HISTORICAL RESEARCH SOURCES
for OREGON'S SOUTH COAST

Prepared by Steven Greif for the Coos County Historical Society (August 2020)
(for additions or edits, please contact the Coos History Museum in Coos Bay)

INTRODUCTION

The following information is intended to be a general, preliminary guide for those persons conducting research on Coos County and south coast history and genealogy. Operating hours for libraries, courthouses, and museums vary, so call ahead for the latest information. Native Americans lived on the Oregon South Coast for thousands of years establishing a culture that continues today. Starting in 1542, European explorers began sea exploration of the area. A Hudson’s Bay Fur Company explorer, Alexander McLeod (1827) and an American fur trapper, Jedediah Smith (1828) became the first Euro-Americans to explore the region by land. The wreck of the Captain Lincoln occurred on the North Spit of Coos Bay in 1852; the following year, Empire City on Coos Bay was established as the first townsite. By December 22, 1853 Coos County was formed by the Oregon territorial legislature. The county, river, and bay took their name from the native Coos Indians and first appeared in print in the Lewis and Clark journals as “Cook-kookeoose”. The Coos County Historical Society was formed in 1891. Empire City served as the county seat from its founding until 1896, when citizens voted to move the county seat to Coquille. At various times the county economy has thrived on mining (gold/coal), shipbuilding, lumbering, agriculture, fisheries, and tourism.

HERITAGE MUSEUMS

There are many good museums on the South Coast. Call ahead for information about exhibits, hours of operation, and research services.

Bandon Historical Society Museum
270 Filmore (PO Box 737), Bandon, OR 97411. Phone: 541.347.2164
(www.bandonhistoricalmuseum.org) Open daily in the summer, 10am-4pm. Closed Sundays, September-May, and closed each January. Bandon’s Historical Museum collects and shares the stories of a town blessed by water and cursed by fire. Shipbuilding, shipwrecks, Indian artifacts, the beach, disastrous fires, festivals and celebrations, trees, cheese and cranberries are just some of the subjects exhibited to tell the story of life in Bandon and along the lower Coquille River.

Cape Blanco Heritage Society
98331 Coast Guard Road (PO Box 1132), Port Orford, OR, 97465. Phone: 541.332.0521 (www.capeblancoheritagesociety.com) The Heritage Society operates the Hughes House, Cape Blanco Lighthouse, and the Port Orford Lifeboat Station Museum. Open April-October, Wednesday-Monday, 10am-3:30pm. The barracks building of the at Port Orford Heads State Park, houses the museum with the stories of the courageous Coast Guardsmen who risked their lives to save those in distress at sea. Also on display is the former 36-foot motor lifeboat used in the daring rescues.
Chetco Valley Museum
15461 Museum Road (PO Box 2004), Harbor, OR 97415. Phone: 541.469.6651 (www.chetcomuseum.org) Open May thru October, Saturday and Sunday, noon–4pm.

The museum is located in the Blake House, built in 1857 - the oldest remaining home in southern Curry County. The home has had many uses including originally being used as a way station. Oregon's largest Monterey Cypress, a designated Oregon Heritage tree, is located on the property. The house and annex building have displays, pictures, and artifacts featuring local history including regional Native American tribes.

Coos History Museum
1210 North Front Street, Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone: 541.756.6320 (www.cooshistory.org) Open year-round, Tuesday through Sunday, 10am–5pm.

Located on a four-acre waterfront site on Coos Bay’s historic Front Street, the CHM features a variety of programs and special events for people of all ages. Two floors of exhibits explore the geography, history and economics of the South Coast and the people who live here. A research library is available to the public by appointment. Complete your experience with a visit to their museum store, which specializes in regional gifts and books.

Coos County Fairgrounds Museum
770 4th Street, Myrtle Point, OR 97458. Phone: (541) 824-0154. Open May through late September, Thursdays 1pm-4pm or by appointment, and open every day of the Coos County Fair in July. The museum displays exhibits that illustrate Coos life in areas such as logging, trains, the Coast Guard, schools, and past Coos County Fairs.

Coos County Logging Museum
705 Maple, Myrtle Point, OR 97458. Phone: 541.572.1014. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day, Monday-Saturday, 10am-4pm and Sundays 1pm-4pm. A unique museum in a unique building with tools, equipment, and photos on display showcasing the South Coast forest products industry. Included are many large sculpted myrtlewood panels of the Warneke Collection depicting logging scenes.

Coquille Valley Museum
153 N. Central Blvd, Coquille, OR 97423. (www.coquillevalleymuseum) Phone: 541.824.0076 Open May through September, Tuesday through Saturday, 11pm - 4pm. Open October through April, Thursday through Saturday, 11am - 3pm.

The museum collection consists of roughly 10,000 artifacts reflecting the social, industrial, and domestic artifacts of the Coquille Valley, from its prehistory to the modern age. Thousands of archives, genealogical resources, photos and library books on the area and its residents makes it a researcher's destination.

Curry Historical Society Museum
29419 Ellensburg Avenue, Gold Beach, OR 97444 (on Hwy. 101 across from the fairgrounds). Phone: 541.247.9396 (www.curryhistory.com) Open March through December, Tuesday-Friday, 10am-4pm. The Curry Museum is housed within a vintage Gold Beach home. We address the famous Rogue River as well as the Mary D. Hume, a historic ship that was built in Gold Beach in 1881. You will find displays
of ocean vessels, fishing, timber days, military, along with many pioneer displays including local Indian artifacts. The gift shop features books and historical photos.

**Marshfield Sun Printing Museum**
1049 Front St. (PO Box 783), Coos Bay, OR 97420
(www.marshfieldsunprintingmuseum.org) Open summer, Tuesday-Saturday, 1pm-4pm and during other months by appointment. A fully intact 19th-century frontier weekly newspaper and job printing shop with all presses, type cases, and other printing equipment as they were in 1944 when the printer died, ending the last hand-set newspaper in Oregon and one of the last in the United States. Upstairs are exhibits depicting life in Marshfield in early 1900s, a collection of early office copying technology, and a repository of all the weekly newspapers printed in what is now the City of Coos Bay.

**Oregon Coast Historical Railway Museum**
766 South 1st Street, Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone: 541.297.6130
(www.orcorail.org) Open year-round, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9am-3pm.
The display area has historic railroad and logging equipment that worked in the region, including two locomotives and three cabooses that can be boarded. The museum has railroad artifacts and memorabilia, "hands-on" exhibits, and hundreds of photos.

**Oregon Coast Military Museum**
2145 Kingwood Street, Florence, OR 97439 (PO Box 2040), Florence, OR 97439 Phone: 541-902-6150. (www.oregoncoastmilitarymuseum.com) Open year-round, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 10am-4pm. Life-size dioramas of WWI thru Vietnam; scaled diorama of Desert Storm; personal artifact displays; library and gift shop, honoring all eras of military heritage and all disciplines of military service. "Honoring our Veterans by Educating our Public."

**Siuslaw Pioneer Museum**
278 Maple St., (PO Box 2637), Florence, OR 97439. Ph: 541.997.7884
(www.siuslawpioneermuseum.com) Open daily, May through September, noon-4pm and open October thru December and February thru April, Tuesday-Sunday, noon-4pm.
The museum is home to historic displays, pictures and other information about the Siuslaw River area including the pioneers, Indian tribes, and the City of Florence. A research library is on site.

**Umpqua Discovery Center**
409 Riverfront Way, Reedsport, OR 97467. Phone: 541.271.4816
(www.umpquadiscoverycenter.com) Open every Sunday, noon-4pm. Open June 1–September 30, Monday–Saturday, 10am-5pm, and October 1–May 31, 10am-4pm.
Travel back in time to life in a tidewater town and hike the indoor nature trail. Educational and fun for all!

**Umpqua River Lighthouse Museum**
1020 Lighthouse Road, Winchester Bay, OR 97467. Ph: 541.271.4631
(www.umpquavalleymuseums.org) Open every day May–October, 10am-4:30pm and November–April, Friday thru Monday, 10am-4:30pm. Inside the museum you’ll find hundreds of documents, photographs, and artifacts that illustrate the story of
the nearby Umpqua River Lighthouse from its early existence as a Lifesaving Station to the U.S. Coast Guard station that sits on the same site today.

**Wagner Pioneer House**  
500 1st Avenue (P.O. Box 250), Powers, OR 97466. Phone: (City of Powers) 541.439.3331. Open by appointment and every other Saturday or Sunday in the summer from noon-3pm. The Wagner Pioneer House was built in 1872 of split-beam construction. It contains exhibits and photos depicting rural life in an Oregon logging and farming community during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

**GENEALOGY**  
The **Family History Center** at 3355 Virginia Street, North Bend, OR 97459 (Phone: 541.756.3575) has a large collection of genealogical material related to Coos County in this LDS library including: The Oregon Biography Index; the Coos County Ancestor File; Coos County territorial and federal census records; cemetery and obituary records; marriage, birth, and death records; land and probate records; tax and military records; and various directories. Open Tues (10am-9pm), Wed (10am-6pm), Thurs (10am-9pm), Fri (10am-4pm). Their website is www.familysearch.org.

