

# Deschutes County & City of Sisters Historic Preservation Program *2022 – 2027 Strategic Plan*



*Photo: Brothers School*



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The Historic Landmarks Commission is responsible for taking the lead in promoting historic and cultural resource preservation in unincorporated Deschutes County and the City of Sisters.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Deschutes County and City of Sisters Historic Preservation Strategic Plan 2022-2027* provides a framework for shaping the county and City of Sisters’ preservation programs and services over the next five years and creates a blueprint for allocating Certified Local Government (CLG) grant funding. Currently, Deschutes County and its Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC), which also serves the City of Sisters, rely on CLG grants administered through the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). They are awarded to eligible local governments in the spring of every odd numbered year. The grant period lasts approximately sixteen to eighteen months. The grants, which require a 50/50 match are typically in the \$10,000 to \$14,000 range and used for a broad range of preservation activities.

Developing a Strategic Plan enables staff and HLC to reach out to our municipal partners, SHPO, historic landmark property owners, stakeholders, and the public to prioritize preservation programs that build upon existing projects and promote collaboration. This effort also takes into account finite in-kind resources from Deschutes County and Sisters. Both rely on their Community Development Department (CDD) to manage the CLG program and the HLC as outlined in the annual CDD work plan.

To prepare this plan, Deschutes County staff solicited the guidance of a spectrum of people and organizations: two public forums provided opportunity for public input; an on-line survey was established to provide additional feedback; and several stakeholder interviews were held to further understand their opinions.

The mission of the HLC is to preserve the City of Sisters and Deschutes County’s significant historic and archaeological resources and to encourage greater public understanding and appreciation.

The plan identifies three goals, with associated objectives and actions, which are intended to guide and measure the success of the program:

1. **Collaborate**: Strengthen the network of historic preservation and community partners through collaboration.
2. **Coordinate**: Facilitate program administration and special projects that provide opportunities to expand the scope and benefits of historic preservation.
3. **Educate**: Promote educational opportunities highlighting the value, benefits, responsibilities, and requirements of historic preservation.

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# OVERVIEW

Historic resources are recognized by Statewide Planning Goal 5, Natural Resources, Scenic Views and Historic Areas and Open Spaces, and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 660-023. The Statewide Goal and OAR recommend cities and counties inventory and protect historic and cultural sites. Recognizing the value and importance of having a connection to our past, Deschutes County and the City of Sisters have chosen to implement and maintain a historic preservation program.

## What is a Historic Resource?

Historic landmarks connect us to the past and teach us how people in different eras worked and interacted within their surroundings. Historic resources are the buildings, structures, sites, districts, and large objects that have survived to the present. Examples include houses, cemeteries, bridges, camps, canals, and archaeological sites. They are important because of their association with significant local, state, or national themes, events, individuals or eras in history. They also include traditional cultural places which are not obvious constructions because they are no longer present but continue to have significant meaning such as traditional Native Americans meeting places. These landmarks enrich the community by providing tangible evidence of our heritage.

## Why Preserve the Past?

As described by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, historic preservation means saving the story of us—the communities we cherish, the parks we love, the buildings we admire, the little stories we always share with visitors. From ancient cultures through the growth of our current communities, it is about saving the places, buildings, artifacts, stories, and memories that preserve and enhance our human experience.

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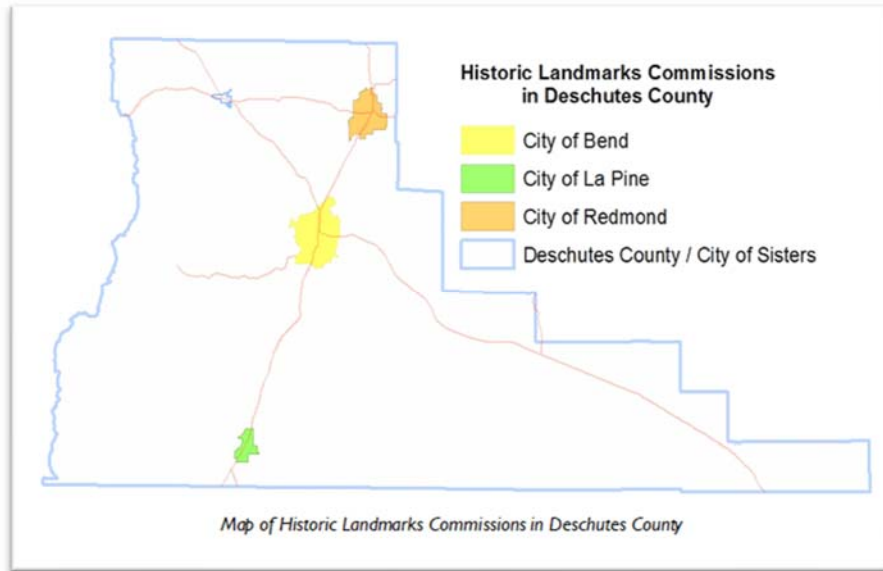
# BACKGROUND

