

Hoyt Arboretum

Viet Nam Veteran's Memorial Hike



This Scout hike is located in the Washington Park area of Portland and encompassed trails beginning at the Viet Nam Veteran's Memorial and winding through Hoyt Arboretum with a visit to the Japanese Gardens. The Viet Nam Veteran's Memorial at the beginning of the trail is modeled after the National Memorial in Washington D.C. listing the names of servicemen from Oregon by year that were killed or deemed missing in action. Some of those killed and missing were only a few years older than the Scouts in your troop and will provide a memorable start for your scouts.

The Hoyt Arboretum contains over 1000 species of trees and shrubs that are labeled and displayed on its 175 acre site. Your scouts should be able to increase their knowledge of plant identification and fulfill the plant identification requirement for First Class Scout. The Arboretum contains 21 hiking trails with over 12 miles winding through Portland's west hills. 10 miles need to be hiked to earn the medal and patch. This can be a great first hike for your new scouts, they can put on their backpacks and load up their gear for a shake down hike learning about what to bring and how to pack their packs for backpack trips. You will be close to your start point throughout most of the hike should any problems occur where you need to have a Scout shed his pack.

The Japanese Gardens are on the trail route and can be toured at your option. Designed in 1963 by Professor P. Takuma Tono, an internationally renowned authority on Japanese Landscaping, Five traditional gardens, an authentic Japanese Tea House and a pavilion combine to recapture the mood of ancient Japan. Covering five and one half acres is The Flat Garden (Hira-niwa), Strolling Pond Garden (Chisen-Kaiyui-Shiki), Tea Garden (Roji-niwa), Natural Garden (Shukeiyen) and the sand and stone garden (Seki-Tei). The Japanese Garden is open daily including Sunday. Hours vary by season so call ahead or pick up a brochure. Admission is charged.

Guided Arboretum tours are offered every Saturday and Sunday leaving the visitor center at 2:00 PM. The Arboretum grounds are open during the daylight hours .

Hoyt Arboretum/Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Hike Registration & Award Order Form

(complete form and mail in photocopy)

The Hoyt Arboretum Trail awards have been approved by the Cascade Pacific Council for wear on the official uniform under clause 11 of the "Official Uniform Rules and Regulations." The trail medal can be one of five pinned in a single row above the left pocket (see page 44, "wearing medals and embroidered knots", in the insignia guide). The patches can be worn on any "temporary patch" location (on right hand pocket or back of merit badge sash or on red scout shirt jac)

Sign me up for the hike,

Unit # _____ District _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Phone _____

State _____ Zip _____

We have had _____ Scouts
hike the trail on (date) _____

_____ Scouts would like a medal and patch _____
\$11.00/set

_____ Scouts would like a patch only _____
\$5.00

_____ Sample medal and patch \$14.00 _____
must be ordered by scoutmaster
(price includes \$4.00 for packing
and postage)

Please enclose the correct amount with each order. I'll mail your awards as soon as I receive your order or I'll email you if anything will backorder

If you are ordering less than 5 awards, please include \$4 for postage due to USPS Rate increases since the program began.

Total _____

Telephone or email for free a map of the hike or with any questions: jimbrossard@yahoo.com

Sincerely,

Jim Brossard Phone 503-625-6892

Make Checks Payable to and return form to...

Jim Brossard, Historic Trail Coordinator

14731 S.W. Willamette

Sherwood, Oregon 97140



About Hoyt Arboretum

<http://www.hoytarboretum.org>

What is Hoyt Arboretum?

- ~ *A unique collection of trees and plants from around the world*
- ~ *A living laboratory for preservation and research*
- ~ *A vital resource for conserving plant biodiversity*
- ~ *A peaceful urban oasis*
- ~ *A 187-acre refuge with 21 trails covering 12 miles*
- ~ *A promise to future generations*

At Hoyt Arboretum every tree has a story to tell. Tree collections are organized by taxonomy (plant families) and geography. Identification labels help you to learn about trees that catch your



interest.

Hoyt Arboretum is a living laboratory where scientists and students can study trees and plants that would not otherwise grow in our climate and habitat. The Hoyt Collection includes more than 1,000 true species, with specimens grown from seeds collected in the wild. These plants produce seeds that can be used to replant native ecosystems that have been destroyed or are at risk.

An arboretum is a promise to future generations. Just as we are enjoying mature, wonderful trees that were planted many years ago, the trees we plant today will grow to provide shade, beauty and value for decades and centuries to come.

