

Assignment 2. Downtown Portland Urban Landscapes*

*adapted from Central Business District tour created by Thomas Harvey

Introduction.

This assignment is designed to have you “learn by looking”, with a focus on cultural landscapes in downtown Portland. These landscape ogling skills can be applied to any place - large or small, known or unfamiliar. Such experiences inevitably lead to questions that deserve further investigation, and a deeper understanding of the place. Another great way to learn about the city landscapes is to look at downtown Portland guidebooks. There are many excerpts throughout the tour that come directly from published guidebooks that help to explain various aspects of the city.

Instructions.

- Attached is a blank map of downtown Portland. This map is going to be where you include all the data you collect while in the field (walking the tour). The type of information you collect can include:
 - ***Any place/ landscape/ landmark indicated in the walking tour (required)***
 - Public art
 - Portland icons or landmarks
 - Parks
 - Food Cart pods
 - Government bldgs
 - Places of worship
 - Children landscapes
 - Social services
 - Parking lots
 - Pawn shops
 - Phone booths
 - Newspaper boxes
 - Billboards / building ads
 - Edges, paths, districts, nodes, landmarks
 - Sites of change
- Use the downtown Portland map to add places, as indicated throughout the walking tour. Additionally, add some places included in the list above.
- A Story Map will be created from the data you collect, in class on Monday Oct 9. You will create either a Map Tour or a Map Journal of Portland Cultural Landscapes, which will represent the data you collected during the walking tour in a comprehensive and cohesive way.

*****The data you collect along the tour will be used to create a Story Map. Make sure to take detailed notes / info on your map, and take pictures or videos to include in your Story Map*****

- There are a series of questions throughout the tour that are in **bold**. Make sure to answer those questions while in the field.

Deliverables (submit as one PDF with link to story map included – due Oct 11, 2017).

- Field map of downtown Portland (or copy)
- Responses to questions (typed)
- Field notes (or copy)
- Story Map with synthesized field data

Downtown Portland Walking Tour.

Use the map provided with this assignment to navigate throughout the city. Be sure to stay on the sidewalk and be aware of cars/buses/streetcar/max/bicycles/etc.! Be alert at all times. Soak in the built environment around you.

Excerpts throughout the walking tour come from the *Portland: A Historical Sketch and Guide*, by Terrence O'Donnell and Thomas Vaughn (Oregon Historical Society, 1976) and an early 1990's *Powell's Walking Map of Downtown Portland*, map compiled by Ann Smith.

- Start at PSU's Cramer Hall on sw Broadway and sw Montgomery. Walk north on sw Broadway, toward the downtown core, to sw Columbia st.

As you walk, note the general patterns of changing land use - apartments, retail space, offices, public buildings, theaters, hotels, etc. Note the quality of these buildings as well as their function. Also look beyond the immediate confines of sw Broadway, for example, the churches along the Park Blocks or the distribution of high-rise buildings in the downtown core (notice the 'cycle track' added along sw Broadway in 2009).

At the NW corner of sw Broadway and sw Columbia, note the recently restored Ladd Carriage House, and the historical marker on the building.

1. What was the original use of the building and what is it used for now?

The new Ladd Tower is on the north half of the block. Originally planned as a condominium tower, given the weakening condo market, in 2007, the developers decided to make it a luxury "market rate" rental project. Take note of the prices at the Raven & Rose restaurant. Given the proximity to PSU - is their target audience college students?

Excerpt 1. The Ladd Carriage House (24) 1313 sw Broadway

Downtown Portland for most of its history was not only a business center but also a place of residence, and in some cases these places of residence were very grand. The Ladd Carriage House is the last downtown remnant of these opulent establishments. The house itself occupied the adjacent block, now the site of The Oregonian newspaper building. An example of the "stick style", a mode emphasizing structural forms, it teems with charming detail. The garrets, latticed roof garden and gables filled with a froth of wooden ornament, make it one of the town's most diverting structures.

- Continue on sw Broadway one block to sw Jefferson st, then turn right onto sw Jefferson and head east 2 blocks to sw 5th ave.

Look to your left (north) toward the core of downtown and south of sw Jefferson. Read the section below on Jefferson Street, which describes it as one of downtown Portland's 'edges'.

