piece allows it to be unobjectionable to a contemporary viewer. If this mural were restored to its original depth of color it would be quite a grand and inspiring scene. The sidewalk in this location is very wide which would allow pedestrian traffic without closing the sidewalk. Once a restoration is completed a UV protective/anti-graffiti coating should be applied.

Estimate for Restoration of "OC Bridge Mural"

	rate	area	cost
muralist for restoration	\$30 per square foot	300 square feet	\$9,000
cleaning and repair	\$.5 per square foot	300 square feet	\$150
insurance, permits, and fees	\$300		\$300
protective coating	\$2 per square foot	300 square feet	\$600
Total estimated cost for restoration			\$10,050

This estimate assumes the mural is in its current condition (January 2024). If additional damage occurs the estimate would likely increase.

#42 "Painting of Andrew Carnegie"
 Framed print
 Located at 606 John Adams St. Library, Carnegie Wing

This portrait is a print of a painting of Andrew Carnegie, the main benefactor of the old Carnegie Library wing.

The print was observed as present.



#43 "1979 photo of a company picnic at the mill"
 Framed photograph
 Located at 606 John Adams St. Library, Carnegie Wing

This black and white photograph is well framed for archival purposes from my superficial observations. Observed as present.

#44 "Willamette Falls Photo"
 Framed Photograph
 Located in storage at 606 John Adams St. Library, Basement

Historic photo take from West Linn of the Falls. Year unknown. I did not observe this piece in storage.



#45 “Willamette Falls painting”
colorized photograph
Located at 606 John Adams St.
Library, Carnegie Wing

Artist/photographer and date unknown.
Piece was observed as present. Not insured.



#46 “Public Library Historic Photo”
Located at 606 John Adams St. Library, Carnegie
Wing

This black and white historic photograph had no date listed
(likely circa 1950s or 60s based on the children’s fashions
and toys shown in the photograph).

No value given. Not insured. Good condition.



#47 - #64

Include various pieces in storage that I was unable to observe.
Mostly located in City Records (in City Hall Basement?)

Items in this batch include historic photographs, letters, architectural drawings, and maps. Items of note include a clock from our Sister City in Japan, several framed paintings, and a mural diagram. These pieces appear to all be framed which should help to preserve them, but they should all be assessed separately to ensure that they are being kept in good archival quality condition. Some pieces may have older acidic mats or have the document in contact with the wooden frame (all historic pieces should have no direct contact to any acidic materials). I did attempt to locate these items in

storage, but it was difficult to find these few items among the many boxes of photographs and documents.

I was able to talk with the City Historian about some of the materials in storage. I was told that none of the items are scanned for archival purposes (he was more concerned with scanning and archiving official city documents and ledgers), but that a lot of the historical photographs likely have negatives that are archived by the historical society and that they may have scans. But, the original letters, maps, and official documents are not properly archived or scanned and are not easily found. Storage conditions are adequate to prevent water damage, but should definitely be upgraded soon for preservation and organization purposes. The way that things in this room were boxed and stacked was not ideal for conservation. A surprising sight for a town with great historic pride. There are enough items of historical, artistic, and cultural significance to have a permanent or rotating display (like a gallery), if a venue and curator were available.



#65 "Prometory Ave Viewpoint" framed painting on canvas
by Emmett Stoddard
Located in City Hall 2nd Floor
Date unknown

Painting shows a view of "Timeless" Oregon City circa 1930s (?) with the 205 bridge still under construction. About 16" x 36".

No value shown. Not insured.

This piece is listed as being in storage. The City Historian liked it enough to place outside his office. This item is nicely hung in a low traffic area, that will be well appreciated by staff. The painting and frame appear to be in good condition.

#66 - #68

Include several photographs in storage that I was unable to observe.
Mostly located in City Records (in City Hall Basement?)

Items include several framed photographs that do not seem to be of great historical or cultural importance and may have negatives archived with the historical society. If these items are in the City Hall basement their storage situation is not ideal.

No value shown. Not insured.

#69 “Woven Art” 2 pieces of
woven fiber art
by unknown artist (possibly
indigenous)

Located at 698 Warner Parrott
Rd. Community Development
Date unknown



These pieces appear to be of indigenous design, but I could not find any specific information about them. I did not observe these pieces. Current condition is unknown.

#70 - #102

Include various pieces at the 624 7th St. Fire Station that I was unable to observe.

