

BLACK HISTORY & REAL ESTATE IN OREGON

1850

Congress enacts the Oregon Donation Land Act to promote homesteading in Oregon Territory, but only for "Whites and half-breed Indians."

1870

14th Amendment gives all U.S. citizens the rights of citizenship and equal protection under the law. This voids the exclusion clauses.

1922

Beatrice Morrow Cannady becomes the first Black woman to graduate from Northwestern College of Law in Portland

1927

Oregon amends its state constitution to remove a clause denying Black individuals the right to vote.

1948

In the case of *Shelly vs. Kraemer*, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that private restriction covenants based on race are illegal and in violation of the 14th amendment.

The Oregon Constitution is amended to give every voter the right to vote in school elections.

On Memorial day, the Columbia River floods the entire town of Vanport, killing 39 people and destroying one of the few housing projects in the area that accepts Black residents. Portland Housing Authority takes no direct action, forcing displaced residents to congregate in the Albina area or leave.

1974

The National Association of REALTORS® adopts Article 10 of the Code of Ethics, which affirms members of the Association cannot deny service based on race, creed, sex or national origin.

1984

Margaret Carter is the first African-American woman elected to the Oregon Legislature.

2002

Measure passes requiring the removal of racist language from the State Constitution.

2017

In *Bank of America v. City of Miami*, the Supreme Court rules that cities can sue banks over Fair Housing Act violations if they target minorities.

2020

The National Association of REALTORS® updates Article 10 to prohibit the use of hate speech by REALTORS® against protected classes, including race.

1844

Oregon provisional government passes first exclusion law, which prohibits slavery but bans Black individuals from entering or living in the territory. Those who do not leave Oregon after being freed are whipped and expelled.

1859

Oregon gains statehood as the only state in the Union with a constitution that prohibited Black people from living in the state.

1919

Portland Board of Realty approves a "Code of Ethics" prohibiting real estate agents and bankers from selling property in white neighborhoods to people of color or providing mortgages to them.

1926

Oregon repeals its exclusion law, amending the state constitution to remove it from the bill of rights.

1947

The National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB) is founded by Black practitioners as an equal opportunity and civil rights advocacy organization for African American real estate professionals, consumers, and communities in America.

1951

Oregon repeals its law prohibiting interracial marriage.

1968

The Fair Housing Act is adopted nationwide.

1992

First African-American, James A. Hill, Jr., is elected to statewide office as State Treasurer.

2007

Oregon Equality Act passes.

2018

Oregon REALTORS® establishes a Diversity Committee.



Est. 1932