
House history resources at the Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Genealogical Forum of Oregon Library, 2505 SE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97202.

Web: <http://www.gfo.org>.

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon (GFO) has a large collection of library and online resources for the house historian. One can do much of their house history work at the GFO library.

Summary of resources

City directories. City directories are one of the first resources used for tracing house histories. The GFO library has a large collection of Portland and other Oregon city directories.

Biographical material. Use the GFO printed resources to learn about whom the house inhabitants were.

High school and college yearbooks. The library has a large collection of Oregon yearbooks. Search the online catalog for titles. [<http://www.gfo.org>]

Multnomah County deeds. The library has a large collection of microfilmed Multnomah County deed indexes and deeds – mostly nineteenth century. For other indexes, deeds, and block books, visit the Multnomah County Public Research Room, Multnomah Building, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland.

Donation Land Files. The library has the complete set of microfilmed Oregon Donation Land Claim files.

Books. See the selected list beginning on page 4. For others, see the GFO library catalog.

More details

Computer databases on the GFO computers

The GFO library has six Internet computers that patrons may use. In addition, patrons with their laptop computer or iPad can use the free Wi-Fi.

Ancestry.com. Access through GFO computers.

Multnomah County Library Databases (available to county residents with a library card)

Sanborn Maps

The Oregonian Historical Archive from America's Historical Newspapers

Maps

“[1943] Portland Trolley Map.” *Portland Exploring Portland’s Past*. Online, <http://i.imgur.com/i0xThqf.jpg/>.

Clohessy & Strangle. *Portland, Oregon 1890* (Litho) (S[an] F[rancisco]; Elliott Pub. Co, ca. 1890. Library of Congress Geography and Map Division. On the wall above the microfilm cabinets and Online, <http://www.loc.gov/resource/g4294p.pm007240/>.

Digital General Land Office Maps. Online, <http://library.uoregon.edu/map/GIS/Data/Oregon/GLO/index.html> .

Pittman Map of Portland, Oregon, and Vicinity. Portland: Blue Print Company, 1945. http://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/oscdl_cityarchives/105/ .

Portland Maps. Online, <http://www.portlandmaps.com>.

Property records

Multnomah County, Oregon Property Records. Online, <http://multcoproptax.org>.

Access point for Oregon GIS offices. ORMMap. <http://www.ormap.net> .

Public Records Online Directory, a portal to official websites for recorder and assessor offices <http://publicrecords.netronline.com/> .

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, “Land Records,” online (<http://www.blm.gov/or/landrecords/>) . “View Official Land Status and Cadastral Plat Records.”

Title and abstract books. See the list of title and abstract books beginning on page 7.

Portland City Directories

To determine the pre-1930s address, use the 1933 Street Re-Numbering Report on the City of Portland Archive webpage, <http://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/webdrawer/rec/2685610>.

1881	1887	1889	1890	1893	1897	1903	1904	1906	1912
1914	1915	1917	1918	1920	1921	1923	1924	1925	1926
1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1933	1934	1935	1935	1936
1937	1938	1939	1941	1944	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1962	1963	1964	1965
1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
1977	1978	1979	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1991	1996

Portland East Suburban including Fairview, Gresham, Parkrose, Troutdale, and Wood Village

1966	1966	1967	1967	1968	1968	1969	1970	1970	1971
1971	1972	1972	1973	1973	1974	1974	1975	1975	1976
1976	1977	1977	1978	1978	1979	1979	1981	1982	1984
1985									

Miscellaneous

Oregon Parks & Recreation Department: Heritage Programs. Online,
<http://www.oregonheritage.org/> .

Oregon Historic Sites Database. Online,
http://heritagedata.prd.state.or.us/historic/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_main .

University of Oregon UO Libraries, Architecture Research Guide, “Images, plans, data about architecture,” online UO Library, <https://researchguides.uoregon.edu/architecture-guides> .

Building Oregon: Architecture of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. Online, University of Oregon, <http://oregondigital.org/digcol/archpnw>.