History of Hoyt Arboretum

History of the land

Prior to the arrival of European explorers, the native Atfalati tribes used Portland's west hills for hunting and gathering, moving about the area in a system of winter villages and summer camps. The land would have been Douglas fir forest, similar to the Willamette River forests described by William Clark in 1803 as containing trunks ranging from five to eight feet in diameter. The forest would have alternated with open grasslands and meadows produced by thousands of years of controlled burning by a succession of native peoples. By the early 1800's most of the Atfalati had succumbed to malaria and other illnesses.

The Donation Land Law of 1850 spurred a rush of westward migration. In 1851, Eli and Anna Steward filed a homestead claim on part of the Arboretum's land and the next year, the rest of the Arboretum's land was claimed by Amos King. These homesteaders cleared some of the forest for farming and harvested some of the timber. Neither of these homesteads was long-lived and by 1865, both of the homesteads had passed into ownership of Multnomah County. In 1889, a forest fire raged through the west hills and burned every building and tree to the ground.

In 1898, Multnomah County established a "Poor Farm" and sanatorium for people with infectious diseases and mental illness near what is now the Oregon Zoo. In 1910 scandals involving lax and corrupt supervision and intolerable conditions eventually caused the closure of the facility which was then moved to what is now



Edgefield Brewery.

The property was slated for residential development. However, visionary civic leaders sought to preserve the space as a public park dedicated to the growing and conserving tree species from around the world -- in other words an arboretum. In 1922, Multnomah County deeded the land to the City of Portland for the purposes of establishing Hoyt Park which then later became known as Hoyt Arboretum.

A Vision of Parks for Portland

By the beginning of the 20th century, Portland's urban population would have been surrounded by the bustling flow of commerce and building that marked a growing metropolitan area. Yet for all of the original promise of "God's country", much of the natural beauty of their surroundings would have become invisible to most Portlanders by this time. The stately trees lining Portland's boulevards, the downtown and suburban parks, the large tracts of land set aside for public enjoyment did not exist in 1903. While greenspace still abounded outside of Portland, transportation, time and expense would have put excursions into nature beyond the reach of many Portland families.

In 1903, the Portland Parks Board, a newly-formed committee of citizen volunteers, commissioned America's pre-eminent landscape architecture firm, the Olmsted Bros. of Brookline Mass., to make recommendations about developing a system of parks for Portland.

John Charles Olmsted's report to the Parks Board laid out a comprehensive interconnected system of parks for Portland with the caveat that it is always necessary to buy land for future parks to anticipate growing population. Olmsted's report begins, "*All agree that parks not only add to the beauty of a city and to the pleasure of living in it, but are exceedingly important factors in developing the healthfulness, morality, intelligence, and business prosperity of its residents. Indeed it is not too much to say that a liberal provision of parks in a city is one of the surest manifestations of the intelligence, degree of civilization and progressiveness of its citizens.*"

Olmsted's vision of a system of interconnected parks of varying uses and sizes remains the goal for Portland's parks today. And his insight that parks are an essential element of a prosperous and healthy city has only become more relevant over the intervening 103 years.

An Arboretum for Portland

John Charles' step-father/uncle, Frederick Law Olmsted, who designed Central Park in New York City and Harvard's Arnold Arboretum in Boston, believed that every region of the U.S. should establish an arboretum. He thought Portland had the most ideal climate for an arboretum west of the Mississippi. Although John Charles' 1903 plan for Portland's parks did not stipulate the creation of an arboretum, this vision of a world-class arboretum being established in Portland was probably discussed and thereafter championed beginning in 1911 by then Superintendent of Portland Parks, Emmanuel T. Mische. As early as 1913, Mische began acquiring and propagating seeds collected by the great plant explorer, E.H. Wilson, in China via Arnold Arboretum.

Hoyt Arboretum is named after County Commissioner Ralph Warren Hoyt, one of the strong and visionary personalities who contributed to its creation and the legacy that we all enjoy today. Some of the other people critical to the creation of Hoyt Arboretum were U. S. Forest Service local supervisor Thornton Munger; founder of Collins Pine Company, E.S. Collins; and Mische's successor as Superintendent of Portland Parks, C. P. Keyser.

The Duncan Plan

The Arboretum's founders commissioned John W. Duncan to design a plan for Portland's arboretum. Duncan had immigrated to the United States from Scotland when he was 18 years old, after serving as an apprentice to his father who was the manager for a large estate and gardens in Aberdeenshire. For the next 15 years, Duncan managed various estates in Massachusetts and Connecticut. In the early 20th century, he served as Assistant Superintendent of Boston's parks and then moved on to the superintendency of Spokane's parks in 1909 where a system of parks of over 1000 acres, including the Finch Arboretum. By this time, he had become one of the country's most knowledgeable plantmen and horticulturalists.