Items include historic photographs, certificates, paintings, drawings, a poem, a first aid cabinet, a quilt, and news articles. These pieces are likely the responsibility of the fire department and are being well cared for. Some photographs might be experiencing some fading (some fading is unavoidable with older photographs). Item #96

“Oregon City Buildings and Scenery 1858” appears to have some discoloration of the paper that may be from age, previous water damage, or poor handling at some point in its history. This piece may need an assessment to ensure that it is being kept in archival quality conditions. These pieces do not have dates listed in the Public Works document, but many likely have the dates on or with the physical item. No items have a listed or assessed value. None of these items are insured by the City.



#103 "Landscape Print 1" Sister City Art
by unknown artist
Located at 606 John Adams St. Library,
Carnegie Wing
date unknown

Black and white print about 16 x 20. Currently located directly next to the Carnegie Wing entrance to the Library. Item appears to be in good condition.

No listed value. Not insured.



#104 "Landscape Print 2" Sister City Art
by unknown artist
Located at 625 Center St. City Hall
date unknown

I was not able to observe this piece. Current condition is unknown. No listed value. Not insured.



#105 "I-205 Aerial Photo 2"
Located at 625 Center St. City Hall
date unknown

This is a color photograph of the I-205 Willamette River Crossing. Downtown Oregon City can be seen on the top left side.

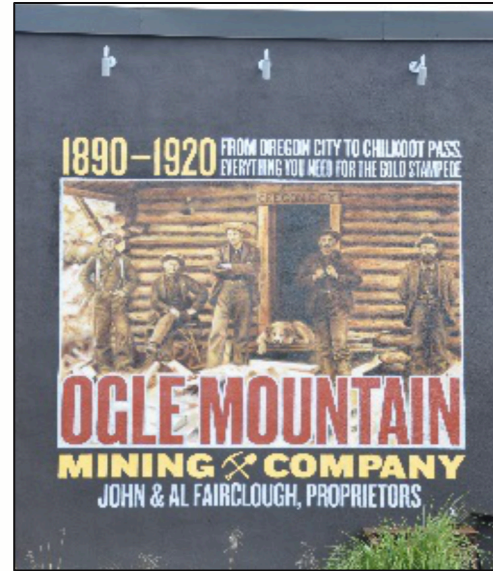
No value given. Not insured.



I tried to locate this piece in City Hall with no luck. I found other aerial photographs of the river, but not this one specifically. I was advised that it may have been relocated to the Public Works Building on 1st St.. Image appears to be highly degraded with very washed out colors. I would recommend that this piece be assessed for archival quality and potentially reframed with acid free matting and UV glass.

#106 “Ogle Mountain Mural”
by Dan Cohen
Located at 1001 Main St.
Date unknown

This mural has been destroyed/painted over fairly recently. Mural was about 16 feet wide and 16 feet tall. It showed a historical photograph image of an old mining company with the overall look of an advertisement. This wall was a very good spot for a mural. The wall is in good condition with no major cracks or flaws. There is even spot lighting (likely installed to light the original Ogle Mountain Mural). There are a few small bolts that protrude slightly from the wall that should be easy to paint directly over. These are potentially the remnants of a previous mural installation (see listing #40). It would be interesting to know why this mural was painted over since it had been in good condition. I wonder if it perhaps got tagged and the owner was not able to clean the wall without destroying the mural. This is a danger for any mural that does not have an anti-graffiti coating. There is a good even sidewalk for easy scissor lift or scaffold use. But the intersection is quite busy and would need to have some traffic considerations put into place to redirect pedestrians (this section of the sidewalk would have to be closed to pedestrian traffic). Generally speaking this would be an excellent location for a mural, either a recreation of this Ogle Mountain Mural or a mural of a new design. I would recommend that the Art Commission reach out to the building owner to discover the reason that the mural was painted over and destroyed. This is exactly the kind of public outreach the commission should be doing, to ensure the longevity of the city's public art collect. Was there a miscommunication? Is there some way that the



Commission could assist or help to make sure that this kind of situation does not happen again? It is one thing to loose a mural to weather and time, but to lose a fairly new mural for unknown reasons is something else.

Estimate to Repaint “Ogle Mountain” or Replace with a New Design

	rate	area	cost
muralist	\$30 per square foot	256 square feet	\$7,680
insurance, permits, and fees	\$500		\$500
Equipment Rental	\$800		\$800
protective coating	\$2 per square foot	256 square feet	\$512
Total estimated cost for restoration			\$9,492

This estimate assumes that a mural would be painted that fairly matched at least the size of the Ogle Mountain Mural if not also the design. There is additional room to the left that could be added to make the mural larger. If a wider design was chosen this estimate should increase accordingly.

#107 “City of Oregon City Painting”
by unknown artist
Located at 625 Center St. City Hall - PW Admin
Desk
date unknown

Possible watercolor. I could not locate this piece. I was advised that it may have been moved to the Public Works building on 1st St.. Current condition unknown.

