

The Gates of
AURONA

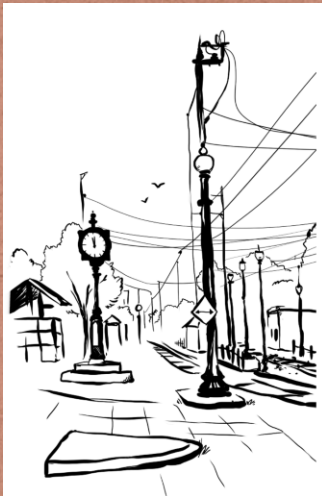
ADVENTURE GUIDE:
CROSSROADS

Adventures aren't just for books!

The open road calls once more...but it used to be a lot more challenging! As I was researching the rise and fall of early pioneer communities for the GATES series, I really began to realize how deeply access to transportation affected people here in the early days. With the deep, thick mud that characterized the landscape for much of the year, those with difficult access to rivers, paved roads, and railroads could become very nearly stranded.



The more I dug into this, the more I learned about two early Washington County trails and their nearby crossroads. And I discovered Bridget was right: they are a kind of magic. Ready for another adventure?



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CREATE A CROSSROADS TOUR GUIDE FOR YOUR OWN AREA, I suggest researching the local forts in or near your county. This will lead you to which immigrant trails crossed through your region. The Internet will then give you a good idea of the path. Native American trails can also be fun (although a bit more challenging) to research. After that, you can add in which historical remnant communities existed/exist along that route. With a little elbow grease, you can usually find out if any of the community's buildings still remain. Local historical societies and **IMAGES OF AMERICA** books are a huge help! The final step is to simply get in the car and drive and see what you can find! Don't be afraid to ask people along the way for help. Most folks are very excited to share the story of the place they call home!

ONE QUICK NOTE FOR OUR FELLOW ADVENTURERS

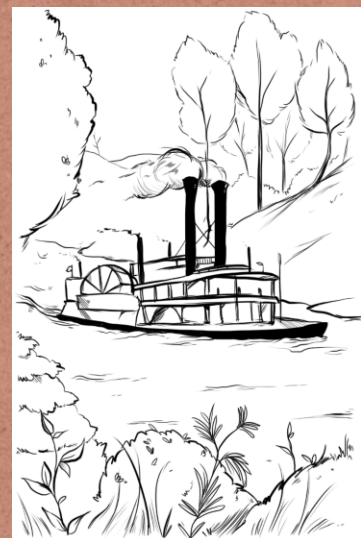
Many of these bits of history are on **PRIVATE PROPERTY**. Please respect the law and the property owners. Taking pictures from the side of the road is fine, but **PLEASE** watch for cars. These are country roads and they can get a little crazy sometimes!

ADVENTURERS CAN WIN GATES GEAR

Send me a picture of yourself at your favorite crossroads (with an explanation of why it is your favorite) and you will be entered to win a **GATES GEAR** as part of the launch party for each new book in the series!

- OR -

Send me a picture of your drawing from one of the Hidden History pages at the end of this guide! (Include a brief explanation of your drawing.) Send pictures to tonya@tonyamacalino.com. (All pictures received will be posted to www.tonyamacalino.com.)



Logie Trail Expedition

2 HOURS 34 MINUTES OF DRIVING, PLUS STOPS

One of the most important routes from Hillsboro's Tualatin Valley to the outside world in pioneer times was the Logie Trail. Originally an ancient Native American migration route running from Puget Sound to the Umpqua Valley, James Logie expanded it locally for pioneer use. In this incarnation, the trail went from the Hudson Bay Company dairy herd near the Centerville bridge at Dairy Creek (get it?) to the trio of dairy farms on Sauvie Island which supplied Fort Vancouver. Access to the supplies at Fort Vancouver was in turn important to the settlers just setting up homes here in the Tualatin Valley.

This expedition will very roughly follow the Logie Trail—modern roads have rearranged the steep and “exciting” trail quite a bit—all the while exploring this ancient trail’s myriad of magical crossroads!

Our expedition begins at:

Tom Hughes Civic Center Plaza
150 E Main St
Hillsboro, Oregon

Gather your provisions and load your horses for a long, dusty ride! (Seriously. Not a lot of gas stations or restaurants on this route and this is a longer adventure.) Turn left onto 1st Ave, then right on Oak which will become Baseline (also called the Tualatin Valley Highway) and then Pacific Ave as it enters Forest Grove. Turn right on Quince or Highway 47. Take a right onto NW Porter Road. On your left you will see the honor guard of great sequoias planted by pioneer nurseryman John Porter. See a redwood in Oregon? (They are not native to Oregon.) You can nearly guarantee that they came from John’s nursery brought back from his attempt to participate in the California Gold Rush. Amazing aren’t they?



JOHN PORTER HOMESTEAD
2400 NW Porter Rd
Forest Grove, Oregon

At Verboort Road, turn right and you will find yourself in the first of many historic remnant communities on this expedition. VERBOORT (originally “The Catholic Colony of Forest Grove”) was a Dutch Catholic colony

established 1875 and renamed in honor of Father Verboort. If you time your trip right, you can join in their November SAUSAGE AND SAUERKRAUT FESTIVAL (over 80 years old!) at the colony's Visitation Catholic Church (a quick left off Verboort Rd, complete with a full regiment of Porter Sequoias).

Now, on to a community which is even more of a remnant: CENTERVILLE. Next you will come upon two roundabouts. The second is the site of the Centerville post office. Once a mill town boasting 457 people, a few farms are all that remain of the community.

