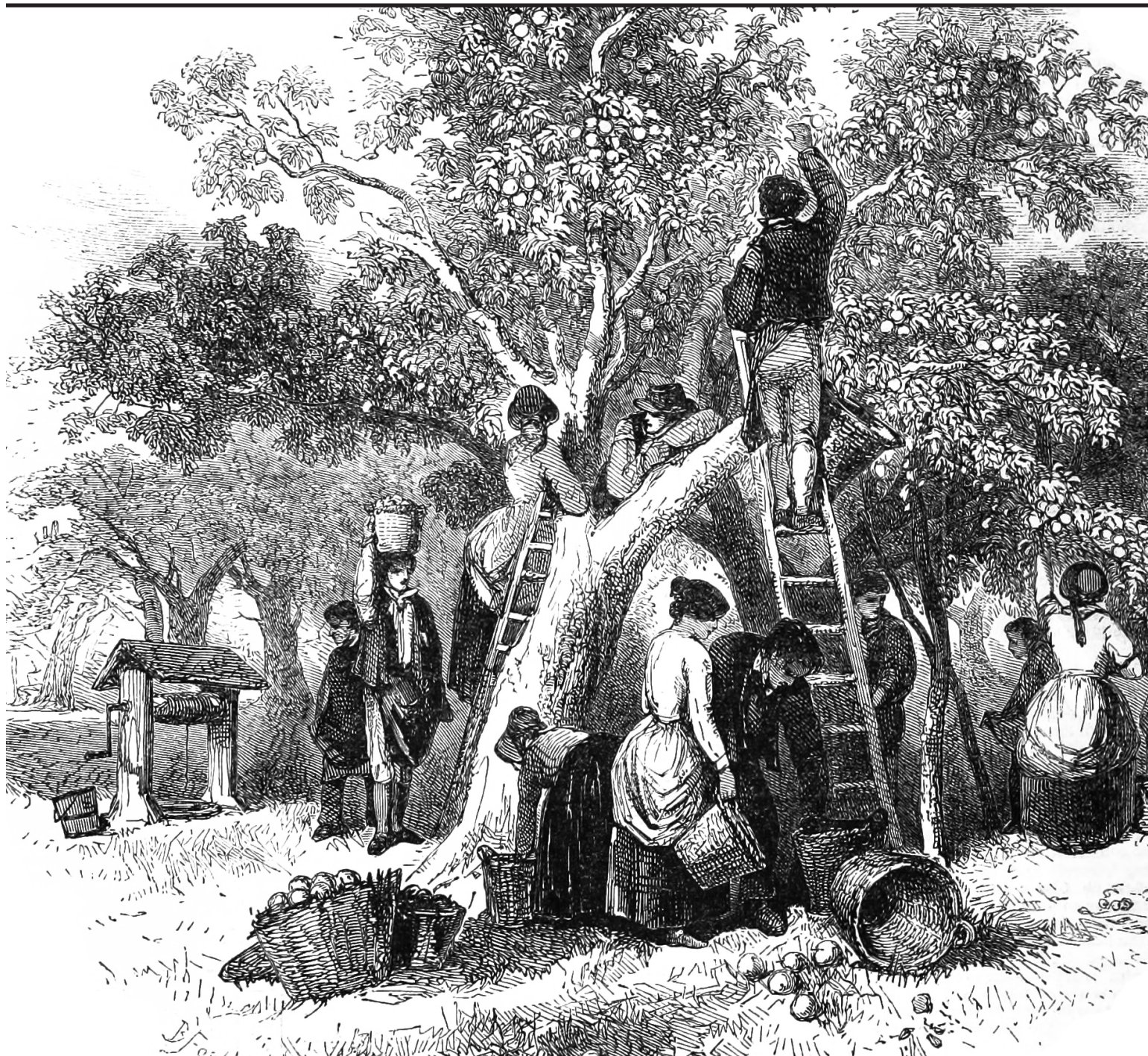


The Artifact

Lane County
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Exhibits, events, and historical goings-on

Autumn 2016 No. 221



Looking Forward • Director's Corner • Collections Donors 2015 – 2016
Sister Diaries: A Bookstore Highlight • The Resident Dolls
Stories From a Hat Box • Lost Towns: Revisiting Logging Communities