## Historic Preservation Program History

In 1979, Deschutes County inventoried potential historic and cultural sites in the Resource Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The 1979 Comprehensive Plan included goals and policies to protect historic resources as well as provisions that the County establish an HLC and adopt an ordinance to protect designated historic sites. One year later, the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) adopted Ordinance PL-21, which established an HLC and created a process to evaluate, designate and regulate historic structures. The HLC subsequently, and over time, evaluated proposed historic sites and cultural resources, including Locally Significant Historic Resources, National Register historic properties,

Archaeological Sites and Objects. The resulting list of historically designated sites can be found in the Comprehensive Plans of Deschutes County and the City of Sisters (see Section 2 for more on the designation process for locally significant sites).

Since 2011, Deschutes County and Sisters reorganized and created their own program as a result of the Cities of Bend, La Pine and Redmond wanting autonomy and becoming independent Certified Local Governments (CLG). The jurisdictions of various historic landmarks commissions are illustrated in the map below.



### Purpose of the Historic Landmarks Commission

The HLC serves as an advisory body for issues concerning historic and cultural resources for unincorporated Deschutes County and the City of Sisters and reviews development applications for alterations to designated historic sites. In addition, it reviews the exterior treatments of buildings applying the Western Frontier Architectural Design Theme for the City of Sisters. For more information concerning the procedures and policies of the Historic Landmarks Commission, please refer to the *Historic Landmarks Commission Policies and Procedures Manual*.

The Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan Section 2.11 Cultural and Historic Resources and Deschutes County Code (DCC) Chapter 2.28, Historic Preservation and Historic Landmarks Commission, establish the legal basis for the HLC.

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# HISTORIC PRESERVATION POLICIES

## Deschutes County

In 2011, Deschutes County updated its Comprehensive Plan, a policy document that provides a framework for addressing resource protection, rural growth and development over a 20-year period (2010-2030). The update was performed to ensure a consistent policy framework for land use planning and development that reflects current conditions and trends, recent population projections, state law, and community values. The Comprehensive Plan goals and policies addressing cultural and historic resources are summarized below.

### Goal and Policies

**Goal 1**        **Promote the preservation of designated historic and cultural resources through education, incentives, and voluntary programs.**

**Policy 2.11.1**    The Historic Landmarks Commission shall take the lead in promoting historic and cultural resource preservation as defined in DCC 2.28.

- a. Support incentives for private landowners to protect and restore historic resources.
- b. Support the Historic Landmarks Commission to promote educational programs to inform the public of the values of historic preservation.
- c. Support improved training for the Historic Landmarks Commission.

**Policy 2.11.2**    Coordinate cultural and historic preservation with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office.

- o Maintain Deschutes County as a Certified Local Government.
- o Encourage private property owners to coordinate with the State Historic Preservation Office.

**Policy 2.11.3**    Encourage the preservation of lands with significant historic or cultural resources.

- a. Develop and maintain a comprehensive list of sites on the National Register of Historic Places.
- b. Review County Code and revise as needed to provide incentives and adequate regulations to preserve sites listed on the Statewide Goal 5 historic and cultural inventory.

