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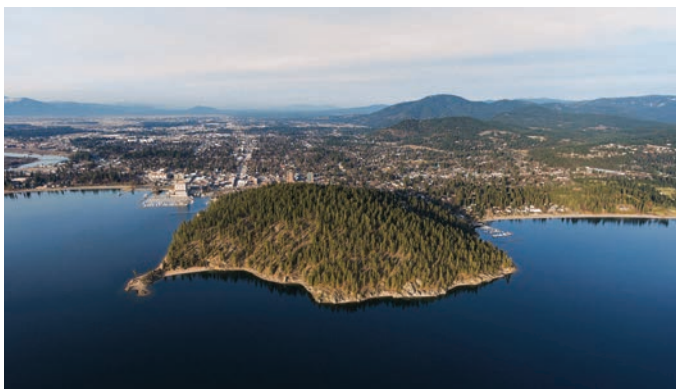
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Shawn Gust / Coeur d'Alene Press

Welcome to Tubbs Hill's two-mile loop trail which features outstanding scenic viewpoints, woodland habitats, and historical focal points. The self-guided walk, using the map found on pages 6 and 7, begins at the Harbor House trailhead in McEuen Park. As you follow the trail, look for numbered trail markers which are placed on trees generally at a height of 8 feet. These markers correspond with numbers and information found in this pamphlet. Allow about two hours and wear comfortable shoes as the trail is rocky and steep in some areas. Dogs are permitted if kept on a leash, but please keep the trail clean for those who follow.

This pamphlet is designed to acquaint you with the historical events which shaped Coeur d'Alene and to help you identify some of the major trees and shrubs found in this area. Signs at the trailhead identify some of these, along with seasonal wildflowers and birds. More complete lists of the flora and fauna are available in the Parks & Recreation office on the lower level of City Hall at the eastern edge of McEuen Park.

Tubbs Hill is a wonderful place to experience the change of seasons. Whether it is the long warm evenings of summer, the crisp golden days of fall, the white solitude of winter or the exuberance of spring bursting forth, you will be constantly rewarded with new discoveries. Please take time to enjoy your walk.

OWNER OF TUBBS HILL

Tony A. Tubbs was a German immigrant who came to this area in 1882. The following year he paid \$345 for 138 acres which today are known as Tubbs Hill (120 of those acres) and McEuen Park. In 1884 he filed a plat, "Tubbs Addition to the City of Coeur d'Alene," which included 11 lots. This plat ignored elevation and made the lakeshore lots on Tubbs' west side appear flat. As stated on Page 14 of The Treasure called Tubbs Hill by Scott Reed, "If Tony Tubbs had not tried to swindle the gullible public with a plat that ignored elevation, the hill might have been entirely developed early on in a more reasonable layout. Tony Tubbs was an accidental preservationist. With the help of a lot of as-yet-unborn friends and a series of fortuitous events and happy accidents, Tubbs Hill is largely preserved and protected for the public forever. The promoter who failed deserves to be commemorated."

Tubbs Hill was obtained for the public through four separate purchases that spanned a period of over 40 years. The first 33 acres were purchased in 1936 for \$19,000 following voter approval of a bond for that amount. This property included what is now known as McEuen Park, the present site of City Hall, and a narrow strip of waterfront property on the west side of the hill extending to the southwest point. It was not until 1969 that the second purchase was made for 34 additional acres. At that time Tubbs Hill was dedicated to the people forever. In 1974, 34 more acres were purchased. The last purchase of land was made in 1977 for another 34 acres. Coeur d'Alene is proud to have Tubbs Hill as part of its park system and hopes that you enjoy visiting this unique park setting.

1) GEOLOGY

You are standing on Precambrian metamorphic mica schist and gneiss. Look closely for sparkles in the large boulders. These are very old sediments which, heated by rising basalt magma, were turned into rocks. Shiny flakes of mica here on Tubbs are sometimes mistaken for "fool's gold" (iron pyrite).

2) SOIL

Scoured by the Glacial Lake Missoula floods, soil on the hill has only formed over the last 12,000 years. Although some soil has been formed by weathering rocks and wind-blown soil, most is composed of volcanic ash from Mt. Mazama, over 6,500 years ago. The hole left behind by that volcanic event filled with water and became Crater Lake in Oregon.

