**Earth Science Independent Study Project**

**Tentative Project Title**: Building a GIS Data Layer for Historical Camp Adair, Adair Village, Polk and Benton Counties, Oregon

**Project Contacts**

Gary Richards, Community Member and Camp Adair Historian

Doug Sackinger, GIS Coordinator, Benton County, [Douglas.A.SACKINGER@co.benton.or.us](mailto:Douglas.A.SACKINGER@co.benton.or.us)>

Ms. Chris Bentley is the Senior Planner for the Benton County Community Development Department ( [chris.bentley@co.benton.or.us](mailto:chris.bentley@co.benton.or.us" \t "_blank))

**Camp Adair Web Links**

[http://campadair.webs.com](http://campadair.webs.com/) a

[http://adairlivinghistory.org](http://adairlivinghistory.org/)

<http://gis.co.benton.or.us/GISDataDownload/Miscellaneous/OldCampAdair.zip>

**Project Correspondence from Gary Richards**:

These are copies from emails I have sent and received concerning getting a GIS overlay made that outlines the old Camp Adair border in Polk County.

*From me:*

Gentlemen, Now that the Oregon History Preservation Month (May) is over for this year, I have a request. Can the Polk County Planning Commission do a little GIS work as they find time? Benton County has the border of Camp Adair as an overlay on their GIS computer maps. Can Polk County do the same? My own personal reason for this is, I do give presentations to various groups about Camp Adair and the surviving buildings that I have tracked down. My website is [http://campadair.webs.com](http://campadair.webs.com/) and I contribute to the history part of[http://adairlivinghistory.org](http://adairlivinghistory.org/) where I also serve as a member of the board.  I would love to be able to have a satellite view of the area with the camp boundaries on it to display, so people can relate to the size of the camp and all that was within the boundaries. I know that the local museums would also like such information available to them. With the WWII Memorial being dedicated at the Capital, the WWII Museum getting ready to open in Florence, and a renewed interest in saving our history before all those who lived it are gone, I think that this could be a public service that would be appreciated by many. I know that each county is awarded money to do history preservation each year, and I think that this would be a worthwhile project.

https://mail.google.com/mail/images/cleardot.gif

*Reply:*

Gary, Thanks for the opportunity to consider being a part of a very worthwhile endeavor. I had no idea that you were immersed in this very noble and challenging project.

I too have family history at Camp Adair and am always interested in the stories and efforts to preserve the historical significance of that very large property and the surrounding assets that were critical to the mission at that point in our lives.

I have copied your email to Community Development and Information Services for GIS assistance. Give us a few weeks to compile a response and/or a plan. If we haven't made contact with you by the 20th of June with an answer or course of action, please let me know.

*Reply from GIS office:*

**As a policy, the Polk County GIS division does not incorporate non-county information into our GIS and produce maps for the general public or publish this information on our web site. I have reviewed your request with our Community Development Department and they have instructed me that this information would not be used to support their business process. Based on a short review it would take us a minimum of 4 hours and a maximum of 20 hours to do the work you have requested.   At this time I do not have resources to do this work.**

**Please note, the work that is being requested can be completed using "GIS Technology" that is external to Polk County.  For example, the aerial photos and other features are all accessible by anyone who has any number of GIS tools on the web for free (including our data) or using low cost tools such as google earth.**

**There are also a number of resources that you may wish to consider to help you with this work.  For example, both Western and Oregon State have GIS programs.  I would think your project would be a fantastic class or student project that could be used to meet class requirements as well as meet your needs.**

**Good luck with your project and I am sorry that we could not better meet your needs.**

The Benton County Planning Department already has the Camp’s border in their county on their GIS system.

---------- Forwarded message ----------  
From: **SACKINGER Douglas A** <[Douglas.A.SACKINGER@co.benton.or.us](mailto:Douglas.A.SACKINGER@co.benton.or.us)>  
Date: Mon, Sep 29, 2014 at 2:43 PM  
Subject: RE: Student project?  
To: Gary Richards <[richardsgary989@gmail.com](mailto:richardsgary989@gmail.com)>  
Cc: "[taylors@wou.edu](mailto:taylors@wou.edu)" <[taylors@wou.edu](mailto:taylors@wou.edu)>

Gary,

I’ve zipped up the geo-referenced map of Camp Adair and the esri shapefile of that portion within Benton County and put it here:

<http://gis.co.benton.or.us/GISDataDownload/Miscellaneous/OldCampAdair.zip>

The more detailed map you brought in that was scanned has not been geo-referenced or cleaned up yet, would you like me to place that on the web as well?

Thanks,

Doug

Doug Sackinger, GIS Coordinator

Information Technology

Benton County, Oregon

360 SW Avery Ave

Corvallis, OR 97333

[541.766.6601](tel:541.766.6601)

[Douglas.A.Sackinger@co.benton.or.us](mailto:Douglas.A.Sackinger@co.benton.or.us)

<http://www.co.benton.or.us/maps/>

**From:** Gary Richards [mailto:[richardsgary989@gmail.com](mailto:richardsgary989@gmail.com" \t "_blank)]   
**Sent:** Monday, September 22, 2014 3:37 PM  
**To:** BENTLEY Chris; SACKINGER Douglas A  
**Subject:** Fwd: Student project?