Excerpt 2. Jefferson Street (25)

Jefferson Street has more character than its mundane environs would suggest. For one this it is, to use a term of Kevin Lynch's, one of the town's "edges." To the north lies "downtown" while to the south lies a currently "gray" area which only comes into color at two points - Portland State to the southwest and Portland Center to the southeast. In any event, crossing Jefferson at most of its intersections is to cross from one distinct environment to another, and thus for Portlanders Jefferson is not just another street. (In time the Oregon Historical Society will complete its building plan on the most vital visual corner in Portland; the northwest corner of Broadway and Jefferson.) The street also has historical associations for it is the city end of the Great Plank Road. If it had been the custom at the time it is here that the town would have built its gate.

Finally, and for those who think about it, this thoroughfare goes on, carrying the mind with it, to a romantic and refreshing terminus. Following along as it cuts through the canyon of

the West Hills, one traverses the rich plains of the Tualatin Valley, climb the Coast Range with its forests and deer and finally comes down to the Pacific breakers, Jefferson's Western Shore - nice things to think about while walking or driving this city street.

2. The description above is from 1976. Is Jefferson still a noticeable 'edge' or land use boundary of 'downtown'?

Not the pro-nature, anti-urban sentiment in the final paragraph - we will return to this along the tour.

In addition to edges, Kevin Lynch identified paths, districts, nodes, and landmarks in American cities. See the definitions below and watch for them as you walk.

Excerpt 3. Kevin Lynch's definitions

1. **Paths** [are] the channels along which the observer customarily, occasionally or potentially moves. They may be streets, walkways, transit lines, canals, railroads. For many people, these are the predominant elements in their image. People observe the city while moving through it, and along these paths the other environmental elements are arranged and related.
2. **Edges** are the linear elements not used or considered as paths by the observer. They are the boundaries between two phrases, linear break in continuity: shores, railroad cuts, edges of development, walls. They may be barriers more or less penetrable, which close on region off from another; or they may be seams, lines along which two regions are related and joined together.
3. **Districts** are the medium-to-large sections of the city, conceived of as having two-dimensional extent, which the observer mentally enter...and which are recognizable as having some common, identifying character.
4. **Nodes** are the strategic spots in a city into which an observer can enter, and which are the intensive foci to and from which he is traveling. They may be primarily junctions, places of a break in transportation, a crossing or convergence or paths...Or the nodes may simply be concentrations, which gain some use or physical character, as a street corner hangout or an enclosed square. Some of these concentration nodes are the focus and epitome of a district, over which their influence radiates and of which they stand as a symbol.
5. **Landmarks** are another type of point-reference, but in this case the observer does not enter them...They are usually a rather simply defined physical object: building, sign, store or mountain.

Note the MAX lines that run down 5th & 6th Avenues - red, blue, yellow, orange, and green.

At the southeast corner of sw Jefferson and 5th is the *Wells Fargo Center*, built in 1972 as the First Interstate Bank Tower, the southernmost high-rise office tower in Portland. The Wells Fargo Tower is sometimes described as downtown's second tallest structure - second to US Bancorp Tower at the north end of the core of downtown - but which looks to be the tallest because of the elevation of its building site. Confusion reigns, however, and the votes seem to favor Wells Fargo as the tallest building in Portland.

KOIN Center, built in 1984 by the Canadian, global-city, postmodern developer firm of Olympia and York, is further to the southeast. The KOIN tower, a mix of retail, office and housing, blocked views of Mt Hood from automobiles exiting the hwy 26 (sunset hwy) tunnel, and that led the city of Portland to adopt its first zoning regulations for protecting the 'viewshed'.

- At sw 5th ave, turn left and head north. You will walk five blocks until you get to Yamhill. As you walk, take note of *City Hall* (and the other location along the way that are mentioned in the next few sections).
- Add City Hall to your map

City Hall is at the corner of sw Jefferson & 5th ave. The entire building was rehabilitated in 1997-98. Below is a description from 1976.

Excerpt 4. The City Hall (21) 1220 sw 5th

The principal architect of the City Hall, built in 1895, was William Whidden. He came to Portland from the caparisoned East Coast firm of McKim, Mead and White to work on the Portland Hotel. He stayed on to design many of the town's principal building. The city was fortunate to have his talent.

The little Italian palazzo deserves, but seldom gets, its fair attention. As a whole it has much dignity and repose and in some way difficult to express, it gives the impression of being highly complete - an idea worked right out of its end. There is fine detail as well - the pilasters of the east facade, for example, beautifully scaled and moulded - and there are also impressive general effects: the balustraded roof, topped at each corner by an urn, the long mellow and pillared loggia of the west facade - and where we hope the city fathers will sometimes stroll and reflect - or even entertain. Finally, there are the entrances, suitably grand for this building, which, after all, welcomes the city's official guests.