This is also where our Logie Trail expedition officially begins. Historical record states that the Logie Trail led to the Hudson Bay Company's dairy operation along Dairy Creek. Some say this was just outside of Centerville near where the old wooden crescent bridge crossed the creek—bridges were few and far between. From the second roundabout turn left onto NW Cornelius Schefflin Rd. You will cross Dairy Creek in just a bit. Here you will have to imagine your car rattling over an old wood bridge. The new one is not quite so interesting!



CENTERVILLE DAIRY CREEK BRIDGE/POSSIBLE BEGINNING OF THE LOGIE TRAIL
4840 NW Cornelius Schefflin Rd
Cornelius, Oregon

Cornelius Schefflin will turn into Zion Church Road. At Starkey's Corner Farm and Garden, turn left onto Glencoe Road. Follow Glencoe Road into North Plains. Once you are in North Plains, turn right on Old West

Union Road and you will find yet another historical remnant of a town:



GLENCOE
30545 NW Old West Union Rd
North Plains, Oregon

The three remaining buildings of the town started in 1842 by Charles McKay (his father hailing from Scotland where the famous Massacre of Glencoe was fought) are a general store, the Walter Century Farmhouse, and the Walter Blacksmith Shop—which Charles Walter operated from 1890 to 1962. He passed away two years later at the age of 94, leaving his shop the last remaining smithy in Washington County. All of his tools and last works remain locked inside, but please be respectful of private property.

Note that Charles pronounce his last name "Mc Eye" in the Scottish manner and you will likely see his name on a nearby creek that flows to the Tualatin River.

GLENCOE, like many other vanished pioneer communities, was bypassed by the new railroad running from Portland to Banks. The railroad platted a town nearby (North Plains) and residents of Glencoe migrated closer to the source of prosperity embodied by an active train station.

From Old West Union, return to Glencoe Road back the way you came (left). Then take another left onto NW West Union Road. Where the road splits take a left onto Jackson Quarry, then a right onto Helvetia. For your next

left, you will find yourself on the actual NW Logie Trail. At the northwest corner of this intersection is:



COWANIAH'S SCHOOLYARD
11973 NW Helvetia Rd
Hillsboro, Oregon

“Chief” Charles Cowaniah was a Hawaiian resident of early Swiss HELVETIA. His home was here and he is credited with starting Helvetia’s first school, in addition to organizing this historical remnant community to drive off Klickatat raiders who’d found a new use for the Logie trail outside of trade. (Over on Bishop Rd is the area called Cowaniah’s Battlefield.) His horse was shot out from under him, but he survived and the effort was successful.

If you happen to take on this adventure in August, be sure to check out the HELVETIA CULTURE FEST! They play those loong Swiss horns (“Helvetia” is Latin for Switzerland), fill you up on sausage and strudel, and host Native American dancers and drummers! The event is hosted by Pacific Crest Alpacas.

If your expedition is in July instead, try the HELVETIA LAVENDER FESTIVAL. Hosted at Helvetia Lavender Farm, you can sip lavender lemonade or tea, nibble on scones, take part in the annual treasure hunt, and shop local artisans!

Now back to the trail: the Logie Trail road name will change to Johnson before it reaches Skyline Boulevard. Turn right onto Skyline. You will take another left shortly thereafter onto NW Logie Trail Road which will then

take you down to Highway 30/St. Helens. Turn right onto the highway; then take a left onto the Sauvie Island Bridge.

Congratulations, pioneer! You made it!

What to do now that you are here? First, you’ll need a parking permit. (You can also pick up a map!) Turn left and stop in at:



CRACKER BARREL GROCERY
15005 NW Sauvie Island Road
Portland, Oregon

Picnic Time on the Island!

Once you are armed with your map and permit, you are ready to find the perfect spot for a picnic lunch. I recommend either the Bybee-Howell House or Walton Beach, both of which we will drive by during our tour of the island.

The first gorgeous place to consider having your picnic is on the grounds of the Bybee-Howell House in the Howell Territorial Park. James and Julia Bybee took their Donation Land Claim here in the late 1840s and built this magnificent home in the late 1850s—the first to use plaster in Oregon. (Remember most people were living in self-built cabins at this point.) The home was built on the highest part of the island to account for seasonal flooding. Formerly, visitors could tour the house, but

funding supporting the site was lost and the furnishings were removed, doors sealed.

Visitors are also told to watch their heads for falling fruit in the late summer/fall.



BYBEE-HOWELL HOUSE
13901 NW Howell Park Rd
Portland, Oregon

To add to your basket, you may want to consider some fresh produce from:



KRUGER'S FARM MARKET
(opens annually in May)
17100 NW Sauvie Island Rd
Portland, Oregon

The next stop is a little wistful and sad. The tiny Moar Cemetery contains the graves of James and Isabella Logie. Beginning in 1842 after Laurent Sauve retired, James took charge of the main Hudson Bay Company dairies here on the island. He is also responsible for developing the Logie Trail for ease of pioneer use. His wife was the first European woman in the Oregon Territory and with training received by the company, acted as doctor for the island's pioneer and native populations. She was very well loved by the native people she served who would come to help with her household duties in thanks for her medical care. (She married into the Moar family after James passed on, hence the name of the cemetery.)

The cemetery is on private property, but you can see the great oak which shades it, standing alone to the right of the home and outbuildings and one field back from the road.



MOAR CEMETERY
21217 NW Sauvie Island Rd
Portland, Oregon

On this same property: Before the Logie's came, on the site of their land claim stood Fort William. Established in 1834 by Nathaniel Wyeth after the absolute decimation of the local population by malaria, the fort sought to compete with Fort Vancouver from an agriculture direction. (Trapping had begun to die off.) Unfortunately, his first ship of supplies sank, the second ship was badly damaged, and the swampy conditions killed off many of his men. By 1836, he abandoned the

effort and Fort Vancouver established their dairy on the ruins of his enterprise. If you ever get the chance to read more about Nathaniel, I highly recommend it.



