

Dynamic Continuum

It was my honor to create this work for the City of Tualatin. Its residents have a long connection with the growth and development of this place. There is a deep interest in preserving its history for future generations, and I was able to benefit from the treasure trove of written documents and photographs chronicling the area's history. I had much to work from to develop this piece, including actual artifacts from the area, many of which I was able to include.

Congratulations to the City for reaching this milestone, and best wishes for the next 100 years!

— Lynn Adamo
December, 2013

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**Tualatin was incorporated as a city on
August 18, 1913**
.....

The City wishes to acknowledge the donation of materials to this artwork by the Tualatin Historical Society, Loyce Martinazzi, Larry McClure, Arne Nyberg, Yvonne Addington, Richard Hall, and Precision Wire Components.

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*Centennial
Public Art
at
Tualatin
Public
Library*



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The central theme of this piece, celebrating the Centennial of Tualatin's incorporation as a city, is the river. The thread that flows through the landscape and history — the Tualatin River — connects the land, native peoples, flora, fauna and pioneer settlers down to today's modern society. From the beginning, the river supported life in this area. It provided food, transportation, irrigation, and recreation for generations.

Not all the river provided was good, however. Many times the river overflowed its banks, causing much flood damage to the surrounding areas. Life always contains challenges as well as triumphs, so the river is an apt metaphor for the progression of life — a dynamic continuum.

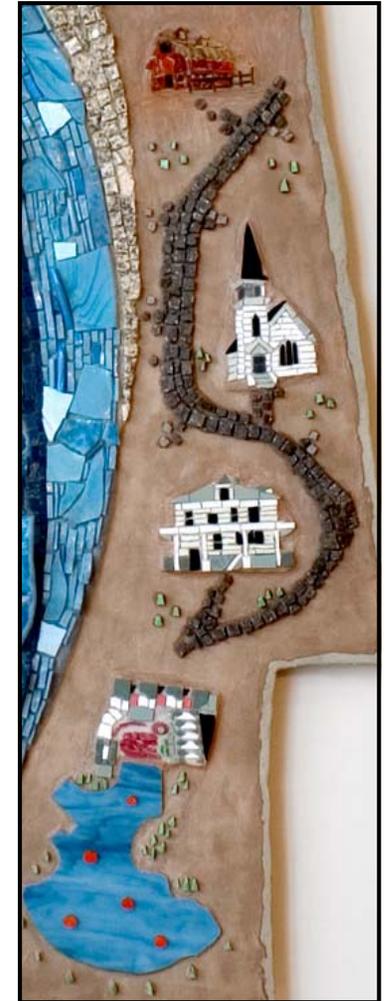
The past to present is represented in this art piece. From the ice age, when Mastodons walked the land, to the native Atfalati peoples, to pioneer settlers who established homesteads, to farms, sawmills, and brick factories, up to modern times with high technology and other industrial and commercial businesses.

Alongside the central element of the work, one finds vignettes paying tribute to elements found and developed in this area through history.

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12. Structures, past and present

The Blank dairy barn, circa 1910, Congregational church, circa 1893, and the Nyberg House, circa 1895, are loosely tied together by a symbolic basalt path. This culminates into an abstract aerial view of the Tualatin Commons, businesses and residents to the north and the Lake at the Commons. A slight suggestion of the Annual West Coast Giant Pumpkin Regatta can be spied on the lake.



