



The community of Lowell, Oregon offers a spectacular gateway for any number of recreational activities. This particular drive makes for an excellent addition to your journey. Spend a little extra time discovering these Covered Bridges in the Autumn, as you drive toward the Aufderheide to enjoy Fall Colors; in Winter, as you travel to Willamette Pass to play in the snow; in Spring, as you take your first mountain bike trip of the season; or in Summer, before you camp at Fall Creek, water ski at Dexter Lake, or picnic at the annual Lowell Blackberry Jam Festival!

Additional Sources Used: www.co.lane.or.us/about/bridges.htm
www.covered-bridges.org/
www.mapquest.com



Office Covered Bridge - Kathy Baker

Office Covered Bridge

Built: 1944
 Span: 180 Feet
 Stream: N Fork of the Middle Fork, Willamette River
 World Guide Number: 37-20-39

Directions: Cross through Parvin Creek Covered Bridge, turn right and travel on LOST VALLEY LN for 0.1 miles. Turn right onto PARVIN RD and go 0.7 miles. Turn left onto LOST CREEK RD and go for 0.6 miles. Turn right onto OR-58 / WILLAMETTE HWY and head southeast for 19.9 miles. Turn left onto WESTFIR RD / WESTFIR-OAKRIDGE RD and go 0.4 miles then take a left turn onto N FORK RD / WESTFIR RD and go for 1.6 mile where you will see OFFICE COVERED BRIDGE. Drive through bridge for parking area and restrooms. *Estimated drive time from Parvin Covered Bridge 25 minutes.*

History: At 180 feet in length, the Office Covered Bridge is the longest covered bridge in Oregon. It was constructed in 1944 by the Westfir Logging Company using triple timber beams (one of only two in Oregon) to provide the strength required to support heavy logging trucks. The bridge spans the North fork of the Middle Fork of the Willamette River, once the site of a mill pond at the town of Westfir, and connected the lumber mill to its office; hence the name.

The company-owned town, including the bridge, was sold to an investment company in 1977. In the early 1980's the mill burned and the bridge was closed to traffic. The bridge became the property of Lane County in 1992. Extensive repair work in 1992 stabilized the bridge and in 2002 a new roof was added. A distinctive feature of the bridge is the covered walkway on the side of the bridge, separate from the roadway.

Cascade Highway 58 Covered Bridge Loop



TravelLaneCounty.org

Pengra Creek Covered Bridge

Built: 1938
Span: 120 feet
Stream: Fall Creek
World Guide Number: 37-20-15

Directions: From Eugene - Take I-5 South and take EXIT 188A toward OAKRIDGE/KLAMATH FALLS to Hwy OR-58 / WILLAMETTE HWY. Go 6 miles on Hwy OR-58 and turn left onto PARKWAY RD / JASPER-SPRINGFIELD TURN. Go 2.8 miles to stop sign. Turn right onto JASPER-LOWELL RD and drive 3.8 miles. Take a left turn which is JASPER-LOWELL RD. Travel 0.4 miles to PLACE RD. The PENGRA CREEK COVERED BRIDGE is located 100 yards south on PLACE RD, and there is parking/turnaround suitable for motorcoach at the intersection on the north side of PLACE RD. *Drive time is approximately 35 minutes from Eugene.*

History: Pengra Bridge contains two of the longest timbers ever cut for a bridge in Oregon. The lower chords measuring 16" x 18" x 126 feet were too large to be run through a mill and were therefore rough hewn in the woods. Booth-Kelley Lumber Company cut and transported the timbers to the bridge site by truck where they were resurfaced before being set into place.

The bridge was named for B.J. Pengra, a pioneer who eventually became general surveyor of Oregon in 1862. Pengra surveyed the Oregon Central Military Road which linked the Willamette Valley with the Owyhee mining country of Eastern Oregon.



Pengra Bridge - Jeannine Heidenreich

Convention & Visitors Association of Lane County Oregon

Unity Creek Covered Bridge

Built: 1936
Span: 90 feet
Stream: Fall Creek
World Guide Number: 37-20-17

Directions: From Pengra Creek Covered Bridge continue east 1.7 miles on JASPER-LOWELL RD toward Little Fall Creek. Past the community of Fall Creek, turn RIGHT to stay on JASPER-LOWELL RD and go 2.3 miles to UNITY CREEK COVERED BRIDGE. *Drive time is approximately 10 minutes from Pengra Creek Covered Bridge to Unity Creek Covered Bridge.*

History: The construction of this bridge represents the "standard" Lane County used for bridge design typical of the era, but includes a full length eye-level window on the east side for safety to provide motorists a glimpse of oncoming traffic. The bridge cost the County \$4,400 to construct and was completed in 1936. The bridge was restored to "near mint" condition in 1984.