**INTERNET**

**General South Coast**  
- The Oregon Encyclopedia is an excellent internet based resource that has many articles related to the South Coast written by local historians: www.oregonencyclopedia.org

- The state government has a very good website for historical information that includes much information on Coos and Curry counties: www.oregonheritage.gov You’ll find historic buildings, cemeteries, trails, parks, archaeological sites and other historic places

- The state government also has a website on Coos County at the Oregon Blue Book pages: http://sos.oregon.gov/archives/records/county/Pages/coos-inventory.aspx This site gives great information on record locations for Coos County.

- See www.orww.org/Elliott_Forest/References/History/index.html for history references about the Elliott State Forest.

- The Oregon Historical Society has a page about Coos County "century farms" at this site: www.ohs.org/education/folklife/Coos-County-Community-Profile.cfm

- See bandonhistoricalmuseum.org site for a history of Bandon.

- *The Coos County Home Historian* website has links for those people interested in finding more information about a particular home, or any other building, in the County.

- *Genealogy: Roots Web for Coos County* has links to birth & death records, census records, biographies, cemetery and obituary information, maps, links to family
webpages, old Coos County post cards, general history, and other resources.
Another site for county genealogists is:
http://coquillevalley.org/CoquilleValleyPioneers.html

• A site that contains many links about Coos County history and genealogy is:
http://rebelcherokee.labdiva.com/cooscoor.html

• You can learn about the Pioneer Cemetery near Marshfield High School by visiting
this website: cbcemetery.home.att.net/

• Many Oregon newspapers, including some in Coos County, are now available
online at a website called Historic Oregon Newspapers:
http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/. Previously microfilmed newspapers are being
digitalized through a program at the University of Oregon Library. Key word
searches are made available at the site. Also see the list of local newspapers on
microfilm at the end of this document.

• The Southern Oregon Digital Archives at http://soda.sou.edu/ brings together
books, maps, government documents, oral histories, correspondence, and
miscellaneous materials that document the unique historical experience of Southern
Oregon, including Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, and Josephine Counties.

• www.cooshistory.org (Coos County Historical Society) has a timeline of South
Coast history, a short history of the Coos Bay area, and other history links.

• Many Oregon newspapers, including some in Coos County, are now available
online at a website called Historic Oregon Newspapers:
http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/ Previously microfilmed newspapers are being
digitalized through a program at the University of Oregon Library. Key word
searches are made available at the site

**AT THE COOS COUNTY COURTHOUSE**
Coos County Courthouse 250 North Baxter, Coquille, OR 97423 Phone:
541.396.3121 or the annex in North Bend at 541.756.2020

• **Land Records**
Index to Deed, Mortgage and Misc. Records available from1854 to present in the
office of the County Clerk. Part one, an alphabetical list of all grantors and
grantees, provides the index number for part two which abstracts all documents
related to the individual or family represented by that number. Deeds are available
from 1854 to present. Books 1 - 16 are available at the Family History Center and
the CB Public Library.

• **Marriage Records**
Marriage certificates, consent notes are available from 1854 to present in the office
of the County Clerk. Records are arranged chronologically. Microfilm copy of the
early records has an alphabetical index. Remainder is indexed in each volume by
first letter of the surname only. Prior to 1899 records were indexed for the groom
only.
• **Naturalization**
  Records available from 1850's to 1906, mostly at County Clerk’s office. Some records may be found in County Court minute books or in the Circuit Court Journal. After 1906 records are available from the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

• **Miscellaneous Records**
  County Commissioners Minutes: 1854 to present in office of the County Clerk. Contains early jury lists, road orders, accounts, etc. County Law Packets: early cases of minor infractions heard by County Court. Road Cases: Contain petitions, reports, road surveys and other data dealing with construction and maintenance of county roads. Birth & Death Registers: Several registers cover the time span of 1903 - 1929. Not all events recorded. Also available: Women’s Separate Property; Authority to Solemnize Marriage; Peddlers Licenses 1909 – 1917; Record of Registered Nurses; Medical Licenses; Warrants; Mechanics Liens; Mining Claims

• **Probate Records**
  Available from 1854 to the present located through the Court Administrator for Coos County Circuit Court. Have been microfilmed, but some of the early packets are unreadable. Packet may contain petitions for probate, lists of heirs at law, sometimes wills, inventories, guardian records, accounts, receipts, etc. Original wills are in the probate packets. The first book of recorded wills is labeled Will Book "B" and begins in 1870. Circuit Court Journal contains many early naturalization records. Circuit Court Record packets have divorce actions and other civil court cases, many dealing with probate and land disputes. Packets contain petitions, answers, depositions, motions, subpoenas, etc. Criminal Packets contain indictments, depositions, etc.

**LIBRARIES**
For access to the vast library resources of Coos County or the Oregon South Coast visit [www.cooslibraries.org](http://www.cooslibraries.org). To search the catalog go to: [https://catalog.cclsd.org](https://catalog.cclsd.org). Area libraries have published material available for check out with additional rare or out-of-print resources available for reference use in the library only. Some also house microfilm for newspapers and oral histories (see below).

• **Bandon City Library**, 1204 11th St. SW, 97411. (PO Box 128) Ph: 541.347.3221
• **Chetco Public Library**, 405 Alder St., Brookings, 97415. Ph: 541.469.7738
• **Coos Bay City Library**, 525 Anderson, Coos Bay, 97420. Phone: 541.269.1101
• **Coquille Public Library**, 105 Birch Street, Coquille, 97423, Ph: 541.396.2166
• **Curry Public Library**, 29775 Colvin, Gold Beach, 97444. Phone: 541.247.7246
• **Dora Public Library**, 56125 Goldbrick Road, Myrtle Pt, 97458 Ph: 541.572.6009
• **Hazel M. Lewis Library**, 302 Fir Street, Powers, 97466. Phone: 541.439.5311
• **Lakeside Library**, 915 North Lake Road, Lakeside, 97449. Phone: 541.759.4432
• **Myrtle Point Public Library**, 435 5th Street, MP 97458. Ph: 541.572.2591
• **North Bend City Library**, 1800 Sherman Ave., NB 97459. Ph: 541.756.0400
• **Reedsport Public Library**, 395 Winchester, Reedsport, 97467 Ph: 541.271.3500
• **Southwestern Oregon Community College Library**, 1988 Newmark, Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone: 541.888.7270
MAPS AND GEOGRAPHY
Maps provide a context for the study of historical sites and events. *Pioneer Trails of the Oregon Coast* by Samuel Dicken (1971, reprint 1978) is an important work showing Native American and pioneer routes. Samuel and Emily Dicken also produced *The Making of Oregon: A Study in Historical Geography* (1979). This text covers the entire state but includes information, maps, and photos of south coast. *The Atlas of Oregon* by William Loy (2001) is a revised atlas of the entire state. Also consider *Historical Atlas of the Pacific Northwest* by Derek Hayes (1999) or *Resource Atlas: Coos County, OR* by Oregon State University (1973). Information about the origins of place names is found in *Oregon Geographic Names* by Lewis McArthur (7th edition, 2003). Fire insurance maps like those from the Sanborn-Perris Map Company, located in local libraries and at the Coos Bay Public Library website (www.cooslibraries.org) are good sources for determining which buildings stood in the cities at various times in their history.

ORAL AND VIDEO HISTORIES
A “Living History Series” is held at Southwestern Oregon Community College in Coos Bay. The impressive, indexed oral history collection has over 250 interviews on taped cassettes of long-time county residents relating their memories. There are also videos on various aspects of Coos County history in the county library collection.

PHOTOGRAPHS
• The Coos History Museum in Coos Bay has over 250,000 images including approximately 3000 historic negatives from the Jack Slattery Collection; about 50,000 images from past issues of *The World* newspaper; over 50,000 images from the Victor West maritime collection; and another 7000 prints, postcards, glass plates and other negatives. The Society's images are being digitalized and indexed and will eventually be available for the public to browse and purchase. Researchers should note that *The World* images have not yet been indexed but are currently arranged by their date of publication. There is a research fee for digital reproduction of the museums images.

Other history museums in Coos and Curry counties also have photograph collections. Contact each museum individually to find out how to access them for research.

• The Bandon Historical Society Museum also has a large collection of digitalized images, many of which are available for sale. A volume that has many historic photos of Bandon, contrasting them with more modern photos of the same places, is *Bandon Then & Now*, by the Bandon Centennial Committee (1989). See the Langlois Centennial Committee (1981) for an album of that Curry County town called *Langlois: 1881-1981*.