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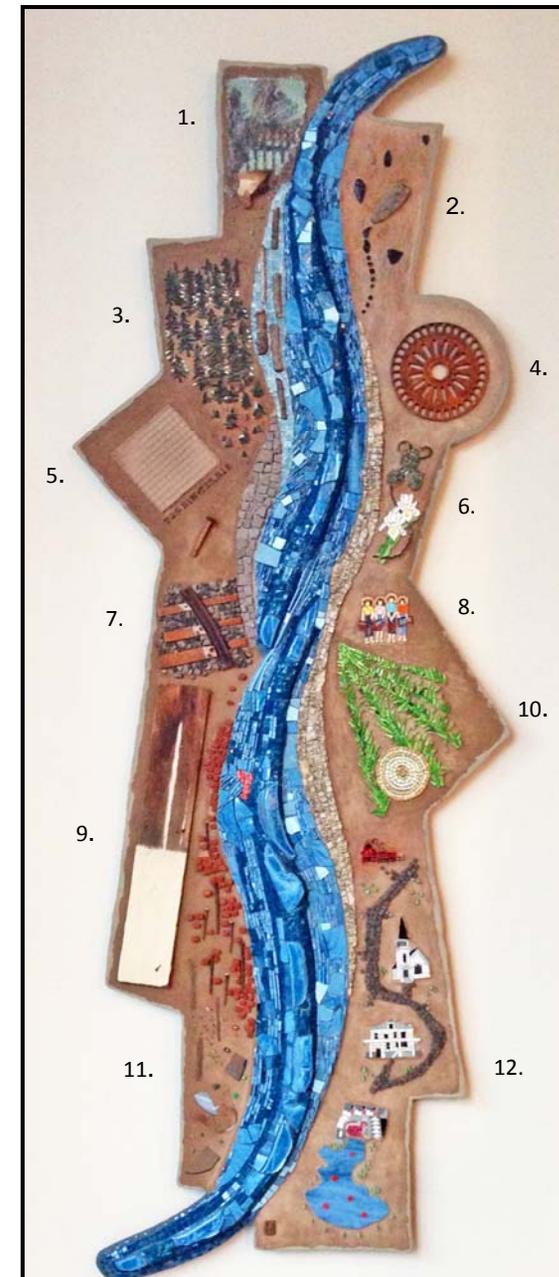
11. Wires and Wafers

Tualatin's modern industrial businesses create innovative, highly sophisticated and complex wires, silicon wafers, and other products and services that are used worldwide in the medical, electronics, and other sectors of the economy.

The businesses provide employment and contribute to Tualatin's strong tax base and ability to deliver outstanding public services.



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Lynn Adamo, Artist
Mixed Media Mosaic
8 ft. tall x 2½ ft. wide

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Vignettes:

The various vignettes used in the artwork numbered from top, left to right:

1. Ice Age

This fragment of bone belongs to the 14,000 year old Tualatin Mastodon, unearthed in 1962 just south of the Fred Meyer parking lot. The bone fragment sits near an area of tempered glass, meant to symbolize the ice age. The texture under the glass is created by a photograph snippet of the mastodon skeleton on display inside the library.

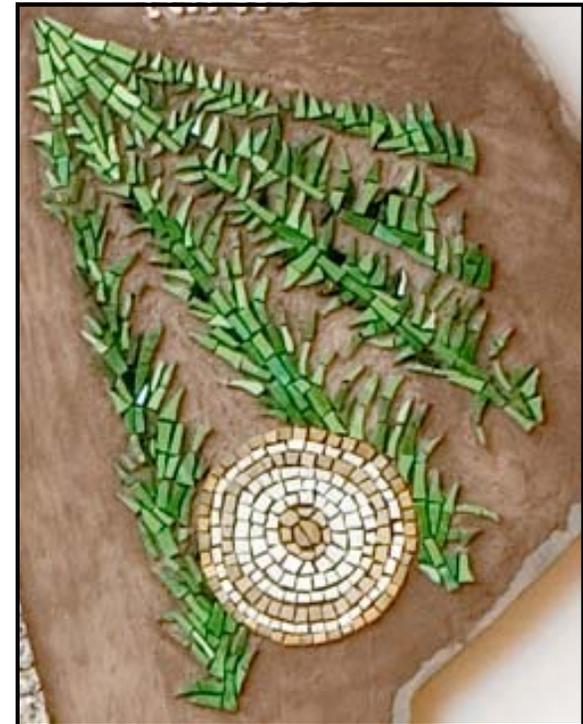


Chips of granite placed on the right side of the river are from ice-rafted "erratics" representing the epic, cataclysmic Ice Age Floods that periodically filled the Willamette Valley with water and formed the landscape while creating unique geological features.