FT. WILLIAM MARKER
21217 NW Sauvie Island Rd
Portland, Oregon

Once your party is settled back in the wagon, turn your horses around back toward the beginning of Reeder Road. Just after you turn left onto Reeder Road, pause for a moment at the corner of Reeder and Charlton. You will find a little piece of history near the schoolyard: An Oregon Trail Marker. Though no ruts survive in this constantly flooding terrain, the memory remains.



OREGON TRAIL MARKER
18498 NW Reeder Road
Portland, Oregon

Another gorgeous place to have a picnic is Walton Beach—just like heading to the coast! On a clear day you can see all three peaks: St. Helens, Adams, and Hood. As of this writing, theswimguide.org finds the Columbia River water at this beach to be safe for swimming. (Download the app to check current findings.) However, you will need to come prepared. There are no facilities to rinse off and only old porta potties available for changing.

An additional note: further down the road is Collins Beach where clothing is optional. (It is well marked to avoid surprises.)



WALTON BEACH
33896 NW Reeder Road
Portland, Oregon

Once you have taken your sustenance and seen the corresponding sights, the adventuring continues! If you've gotten an early enough start, consider a hike out to Warrior Rock Lighthouse, Oregon's smallest lighthouse. The trailhead begins at the end of Reeder Road. The entrance is on the right corner of the parking lot. The path will fork, stay to right (nearest the beach). The Warrior Rock Lighthouse is the last remaining lighthouse on the Columbia River. Before an accident when a 1969 barge cracked the lighthouse, it housed the Northwest's oldest fog bell, nicknamed "Black Moria" because its striking mechanism was forever breaking! After the accident, the Coast Guard removed the bell to make repairs, but it fell into the river and cracked. The damaged bell is preserved at the Columbia County Historic Courthouse in St. Helens. Poor Moria!

Warrior Rock gets its name from a 1792 exploratory party Captain Vancouver sent out. Headed by Lieutenant Broughton, they reached the island only to find themselves surrounded by 23 canoes filled with Chinooks in war dress. Despite a moment of alarm where weapons were readied and even a shot was fired into the water, by the end of the meeting the two parties had managed to settle into peaceable trading. Broughton's advanced party was likely the first Europeans these Chinook had ever encountered.

WARRIOR ROCK LIGHTHOUSE
3.5-mile (approx. 1 hour one-way) hike from the end of
Reeder Road
38151 A&B NW Reeder Rd
Portland, Oregon

While you are hiking, be on the lookout for cranes, egrets, swans, ducks, and even the occasional sea mammal! (We saw an otter. Too cute!) If you go on a weekend, be prepared for a fair amount of company on the trail—and their four-legged companions. An additional note: On our first expedition in March, unusually high winter flooding had the last 2/3rds of the trail deep underwater.

Now, explorers, it is time to return to the trail. Return back down Sauvie Island Road to Sauvie Island Bridge. Turn right onto Highway 30/St. Helens; then turn left onto Cornelius Pass Road. Turn right onto Skyline and then left onto Old Cornelius Pass Road. Turn right on Phillips Road and then right again on Dick Road (just as you are coming over the hill). Here you will find:

Supper Time!



HOLCOMB CREEK TRESTLE BRIDGE
10500 NW Dick Rd
Hillsboro, Oregon

The Holcomb Creek Trestle is 1168 feet long and about 90 feet tall, making it the largest wooden trestle bridge still in use today. Nicknamed “The Valley of Wood,” it was built around 1905 for the Oregon Electric and was part of the project which left Glencoe to history and put North Plains on the map. (Oh, and it is said to be haunted. Boo!) Isn’t she gorgeous?! Need a place to put the car, so you can look around? If you drive past the bridge, there is a fake driveway on the right. Just keep an eye out for traffic.

We’ll head back on Phillips Road (right turn) and continue on to Helvetia Road, turn right. The moment after you pass under the railroad tracks, you will see:



HELVETIA TAVERN
10275 NW Helvetia Rd
Hillsboro, Oregon

After a hard day on the trail, fill your belly with a jumbo cheese burger fit for a king! Enjoy the view from the patio, the fresh fries, and give your weary body a rest. Built in 1922, the building was originally a gas and grocery store. Legend has it that the day Prohibition ended, the tavern opened and it’s been running ever since! Note: Helvetia Tavern is cash only

Now it’s back on the road. Head right, back down Helvetia Road. Turn left on West Union. There you will find:



WEST UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
22138 NW West Union Road
Hillsboro, Oregon

There are several gorgeous churches in the Helvetia area. What makes this one special? By virtue of being the first—organized in 1844 with land donated for the church in 1853. It is also the oldest church West of the Rockies. It was founded on the land of David Lenox who led the first wagon train across the Rockies and into the Tualatin Valley on what would come to be known as the Oregon Trail.

If you have any light left, I recommend quietly and respectfully exploring the cemetery grounds. This is the oldest pioneer cemetery in Oregon with its first internment in 1854, a Ms. Eveline Bones (1820-1854). See if you can find her sad, sweet small head stone in the back left of the cemetery in her family's plot. Several of Hillsboro original settlers are buried here, including George Ebbert and Caleb Wilkens. It appears that many of them have been replaced or refurbished. The Daughters of the American Revolution have placed plaques on the markers of those who met at Champoeg in 1843 where they decided to become part of the United States.