The Artifact is produced quarterly
and distributed to members of
the Lane County Historical Society

Visit The Museum

Tuesday – Saturday 10 am – 4 pm
740 West 13th Avenue, Eugene, OR

Admission

Adults: \$5
Seniors: (60+) \$3
Youth: (15–17) \$1.00
Kids: (14 & under) FREE
Members: FREE

See website for free entry dates

Phone

Office: 541.682.4242

Online

- lchm.org
- facebook.com/lchm.org/
- flickr.com/photos/lanehistory/
- youtube.com/c/LchmOrg

Membership

Sign up! The benefits include:

- Free admission to museum
- Invitations to members-only events
- Discount at the museum store
- Discount on research requests
- Subscription to *The Artifact* and *Lane County Historian*

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The Museum Store

Help support us with a purchase from our store that features Oregon Trail and local history gifts: books, cards, photos, old fashioned toys, jewelry, and much more!

The Artifact is produced by:

- Editor & Design: graphics@lchm.com
- LCHM staff members
- Guest contributors

LOOKING FORWARD

OCTOBER

1 Guest Lecture - *Blue Train: The Tale of The Rails*
NAACP President Eric Richardson, 2:00 pm, FREE
Speaking event in conjunction with our exhibit Rails Through Eugene. Eric Richardson, president of the Eugene-Springfield Branch of the NAACP, will be discussing the history of race relations in Eugene. Seating will be limited.

21 Time Traveling Tots
Forest Science with Talk About Trees, 10:30 am, FREE

21 Opening Reception
Lost Towns: Revisiting Logging Communities, 6 pm – 8 pm, FREE
Our next major exhibit, Lost Towns uses archival photos and oral history accounts to tell the stories of two logging communities in Lane County, Wendling and Cushman. The exhibit will also include a variety of historic forestry tools from the museum collection. Curator Faith Kreskey will be giving an exhibit tour and talk at 7 pm.

24 OMA Silent Auction and Conference Reception
Lane County Historical Museum, 5 pm – 6 pm

28 *Doty & Coyote: Stories from the Native West*
UO Baker Downtown Center, 975 High St. Eugene, OR 97401
7:00 pm, FREE

NOVEMBER

18 Time Traveling Tots
Hazel Nuts: A Local Food, 10:30 a.m. FREE

DECEMBER

16 Time Traveling Tots
Winter Decorations, 10:30 a.m. FREE

ATTENTION: Oregon Heritage Presentation Volunteers

Interested in sharing Oregon history and specifically the Oregon Trail story with elementary school students? Join our group of Oregon Heritage Volunteers October - May to help with school group presentations/reenactments here at the museum.

Training and informational take-home materials are available. Once trained, you may present/perform as your schedule is available.

Please contact Jennifer Yeh at volunteers@lchm.org or 541-682.4242

Front Cover: "Country Scenes," via The Illustrated London Almanack, 1845.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



This has been a significant year for the museum and historical society. Not only is the changing of the seasons with us now, but October 1st is the date by which the annual museum report is required to be turned in to the county administrator, so I am in historical administrator mode summing up our activities from the beginning of July last year until the last day of June (we now use a fiscal year).

We have reorganized our museum staff to be more relevant and just perhaps, less traditional. We are rotating our exhibits more regularly now, planning ahead beyond a year's time, emphasizing education for both adults and kids, and paying additional attention to our collections. Our board has granted a long-delayed raise for staff, and approved capital investment in both a ductless heat pump for the archives/library/server room and a broadband hookup. Our development committee has met with staff and is now seeking grant funding for new exhibit cases that would replace our old, inadequate, deteriorating, and increasingly unsafe existing museum furniture. Museum staff are putting heads together to increase and improve our marketing efforts via a staff-composed marketing team.

