

CHANGE OF SCENE

Portland's Diverse Hawthorne Area

Part 2 of 5

by Katlin Smith



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID WILDS

"The Hawthorne Coffee Merchant (1637 NE Broadway) offers free samples of coffee by the cup plus a good selection for sale by the pound."

The Hawthorne shopping district in SE Portland offers an engaging Saturday change of scene. Antique shops jammed with collectibles, bookstores lined with inexpensive, pre-read literature, and other interesting specialty shops occupy Hawthorne Boulevard between SE 35th and SE 39th.

Unlike some of the ritzier shopping areas in downtown and Northwest Portland, Hawthorne tenders first-rate bargains. Digging through antiques and "junk" can fill a Saturday afternoon in this neighborhood. And quality cuisine is at hand when it's time to take a break.

Start this tour with a leisurely breakfast at one of the many restaurants on Hawthorne. If you are in the mood to draw on butcher paper (on the tables) and eat sweet breads and blintzes, head for **Bread and Ink** (3610 SE Hawthorne). This popular restaurant also offers Yiddish brunches, 9 am to 2 pm, on Sundays.

Omelettes are a good choice at the **Tabor Hill Cafe** (3766 SE Hawthorne). For a lighter meal, like granola and bagels, try the **Sunnyside Bakery** (3566 SE Hawthorne). There is plenty of time for a second cup of coffee on Hawthorne because many stores don't open until 11 am.

Start the Hawthorne tour at SE 35th and Hawthorne at **Nearly New Shop** (3508 SE Hawthorne), a thrift shop filled with used clothing, or **Artichoke Music** (3522 SE Hawthorne), home of Portland's best selection of instruments from around the world. This is a hands-on shop so feel free to try the dulcimers, kalimbas and other instruments. This is also a good stop for folk music tapes and children's rhythm instruments.

Country crafts like stuffed dolls, dried flowers and grapevine wreaths are featured at the sweet-smelling **Timeless Treasures** (3526 SE Hawthorne). Victoriana fans should not miss **Yestershades** (3534 SE Hawthorne) where Esther Rister makes and markets lush, velvet and satin Victorian lampshades trimmed with antique lace and beads. Next door **The Paper Moon** (3538 SE

Hawthorne) is crammed with used books including a strong photography section.

Cotton clothing collectors will appreciate **El Mundo** (3556 SE Hawthorne) where vibrant sweaters, shirts, jackets and pants are sold along with an excellent selection of earrings. Next up is **Hawthorne Coffee Merchant** (3562 SE Hawthorne) which offers free samples of coffee by the cup plus a good selection for sale by the pound. This shop also has a good selection of jams, teas, and mugs. Throughout the Hawthorne shopping district, you will find thermal pots of hot Hawthorne Coffee Merchant java to warm your shopping trip.

If you would rather sit down with a cup of coffee, stop by the **Sunnyside Bakery** (3566 SE Hawthorne) for a hot drink and cinnamon roll. Or keep walking to **Ruby's Antiques** (3590 SE Hawthorne), a delightful shop packed with glassware, vintage clothing, and thousands of other collectibles at good prices. Hat collectors—do not miss this shop.

One of the best specialty shops in the area is **Cat's Meow** (1520 SE 37th). Cat cards, cat dishes, cat jewelry, cat mugs—everything but cats and kitty litter—are sold here. Bring a photo of your cat and the owners will hang it on the wall alongside the portraits of dozens of other felines.

Back on Hawthorne is **Bird's Suite** (3736 SE Hawthorne), a used record and tape store with an excellent jazz selection and dozens of movie and rock posters and stills ranging from Bogart and Gable to Springsteen and Sting.

Art Down the Alley (3764 SE Hawthorne) displays some of Hawthorne's most creative wares. A

consignment art gallery, it is filled with paintings, mixed media work, ceramics, and "liveable art."

At this point, carefully cross Hawthorne to the north side of the street. The **Beaver Book Store** (3747 SE Hawthorne) is a great store for impoverished readers. Where else can you find classics for 30¢ and romance novels for a quarter? Watch for the 19¢ table. Literature doesn't come any cheaper.

Next door is **Bagdad Antiques** (3739 SE Hawthorne) with glassware, clothing, furniture and other antiques. Gourmet cooks will want to peruse **Pastaworks** (3735 SE Hawthorne) which sells fine wines, deli foods and pasta.