When you are done, there is one last stop on the trail. Go back the way you came on West Union Road. Cross Helvetia and go just a little ways up the hill. Here you will find the oldest continuously operating school in Oregon:



WEST UNION ELEMENTARY
23870 NW West Union Rd
Hillsboro, Oregon

The building may look modern (the third incarnation now), but it holds onto its history, featuring its pioneer schoolhouse bell from the original 1852 construction on a brick pedestal.

And now it is time to return home. (Can you imagine making this trip on horseback?!) Turn back around and turn right onto Helvetia. Follow it across Hwy 26 to Evergreen Road. Take a right. Turn left onto Jackson School Road, then right onto Main which will bring you back to the Tom Hughes Civic Center Plaza.

Now go home and rest, adventurer. You deserve it.

Further Adventures

The FORT VANCOUVER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE in Vancouver, Washington can also offer a great insight into this time period. The dairies under the Logies' supervision belonged to Ft. Vancouver. The original cattle swam across the Columbia from the fort to the island. In Oregon City, DOCTOR MCLOUGHLIN'S HOME (Chief Factor of Fort Vancouver during this period) is also available for tours, along with the BARCLAY HOUSE and the HOLMES HOUSE.

Hillsboro Crossroads Expedition

1 HOUR 6 MINUTES OF DRIVING, PLUS STOPS

From ancient Native American trails to pioneer era roads and from steamboats to railroads, transportation shaped the Tualatin Valley, dictating which communities thrived and which ones passed into memory. In this expedition, we will explore the crossroads which made Hillsboro the vibrant community it is today. This expedition is in three parts: Waterways, Railways, and Pathways. Our expedition begins (not nearly as early as the last) at:

TOM HUGHES CIVIC CENTER PLAZA
150 E Main St
Hillsboro, Oregon

From downtown, head left on 1st Avenue to begin your adventure!

Waterways

From 1st Ave turn right on Baseline. By the Pioneer Cemetery turn left onto 17th Avenue. Pull into the parking lot at Dairy Creek Park. Hop out of the car. Enter the woods and follow the path to the very back left of the park. Here you will find two significant landmarks: Dairy Creek herself and...



DAIRY CREEK TRAIN TRESTLE
515 SW 17th Ave
Hillsboro, Oregon

Because mud made long-distance travel in the valley complicated most of the year, waterways were a favorite mode of transportation and shipping. Though it was extremely cumbersome due to debris, sometimes impossible due to low water levels, and required clever engineering (hinged smokestacks) due to bridge-building, the mountain men's and Native American's canoes were replaced by sidewheeler steamboats. Dairy Creek was intended to connect Centerville to the Tualatin in this way, though only one ship is documented as making the trip. Even the Onward and

Yamhill sidewheelers which plied the Tualatin eventually bowed to the far more practical railroad.

This trestle delivers lumber to the sawmill near Hagg Lake. Much less cumbersome than shepherding the logs down creeks and rivers—an art form all its own!

Now back into the car. Turn right onto Walnut Street and follow it back up to 1st Avenue. Turn right. Just a little ways out of town, pull into the Jackson Bottom Wetlands parking lot. Hop out of the car and walk up to the embankment. Across the highway where the orchard meets the Tualatin once stood...



JACKSON BOTTOM WAREHOUSE
2587 SW Hillsboro Hwy
Hillsboro, Oregon

Hyer Jackson was determined to turn Hillsboro into a port town! Unfortunately, he made a small miscalculation: flooding. (There's a reason this is called a wetlands!) His grand scheme became the subject of many a joke—hence the name Jackson Bottom. Between Mother Nature and new freight and passenger lines coming into town, Hyer's dream fizzled and he went on to other schemes.

Continue following Hwy 219 down to Scholls Ferry Road. Take a right at The South Store Café and pause at..



SCHOLLS GRANGE
16917 SW Hillsboro Hwy
Sherwood, Oregon

We've seen grange halls around the countryside on our many tours. This one was founded in 1903. They purchased this hall in which they were founded in 1918. Don't know what a grange is? Granges are rural associations pulled together for education, rural community building, and nonpartisan political lobbying on behalf of rural and agricultural viewpoints. In earlier days, grange halls were a community's primary gathering place for socializing, dancing, potlucks, and holiday parties.

On Hwy 219, return back the way you came. Hwy 219 will become Hwy 210. Follow this to the intersection of Hwy 210 and Scholls-Sherwood Road. There you will find...



PETRICH'S GENERAL STORE
23915 SW Scholls Ferry Rd
Hillsboro, Oregon

In the historical remnant community of SCHOLLS, a general store has stood in this spot since the 1890s. Originally known as the North Store (as opposed to the South Store which became the café you saw), the Petrich family bought it 1964. Sadly, the original Petrich's burned down in 1994, but as you can see they've kept the tradition going!

Continue down Hwy 210 until you cross the Tualatin River. Pull off to the left, being mindful of private property.



SCHOLLS FERRY BRIDGE
23545 SW Scholls Ferry Rd
Hillsboro, Oregon

The bridge you just crossed was the cornerstone of the Scholls community. Actually, it wasn't even a bridge. It was Peter Scholl's ferry! In 1850, Peter (a relative of Daniel Boone) applied for a license to build a ferry across the Tualatin just a little north of this site. Peek down into that river bed. Now imagine you've got a horse-drawn cart full of corn to get into market. You might not be tickled to pay Peter to get you across, but that's part of the price of doing business! He started with a raft, then upgraded to a rope-tow ferry. Peter's ferry was the first means of crossing the Tualatin. Eventually, in 1880, the ferry became a covered bridge, which over the years evolved into this concrete bridge before you.

Now turn around and look behind you at...



