

Downtown Oceanlake Quest

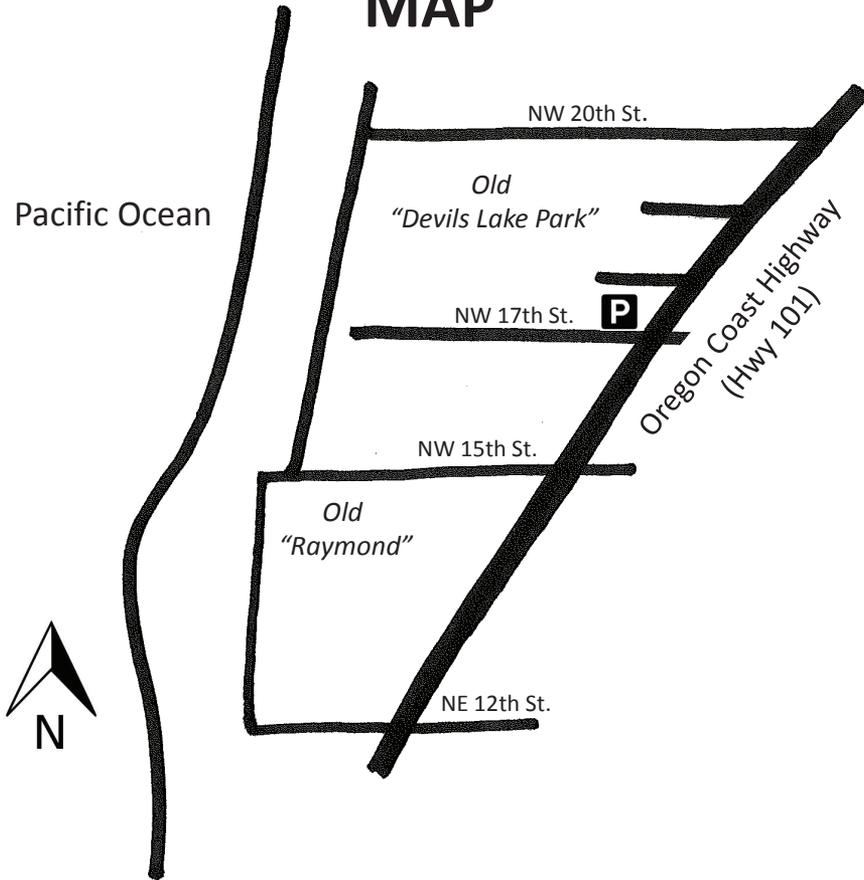
Oregon Coast Quests is an Oregon Sea Grant program based at Oregon State University's Hatfield Marine Science Center.



Use this map of downtown Oceanlake to help you solve the following Quest!

Downtown Oceanlake Quest

MAP



Quest Partners:
Lincoln County School District
and North Lincoln County Historical Museum

Downtown Oceanlake Quest

Established: May 2012 by second- through sixth-grade TAG students at Oceanlake and Taft Elementary Schools (Dylan, Lucas, Ethan, Joram, Margery, Emy, Ashlie, Courtney, Mary, Lex, Kealy, Ashley, Kaila, Logan, Shaa, Bear, and Chris), with help from Donna Foster and Oregon Coast Quests

Box monitor: Diana Portwood (Bob's Beach Books)

Discover local history! This Quest explores the downtown area of the Oceanlake district in Lincoln City, and takes about an hour to complete. Start at the public parking lot on the corner of NW 17th and Hwy 101. Use the sidewalks for your travel and cross streets carefully as directed. Collect the letter clues and write them in the numbered squares on page 36. These clues will help you find the Quest Box at the end of your journey. On your Quest, imagine what the Oceanlake area was like 50, 100, or even 150 years ago.

Start your Quest from the lot.
To the busy corner, go.
Find a sign about the tourists
who camped here long ago.

Back in 1837, this area was covered with a thick forest. A century later, this site was part of Devil's Lake Park auto camp, and tourists drove here to enjoy car-camping on the coast. In 1937, businessman Herbert Rexroad celebrated the 100th anniversary of the "first tourists" by placing a commemorative marker in his auto camp.



Photo courtesy of the North Lincoln County Historical Museum

The clue for letter 1
is as simple as can be.
Take the second initial of
Jason the missionary.

Now cross 17th,
and just to your right
on the corner stands what once
was a store, the “Red and White.”

Photo courtesy of the North Lincoln County Historical Museum



Back in the 1920s
when camping was on the rise,
here in this brick building
folks bought food and supplies.

Walk south on the sidewalk.
Look down and you will see
a circle at your feet
with a turtle from the sea.

Stop here and face east.
Across the highway take a glance.
That big purple building is
where people used to dance.

The Oceanlake Dance Hall was built in 1925. It became a popular social center where locals and visitors could let loose. It housed a candy store and a silent movie theater for several years. Around 1935 it was remodeled and renamed the Oceanlake Pavilion. Men paid for the chance to dance under the “star-lighting effects” with the young women who got in for free! Then in 1946 much of the building was torn down to build a two-story structure. There was a nightclub on the lower floor and apartments above.

Clue number 2 comes from 1935

when a change of name happened at the place to dance and jive.

If you look closely, the clue's not such a hard one

It's the only letter you see twice in the word "Pavilion."