Until recently the town did not much take the building to its heart. In part this may have been the usual associations; some of the scalawags who have inhabited it, some of the shenanigans that have gone on in it. And the interior, an institutional green maze, was depressing to say the least. Now, however, the interior is being refurbished while the exterior, surrounded as it now is by mammoth structures, is more appreciated for its modesty and balance.

The *Portland Building* (and *Portlandia*) at sw 5th and Madison, is a 1982 addition to downtown. Witold Rybczynski describes it as the "birthplace of postmodernism." Public art makes its appearance in *Portlandia*. Watch for other public art throughout the tour - where it exists, where it does not, how its character changes.

- Add Portland Building to your map

Excerpt 5. The Portland Building & Portlandia

*Michael Graves' Portland building, built in 1982, was the first major Post-Modern structure in the U.S. His stated intention was to leave the metaphor of the machine and return to nature for both color and decoration. People tend to love this building or hate it. There is a general agreement that it looks best when glimpsed from a distance. **Portlandia** kneels above the front entrance to the building. She is the second-largest hammered copper statue in the world - the only larger one is the Statue of Liberty. Sculptor Raymond Kaskey and a small army of artisans brought her into being. She made her entrance into Portland in grand style, floating up the river on a barge as thousands of Portlanders turned out to welcome her. For a quiet and nearly eye-to-eye view of Portland, take the escalator at the front of the Standard Plaza building up to the enclosed landing. If you'd like to know more about *Portlandia* and the creation and siting of other public art in Portland, be sure to visit the Metropolitan Center for Public Art on the second floor on the Portland Building.*

Read the plaque in front of the Standard Plaza Building across from the Portland Building.

3. Where did the idea for *Portlandia* originate?

At the corner of sw 5th and Main, look west to the 1000 Broadway building (1991) - also known as the "Ban Roll-On Building" and "R2 D2". Prior to 1991, this was the location of the Broadway Theatre, an art deco movie house. There were plans to restore and hang the original marquee, but that never actually happened.

- Add R2D2 building to your map

The Multnomah County Courthouse is on the East side of sw 5th between Main & Salmon. Just across the street (to the east) of the Courthouse are two parks/public spaces. This was the home of the Occupy Portland protest and encampment in Oct/Nov 2011.

- Add the Multnomah Courthouse to your map

Excerpt 6. The Plaza Blocks - Chapman & Lownsdale Squares

Before these blocks were dedicated in 1852 as public squares, a bull elk from the hills to the west used to graze here. The elk statue that stands in the middle of the street between the two blocks was given to the city in 1900 by former mayor David P. Thompson. The sculpture by Roland Perry got mixed reviews. The exalted Order of the Elks, which refused to officiate at the dedication, called Thompson's gift "a monstrosity of art...with a neck that would be the envy of a giraffe." In the 1920s the squares were segregated - one exclusively for the use of ladies and one for gentlemen - in order to encourage decorous behavior.

- Add the Elk statue to your map

The Standard Insurance Center, built in 1970-71 as the Georgia-Pacific Building, stands between sw Salmon and Taylor Streets. This shift in corporate use is a significant sign of the changing business structure of downtown Portland, which has lost a number of corporate headquarters.

Take note of the Oregon Trail plaque on the front facade and statuary/fountain on the front plaza. The sculpture, formally titled, "The Quest" has been nicknamed "Family Night at the Y" and "Three Groins in a Fountain." The sculpture was carved in Italy from a single 200-ton block of marble (quarried in Greece). According to the artist, the subjects represent man's eternal search for brotherhood & enlightenment.

4. What are your thoughts/interpretations of this sculpture?

Georgia-Pacific Corporation, founded in Augusta, Georgia, moved its corporate headquarters to Olympia, WA in 1953 then to Portland in 1954. The Louisiana-Pacific Corporation, still headquartered in Portland in 2003, was spun-off in 1972 under an agreement with the Federal Trade Commission. In 1984, GP moved its headquarters back to Atlanta. In 2003, LP considered a possible move to Charlotte, Nashville, or Richmond and eventually chose Nashville.

At the northwest corner of sw 5th & Taylor is the Hilton Portland Executive Center, completed in 2001-02, on the site of the former Greyhound Bus Station. Note the disguised parking on the lower floors of the building.