Genealogical Forum of Oregon Book Resources:

- Archer, Howard. *Gresham, the Friendly City*. Gresham: Gresham Historical Society, 1967.
- Burris, Mrs. Lloyd. *Woodlawn History: The Town & the Schools from the Beginning*. Oregon: privately printed.
- Century of Community: Gresham, Oregon 1905–2005*. Gresham, Oregon: Gresham Outlook, 2005.
- Chilton, W.R. Chilton. *Gresham Stories of Our Past: Campground to City*. Gresham, Oregon: Gresham Historical Society, 1993.
- Chilton, W.R., ed. *Gresham Stories of Our Past: Book 2: Before and After the World Wars*. Gresham: Gresham Historical Society, 1996.
- Cleaver, J. D. *Island Immigrants: The Bybees & The Howells* (Sauvie Island Heritage Series: 2). Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1986.
- Cleaver, J. D. *Island Life: Pioneer Homesteading* (Sauvie Island Heritage Series: 3). Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1989.
- Cleaver, J. D. *Island Origins: Trappers, Traders and Settlers* (Sauvie Island Heritage Series: 1). Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1986.
- Cornerstones of Community: Buildings of Portland's African American History*. Portland: Bosco–Milligan Foundation, 1996.
- Davis, Marguerite Norris and Cecil R. Tulley. *Building of a Community* [Multnomah]. Portland: Cecil R. Tulley, 1976.
- Denfeld, George A. *65 Years, Lives and Legends in Upper Sandy Boulevard 57th to 82nd*. Portland: 1985.
- DeWolfe, Fred. *Old Portland*. Portland: Press 22, 1976.
- DeWolfe, Fred. *Portland Tradition in Buildings and People*. Portland: Press–22, 1980.
- Dodds, Linda and Carolyn Buan. *Portland Then and Now*. San Diego: Thunder Bay Press, 2001.
- Ermenc, Christine, ed. *Voices of Portland*. Portland: Neighborhood History Project, 1976.
- Fiske, Jeffrey P. *Portland Old House Identifier: A Field Guide to the Most Common Styles*. Portland: Privately printed, 1988.
- Gossett, C. A. *Portland's Historic Sidewalk Signatures*. Portland: Sagittarius Press, 1982.
- Gossett, Christopher A. *Rubbings from the Rose City*. Portland: Sagittarius Press, 1983.
- Hawkins, William J., III, and William F. Willingham. *Classic Houses of Portland, Oregon, 1850–1950*. Portland: Timber Press, 1999.
- Horton, Walter R. *Historical Notes on Bridal Veil, Oregon*. 1964.
- Howe, Barbara J, Dolores A. Fleming, et al. *Houses and Homes, Exploring their History*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1987.
- Hugh, Howard. *How Old is This House? A Skeleton Key to Dating and Identifying Three Centuries of American Houses*.
- Hurt, Maxine Marie. *St. Johns, Oregon: Its History and Its People*. 1980.
- Kim, Davis Y. *Irish Families in Portland, Oregon 1860–1880*. Portland, 1974.
- Kitagiri, George. *Nihonmachi: Portland's Japantown Remembered*. Portland: Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 2002.