Photo courtesy of the North Lincoln County Historical Museum

Now head south, and
at 15th turn to the right.
Pass an arch and, in time,
a large map will come into sight.

This street was once named Raymond
after a priest with much prowess
for fund-raising to develop
the community all around us.

Now you can write the letter
for clue number 3.
It's the letter in the priest's name
that comes before D.

Continue heading west, and find
a place to spend the night.
This was once where you'd find
cottages owned by Mrs. White.

Little-known fact: "Mrs. White" wasn't really married! She was known only by her initials, N. M. White, and some local kids thought the "N. M." stood for "Not Married." Apparently she thought she'd be safer if unsavory characters thought she was married. In the 1920s she owned a 13-acre parcel of land and a rooming house. She later subdivided the land and built 22 rental cabins that rented for \$1.50 a night. It is possible that Mrs. White's original home was the very first building in Oceanlake.

In the 1920s and '30s, the land to the north of here was the original Devil's Lake Park. The construction of the Oregon Coast Highway, now known as Highway 101, made the park accessible to drivers, who would come to camp overnight. The auto camp could accommodate up to 300 people, and soon houses and a store were added. This was the beginning of the main business district of Oceanlake.

Photo courtesy of the North Lincoln County Historical Museum



Go into the lobby, and
on the walls you'll see
pictures of how simple
the lodgings used to be.

At the corner of the parking lot, notice the sign
where the ocean “waves you bye” with the help of a sea lion.
The last letter of the artist opens the door
to the letter you will write for clue number 4.

Walk east back to Highway 101.
Turn right and head south; your journey isn't done.

Address 1437
was Bishop's Variety Store.
As you can see, that's not
what it's called any more.

At the corner of 12th street
you'll find, without fail,
a place where folks once came
to chat and send their mail.

Clue 5 is easy: all you do is claim
the last letter of our quest district's name.
Head south and carefully cross 12th street
toward the buildings where people come to meet.

Dedicated in the spring of 1925
St. Augustine's church continues to thrive.

The building that
stands at 1213 Hwy
101 was built in 1927
and was Oceanlake's
first post office. The
post office had an ice
cream stand inside.
Letters had to be
stamped by hand.

Father Raymond purchased 80 acres of land, which became known as the Raymond district, in order to have a suitable site for a church. The land was divided into 100 x 100 foot lots, which were sold for \$50 a lot. The sale of the land funded the building of the church. Father Raymond named it St. August after Mr. August Weber. The statue in the parking lot of the current church building was dedicated to him. The church was dedicated on May 30, 1925.

Photo courtesy of the North Lincoln County Historical Museum



In one glass picture, what soars high over a church toward ships in the sky? The letter that begins their name will be clue 6 (but please, omit the “sea”).

Head back the way you came. At the 14th Street light, cross Highway 101 and head north toward the Oceanlake Dance Hall site.

You’ll pass several buildings but if you look down, find circles on the sidewalk that decorate our town.

After the pirate symbol, count the circles and discover between the fourth and fifth a place for movie lovers.

What does the round marker above the door say? The eighth letter of this type of site is your last clue of the day.

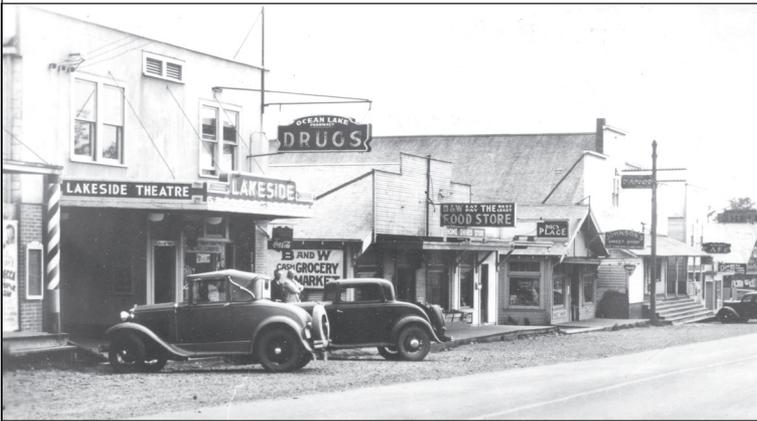
At the light up ahead, cross back over 101. Turn right and head north. Your Quest is nearly done.

Stop at the building where a mermaid on the wall reads a book. Can you see her? She hides behind a ball.

What do your clues spell? This thing is very close. Lift the _____ that is next to a post.

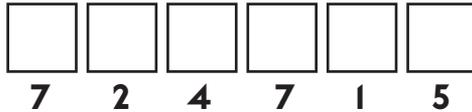
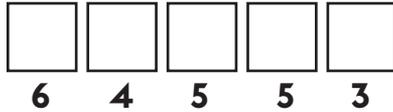
The Lakeside Theater opened in 1937. How much was admission back then? The theater was renamed the Bijou Theater in 1981.

Photo courtesy of the North Lincoln County Historical Museum





Quest builders



Stamp this page or your book to record your find!

*This Quest-building project was funded by a Chintimini Grant
and the NLCHM Mildred and Marie Fund.*

If you enjoyed this Quest, check out the Oregon Coast Quests Book, which contains maps and directions for more than two dozen clue directed hunts in Oregon. Collect stamps from them all! For more information, visit hmsc.oregonstate.edu/quests