The upper layer of Tubbs is being formed by decaying plants and animals. The soil depth on Tubbs Hill rarely exceeds 5 inches. Since plant roots stabilize the soil, areas with little vegetation are prone to erosion. You can help stop erosion by staying on the main trails.

3) KINNIKINNICK (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)

Seen on the uphill side of the trail, this low-profile evergreen shrub with reddish bark and leathery leaves produces pinkish-white, urn-shaped flowers that yield orange or red berries. *Arctostaphylos* (Greek) and *uva-ursi* (Latin) both mean bear's grape. These edible berries are a favorite of bears, but beware of their bitterness!

The name kinnikinnick (Native American) was applied to many tobacco substitutes but frequently to this species. Both Indians and early settlers made a smoking tobacco by combining the dried leaves of this plant with the dry inner bark of the red-osier dogwood. Tannin was obtained from the leaves to cure pelts.

4) LAKE COEUR D'ALENE

Geologists believe that the ice margin never advanced as far south as Coeur d'Alene. They attribute the formation of the lake to rocks and soil carried by floodwaters from prehistoric Lake Missoula. According to this theory, a glacier known as the Purcell Lobe moved south from Canada approximately 15,000 years ago and blocked the Clark Fork valley in Montana. Water from the Clark Fork River filled tributary valleys behind the glacier for more than 100 miles beyond Missoula. The shrinking and collapse of the Purcell Lobe released a powerful mass of water from prehistoric Lake Missoula. The floodwaters deposited rock and silt across the Coeur d'Alene and St. Joe River valleys, creating a natural dam upon which the city of Coeur d'Alene is built. The Coeur d'Alene River, St. Joe River, and other smaller streams flooded the valley south of the city, thus creating 32,000-acre Lake Coeur d'Alene.

The raging water proceeded past what is now Spokane and carved out the channeled scablands in Eastern Washington.

5) COUGAR BAY

Backtracking 25 feet from this sign presents an excellent view of Cougar Bay. Look for pilings in the bay across the lake. These pilings are remnants of this region's lumber industry, a time when huge rafts of logs were brought by tugboats to various lumber mills in Coeur d'Alene and along the Spokane River. The Spokane River, to the right of Cougar Bay, is the outlet of the lake and flows west to the Columbia River.

On the skyline Mica Peak can be seen over the timbered ridge to the left. Old-timers say it is time to plant your garden when the snow leaves Mica Peak.

6) D.C.CORBIN

In 1886 D.C. Corbin facilitated the transportation of ore from the mines by building two railroads. The first to reach Coeur d'Alene linked the steamboat docks (near the present-day floating boardwalk) with the Northern Pacific route to Hauser Junction. Corbin then purchased the existing two lake steamers to connect the terminals of his railroads and built the Kootenai, a steamboat with enough power to break ice and transport ore in the winter.

In 1906 his son, Austin, purchased this portion of Tubbs Hill and built a home. Access to this home was along the same trail you are walking or by boat. The story goes that his wife did not like this arrangement. Austin sold the house in 1916, and it was gone by the 1930s. Known as the Corbin House, all that remains is the concrete foundation of the fireplace, seen here between the trail and the lake.

7) STEAMBOATS AND THE U.S. ARMY



Courtesy of the North Idaho Museum

The City of Coeur d'Alene began as a military post in 1879, named Camp Coeur d'Alene. In 1897 it was renamed Fort Sherman. This site was originally a very important location for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. It was selected by General Sherman of Civil War notoriety to become one of the forts on the Mullan Road. A small community consisting of soldiers' families and settlers who supplied the fort with wood and food developed around Camp Coeur d'Alene.

The first steamboat to ply the waters of Lake Coeur d'Alene was built at the Fort Sherman sawmill. The 85-foot sternwheeler, the Amelia Wheaton, named after the daughter of an early post commander, cost the U.S. government \$5,000. She was launched in 1880. Originally used to carry army supplies, the Amelia Wheaton later transported prospectors to the Coeur d'Alene mining district.