Who did it? The answer can be found a thousand times over at **Murder by the Book** (3729 SE Hawthorne), a bookshop specializing in murder mysteries. If this isn't your genre, keep walking to the next shop—**Beaver Trading Post** (3713 SE Hawthorne) with its many rooms filled with antiques and unlimited old objects. If your feet are sore, prop them up at **Namaste Cafe** (3701 SE Hawthorne) where you will find gelato, Torani Italian sodas, and Eugene's own Euphoria chocolates.

If it's lunch time, you can't go wrong with **Macheesmo Mouse** (3553 SE Hawthorne) with its menu of "healthy Mexican food fast." Try the Famous #5 and the jukebox,

which is one of Portland's best. Next door you will find sausage, strudel, sandwiches and cheesecake at **Bowers Bakery and Deli** (3545 SE Hawthorne).

Visible Impact (3541 SE Hawthorne) is a quality consignment shop filled with well-treated clothing. Behind the clothing shop is the interesting **Illusionary Design**, a unique one-room store which specializes in masks and stage make-up.

An awning shop may not be on your usual shopping list, but **McGee Blinds and Awning** (3525 SE Hawthorne) offers some of the best bargains on the street. Terrific canvas and vinyl shopping bags made from remnants are sold for only \$6. Log carriers and replacement seats and backs for director's chairs are also available.

A short walk down the street is **Graystone Gallery** (3279 SE Hawthorne), an excellent shop in a 1910 bungalow. Half of the gallery is exhibition space. The other half is packed with affordable art and jewelry including pottery, paintings, and Lillian Pitt's exquisite raku mask pins.

Two doors away is **The Hawthorne House** (3257 SE Hawthorne), a vibrant lavender Victorian house which is home to two shops. On the first floor, **Liquid Assets** markets an excellent selection of wines and coffee along with deli items. Upstairs, **The Knotting Chamber** has amassed an amazing collection of handknit

sweaters displayed as examples for knitters. This is one of the best yarn shops in Portland.

Perfume connoisseurs should not miss **Tamak-The Perfume House** (3328 SE Hawthorne). This lovely shop carries more than 500 scents including the 12 perfumes of Jean Patou, plus delightful, scented German soaps.

At this point, hopefully the car is nearby. Two more stops are worth driving to on Hawthorne. Drive east toward Mt. Tabor. You will find **Second Generation** (3959 SE Hawthorne), an excellent destination for new and used maternity and children's clothing.

And finally, the best place to end the day is **The Family Hot Tub** (4747 SE Hawthorne). Make a reservation earlier in the day (239-8827) and soak away the rest of the afternoon.

Nearby places to stay: Bed and Breakfast: Located in nearby Ladd's Addition, a three-room bed and breakfast in a well-maintained home "filled with mementos collected by a seagoing captain" is available for \$25-\$35 per night. Make a reservation through **NW Bed & Breakfast** (610 SW Broadway, Portland, OR 97205, 243-7616). **American Youth Hostel** (3031 SE Hawthorne, 236-3380) located only two blocks from the shopping area on Hawthorne. Rates are \$7.60 per night for AYH members and \$9.60 per night for non-members.



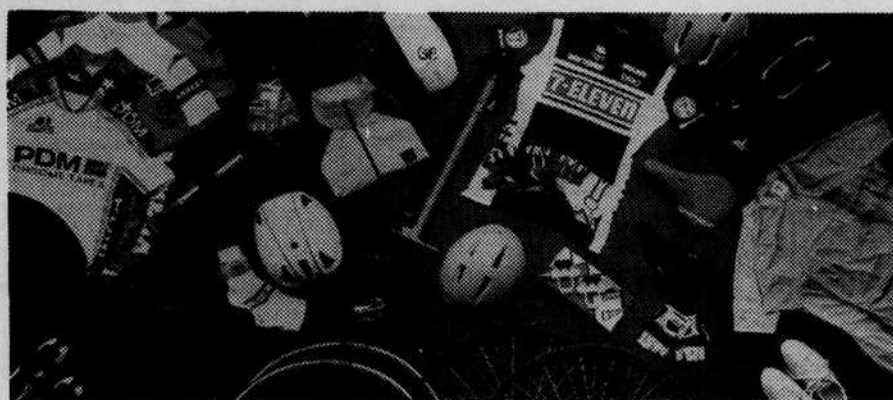
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