

## Portland Firefighter Memorial Plaza News

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*The Portland Fire-fighter Memorial Plaza is a place of tribute to Fallen Fire Chief David Campbell combined with a memorial wall sharing the names of all Portland Fire-fighters who have given their lives in service. The public plaza will be a place of remembrance, reflection, and interpretation of the vigilance of Portland Fire & Rescue's service to Portland.*

### For Info contact

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DCMA President  
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### PFMP

1864 SW Alder Street  
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### Dates of Importance

On January 1, 1883, the Portland Volunteer Fire Department would transition to the Portland Paid Fire Department, finally paying firefighters for their work. However, the 350 volunteers serving in 7 fire companies would be replaced by a paid workforce of 18 firefighters, supplemented by 5-7 volunteers for each of 5 companies

## Visible Changes At The Memorial

If you pass by the David Campbell Memorial and the Memorial Triangle regularly, you'll notice that chain link fencing now surrounds the entire triangle. This was a result of the increase in street crime and vagrancy that has recently increased in the Goose Hollow community.

Thanks go out to city officials for recognizing the impact on the neighborhood and this important city heritage site. We also thank them for incurring the cost of the fencing so we did not have to dip into the hard earned donation dollars that intend to support the renovation of the Memorial Triangle.

The Memorial Triangle was an attractive site for problem behaviors. It has some level of concealment (even though it is in the middle of a busy intersection) and shelter (from the trees and bell house). The fencing helps defeat this attraction, but unfortunately does not solve the problem for the balance of the community. However, The DCMA is committed to working with the Goose Hollow and Stadium District

businesses and residents to be part of the greater solution.

On a more positive note, preparations are underway for renovation of the David Campbell Memorial portion of the Memorial Triangle project. This includes repair of the stonework, repainting of the portions of the Memorial with delicate stonework, cleaning and sealing of the exposed stonework, and regrouting and sealing of the memorial floor.

As has been previously reported, the lanterns, that grace the north end of each wing, are currently at Firebird Bronze in Troutdale, Oregon for repair and cleaning. New lenses and electrical internals are part of the repair work.

Additionally, plans to remove the Messenger Bell are being made. This will allow for it to be refurbished and stored in anticipation of the construction work for the new Memorial Plaza. Fundraising for the construction phase is ongoing (see the bottom of page 2 for ways to contribute).



[www.DavidCampbellMemorial.org](http://www.DavidCampbellMemorial.org)

"David Campbell Memorial Association" on Facebook

# The Messenger Bell

The Messenger Bell is a truly unique and historic part of the Portland Firefighter Memorial Plaza. It came to Portland as a result of the conflagration of 1873, during which 22 square blocks of the city were destroyed by fire. In the wake of the August 2nd fire, concerns arose about inefficiencies of alerting Portland's Firefighters to respond.

In October of 1873, the City Council voted to purchase a new, larger bell to call Portland's volunteer firefighters to duty. The bell, a 4,200 pound behemoth with a 50 pound clapper, would arrive in late 1873 and be hung in the bell tower over Vigilance Hook & Ladder, whose quarters were located at 720 SW 4th Avenue. Deemed the "Messenger Bell" for its responsibility to call all firefighters to duty, it was said it could be heard as far away as Vancouver to the north and Oregon City to the south.

While bells have historically been the means to call firefighters to duty, today electronics have taken their place. But the symbolism of the bell remains an important part of Portland Fire. Every June 26th, the Messenger Bell is tolled as each fallen firefighter's name is read during Portland Fire's annual remembrance service for their fallen.

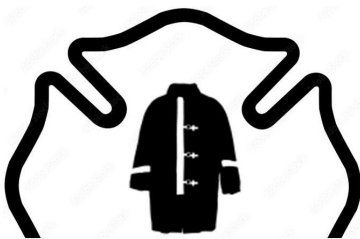


## National Parks Registry Of Historic Places

After nomination by the Bosco-Milligan Foundation and the Architectural Heritage Center, the David Campbell Memorial was placed on the National Parks "Registry of Historic Places." It was officially accepted on August 12, 2010.

This was a significant protection that has helped the heritage site remain intact and a valuable part of the Goose Hollow community. It is notable to realize that only the David Campbell Memorial is included in this designation. The grassy area and the Messenger Bell were not included nor do they have the historic significance on the site like the David Campbell Memorial enjoys. But the DCMA and Portland Fire consider the Memorial Triangle to be a package deal that will remain intact as it is renovated and restored for the next century of service.

## To Learn More...



**DAVID CAMPBELL  
MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION**

The development of the Portland Firefighter Memorial Plaza continues to grow and evolve. You can find additional information on the "David Campbell Memorial Association" Facebook Page. This also includes ways in which you can support this project and bring honor, recognition, and remembrance to all of Portland's Fallen Firefighters.

The David Campbell Memorial Association web site is another source of information. Find it at [DavidCampbellMemorial.org](http://DavidCampbellMemorial.org). And to speak to a member of the David Campbell Memorial Association, contact Don Porth, President, 503-805-8482 or [Don@PreventThink.com](mailto:Don@PreventThink.com)