



HISTORIC HILLSBORO

A SELECTION OF YOUR
CITY'S HISTORIC RESOURCES



JOHNSON-BELLUSCHI

1513 NE STILE DRIVE | CONSTRUCTED 1951

Pietro Belluschi, an Italian who immigrated to Portland in 1925, was an internationally renowned architect and pioneer of the Pacific Northwest Regional style (a modernist architectural style designed for the PNW climate which often utilized locally sourced wood). Belluschi lived in Portland for the majority of his life and designed buildings constructed throughout the state. Along with his famous PNW Regional style designs, Pietro became best known for his design of the Equitable Building in Portland. This was the first modernist, glass façade, office building constructed post WW-II.

The Johnson - Belluschi House is the only Belluschi designed house in Hillsboro. The home was designed to evoke images of a large barn and was originally located among farm land. The home is modernist, featuring minimal ornamentation, and has vertical wood board siding, a design element common to the PNW Regional style. The home is now situated in a developed residential area but still retains some of its original setting due to its location back from the street and surrounded by trees.



The Equitable Building, 1950s.



137 NE 3rd AVENUE | CONSTRUCTED 1937

The Hill theater was the last theatre opened in Hillsboro by local developer, baseball player, and later two term Mayor Orange Phelps. Phelps opened five theatres in Hillsboro between 1908 and 1937: the Arcade, the Liberty, the Majestic, the Venetian, and lastly, the Hill. Of these theaters, and out of all theaters in Hillsboro, the Hill is the only example of art deco architecture. It features high stepped parapets emphasized by decorative vertical lines, stucco exterior walls, and a three sided marquee topped with neon lettering spelling out “Hill”. On the buildings interior the style is reflected in art deco railings that have been preserved.



Hill Theater, 1957.

The Hill is significant for its unique architectural style and also its association with Phelps. Phelps has been described as “probably the most civically active person in Hillsboro from the 1900s to the 1960s”. He served as city councilor, Mayor, sat on the Planning Commission, and oversaw the construction of Shute Park Pavilion.



METHODIST MEETING HOUSE SITE

EAST OF NE STAR BLVD. | CIRCA 1843

What at first seems like an unassuming patch of land boxed in by industrial development is actually one of Hillsboro's most significant historic sites. The Methodist Meeting House Site was once the location of Hillsboro's first Methodist church constructed in 1844. Reverend Joseph Hosgry built the church on the Richard Constable Farm, on the same site outdoor sermons had been held for some time. The first such sermon held on the farm attracted 16 worshippers. The next week 60 worshippers attended.

During its lifetime the church was also used by other denominations and as a court during the periods of Territorial and Provisional government. In 1865, after securing land for a new church closer to the center of the city, the Meeting House was deconstructed. The materials were brought to the land purchased in town and used to build a new church completed in 1872.



New Methodist Church on 3rd and Washington, 1910.



PIONEER CEMETERY

1601 SW BASELINE ST. | CIRCA 1851

Pioneer Cemetery, located along Southwest Baseline Street, is the final resting place of some of Hillsboro's first residents. The graves of David Hill (the City's namesake), former mayor William Hare, and prominent banker John Shute can be found within the cemetery grounds. In the mid 19th century the first section of the cemetery was plotted by the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows (IOOF). The plat was located next to the existing Tongue Estate family cemetery to the east and the Washington County Hospital burial grounds, for residents of the county poor farm, to the north. The cemetery was subsequently expanded by additional IOOF plats and the Masonic Lodge until the 1930s. By the 1950s the cemetery had fallen in to disrepair and an endowment fund was established to maintain the historic cemetery.

In 2014 the City adopted a master plan for the cemetery's continued preservation. Today, visitors can stroll the cemetery grounds and immerse themselves in Hillsboro's early history.



Pioneer Cemetery, circa 1926.



176 NE 2ND AVE | CONSTRUCTED 1922
2012 Preserving Historic Hillsboro Award Recipient

The Mission Revival architectural style is common to the American Southwest and California. The Tuality Lodge building in Hillsboro however, is an excellent and unusual example of the style in Oregon. Mission Revival was popular in the United States during the Arts and Crafts Movement in the early 20th Century. It was a revival of the architectural elements found on early Spanish Mission churches in the southwest and often featured stucco exteriors, flat roofs with parapets, broad eaves, exposed rafter ends, and minimal ornamentation. The Tuality Lodge features these elements with its stepped parapet, smooth stucco walls, and minimal ornamentation with mission style tiles.

The Tuality Lodge was organized in Hillsboro in the mid 1800s and still exists today. The Tuality Lodge building was the fourth meeting place for the organization in Hillsboro, superseded by a lodge adjacent to City Hall. The building is still actively used as a meeting place for lodge members.



Tuality Lodge, circa 1910 to 1920.



Barett House

Bump House

Burger People

C.T. Richardson House

Carnegie Library

County Courthouse & Sequoias

Donelson (Connell) House

Five oaks

Heidel House

Hill Theater

Imbrie Farmstead

Johnson-Belluschi House

Lyons House

McDonald House

McGill/Pittman House

McGinn Apartments

Methodist Meeting House Site

Milne House I

Milne House II

Morgan & Bailey Building

Pioneer Cemetery

Pittenger House

Rice-Gates House

Schulmerich Building

Sewell Clay Works Site

Shorey House

Shute Bank Building

The Manor (Wells House)

Tongue Estate

Tuality (Masonic) Lodge #6

Washington County Jail

Wehrung House

Zula Linklater House