No value given. Not insured by the city.



#108 "Street Lamp Art A-L"

by unknown artist

Located on various downtown street lamps
A-E installed 2014, F-L installed 2018

These decorative fixtures are made from cut aluminum sheet painted black on the outside with different bright colors on the inside of the cup-like sculpture. Each of the 12 art pieces has a different thematic design. A- "Waterfall" at 8th and Main. B- "Lupine" at 912 Main St.. C- "Leaf" at 10th and 99E. D- "Fern" at 9th and Main. E- "Arches" at 7th and Main. F- "Elevator" at 7th and Railroad. G- "Oregon Trail Bonnet" at 6th and Main. H- "Victorian House" at 509 Main St. I- "Fish" at 99E at Falls View. J- "Rhododendron" at 10th and Main. K- "Hops" at 1402 Washington St. L- "Abernathy Center" at Washington and 15th.

Pieces A-E were installed in 2014 and cost a total of \$12,000. Pieces F-L were installed in 2018 with a total cost of \$16,000. This series of pieces was funded by Metro Enhancement Grants. These pieces are owned by the city and are insured by the city. There is no cleaning or maintenance schedule listed on the public works document. Aluminum is a fairly hardy material and may not require much cleaning or maintenance.

I did not observe and document each piece individually, but I did happen to document a few of these in the course of my mural observations. All appeared to be in excellent condition.



#109 "Storm Drain Photo"

Located at 625 Center St. City Hall
date unknown

Piece is a framed series of two aging color photographs depicting the same structure.

No value given. Not insured.

Not observed. Current condition is unknown. I attempted to locate this piece in City Hall, but was advised that this may have been moved to the Public Works Building on 1st St..





#110 “Main Street Trolley Mural”

by Larry Kangas

Located at 705 Main St.

date not listed in Public Works document (1992?)

restoration by Cathy Rowe in 2021

This mural was recently restored by Cathy Rowe. The mural depicts a train of trolley cars traveling through Oregon City on the historic trolley line that used to connect Oregon City to Portland. The wall was in a poor state of repair at the time of restoration. The wall was cleaned and repaired (by a mason) to ensure the longevity of the restoration. This mural had experienced a significant amount of fading from its southern exposure, and so was given a UV protective coating once finished.

No original cost or funding is listed in the Public Works document. The restoration cost approximately \$6,000 and was funded by a Metro Enhancement Grant through the Three Rivers Artist Guild. Not insured by the city.

No action is needed at this time. No cleaning schedule should be necessary. The UV protective coating should be assessed every 10-15 years or so (due to this spot's high exposure). The coating used is highly rated and should work well against fading for many years.



The state of the mural before restoration

#111 “Willamette Falls” Photograph
by Mark Gamba
(On loan) Located at the Oregon
State Capital Building, Salem
2015

Color photograph of Willamette Falls.
Matted and framed.

Value listed: \$377.69. Not insured.
Current value adjusted for inflation: \$500.



I did not observe this piece. Current condition is unknown.



#112 “Elk Statue” bronze statue by unknown artist
Located at 1726 Washington St.,
the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center
2002

Cast bronze statue of an elk.

Cost: \$25,000 in 2002. Funding source unknown. Insured by Oregon City. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$43,345.

I did not observe this piece. Current condition is unknown.



#113 “Willamette River & Greenway Signs”
fabricated by Security Signs

Located at Westside of McLoughlin Blvd between Dunes & Main Street
Overpass
2015

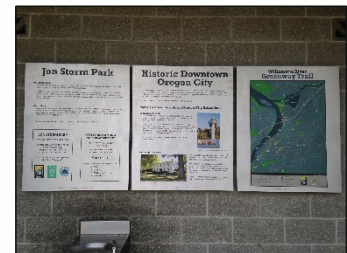
This group of signage includes: (1) Greenway Trail Sign & (3) Willamette River Signs. 1 - Greenway Trail Sign, 2 - Willamette River **George Abernethy Memorial Bridge**, 3 - Willamette River **Confluence of Two Rivers**, and 4 - Willamette River **New Industry**. Materials are Brushed Aluminum with Clear Coat & 3M vandal proof laminate.

Cost: \$3,940 in 2015. Funding sources included \$2,955 from a Downtown Oregon City Association Metro Enhancement Grant and \$985 from City Street Fund. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$5,177. Not insured by the city.

I did not observe these pieces. Current condition is unknown.

#114 “Jon Storm Park Restroom Wall Panels”
fabricated by Security Signs

Located at Jon Storm Park Restroom Building Wall
2015



This group of signage includes 3 signs: 1 - Greenway Trail Sign, 2 - Jon Storm Park, and 3 - Historic Downtown Oregon City. Materials are Brushed Aluminum with Clear Coat & 3M vandal proof laminate.

