

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM  
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Oregon</b>
COUNTY: <b>Clackamas</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: <b>NOV 20 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON: *South Alternate of*  
**Barlow Road Segment at Wildwood Recreation Site**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Oregon Trail, (Barlow Road) Segment west of**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **One-half (1/2) mile northwest of Wemme, OR between U.S. 26 and developed portions of BLM Wildwood Recreation Site.**

CITY OR TOWN: **SE 1/4 Sec. 31, T.2S., R.7E., Will. Mer.**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: **Second**

STATE: **Oregon** CODE: **41** COUNTY: **Clackamas** CODE: **005**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <b>N/A</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

**4. AGENCY**

**U.S.D.I. - Bureau of Land Management**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)  
**Salem District**

CITY OR TOWN: **Salem**

STREET AND NUMBER: **3550 Liberty Road S.**

STATE: **Oregon** CODE: **41**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**U.S.D.I. - Bureau of Land Management - Oregon State Office**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**729 N.E. Oregon Street (P.O. Box 2965)**

CITY OR TOWN: **Portland**

STATE: **Oregon** CODE: **41**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Oregon Trail Study - Route Segment**

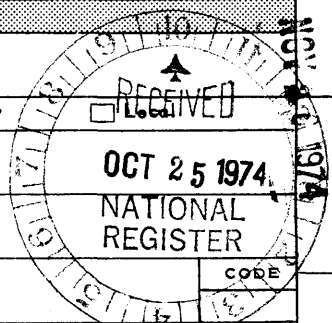
DATE OF SURVEY: **7/12/73**  Federal  State  County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**U.S.D.I. - Bureau of Land Management - Service Center**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Building 50, Federal Center**

CITY OR TOWN: **Denver**

STATE: **Colorado**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Oregon  
COUNTY: Clackamas  
ENTRY NUMBER:  
DATE:

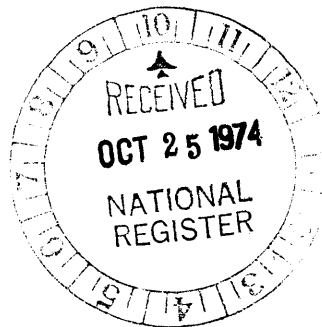
FOR NPS USE ONLY

**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Barlow Road was opened in 1846, and it generally followed the path of least resistance through the heavily forested west slope of the Cascades. The large trees, for example, were easier to go around than to cut out of the way. Over the years the road location changed as problems developed and improvements were made. By 1882, from the records of the U.S. Surveyor General of Oregon, the road was in the location identified in this inventory, and there it remained for many years. Near the entrance to Wildwood it was used as a logging road as recently as the 1930's. The route generally follows the highest ground between the Sandy and Salmon Rivers - the overall terrain in this section is flat and rolling. Well defined ruts were formed in the sandy soils along this segment of the Barlow Road, and these have been protected from erosion by heavy timber and brush. The current timber stand along the road in this location is predominately Douglas-fir that is 90-100 years old, the stand originating about the time the township was being surveyed. The road has not been used for many years (it is barricaded and open only to foot traffic), and there has been a lot of brush encroachment in a few places. The road lies between U.S. 26 and the developed portions of Wildwood Recreation Site. At the east end it lies about 300 feet south of the highway R/W, and on the west end it is intercepted and overtopped by the highway. Total length of the segment on public land is about two-tenths (2/10) mile. On the east end the road has been fairly well obliterated by homesites.



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**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1846**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal          | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric         | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic            | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | <b>Western migration and settlement</b>             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications      | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation        |   |   | _____   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Westward migration established the Oregon Trail in 1841. Of the difficulties encountered on the trail, nothing presented as formidable an obstacle as the Cascade Mountains.

In the beginning, the only route from The Dalles to the Willamette Valley was down the Columbia River on bateaus. The trip was dangerous, expensive, and the scarcity of boats caused long delays.

This dilemma impelled Samuel Barlow to search for alternatives after leading his party to The Dalles in 1845. Encouraged by information about Indian trails over the mountains, he and his party pioneered a road around the south side of Mount Hood. Construction of the road the following summer gave wagon trains a land route over the Cascade Mountains.

The route was a hard and dangerous one. To climb out of Tygh Valley, the pioneers had to double-up their teams. For the trip down Laurel Hill, they had to slow their descent by locking their wheels, using ropes, and dragging logs.

The road originally passed Wildwood along the north side of the Sandy River. However, by 1882 it was relocated to the south side where pioneers were settling. The road is still visible just inside the entrance to the recreation site.

Undisturbed sections of the Barlow Road of this length and condition with easy public access are not common on the west slope of the Cascades.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Bailey, Walter. "The Barlow Road." The Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society, XIII (September, 1912), 287-296.
2. Barlow, William. "Reminiscences of Seventy Years." The Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society, XIII (September, 1912), 240-286.
3. Meacham, Walter. Barlow Road. Oregon Council, American Pioneer Trails Association, 1947.
4. O'Connell, R.J. Barlow Road. Unpublished research report. Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1950.
5. "Oregon History." Oregon Blue Book, 1969-1970 (1969), 277-278
6. "Story of Two Men From Fort Deposit." Clackamas County Historical, (1959), 8-20.

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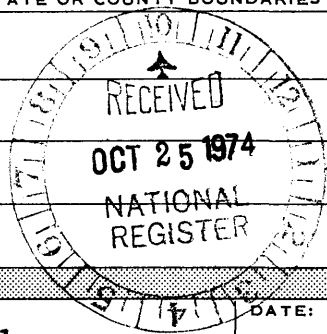
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		45 ° 21' 15" North <sup>17" CB</sup>	121 ° 59' 15" West <sup>03" CB</sup>	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Five (5) acres (a 200' R/W x length)**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Chanler C. Biggs, Outdoor Recreation Planner** DATE: **Nov. 5, 1973**

BUSINESS ADDRESS: **Bureau of Land Management**

STREET AND NUMBER: **3550 Liberty Road S. (P.O. Box 3227)** PHONE: **(503) 585-1793**

CITY OR TOWN: **Salem** STATE: **Oregon** CODE: **41**

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

Yes  
 No  
 None

*Chanler C. Biggs*  
 State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is  National  State  Local

*Charles A. Adams* 10/17/74  
 Federal Representative Signature Date  
 Deputy Assistant Secretary  
 Title

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*A. R. Workman*  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 11/20/74

ATTEST:

*Charles Adams*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 11.18.74