8) LICHENS

Lichens are a bizarre group in the plant world. They are a combination of algae and fungus but are unlike either in form. The algae live in the fungus, benefitting from its moist, protective habitat. In return, the algae supply the fungus with food through photosynthesis. Lichens usually grow where there is little competition from other plants and are found on rocks, tree trunks and bare soil. They are slow-growing and long-lived; some grow less than ½ inch a year. Lichens come in a variety of forms and colors and are classified by descriptive terms such as crustose (crusty), foliose (leaf-like), and fruticose (shrubby). Several different lichens are growing on rock on the uphill side of the trail. Can you guess the form of the bright green-yellow lichen? Look for other forms as you continue your hike.

9) KIDD ISLAND

The small island seen across the lake is named Kidd Island. The origin of this name indicates the historical process in action. One story is that a fellow by the name of Kidd owned it, built a small wall on the south end and added soil behind it. The other version is that Captain Sorenson, one of the area's earliest steamboat captains, used to drop his kids off there to play. Or it could be a combination of the two. History... the earlier it is recorded, the better. However, in this case, it adds a bit to the romance of the area, doesn't it?

10) PONDEROSA PINE (*Pinus ponderosa*)

One of the most important timber species, the ponderosa pine attains a height of up to 180 feet. It has orangish-brown bark which grows in large scaly plates on mature trees, and its long needles grow in bundles of three. Some of the ponderosa pine on this hill are over 150 years old. Western Indian tribes used its gummy pitch as an adhesive in canoes.

11) FOREST HABITATS

The most common tree species on Tubbs Hill are ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir. These conifers have different light and moisture requirements and are accompanied by characteristic understories forming distinctive habitat types. Ponderosa pine, which tolerates greater sun and wind exposure, is common on south and west-facing slopes. Douglas-fir prefers the wetter north and east-facing slopes. Notice the scarcity of shrubs in this open, grassy ponderosa pine forest. The dominant grass seen here is Idaho fescue. Watch for a dense understory when the dominant tree species changes to Douglas-fir further along the trail.

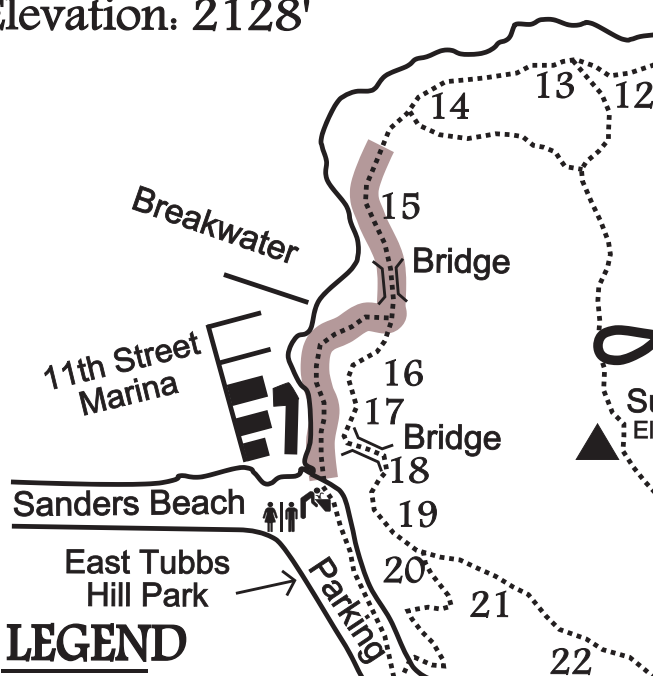
12) SNAGS

Standing dead trees, called snags, serve an important function in the forest by providing homes and food for a variety of wildlife species. Burrowing insects live in the dead wood and provide food for birds. Osprey nest on the tops of snags, and both osprey and eagles perch on them near the lakeshore to watch for fish. Bats often roost beneath the loose bark. When bacteria, fungus and insects attack dead wood, the layer of material above the topsoil called humus is formed. This process returns nutrients, particularly nitrogen, to the soil which are then reused for plant growth. Dead wood is an important ingredient in a healthy forest environment.

13) ALTERNATE TRAIL AT THIS POINT WILL LEAD YOU ACROSS THE FIRE ROAD TO THE TOP OF TUBBS HILL (See map on pages 6 and 7.)