Chris and Douglas, Here is my thread from the start of summer. Dr. Taylor has agreed to use the Polk County section of the Camp Adair GIS as a student project this fall. Could you decide what information you need to get to him so both projects mesh correctly? I would love to get this project completed and copies available to all the local museums. Please let me know your thoughts, ---gary

---------- Forwarded message ----------  
From: **Steve Taylor** <[taylors@wou.edu](mailto:taylors@wou.edu)>  
Date: Tue, Jun 10, 2014 at 7:19 PM  
Subject: Re: Student project?  
To: Gary Richards <[richardsgary989@gmail.com](mailto:richardsgary989@gmail.com)>

hi gary - end of september, school returns in session for fall.

On Tue, Jun 10, 2014 at 7:09 PM, Gary Richards <[richardsgary989@gmail.com](mailto:richardsgary989@gmail.com)> wrote:

O.K. when does school start up?

On Tue, Jun 10, 2014 at 5:15 PM, Steve Taylor <[taylors@wou.edu](mailto:taylors@wou.edu)> wrote:

thanks gary - I drive by the Suver gas station all the time... get back in touch in September, and we'll get a student set up on a service learning project.

s.t.

On Tue, Jun 10, 2014 at 4:34 PM, Gary Richards <[richardsgary989@gmail.com](mailto:richardsgary989@gmail.com)> wrote:

This fall would be just fine. I live at Suver, the old gas station. My family moved here in 1947. As part of the Adair Living History Board, I help raise money for our project of refurbishing the two Camp Adair buildings that were moved out by the highway at Adair Village. When they are completed, we will have an interpretive canter in one of them, while the city will use the other for a civic center.

On Tue, Jun 10, 2014 at 4:27 PM, Steve Taylor <[taylors@wou.edu](mailto:taylors@wou.edu)> wrote:

Hi Gary - right now we are in finals week, and then summer session.  I'm not sure what my student population will be / who's going to be around, and I'll have to see if there's a student who has the GIS skills to work on the project.  A July timeline is not possible at this point, but is something we could definitely plug into is Sept/October, when students return to campus.  We are starting a new GIS program in fall, with a new faculty member, and there will be opportunity to work on projects like this with the group.  If your timeline is more pressing than that, I can't help much at this point, but will be a good service learning opportunity at the start of next academic year.

I live in Corvallis, but used to rent property out off of Elkins road, near Monmouth, and have heard stories about the Adair firing range, artifacts, etc. that have been found in the Monmouth area.

Hope this helps.  
  
s.t.

On Tue, Jun 10, 2014 at 3:23 PM, Gary Richards <[camp-adair@hotmail.com](mailto:camp-adair@hotmail.com)> wrote:

Dr. Taylor, Thanks for your quick and favorable reply! My timeline is not critical, I'm just grateful to get it done. My next presentation will be July 12th at Willamette Heritage Museum ( see enclosed flyer), but it is not necessary for that. Ms. Chris Bentley is the Senior Planner for the Benton County Community Development Department ( [chris.bentley@co.benton.or.us](mailto:chris.bentley@co.benton.or.us" \t "_blank)) and Doug Sackinger is the GIS Coordinator (

[​​](mailto:Douglas.A.Sackinger@co.benton.or.us)

[Douglas.A.Sackinger@co.benton.or.us](mailto:Douglas.A.Sackinger@co.benton.or.us)). They have their part of the project done, and you could coordinate with them to make sure both projects mesh properly. I idea is to have a poster sized satellite view with the roads labeled and the camp boundaries overlayed so people can see the actual area covered by the camp. Do you realize that it came clear up to the west of Monmouth? Besides myself, there are five or so museums that have Camp Adair displays, and I'm sure that they would like copies. Chris Bentley has been very good about providing copy work as part of the annual Oregon History Preservation Month each May. Once again, thank you very much for this favor, your student's work will be seen by many history buffs and probably show up in print and the internet. So I hope that that is O.K. with them?  
Gary L. Richards

Date: Tue, 10 Jun 2014 15:03:50 -0700  
Subject: Re: Student project?  
From: [taylors@wou.edu](mailto:taylors@wou.edu)  
To: [camp-adair@hotmail.com](mailto:camp-adair@hotmail.com)

hi gary - thanks for the note.  This could be a project for one of our students.  What's your timeline and what types of GIS layers are you looking for?

s.t.

On Tue, Jun 10, 2014 at 1:49 PM, Gary Richards <[camp-adair@hotmail.com](mailto:camp-adair@hotmail.com)> wrote:

Dr. Taylor, Enclosed is a copy of my correspondence with Polk County. As you can see, I'm trying to get a GIS layer of the WWII Camp Adair boundary in Polk County. Benton County already has it for their area. I have sent this request to Erin in the Library archives, as I have worked with her before. I have received an auto reply that she is out until next week, so I have tracked you down myself. Could this be a simple project for one of your students?  Gary