

Carus Historic Schoolhouse begins journey to new location

By [Dave Killen | The Oregonian/OregonLive](#)



The Carus Historic Schoolhouse just outside of Oregon City hit the road on Monday. Or rather, it hit the fields.

The nearly 100-year-old structure, built in 1926, is being relocated to Evans Farms, roughly a mile away. To get there, it will need to traverse several fields and cross two roads. The building can't be moved on nearby Oregon 213, a more direct route, due to its size.

The schoolhouse, also known as the "White Building," is the third structure to serve as a school for the unincorporated community of Carus, [according to the Friends of the Carus Historic Schoolhouse website](#). In 1963, the first parts of what would become today's Carus Elementary School were constructed, and the White Building ceased to be used as a school in 1977.

The need for more parking at Carus Elementary, for which funding was secured by the Canby School District in 2020, led to the decision to either move or demolish the schoolhouse to create room. [The Friends of the Carus Historic Schoolhouse](#), a volunteer organization made up of five women with connections to the Carus school and community, spearheaded an effort to save the building by moving it. They found a destination in Evans Farms, a wholesale nursery that was the source for some of the timber used to construct the structure originally.

The move, for which [Wolfe House & Building Movers](#) was hired, requires crossing hills, a stream and two roads in addition to multiple fields and horse pastures. It will take three days, with the schoolhouse arriving at its new home on Wednesday, if all goes well.

Work on the Carus Historic Schoolhouse won't be finished even after the relocation is complete. A new foundation will need to be constructed, as will a new roof and other improvements. The Friends of the Carus Historic Schoolhouse says it will seek to raise an additional \$250,000 and matching grants to make this possible.

-- [Dave Killen](#)