If you are on Facebook and haven't liked and followed the Museum's page, please do and give our posts some likes and shares. Heather Kliever is regularly posting great historical photos, articles, and current Museum events and exhibits. Also, our online photo catalog is getting a well-needed upgrade as the digital collections department and volunteers upload photos from our old PastPerfect system to a very eye-catching and highly functional Flickr account. To browse the digital photography collection (updated weekly) please check out www.flickr.com/photos/lanehistory/

During Bill Rutherford's "Rails to Eugene" talk on Saturday, September 17, our antiquated sound system's inadequacies created

an audience request for a new system. The audience greeted a promise to procure a new sound system before the next speaker and a flood of donations from audience members was received. A new portable conference system was promptly ordered, delivered, and will be in place for the next speaker on October 1st (Eric Richardson, NAACP Chapter President). We remain looking for secure and air-conditioned warehouse space so we can seriously collect for the future, unconstrained by our current space limits. Please stay tuned for announcement of our future plans with the major gift expected this fall. And we are looking forward expectantly to the results of the county-led project to repaint our building next summer. This will be a major step at improving first impressions!

UO President Michael Schill's consideration of the denaming of historic Deady and Dunn Halls as demanded by the campus Black Lives Matter group has generated a lot of heat, rhetoric, head-scratching and careful weighing of alternatives. Squaring with Oregon history means recognition of past wrongs and thinking that today is found offensive. Our museum attempts not to "whitewash" the past, but to present it as objectively as we can. Recent visitors found the "Rails to Eugene" exhibit touching on the African American experience. During the next year visitors will also find exhibits touching on Japanese American and Native American experiences.

And look for a more robust and thought-provoking annual meeting in February outside the museum with both music and a dynamite program!

Thank You

COLLECTION DONORS 2015-2016

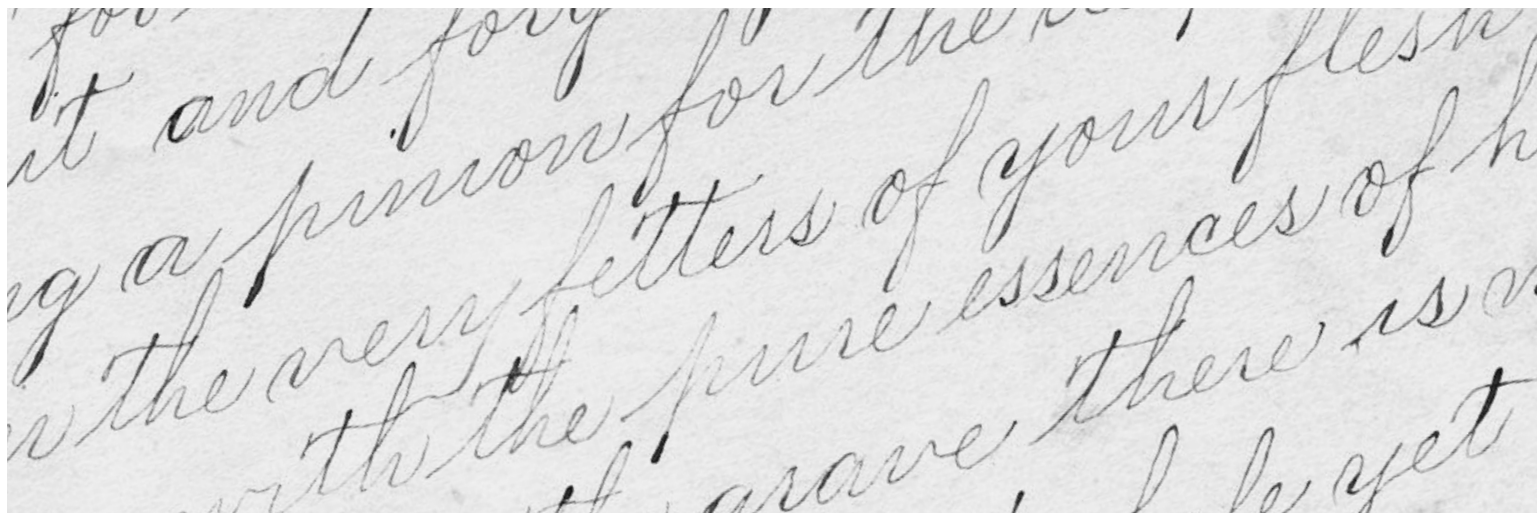
A very special thank you!