Excerpt 7. The Greyhound Bus Depot (17)

For many years this block was known as "the million dollar cow pasture," the site until 1936 of a splendid city mansion of the Corbetts whose mistress refused to make way for the office buildings and pastured her cow in the garden.

As you continue north and cross Taylor Street, you will find one entrance to Pioneer Place, an upscale, urban shopping mall. Pioneer place consists of four buildings, over four city blocks that are connected by skywalks and underground tunnels. With the exception of the World Trade Center, there are no other buildings in Portland that are connected by skywalks or tunnels. The mall opened up in 1990. In 2010, Saks 5th Avenue closed their store in Pioneer place, claiming that it was never a good fit in the city. They opened a new store in Bridgeport Village - another upscale shopping mall located in the suburbs of Portland (Tualatin). H&M took over a portion of Sak's retail space and the remainder was demolished to make way for a new Apple Store and a restaurant.

- Continue walking north on sw 5th avenue until you hit Yamhill. Make a right on Yamhill and go to the "Mall-SW 4th Ave" MAX stop. Take the MAX to the Old Town/Chinatown stop. Or you can walk. The MAX does require a valid fare to ride, which will cost \$2.50.

This next section will take you through the core of the Yamhill District. Just past the Skidmore Fountain on your right, the train will stop at Portland's Saturday Market. If you are on the MAX, prepare to get off at the next stop - Old Town / Chinatown.

Excerpt 8. Skidmore / Old Town

The Skidmore / Old Town historic District is characterized by diversity and change. For a time this was the city's Skid Road, and some vestiges of those days are still evident. Much more apparent, however, is the revitalization process which has made this area one of the most exciting in the city. Here you will find a variety of great restaurants and hot nightspots, including the long-established Darcelle XV, where Darcelle and her fellow female impersonators perform nightly. The neighborhood also boasts many interesting shops and galleries; the American Advertising Museum, the only one of its kind in the nation; and the Historic Preservation League of Oregon. Those who choose to explore Skidmore / Old Town will discover one of the largest collections of cast-iron building facades in the country.

- Get off at the Old Town/Chinatown Stop (if you are walking, this is on nw 1st between Davis & Everett).
- Backtrack a bit to the corner of nw 1st and Davis. Head west on Davis past One Pacific Square to nw 2nd & Davis

Until recently, One Pacific Square was conspicuous as one of the few new structures in Old Town.

5. Does One Pacific Square fit in, architecturally, with the Old Town landscape? Explain your answer.

Immediately south of One Pacific Square is the former location of Portland's Saturday Market (you can read more about the history of Portland's Saturday Market here: <http://www.portlandsaturdaymarket.com/about/history>)

- Walk north on nw 2nd to the sw corner of Everett.

On your way down nw 2nd avenue, take note of the mix of functions and 'target markets'. At the corner of nw 2nd & Everett, you can see a newish building to the NE (with its lower levels of parking), and the Lan Su Chinese Garden. Completed in 2000, the garden is said to be the largest Suzhou-style Chinese garden outside of China.

- Add the Lan Su Chinese Garden to your map
- Head west on nw Everett to the corner of nw 3rd, then go South on 3rd to Davis

You will pass the Lyndon Musolf Manor (formerly the Foster Apartment), a residential hotel. Depending on ones perspective, Portland is noted for the loss of thousands of low-rent downtown housing units - reflected in levels of homelessness - or for the large number of remaining single room occupancy (SRO) hotel, represent by such places as the Lyndon Musolf Manor. Most cities have far fewer SRO hotels.

Excerpt 9. The Foster Hotel (010) 216 N.W. 3rd

This ordinary looking little building opposite the Merchants does not suggest great things, but in fact it represents a remarkable achievement. The building's owners, a local bank, and the Housing Authority of Portland go together to see how they could convert this structure, for many years a flophouse, into attractive, safe and inexpensive quarters for indigents. And they did, the first time in the country that such a package has been put together, that individual, corporate, and municipal interest cooperated to create low-income rental units. With a low interest loan from the First National Bank of Portland, the owners, William and Sam Naito, turned the hotel's 188 rooms into nearly 100 studio apartments, these now under lease to the Portland Housing Authority, which in turn rents them at a modest price. The Foster deserves a plaque.

