

## Additional points of interest

Douglas County Courthouse, 1036 SE Douglas Ave  
Roseburg City Hall, 900 SE Douglas Ave  
Sheridan Brothers Hardware, 566-572 SE Jackson Street  
Kohlhagen Building, 630 SE Jackson St  
Chapman's Pharmacy, 663 SE Jackson St  
S. Marks & Co Building, 464 SE Jackson St  
Masonic Temple, 920 SE Cass Ave  
Roseburg Elks Lodge, 749 SE Jackson St  
Parrott House, 1851 SE Stephens Street

To learn more about these and other historical sites,  
visit [GhostsofRoseburg.com](http://GhostsofRoseburg.com)

## Tour Sponsors



# the ghosts of Roseburg



## Walking Tour

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# The Ghosts of Roseburg Past Walking Tour Route (½ mile)

This self-guided walking tour begins at Jackson Street and Douglas Avenue. You can learn more about each stop and other historic sites, and download the GPS-enabled audio tour, at [GhostsofRoseburg.com](http://GhostsofRoseburg.com). Visit our sponsors and other establishments along the route!

Key



FREE PARKING LOTS



MAIN TOUR STOPS



POINTS OF INTEREST



ROUTE



## Hear their stories

### 1. Dr. Bethenia Owens-Adair, 400 SE Jackson Street

After coming across the plains in the great migration of 1843 with the Applegate wagon train, this young pioneer girl married at 14 and became a single mother at 19. Rather than depend on others, she chose to support herself with various jobs until she was able to run a ladies hat shop here on Jackson Street. After a successful run as a self-made milliner (hatmaker), she went on to become the first female doctor in Oregon while in her late thirties.

### 2. China Sam, 412 SE Jackson Street

China Sam, as he called himself, came to the West Coast from China at the height of the Gold Rush. He arrived in the Umpqua Valley around 1866, and was able to work his way up from servant to the Honorable Binger Hermann to an entrepreneur in his own right, running two "Japanese Bazaars" in the downtown area. He was known for giving away toys and treats to the local children, and was a beloved figure on these streets until his death in 1931. He was remembered as passionately dedicated to his adopted hometown and a "friend to all."

### 3. George Rutherford, 612 SE Jackson Street

In 1959, the Umpqua Hotel was a swanky six-story hotspot with well-appointed rooms, glimmering restaurants and a lounge called The Indian where the who's who would meet for drinks and gossip. But on the night of August 6, 1959, it hosted an unassuming truck driver named George Rutherford who had parked his truck full of explosives a few blocks away. The next day, Roseburg awoke to a fifty-foot wide crater in the middle of their town, dozens injured, and 14 dead.

### 4. Dr. Brumfield, 615 SE Jackson Street

Dr. Brumfield was a respectable, erudite dentist who had an office on the second story of this building, which also served as a dress and hat shop for the enterprising Bell Sisters. In 1921, he upended this small town when he attempted to fake his own death by wrecking his red Elgin convertible on Old Melrose Road and committing a heinous crime, sparking an international manhunt and capturing the attention of a nation with a salacious murder mystery that involved missing underwear, dynamite, dental bridges and a package of women's lingerie.

### 5. 1920s Man, 713 SE Jackson Street

Roseburg in the 1920s was a kaleidoscope of railroad workers and businessmen, horses and model-Ts. The latest fashions were always on display at the Opera House, at 713 Jackson Street. This grand venue hosted a wide variety of live acts including wrestling matches, minstrel shows, plays and operas. Societies such as the KKK, the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the International Order of Odd Fellows were active at the time.

### 6. 1950s Woman, 741 SE Jackson Street

The glamorous Indian Theater (originally the Antlers) offered a transporting, near-magical experience for Roseburg residents in an era before YouTube and smartphones. After thrilling the crowds during two World Wars, the Depression, and the Golden Age of Hollywood, the Indian Theater burned down in 1969 when smoke from the popcorn machine made its way into the air ducts and the beautiful red velvet drapes and hand-painted wood paneling went up in flames. Roseburg would not have another indoor theater until the 1980s, but nostalgic memories of Saturday matinees at the cinema live on in many longtime locals' minds.

### 7. Hebe Statue, Eagle Park, Corner of Lane and Jackson

Some saw a symbol of temperance and restraint, while others saw a representation of licentious hedonism. First installed at the intersection of Cass and Main just before the dirt streets were paved, this fountain statue of the Greek goddess of youth was intended to provide water to passersby and encourage them to abstain from drinking alcohol during the years preceding Prohibition. But she inadvertently became the center of several swirling controversies – and a long-standing mystery – before being reincarnated a century later at her present location near the south end of Jackson Street.

### 8. William 'Bud' Thompson, Washington and Main

When Roseburg was a rowdy, rough-around-the-edges railroad stop and no less than 12 saloons served a population of 1,000, a young Democrat newspaper editor moved to town and immediately earned the animosity of two young Republican newspaper editors, the Gale brothers. Every week they hurled increasingly vitriolic (and somewhat comical) insults through their respective papers, duking it out in the public eye for nearly a year before a face-to-face encounter at a dusty intersection on a sleepy Sunday morning turned their war of words into a full on shoot-out, with spitting and slapping leading to blows, bullets and blood.

### 9. Mary, Main Street between Douglas and Washington

Brothels were an open secret in Roseburg in the 19th and 20th centuries. There were multiple so-called "bawdy houses" around downtown, including one on the east side of Main Street between Washington and Douglas Avenues. Mary was the proprietor of one such house in the 1940s, and she was apparently on good terms with the Mayor.

Learn more at [GhostsofRoseburg.com](http://GhostsofRoseburg.com)

Immersive audio tour at



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