We are grateful to the following people for donations to the Lane County Historical Museum archival and artifact collections in 2015 and 2016. The museum has no acquisitions budget and relies entirely on items donated by members of the community. As we move forward, our goals for the future include making improvements to the collections storage areas in order to better care for the items we have been entrusted with. We feel it is our responsibility to keep our

objects and archives in their best possible condition so that future generations have the opportunity to enjoy and benefit from them. We appreciate the thoughtfulness and generosity of those who wish to help us preserve the history of Lane County. If you are interested in donating a document, photographs or artifact, please contact staff at (541) 682-4242 for an Acquisitions Review form and to learn about our acquisitions process.

Gary Kirk • Mary Lou Van Rysselberghe • Klamath County Museum • Lincoln County Historical Society • Paul Orum • Thomas Hornsby • Beverly Phelps • Benton County Historical Museum • Susan Thomas • Eugene Chamber of Commerce • Maradel Gale • Carmen Frojen • Larry Williams • Janelle McMahon • Carlene Carter • Eric O. Bergland • Dale Dow • Bert Dunn • George Kramer, Kramer & Company • Karen Olsen • George Drouin • Herb Wisner • Bernice Olin • Judith Knight, Telephone Museum • Judy L. Jernberg • Nadya Henry • Les and Patricia Roark • City of Eugene Recreation Division • Betty Speck • Sherry Poole Todd • City of Eugene Facilities • Robert A. Rosage • Jodi Allison-Bunnell • Thomas Doty • Crook County Historical Society • William Mitchell Bullard • Shelley Cardiel • Nancy Bessonette • Gordon Zehrung • U.S. Federal Highway Administration • Heather Kliever • Randall C. Speck • Jerold Williams • Bill Johnson • Elizabeth Coe Adams • Robert Hart • Norma Joyce • John Russell Gustafson • Meribeth Olsen • Friends of the Eugene Public Library • Claudette Heppner • Bruce Berg • Ray O. Sims • Kathleen Moulton • Lane Transit District • Heritage Research Associates • Dale R. Steinhauer • Eugene Town Club • Bruce Mimnaugh • John Pratt • Lee Chitty • Michelle Brenneman • R. J. Schoen • Deirdre Reynolds • Don Hunter Estate • Linn County Historical Museum • Alvin Schaut • Jeri Linn • Donald Greiner • Lee Kersh • Beryl Bauld • Sherrill Kirchoff • Allen V. D. Murphy • Joseph Gilg • Dave McKee • C. Joy Pendergrass • Louis Krupp • Jean Brockelman-McInnis • Florence-Lauderdale Public Library • Del Spencer • Leslie Beekman • Michelle Saxton

SISTER DIARIES



Jennifer Yeh, Volunteer Coordinator

Life on the Oregon Trail was never easy, and each trip had its own unique set of challenges. For two sisters, Agnes and Helen Stewart, when their parents decided to make the trip to Oregon they were to embark on a journey they did not expect. At the ages of twenty and seventeen these young women started their long trip along with their family and several married sisters and their families. From beautiful views, to the harsh realities of hard work and death that such a journey involves, they recorded their own thoughts in diaries after leaving Pennsylvania for the Willamette Valley in 1853.

At Fort Boise, the Stewarts chose to take a new with their friends the Love family, and more than one thousand others who tragically became lost in eastern Oregon. Their group is now called "The Lost Wagon Train."

Both women stopped writing during or soon after the time the family took the new route from Fort Boise. This is most likely due to the harsh conditions they found themselves in. Their group finally reached the valley by late October 1853, near what is now Lowell. These remarkable women have left a very personal window open for us to a part of the history of this region and to some of the people who chose to make the Willamette Valley their home.

Diary of Agnes Stewart (Warner) 1853

Diary \$12.00

~ Excerpts reformatted for clarity and consistency ~

"April 10: Sis Elizabeth and I taking a walk today and sitting down I can see the Indians across the river. The vast territory lie stretched before me and nothing but wide forests can be seen as far as the eye can reach, and yet is small compared with the great continent. Once all their own, but now the government allows them a portion to themselves as a great favor and taken as such. But this does not make it right."

"June 8, Wednesday: I am 21 years of age. How time flies round. It seems such a short time to look back to the day I was 20 and now

another year goes round and what have I done that is worthy of note. No one congratulates me on it nor anything. They have forgotten and I am glad of it ..."