Cost: \$2,310 in 2015. Funded by a Downtown Oregon City Association Metro Enhancement Grant. Current value adjusted for inflation: \$3,035.

I did not observe these pieces. Current condition is unknown.

#115 “A Mountain Wreathed in Clouds
in a Gold Frame”
oil painting by Percy L. Manser
Located at 606 John Adam St.,
Library Basement
1954



This oil on canvas painting is listed as being in storage in the library basement.

No value listed. Not insured.

I was not able to observe this piece. Current condition unknown.

#116 “CommaRaderie”
hanging glass sculpture
by John Rogers
Located at 606 John Adams St.,
Library, New Wing
2016



Multi color glass pieces are suspended on taught lines from a central point of three joined commas.

Cost \$45,000 in 2016. Insured for \$60,000.

This piece appears to be in good condition. I do not see any cleaning schedule listed for it. I am wondering if the Library dusts this piece as necessary, because it does not look dusty. If no one was cleaning this I would expect it to get dull and dusty.

#117 “Top Hat Display”
 Top Hat and Late Notice
 Located at 606 John Adams St.,
 Library, New Wing
 date unknown

I could not find any information about this item or its importance.



No value listed. Not insured.

I could not find these items. I was able to locate the possible spot where these were displayed but the items and the card catalog cabinet that they were placed on are no longer there. They would have been in a spot easily accessible to touch by anyone that walked by. The librarian that I talked with about the piece was familiar with it and theorized that it may have been moved into storage when the library was closed during Covid, or it could have been borrowed for the Arch Bridge Centennial Celebration and either placed back in storage or at another historic location.

#118 “Authors of the United States”
 framed etching
 by Thomas Hicks
 Located at 606 John Adams St.,
 Library, Carnegie Wing
 date unknown

Stately looking people gathering together.
 This black and white etching is matted
 and framed.



No value listed. Not insured.

This piece is hanging in the Carnegie Wing by the staircase down to the basement. This indirectly lit area is an ideal spot for this potentially light sensitive piece. There is some slight damage to the frame in the top right corner, but it is not distracting.

#119 "Map of the US with flowers on each state" print (?)
by unknown artist
Located at 606 John Adams St.,
Library Basement
unknown date

Colorful print or colored pencil illustration of the United States depicting the state flowers with each state.



No value given. Not insured.

This piece is listed as being in storage. I was not able to observe it. Current condition is unknown.



#120 "Willamette Photograph"
Unknown Photographer
Located at 698 Warner Parrott Rd. Community Development
Unknown date

Approximately 4 foot board with Willamette Falls. Photos show the falls, the Oregon city side of the river bank, and the Arch Bridge. Three stitched together photos in a sepia style print.

No listed value. Not insured.

Is this scanned or the negative(s) scanned? I did not observe this piece. Current condition is unknown.

#121 “Geochron” Timezone display
 Located at 606 John Adams St.,
 Library Basement
 2016

This Geochron display shows a map of the world with a lit area to indicate where it is daylight currently. The plaque on the piece states that it was built in Oregon City and donated by Geochron.



Cost \$5,000 in 2016. Insured for \$10,000.

This piece is not currently on display in the Library. When I asked about it, I was told that it has been not on display since Covid. It was apparently getting off time a little at a time, until it was very inaccurate. It is currently in storage until there is an opportunity to have it repaired by the person that originally assembled the piece.

#122 “Tim Christopher set of
 3 paintings”
 by Tim Christopher
 Located at 606 John Adams
 St., Library, New Wing
 date unknown

This collection of three unframed paintings on canvas by Tim Christopher. Each painting is about 18x24. Each piece is a different color field style in a landscape format.



Original cost: \$500. Not insured.

These pieces are currently on display in the children’s area. Condition appears to be good. They are well hung and out of the way from dirty fingers.



#123 "Willamette Falls" painting by an unknown artist
 Located at 606 John Adams St., Library, Carnegie Wing
 c. 1900

This oil on canvas is well framed and hangs above the fire place in the Carnegie Wing of the Library. There is a note showing that it was restored at some point. This painting shows a version of the falls before industry took over the landscape of the area.

No value given. Insured for \$5,000.

This is a beautiful focal point for the room. I would only caution that the smoke from the fireplace (although not much smoke/fumes escapes into the room when lit) could leave a sooty residue on the painting over time. There is a slight imperfection on the bottom left corner of the frame (unclear if this is damage or an imperfection of construction), that does not distract from the overall piece.