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- Klooster, Karl. *Round the Roses: Portland Past Perspectives*. Portland: Privately printed, 1987.
- Labbe, John T. *Fares, Please! Those Portland Trolley Years*. Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, 1982.
- Lansing, Jewel. *Portland: People, Politics and Power 1851–2001*. Corvallis: OSU Press, 2003.
- Leeson, Fred. *Rose City Justice: A Legal History of Portland, Oregon*. Provo, Utah: Privately Printed, 1967.
- Light, Sally. *House Histories: A Guide to Tracing the Genealogy of Your Home*. Spencertown, New York: Golden Hill Press, 1989.
- Maben, Manly. *Vanport*. Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1987.
- MacColl, E. Kimbark. *Growth of a City: Power & Politics in Portland, Oregon 1915–1950*. Portland: The Georgian Press, 1979.
- MacColl, E. Kimbark. *Merchants, Money, and Power: The Portland Establishment 1843–1913*. Portland: Georgian Press, 1988.
- MacHaffie, Ingeborg Nielsen. *Danish in Portland Past and Present 1882–1982*. Portland: Skribent Press, 1982.
- Maddux, Percy. *City on the Willamette—The Story of Portland, Oregon*. Portland: Binford & Mort, 1952.
- Mallett, Mary Powell. *Courageous People*. Portland: Del Brumble, 1972.
- Marlitt, Richard. *Nineteenth Street*. Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 1978.
- Mershon, Clarence E. *Along The Sandy: Our Nikkei Neighbors*. Portland: Guardian Peaks Enterprise, 2006.
- Mershon, Clarence E. *East of the Sandy: The Columbia River Highway*. Portland: Guardian Peaks Enterprise, 2001.
- Mershon, Clarence E. *Living East of the Sandy, Volume 1*. Portland: East Multnomah County Pioneer Assn., 1999.
- Mershon, Clarence E. *Living East of the Sandy, Volume 2*. Portland: East Multnomah County Pioneer Assn., 2003.
- Mitchoff, Alta. *History of the Kenton Neighborhood*. Portland: Kenton Neighborhood Association, 1997.
- Nyden, Evangeline. *Memories of Old Sellwood*. Portland: The Sellwood–Moreland Bee.
- Nyden, Evangeline. *Old Sellwood*. Milwaukie, Oregon, 1971.
- O'Donnell, Terence and Vaughan, Thomas. *Portland: A Historical Sketch and Guide*. Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1976.
- Olsen, Polina. *Walking Tour of Historic Jewish Portland*. Portland: Smart Talk Publications, 2004.
- Oregonian's Handbook of the Pacific Northwest*. Portland: The Oregonian Publishing Co., 1894.
- Paavola, Lee T. *Brief History of the Sabin Neighborhood*. Portland: [Sabin Neighborhood Association], n.d.
- Phillips, Steven J. *Old–House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture 1600 to 1940*. 1884, Repr. Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, 1989.
- Portland, Our Community: Children's Readings*. Portland: Portland Public Schools, 1992
- Portland, The Rose City*. Portland: The S.J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1911. 979.5 M961.

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- Portland's Albina Community: The History of Portland's African American Community (1805–Present)*. Portland: Bureau of Planning, 1993.
- Rees, Helen Guyton. *Fairview, On Duck Lane*. Fairview, OR: Privately Printed, 1988.
- Ritz, Richard Ellison. *Architects of Oregon: A Biographical Dictionary of Architects Deceased—19th and 20th Centuries*. Portland: Lair Hill Publishing, 2002.
- Roth, Michael. *Rose City Park Neighborhood History Book: 1907–2007*. HomeRun Graphics, 2007.
- Schwabauer, Wanda June. *Portland Community of Germans from Russia: A Reading and Conference Paper prepared for Dr. Michael Passi*. Portland: PSU, 1974.
- Sherman, Mark & George Katagari. *Touching the Stones: Tracing One Hundred Years of Japanese American History*. Portland: Oregon Nikkei Endowment, 1994.
- Snyder, Eugene E. *Early Portland: Stump–town Triumphant: Rival Towns on the Willamette 1831–1854*. Portland: Binfords & Mort, 1970.
- Snyder, Eugene E. *Portland Names and Neighborhoods: Their Historic Origins*. Portland: Binfords & Mort, 1979.
- Snyder, Eugene E. *Portland Potpourri: Art, Fountains and Old Friends*. Portland: Binfords & Mort, 1991.
- Sohm, Catherine. *History of Street Lighting in Portland, Oregon*. Portland: City of Portland, 1997.
- Spencer, Omar C. *Story of Sauvies Island*. Portland: Binfords & Mort, [19—].
St. Johns Heritage. Portland: St. John's Heritage Association, 1990.
- St. Johns Heritage, Volume 5 (January 1997)*. Portland: St. Johns Heritage Association, 1997,
- Stein, Harry et al. *Portland: A Pictorial History*. Portland: Privately printed, 1980.
- Tess, John M. *Uphill, Downhill Yamhill: Evolution of the Yamhill Historic District*. 1977.
- Upton, Dell. *America's Architectural Roots: Ethnic Groups that Built America*. Washington, D. C.: Preservation Press, 1986.
- Vaughan, Thomas, and George McMath. *A Century of Portland Architecture*. 2nd ed. Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1969.

