



ORIGINAL WASCO COUNTY COURTHOUSE - 1859

ORIGINAL COURTHOUSE REGIONAL HISTORY FORUM SERIES FOR 2025

Programs begin at 1:30 p.m. in the upstairs courtroom of the 1859 courthouse, 410 West 2nd Place, The Dalles behind the Chamber of Commerce / Visitors' Center

Saturday, February 1

Fire Lookouts: Personal Reflections, History, and Preservation

Barbara Telfer spent three summers staffing lookouts and Rick McClure was Heritage Program Manager for the two nearby national forests. Mountaintop observation stations—lookouts—were largely phased out by aerial observation. The program outlines the effort to preserve the stories and remaining examples of these iconic structures that represent early wildlands management.

Saturday, February 8

The China Crew at the Seufert Brothers Cannery

Eric Gleason and Jacqueline Cheung are local archaeologists and historians. Skilled Chinese workers created a well-regarded high quality product for shipment around the country and across the globe during seasonal salmon runs. Records of the local Seufert Cannery shed light on these workers, their lives and labors.

Saturday, February 15

Joseph Brown, Jewish Merchant: Buried Outside the Fence

Sandy Bisset and Georga Foster are local historians and genealogists. Joseph Brown was an area merchant during the early “wild west” days. An ill-fated trip from Walla Walla to The Dalles during the winter of 1862 led to his death. His Jewish faith resulted in burial outside the fence of Pioneer Cemetery.

Saturday, February 22

NOTE: THIS PROGRAM STARTS AT 12:30, AT THE GRANADA

Historic Granada Theatre: The Entertainment Destination of the Gorge

Chuck and Debra Gomez, co-owners of the Granada, restore art deco theatres into performing arts venues. Learn about the history of the first theater west of the Mississippi designed for the “talkies,” hear about current and future community functions and national acts, and enjoy a tour of the vintage venue.

Admission is free for the February programs

Donations gladly accepted! – Downstairs monitor for those unable to climb stairs.

Coffee and cookies will be served