SCHOLLS TILE FACTORY
23545 SW Scholls Ferry Rd
Hillsboro, Oregon

The Scholls Tile Factory opened in 1902 and had two kilns which connect to that impressive chimney you see. The factory produced red clay tile for drainage pipes and mined the clay directly from its own fields. At one time the site also had a lumbermill. The tile factory ran until 1976. What makes it so special? The Scholls Tile Factory is one of the only historic factories left standing in Washington County today!

Pathways

Once upon a time two gentlemen, Archibald McGill and Malcolm McDonald joined together to form the Oregon Nursery Company. Six years later in 1906, they bought the land and platted the town that in 1908 would become known by the company's initials: Orenco.

Not too far away, two wealthy real estate and transportation entrepreneurs, William S. Ladd and Simeon Gannett Reed invested in a hobby farm on 8,000 acres and the community that grew up around it would become known in 1889 as Reedville. (Ladd Acres Elementary stands on their farm. The Ladd estate provided the land and the Reed estate provided the money to create Reed College.)

Parts of Reedville and all of Orenco are incorporated into the city of Hillsboro, but back then when they were more distant relatives, a path grew up between these two communities. This is what we will next explore. Continue following Hwy 210 past Rilver Road. (Stay right on the roundabout.) Take a left at Clark Hill Rd to the end. (It will take a strange bend through an intersection.) Turn right onto Farmington Road. Turn left onto SW 209th Ave. Take a right on SW Kinnaman Road. Just before 206th Pl, you will see on your right...



MASTERS HOUSE
20650 SW Kinnaman Rd
Aloha, Oregon

Now here's a house with a tale to tell! A.J. and Sarah Masters came to Oregon on one of the very earliest wagon trains and their house is the oldest home in Washington County—one of 18 surviving pieces of early settlement architecture in the county. The University of Oregon's Pacific Northwest Preservation Field School has been peeling back the alterations of over 150 years to restore the house to its original form. Constance Stevens the last owner of the "Century House" donated it to Hillsboro Parks and Recreation with the stipulation that it be preserved as a historical site—which the city plans to do once that area of Reedville is annexed by the city at an unknown time in the future.

But there is a darker part of the house's story. Two years after the house was complete, A.J. Masters was shot in the face and left for dead during a boundary quarrel with his neighbor Captain James McMillan. This was the apex of a long-standing quarrel between two men of high

regard. In the end, James was acquitted of murder, claiming self-defense. Despite the acquittal, James's neighbors never quite bought his story and/or never forgave him and he ended up moving away.

During its time, the house also served as a post office and an overnight lodging for General Ulysses Grant. From Kinnaman, return to 209th. Turn right onto 209th and then left onto Tualatin Valley Highway. On your left behind the giant rabbit will be...



J.B. IMLAY & SONS MILL, FEED, AND SEED STORE
21250 SW Tualatin Valley Hwy
Aloha, Oregon

One of the most successful feed and seed operations of its day, J.B. Imlay & Sons was begun here in 1891. The remaining building is but a portion of the building which predates even the Imlays—oral history calls it the 1880s building. And the giant rabbit? Well, he was once a Texaco star man. The Harvey family, which owned a boat shop in this building, transformed him into Harvey the Rabbit after a character in the movie HARVEY, an invisible six-foot, three-and-a-half-inch rabbit. Harvey is not just famous as a roadside attraction, though. Legend has it, he was also a rendezvous point for FBI agents and an informant!

Continue down Tualatin Valley Hwy a short distance.

Lunch Time!



REEDVILLE CAFE
7575 SE Tualatin Valley Hwy
Hillsboro, Oregon

The Reedville Café began life as The Shack Tavern in 1934. The Van Beveren family bought it in 1950 and has owned it ever since, remodeling the building repeatedly as the business grew. If you are lucky enough to do your tour in early March, Reedville Café offers an amazing array of Irish Specials served with lovely little currant scones. If you are here in January, don't miss their historic CrabFest! In the early days of the Van Beveren ownership, Al and his son Rick (current owner) would drive out to the coast in the early morning to bring back fresh crab. They would boil them in huge pots out front and sell them from The Crab Shack next door to the tavern. CrabFest is a delicious celebration of that history!

Once your belly's full, we're back on the road. Continue right on Tualatin Valley Highway; turn right onto Century Blvd. Where the first leg of Century ends, turn right on Lois St. Then turn left onto Century again. Before Century turns right and becomes Borwick St is the entrance to Noble Woods Park. Turn into the parking lot.

The northeast corner of this clearing was the most popular stop on the path from Reedville to Orenco:



THE BOOTLEGGERS CABIN AT NOBLE WOODS

475 SE Century Blvd
Hillsboro, Oregon

*The Bootlegger's Cabin circa 1933
photo courtesy of The Noble Family Archives*

Accessible by an old foot bridge across the Rock Creek, this cabin was a popular after work stop during the Prohibition days when the towns were dry (alcohol free). The land was owned by Mark Noble, but the cabin was built by a squatter (someone who does not own the property nor has the legal right to live there). When the land passed on to Mark's son Charles B. Noble, Charles evicted the squatters and moved into the cabin around the late 1920s/early 1930s. (Apparently, that didn't stop folks from dropping by on the way home from work just to make sure there wasn't still moonshine available!) The family tore down the cabin in 1959 after it fell into great disrepair.

If you are ready to get out and stretch your legs, take to the trails in this gorgeous park and see if you can find the stone remains of the footbridge!

Now it's back onto the open road! Leaving the park, turn left onto Borwick, then take another left onto Baseline. At 231st/Century Blvd turn right. Before the light rail tracks, turn right on Alder.