- Add the Lyndon Musolf Manor to the map

Next to Musolf Manor is the Darcelle XV Showbar. Note the uses on the west side of the street - several old Chinese businesses versus the Society Hotel. Despite recent construction and ongoing renovation, at this time the social characteristics of Old Town are, perhaps, more significant than the physical characteristics of the older historic structures.

At the corner of nw 3rd & Davis, look south to the Simon Facade (just south of the one-story Kida Co building) and the skyscraper in the background. The skyscraper is the US Bancorp Tower, the 2nd tallest building in Portland.

Excerpt 10. The Simon Building Facade (11)

When the hotel, which stood here, was gutted by fire and the owner decided to replace it with a parking lot, an architect with offices and interest in the neighborhood suggested that the facade be saved. It was and here it stands, a kind of Portland Piranesi. The problem with building is their vulnerability. A book, a painting, a musical score can be rather easily kept, but a building must be a perpetual best seller or otherwise it vanishes. Here a compromise was worked out; a parking lot went in, but at the same time the best of the building was kept.

In front of the Simon Facade, embedded in the sidewalk, is a new historic marker for the Merchant Hotel. You may run across additional sidewalk markers in this area.

- Add this marker to your map and any other markers you find.
- Head west on nw Davis one block to nw 4th, then south one block to nw Couch

On Davis between 3rd & 4th, note the Chinese Language School and Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association on the north side of the street.

Looking south from the corner of nw 4th & Couch, you can see the Chinatown Gate, a fitting, but not very historic, entryway to the Chinatown district.

- Add the Chinatown gate to your map

The geography of Portland’s Chinatown has been confused by revitalization efforts in the downtown area. O’Donnell & Vaughn state that “old Chinatown” was located south of Burnside; the gate and existing businesses suggest a history of Chinese ethnic activity in this area. This is a good place to contemplate the different varieties of ethnic expression in the landscape, seen here in Chinatown and elsewhere in the city particularly with Korean and Hispanic businesses. Some are simply ethnic owned, other present a sort of tourist ethnicity, while other are oriented solely to the particular ethnic group. It is also interesting to see which ethnic groups create few “in-group” landscapes, for example Portland’s Japanese & Japanese-Americans.

Right at the Chinatown gate entrance, you will also see Right 2 Dream Too, a tent city for some of Portland’s homeless population.

6. What does infrastructure such as a tent city symbolize for this neighborhood - and in this location, for the city?

- Head east on nw Couch, staying on the north side of the street

Window shop along this stretch. Note the businesses - and vacancies - along this block. From northeast corner of nw Couch and 3rd, look to the northwest for another view of the Simon Facade.

- Continue east on Couch to nw 2nd, staying on the north side of the street

At the northwest corner of nw Couch & 2nd, a small plaque is on the wall of the Rich Hotel building, which houses a Subway.

7. What ethnic group is mentioned? What is their presence today in Old Town?

- Head south on nw 2nd to Burnside and cross Burnside.

In 2007, Portland City Council adopted the West Burnside/Couch Alternatives Analysis Report, which would turn Burnside & Couch Street into a paired couplet of one-way streets, substantially narrow the traffic lanes on Burnside, and create boulevards to make the street less of a barrier. The plan presents a major challenge as Burnside is the only street in the city that provides a straight shot across the river and through the West Hills.

Excerpt 11. The Burnside Intersections (13)

As the river divides the town east and west, so Burnside divides it north and south. The city's longest street, 17 miles, it is relatively undistinguished, although various proposals have been made to smarten it. The Bennett Plan early in the century would have transformed the downtown section into a kind of Champs Elysees but this, as is more than apparent, was not accomplished. Now once again there is a plan, and eventually something must come of it for Burnside is one of the major entries to the city core.

At the 3rd Avenue intersection the street does have a kind of peripheral distinction, for as one crosses to the south side there opens out one of Portland's most interesting townscapes, often overlooked because of the area's current shabbiness. Here, jogging from its axis, Second Avenue gracefully drops down into a space enclosed by oblique facades, a space which looks almost to be a plaza, a ramshackle and oddly shaped one but nonetheless full of interest. Perhaps someday this accident of the land contour, of street alignment and of angled buildings may be turned to good account, for in the Portland grid few streets open into anything but each other.

- Continue south staying on the west side of sw 2nd avenue to Ankeny

8. What businesses are found in the block immediately south of Burnside? Is Burnside an effective boundary between land uses and social spaces?