#124 “River and Covered Bridge Scene” painting
by unknown artist
Located at 606 John Adams St.,
Library, Carnegie Wing
date unknown (potentially 1950s
based on memorial plaque)



This oil on canvas piece shows a lush river scene with rocky banks and a covered bridge in the background. The painting appears to be an impressionist style and is framed in a silver gilt wood frame with a small plaque. The plaque is difficult to read but may say: “In Memory of Thora B. Gardiner...”. The lower portion of the plaque may reference the “Oregon City Women’s Club” but it is difficult for me to read.

No value given. Not insured.

The painting is in good condition, but the frame has several damaged places along the bottom edge. It is hard for me to tell if there is anything wrong with the plaque or if I am just too far away to see it properly. It would be nice if donated artworks had plaques that were large enough/ or placed in such a way that they could be easily read. If we do not celebrate the donations we receive, we are unlikely to get many more.

#125 “Boat and Boat Shed in Water Scene”
by Soroptimist Club of Oregon City
Located at 606 John Adams St.,
Library, Basement
1965



I could not tell if this realistic landscape was photograph, watercolor, or drawing from the image given. Piece is matted and framed with a plaque that reads: “In memory of Gertrude Brumbaugh, Virginia Cookem Dorothy AcAnulty, Charlolotte Weaver”.

No value given. Not insured.

I was not able to observe this piece in storage.

#126 "Butterfly Collage"
by Gina Bacon (sky) & visitors of
the library booth at National Night
Out (butterflies)
Located at 606 John Adams St.,
Library, New Wing
2017



This piece was created in collaboration with the community during a National Night Out Event. Artist Gina Bacon painted the sky and planned the artistic concept. Visitors during the event contributed to the butterflies. Piece is hung in the children's area up and away from dirty hands.

No value is given. Not insured.

Piece is not framed. It is in good condition.



#127 "The Great Flood of 1996" panoramic photograph
by unknown photographer
Located at 606 John Adams St., Library, Basement
1996

Panoramic Photograph Titled "The Great Flood of 1996" - Willamette Falls Oregon City.

No value given. Not insured.

I was not able to observe this piece in storage. Is this image archived somewhere?



#128 “After the Flood: April 1996” panoramic photograph
by unknown photographer
Located at 606 John Adams St., Library, Basement
1996

Panoramic Photo titled "After the Flood: April 1996"

No value given. Not insured.

I was not able to observe this piece in storage. Is this image archived somewhere?

#129 “Charles Devore Simpson Paper Company
1951-1991” aerial photograph by unknown
photographer
Located at 606 John Adams St., Library,
Basement
unknown date (likely around 1991)



Aerial Photograph Titled "Charles Devore Simpson Paper Company 1951-1991". The Public Works file notes that this piece has broken glass that may be sharp “GLASS FRAME IS BROKEN BE CAREFUL!!”.

No value given. Not insured.

If the glass is still broken, it should be replaced. It is not good for a photograph to be stored with broken glass. The glass could cut or scratch the photograph, as well as also being a hazard to anyone that might be handling works in this storage area.

#130 "A Ritual to Read to Each Other"
framed poem
by William Stafford c. 1960
Located at 606 John Adams St., Library,
New Wing

Framed Poem: "A Ritual to Read to Each Other"
by William Stafford. Poem written in 1960. This
small piece is located in the New Wing behind the
2nd floor information desk.

No value given. Not insured.

Piece is in good condition. It is very difficult to
read unless you are the person working at the
desk.

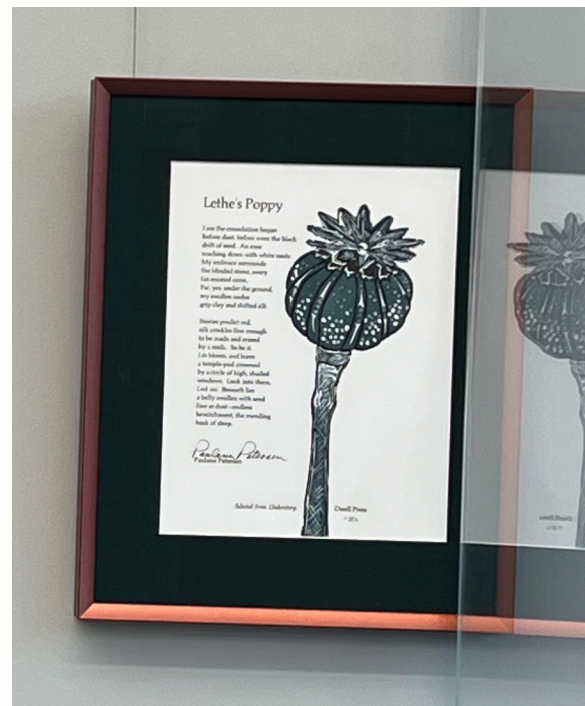


#131 "Lethe's Poppy" framed poem
by Paulann Peterson c. 1982
Located at 606 John Adams St.,
Library, New Wing

Framed Poem: "Lethe's Poppy" by Paulann
Peterson. Poem written in 1982. This small
piece is located in the New Wing behind the
2nd floor information desk, next to item #130.