In 1930, Duncan completed a plan for what would become Hoyt Arboretum. The plan provided specific locations for nearly 40 plant families of conifers (gymnosperms) and flowering trees (angiosperms), and envisioned over 500 species. As befitted Portland's climate and timber heritage, much of the emphasis was on the conifer collections which comprised more than a third of the collections.

Duncan was heavily influenced by the tradition established by Frederick Law Olmsted in his plan for America's premier arboretum, Harvard's Arnold Arboretum in Boston. The Arboretum's landscape is planned to create both a sense of unity and mystery, alternating open meadows and groves of trees, all appearing relatively natural. At the same time, because of the Arboretum's educational and scientific purposes, the trees throughout the Arboretum are presented in taxonomically organized groups, surrounded by other members of their same genus, family, and order.

Today, the Duncan Plan remains the foundation for all of the Arboretum's tree collections but the number of species exceeds 1000 and we envision as many as several more thousand species being planted here. You can see a full size copy of the original blueprint in the Bill deWeese classroom in the Visitor Center.

Early Plantings

To begin with, it was necessary to clear out the dense second-growth forest of alder, big leaf maple, and the young hemlocks, Douglas firs, and western red cedar that had sprouted up since a catastrophic forest fire in 1889 burned almost everything to the ground. Since it was the Depression, WPA crews were the original workforce. Some of the 30-year old Douglas firs, Western hemlock, and western red cedar, and big maples were left undisturbed and today give Hoyt Arboretum its unique mixture of native and planted trees.

Trees began being planted at Hoyt Arboretum in accordance with the Duncan Plan in 1931. Some of the earliest collection trees planted at Hoyt Arboretum are the Coast Redwoods (found along the Redwood Trail (between Fairview Blvd. and Burnside Rd.). These trees some of which are now 150' tall began their lives as

seeds in the Parks' nursery then located at Mt. Tabor and were planted as 4' – 6' specimens in 1931. Today these trees are over 150' tall although they're still babies in Redwood terms. Imagine them in another 75 years!

By 1944, all of the 40 plant families listed on the Duncan Plan were represented in the Arboretum, with most of the planting having occurred between 1931 – 1938. Planting resumed at a slower pace after the end of World War II and has continued ever since.

The Arboretum Grows

After the first tree plantings Park Superintendent Kayser directed Work Relief crews to the Arboretum and a significant amount of clearing and road building happened in spite of the harsh economic conditions of the Depression era.

In 1940 Ernie Fischer came to the Arboretum, working there until his retirement in 1970. He established connections with other botanic gardens and arboreta, kept meticulous notes and records and the collection grew steadily under his leadership. SW Fischer Lane, which connects SW Fairview Blvd. to W Burnside Street, is



named in his honor.

During the 1940's and 50's the boundaries of the Arboretum changed somewhat to accommodate a new zoo and roads serving private developments. Land was added to the north to provide a link to W. Burnside Rd. The Portland Water Bureau built the three water tanks at the top of the ridge during this time.

After the Storm

In the fall of 1962 the Columbus Day Storm killed or badly damaged many of the trees and leveled areas of natural second growth. Much of the area required total clearing. One of those who assisted in this process was Jim Bray, who eventually took over from Ernie Fischer. Bray Lane, a gated road leading to the Wedding Meadow, is named in his honor. For many years Fischer and Bray accomplished an incredible amount with very little staff or material support.

Hoyt Arboretum Friends

In the 1980's, some of the Arboretum's land was viewed as "empty" which led to the siting of the beautiful Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the Arboretum's south slope. This in turn led a group of citizen volunteers to band together to begin advocating on behalf of the Arboretum. By 1986, this group realized that the Arboretum needed leadership, sustainable funding, and advocacy on an ongoing basis and formed Hoyt Arboretum Friends (HAF) as a non-profit organization.

Since 1986, HAF has built the Visitor Center, created the garden which surrounds it and which enchants visitors with surprises and beauty, rebuilt and greatly expanded the picnic shelter which is now the Stevens Pavilion, added the 90+ species holly collection, and added interpretive signs to major collections. These are the permanent changes. In 2005, over 40,000 people used free maps and educational brochures provided by HAF,

while many more used the website to download a map and information. People from every state and over 20 countries dropped by the Visitor Center for information and help. And since a garden is always a work in progress, much of HAF's contributions are to supplement the daily work that trees and plants outside their native habitat require. Twenty years later, Hoyt Arboretum Friends or HAF is an integral part of day-to-day operations at Hoyt Arboretum and long-term planning for the future.

HAF, however, is only a conduit for the volunteers, donors, and supporters who care about the Arboretum and are collectively nurturing and sustaining this special place. With its partner, Portland Parks & Recreation, HAF is providing the stewardship that a historical and living garden require.