Looking across the lake to the comparatively narrow gap, you are seeing the opening for the main channel of Lake Coeur d'Alene. The lake extends southward about 25 miles and includes over 100 miles of shoreline in all.

Lake Coeur d'Alene Elevation: 2128'



LEGEND

-  Rest Rooms
-  Picnic Shelter
-  Drinking Fountain
-  Hiking Trail
-  Accessible Trail
-  Centennial Trail
-  1 - 27 Interpretive Stations



SCALE



TUBBS HILL TRAILS





Courtesy of the North Idaho Museum

14) GRANDSTAND

The concrete footings along the shoreline below are all that remain of a once impressive grandstand. Erected in 1914, it was the favorite spot of thousands for viewing Independence Day celebrations, rowing regattas and boat races. The passage of the steamboat era was viewed here as several of the old boats were burned for Fourth of July celebrations. It was a tearful occasion when the Georgie Oakes, which had carried freight and passengers for 30 years, was burned July 4, 1927.

15) DOUGLAS-FIR (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)

The most important timber tree in the world, this evergreen grows up to 170 feet tall. It can be identified by short needles spiraling around the branches and its 3-inch-long cones with distinctive three-pronged bracts protruding from between the scales.

This species is being decimated on Tubbs Hill by root rot which is spreading from tree to tree through their roots. An aggressive reforestation project began in 2011 with the removal of non-native species followed by planting hardier native species which are unaffected by this disease: ponderosa pine, larch (tamarack) and our state tree, the western white pine.

16) THIMBLEBERRY (*Rubus parviflorus*)

This thornless shrub is easy to recognize by its large soft maple-like leaves, white flowers and edible soft red berries. Ripening in mid-summer, the berries are juicy and somewhat seedy. Like blackberries and raspberries, thimbleberry belongs to the genus *Rubus*. All species of this genus have 5-petaled flowers with numerous stamens that develop into edible berries.

17) VIEW OF SANDERS BEACH

The long shoreline seen east of here is known as Sanders Beach. It was once the location of the first sawmill on Lake Coeur d'Alene. Built in 1883 before the demand for lumber, the mill soon went bankrupt. In the early 1900s logging and lumbering became the main industry here when eastern lumber companies were attracted by large stands of western white pine. The lumber industry dominated our economy for approximately 70 years.

Today, seen further east beyond Sanders Beach, the Coeur d'Alene Golf Course with its floating green and the condos reflect the change from the lumber industry to tourism.

18) MYRTLE PACHISTIMA (*Pachistima myrsinites*)

The dark green leaves of this evergreen shrub are often used for winter decorations. The flowers are numerous but small and inconspicuous. They are brownish to yellowish-red and grow in clusters at the base of the leaves. Juncos, small sparrow-like birds, nest amidst the protective branches of this hedge-like shrub that prefers to grow in moist shaded areas.

19) NINEBARK (*Physocarpus malvaceus*)

This shrub can be recognized by its shredded bark that peels off in long strips. The maple-like leaves are alternate, and the small white flowers produced in early summer are clustered in hemispherical heads. It prefers to grow at forest edges bordering meadows but is also found in brushy areas. It grows in both Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine forests.

20) MOSSES

Often overlooked are the mosses that carpet the forest floor. They help prevent erosion by holding moisture. Growing on soil, rock and bark, these small plants are anchored and fed by root-like threads called rhizoids. Mosses germinate from spores that are produced in capsules. See if you can find any of the long-stalked capsules rising above the mosses.

21) GRAND FIR (*Abies grandis*)

This evergreen tree can attain a height of 160 feet. Its flat and relatively wide needles are mostly 1-2 inches long. They are shiny dark green above and silvery-white underneath. Birds and rodents enjoy the ripe seeds produced in the 2-4 inch cones that grow upright. Generally the cones of this and other firs disintegrate before winter.

22) WESTERN LARCH OR TAMARACK (*Larix occidentalis*)

The largest tree just north of the trail is a larch. This conifer grows up to 160 feet tall and is unusual because it loses its needles in late fall. In early autumn the yellow-green needles turn golden-yellow and add a spectacular display of color to the forest. Larch is one of the first species to seed in an area after a fire.