Welcome to old Orenco and the end of the Reedville to Orenco trail! A surprising number of Orenco's original buildings remain. We will just highlight a few. As you drive down Alder (formerly Main Street—all the roads were renamed after trees to pay homage to the nursery town's heritage) On your right with a big wagon wheel out front, you will see...



ORENCO MERCANTILE / ORENCO GROCERY
22930 NW Alder St
Hillsboro, Oregon

Built in 1908 by the nursery, the mercantile was lovingly restored beginning in 1983 by longtime Orenco residents Merlyn and Mary Ellen Lewis. Once a ruin with broken windows, graffiti, and lopsided foundation, the mercantile is now the home to the couple's collection of dolls and other antiques. Before Orenco Grocery was shut down in the mid-60s, the building had housed a mercantile, butcher shop, and confectionary on the bottom floor (also off and on a post office), while upstairs was for community purposes—everything from a skating rink, to church meetings, to dances.

Just a short distance down old Main St is...



ORENCO DRUG COMPANY
22870 NW Alder St
Hillsboro, Oregon

You'll have to put on your imagination hat to see this one. Yes, this is the building, but the 1910 Western-style false front has been removed and walled off. The town's first doctor, Dr. W.B. Cunningham, had to live and treat patients in a TENT until the shop was complete! (In its heyday, the drug company was next door to the grand Orenco Hotel with its lovely double porches.) The drug company is now home and gallery to artist Darcey Johnson Knudsen of Orenco Gallery.

Continue down Alder and follow it around the bend on 228th. At the corner of 228th and Birch you will find what is now called the Unitarian Universalist Church, but in 1911 when it was built from the donations of the company founders, it was called...



ORENCO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
22785 NW Birch St
Hillsboro, Oregon

Kitty corner to the town's first church is what was originally...



MAYOR & JUDGE JOHN AND
POSTMISTRESS VALDA MCGEE HOUSE
22810 NW Birch St
Hillsboro, Oregon

Turn left onto Birch. Next door to the church is the house built for the pastor of the church (also from donations of the company's co-owners).



ORENCO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MANSE
22735 NW Birch St
Hillsboro, Oregon

Continue down Birch until you reach the parking lot for Orenco Woods Nature Park. Hop out of the car and follow the path to the huge brick house on the left-hand side of the park. Behind the informational signage is...



THE McDONALD HOUSE
22180 NW Birch St
Hillsboro, Oregon

Built in 1910 with an amazing 8,412 square feet which includes 9 bedrooms and 4 fireplaces, this was the home of Oregon Nursery Co-founder Malcom McDonald, his wife Allena May, and their daughter Florence. If you can't tell just by looking, the Oregon Nursery Company was a pretty big deal. They were the largest nursery in the West and were gunning for becoming a major player in the European market as well. Unfortunately, they overcommitted to the endeavor and then World War I broke out. The company went bankrupt in 1927 and two years later the McDonalds moved out of their mansion. Within the next ten years, the town of Orenco was dissolved.

Archibald McGill, Malcom's partner, had the first home in Orenco, built in 1907. It sits behind the train wall on the opposite side of the tracks. To reach it, return back to Century via Birch and turn right. Cross the tracks and turn right on Cherry. After 67th, turn right into the parking lot of the Haven Apartments. You should see the house just ahead of you past the first set of apartments. This house, along with its carriage house is known as The McGill-Pitman House, as it is also the historic home of the Dr. A.O. Pitman family—one of the founders of Tuality Hospital.



THE MCGILL-PITMAN HOUSE HOUSE
1430 NE 68th Ave
Hillsboro, OR 97124

Now on to the final leg of our tour!

Railways

From The McGill-Pitman House follow Cherry back down to Century, turn left. Century will end on Baseline; turn right. Baseline will become Main Street. At 7th Avenue turn left. Cross the light rail tracks, then turn right onto Baseline again. On First Avenue turn left and stay in the right-hand lane. After the railroad tracks, but before the Carnation building, turn right onto an unnamed alley. There will be a gravel parking lot there on the corner. Pull in. From here you can see...



OLD HILLSBORO TRAIN STATION

644 S 1st Ave
Hillsboro, Oregon

In a time when the placement of a railroad could make or break a town, (think about Glencoe) Hillsboro got into a squabble with Ben Holladay, the railroad baron. He wanted free right of way down the middle of Hillsboro. The city fathers said no, so he put his railroad all of the way out here. While this is not the original Hillsboro station (this is set up for freight only; the original was both freight and passenger), we're about to track just how far you would have had to walk in the mud to get here.

Hope back in the car. Either set your trip counter or count the blocks as we drive down to the railroad taxi station. Return right onto First Avenue. Turn right onto Oak, then left onto 4th Avenue. At Main turn left where you will arrive at...



THE TUALATIN HOTEL/TAXI STATION

230 E Main St
Hillsboro, Oregon

How was the walk through the mud? Too bad you were wearing your best shoes and clothes to head into the big city! Looks like you'll have some cleaning up to do. The grand Tualatin Hotel is no longer with us. The two buildings you are looking at were once one enormous Weil's Department Store. Before the Weils tore it down, the Tualatin Hotel would have been where you picked up your train ticket and your horse-drawn taxi to the railroad station—as well as a bite to eat before you settled in for the ride.

Leave your car for a moment and step out onto the sidewalk. Walk east toward 3rd Street, turn right, and cross over to:

Chow Time!

