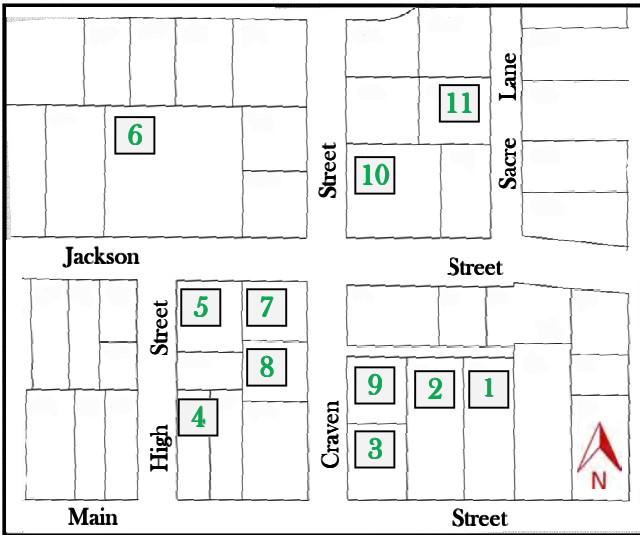


East Main Street Historic Neighborhood

The houses in this neighborhood date from c. 1865 to 1975. Eight of the nine housing styles found in Monmouth are located in this neighborhood and two homes (pictured below) are included in the National Register of Historic Places. The housing styles found in this neighborhood include:

- 1 910 Main Street E.— Craftsman Bungalow
- 2 858 Main Street E.— Gothic Revival
- 3 810 Main Street E.— Craftsman Bungalow
- 4 718 Main Street E.— Vernacular Style
- 5 719 Jackson Street E.— Queen Anne Style
- 6 718 Jackson Street E.— Craftsman Bungalow
- 7 789 Jackson Street E.— Ranch Style
- 8 160 Craven Street N. — Tudor Revival
- 9 175 Craven Street N.— Queen Anne Style
- 10 225 Craven Street N.— Minimal Traditional
- 11 260 Sacre Lane N.— Mid-Century Modern



Craven House
858 Main St. E.

Built circa 1869, this house is the last Gothic Revival/Vernacular Style house in Monmouth. It is also one of the oldest houses in Monmouth.

The property is almost half an acre with two sheds and a fruit orchard in the back. This house is included on the National Register of Historic Places.



Eleanor Sherman House
175 Craven St. N.

This Queen Anne Style home was built circa 1900; it is one of only a few left in Monmouth.

The polygonal bays, spindle work, and flash glass are characteristic elements of this style. Historic outbuildings, the original well, and an aging grape arbor enhance the property. This house is included on the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Monmouth Walking Tour



Three self-guided walking tours of historic Monmouth, Oregon

Acknowledgements: Monmouth Historic Commission: Lori Albert, Marilyn Blankenheim, Bev Davis, Marian Fitts, Erin Passehl, Juliet Sloan, Nita Wilson, Darin Silbernagel; Hamersly Library, City of Monmouth: Mark Fancey; Peter Meijer Architects, History Matters, LLC, Walt's Print & Copy, Western Oregon University Archives.

Welcome to a Walk Through Historic Monmouth

Wagon trains from Monmouth, Illinois brought settlers to the area in the early 1850s. This area was originally home to the Luckiamute band of Kalapuya Indians who numbered over 15,000 in the Willamette Valley until the small pox epidemics decimated the population between 1775 and 1802. By 1850, there were only about 600 Kalapuyan survivors who were moved to the Grand Ronde Reservation in 1855.

The pioneer families who settled the area wished to form a community “where men and women alike may be schooled in the science of learning and the principles of religion”. A donation of 640 acres of



land was to be used to build the city and the college. In 1856, Monmouth University was established, as well as the construction of the first store and frame house in Monmouth. In 1859, the City of Monmouth was first incorporated with a prohibition ordinance, banning the sale of alcohol within city limits (which lasted 143 years until voters repealed it in 2002). The town consisted of 21 families, Monmouth University, a post office, and a variety of small stores. The former livery stable building (above) is still in use today. The city, however, did not have a mayor or city council until 1880. Monmouth was greatly impacted by many fires in the late 1800s through the early 1900s. Fires destroyed the



hotel (above), an opera house, downtown commercial buildings, the post office, and caused damage to buildings at the University. A fire department was organized in 1929 after a boarding house fire killed three women.

