



WASHINGTON

OREGON CITY: The Oregon Trail ended here. Fort Vancouver, Hudson's Bay Company trading post, is across the Columbia in Washington.

THE DALLES: Before the Barlow Road opened in 1846, emigrants had to build rafts and float down the treacherous Columbia.

BARLOW PASS: Tired and weary emigrants who chose not to go down the Columbia faced a steep climb to the pass before descending into the Willamette Valley.

WYOMING

SOUTH PASS: Here emigrants crossed the Continental Divide into Oregon Country. The pass is so broad and level that many did not realize they had entered the Pacific watershed.

REGISTER CLIFF: Of the thousands of names carved by emigrants into the soft sandstone, hundreds are still legible. Trail ruts, some as deep as five feet, are three miles west.

SCOTTS BLUFF: When emigrants reached this prominent landmark, they knew that a third of their trip was finished.

ASH HOLLOW: This was the entry to the North Platte River Valley. Ample supplies of wood, water, and grass made this a sought-after camping area.

FORT KEARNEY: The U.S. Army built the fort in 1848 to protect emigrants. All trails from jumping off points along the Missouri River met here at the Gateway to the Great Plains.

INDEPENDENCE ROCK: Fur trappers named this formation on July 4, 1824. Many emigrants carved or painted their names on the rock.

FORT LARAMIE: Between the early 1830s and the late 1840s this outpost went from an Indian trading post to a major resupply point for emigrants and a major military post. Old Bedlam, on the fort grounds, is the oldest structure in Wyoming.

FORT BRIDGER: The fort was a major supply point on the trail. Here the Mormon Trail veered off to the southwest and into Utah.

THREE ISLAND CROSSING: At low water this was the best crossing to the north side of the Snake River—and to better travel conditions that also offered ample drinking water.

FLAGSTAFF HILL: Travelers first saw the Blue Mountains from here—an indication that their trip was nearing its end.

BLUE MOUNTAINS: The abundant wood, water, and shade afforded by these mountains were a welcome change from the desert terrain along the Snake River.

ALKALI SPRINGS: A vital water source for emigrants in the arid landscape of Idaho.

WIND RIVER RANGE: A major mountain range in Wyoming, home to several national parks.

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