• The Coos County Historical Society and *The World* newspaper jointly published three volumes of Coos County historic photographs: *Coos County: The Early Years* (1998) and *Coos County: The Glory Years* (2000), both edited by Kathy Erickson. Another volume of photos they co-produced is *Coos County Memories: The Early Years* (2016).
- Other collections of photos are found in the *Images of America* series. The Coos History Museum has most of these photobooks for sale in its museum store:
  - *Images of America: Coos County*, by Lisa Hull (2007) has photos almost exclusively from the collection of the Coos County Historical Society.
  - *Images of America: Lighthouses and Life-Saving on the Oregon Coast* by David Pinyerd (2007) has sections on the Umpqua River, Coos Bay, Coquille River, and Cape Blanco lights.
  - *Images of America: North Bend* by Dick and Judy Wagner (2010) uses chapter introductions and hundreds of photographs with extensive captions to show the history of the city of North Bend, Oregon.
  - *Images of America: Shipwrecks of Coos County* by H.S. Contino (2011) uses chapter introductions and hundreds of photographs with extensive captions to show the history of local shipwrecks.
  - *Images of America: Reedsport* by Jim Akre, the Umpqua Discovery Center, and the Douglas County Museum (2011). This volume has many captioned photos about the town on the lower Umpqua River. For additional pictures of early Reedsport see *Pictorial History of the Lower Umpqua* an official Bicentennial project of the Lower Umpqua Historical Society (1976).
  - *Images of America: Coos Bay* by Andie Jensen (2012) uses many CCHS photos to show the history of the city of Marshfield/Coos Bay.
  - *Images of America: Shipwrecks of Curry County* by H.S. Contino (2017) is her latest volume in the collection.

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**PUBLISHED MATERIAL: GENERAL SOUTH COAST HISTORY**

* One asterisk indicates the Coos History Museum retains a copy of the material in the Lansing Library. Many of the volumes below are out of print although most may also be found in special reference sections in Coos County public libraries.

** Two asterisks indicates that the Coos History Museum retains a copy of the material in the Lansing Library and may have the item available for sale in the museum store.

- The standard beginning place is: *A Guide to Oregon South Coast History: Following the Jedediah Smith Trail* by Nathan Douthit (self-published in 1986, revised edition by OSU Press, 1999).** This is the best modern general history of the South Coast from the Chetco River to the Umpqua River. The book traces the 1826 route of Jedediah Smith, the first American to explore the south coast by land, and also tells the story of each locality since the Smith expedition.

- *History of Southern Oregon Comprising Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry and Coos Counties* by A. G. Walling (1884)*, with valuable biographies, is out of print but can also be found in Oregon reference sections of local libraries.
Another very early regional history that includes material on the South Coast is *The Works of Hubert Howe Bancroft* by Hubert H. Bancroft and Frances F. Victor (1888). It is out of print but can be found in Oregon reference sections of local libraries.

*Pioneer History of Coos/Curry Counties: Heroic Deeds and Thrilling Adventures of the Early Settlers* by Orville Dodge (1898, reprint 1968).* This history was commissioned by the Coos-Curry Pioneer Association which was formed in 1891. It was the predecessor to the current Coos County Historical Society. The book has stories of the very beginnings of white settlement on the South Coast and is largely a compilation of pioneer narratives.

Another early important standard is *Destination West: A Pioneer Woman on the Oregon Trail* by Agnes Sengstacken (1942, reprinted 1972).* This is the narrative of Esther Lockhart, one of the first three Coos Bay region pioneer women, who came to Empire City in 1853.

The CCHS published *A Century of Coos and Curry: History of Southwest Oregon* by Emil Peterson and Alfred Powers (1952, reprint 1977).* This text sketches the Indian-White encounters and white town developments in the 19th century up to about 1950 and includes a compilation of short essays by local writers on various subjects like culture, agriculture, and industries.

*Roadside History of Oregon* by Bill Gulick (1991).* A general history of the state as one drives the main roads, including a good section on Oregon’s South Coast.


Also explore issues of the *Coos Historical Journal* found in the Coos Bay City Library and a collection of Southwestern Oregon Community College student research papers in that library titled “History of Southwestern Oregon” (1974).

*Images of America: Coos County* by Lisa Hall (2007).* One in a series of Images of America books, this volume uses chapter introductions and hundreds of photographs with extensive captions to show the history of Coos County, Oregon. There are Images of America books on several other specific topics and localities (see below).

*No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).* The title tells it all: the history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated cities. Many places described are no longer active communities.
PUBLISHED MATERIAL:  SPECIFIC LOCALITIES

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Arago

- No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Arago: pp. 221-228

- Welcome to Rural Coos County by Gordon Ross (2017).** See pp. 35-36.

Bandon

- See the website www.bandonhistoricalmuseum.org for a history of Bandon.


- Wooden Ships and Master Craftsmen by Ernest Lynn Osborne (1978).* Contains material about ship building in the Bandon region with some biographical information.

- Life of a Cranberry Grower by Ethel Reichenbach (1981) tells the authors life story and gives information about the cranberry industry, especially in the Bandon area.

- Bandon Then & Now by the Bandon Centennial Book Committee (1989). This is mainly a photo book that shows an older photo of Bandon and, on the opposite page, a more modern photo taken from the same angle.


- Bandon By-The-Sea by Dow Beckham (1997).* A history of the Bandon area including the 1936 fire.

- Bandon Tales: Stories of Country Life by Granny Abbott [i.e. Carol Fanning] (1997).*

- Saturday Night Heroes: A Browser’s Guide to the Bandon Millers Baseball Team of the Old Sawdust Circuit by Bob Sutherland (1999).* A 50 page book that is a collection of text, newspaper articles, and photographs of a semi-pro team.

• **Images of America: Bandon** by Robert Miller and Reg Pullen (2013). One in a series of Images of America books, this volume uses chapter introductions and hundreds of photographs from the Bandon Historical Society, with extensive captions, to show the history of the Bandon region.

• **Welcome to Rural Coos County** by Gordon Ross (2017). This volume contains stories of unincorporated areas including Randolph, Parkersburg, Prosper, and Riverton.

**Beaver Hill**

• **Gone But Not Forgotten: Beaver Hill, Oregon** by Andie Jensen (2015). Much primary source material, and photos, of the community with the most productive coal mine in Coos County.

**Bridge/Remote**

• **Welcome to Rural Coos County** by Gordon Ross (2017). See pp. 39-41.

• **No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon** by Andie E. Jensen (2017). The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Bridge: pp. 204-212. Remote: pp. 214-220.

**Bullards**

• **No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon** by Andie E. Jensen (2017). The history of a community and ferry landing near the mouth of the Coquille River: Bullards - pp. 37-50.

**Charleston/South Slough**

• **Blood on the Half Shell** (1983)* and **Romance on the Half Shell-- and More** (1990), both by Alfred Qualman, tells of a Coos Bay oyster business by a local oysterman.

• **Ojiisan: oh gee saan, the Life and Times of Al Qualman** by Alfred Qualman (1989).

• **The Simpsons of Shore Acres** by Stephen Dow Beckham (1971, reprinted 1991).*

• **A Guide to Oregon South Coast History: Following the Jedediah Smith Trail** by Nathan Douthit (self-published in 1986, revised edition by OSU Press, 1999). This is the best modern general history of the South Coast and has some info on Charleston.
• **South Slough Adventures: Life on a Southern Oregon Estuary** ed. by Melody Caldera (1995, second edition 2006). This history is about an estuary that runs south of Charleston.

• **Welcome to Rural Coos County** by Gordon Ross (2017). This volume contains stories of unincorporated areas including Charleston and South Slough. (pp. 26-32).

• **No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon** by Andie E. Jensen (2017). The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Charleston: pp 116-123.

**Coos Bay**

• **Life and Legends in the Coos Bay Area: A Story of the Indians and the Pioneers Who First Settled on Coos Bay.** This was a typed manuscript (undated) by Coos Bay elementary teachers Elizabeth Coover and Ellen Garner.

• **"An Historical Sketch of Coos County - Its Cities and Industries"** [manuscript] by William T. McLean (1966).*

• **Coos Bay, the Pioneer Period (1851-1890)** by Stephen Dow Beckham (1973).* The book includes history of Camp Castaway, early pioneers, the mining frontier, logging & lumbering, horticulture and early Empire City and Marshfield.


• **"A History of the Port of Coos Bay (1852-1952)"**, a manuscript by George B. Case (1984).*

• **And Everybody Knew Everybody: Life in the Coos Bay Region in the Years from World War I through the Depression** by Deanna McDaniel (1986).* Life in the Coos Bay region in the years from World War I through the Great Depression.


• **Eighty-Eight Years on Coos Bay** by Lorance Eickworth (1994).* An autobiography spanning 1905-1993. Personal insights into the various industries operating at the time and the community of Coos Bay.