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10. Onion Field

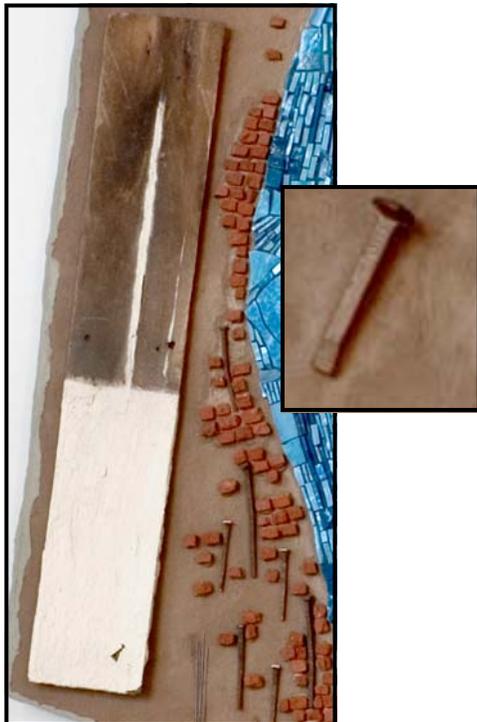
There were large onion fields in Tualatin in the 20th century. Growing onions was labor intensive in those days as weeding and harvesting were all done by hand. Tualatin had a large onion swamp as well, farmed by the Nybergs.



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9. Early Construction Materials

A cedar shingle from the 1923 Methodist Church, which was moved to make way for road expansion to its new home as the Tualatin Heritage Center. Next to the shingle are shards of a brick salvaged from the 1913 Robinson Store building (still standing at the corner of Boones Ferry Road and Tualatin Road), and square nails salvaged from the Hedges House during its dismantling in 1988.



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2. Native Peoples

Obsidian and stone arrowheads and shards, uncovered by farmers when plowing area fields, connect the Native Atfalati peoples with the pioneer settlers.

The Atfalatis burned the grasslands to drive the deer and elk into their snares, where they would be brought down with arrowheads.



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3. Forest Land

Native stands of Douglas fir and cedar trees covered this area. The early settlers had difficulty clearing their land claims of these enormous trees. Local sawmill operations hauled old growth logs from the deep woods using teams of oxen.

Logging and sawmill operations were the first big industry in Tualatin.



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8. Strawberry Pickers

Four Tualatin girls posing in their straw hats, fill their carriers full of ripe red strawberries. Strawberry fields were abundant in the Tualatin area, producing a fragile but delicious Marshall variety of strawberry. Strawberries were delivered by truck to the Portland Canning Company in Sherwood for processing into jam.



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7. Railroads

The railroad spike represents two major railroads in Tualatin. With the coming of the railroads, the depot and the new town plat, the village center moved from Bridgeport to the west side of the river and became Tualatin.

The railroad provided transportation for people and freight, supporting the economy of the area.



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4. Vintage Tractor and Seed Plate

As the timbered acreages were gradually cleared, hop yards and grain fields would join the onion swamps to turn the area — first known as Galbreath — then as Bridgeport — and later named Tualatin — into a thriving farming community.

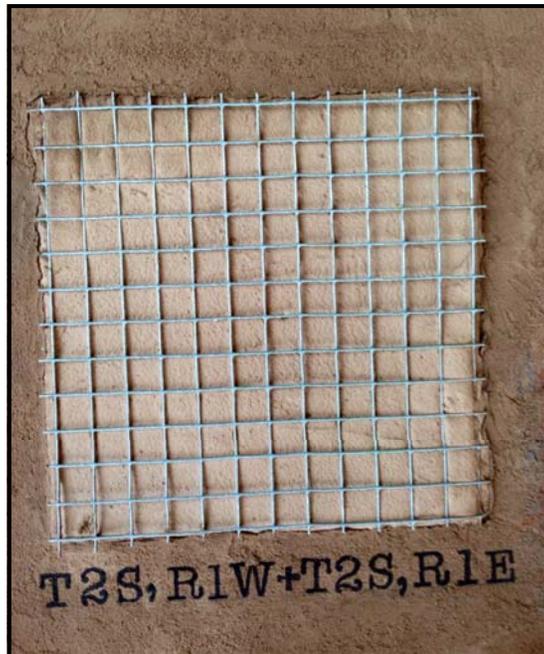


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5. Oregon Territorial Survey

Graphically represents the survey system used to establish rectangular townships of 36 square miles each for the Oregon Territory. The Donation Land Claims Act authorized homesteaders to claim 320 to 640 acres.

The Willamette Meridian runs north—south and separates the two township surveys that Tualatin has developed within and is located along 65th Avenue.



Township No. 2 South, Range No. 1 West, and
Township No. 2 South, Range No. 1 East

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6. Hops and Irises

Hop farming was a big cash crop for farmers in the Valley and Tualatin had three major hop growers. Entire families helped with harvesting of the crops.

Tualatin had acres of white dutch irises in the 1940's. The iris was patented in 1957 by resident Mark Lafky, and named the Tualatin Minette Iris after his wife.

