

# History of Portland & Oregon

## A Selected Bibliography

This document lists books, articles and other sources on the history of the city of Portland and the state of Oregon. It is intended for a wide audience, including historians, preservationists, students and the general public. It is organized into the following sections:

### 1. Portland History

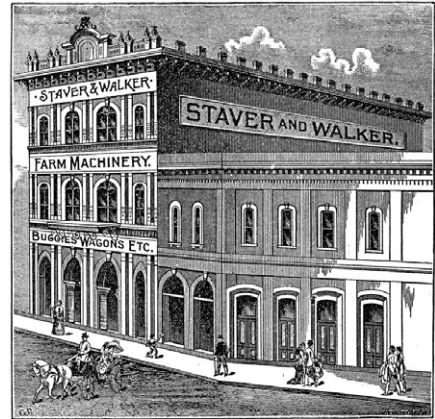
- Books, Theses & Monographs.
- Articles in Scholarly Journals & Edited Collections
- Articles in Popular Magazines
- Portland City Directories

### 2. Oregon & Pacific Northwest History

- Books, Theses & Monographs
- Articles in Scholarly Journals and Edited Collections

### 3. Portland & Pacific Northwest History: Reference Works

- Books, Articles & Other Sources
- Portland & Pacific Northwest “Mug Books”



Many of the cited sources may be found in the Multnomah County Library or the Oregon Historical Society Research Library. Others can be elusive; try searching in the Summit Union Catalogue, which joins the online catalogs of several Pacific Northwest research libraries: <http://summit.orbiscascade.org/search/>.

There are many other sources of local historical information available, for instance oral histories, newspaper articles, and manuscript and archival collections, which are not generally included in this bibliography. Other good sources include National Register nominations prepared for individual structures and historic districts in your area or that share characteristics or associations with something you are researching. They also have helpful bibliographies. Nominations may be identified through the National Register Information System database and ordered directly from the National Register: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/research/>.

The Portland Bureau of Planning publication *Researching Your Historic Property* provides additional information helpful for local architectural and historical research. Our bibliography series includes: *History of Portland and Oregon* (No. 1, this document); *Architecture of Portland & Oregon* (No. 2); *History of African-Americans in Portland & Oregon* (No. 3); *Women's History in Portland & Oregon* (No. 4); *American Architecture & Architectural History* (No. 5); *Location List of Sanborn Insurance Maps Covering Portland, Oregon* (No. 6); and *Maintenance, Preservation & Restoration of Historic Structures* (No. 7). They may be downloaded from the Bureau of Planning's Historic Resources web site: <http://www.portlandonline.com/planning/index.cfm?c=39750>.

This bibliography is a work-in-progress; corrections and additions may be sent to: Nicholas T. Starin, Portland Bureau of Planning, 1900 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 4100, Portland, OR, 97201; [nstarin@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:nstarin@ci.portland.or.us).

## I. Portland History

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### Portland City Directories

City directories provide a wealth of historical information, including summaries of contemporary events, economic data, illustrations, advertisements, and classified lists of businesses, institutions and residents, with addresses. They have been issued in Portland more-or-less annually since 1863 by the following publishers:

S. J. McCormick:	1863 - 1869, 1871 - 1875, 1877 - 1880
L. Samuel:	1873[?] - 1875[?]

A. G. Walling:	1876
F. L. McCormick:	1881
J. K. Gill:	1882 - 1884
R. L. Polk:	1885 -

A variety of other directories contain sections devoted to Portland, for example those that cover groups of Oregon and Pacific Coast cities, such as the *Classified Business and Combination Telephone Directory of Portland and Neighboring Cities and Towns in Oregon and Washington*, published by the Foster Directory Company in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Specialized directories are also helpful, for example the Wells, Fargo & Company *Directory of Chinese Business Houses: San Francisco, Sacramento, Oakland, San Jose, Marysville, Los Angeles, Portland, Virginia City, Victoria*, 1878-1882. Related sources such as street directories, reverse directories, blue books, club and "society" directories have valuable information sometimes overlooked by researchers concentrating on the more familiar standard City Directories.

## 2. Oregon & Pacific Northwest History

The works cited in this section are generally limited to those that contain material related to the history of Portland and/or the state or region as a whole. Thus, sources focusing on, for instance, southern Oregon are not listed here.

### Books, Theses & Monographs

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