## City of Sisters

The Sisters Comprehensive Plan was revised and adopted in 2021. The Plan's goals and policies inform critical planning and regulatory documents used by the City that guide growth and development in Sisters, specifically the Sisters Development Code. Standards in those documents provide the criteria that are used to make land use decisions by the City and go a long way toward shaping the character of development. The plan also provides key guidance on partnership with neighboring agencies including Deschutes County, Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District, and the Sisters School District, to name a few, to provide key services.

The City of Sisters recognizes the importance of historic preservation in several sections of its Comprehensive Plan:

### Livability Section

- **GOAL 4: Maintain and enhance the livability of Sisters as a welcoming community with a high quality of life and a strong community identity.**
  - Objective 4.1: COMMUNITY IDENTITY. To promote projects, programs, and initiatives that strengthen the community's identity, including historic resources, scenic views, trees, artisanal activities, and inclusive attitude towards all community members.
    - POLICY 4.1.1: The City shall recognize and conserve the environment and natural resources that enhance the community's identity, including open spaces, natural landscapes, outdoor recreation areas, historic structures, architectural styles, and public art.
    - POLICY 4.1.7: The City shall conduct public education and outreach of the historic resources in Sisters and encourage property owners to nominate their eligible properties to the Deschutes County Inventory of Historic Sites and/ or National Historic Register.
    - POLICY 4.1.8: The City shall identify and protect historical sites in coordination with the Deschutes County Landmarks Commission

### Environment Section

- **GOAL 6.2: Protect people, property, and structures from natural hazards**
  - Objective 6.2.1: To reduce the hazards related to wildfire through a combination of proper location and design of new development, reduction of combustible materials, and coordination with partnering agencies and community members.
    - POLICY 6.2.1.5: The City shall support a program to support fire resistant retrofits of commercial and residential buildings with emphasis on buildings that are designated historic or have historic value, as determined through historic survey



## Parks, Rec, Open Space Section

- **GOAL 7.1: Plan, develop, maintain, and enhance recreation opportunities, scenic views, and open spaces to meet the needs of community members and visitors of all ages, abilities, cultures, and incomes and enhance their physical and mental health.**
  - POLICY 7.1.16: The City shall add signage or information kiosks in parks that include historical and educational information, where appropriate.

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# HISTORIC RESOURCES

The Deschutes County HLC is part of a nationwide network of groups dedicated to the preservation and celebration of our heritage. The HLC is responsible for reviewing and maintaining the Goal 5 list of designated historic resources. The resulting inventory of historically designated sites is formally adopted in the Comprehensive Plans of Deschutes County and the City of Sisters. In addition, the National Register of Historic Places catalogs and protects properties worthy of preservation because of their significance to our nation's history, architecture, landscape, archeology, engineering, and/or culture. As a CLG, the Deschutes County HLC is responsible for oversight of both the locally and nationally designated resources. Both are detailed below.

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# HISTORIC RESOURCE LISTS

The following list of Goal 5 Cultural and Historic Resources in rural Deschutes County appear in the County's current Comprehensive Plan. These inventories are acknowledged by the Department of Land Conservation and Development. In 2020, Deschutes County's inventories were updated to comply with Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 660-023-0200, the historic resources rule, which includes procedural requirements for surveying sites, evaluating integrity, and considering whether and how to protect historic and cultural resources. The State amended the historic resources rule in February 2017 to require a base level of protection for National Register historic properties and provide a more usable and clearer list of standards for local governments to follow if they have an established historic preservation ordinance. This rule change is reflected in the separation of National Register sites into pre- and post-2017 listings below. Protection standards for resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places are required for local governments to comply with regardless of what the local ordinance provides.

## Locally Significant Historic Resources

1. Alfalfa Grange: Grange building and community center, built in 1930, located on Willard Road, Alfalfa. 17-14-26 TL 400.

2. Allen Ranch Cemetery: Oldest cemetery in Deschutes County. 30' by 40' fenced cemetery plot. Situated 100 yards west of South Century Drive, one-half mile south of Road 42. Two marble gravestones, two wooden markers. 20-11-7 TL 1700.