Across sw 2nd Avenue and south of Ankeny is the New Market Theatre building. Behind this building is the current location of Portland's newly renovated Saturday Market.

Excerpt 12. The New Market Theater (2) W.W. Piper, 1872

Had someone, one wonders - perhaps the architect, perhaps the builder - once been to Covent Garden? In any event, this structure was built to be both a produce market and a theater, cabbages on the first floor, tenors on the second. In the market there were 28 marble-countered stalls, each in its own arched and pillared niche. Would that we had the market now. Upstairs the theater was crimson with plush and glimmered in the light of 100 gas jets, its 40 by 60 drop curtain a blue and hazy dream of the Mediterranean - an ambience all in all "bewildering to the senses," as one contemporary said.

Like the Skidmore Fountain, the New Market is difficult to judge in aesthetic terms since it figures so largely in our civic legend - as valued proof that from early on Portland was "Cultivated." Whatever the pros and cons of this, the restoration of the building for its original purposes will be a boom to the town. We can well use a small municipal theater or concert hall and a real market - flowers, cabbages, fish and fruit and coffee stalls. Perhaps the original idea - that the market would help support the theater - might be tried again by its enlightened fourth generation owner.

Continue to the Haseltine Block at 133 sw 2nd Ave. There was once a marker noting that when construction began in 1892, this was the edge of downtown Portland. Look, to your right, to see the 1894 & 1948 flood high water mark signs.

9. Does the Haseltine Block still represent the 'edge' of downtown?

- At sw Pine Street, turn right and head west one block to sw 3rd.

Note the West Shore (which once advertised "affordable studios") to your south (built above the parking garage of the former Police Bureau Building), on Pine between 2nd & 3rd, and the building occupants along the north side of the block. To the northwest is the former Multnomah Hotel, later a federal office building, and now the Embassy Suites Hotel with a wonderful lobby.

- From 3rd & Pine, head south two blocks to sw Stark

The east side of sw 3rd between Oak & Stark, shows a zone of transition between the pocket of commercial gentrification in the Skidmore Fountain area and the core of downtown. It is difficult to see any logical, well-developed pedestrian connection between the two districts. The MAX line does provide a link. The Portland Outdoor Store, at the southeast corner of sw 3rd & Oak, is traditional, in every way, though it may find itself gentrifying in place as Ralph Lauren continues to emphasize Western fashion and as the Portland Development Commission (PDC) pursues area redevelopment and upgrading. From the southeast corner of sw 3rd & Stark, look northeast to the Bishop's House.

Excerpt 13. The Bishop's House (24) 219-223 S.W. Stark

In 1878 the Roman Catholics of Portland built a cathedral at the corner of Third & Stark, adding a year later this structure to house meeting rooms and other facilities. When the cathedral moved northwest toward the Irish in the 1890's the building was sold to be occupied over the years by a succession of colorful tenants - a Chinese tong, a speakeasy, the A.I.A. In 1965 William Roberts, who has done several handsome restorations in the city, gave the decrepit old building a new and useful lease on life.

Aside from several churches, it is the most gothic of any building in town, angular and pitched, well furnished with corbels, tracery and crockets, ecclesiastical as a miter which in a way it suggests. The best of the building is its third story triptych, two lancets bracketing a splendid arch of tracery and glass. What, one wonders, goes on behind this? What goes on is one of the most interesting interiors in town: a room 17 feet high, 24 feet square, giant baronial fireplaces to either side and at the end of this wall of mullioned glass, framing in its three intervals the cityscape and hills. And to cap it all there was once a musician's gallery. What a room it must have been: the flaming grates and candlelight, signers in the gallery, the lights of the town through the mullioned glass, and presiding in scarlet over the scene, the legendary spellbinder, Archbishop Blanchet.

- Head west on the south side of Stark to sw 4th

Mid-block, on the south side of the street, read the historical marker on the Oregon Pioneer Building (if construction is not blocking it).

As you explore downtown, you will see a mix of art murals and advertising murals - some attractive and others not. You will occasionally see four roses painted at the corners of a wall. For years, the city has been trying to restrict oversized painted ads while not imposing the same restrictions on art murals. The courts have said that the city cannot make that distinction. With the stalemate nothing happens - no new ads or no new murals. The roses serve as placeholders to grandfather in earlier ads.

- At sw 4th, turn left and head south 3 blocks to Morrison St, staying on the east side of the street.