No value given. Not insured.

Piece is in good condition. It is very difficult
to read unless you are the person working at
the desk. There is a sheet of plexi that
intersects the piece as it hangs currently. It
comes very close to touching the piece, but
appears to not actually come in contact. The
frame has no damage from this placement.
It is distracting as an inappropriate placement
either for the piece or the plexi.



#132 “Commission Plaque” by OC Signs
 Located at 606 John Adams St., Library, New Wing
 2017

Dedication plaque made with wood from the site. No value listed. Not insured. Possible scratch running from the upper left edge toward the center.



#133 “DeMuro Award”
 Located at 606 John Adams St.,
 Library, New Wing
 2017



Award plaque. No value listed. I could not find this piece to verify location, condition, or materials.

#134 “American Libraries Design Award”
 Located at 606 John Adams St., Library, New Wing
 2017



Award Award plaque. No value listed. I could not find this piece to verify location, condition, or materials.

#135 “Plaque at entry”
 Located at 606 John Adams St., Library, New Wing
 2017

Entry plaque made with wood from the site. No value listed. Not insured. Good condition. Installed next to #132. Located over a bench made from the same on site tree.



#136 “Cascading Moons” Molalla Cross Street Banner Art
by Ben Dye
Located at 19426 Molalla Ave. South of Chaz Diaz Dr.
2022

Cascading crescent moons represent hope and the sense of better things to come, yet designed to leave the meaning up to the interpretation of the viewer. Two large upright poles featuring metal artwork allow for a banner to be hung above the street.

Artwork cost \$2,800 in 2022. Total project cost (including banner poles, banner system and art): \$24,700.

I did not observe this piece. Current condition is unknown.

Addendum

There are additionally a few murals about town that were not listed on this Public Works document either due to the excerpt nature of the mural or its newness. There is likely more murals than this that I have either not noticed or were on the smaller side.

-The mural at St. John the Apostle Catholic Church. Date and artist unknown. I would estimate this mural to be about 20-25 years old based on the level of fading. It was possible that this piece was not included in the Public Works file due to the mural's religious content.



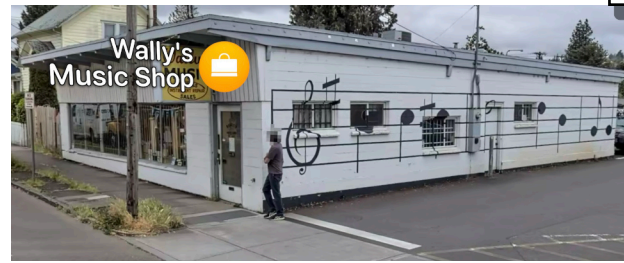
-The mural at 503 Main St. on the west facing wall of White Rabbit Black Ink, "Reflections of the Falls" by Brian Krehbiel completed in 2022. This was the previous location of #37 "College of History by Larry Kangas that was destroy in 2017 or earlier.



-The "Bookcase" Mural at the Friends of the Library Used Bookstore at 814 7th St. by Lucas Nickerson. Completed in 2022.



-The mural at Wally's Music Shop at 607 Washington St. Unknown Artist and Date.



-The bathroom mural artwork at the base of the municipal elevator. Artwork design by Lucas Nickerson. Completed in 2023.



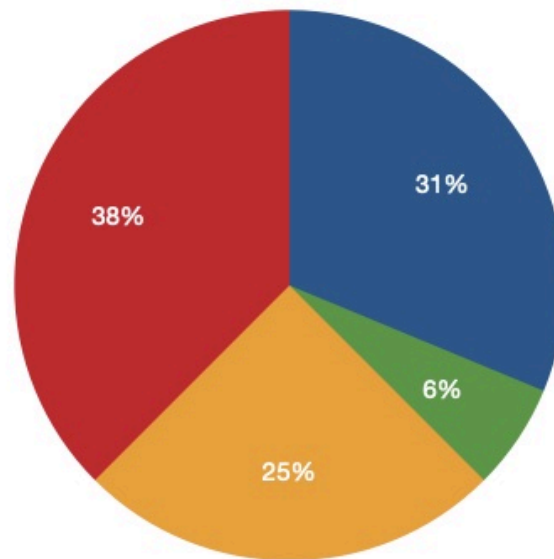
-The "Cows and Aliens" Mural at the Oregon City Creamery Building/Party Factory (215 13th St.) by Cathy Rowe. Completed in 2023.