Allen Ranch Cemetery

3. Fall River Fish Hatchery "Ice House": The hatchery "Ice House" dates from the beginning of fishery management in Oregon, circa 1920. It is an 18 foot by 18 foot improvement, the only original building remaining on the property, and the only significant building or structure on the site. Located at 15055 S. Century Drive, E $\frac{1}{2}$ ; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Section 32, Township 20S, Range 10 E, Tax Lot 100. (Ordinance 94-006 §1, 1994).
4. Long Hollow Ranch – Black Butte: Headquarters complex of historic ranch, located on Holmes Road in Lower Bridge area, including headquarters house, ranch commissary, equipment shed, barn and bunkhouse. 14-11-1 TL 101.
5. Swamp Ranch – Black Butte: The present day site of the Black Butte Ranch was part of the vast holdings of the Black Butte Land and Livestock Company in 1904. No buildings from the period exist. 14-9-10A, 10B, 15B, 15C, 16A, 21A, 21B, 21C, 22A, 22B.
6. Brothers School: Only one-room schoolhouse currently in use in Deschutes County, located on Highway 20 in Brothers. 20-18-00 TL 3200.
7. Bull Creek Dam: The Bull Creek Dam, a component of the Tumalo Irrigation Project was constructed in 1914 to form a water storage reservoir to increase the amount of irrigated acreage at Tumalo. It is a gravity type of overflow dam. Two cut off walls are extended into solid formation, one at the upper toe and the other at the lower toes of the concrete dam. The dam proper is about 17 feet high from the foundation, although the completed structure is about 25 feet. Located on Tumalo Reservoir-Market Road. 16-11-33 TL 2700 SW- $\frac{1}{4}$ ; SW- $\frac{1}{4}$ .
8. Bull Creek Dam Bridge (Tumalo Irrigation Ditch Bridge): Built in 1914, the bridge, which spans the dam, consists of five continuous filled spandrel, barrel-type concrete deck arch spans, each 25 feet long. The concrete piers are keyed into notches in the arch structure. The structure is the oldest bridge in Deschutes County. On Tumalo Reserve-market Road. 16-11-33 TL 2700/ SW- $\frac{1}{4}$ ; SW- $\frac{1}{4}$ .

9. Camp Abbot Site, Officers' Club: Officers' Club for former military camp, currently identified as Great Hall in Sunriver and used as a meeting hall. 20-11-5B TL 112.



Camp Abbot Site, Officers' Club

10. Camp Polk Cemetery: One of the last remaining pioneer cemeteries, located off Camp Polk Road near Sisters. The site is composed of a tract of land, including gravestones and memorials, containing 2.112 acres in the Southwest

Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 27, Township 14 South, Range 10 E.W.M., TL 2100, described as follows: Beginning at a point North 20 degrees 06' 20" West 751 feet from the corner common to Sections 26, 27, 34 and 35 in Township 14 South Range 10 E.W.M. and running thence South 88 degrees 30' West 460 feet; thence North 1 degree 30' East 460 feet; thence South 1 degree 30' 200 feet to the point of beginning.

11. Camp Polk Military Post Site: One of the oldest military sites in Deschutes County. Located on Camp Polk Cemetery Road. Site includes entire tax lots, listed as follows 14-10-00 TL 2805 & 14-10-34 TL 100, 300.

12. Cloverdale School: School building in Cloverdale, located near 68515 George Cyrus Road. First building built in Cloverdale. 15-11-7 TL 600.

13. Eastern Star Grange: Grange hall for earliest grange organized in Deschutes County, located at 62850 Powell Butte Road. 17-13-19 TL 1900.

14. Enoch Cyrus Homestead Hay Station and Blacksmith Shop: The Enoch Cyrus Homestead was the original homestead of Oscar Maxwell, built in 1892 and purchased in 1900 by Enoch Cyrus. Important stage/store stop for early travelers. The homestead house, including a back porch and cistern, and the Blacksmith Shop are designated. 15-11-10 TL 700.

15. Fremont Meadow: A small natural meadow on Tumalo Creek in Section 34, Township 17 South, Range 11 East, lying within Shevlin Park. TL 5900. Campsite for 1843 Fremont expedition. 17-11-34 TL 5900.

16. Harper School: One-room schoolhouse, located west of South Century Drive, south of Sunriver, moved halfway between the Allen Ranch and the Vandeventer Ranch from the former townsite of Harper. 20-11-17 TL 1200.