Currently Hoyt Arboretum is managed and maintained by the partnership between Portland Parks and Recreation and Hoyt Arboretum Friends.

HOYT ARBORETUM VIET NAM VETERAN'S MEMORIAL HIKING INSTRUCTIONS

THE ARBORETUM IS LAID OUT WITH MOST OF THE TRAILS GOING FROM SOUTH TO NORTH AND BACK. THE INTENT OF THE HIKE IS TO START AT THE VIET NAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, HIKE TO THE EASTERN BOUNDARY OF THE ARBORETUM, THEN HIKE ALONG THE EASTERN BOUNDARY TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE ARBORETUM BY THE JAPANESE GARDEN. THEN FROM THERE YOU SHOULD ZIG ZAG BY GOING SOUTH THEN NORTH ON TRAILS WHILE WORKING YOUR WAY FROM THE EASTERN SIDE TO THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE PARK. THE FINAL LEG WILL BE FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER BACK TO THE VIET NAM VETERAN'S MEMORIAL.

- 1. START AT THE VIET NAM VETERAN'S MEMORIAL. AFTER VISITING THE MEMORIAL HIKE EAST ON DOGWOOD TO THE OVERLOOK TRAIL.**
- 2. HIKE EAST ON THE OVERLOOK TRAIL TO EITHER MAPLE OR WALNUT. HIKE ON EITHER OF THESE TRAILS UNTIL THEY JOIN WILDWOOD.**
- 3. HIKE NORTH ON WILDWOOD TO THE JAPANESE GARDEN TRAIL AND DOWN THE TRAIL TO THE GARDEN ENTRANCE (PART OF THIS ROUTE IS MISSING ON THE MAP)**
- 4. HIKE BACK ON THE JAPANESE GARDEN TRAIL AND TAKE THE NORTHERN PART OF THE WILDWOOD TRAIL UNTIL IT INTERSECTS MAGNOLIA.**
- 5. HIKE SOUTH ON MAGNOLIA TO WILDWOOD THEN SOUTH ON WILDWOOD TO CHERRY TO HAWTHORN.**
- 6. HIKE NORTH ON HAWTHORN TO CHERRY, NORTH ON CHERRY TO THE INTERSECTION OF THE OVERLOOK TRAIL.**
- 7. HIKE EAST FOR A SHORT DISTANCE AND THEN NORTHWEST ON THE OVERLOOK TRAIL TO THE PARKING LOT OF THE VISITOR'S CENTER.**
- 8. FROM THE PARKING LOT HIKE EAST TO THE SECOND INTERSECTION OF THE BEECH TRAIL.**
- 9. HIKE THE BEECH TRAIL NORTH TO THE MAGNOLIA TRAIL AND THE MAGNOLIA TRAIL TO THE WILDWOOD TRAIL.**
- 10. HIKE NORTHWEST ON THE WILDWOOD TRAIL TO THE OAK TRAIL.**
- 11. HIKE SOUTH ON THE OAK TRAIL UNTIL IT INTERSECTS FAIRVIEW BOULEVARD. HIKE SOUTH ON FAIRVIEW BOULEVARD TO THE PICNIC SHELTER.**
- 12. FROM THE PICNIC SHELTER HIKE NORTH ON THE FIR TRAIL TO THE WILDWOOD TRAIL.**
- 13. HIKE NORTHWEST ON THE WILDWOOD TRAIL TO THE SPRUCE TRAIL. HIKE THE SPRUCE TRAIL BACK TO THE PICNIC SHELTER.**
- 14. HIKE THE REDWOOD TRAIL UP TO THE WILDWOOD TRAIL.**
- 15. HIKE THE WILDWOOD TRAIL TO THE CREEK TRAIL. HIKE THE CREEK TRAIL SOUTH TO A SMALL PARKING LOT.**
- 16. FROM THE PARKING LOT, HIKE THE BRISTLECONE PINE TRAIL, HIKE THE HIMALAYAN PINE TRAIL TO FISCHER LANE.**
- 17. HIKE UP FISCHER LANE TO THE WHITE PINE TRAIL**
- 18. TAKE THE WHITE PINE TRAIL HIKING FIRST NORTHWEST AND THEN SOUTH TO THE HEMLOCK TRAIL.**
- 19. TAKE THE HEMLOCK TRAIL TO THE WILDWOOD TRAIL.**
- 20. GO FIRST SOUTH AND THEN EAST ON THE WILDWOOD TRIAL BACK TO THE PARKING LOT FOR THE VIET NAM VETERAN'S MEMORIAL TO COMPLETE THE HIKE.**