Larch is loved by those who burn wood because of the hot long-burning coals it produces.

23) OREGON GRAPE (*Berberis repens*)

This low-growing shrub with holly-like leaves has clusters of bright yellow flowers that develop into bluish-purple berries. The ripe berries are edible but very bitter. Jellies can be made by adding lots of sugar. The Indians made a yellow dye from the roots which they used for dyeing clothing and also used parts of the plant for basket-making fibers.

24) SERVICEBERRY (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)

Serviceberry ranges in height from 3-20 feet and is one of the first shrubs to flower every spring. Its showy white blossoms are often mistaken for our state flower, syringa, which blooms about a month later. The bluish-purple fruits are edible but are neither sweet nor juicy. The Indians dried the berries for winter use and made pemmican by pounding together the dried berries with dried meat. Many wildlife species browse on this shrub, and its berries are consumed by pheasant and grouse. You will find this shrub just beyond the ninebark on the spur trail to the right.

25) FERNS AND OCEANSPRAY (*holodiscus discolor*)

Ferns are considered less advanced than flowering plants because they reproduce by spores rather than seeds. The spores are contained in tiny capsules called sporangia and generally are found on the undersides of the fronds (leaves) in clusters called sori. Changing from green to brown as they mature, the sori often resemble groups of insect eggs.

Oceanspray is a common shrub on Tubbs Hill. It often grows over 10 feet tall; its leaves are ovate, toothed, green above and nearly white underneath. It produces masses of small creamy-white flowers. The flowers leave behind clusters of dry seed pods which remain throughout the winter and spring.

26) SNOWBERRY (*Symphoricarpos albus*)

This plant is easiest to recognize when it has fruit. Its waxy white berries are persistent through winter and are consumed by birds. From spring to late summer look for leaves arising in pairs with white to pinkish flowers occurring in terminal clusters. Saponin, a poisonous drug, is contained in the leaves of this shrub.

27) COEUR D'ALENE MILL



Courtesy of the North Idaho Museum

Look below the trail to see concrete footings, the only reminders of sawmills that operated on this site for over 40 years. Preceded by several mills with different names, the Coeur d'Alene Mill Co. was the last mill to operate here. It closed in bankruptcy in 1929. Try to imagine millions of board feet of lumber piled in the area now occupied by McEuen Park. Coeur d'Alene has certainly undergone many changes!

At this point, you are just a short distance from the end of the trail. This “urban wilderness” with its unrivaled scenery and tranquil settings, situated at the very edge of downtown, makes it the crown jewel of the remaining open spaces in Coeur d'Alene. Please do visit again. Perhaps the children with you will become tour guides, reading this pamphlet aloud while everyone takes an active part. Be sure to find the things that are pointed out as you go along... sort of an Easter egg hunt, if you will!

Idaho's state motto, “Esto Perpetua”, meaning “May she endure forever,” certainly holds true for Tubbs Hill as well! Information for this brochure was provided by the combined efforts of:

COEUR D'ALENE PARKS DEPARTMENT
and
TUBBS HILL FOUNDATION, INC.

Additional information regarding Tubbs Hill can be obtained from:
Coeur d'Alene Parks Dept. (208) 769-2252
Coeur d'Alene Visitors Center 105 N.First info@CdaChamber.com
Museum of North Idaho 115 NW Blvd. www.museumni.org

TUBBS HILL FOUNDATION

Tubbs Hill Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation of Tubbs Hill City Park as a unique and natural lakeshore forest typical of North Idaho, while providing for compatible public use of this of this special place. We act as advocates for the park, advise the city administration on issues pertaining to the park and support volunteer efforts including fundraising, community relations, and other tasks as needed to achieve this goal.

Our goal is to serve as a champion for Tubbs Hill as a natural area so that it stands as a beacon, both now and into the future, for everyone who wishes to enjoy the presence of the same natural forest experience in an urban setting that has been here for generations past. We speak on behalf of the Hill to preserve for future generations this visual jewel of a forest sanctuary set in the heart of downtown Coeur d'Alene.

tubbshill.org



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