• **Coos Bay North Spit: Historic Investigations of Federal Activities in Coastal Oregon** by Stephen Dow Beckham (2000).* This report includes: exploration of fur trappers; shipwrecks; initial mapping of the Coos Bay North Spit; U.S. Life-Saving Service station operation; and jetty construction projects.
• *History of the Public Library of Coos Bay, Oregon* by Jon Littlefield, Ellen Thompson, and Carol Ventgen (2009)* is a centennial publication about the public library.

• **Law on the Bay: Marshfield, Oregon 1874-1944** by Andie E. Jensen (2010).** The author shares extensive newspaper research about the crimes and law enforcement officers in old Coos Bay.

• *Fifty Years, Honoring Our Past, Lighting the Future: The Story of Southwestern Oregon Community College* by William Lansing (2011).** Richly illustrated with key documents, this volume describes the founding, development, funding issues, and programs associated with the first 50 years of SOCC.

• *Images of America: Coos Bay* by Andie Jensen (2012).** One in a series of Images of America books, this volume uses chapter introductions and hundreds of photographs, with extensive captions, from the Coos History Museum to show the history of the city of Marshfield/Coos Bay, Oregon.

• *My Memories* by Philip A. Matson (2012).** “A collection of memoirs of growing up and beyond in Marshfield, Oregon during the mid-twentieth century.”

• *O Pilot! Historical Sketches of the Coos Bay Bar Pilots* by Capt. Steven E. Woods and Jeanne Woods (2013).** Sea stories from 1850 to the present are told through the biographies of the men who were bar pilots on the Coos Bay Harbor. There is also a first person account of the attempted rescue of the New Carissa.

• *Paper Fight: The Coos Bay Times and the Ku Klux Klan* by Jon Littlefield (2014).** Discusses the competition of the two leading newspapers in Marshfield in the 1920s and the influence that KKK activities had on local and state politics. Good biographies of the Maloney brothers (who ran the *Times*), Charles Hall (businessman who ran for governor), and other local businessmen and politicians.

• *Between Two Worlds: Chinese of Marshfield, Oregon* (3rd edition) by Jon Littlefield (2016).** Chinese immigrants came to Coos County to build the railroads, work in the mines and canneries, serve as cooks in lumber camps, and operate stores. This is the story of several Chinese families in the Bay Area from about 1880 to 1940.

**Coos River**

• *Coos River Echoes: A Story of the Coos River Valley* by Charlotte Mahaffy (1965).* Mahaffy collected biographical sketches of people who lived on the river valley and clipped short news articles from local newspapers to illustrate river community life in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

• *The Goulds of Elkhorn* by Aileen Barker Rickard (1982).* This is a family history, centering on George Gould’s settlement near the center of the “Big Burn” of the Coos County forest fire of 1868 and what it was like to raise a family in a wilderness homestead from 1885 to 1912.

• Above the Falls: an Oral and Folk History of Upper Glenn Creek, Coos County, Oregon by Lionel Youst (1992, 2nd edition 2003).**  This detailed book tells about the wilderness homesteads on a tributary of the East Fork of the Millicoma River above Golden and Silver Falls.


• Lost in Coos by Lionel Youst (2011).**  "Heroic Deeds and Thrilling Adventures of Searches and Rescues on Coos River, Coos County, Oregon, 1871-2000".  Twelve stories about accidents and rescues in the wild forest of east Coos County.

• In the Shadow of Sugarloaf by George H. Whitney, compiled and edited by Carolyn Whitney Prola (2012).**  Compiled from letters and interviews, and told in his own words, this memoir chronicles George Whitney's youth in the Myrtle Point area as well as up Coos River.

• Welcome to Rural Coos County by Gordon Ross (2017).**  This volume contains stories of unincorporated areas heard by the author including some from Coos River, Allegany, and Dellwood.

• No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon by Andie Jensen (2017).**  This volume contains stories of unincorporated areas throughout the Coos River Area. Allegany, Dellwood and Coos River:  pp. 174-183

• It Takes a Watershed to Make a River by William A. Lansing (2017).**  A companion volume to It Takes a River to Make a Fish (2017)*  this text covers the history of each watershed between the Winchuck River at the California border, north to the Umpqua River with an emphasis on the salmon fisheries. There is a 45 page chapter on the Coos and Millicoma river system in the book.

Coquille and Coquille River
• Pioneers and Incidents of the Upper Coquille Valley by Alice Wooldridge (1971).*  Biographical sketches of people who lived in the river valley with short articles from local newspapers to illustrate river community life in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

• Landis: Pillar of the Church, Hypocrite and Murderer – a True Tale from Oregon’s Heritage by Marilee Miller (1982).*  The true story of a businessman in Coquille who was found to be a murderer in the late 1920s/early 1930s.

• Bits and Pieces of Coquille History by Curt Beckham (1985).
• **Living in the Past Lane** by Boyd Stone (1993).* Stories of history from the Coquille River Valley.

• **You Are the Stars: History of the Coquille Area** by Boyd Stone (1995).* Anecdotes about Coos and Curry counties.

• **Coos County Courthouse: 100 years, 1896-1996** by the Coquille Valley Sentinel.

• **Memories from Out of the Past** by Boyd Stone (1999).

• **My Valley: History of the Coquille River Valley Outlying Areas & More** by Boyd Stone (2008).*

• **The Coquille Valley** by the Coquille Valley Historical Society, edited by Patti and Hal Strain (2009) is a comprehensive two-volume genealogical work.

• **Welcome to Rural Coos County** by Gordon Ross (2017).** This volume contains stories of unincorporated areas near Coquille including Fairview, Dora, and Riverton.

• **No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon** by Andie Jensen (2017).** This volume contains stories of unincorporated areas throughout the Coquille River Valley.

• **It Takes a Watershed to Make a River** by William A. Lansing (2017).* A companion volume to *It Takes a River to Make a Fish*, this text covers the history of each watershed between the Winchuck River at the California border, north to the Umpqua River with an emphasis on the salmon fisheries. There is a 33 page chapter about the Coquille River system in the book.

• **Images of America: Coquille** by Bert Dunn, Andie Jensen, and Yvonne-Cher Skye (2019).** Another in a series of Images of America books, this volume uses chapter introductions and hundreds of photographs, with extensive captions, from the Coquille Valley Museum, the Coos History Museum, and other local sources to show the history of the city of Coquille, Oregon.

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**Curry County**

• **Pioneer History of Coos/Curry Counties: Heroic Deeds and Thrilling Adventures of the Early Settlers** by Orville Dodge (1898, reprint 1968).* It has stories of the very beginnings of white settlement on the South Coast and is largely a compilation of pioneer narratives.

• **Fool's Hill: A Kid's Life in an Oregon Coastal Town** by John Quick (1931).* Childhood memories of a boy who grew up in Port Orford.

• **A Century of Coos and Curry: History of Southwest Oregon** by Emil Peterson and Alfred Powers (1952, reprint 1977)* was published by the Coos County Historical Society. This text includes material on Curry County such as: sketches of the Indian-White encounters, pioneer town developments in the 19th century up to
about 1950 and includes a compilation of short essays by local writers on various subjects like culture, agriculture, and industries.


- **Tall Tales from Rogue River: The Yarns of Hathaway Jones** edited by Stephen Dow Beckham (1974)* is an important folklore collection from the Rogue River area as presented by a famous local mail carrier, Hathaway Jones.


- **Illahe: the Story of Settlement in the Rogue River Canyon** by Kay Atwood (1978).*

- **Then Until Now: A Social History of the Brookings Harbor Community** by Edward G. Olsen (1979) and the Brookings Rotary Club. “This account tells something of how the Brookings Harbor Chetco communities originated and have grown into the present stage – from the Native American inhabitants, the first white settlers, their early struggles and later efforts, to the present day and a hopeful future.”

- **Langlois 1881-1981** by the Langlois Centennial Committee (1981).* Biographies, social life and customs of the townsite in northern Curry County.

- **Silent Siege** by Bert Webber (1984)* describes WWII Oregon coastal defense systems and Japanese attacks against the Oregon South Coast in WWII.

- **A Guide to Oregon South Coast History: Following the Jedediah Smith Trail** by Nathan Douthit (1986, revised 1999)** tells about each campsite of the Smith expedition on their Oregon trip and has been one of the most popular recent local history books.

- **Battle Rock: The Hero’s Story** by Bert and Margie Webber (1992).

- **Settling the Rogue Valley: the Tough Times and Forgotten People** by Barbara Hegne (1995)

- **Lakeport: Ghost Town of the South Oregon Coast** by Bert and Margie Webber (1990).* At the turn of the 1900s, Lakeport became a town of over 400 people when a proposal was made to make Floras Lake a seaport with a canal to the ocean. The book discusses a famous shipwreck, a murder, and WWII defenses against Japanese invasion.

- **Port Orford: A History** by Patrick Masterson (1994). “An account of the Southern Oregon coast region that is a scholarly, accurate, blend of history, observations of
the flora and fauna, pioneer diaries, logs of explorers, data from shipwrecks, memorabilia from homesteaders, and descriptions of the social, political and historic events of northern Curry County.”