17. Improved Order of Redmond Cemetery: Historic cemetery used by residents of La Pine/Rosland area. Located on Forest Road 4270, east of Highway 97. A 40-acre parcel described as: The Southwest one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter (SW-¼; SE-¼) Section 7, Township 22 south, Range 11, East of the Willamette Meridian, Deschutes County, Oregon.

18. Laidlaw Bank and Trust: One of the few remaining commercial buildings from the community of Laidlaw, located at 64697 Cook Avenue, Tumalo. 16-12-31A TL 2900.
19. La Pine Commercial Club: Building was built in 1912 as a community center, serving as a regular meeting place for civic organizations and occasionally served as a church. One of the oldest and continuously used buildings in La Pine. Located at 51518 Morrison Street, La Pine. 22-10-15AA TL 4600.
20. Lynch and Roberts Store Advertisement: Ad advertising sign painted on a soft volcanic ash surface. Only area example of early advertising on natural material. Lynch and Roberts established mercantile in Redmond in 1913. Roberts Field near Redmond was named for J. R. Roberts. Site includes the bluff. 14-12-00 TL 1501.
21. Maston Cemetery: One of the oldest cemeteries in County. Oldest grave marker is 1901. About one-half mile from site of Maston Sawmill and Homestead. Site includes the gravestones and memorials and the entire tax lot, identified as 22-09-00 TL 1800.
22. George Millican Ranch and Mill Site: Ranch established in 1886. Well dug at or near that date. Remains of vast cattle ranching empire. 19-15-33 Tls 100, 300.
23. George Millican Townsite: Town established 1913. Site includes store and garage buildings, which retain none of the architectural integrity from era. 19-15-33 TL 500.
24. Petersen Rock Gardens: The Petersen Rock Gardens consist of stone replicas and structures erected by Rasmus Petersen. A residence house and museum are part of the site. The site has been a tourist attraction for over 60 years. Located at 7930 SW 77th, Redmond. Site includes entire tax lot. 16-12-11 TL 400.
25. Pickett's Island: After originally settling in Crook County, Marsh Awbrey moved to Bend and then homesteaded on this island in the Deschutes River south of Tumalo. The site was an early ford for pioneers. Located in Deschutes River near Tumalo State Park. 17-12-6 NE-¼ TL 100. Portion between Deschutes River and Old Bend Road is designated.
26. Rease (Paulina Prairie) Cemetery: Historic cemetery on Elizabeth Victoria Castle Rease and Denison Rease's homestead. Earliest known grave is of their son, George Guy Rease, born in 1879, who was also a homesteader on Paulina Prairie. George Guy Rease died of smallpox on the Caldwell Ranch on May 2, 1903. Other known burials are William Henry Caldwell, 1841-October 15, 1910, died on the Caldwell Ranch of injuries sustained on a cattle drive; Melvin Raper, 1892-1914, died in a tent of tuberculosis; Addie Laura Caldwell, 1909-November 16, 1918, died of the Spanish influenza epidemic; and Emma Nimtz Deedon, 1886-April 15, 1915, died of complications from a pregnancy. There are several unmarked graves. The cemetery is a county-owned one-acre parcel on the north edge of Paulina Prairie, two miles east of Highway 97. 210-11-29, SE-¼; NW-¼ TL 99.
27. Terrebonne Ladies Pioneer Club: The Club was organized in 1910. The building has been a community-meeting place since 1911. Located at 8334 11th Street, Terrebonne. 14-13-16DC TL 700.

28. Tetherow House and Crossing: Site is an excellent example of an early Deschutes River crossing. Major route from Santiam Wagon Road to Prineville. Tetherow House was built in 1878. The Tetherows operated a toll bridge, store and livery stable for travelers. Oldest house in County. Site includes house and entire tax lot. 14-12-36A TL 4500.

29. Tumalo Creek – Diversion Dam  
The original headgate and diversion dam for the feed canal was constructed in 1914. The feed canal's purpose was to convey water from Tumalo Creek to the reservoir. The original headworks were replaced and the original 94.2 ft low overflow weir dam was partially removed in 2009/2010 to accommodate a new fish screen and fish ladder. The remaining original structure is a 90 foot (crest length) section of dam of reinforced concrete. Tax Map 17-11-23, Tax Lot 800 & 1600.