10. As you walk down sw 4th, do you notice a change in the character of businesses/buildings as you walk towards Pioneer Courthouse Square?

- At sw Morrison street, turn right and head west to sw 6th ave. At sw 6th ave, cross over into the Pioneer Courthouse Square area.

11. Who is using Pioneer Courthouse Square? What buildings/businesses surround the square? What is on the square?

- Add Pioneer Courthouse Square to your map

Excerpt 14. The Town Center (13) 6th and Morrison (1976)

Early Portland, a straggle of buildings along the river, moved inland over the years until about the turn of the century when it came to rest, its center here at the crossroads of 6th and Morrison. Most of the present buildings were put up in the first quarter of the century, many designed by A.E. Doyle who for a period of 20 year, beginning in 1907, dominated Portland Architecture.

Here on the present parking block the town erected its first real schoolhouse, a big, white New England building with cupola and bell. Thirty years later the block became the site of the town's beloved Portland Hotel, a seven-story, steep roofed Queen Anne chateau with a porte-cochered and iron-railed courtyard, fit for an alighting monarch. Nothing in town, with the exception of the almost extinct farmer's market, is more missed by Portlanders who remember its 1951 demise. As for the block's future, there are now plans to turn it into the town's central square - a place of trees and grass and perhaps some roses.

Excerpt 15. Pioneer Courthouse Square (1990s)

Portland erected its first real schoolhouse on this block. Thirty years later the stately Portland Hotel was built here and became the place for important social gatherings. In the early '50s the Portland Hotel was torn down, and a parking lots was built. The land was donated to the city in the late '70s so that a public square - destined to become the heart of downtown Portland - could be built. A national design competition was held, and a local team headed by architect Will Martin was chosen. More than 64,000 Portland citizens helped fund construction of the Square by buying bricks inscribed with their names. Portland's unique Weather Machine makes its 24-hour forecast every day at noon in front of a roaring waterfall. Public restrooms and Tri-Met customer service (find out all about riding the bus or MAX) are located through the double doors in the waterfall. On the 6th and Yamhill corner of the Square is Powell's Travel Store, where an excellent selection of books on Portland and the Northwest - in addition to a huge inventory of travel books, maps and travel accessories - can be found. The Travel Store staff members are knowledgeable about the Portland metropolitan area, they enjoy assisting visitors, and they serve a great cup of coffee.

12. How do you think this area would be different - socially - if the Square was park-like and wooded? How does Pioneer Courthouse Square compare with other public parks and plazas downtown?

- Go to the corner of sw Broadway & Yamhill.

Look south down Broadway and note the general quality and use of buildings. On the southeast corner of Yamhill and Broadway is Margulis Jewelers, which replaced an Arctic Circle fast-food restaurant in the mid 1990s.

At the northwest corner of sw Broadway & Yamhill (across the street the Square), on the Nordstrom building, is a marker: "We Planned, It Worked - A Walkable City." This is one site on the tour that was developed to celebrate the silver

anniversary of the Portland Downtown Plan of 1972, widely credited with saving Portland's downtown and Central Business District.

13. How is a walkable city described on the plaque?

- Head west on Yamhill for 2 blocks, to the corner of sw Yamhill & 9th Avenue.

In addition to the Fox Tower, there was a proposal for a 12-story parking garage on the lot across the street, bounded by sw Park, 9th, Yamhill & Taylor (currently Director's Park). The parking garage proposal met strong opposition. Tom Moyer, developer of the Fox Tower, purchased the block and donated it to the city for an extension (of sorts) of the South Park Blocks. The city developed this lot to be Director Park, which covers a 700-space underground parking garage connected to the Fox Tower and Park Avenue West Tower. Unfortunately, the Paramount Hotel was built in 2000 on the half-block just south of Taylor, which breaks the connection to the South Park Blocks. As a result of Moyer's purchase, a group of movers and shakers joined to try to acquire the 'missing' park blocks north to Burnside, with plans to remove some or all of existing buildings over time to create a park-like connection of the South and North Park Blocks. This effort failed. Moyer then planned a tower just north of Director's park; the economic downturn in 2008-09 stopped that project for a while, but the new tower, Park Avenue West PDX, is now constructed and open for business.

14. Director's park is a public space that seems to work quite well, despite not having any natural areas or vegetation for that matter. What do you think makes it successful?

- Head south on sw 9th towards Salmon st.