"August 23, Tuesday: Well well, people talk of being in mud to the eyes but if we have not got dust to our eyes it is a strange thing to me... camped on Barrel Creek last night and we thought it was a nice place because we were out of the sand. Notwithstanding, we could not walk for dung and could not breath for the smell of dead oxen."

The diary in our bookstore covers March 25, 1853 (preparing to leave) until September 10, 1853.

At the end of Agnes' diary is an unfinished and unsent letter by her sister, Elizabeth Stewart (Warner). The letter is written to unknown "friends" and discusses what it was like on the Oregon Trail. Several poems and a letter from a Mr. Willoughby to Agnes when they found out the family was still alive in Oregon are also included.

Helen Stewart (Love) 1853

Diary \$11.00

~ Excerpts reformatted for clarity and consistency ~

"May 1: ... I feel rather lonesome today. Oh solitude, solitude, how I love it if I had about a dozen of my acquaintances to enjoy it with me."

"June 17, Friday: ...to day we hear great word of Indians. They say that there is five hundred of them going to fight. We hear that they have laid down blankets that are the sign for the emigrants not dare govern them. We shall see when we come up to the place whether it is true or not and that they have sent over the river to gather up more."

"July 13, Wednesday: It was very cold last night. There was ice this morning on the water in the basin. The wind is blowing very hard. The dust is so thick we cannot see through it. Oh it is horrible. We are at the south pass little bit on this side eating dinner... I can see nothing for I have the curtain tied tight down to keep the wind and the dust out. We are in Oregon now. Oh if we were only all the way how glad I would be."

The diary in our bookstore covers April 1, 1853 (leaving Pittsburg) until August 3, 1853.



THE RESIDENT DOLLS

Tara Puyat, Artifacts Manager

The new residents from Florence . . .

For over half a century, the Dolly Wares Doll Museum in Florence welcomed visitors in to view its collection of over 3,000 dolls. When the time came to shut its doors permanently, many of these charming residents found new homes. Our museum was recently gifted five of these dolls.

The largest of the group is Marlena, a 30" German jointed composition doll produced by The Armand Marseille Doll Company and dating from the 1890s. Her Heinrich Handwerck head is made of bisque and is

adorned with a handwoven wig of light brown hair. She is dressed in a frilly peach outfit, some of which is original and some of which was altered at Dolly Ware. As a "Belle", she comes completely accessorized with hat, puff bag, fan, pearl necklace and earrings.

Virginia and Dierdra are two of Marlena's elegant companions. They are likewise of German origin but of a slightly earlier vintage - both dating from the 1860s. Virginia is a 21" Parian doll, possessing the characteristic molded blond hair in a "flat top" style. She wears an elaborately decorated light blue evening dress, complete with a heart shaped gold-tone pendant around her neck. Dierdra also measures 21" but is a China doll, meaning that her head was dipped in glaze before firing,

unlike that of a Parian. Produced by Hertwig and Company, Dierdra's turned shoulder head is also blonde and sports a "low brow" hairstyle. She is dressed in a simple dark blue and black striped dress.

The last two members of our doll party were simply referred to as "Sister" and "Brother" and are a pair of 19" composition baby dolls made by Horsman, circa 1937. Horsman was a toy company founded in the early 1900s in New York City. Both "siblings" are dressed in baby clothes and feature sleep eyes plus brightly painted cupid bow mouths.

We are happy to add these new residents to our collection and look forward to showcasing them in a future exhibit!





STORIES FROM A HAT BOX

Faith Kreskey, Exhibits Curator

The museum is lucky to have a sizeable textile collection that includes a number of historic clothing items. Our current exhibit, *Millinery in Lane County*, showcases part of this collection, featuring hats from the 1850s to the 1960s from donors across the county. Many of these pieces are one of a kind creations made in local shops that represent the fashion sensibilities of Eugene residents from over 100 years ago.

Millinery is the manufacture and design of hats. While it can be used as a more general term, it usually specifies hats made for women. Prior to the mid-20th century, all hats were made to measure. Coupled with the fact that

it was considered impolite for women to be seen in public without a hat, most towns in the United States had a local millinery shop. This high demand for hats meant that small millinery businesses owned by women popped up across the country. It became one of the few respectable professions for women, and it remained an industry dominated by women until the decline of custom hat making in the 20th century.