- *Until the Last Arrow, A True Story of the Indian Wars and Gold Rushes that Opened the...Rogue River Valley* by Percy T. Booth (1997).

- *They Found Gold on the Beach: a History of Central Curry County* by Walt Schroeder (1999). A very complete volume about the history of people and businesses in the region around Gold Beach and the Rogue River.


- *Uncertain Encounters: Indians and Whites at Peace and War in Southern Oregon 1820s-1860s* by Nathan Douthit (2002).** A very good examination of conflicts between pioneers and Native Americans in the very early years of Euro-American exploration and settlement on Oregon’s South Coast.


- *Lighthouses of the Pacific Coast* by Elinor DeWire (2010).** Stories about 64 lighthouses from southern California to northern Washington including local lighthouses at Cape Blanco, Coquille River, Cape Arago, and the Umpqua River.


- *Images of America: Port Orford and North Curry County* by Shirley Nelson (2010).** One in a series of Images of America books, this volume uses chapter
introductions and hundreds of photographs, with extensive captions, to show the history of northern Curry County.

• *Images of America: Gold Beach and South Curry County* by Meryl Boice (2012).** One in a series of Images of America books, this volume uses chapter introductions and hundreds of photographs, with extensive captions, to show the history of southern Curry County.

• *Chetco* by Mike Adams (2012) is the story of the history and growth of the Chetco Valley (Brookings-Harbor area) and neighboring spots in southern Curry County.

• *It Takes a Watershed to Make a River* by William A. Lansing (2017).* A companion volume to *It Takes a River to Make a Fish* (2017)* this text covers the history of each watershed between the Winchuck River at the California border, north to the Umpqua River with an emphasis on the salmon fisheries. There are many chapters on Curry County rivers: Rogue, Chetco, Hunter Creek, Pistol, Brush Creek, Floras Creek, Elk, Sixes, and the Winchuck River.

**Dora/Sitkum**

• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Dora: pp. 136-142. Sitkum: pp. 145-148.

• *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** Dora (p 16)

**Eastside/Catching Slough**

• *A Man from Eastside: the Autobiography of James Hubert Whitty* by James H. Whitty (1975)

• *Geordie: The Life and Times of George Ross, Jr., (1905-1995)* by Gordon Ross (2000).*

• *Yester Years* by Gordon Ross (2001).**

• *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** See pp.23-24.

**Elliott State Forest**

• *The Goulds of Elkhorn* by Aileen Barker Rickard (1982).* This is a family history centering on George Gould’s settlement near the center of the “Big Burn” of the Coos County forest fire of 1868 and what it was like to raise a family in a wilderness homestead from 1885 to 1912.


Empire

• *Pioneer History of Coos/Curry Counties: Heroic Deeds and Thrilling Adventures of the Early Settlers* by Orville Dodge (1898, reprint 1968).* This history was commissioned by the Coos-Curry Pioneer Association which was formed in 1891. There are many references to Empire City.

• *A Century of Coos and Curry: History of Southwest Oregon* by Emil Peterson and Alfred Powers (1952, reprint 1977).* This text sketches the Indian-White encounters and town developments in the 19th century up to 1950 including many pages on Empire.

• *A Guide to Oregon South Coast History: Following the Jedediah Smith Trail* by Nathan Douthit (self-published in 1986, revised edition by OSU Press, 1999).* This is the best modern general history of the South Coast and has some info on Empire City.

• *The Coos Bay Region 1890-1944: Life on a Coastal Frontier* by Nathan Douthit (1981, 2nd edition, 2005)** is a book about the pioneer era. The author relied on many oral history interviews as well as historical documents and photos and has Empire info.

• *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** See p. 2

Fairview

• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Fairview: pp. 149-155.

Gaylord

• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Gaylord: 287-295.

• *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** See pp 19-20.

Glasgow

• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Glasgow: pp. 267-270.
Gravelford
• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Gravelford: pp. 155-159.

• *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** See p.23.

Greenacres
• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Greenacres: pp. 195-197.

Haynes Inlet
• *Haynes Inlet Memories: 1870-1940* by Ines Nelson (no pub. Info.).* 40 pages of about the inlet on north Coos Bay based on oral histories and local government records.

Hauser/North Slough
• *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** See pp. 5.

• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Hauser: pp. 271-275

Kentuck Inlet
• *These Fast Changing Times: Coos and Curry Counties* by Lee Leroy Stonecypher (1980).* A biography of the Stonecypher family which lived in Curry and Coos counties (including Kentuck Inlet).


Lakeside
• *The Heart of Lakeside* by Edna Skinner (1978).*

• *Some History of Ten Mile Lakes* by Katz Moffitt Gary (2010).* This spiral bound booklet was written by a native of Lakeside. Her father was town preacher and founder of Ten Mile County Park. It has historical photos and stories of places and people of the Lakeside area over the past century.

• *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** This volume contains stories of unincorporated areas including Tenmile (pp 3-4)
• No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** History of specific localities in Coos County. This book has info on the communities around Lakeside: pp. 299-304.

Myrtle Point
• The Baltimore Colony and Pioneer Recollections Taken from the Original Notes of the Honorable Binger Hermann by Binger Hermann and the Baltimore Colony Centennial Committee (written in 1916; published in 1956).* Contains a genealogy section of families in the Baltimore Colony.

• After the Covered Wagons: Recollections of Russell C. and Ellis S. Dement, by E.R. Jackman (1962). In 1934, at the age of eighty-three, Russell C. Dement recorded some of his early day experiences in his exact words, except for some explanatory material, so indicated, supplied by his son Ellis.

• Pioneers and Incidents of the Upper Coquille Valley by Alice Wooldridge (1971).* Biographical sketches of people who lived in the river valley with short articles from local newspapers to illustrate river community life in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

• Remember When by Nellie Palmer (1983).* Information on the Hoffman family, pioneers in the Myrtle point region.

• Myrtle Point Beginnings by Curt Beckham (1986).* Written to commemorate the centennial of the town, the book chronicles the settlement of Myrtle Point thru the 20th century.

• A Love Affair with Oregon by Dee Jamison (1989).* Chronicles the author's adventures in 1947-48 as a shop girl in Myrtle Point and as a cook in Russell Train's Squaw Creek logging camp above Powers, OR and her return to Coos County in 1963.


• As I Remember by Kenneth Peel (1993).

• Seventh Son by Aileen Barker Rickard (2001).* The author was an English teacher at Myrtle Point High School. Her book is the story of the author's grandfather, John Ledston Barker, the Barker family, and the Boone family.

• In the Shadow of Sugarloaf by George H. Whitney, compiled and edited by Carolyn Whitney Prola (2012).** Compiled from letters and interviews, and told in his own words, this memoir chronicles George Whitney's youth in the Myrtle Point area as well as up Coos River.

• Replica: The Dement Booklet and Backstory: The Dement Booklet both by Steven S. Means (2013). The first volume offers every page of a booklet kept by the
family of Sam Dement whose ancestors crossed the Oregon Trail and developed a ranch in the Upper Coquille Valley near Eckley. The second volume is a more extensive investigation of that booklet and family history.

- **Images of America: Myrtle Point and Vicinity 1893-1950** by Chuck King, Linda Kirk, Carolyn Prola, and Mary Ellen Robertson (2014). One in a series of Images of America books, this volume uses chapter introductions and hundreds of photographs, with extensive captions, to show the history of the city of Myrtle Point, Oregon.

- **Reminiscing: One Man’s Recollection of Logging in the Golden Years** by Glen Olson (2014). A history of South Coast logging by one of the strong supporters of the Coos County Logging Museum located in Myrtle Point.

- **Military History of the Myrtle Point/Powers, Oregon, Area** by Alice DeSoto (2014). This volume includes the history of Myrtle Point, Arago, Dora, Bridge, Broadbent, and Powers.

- **Welcome to Rural Coos County** by Gordon Ross (2017). This volume contains stories of unincorporated areas including Bridge, Broadbent, Gaylord, and Arago.

**North Bend**

- **Vern C. Gorst: Pioneer and Grandad of United Air Lines** by Wilbur Gorst (1979).* This book by Gorst’s son has the history and photos of how early pioneers innovatively coped with transportation issues, on land and in the air, at the Bay Area and the West Coast.

- **Louie Simpson’s North Bend** by Richard Wagner (1986)** includes photos, a map, and descriptions of key buildings in the early days of the city.

- **“The No Beginning Possibly One Hundred Year History of Coos County School District 13”** by Nancy M. Weybright (1986)* is a manuscript produced about the history of North Bend schools based upon minutes of school board meetings.

- **In A Small Puddle** by Nellie Ripper (1987).* A biography of the North Bend author and her husband, Jack Ripper, who were both state legislators.