Mural Summery

- There are 10 murals listed on the public works document.
- 5 of those murals have been destroyed.
- 1 mural restoration was completed in 2021.
- 4 murals are in need of restoration or intervention.
- There are at least 6 murals that are unlisted or new.

● destroyed murals
 ● restored murals
 ● murals in need
 ● unlisted murals



Public Engagement

-I posted on Facebook groups (Oregon City Chit Chat) and Nextdoor social media platforms about the four murals in town that are most in need. The Facebook post received 72 general likes and 24 comments in support of restoring all four murals. The Joseph Meek Mural photo received 10 likes. The Dr. Forbes Barclay Mural photo received 12 reactions and 10 comments (most of these comments were concerned with how badly in need this mural is). The Hopp Family mural received 8 likes and 2 comments. And the OC Bridge Mural received 10 likes and 1 comment. The reactions on facebook did not show a preference for any particular mural beyond the recognition of the poor state of the Barclay mural.

-The Nextdoor post received 41 likes and 30 comments. Nextdoor does not allow likes and comments on individual images. The OC bridge mural was mentioned 5 times. The Dr. Forbes Barclay mural was mentioned 11 times (again as the one that was most obviously in need). The Joseph Meek and Hopp murals were mentioned once each.

-Both posts received more engagement than the average post on these platforms. The comments were overwhelmingly in support of preserving and restoring these historic murals.

Recommended Actions

For Murals

-The “Dr. Forbes Barclay” mural (#36) is the most degraded mural in Oregon City that has not yet been destroyed. There should be a conversation about whether or not this piece is worth saving, since it is painted on a wall that may need structural work or repairs soon. It may be more important to allow the current building owner the freedom to make the needed repairs without trying to conserve this degraded mural. If this piece is determined to have enough structural or cultural significance, the mural could always be repainted at this or a new location (using the small scale study in storage).

-The “Joseph Meek” mural (#33) is very faded with some minor damage that requires repairs. This piece also needs a conversation about whether or not it is a piece worth saving. The level of degradation places it in a position that it could be repaired without any major structural or substrate work. This question of cultural value should be posed to the current building owner. Is the message of this mural still in cultural alignment with the building owner/tenant's? If the current building owner/tenant values this piece, then the art commission should help in some way to preserve (and potentially update) this piece.

-The “OC Bridge” mural (#41) is fading and in need of restoration. Small areas of minor damage (scratches) will continue to degrade over time and will eventually lead to information of the image being permanently lost. There is no other study pieces known for this image or early photographs, which makes early intervention vital. This mural does not contain any significantly controversial content (as far as I can tell) and could greatly benefit the community and views of local government (through its proximity to city hall). I would recommend that this mural receive a restoration within the next 3 years. A failure to restore this piece could be seen as a failure of local government to preserve its past and respect our local culture.

-The “Hopp Family Photo” mural (#34) is starting to fade. Also, some of the paint is beginning to chip off some of the edges. There is a study piece in storage (#12) that could help with the restoration of this piece. This piece should be moved back to the regular inventory of the Public Works file since it is still active and has not been painted over or destroyed. A plan for this piece's restoration should be put into place soon. The restoration should take place within the next 2-5 years.

-The “Ogle Mountain” mural (#106) was recently destroyed and painted over. This piece needs to be moved to the “DEAD” list of the Public Works file. It would be good to inquire as to why the mural (which had been in good condition) was destroyed and painted over. Would it be possible for the Arts Commission to reach out to the building owner/tenant to discover the circumstances of its destruction? I believe this is important to prevent any future destruction of other public art pieces. If the Arts commission increases communication with building owners and businesses that have current public

art (or previously sponsored public art) this could go a long way to communicating the Arts Commission's purpose in the community. Even creating a kind of standard inquiry letter could be of great benefit. Just a nice: "Hello, we are the Art Commission. We see you have some public artwork. We really appreciate that! Please let us know if there is anything you need concerning this art piece, as we would like to work to support arts and culture in our community. We value your partnership!"

-New murals would be a great way for the Arts Commission to connect with the community and communicate their purpose. New murals can only happen through the will and cooperation of the building owners and business of this town. Creating and maintaining a partnership or other line of communication between the Arts Commission and the local business groups could work well to serve arts and culture in our community.