There are several delightful places to eat in downtown Hillsboro. For this tour, we are suggesting two restaurants on Second Street. First, to the north of Main:



HILLSBORO CENTRAL TRANSIT CENTER
333 SE Washington St
Hillsboro, Oregon

Watch the trains whir in and out of the station and the buses roar through. All over the platform you can find quotes from Hillsboro's early history. (One of my favorites: "They say that necessity is the mother of invention. It can also be the mother of a woman's career." -Emma McKinney, 1954) In the center of the station you can find a plaque dedicated to Shirley Huffman, Hillsboro's first woman mayor, who lobbied tirelessly to assure that Hillsboro had a connection to the greater Portland Metro economy through this current light rail system. (The light rail was intended to stop at 185th.)

Now step back in time a moment. Here on this platform, you are waiting in your suit or your buttoned-up dress for the elegant Oregon Electric, beginning in 1908. (You chose it over the faster Red Electric—beginning in 1914—that runs down Main Street.) Even with this short walk your boots a little muddy—only a few of the roads are planked with wood, even fewer are paved.

These conveniences ended all too soon due to the adoption of automobiles and road improvements. Your Oregon Electric closed in 1945; the Red Electric in 1929. And yet here we are again, realizing the effects of wide-spread use of automobiles, returning to our electric trains with the MAX light rail in 1998. (The MAX reused much of the original path of your Oregon Electric.)

Now weary traveler, it is time to take a break:



SYUN IZAKAYA
at the Carnegie Library
209 NE Lincoln St
Hillsboro, Oregon

A national award-winning traditional Japanese pub, they offer a large, critically-acclaimed menu, but best of all they are in Hillsboro's first library! (Rumor has it that this was the children's section!) Too fun to imagine yourself surrounded by kid's books from 1914 while you nibble your sushi, slurp your noodles, or crunch your tempura.

Not hungry enough for dinner? We recommend just to the south of Main Street:



STUDY OF SWEETS
159 SE 2nd Ave
Hillsboro, Oregon

Handmade truffles, caramels, and other confections are just the beginning! Try their teas, hot cocoas, or build-it-yourself chocolate bars! (Italian ice is available in the summertime!) This cozy little shop is a great place to get off your feet and play a few rounds of that Sleeping Queens™ card game while enjoying your family and your favorite treats!

Until next time, intrepid adventurer!

Further Adventures

FERRIES

Want to try riding a ferry? The Canby Ferry has been carrying passengers over the Willamette River for 100 years! (As of this writing, the ferry is down for maintenance, but predicted to be up and running again soon.)

TRAINS

Want to check out a historic train? There are soooo many amazing options! Oregon Rail Heritage Center (downtown Portland), Oregon Electric Railway Museum (Brooks, Oregon), Willamette Shore Trolley (Lake Oswego, Oregon), Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad (Garibaldi, Rockaway, or Wheeler, Oregon), and the Mount Hood Railroad. Some of these are museums that offer train rides (check the schedule) and others are strictly historic train rides. Pick your adventure!

Want to see pictures of the old Oregon and Red Electrics? Visit PDXhistory.com!

STEAMBOATS

Our sidewheeler steamboats, Onward and Yamhill, are long gone, but you can still check out a sternwheeler tug at the Oregon Maritime Museum at the Portland Waterfront! And she still sails! Check the website for cruise dates and tickets.

PLANES

We didn't cover planes in this tour, but they are certainly an important part of the landscape of crossroads in Hillsboro. If you can get a group together, Classic Aircraft Aviation Museum at the Hillsboro Airport offers paid tours of their restored aircraft collection.

Crossroads Hidden History

FERRIES

So many of the mysteries of history are lost to our eyes, but not our imaginations! Ferries were the only way across many rivers for the wagons of the pioneer days—and even later. The ferry at Scholls has long since been replaced by a bridge. What do you imagine Peter Scholl's ferry looked like? Fill it in below. Tell us which local river of yours it crossed and give the ferry a good name!