Tumalo Creek – Diversion Dam

30. Tumalo Community Church: The building is the oldest church in the County, built in 1905. It stands in the former town of Laidlaw, laid out in 1904. Located at 64671 Bruce Avenue, Tumalo. 16-12-31A TL 3900.

31. Tumalo Project Dam: Concrete core, earth-filled dam 75 feet high. First project by State of Oregon to use State monies for reclamation project. On Tumalo Creek. 16-11-29.

32. William P. Vandever Ranch Homestead House: The Vandever Ranch House stands on the east bank of the Little Deschutes River at 17600 Vandever Road near Sunriver. The homestead was established in 1892, and has been recently relocated and renovated. Vandever family history in the area spans 100 years. 20-11-18D TL 13800.

33. Kathryn Grace Clark Vandever Grave: Kathryn Grace Vandever, daughter of William P. Vandever, died of influenza during the epidemic of 1918. Her grave is located across a pasture due south of the Vandever House, 50 feet east of the Little Deschutes River. Site includes gravestone and fenced gravesite measuring is approximately 15 feet by 25 feet. 20-11-00 TL 1900.

34. Young School: Built in 1928, it is an excellent example of a rural “one-room” school which served homesteaders of the 1920s. Located on Butler Market Road. 17-13-19 TL 400.

35. Agnes Mae Allen Sottong and Henry J. Sottong House and Barn: House and barn are constructed with lumber milled on the property in a portable sawmill run by the Pine Forest Lumber Company in 1911. Henry was awarded homestead patent 7364 issued at The Dalles on Dec 1, 1904. Henry was president of the Mountain States Fox Farm. A flume on the Arnold Irrigation District is named the Sottong Flume. The structures are also associated with William Kuhn, a president of the Arnold Irrigation District; Edward

and Margaret Uffelman, who were part of the group that privatized and developed the Hoo Doo Ski Resort; and Frank Rust Gilchrist, son of the founder of the town of Gilchrist and Gilchrist Mill and president of the Gilchrist Timber Company from the time of his father's death in 1956 to 1988. Frank R. Gilchrist served on the Oregon Board of Forestry under four governors and was appointed by the governors to serve as a member of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. He served on the Oregon State University's Forest Products Research Lab and was a director and president of the National Forest Products Association. T18 R12 Section 22, 00 Tax lot 01600.

Inventory note: Unless otherwise indicated the inventoried site includes only the designated structure. No impact areas have been designated for any inventoried site or structure.

### **National Register Historic Properties listed before February 23, 2017**

36. Pilot Butte Canal: A gravity-flow irrigation canal constructed in 1904 that diverts 400 cubic feet of Deschutes River water per second. The canal conveys water through a 225-miles-long distribution system of successively narrower and shallower laterals and ditches on its way to those who hold water rights, serving about 20,711 acres by 1922. The canal was built in an area that had a population of 81 people when it was constructed. The historic district measures 7,435 feet long and encompasses 50 feet on either side of the canal centerline to create a 100-foot corridor. The district has a character-defining rocky, uneven bed, and highly irregular slopes, angles, cuts, and embankments.

37. Elk Lake Guard Station: A wagon road built in 1920 between Elk Lake and Bend sparked a wave of tourism around the scenic waterfront. To protect natural resources of the Deschutes National Forest and provide visitor information to guests, the Elk Lake Guard Station was constructed in 1929 to house a forest guard.



Elk Lake Guard Station

38. Deedon (Ed and Genvieve) Homestead: The homestead is located between the Deschutes River and the Little Deschutes River. All of the buildings were constructed between 1914 and 1915.

39. Gerking, Jonathan N.B. Homestead: Jonathan N.8. Gerking, "Father of the Tumalo Irrigation Project," played a crucial role in getting the project recognized and funded.