Due to its proximity to Pengra, Lowell, and Parvin Covered Bridges, many bicycling tours include this on their rural routes.

Cannon Street Covered Bridge

Built: 1988
Span: None
Stream: None
World Guide Number: None

Directions: Drive through the Unity Creek Covered Bridge and continue southwest on JASPER-LOWELL RD 1.4 miles. JASPER-LOWELL RD becomes MOSS ST, go 0.4 miles. Turn left at stop sign onto JASPER-LOWELL RD and go 0.1 miles. CANNON STREET COVERED BRIDGE is located in Lowell-Greenway Park.

History: You will see the privately constructed CANNON STREET COVERED BRIDGE, built in 1988. This bridge does not span a waterway, but rather serves as a community conversation piece.



Unity Bridge - Donna Traw



Cannon Street Bridge - Sally McAleer

754 Olive St, Eugene OR 97401

Lowell Covered Bridge

Built: 1945
Span: 165
Stream: Middle Fork of the Willamette River
World Guide Number: 37-20-18

Directions: Turn right on to JASPER-LOWELL RD and go 0.7 miles. Just prior to reaching OR-58 / WILLAMETTE HWY you will see LOWELL COVERED BRIDGE adjacent to JASPER-LOWELL RD on your right. *Drive time is approximately 10 minutes from Unity Creek Covered Bridge to Lowell Creek Covered Bridge.*

History: Amos Hyland settled on the Middle Fork of the Willamette River in 1874 and plotted the small town of Lowell. Hyland operated a ferry across the Willamette near the present site of the Lowell Covered Bridge, until a bridge was first built in 1907. That bridge was replaced in 1945 after a truck accident knocked the truss out of alignment. The structure was housed in 1947.

At 24 feet, this is the widest covered bridge in Lane County and the only one over a reservoir. The entire bridge was raised 6 feet in 1953 in anticipation of the flooding produced by Dexter Dam. Calculations about the height of water were correct and the water level has never risen closer than 2 feet from the bottom of the bridge.

The bridge was bypassed by a concrete bridge in 1981. Prior to its closing, a dump truck traveling with its bed up caused extensive damage to the bridge. Lane County replaced broken roof braces and portal boards. A sign in Lowell City Park commemorates the covered bridge.

An extensive rehabilitation project was initiated during the summer of 2005. Extreme care was taken to ensure the structure's place in the National Register of Historic Places. The bridge now houses a walk-through interpretive center.



Lowell Bridge - Jeannine Heidenreich

(541) 484-5307 (800) 547-5445 (US & Canada)



Parvin Bridge - Jeannine Heidenreich

Parvin Covered Bridge

Built: 1921
Span: 75 feet
Stream: Lost Creek
World Guide Number: 37-20-19

Directions: Go south on JASPER-LOWELL RD and turn right onto OR-58 / WILLAMETTE HWY at the stop sign and go 1.7 miles. Turn left onto LOST CREEK RD and go 0.6 miles. Turn right onto PARVIN RD and go 0.7 miles to PARVIN COVERED BRIDGE. *Drive time is approximately 15 minutes from Lowell Covered Bridge to Parvin Bridge.*

History: The Parvin Covered Bridge was built in 1921, replacing a bridge erected on the site in the late 1880s. Lane County contracted with George W. Breeding to construct the bridge at a cost of \$3,600.

The bridge was bypassed in the mid-1970s when the road was realigned and the bridge was restricted to pedestrian traffic. Lane County officials decided to reopen the bridge in 1986, and attending the opening ceremony were the granddaughters of James and Selenia Parvin, settlers who had homesteaded in the area during the 1850s.

The bridge is now used daily by automobiles and is easy to photograph.

Note: See the back panel for directions to the final stop on the Cascade Highway 58 Covered Bridge Loop and see the Office Covered Bridge in Westfir.

To Return to Eugene: Go through the Parvin Covered Bridge and turn right on LOST VALLEY LN for .1 mile to RATTLESNAKE RD. Take left and go 3.8 miles to OR-58. Take left at stop sign to return towards Eugene. Enter onto freeway northbound.

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