



February 2009 Lectures at Mission Mill Museum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two lectures as part of the 2009 Series: *Re-Imagining the Oregon Country Before Statehood* are upcoming in February at Mission Mill Museum.

WHAT: Lecture: **Changing Perspectives on Oregon's Geology** by Speaker Janet Brown
WHEN: February 21, 2009, 2:00 pm
WHERE: Mission Mill Museum, 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem, OR, 97301
COST: Included with regular admission; Free for museum members

Geology is a visual subject, challenging us to understand time and global change through the distribution, composition, age and origin of rock layers. Oregon's history and geology are intimately connected, from the spectacular eruption of Mt. Mazama nearly seven thousand years ago to current questions of water availability in the Klamath Basin. Thomas Condon, Oregon's first state geologist, wrote, "In prying apart the stone layers of rocks, the scientist is, in reality, opening the leaves of the past history of the world."

Oregon's distinctive landscapes provide classic and dramatic stories of four hundred million years of geologic changes and influences of human processes in the last few millennia. Some geologists theorize that we are living in a new age, the Anthropocene (Age of Man), because human interaction with the natural environment is causing such rapid acceleration of change. Janet Brown brings 25 years of experience with the U.S. Geologic Survey to this examination of the interplay between geologic and human history.

WHAT: Lecture: **Innovators and Traders: The Indigenous People of the Columbia River**
by Speaker Pat Courtney Gold
WHEN: February 28, 2009 2:00 pm
WHERE: Mission Mill Museum, 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem, OR, 97301
COST: Included with regular admission; Free for museum members

International commerce, diplomatic relations, cultural exchanges, and tourism are the hot topics today in the Pacific Northwest, just as they were nearly twelve thousand years ago among the indigenous peoples who lived along the Columbia River. These civilized, prosperous nations developed an international marketplace that, by the 1700s, included trade with Russia, Spain, England, China, and America. Yet their story is often untold in histories of the region. Pat Courtney Gould, a Wasco native enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, discusses the rich heritage of cultural and financial commerce conducted up and down the Columbia River. Just as questions of sustainability affect modern commerce, Gold will show how native peoples' relationship to the land provided our first environmentally friendly model of commerce.

These programs are generously funded in part by the Oregon Council for the Humanities. For more information please call 503-585-7012 or visit the Mission Mill website at <http://www.missionmill.org>.

Mission Mill Museum has been designated an official Oregon 150 Partner by the State of Oregon and an American Treasure by the National Park Service. Mission Mill Museum is a non-profit, five acre, historical museum that preserves and interprets two homes from the 1841 Methodist Mission Station in Salem, the 1847 home of the Oregon Trail traveling John D. Boon Family, the oldest Presbyterian Church in the Pacific Northwest, and the Thomas Kay Woolen Mill established in 1889. 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.

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