40. McKenzie Highway: The McKenzie Salt Springs and Deschutes Wagon Road, a predecessor to the modern McKenzie Highway, was constructed in the 1860s and 1870s.
41. Paulina Lake Guard Station: The station typifies the construction projects undertaken by the Civilian Conservation Corps and signifies the aid to the local community provided by the emergency work-relief program through employment of youth and experienced craftsmen, purchase of building materials and camp supplies, and personal expenditures of enrollees.
42. Paulina Lake I.O.O.F Organization Camp: The Paulina Lake I.O.O.F. Organization camp was constructed during the depression era and are the result of cooperative efforts by nonprofessional builders. Such camp buildings are important in Oregon's recreational history as an unusual expression of both its rustic style and its vernacular traditions.
43. Petersen Rock Gardens: The Petersen Rock Gardens consist of stone replicas and structures erected by Rasmus Petersen. The site has been a tourist attraction for over 60 years.
44. Rock O' the Range Bridge: Rock O' The Range is the only covered span east of the Cascades in Oregon. To gain access to his property, William Bowen instructed Maurice Olson – a local contractor – to build a bridge inspired by Lane County's Goodpasture Bridge.

45. Skyliners Lodge: The Skyliners are a Bend-based mountaineering club organized in 1927. In 1935, the group started building the Skyliners Lodge with help from the Deschutes National Forest, the Economic Recovery Act and the City of Bend.



Skyliners Lodge

46. Santiam Wagon Road: The Santiam Wagon Road went from Sweet Home to Cache Creek Toll Station. The road was conceived of in 1859 to create a route across the Cascades. By the 1890s, the road had become a major trade route.
47. Wilson, William T.E. Homestead: This homestead house was built in 1903 and has an "American Foursquare" architectural style.

### **National Register Resources listed on / after February 23, 2017**

Central Oregon Canal: A gravity-flow irrigation canal constructed in 1905 and enlarged in 1907 and 1913. The canal retains its impressive historic open, trapezoidal shape, dimensions, and characteristics. It is characterized by the volcanic rock flows, native

materials, rocky bed and sides, and its hurried hand-hewn workmanship. The historic district is 3.4 miles long, crossing rural land between the Ward Road Bridge on the western edge and the Gosney Road Bridge on the eastern edge. In the historic district, the canal ranges in width from 34' to 78', averaging around 50', and its depth varies from 1' to 9', averaging around 4' deep, depending on the amount of volcanic lava flows encountered, the terrain, and slope. The canal through the historic district carries nearly the full amount of water diverted from the Deschutes River, 530 cubic feet per second during the irrigation season, April through October. The historic district encompasses 50' on either side of the canal centerline to create a 100' corridor that includes the whole of the easement held by COID, and all the contributing resources. (Date listed: 03/18/2019)



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# PLAN DEVELOPMENT

## Community Involvement

Deschutes County values public involvement, recognizing it is a critical part of evaluating public policy and land use planning processes. Understanding the perspective, goals, interests, and concerns of the community allows decision makers to make informed decisions. Recognizing this, Planning Division staff conducted an outreach campaign focused on historic preservation, consisting of an online survey, public forums, and several stakeholder interviews.

- Public forum announcements were provided in a variety of formats to reach the largest population of interested parties, including:
  - Press release to the media
  - Social media blasts
  - E-mail distribution to 12 stakeholders, several of which further distributed the information to their network of members and partners
  - CDD /project website, which included meeting information and survey link
- Public forums provided an overview of the historic preservation program and the strategic planning process.
  - A PowerPoint presentation introduced the history of historic preservation in Deschutes County, project background, and purpose of the meeting.
  - Two forums were scheduled; due to technical difficulties only one was held, but staff encouraged participants to reach out to staff to provide more information or ask questions if the cancellation created a scheduling conflict
  - Public forums were conducted to allow for both virtual and in-person participation, and the recording of the forum is available at any time to watch online
- An online survey solicited input from the public and stakeholders.
  - In addition to the open forum, the public was provided an opportunity to complete an online survey to weigh in on historic preservation issues and priorities. This enabled participants to convey their thoughts privately.
  - The survey was linked on the project web page and in social media blasts
  - A total of 27 responses were collected.
- Stakeholder Interviews
  - Staff reached out to stakeholders for individual interviews to gather their opinions and perspectives on Deschutes County's historic preservation program.
  - Staff contacted 12 stakeholders and invited them to participate in a stakeholder meeting independent of the community conversations. Staff

met with the City of Bend HLC staff liaison, the City of Sisters Community Development Director, and the Deschutes National Forest – Sisters Ranger District.

