



NEW Website for Willamette Heritage Center *at The Mill* Launches September 6, 2011

For Immediate Release

The Willamette Heritage Center (WHC) *at The Mill* is pleased to announce the launch of its new website: <http://www.willametteheritage.org>.

The new site is the result of the merger on January 1, 2010, of two historical organizations, Mission Mill Museum and Marion County Historical Society, into WHC.

The website offers many new features and includes the following: an opening slideshow of historical and current photos of WHC; past, present and current exhibit information; a "for Teachers" section for on-site and outreach programs and on-line curriculum. Also, the site includes a new Library, Archives and Collection (LArC) section, featuring research resources, publications, biographies and histories.

"As the technology in our world advances, it is sometimes hard for institutions dedicated to preserving the past to keep up. However, this new website shows that we at the WHC are bridging the gap between our heritage and the new generation. The creation of this website is the next step in fulfilling our museum's mission of reaching out and helping the community better preserve and share its heritage," said Peter Booth, Executive Director of WHC. "I think the richness of this site is a direct reflection on the amount of programs, events and activities one will find here at the WHC. And this is only the beginning. We will soon have more curriculum for teachers, more historical content for researchers, more avenues allowing viewers to participate, more resources for our media partners, and more. Stay tuned and become involved."

The website was designed and developed by Aura Marketing. Funding for the site was made possible by the Collins Foundation and the Marion Cultural Development Corporation.

The Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill, a unification between Mission Mill Museum and Marion County Historical Society, is a stroll through the history of the Willamette Valley. Its 5-acre campus is home to the 1841 Jason Lee house (arguably the oldest wooden framed house in Oregon), 1841 Willamette Mission Parsonage, 1847 John Boon home, 1858 Pleasant Grove Church and the 1896 Thomas Kay Woolen Mill, named an *American Treasure* by the National Park Service. Since its founding in 1964 as a private non-profit association, Mission Mill Museum has established a reputation as a leader in the preservation and interpretation of Oregon's history. The museum's histories are shared with visitors through daily and group tours, speakers, living history, children's programs, hands-on activities, special events, the museum store and rental facilities. For more information call 503-585-7012 or visit <http://www.missionmill.org>.

The Willamette Heritage Center is a private not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. It is not managed by city, county, state or federal agencies.

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