

History bike ride Barlow Pass to Rhododendron

July 13, 2013. (Saturday) - 20 people participated.

Three periods in Oregon's history intertwine through the three main roads around the south end of Mount Hood:

1. **Barlow Road**, the last part of the Oregon trail. It was always more of a rough trail than a real road. (1845 - 1924). This was the original wagon trail used by early Oregon pioneers.
2. **Mt. Hood Loop Highway** - a serpentine road that is now mostly abandoned or destroyed, but a few segments remain, such as the 2.5 miles of paved road between Barlow Pass and the Pioneer Woman's Grave, and also the 3 miles that is now known as Kiwanis' Camp Road (or also as Road 39). This highway was in use from 1924 - 1958. This was the road used to build Timberline Lodge.
3. **Highways 26 and 35** replaced the old Mt. Hood Loop highway in the late 1950s. Since then, it has developed its own history and lore, with places like the famous Map turn and the Silent Rock.

On this bicycle tour, we rode on all 3 of these roads, stopping at historic places, such as Barlow Pass, Pioneer Woman's Grave, Summit Meadow and the Pioneer Cemetery, Government Camp and the Mt. Hood Museum, the old highway west of Government Camp, Laurel Hill and the third of 5 steep chutes used by the original Oregon settlers, Pioneer Bridal Trail, Kiwanis Camp Road, and the tollgate replica near Rhododendron -- the fifth and last location of the toll gate during the 70 years that toll was being collected on the Barlow Road.

We re-lived a bit of Oregon's history and everyone learned something new about the roads and trails that weave their way among our favorite Mt. Hood ski areas. We ended the tour with a lunch at the Still Creek Inn in Rhododendron.

See lots of photos on our [PHOTOS](#) page contributed by 7 people, including: Bruce McGavin, Chuck Westergren, Dan Lane, John Davis, Kristine Canham, Kurt Wilke, and Lisa Miller. Thanks to all!



Photo: Bruce McGavin



Photo: Bruce McGavin



Photo: Kristine Canham



Photo: Chuck Westergren

See more photos at www.mthigh.org/Photos.htm.

Mt. Hood / Oregon Trail History Videos - UPDATE

We now have a total of 12 short videos about the roads, trails and special places around Mt. Hood. Every Oregonian should know this. Where's the Map turn? Where's the original Barlow trail? How did Laurel Hill get named?

Click on the following links (if you read this online), or go to [YouTube](#) and search for "Mt. Hood History".

R1. [Mt. Hood Roads & Trails - Introduction.](#)

R2. [Kiwanis Camp Rd. and Laurel Hill](#)

R3. [Silent Rock and Map Turn](#)

R4. [Barlow Pass](#)

R5. [Pioneer Woman's Grave](#)

R6. [Death, Trillium, Summit Meadow, Cemetery.](#)

R7. [Government Camp](#)

R8. [Old Mt. Hood Loop Highway - west of Govy.](#)

R9. [Laurel Hill - the steep chute!](#)

R10a [Old Mt. Hood Highway - west of Govy](#)

R10b [Old Mt. Hood Highway - east of Govy](#)

R11. [Tollgate and summary.](#)