Abstract of Title. A title company creates an abstract of title (or chain of title), which acts as a short history of the land and all the people who have an interest in that land. See the special collections near the copy machine for the following volumes.

- Abstract of Title (blocks 1-10 in Reservoir Park) Portland: by the author, 1945.
- Abstract of Title (blocks 5,7,10 in Reservoir Park) Portland: by the author, 1943.
- Abstract of Title (Thomas Tice DLC, Capitol Hill) Portland: Western Title Company, 1943.
- Abstract of Title to Lot numbered 2 in block numbered 21 in South St. Johns, in the County of Multnomah and State of Oregon Portland: Title Guarantee & Trust Co, [19--].
- Abstract of Title to Lots 1 and 2 in block 13 in Elmhurst, Multnomah County, Oregon Portland: Lawyers Abstract and Trust.
- Abstract of Title to Lots 5 and 6, Blocks 186, City of Portland in the County of Multnomah, and State of Oregon. Chapman Homestead Deed Records.
- Abstract of Title—Clare Addition Deed Records 1866-1922, Oregon: Abstract Co. Record Co.

Abstract of Title–Cook’s Addition Deed Records 1871–1926. Oregon: Abstract Title Co.
Abstract of Title–Dover Addition Deed Records 1870–1915. Oregon: Title & Trust Co.
Abstract of Title–Glenside Deed Records 1859-1922, Oregon: Western Abstract.
Abstract of Title–Hardiman’s Addition Deed Records 1866–1908. Oregon: Security Abstract & Trust C.
Abstract of Title–Hecker Addition #1 Multnomah County Deed Abstract 1873–1931. Portland: Coleman & Mackie, Abstractors.
Abstract of Title–Hecker Addition #2 Multnomah County Deed Abstract 1873–1934. Portland: Coleman & Mackie, Abstractors.
Abstract of Title–Hecker Addition #3 Multnomah County Deed Abstract 1873–1925. Portland: Coleman & Mackie, Abstractors.
Abstract of Title–Holladay Park Addition Deed Records 1866–1934. Portland: Security Title Co.
Abstract of Title–Irvington Block 71, Portland: Union Abstract Co. of Portland.
Abstract of Title–Laurelhurst Deed Records, Portland: Title & Trust Co.
Abstract of Title–Oakdale Addition: Deed Records 1873–1923 (E. Portland). Oregon: Abstract Title Co.
Abstract of Title–Ravenswood Deed Records 1866–1921. Oregon: Title & Trust Co.
Abstract of Title–Richmond (Powell Valley Rd) Deed Records 1866–1919. Oregon: Title & Trust Company.
Abstract of Title–Rolley Addition Deed Records 1871–1910. Oregon: Multnomah Abstract Co.
Abstract of Title–South St. Johns Deed Records 1866-1914. Title Guarantee & Trust Co.
Abstract of Title–Valley Vista Deed Record 1895–1912 Oregon & California Railroad Co. Wiles Abstract & Title Co.
Abstract of Title–Wellington Addition Deed Records 1874–1931 Oregon: Security Title Co.
Abstract of Title–Willalatin Park Deed Records 1869–1915 Oregon: Abstract Title Co.
Abstract of Title: Esson’s Sub-division: North St. Johns, Portland: Peninsula Title Abstract &, 1941.
Abstract of Title: Hawthorne Avenue Addition Deed Records 1865–1917. Oregon: Colman & Mackie Abstractors.
Abstract of Title: Laurelwood Park Deed Records 1874–1909. Portland: W.R. Haislip & Co.
Abstract of Title: Linnwood: Deed Records 1862–1930. Oregon: Abstract Title Co.
Abstract of Title: Montclair: City of Portland, Oregon 1870–1908. Portland: Title & Trust Co.
Abstract of Title: Tremont Park: Deed Records 1871–1929. West Coast Title Ins. Co.
Abstract of Title: Union Square: Deed Records 1866–1946. Multnomah Abstract Title Co.
Abstract of Title: Vernon Addition: Deed Records 1884–1931. Lawyers Title & Trust Co.
Abstract of Title: Whittaker Donation Land Claim, Portland: Union Abstract Co. of Portland, 1926.