Monmouth used to have two railroads connecting the small town to the outside world. The Oregonian Railway Company (later a branch of Southern Pacific) served the area from 1881 to 1937 and the Independence & Monmouth Railway Company served from 1889 to 1919. Highway 99W was constructed in 1924, becoming the major transportation corridor through Monmouth. An airport opened at the north end of town in 1946, but was closed just three years later due to several fatal plane crashes.




Residential development in Monmouth coincided with growth spurts in the town with a broad range of architectural styles. In 1942, rural residents were displaced from their homes due to the

Camp Adair Cantonment, causing a population increase in Monmouth. The mid-century modern period also brought substantial growth with new neighborhoods needed for returning soldiers. The collapse of the Campbell Hall Bell Tower on the WOU campus (left) during the Columbus Day Storm in 1962 was photographed by Wes Luchau and featured on the cover of Life magazine.




As the town keeps growing, the city limits continue to move. Look for signs that show the original town boundaries as you enjoy your tour around Monmouth.






1

M.I. Building
109-113 Main Street E.
 Built in 1902 for the Monmouth Improvement Company, this Italianate Style commercial building housed the post office from 1902-1928. The upper floor served as a meeting hall for the Woodmen of the World.




2

Mulkey Building
123 Main Street E.
 Built in 1914, this commercial style building housed Mulkey's Grocery for many years with a pool hall upstairs. Even though Monmouth was a dry town from 1859 through 2002, procedural mistakes allowed the Pool Hall to serve alcohol for half the year of 1935.




3

First National Bank
193 Main Street E.
 This building was constructed in 1922 to house the expanding First National Bank of Monmouth. It is the only Colonial Style commercial building in the city and is based on 17th and 18th century Colonial architecture.




1

Lieuallen Administration Building
 The first and second floors were built in 1936 with the third floor added in 1947. This Moderne style building was designed by Portland's architect John V. Bennes, who designed several other buildings on campus. The building is named for Dr. Roy Lieuallen, former President of Oregon College of Education and Chancellor of the State System of Higher Education.



