

The Flavel family residence in decline

ASTORIA — The Clatsop County Historical Society's Thursday Night Talks lecture series continues 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18, with "A Family Residence in Decline."

The descendants of Capt. George Flavel are among Astoria's most talked-about residents. Reclusive, mysterious and fodder for endless gossip, few families garnered as much local newspaper ink in the last half century.

Thirty years ago their house, an imposing Colonial Revival — a symbol of wealth and respectability — began showing signs of decay. Then the family disappeared;



EDWARD STRATTON PHOTO

The Flavel mansion several years ago

the house was swallowed by vines. Astoria nearly lost one of its grand structures while its citizens wondered aloud what had happened to the Fla-

vels and what could be done about the house.

Please join us for an engaging presentation where John Goodenberger, trained



COURTESY CLATSOP COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A historical photo of the Flavel mansion at Franklin Avenue and 15th Street

in architecture and historic preservation, will speak about the Flavel family tree, the history of the house and the

circumstances surrounding its descent.

"A lot of people run amok with the facts regarding the

Flavels," Goodenberger said. "There's no need to embellish this story."

Thursday Night Talks are free events at the Fort George Showroom in the Lovell Building held on the third Thursday of each month. Doors open at 6 p.m. Seasonal beers are on tap, and food and other beverages are available for purchase. Minors are welcome with an accompanying adult.

For more information about this event or other Clatsop County Historical Society activities, please call 503-325-2203 or e-mail cchs@cumtux.org.

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