

Join Us on the Road to Restoration



The Oregon Caves and Chateau

Located in a remote corner of southwestern Oregon, this spectacular National Monument and Preserve is home to one of the great lodges of the Pacific Northwest. The 1930s-era lodge, christened "The Chateau" by its original owner-builders, has been welcoming visitors for over seven decades.

Designated as a National Historic Landmark Lodge in 1987, this 81 year old historic structure is showing its age and now requires extensive long-deferred maintenance and restoration in order to secure its future as a destination for visitors for years to come.

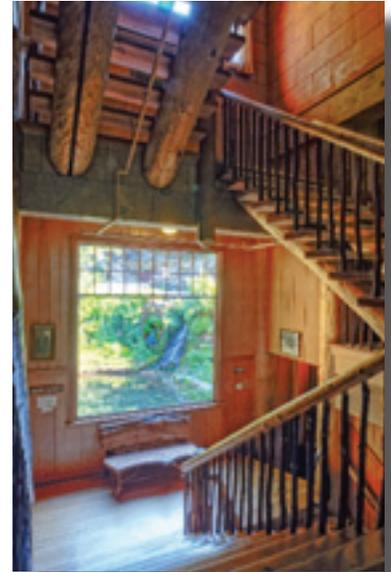
The Chateau is finally undergoing historic restoration, an all-encompassing project spearheaded by the Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau, working in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS)



"One of the most architecturally exciting lodges in the entire Parks system...crossing the span of a woodland ravine, has a stream running through the dining room, and the Chateau makes exceptional use of the land's natural contours. The lodge was designed and built by local folks with an emphasis on natural materials. Much of the building's original siding of shaggy Port Orford-Cedar bark is still intact after 80 years."

PBS special – Great Lodges of the Pacific Northwest.

A sense of history persists in every corner of the Chateau's interior. Douglas fir, cut from adjoining hillsides, support the structural beams. The stairway is a work of art: two large logs form the stringers, and three-inch oak treads, cut in the Illinois Valley provide a sense of place. Madrone, fir and maple were used to finish the Chateau, which is a masterpiece of woodworking. Native marble blasted from the site, became part of the magnificent lobby fireplace



The Chateau has the largest public collection of hand painted Monterey furniture in the world, highly valued for its beauty and craftsmanship. Many of the collection original to the lodge remains in use by guests, but the collection's age demands restoration.



The Oregon Caves Monument is considered a regional gateway attraction drawing over 90,000 visitors annually. A recent NPS economic study documents the Monument's current local economic impact at \$5.18 million per year. That model notes that even a 10% increase in visits and overnight stays would bring an additional \$6.68 million each year to the entire SW Oregon region.

Restoration Spotlight

If the Chateau is to thrive and survive, restoration must be a priority. Shoring up its structure and modernizing its systems, refurbishing the interior furnishing and fixtures, and recreating some of the most unique details of the lodge are just some of the projects the group is working to fund

The Guide Dormitory

Constructed in 1927, the Guide Dormitory was home to generations of park service guides and staff. The

original portion of the building is the oldest structure in the historic district and is in serious need of repair which, if not addressed very soon, will cause further decay before



a restoration project can commence. Because the National Park Service has placed the Chateau as a higher priority, the necessary funds to restore this historic structure must be raised from individual and foundation donations.

The Balconies

The Chateau has six levels. Three originally featured signature balconies which were removed due to deterioration. Rebuilding the balconies will restore the architectural intent of the Chateau's original exterior as well as provide visitors with an outdoor space to relax and enjoy meals on the lobby and dining levels.

Become Involved!



Visit the Oregon Caves and Chateau and share your experience with your friends and community. Encourage them to explore one of our national treasures.



Join the Campaign for the Chateau. We need volunteers to help with both friend raising and fundraising,



Consider a donation - your generous, tax-deductable gift will help us reach the \$500,000 goal necessary to meet the \$400,000 NPS challenge.



**It's up to us!
The Chateau needs
your help.**

You can reach us by phone: Sue Densmore, Executive Director of the Friends 541-944-1139, or by email: sue@friendsocac.org.

Visit our website: www.friendsocac.org.
Facebook www.facebook.com/friendsocac



The Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau is a non-profit, citizen-led NPS partner committed to developing the resources needed to support the NPS's commitment to achieving the structural and interior restoration of the Chateau, the Guide Dormitory and its associated historic collection of Monterey Furniture in accordance to the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.