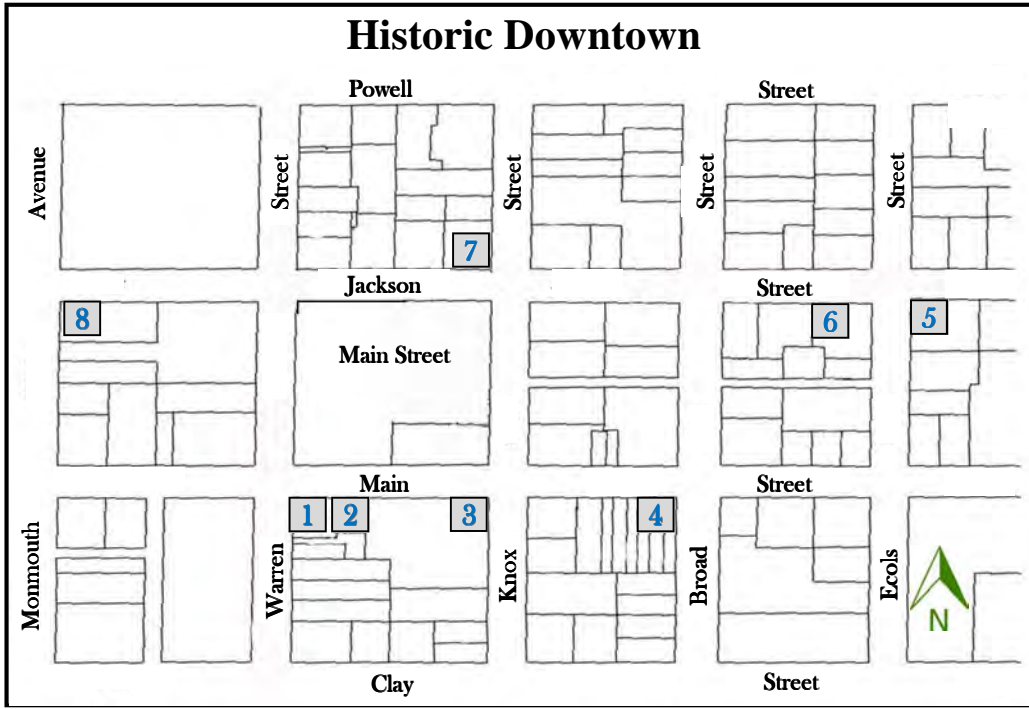

2

Campbell Hall
 Built in 1871, with three later additions in 1917, this Gothic Revival style building used to have a large bell tower, which was blown down in the 1962 Columbus Day Storm. The auditorium was also destroyed. Campbell Hall is the oldest landmark in Monmouth, and is the oldest building in Oregon's public system of higher education.



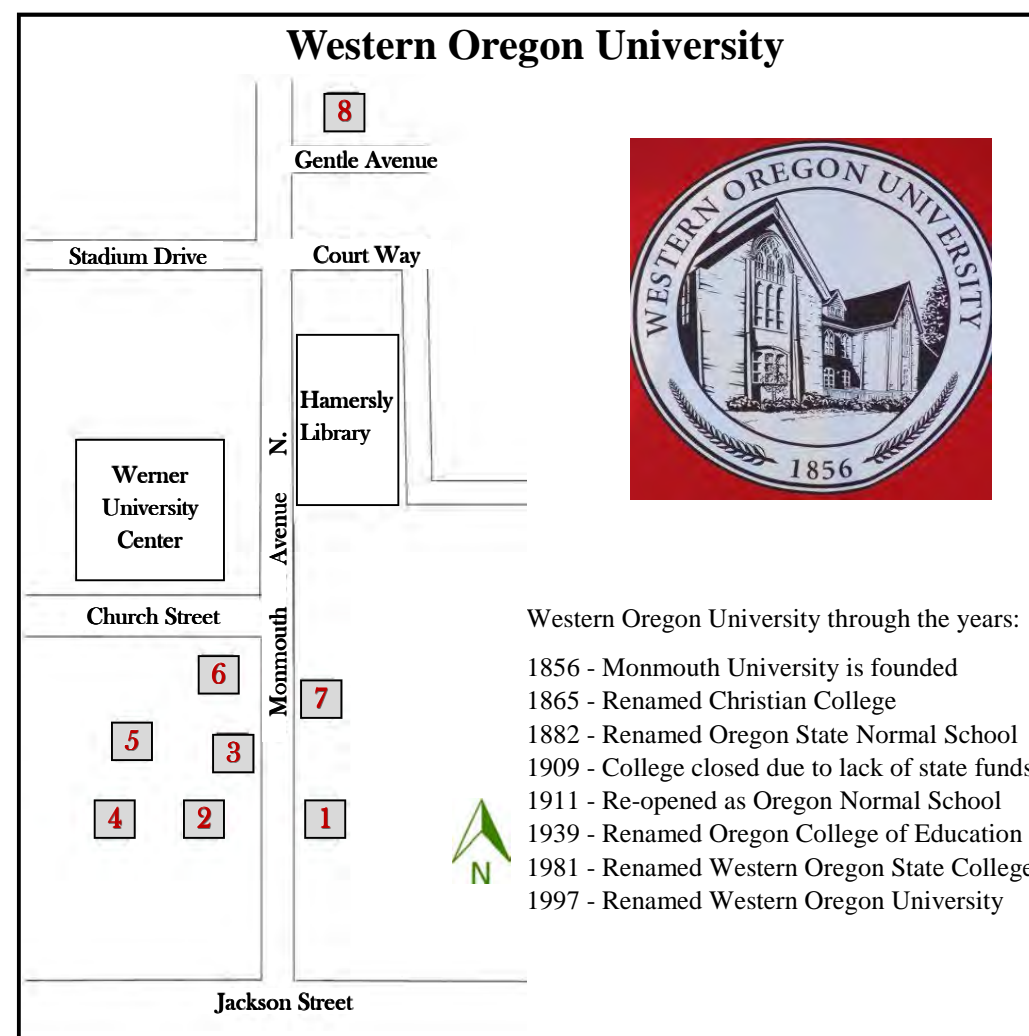

3

Sequoia Tree
 The tree was planted in 1887 when the University was known as the Oregon State Normal School. It is one of the tallest living decorated holiday trees in the USA. In 2010, the tree measured 125 feet tall. The tradition of lighting the tree for Christmas began in 1967.

