

= Liberty Bell ( Portland , Oregon ) =

Liberty Bell refers to one of two replicas in Portland , Oregon , United States , of the original Liberty Bell in Philadelphia . The first replica was purchased in 1962 , and installed in the rotunda of City Hall in 1964 . On November 21 , 1970 , it was destroyed in a bomb blast that also damaged the building 's east portico . The second replica was installed outside of City Hall soon after the blast ( c . 1972 ) with funds from private donations . It was constructed at the McShane Bell Foundry in Baltimore and dedicated on November 6 , 1975 . The bell is listed as a state veterans memorial by the Oregon Department of Veterans ' Affairs .

= = History = =

Portland has had two replicas of Philadelphia 's original Liberty Bell . The first replica was purchased in 1962 for \$ 8 @, @ 000 . It arrived in Portland in June 1963 , with a damaged base and beam since the sculpture had slipped off its supports . Repairs were made before the replica was paraded through the city on a flatbed truck , then put into storage until Independence Day . The bell was publicly rung for the first time during holiday celebrations and installed in City Hall 's rotunda on May 5 , 1964 .

On November 21 , 1970 , a dynamite bomb that had been placed beneath the bell detonated , damaging City Hall 's east portico columns , shattering windows , and destroying the replica . No one was injured , but " shards of bell went everywhere through the main portico " . The crime remains unsolved ; no one claimed responsibility or was prosecuted for the blast . In 1993 , The Oregonian said : " Wild , highly vocal speculation blamed the blast on either left @-@ wing or right @-@ wing terrorists , depending , of course , on the accusers ' own political persuasions . Others guessed it was a monumental prank that careened out of control . "

Portland 's second replica is located outside of City Hall 's east portico , near the intersection of Southwest Fourth and Madison streets and across from Terry Schrunk Plaza . Private donations totaling \$ 8 @, @ 000 allowed a new bell to be purchased for \$ 6 @, @ 000 and installed not long after the blast ( c . 1972 ) . The bell has also been attributed as a gift from Philadelphia residents to Portland school children . It was constructed at the McShane Bell Foundry in Baltimore and received a 25 @-@ year guarantee against breakage . The replica was dedicated on November 6 , 1975 . It was surveyed and considered " treatment needed " by the Smithsonian Institution 's " Save Outdoor Sculpture ! " program in October 1993 . The Oregon Department of Veterans ' Affairs lists the bell as one of the state 's veterans memorials .

= = Description and reception = =

The 1 ton ( 910 kg ) sculpture is made of Best Genuine Bell Metal , a sixteen percent min @-@ copper alloy , and measures approximately 66 by 64 by 66 inches ( 1 @. @ 7 m × 1 @. @ 6 m × 1 @. @ 7 m ) . It is attached to a horizontal beam that is supported by two V @-@ shaped beams . The base is made of brick , metal ( steel ) and wood ( mahogany covering ) that measures approximately 13 by 76 by 54 @. @ 5 inches ( 0 @. @ 33 m × 1 @. @ 93 m × 1 @. @ 38 m ) . The west side displays the inscription Pass and Stow / Philada / MDCCLIII . Raised lettering along the top of the bell reads PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGHOUT ALL THE LAND UNTO ALL THE INHABITANTS THEREOF LEV . XX VVX . / BY ORDER OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE PROVINCE OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE STATE HOUSE IN PHILADA . The founder 's mark also appears . Smithsonian categorizes the sculpture as allegorical for symbolizing liberty .

The bell has been included in published walking tours of Portland .