- The Historic Landmarks Commission will aim to conduct stakeholder interviews on an ongoing basis for continual feedback rather than only during the strategic planning process.

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## PLAN ELEMENTS

### Goals, Objectives, and Actions

The following goals, objectives and actions reflect a general consensus of those who participated and the priorities of the Deschutes County Historic Landmarks Commission.

#### Goals

The goals are directly linked to the priorities expressed by the public, the HLC, and the BOCC.

#### Objectives

The plan's objectives describe elements of how the historic preservation program will approach the goals. Several of the objectives serve multiple goals but each is listed with its most relevant goal. Objectives are listed in rough priority order. Each has associated actions to implement.

#### Actions

The plan's actions detail how the objectives will be accomplished over a 3-to-5-year time frame. Actions are listed as priorities and may apply to multiple objectives but are described in relation to their primary objective.

**Goal 1 - Collaborate:** Strengthen the network of historic preservation and community partners through collaboration.

**Objective 1A:** Improve facilitation of Historic Preservation in the region to increase the visibility of and participation in historic preservation efforts throughout the county.

#### Actions:

- Establish the Deschutes Historical Society, Redmond Historical Society, and Three Sisters Historical Society as the hubs of historic preservation programs.
- Support and engage in Historic Preservation Month activities.

**Objective 1B:** Work with other HLCs and stakeholder groups to maximize impact and value to owners and general community.

**Actions:**

- Schedule annual meetings and/or presentations and facilitate regular updates with other HLCs in the region.
- Create and maintain an online calendar of historic related events throughout the county.
- Improve the management and access of historic property records in partnership with other agencies and local museum resources through support for technology upgrades.

**Goal 2 - Coordinate:** Facilitate program administration and special projects that provide opportunities to expand the scope and benefits of the historic preservation.

**Objective 2A:** Expand and Improve Historic Preservation Program Administration.

**Actions:**

- Provide dedicated staff to facilitate and manage historic preservation program.
- Conduct an inventory of potential properties eligible for landmark designation.
- Enhance the Sisters/County focus in demonstrating best historic preservation practices.
- Enhance focus on archeological sites in Deschutes County.
- Enhance focus on native and indigenous sites in Deschutes County.
- Build oral history collection.
- Review and update relevant county codes for consistency with state laws and policies.

**Objective 2B:** Improve access to historic resource information.

**Actions:**

- Regularly hold HLC meetings in Sisters and other regions of the county.
- Provide more content to the “Story Map” descriptions.
- Support technology upgrades at Deschutes Historical Society.
- Create driving tour mobile application similar to Bend Heritage Walking Tour.

**Objective 2C:** Improve relationships with historic resource owners.

**Actions:**

- Maintain regular contact with historic property owners such as scheduled mailers, electronic mailing lists, and visits to highlight benefits and responsibilities of designation as well as any active project status.
- Assign historic sites to landmarks commissioners to establish stronger relationships.
- Support annual BBQ as thank you for historic property owners.

**Goal 3 - Educate:** Promote educational opportunities highlighting the value, benefits, responsibilities, and requirements of historic preservation.

**Objective 3A:** Expand historic preservation education.

**Actions:**

- Conduct presentations throughout the county to various groups including community organizations and schools.
- Increase visibility through published articles in various media outlets and formats, including regional preservation group newsletters.
- Give annual presentations to Board of County Commissioners and Sisters City Council.
- Attend, present, and provide materials at History Pub at Old St. Francis School.
- Preserve and/or replacement of historic site signage.
- Highlight/celebrate milestone years for Deschutes County and the City of Sisters.

**Objective 3B:** Increase the attention paid to, and protection of, the historic rural county setting.

**Actions:**

- Organize field trips that promote both public and other HLC participation.
- Highlight importance and relevance of historic resources other than buildings and structures such as the Santiam Wagon Road, tree blazes, cemeteries, and indigenous sites and history.
- Create a quarterly electronic newsletter highlighting different Goal 5 resources, primers on designation processes, or other relevant preservation-themed subjects.