For Sculptures

- "Mosaic Bench" (#5) has a large amount of cracking chipping and marring to the top "seat" of the bench. These pieces have become sharp in places. The piece was likely damaged by skateboarders and other forms of excessive use. This seat needs to be repaired or some replacement seat installed. The original artist should be consulted on the matter (Nora Brodnicki norab@clackamas.edu). She should be able to provide an estimate for repairs if possible, and may have ideas about preventing further damage from skateboarders or excessive use. This needs immediate attention.

- The "Moontrap" metal wall sculpture (#20) Appears to have a crack or crease that may need repair. The original sculpture, Lee Kelly, died in 2022 and is no longer able to consult on any potential repairs. Perhaps another metal working sculpture could be consulted on potential repairs, someone like Ben Dye (who was recently contracted in 2022 to create "Cascading Moons" for the City) who has a similar material style. This is not something that needs immediate attention, but a repair plan should be made within the next 2-3 years before corrosion around the damage has the chance to become a problem.

-Several pieces require cleaning. "Crescent Moon Rising" (#1) requires some careful light cleaning from someone that is familiar with cleaning marble (a notoriously soft and reactive material). "Ride Again" (#3) and "John McLoughlin Bust" (#9) require some cleaning to remove dirt and biological material. These both have a cleaning schedule listed in the Public Works file and are likely just due for their scheduled cleaning. "Future Flow" (#21) could also use a cleaning to remove dust, dirt, and webs from the protected outdoor location. This piece does not have a cleaning schedule but could likely benefit from a yearly removal of dust and webs.

-Sculpture "Willamette Compass" could also use some cleaning (it has bird poop on it right now) as well as further attention. The tree directly next to the piece hides it with its foliage for most of the year (the tree is also potentially the reason that it has bird poop on

it). This tree should be regularly trimmed so that the piece can be visible year round. If this is not possible, or if this solution makes the tree appear unsightly, another permanent solution should be explored. I would recommend that this piece be moved to a more visible and viable permanent location. It is currently located right outside of the old County courthouse building. Perhaps there is another county building that could benefit from this connection.

For Other Items

-“Elevations in Transition” (#8) has a significant amount of damage to the frame housing. A better long term solution (alternative to the composite frame) needs to be explored and implemented. The current level of damage will only increase and pose a greater hazard over time.

-The “Geochron” (#121) needs to be repaired. This piece is currently being insured by the city but is not on display. If repaired, I feel confident that the library staff could find a new location that is perfect for the Geochron.

-The painting “River and Covered Bridge Scene” (#124) that is currently on display in the Library Carnegie Wing, has moderate damage to the bottom edge of the frame. This is purely aesthetic damage, but is still deserving of attention. Ideally this piece should be reframed with a similar frame (total cost should be <\$80 0).

-Several items need to be located. The “Top Hat Display” (#117), “Storm Drain Photo” (#109), “Landscape Print 2 (#104), “I-205 Aerial Photograph” (#105), and “City of Oregon City Painting” (#107) were not able to be located at their listed locations. These pieces should be found and their Public Works listing updated.

-The art pieces that are listed in storage should be better cataloged and archived. The current storage situation in the City Hall basement is adequate in the event of water, but better archival solutions should be implemented. Original documents and artworks should be scanned, photographs should have their negatives scanned and digitized. Originals should be kept in flat files or similar system. A connection should be made with the Historical Society to see how much they have documented, scanned, and archived.

-There are enough items of historical, artistic, and cultural significance in storage to organize a significant display or exhibition, if a suitable venue and curator were available.



CITY OF OREGON CITY

Staff Report

625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-657-0891

Item 2.

To: Arts Commission **Agenda Date:** February 15, 2024
From: Ann Griffin, Economic Development Coordinator

SUBJECT: Arts Commission Section of City Website

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Discuss and move forward with new content to the Arts Commission section of the Oregon City website and occasional social media posts.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Oregon City Arts Commission would like to raise awareness of its activities and share information with the Oregon City community and beyond. The Arts Commission will provide content for City staff to post on the City's website and on the City's social media platforms. This outreach will support public understanding of the positive economic and social impacts generated by the arts in general and the projects managed by the Arts Commission.

BACKGROUND:

At their 2024 Strategic Planning session on January 25, 2024, the Arts Commissioners discussed the use of the City's webpage and social media platforms as one important way to raise awareness of the Arts Commission. In particular, the Arts Commission would like to add information about current projects. Arts Commissioners Daria Loi and Rebecca Sira offered to initially develop content. The URL for the Arts Commission webpage is <https://www.orcity.org/763/Arts-Commission>.

OPTIONS:

1. Approve the strategy of developing new content for the Oregon City Arts Commission webpage
2. Make no changes to the Arts Commission webpage

BUDGET IMPACT:

Amount	None
FY	n/a
Funding Sources	n/a