By 1907 there were over 13 female owned independent millinery shops in Lane County. Each shop offered an entirely customizable product. Pattern books from Paris or New York would be used to select the initial shape and style. The shops would stock a variety of materials, including ribbons, fabrics, beads,

lace, faux flowers, fur, feathers, and taxidermy birds to be used for embellishment. A flattering and well decorated hat was seen as a sign of good taste.

Two pieces in particular stand out, with their fanciful use of feathers and bright colors. Both hats are products from *The Band Box*, a millinery shop owned by sisters Osie and Clara Dell Walton between 1890 and 1898. Ada "Osie" was the Walton's eldest daughter born in 1867. She graduated from the University of Oregon in 1885 and taught school in Eugene for several years before she opened her business. Clara Dell was Osie's half-sister born in 1869. Osie was the business owner and store manager, while Clara Dell served as head milliner. Clara Dell did not use pre-



made hat forms. Instead she made the hats from scratch, crafted the bases for her creations using starched linen, straw and velvet. Photos of their shop show a brisk business, along with an impressive range of feathers, ribbons and birds for their customers to peruse.

The Band Box was located on the east side of Willamette Street between 7th and 8th Avenues. The two sisters also shared an apartment at 515 Willamette Street, above the law offices of their father, Joshua J. Walton. Sadly, Clara Dell appears to have suffered from an unknown long term illness for most of her life. She passed away on December 6, 1898. Osie closed The Band Box sometime between Clara Dell's passing and the publication of the 1902 city directory.

Her sister Pauline appears to have taken up residence in the Willamette Street apartment around 1900, and it appears that Osie moved to Seattle. She worked as a secretary for various financial enterprises, eventually working as a bookkeeper for a marine insurance office. She returned to Eugene after her retirement in 1926, and she lived with her sister Pauline Walton in their family home. She volunteered at the Warner Museum of Oriental Art (now the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art), where she eventually donated her collection of antiques.

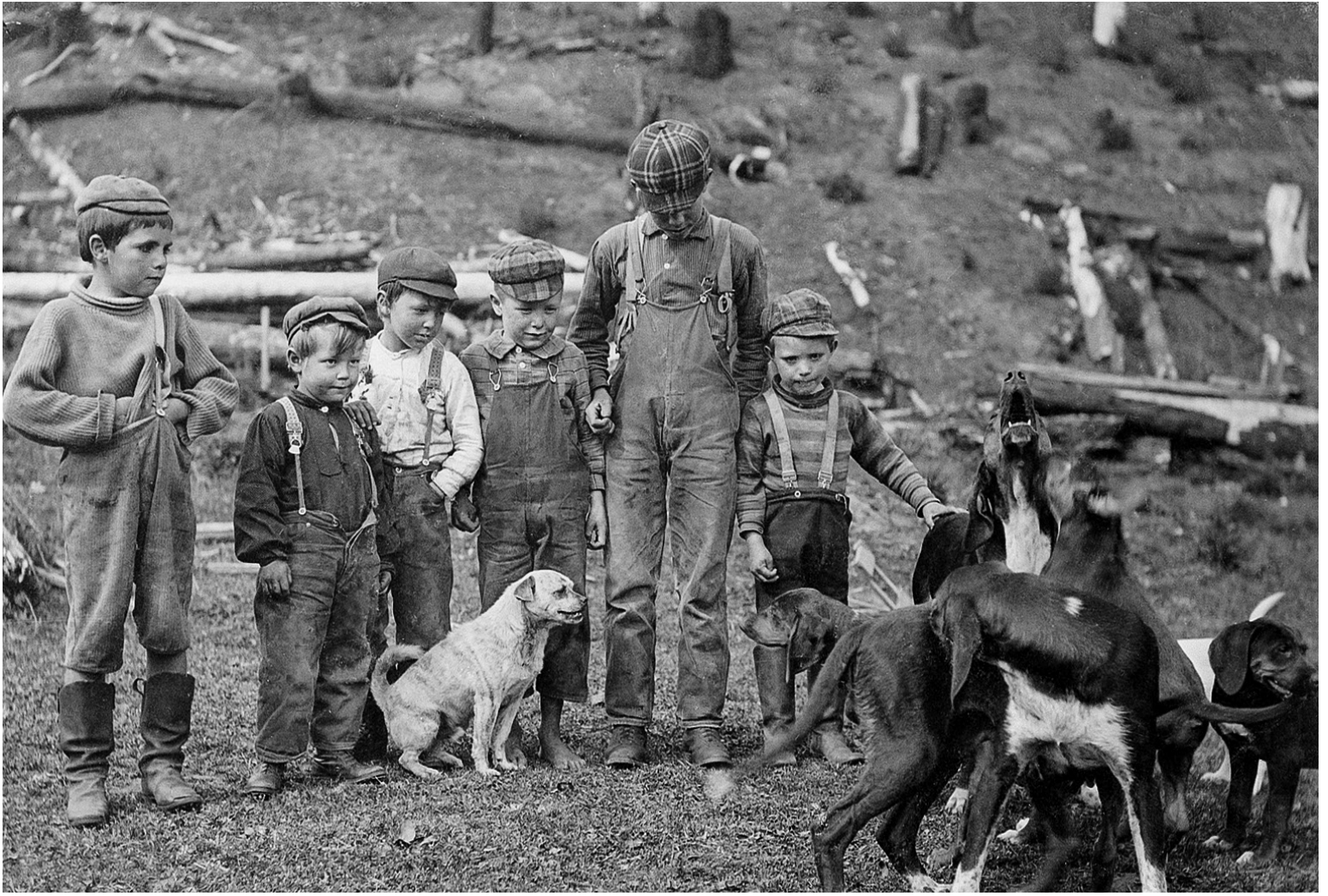
Osie passed away in 1944. Her sister Pauline donated many items belonging to her family, including several hats from The Band Box, to our collection in 1951.

