

October 20, 2022

Contact: Carol Palmer

503.504.2638

Historical Society Seeks Historic Landmark Status for Depot

The Canby Historical Society (CHS) has submitted an application to add the Depot Museum to the Canby Register of Historic Landmarks. Per Ken Daniels, Vice President of the CHS, “a historic designation will help us preserve the site and it will be a plus when we apply for grants.”

When a windstorm toppled Canby’s Oregon & California Railroad station in 1891, Southern Pacific (SP) built its replacement using one of their standard designs for small community depots. It served the town until 1976, when SP closed it. Per Carol Palmer, CHS member who researched and wrote the landmark application, “community activists interested in saving a site that had been central to the development of their city worked together to preserve the building, relocate it, and convert it into a museum.” A portion of the warehouse had to be removed to fit the structure to its new site. It was moved in 1983 and, after repairs were made and the interior was remodeled, the museum opened to the public in 1984.

As part of the historic landmark designation requirements, the CHS will host a neighborhood meeting to gather information from interested residents. The meeting will be held at the Depot on November 1st at 6:00pm. Per Nora Clark, President of the CHS, “a meeting notice was sent to all of the residents and property owners within 500 feet of the Depot. However, anyone interested in contributing to the discussion is welcome to attend.”

The city will hold a series of public hearings to consider the application. The first will be held by the Heritage and Landmark Commission (HLC) during its December 5th meeting. If the HLC approves the application, it will go to the Planning Commission for approval of a historic zoning overlay and then to the city council for final approval.

If you would like more information about the neighborhood meeting, you can contact the CHS at depotmuseum@canby.com or call 503.266.6712.