4


Polk County Bank
295 Main Street E.
 Built in 1889, the northern half was rebuilt in 1896 after a fire destroyed much of the downtown. It hosted the area's first bank until 1922, and then served as the office of Monmouth's weekly newspaper, the *Monmouth Herald*, until 1969. This Queen Anne Style commercial building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

4

Maple Hall
 This building was completed in 1913 as the College gymnasium and recreation center. A.E. Doyle of Portland designed the Tudor Style barn-like structure to match the architecture of other buildings in the inner quad. Maple Hall is now the campus dance studio.

- While walking watch for:
- The last carriage step in town, located on Jackson Street across from the Police Station.
 - The Odd Fellows Hall at Knox and Main streets, now Monmouth Hardware.
 - Monmouth City Hall on Main Street; the building originally served as a fire station.
 - The signs that delineate the original Monmouth Town Site from 1856.
 - The historic mural located on Ecols Street across from the Monmouth Public Library.
 - The church of founders located at Monmouth Avenue and Clay Street.
 - Main Street Park, established in 1923.




5

Ackerman House
421 Jackson Street E.
 This early Bungalow Style home was built around 1911 for John H. Ackerman. He was President of the Oregon Normal School (now Western Oregon University) from 1911 through 1920. As President, Ackerman helped establish stable funding for the school to prevent a closure such as the one in 1909.


Western Oregon University through the years:

- 1856 - Monmouth University is founded
- 1865 - Renamed Christian College
- 1882 - Renamed Oregon State Normal School
- 1909 - College closed due to lack of state funds
- 1911 - Re-opened as Oregon Normal School
- 1939 - Renamed Oregon College of Education
- 1981 - Renamed Western Oregon State College
- 1997 - Renamed Western Oregon University




5

The Cottage
 Built as a residence hall in 1917, it housed chosen women who met certain academic and social requirements. John V. Bennes, a familiar architect to the College, designed The Cottage in the Old English Norman Style.




8

Community Evangelical Church
191 Monmouth Street N.
 This Queen Anne Style building was built in 1891, and is the oldest surviving church in Monmouth. It was relocated to this site from the corner of Main St. and Hwy 99 in 1922. The church was reportedly moved on logs over a period of two weeks. The steeple was destroyed in the 1962 Columbus Day storm.



7

Howell House
212 Knox Street N.
 This Eastlake Stick Style home was built in 1891 by John Howell, a local builder who also built the Strong House. It was a boarding house for students at the Oregon Normal School (now Western Oregon University) from 1891-1984, hosting approximately 900 students. This house is included on the National Register of Historic Places.




6

Strong House
391 Jackson Street E.
 Built circa 1892, this house shows the Eastlake Stick Style of architecture. The house is named after Edward and Belle Strong who lived there for 42 years. The Strong House is included on the National Register of Historic Places.




8

Gentle House
 This Victorian Style house was built circa 1880 and was purchased by the Gentle family in 1914 with 150 acres of land. Catharine Gentle donated the house and land to Western Oregon State College Development Foundation in 1981. The house is now available for community events.



7

Campus Elementary School — Instructional Technology Center
 This Jacobean Style building was constructed in 1915 to replace a wooden structure from the 1880s, which at the time housed Monmouth's only school. In 1986, the building use changed from training future teachers to the instructional technology center.



6

Todd Hall
 This Tudor Style building was constructed in 1912 with additions built in 1917 and 1921. The building was named in honor of Jessica Todd, the first Dean of Women at the school. Todd Hall was the first dormitory on campus. The building now houses the Teaching Research Institute. The ghost of Jessica Todd is rumored to still roam Todd Hall and The Cottage.