PHOTOS

Left: GN920 - Walton Sisters Millinery Shop (called the Bandbox), east side of Willamette Street between 7th and 8th Ave. Interior: Osie, Clara Dell the milliner, and Mrs. A.V. Peters (the three figures to the right of the mirror) c.1895.

Above: GN926 - A promotional shot of the interior of The Bandbox. Its proprietors, Osie (left) and Clara Dell (right), pose with their pet cats. c.1895.

GN8423 - A portrait of Osie Walton as a young lady. Date unknown.



LOST TOWNS: REVISITING LOGGING COMMUNITIES

Faith Kreskey, Exhibits Curator

Historic buildings create an immediate, intimate link to the past. It is easy to relate to history if it tells the stories of places we can still visit today. But what about towns that no longer exist? And what about remembering a way of life that, though not long past, has been nearly forgotten?

In our next major exhibit, we will look at two towns in Lane County that in just two generations have disappeared. *Lost Towns: Revisiting Logging Communities* will use historic photographs and oral history accounts to recreate for museum visitors what life was like in the communities that sprang up around the logging industry. It will follow the transition from small independent logging camps, where life was hard and resources were few, to the establishment of organized company towns. It will contrast the expectations of logging companies with the daily reality of the people who supported their families working in the woods.

Focusing on the communities of Wendling and Cushman, this exhibit will also cover logging technology, tools, and the skewed ideals of the company town. *Lost Towns* will provide a look back at the people

who made these small towns vibrant rural communities, and will look at what working in the logging industry really meant to their daily lives.

Lost Towns opens October 21, 2016 at the Lane County Historical Museum. There will be an opening reception from 6-8 pm, with a curator's talk and tour at 7 pm. The exhibit will be on display until September, 2017.

PHOTOS

Above: HR150 - Six boys and six dogs pose for photograph at Wendling c.1901.

Right: HR63 - J. Wilson and H. Beadle pose in a sawmill shop in Wendling c.1902.

GN5725 - Women and children at Booth Kelly Company Lumber Camp No.35 c.1924. Camp No. 25 was located above Wendling in the Mohawk Valley. Standing in front of wooden cabins are (left to right) Ellen Barker and Clarine Barker Putman. Seated on boards left to right are Jolana, Ila and Roberta Putman.



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