- **“North Bend’s Depression Issue Myrtlewood”** by Patricia Choat Pierce (1993)* is a brief pamphlet about how the city creatively dealt with the closure of its only bank in 1933.

- **Birth, Boyhood and Beyond** by George E. Gebhardt (1994) is the autobiography of an important North Bend businessman.

- **And Afterward: a Sometimes Every Now & Then Journal** by Nellie Ripper (2002).
• *The Uncommon Life of Louis Jerome Simpson* by Judith and Richard Wagner (2003)** is the best biography about the life of the founder of the city of North Bend.

• *North Bend Between the Wars: 1919-1941* by Richard and Judy Wagner (2005)** continues the North Bend story with more photos and description of the growing city.

• *Vern Gorst and the Pacific Air Transport Air Mail* by Ron Bartley (2006). Chronicles the life of an important pioneer in the transportation industry that lived in North Bend.

• *Stories of My Life* by Frank B. Rood, Jr. (undated, probably post-2008). The autobiography of the life of a North Bend area farmer/rancher and includes four stories by his wife, Mavis Black Rood.

• *Instigator: the Troubled Life of Lorenzo Dow Kinney* by Richard and Judy Wagner (2008)** is the study of one of North Bend’s most flamboyant promoters.

• *Images of America: North Bend* by Dick and Judy Wagner (2010)** One in a series of Images of America books, this volume uses chapter introductions and hundreds of CCHS photographs, with extensive captions, to show the history of the city of North Bend, Oregon.


• *Extracurricular: a History of Athletics and Activities at North Bend (OR) High School* by Steven Greif (2016)** This is a history of the high school from the early 1900s to 2016 focusing on athletics, sports venues, campus construction, and other school activities. The book features many photographs and biographies of many people associated with the North Bend School District.

• *California Bound* by Peter Pike, Jr. (2018). This family memoir was written by the great grandson of Asa Simpson. Chapters 4, 5, and 6 cover the lives of Asa and his wife, Sophie (Smith) Simpson. The loss of the Simpson family fortune are covered in Chapters 12, 15, and 16.

**Norway**

• *Years ago at Norway* by Mrs. Roy Robison (1983)

• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017)** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Norway: pp. 245-259.
**Parkersburg / Prosper**

- *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** See pp 36-37.

**Powers**

- *A Love Affair with Oregon* by Dee Jamison (1989).* Chronicles the author's adventures in 1947-48 as a shop girl in Myrtle Point and as a cook in Russell Train's Squaw Creek logging camp above Powers and her return to Coos County in 1963.

- *History of the Upper Coquille Valley* by Darrell Gulstrom (2014). This volume includes the history of Myrtle Point, Arago, Dora, Bridge, Broadbent, and Powers.

- *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** Stories of unincorporated areas including Broadbent, Powers, and Eckley. (see pp. 20-23)

**Reedsport/Gardiner**
- *Land of the North Umpquas* by Lavola J. Bakken (1973). Although most of the focus is on the Umpqua tribe in the upper reaches of the river, the book does describe Umpqua Indian culture.

- *Bastion of Empire: The Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Umpqua-- Being a Narrative of the Early Explorations and the Fur Trade in Douglas County* by Norman Dennis Schlesser (1973).*


- *Images of America: Reedsport* by Jim Akre, the Umpqua Discovery Center, and the Douglas County Museum (2011).** An Arcadia volume, many captioned photos.

- *It Takes a Watershed to Make a River* by William A. Lansing (2017).* A companion volume to *It Takes a River to Make a Fish* (2017)* this text covers the history of each watershed between the Winchuck River at the California border, north to the Umpqua River with an emphasis on the salmon fisheries.
Riverton
• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Riverton: pp 75-82.

• *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** See p. 35

Sumner
• *No Place Like Home: The Unincorporated Towns and Communities of Coos County, Oregon* by Andie E. Jensen (2017).** The history of specific localities in Coos County that are not incorporated. Summer: pp. 128-134

• *Welcome to Rural Coos County* by Gordon Ross (2017).** See pp. 7-8.

PUBLISHED MATERIAL: SPECIFIC TOPICS

* One asterisk indicates the Coos History Museum retains a copy of the material in the Lansing Library. Many of the volumes below are out of print although most may also be found in special reference sections in Coos County public libraries.

** Two asterisks indicates that the Coos History Museum retains a copy of the material in the Lansing Library and may have the item available for sale in the museum store.

Agriculture
• *Life of a Cranberry Grower* by Ethel Reichenbach (1981)* tells the authors life story and gives information about the cranberry industry.


• *$10,000 or Ten Years: Memoirs of the Brelage Family* by Herman Brelage (1991) known for his family dairy.

• *The Affordable Oyster* by Lilli Clausen (1997).* Oyster fisheries and cooking oysters from an author associated with a oyster business on Haynes Inlet and Coos Bay.

• *Oyster Farming in Oregon* (no date, no author)*. A scrapbook about efforts to grow oysters in Oregon with coverage of the early industry on Coos Bay.

• **Coos Dairy Industry: Essays and Interviews** edited by Joy Parker and Connie Parker (2009).* A 193 page, spiral-bound collection of essays created by SWOCC students, including good biographical information, associated with the dairy industry.

• **Pacific Northwest Cheese: A History** by Tami Parr (2013).* The author traces the development of cheese-making in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho from the times of the earliest pioneers to the present. There are several good sections on dairies and cheese-making on the South Coast.

• **Coos County Agriculture: A Short History** by Bill Mast (2014).** The book has brief chapters on practically every crop or animal husbandry venture in Coos County. Also includes good material on rural farm life.

**Animals / Hunting / Fishing**

• **Hello Sportsman** by Lans Leneve (1954).* The author was born in Coquille and lived near Myrtle Point and was a hunter/trapper with the State Game Commission. “A book about fishing, hunting, and how-to-live in the open woods.”

• **Clam Digging & Crabbing in Oregon** by John A. Johnson (1990).

• **Birding the Southern Oregon Coast** by Stephen Brown (1996).

• **Curry County Agriculture: the People and the Land - an Oregon Documentary** by Walt Schroeder (1998).

• **Birds of Coos County, Oregon: Status and Distribution** by Alan Contreras (1998).


• **Springer’s Quest: Life of a Chinook Salmon** by Nina Foran Gee (2009).** After naming a fictional salmon, the author weaves the story of the entire lifestyle of this amazing fish.

• **It Takes a River to Make a Fish** by William A. Lansing (2017).* A richly illustrated text about the biology of salmon with a focus on the forces that affect salmon on the Oregon South Coast.

• **It Takes a Watershed to Make a River** by William A. Lansing (2017).* A companion volume to *It Takes a River to Make a Fish*, this text covers the history of each watershed between the Winchuck River at the California border, north to the Umpqua River with an emphasis on the salmon fisheries.

**Athletics/Sports**

• **Pre: The Story of America’s Greatest Running Legend** by Tom Jordan (1997)* is the story about the career of Marshfield High School and University of Oregon track star, Steve Prefontaine.
• **Saturday Night Heroes: A Browser’s Guide to the Bandon Millers Baseball Team of the Old Sawdust Circuit** by Bob Sutherland (1999).* A 50 page book that is a collection of text, newspaper articles, and photographs of a semi-pro team.

• **Bowerman and the Men of Oregon** by Kenny Moore (2006). The definitive work about the University of Oregon cross country and track programs under coach Bill Bowerman. Many pages are devoted to the athlete from Coos Bay, Steve Prefontaine.

• **Steve Prefontaine: Rocketman** by Bree Donovan and Linda Prefontaine (2008). This story of Pre is specifically written for young people. Rocketman is told through the eyes and voice of fictitious a literary conduit through which the entirely factual events and characters are presented. The stories are of the people who knew and loved Steve Prefontaine, and the people Pre loved.

• **Steve Pre: The Unfinished Story of Running Icon Steve Prefontaine** by Golden Krishna (2009). This is a short account of Prefontaine’s life told through the viewpoint of his former coach, Bill Bowerman.

• **The Pre Log: To Becoming a Better Runner** by Linda Prefontaine (2011). This is a journal where runners can keep track of their training while reading quotes from the famous track star Steve Prefontaine or from others who knew him. Readers also learn about local training routes.

• **Extracurricular: a History of Athletics and Activities at North Bend (OR) High School** by Steven Greif (2016).** This is a history of the high school from the early 1900s to 2016 focusing on athletics, sports venues, campus construction, and other school activities.

**Biography**


• **Fool’s Hill: A Kid’s Life in an Oregon Coastal Town** by John Quick (1931).* Childhood memories of a boy who grew up in Port Orford.

• **The Travels of Jedediah Smith** by Maurice S. Sullivan (1934).


• **The Simpsons of Shoreacres** by Stephen Dow Beckham (1971).* The story of the lumber baron who built a home on the cliffs near Cape Arago.