Crossroads Hidden History

TRAINS

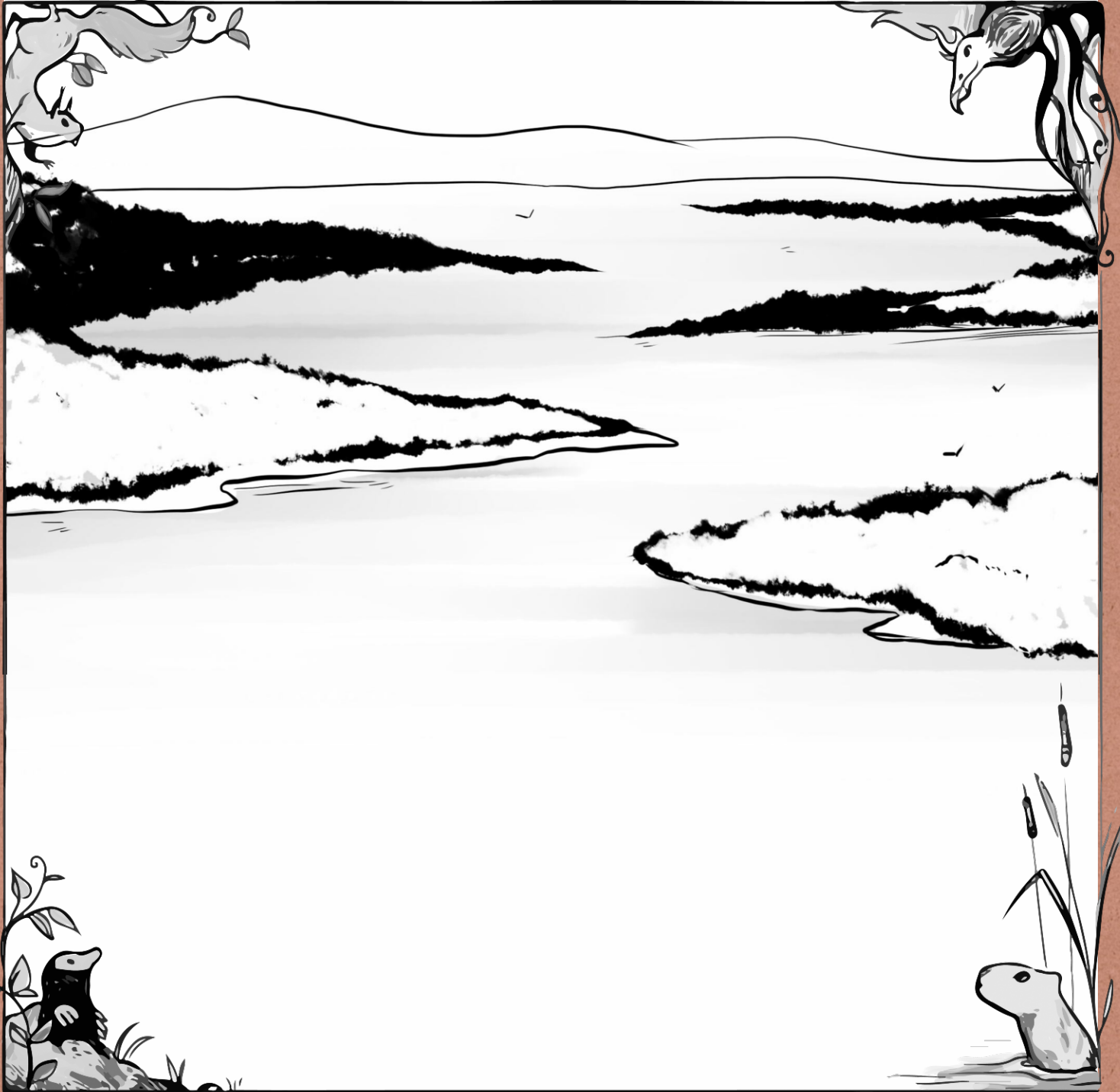
So many of the mysteries of history are lost to our eyes, but not our imaginations! Trains debuted as an elegant new technology for early travelers. The amazing trestle bridges which supported them were works of art all their own! Will your bridge span a river or an empty valley? Is your train filled with passengers or freight? Be sure to give your bridge and your train great names!



Crossroads Hidden History

STEAMBOATS

So many of the mysteries of history are lost to our eyes, but not our imaginations! Slow and steady, steamboats once plied rivers all over the United States carrying passengers and cargo. Both of the ships on the Tualatin were sidewheelers. (Their big paddlewheel was on the side instead of the back like a sternwheeler.) What river in your county might steamboats run on? Let's see your best steamboat. Be sure to give it a noble name!



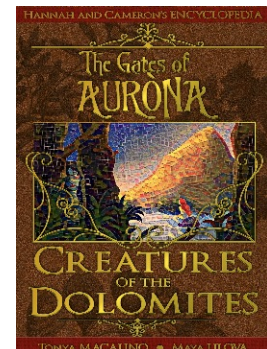
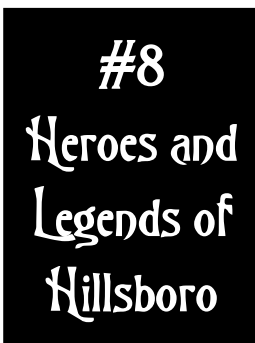
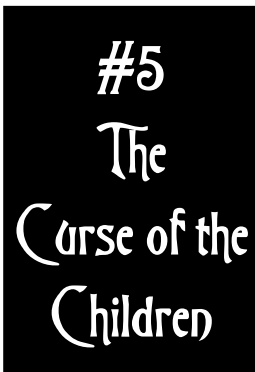
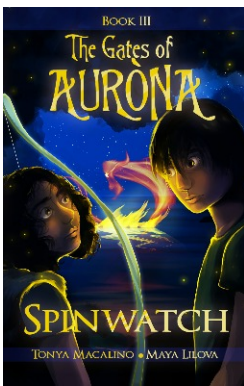
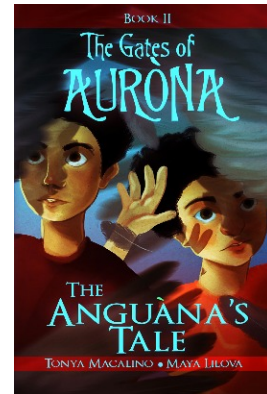
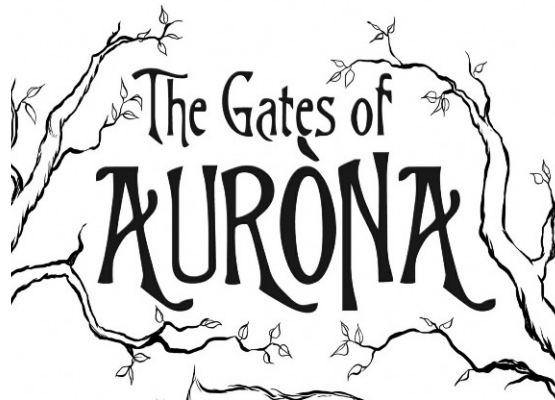
Crossroads Hidden History

PATHWAYS

So many of the mysteries of history are lost to our eyes, but not our imaginations! Way stations along pathways were places for people to stop and rest, gather for social time, or simply where they settled to make their home. We visited sooooo many on both of our expeditions! What is your favorite kind of way station: a restaurant, a church, a grange, a general store, a house? Draw your own historic way station and give a great name and an even greater



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THE GATES OF AURÓNA ADVENTURE GUIDE: CROSSROADS

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