There have been three significant changes in this area since the mid-1990s. The International Food Bazaar, specializing in Indian, Turkish, Italian, Greek, and Middle-Eastern foods, moved, to be replaced by an upscale clothing store, then home furnishings - and now gone. The former Heathman/B Moltoch Pub at the corner of sw 9th & Salmon became the Southpark Seafood Grill. And, The Roosevelt, once a hotel and until recently Section 8 subsidized housing, went 'market rate'. These condos are about 415 sq ft, with no parking and were listed for \$139k in 2003, \$132k in 2013, and today in 2016, for about \$225k.

In the Park across from the Roosevelt are several items of note. At the north end is a monument to Portland's *Benson Bubblers*, the water fountains donated to the city by Simon Benson, lumberman and mayor. At the south end is the Shemanski Fountain. And here you will find some of downtown's 'urban accessories' iron drainage gates - at the steps and around one tree along the east side of the park.

15. Does this park work as well (or the same) as Director's park? Why or why not? What are some of the differences between the two?

At the northwest corner of sw Main & 9th is one of Portland's heritage trees (marked on the tree & sidewalk) - a London plane tree or sycamore planted in 1880.

- Add the park & heritage tree to your map
- From the Roosevelt corner, head west on Salmon to sw 10th Ave

Note the salmon embedded in the facade of the South Park restaurant. One example of 'nature' Portland.

- Head south on the west side of sw 10th ave to Main st.

Chaucer court is in the middle of this block. Can you find the original use of this building?

- Head west on sw Main st to 12th, then head south on the east side of sw 12th to Jefferson st.

Portland's streetcar runs from the South Waterfront through PSU's urban plaza, to nw 23rd ave. Operations started the summer of 2001, making Portland the first city in North America to build a modern streetcar system with modern vehicles (or so it is claimed). The streetcars run along a track upon city streets, unlike MAX light rail, which runs on a dedicated right-of-way for most of its length. The streetcar is also lighter than light rail and thus required less disruption of underground utilities in the streets. The streetcar also extends across the river on the east side, completing a loop that passes OMSI, the Central Eastside Industrial District, and the Lloyd district.

On the south side of Main st, between sw 10th & 11th, the new St. Francis is new low-income housing built as replacement for the former St. Francis hotel. To the west and north, and at future points along the tour, note the number of churches in the section of downtown.

16. Pay attention to the building uses and businesses along sw 12th, particularly south of Main along the east side of the street, and along the north side of Jefferson between 11th & 12th. What are they? How are the two older houses at 1134 and 1142-46, being used?

The Cornerstone Condominiums on the southeast corner of sw Jefferson & 12th, is a new quarter-block addition to the landscape. This and other recent buildings in the area can be contrasted with the preponderance of half-block and full-block buildings that are built in the Pearl district north of Burnside.

- Continue south on sw 12th one block to Columbia st.

Note the two restored houses on the east side of sw 12th.

17. How are these two buildings being used today?

- Continue south to sw Clay st.

Cross over to the church on the northwest corner of sw 12th & Clay.

18. What denomination is the church? Is it the original occupant? What three dates are shown on the building? (keep looking there are three dates!)

- Head east on sw Clay st to sw 11th.

At the southwest corner of sw 11th & Clay was the site of the Simon Benson House (and another historic house). The abandoned and severely deteriorated structure was moved to the Portland State campus and restored at the cost of \$1.5 million. It will be the last point on the tour. The Benson House was replaced by the Benson Tower.

On the northeast corner of sw Clay & 11th is "The Old Church".

19. How old is this church? What is the building used for now? What does the historical marker imply about Grace Bible Church and its earliest date?

- Go around the block: North on sw 11th to Columbia, east on Columbia to 10th, then south on 10th back to sw Clay.

Immediately north of the Old Church is the Mosaic Lofts. Across Main St is Museum Place, a public/private/non-profit partnership that encompasses three blocks. The old Safeway store moved into its new space south of Jefferson, the YWCA was expanded and improved, and new housing was added on both blocks.

At the northeast corner of sw Clay & 10th is another church.

20. How is this building being used? What ethnic group did it originally serve? What do the dates tell you?

- Head east to the Park block then south back to the PSU campus.

After you cross Market St, you will be on the campus section of the South Park blocks. On your right is the original Lincoln High School (Lincoln Hall) and Cramer Hall (where you started the tour). Diagonally across the Park blocks from Cramer is the moved and restored Simon Benson House.

- Add the Simon Benson house to your map

The End!