• **Destination West: A Pioneer Woman on the Oregon Trail** by Agnes Ruth Sengstacken (1942, reprinted 1972).* This is the narrative of Ester Lockhart, one
of the first three Coos Bay region pioneer women, who came to Empire City in 1853.

- The Lady and the Lumberjack by Olive Barber (1952)* is an autobiography written by the wife of a lumberjack who worked in Coos County.


- After the Covered Wagons: Recollections of Russell C. and Ellis S. Dement by E.R. Jackman (1962). In 1934, at the age of eighty-three, Russell C. Dement recorded some of his early day experiences in his exact words, except for some explanatory material, so indicated, supplied by his son Ellis.

- Coos River Echoes: A Story of the Coos River Valley by Charlotte Mahaffy (1965).* Mahaffy collected biographical sketches of people who lived on the river valley and clipped short news articles from local newspapers to illustrate river community life in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

- Gramillie’s Reflections by Millie Ostlind (1971).* The story of the Ostlind family of Coos County.

- Chips and Sawdust from the Ulett Log by George Andrew Ulett (1972).* A biography of the author, his wife Mabel, and their family. George worked in the lumber industry.


- Vern C. Gorst: Pioneer and Grandad of United Air Lines by Wilbur Gorst (1979). This book by Gorst’s son has the history and photos of how early pioneers coped with transportation issues in the Bay Area and the West Coast.

- Reflections of a Logging Camp Cook by Hattie Nevin (1980).* A personal family history of the Noah family with depictions of typical life during the period to the mid-20th century.

- Life of a Cranberry Grower by Ethel Reichenbach (1981)* tells the authors life story and gives information about the cranberry industry, especially in the Bandon area.

- A History of Oregon’s South Coast Vicariate by Rev. Scott Vandehey and Steven Greif (1981)* chronicles the first 75 years of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in North Bend and has biographies of a number of Catholic priests in the area.

- These Fast Changing Times: Coos and Curry Counties by Lee Leroy Stonecypher (1980).* A biography of the Stonecypher family which lived in Curry and Coos and counties (including Kentuck Inlet).
• *The Goulds of Elkhorn* by Aileen Barker Rickard (1982).* This is a family history, centering on George Gould’s settlement near the center of the “Big Burn” (now the Elliott State Forest) of the Coos County forest fire of 1868 and what it was like to raise a family in a wilderness homestead from 1885 to 1912.

• *Remember When* by Nellie Palmer (1983).* Information on the Hoffman family, pioneers in the Myrtle point region.

• *White Moccasins* by Beverly Ward (1986).* The story of the authors Indian grandmother, Susan Ned, and the Coos and Coquille Indian tribes.

• *In a Small Puddle* by Nellie Ripper (1987).* A biography of the North Bend author and her husband, Jack Ripper, who were both state legislators and the Anderson family.

• *Early Coos County Loggers* by Curt Beckham (1987).* This 58 page book contains a number of chapters on early logging techniques as well as biographies of a number of local loggers.

• *Ojiisan: oh gee saan, the Life and Times of Al Qualman* by Alfred Qualman (1989) a Coos Bay oysterman.

• *Made in Japan and Settled in Oregon* by Mitzi Asai Loftus (1990) describes a first hand account of the Japanese relocation camps of the WWII era.

• *$10,000 or Ten Years: Memoirs of the Brelage Family* by Herman Brelage (1991) known for his family dairy.


• *Birth, Boyhood and Beyond* by George E. Gebhardt (1994) is the autobiography of an important North Bend businessman.

• *Eighty-Eight Years on Coos Bay* by Lorance Eickworth (1994).* An autobiography spanning 1905-1993 with personal insights into the various industries operating at the time and the community of Coos Bay.

• *The Pioneer Sea Captain Adam Donaldson and the Pacific Coast* by Esther Murdock (1994).* The biography of a Coos County sea captain who lived from 1864-1944. 60 pgs.

• *She’s Tricky Like Coyote: Annie Miner Peterson, An Oregon Coast Indian Woman* by Lionel Youst (1997)** is the story of the last native Coos language speaker who served as an informant to anthropologists in the 1930s.
• Pre: The Story of America's Greatest Running Legend by Tom Jordan (1997)* is
  the story about the career of Marshfield High School and University of Oregon track
  star, Steve Prefontaine.

• The Doing of the Thing: the Brief, Brilliant, Whitewater Career of Buzz Holmstrom
  by Vince Welch, Cort Conley, and Brad Dimock (1998).* A boat builder from
  Coquille who famously rafted western rivers.

• Geordie: The Life and Times of George Ross, Jr., (1905-1995) by Gordon Ross
  (2000).*

• The Lusty Life of Loon Lake Lloyd: WWII Marine, Logger, and Resort Owner by
  Lloyd and Ellen Keeland (2000).* Loon Lake is a popular resort area up the
  Umpqua River in Douglas County.

• Seventh Son by Aileen Barker Rickard (2001).* The author was an English
  teacher at Myrtle Point High School. Her book is the story of the author’s
  grandfather, John Ledston Barker, the Barker family, and the Boone family.

• Elegant Arches, Soaring Spans: C.B. McCullough, Oregon’s Master Bridge Builder
  by Robert W. Hadlow (2001)** is a good source of information about Conde
  McCullough and his bridges on Highway 101, including the McCullough Bridge over
  Coos Bay.

• Coquelle Thompson, Athabaskan Witness, A Cultural Biography by Lionel Youst
  and William R. Seaburgh (2002)** is about another native who served as an
  informant to anthropologists.

• And Afterward: a Sometimes Every Now & Then Journal by Nellie Ripper (2002)

• "Growing Up Indian” by George B. Wasson, Jr. (2002). A PhD dissertation at the
  University of Oregon (397 pages).

• The Uncommon Life of Louis Jerome Simpson by Judith & Richard Wagner
  (2003)** is the best biography about the life of the founder of the city of North
  Bend.

• Floras Creek Precinct & the Boice Family of Curry County featuring Cope, Guerin,
  Phillips, & Strain Families and Other Early Settlers by Patti Strain (2003).*

• Foot prints in the Sands of Time: Autobiography of Jerry Running Foxe, Chief of
  the Na-so-mah Indians, the Coquilles, 'Ko-Kwel' by Jerry Running Foxe (2004).
  Foxe worked in the timber industry, in the coal mines, as a ship yard worker, an
  apartment manager, a bartender, a politician and he eventually became an
  executive of the Coquille Indian Tribe.

• A Star to Steer By: The Seafaring Adventures of Captain Jim Common edited by
  Christopher Common (2005).**
• *The Merchants of Coos County Oregon* by Vern & Marti Arnold (2006).* The story of Charles Merchant ("Father of Marshfield") and his large pioneer family. Published in a three-ring binder, 43 pages.

• *Bowerman and the Men of Oregon* by Kenny Moore (2006). The definitive work about the University of Oregon cross country and track programs under coach Bill Bowerman. Many pages are devoted to the athlete from Coos Bay, Steve Prefontaine.

• *Vern Gorst and the Pacific Air Transport Air Mail* by Ron Bartley (2006). Chronicles the life of an important pioneer in the transportation industry who lived in North Bend.

• *Family Threads - Memoirs of a Mother* by Nadiene Greif (2007).* The autobiography of a North Bend citizen and her extended family.

• *Stories of My Life* by Frank B. Rood, Jr. (undated, probably post-2008).* The autobiography of the life of a North Bend area farmer/rancher and includes four stories by his wife, Mavis Black Rood.

• *Instigator: the Troubled Life of Lorenzo Dow Kinney* by Richard and Judy Wagner (2008)** is the study of one of North Bend’s most flamboyant promoters.

• *Steve Prefontaine: Rocketman* by Bree Donovan and Linda Prefontaine (2008). This story of Pre is specifically written for young people. *Rocketman* is told through the eyes and voice of fictitious a literary conduit through which the entirely factual events and characters are presented. The stories are of the people who knew and loved Steve Prefontaine, and the people Pre loved.

• *The Coquille Valley* by the Coquille Valley Historical Society, edited by Patti and Hal Strain (2009). Volume 2 of this set has extensive information about people who settled the southern portion of Coos County.

• *Steve Pre: The Unfinished Story of Running Icon Steve Prefontaine* by Golden Krishna (2009). This is a short account of Prefontaine’s life told through the viewpoint of his former coach, Bill Bowerman.

• *Odd Customers* by Wim de Vriend (2010).* The author relates unusual, often funny, stories about his Coos Bay German restaurant customers.

• *The Pre Log: To Becoming a Better Runner* by Linda Prefontaine (2011). This is a journal where runners can keep track of their training while reading quotes from the famous track star Steve Prefontaine or from others who knew him. Readers also learn about local training routes.

• My Memories by Philip A. Matson (2012). ** “A collection of memoirs of growing up and beyond in Marshfield, Oregon during the mid-twentieth century.”

• In the Shadow of Sugarloaf by George H. Whitney, compiled and edited by Carolyn Whitney Prola (2012). ** Memoir of a Myrtle Point area resident who also spent a part of his early life up Coos River.

• Law on the Bay: Coos County Sheriff’s Office, 1854-1897 by Andie E. Jensen (2012). ** This volume has biographical information on every sheriff that served Coos County as well as stories about the crimes that occurred during their administrations.

• Replica: The Dement Booklet and Backstory: The Dement Booklet both by Steven S. Means (2013). The first volume offers every page of a booklet kept by the family of Sam Dement whose ancestors crossed the Oregon Trail and developed a ranch in the Upper Coquille Valley near Eckley. The second volume is a more extensive investigation of that booklet and family history.

• O Pilot! Historical Sketches of the Coos Bay Bar Pilots by Capt. Steven E. Woods and Jeanne Woods (2013). ** Sea stories from 1850 to the present are told through the biographies of the men who were bar pilots on the Coos Bay Harbor. There is also a first person account of the attempted rescue of the New Carissa.


• Paper Fight: The Coos Bay Times and the Ku Klux Klan by Jon Littlefield (2014). ** Discusses the competition of the two leading newspapers in Marshfield in the 1920s and the influence that KKK activities had on local and state politics. Good biographies of the Maloney brothers (who ran the Times), Charles Hall (businessman who ran for governor), and other local businessmen and politicians.

• Between Two Worlds: Chinese of Marshfield, Oregon (3rd edition) by Jon Littlefield (2016). ** Chinese immigrants came to Coos County to build the railroads, work in the mines and canneries, serve as cooks in lumber camps, and operate stores. The story of several Chinese families, especially the family of Gow Why, from about 1880 to 1940.

• Dealing with the Dead: Coos County Coroner’s Office, 1854-1962 by Andie Jensen (2016). ** This book provides biographical details of many Coos County coroners.

• Coos County Bench, Bar & Beyond by John W. Whitty (2016). ** A history of Coos County lawyers, judges, and their cases from 1853 to 2014.

• Extracurricular: a History of Athletics and Activities at North Bend (OR) High School by Steven Greif (2016). ** This is a history of the high school from the early 1900s to 2016 focusing on athletics, sports venues, campus construction, and other
school activities. The book features biographical information on many people associated with the North Bend School District.

*Outside My Attic Door* by Sharon Lovie (2017). An autobiography of a woman who grew up in Coos County. The book was a project for a SWOCC writing class.

- *California Bound* by Peter Pike, Jr. (2018). This family memoir was written by the great grandson of Asa Simpson. Chapters 4, 5, and 6 cover the lives of Asa and his wife, Sophie (Smith) Simpson. The loss of the Simpson family fortune are covered in Chapters 12, 15, and 16.


**Business, Industry, and Labor**


- *The Company by the Bay: A Portrait of Edward S. Evans and the People of the Evans Products Company of Coos Bay, Oregon 1928-1962* by Sandra Beebe (1988)* is a book about a company that produced battery separators during WWII and many other wooden products after the war.


- *Stars in the Dark: Coal Mines of Southwestern Oregon* by Dow Beckham (1995).** The first important work on this topic. Discussion of the Libby mines, markets and competition, coal transportation, Isthmus Slough mines, Beaver Hill mines, Coquille River mines, and mining industry changes.

- *Traditions Through the Trees: Weyerhaeuser’s First 100 Years* by Joni Sensel (1999). The North Bend mill and the Columbus Day Storm are mentioned briefly in this company history.
• Plundertown, USA: Coos Bay Enters the Global Economy by Al Sandine (2003).* The thesis in this book is that large timber corporations were ultimately harmful to the local economy.

• Seeing the Forest for the Trees: Menasha Corporation and its One Hundred Year History in Coos Bay, Oregon, 1905-2005 by William A. Lansing (2005)** is a good centennial description of the Menasha Corporation, and a very good history of other lumber companies as well.

• The Coos Bay Area from 1940 to 2006 by John Whitty (2006).** A short manuscript with these contents: the scene in 1940, World War II era, rise and fall of the timber industry, changes in transportation, the decline in the fishing industry, local retailers, professionals and service industries, construction and transportation businesses, arts, letters & recreation, events of the 1960s and 1970s, trends of 1980s thru 2006.

• A Fleet to Be Forgotten: The Wooden Freighters of World War One by Louis A. Hough (2009)** has a couple of very good chapters about the effort by North Bend and Coos Bay shipyards to produce wooden vessels during WWI.

• Coos Dairy Industry: Essays and Interviews edited by Joy Parker and Connie Parker (2009).* A 193 page, spiral bound collection of essays created by SWOCC students, including good biographical information, associated with the dairy industry.

• Pioneer Mikes: A History of Radio and Television in Oregon by Ronald Kramer (2009).* Stations in Coos Bay, North Bend, Coquille, and Curry County are discussed.

• Coos Forest Protective Association, 1910-2010: 100 Years of Fire Protection by the Coos Forest Protective Association (2010).* A 125 page spiral-bound history of a century of fire protection practices in Coos County.

• The Job Messiahs by Wim de Vriend (2011).* The author's subtitle is: "How government destroys our prosperity and our freedoms to create jobs.” It is a critical review of the economic activities of the Port of Coos Bay.

• Progressive Thoughts: Essays and Reviews by Lionel Youst (2012).** Two chapters from the book deal with the Industrial Workers of the World (I.W.W. or "Wobblies") who fought for an eight-hour working day and better conditions in the logging camps of the PNW. Workers on the new railroad from Eugene to Coos Bay also joined the I.W.W. fight in 1913. Youst describes the storm of protest and mob action against the I.W.W. from Marshfield businessmen that ensued.

• The Wobblies: Solidarity Forever and other Articles by Lionel Youst (2012).** The story of a union formally known as the Industrial Workers of the World which had a presence in Coos County.

**Churches**
• **First Baptist Church of Coos Bay [Marshfield] 1879-1979** by Anna Beckham and Everett Curry (1979).*

• **A History of Oregon’s South Coast Vicariate** by Rev. Scott Vandehey and Steven Greif (1981)* chronicles the first 75 years of the Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in North Bend. It also has brief histories on all the other Catholic parishes on the South Coast.


• **A History of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 1876-1985** by Myrle Ellingsen, Helen Barnard, Clara Stauff, and Thomas B. Swanton (1986).* This church was in Coos Bay.

• **St. Monica Parish, the 100th Anniversary Year**. A church directory (1988)* of the Catholic parish of Marshfield/Coos Bay that contains a brief history of the parish.

• **Coos Bay Church of Christ** (1989).* A spiral bound history of a Coos Bay church that includes membership rolls, poetry, memories, and newspaper clippings.

• **Episcopal Marriages of the Southern Oregon Coast, 1884-1940** compiled by Barbara Eakley (1997).*

• **Arago Community Church History: 75th anniversary, 1923-1998**.

• **100 Years with North Bend Methodist Church** (2003).*

• **Getting to Know More About Your Parish: Holy Redeemer's 100 Years From the Year 1906 to 2006** by Holy Redeemer Church (2006).* History about the Catholic parish of North Bend.

• **The Windows of St. Monica Church** by Stained Glass Restoration Committee (2010).* A 42 page, spiral bound document that chronicles the history of a fundraising effort to restore the windows in this Catholic church in Coos Bay.

**Education**
• Most of the high schools in the counties, as well as the libraries in the county, have copies of local high school yearbooks. The Coos History Museum has some copies as well (not every year, mostly North Bend High and Marshfield). These are rich sources of historical and genealogical data for researchers.
• “Coos River School Days” by Florence Smith (1960).* A very short manuscript about schools up the Coos River.

• “The No Beginning Possibly One Hundred Year History of Coos County School District 13” by Nancy M. Weybright (1986)* is a manuscript produced about the history of North Bend schools based upon minutes of school board meetings.

• The Progress Club 100th anniversary, April 1904 - April 2004 by The Progress Club. This text commemorates the diamond jubilee of the Progress Club of Coos Bay (originally Marshfield), Oregon, a women's organization for which the original "purpose shall be the study of general and literary subjects," which also became a force for civic improvement and the beginnings of the Coos Bay public library.

• Remember When: Coos County Schools 1850-1940 by William A. Lansing (2008)** has great photos and descriptions that chronicles 90 years of public instruction.

• History of the Public Library of Coos Bay, Oregon by Jon Littlefield, Ellen Thompson, and Carol Ventgen (2009)* is a centennial publication that not only tells the story of the library, but of the cultural progress of Coos Bay.

• Fifty Years, Honoring Our Past, Lighting the Future: The Story of Southwestern Oregon Community College by William A. Lansing (2011).** Richly illustrated with key documents, this volume describes the founding, development, funding issues, and programs associated with the first 50 years as SWOCC.

• Extracurricular: a History of Athletics and Activities at North Bend (OR) High School by Steven Greif (2016).** This is a history of the high school from the early 1900s to 2016 focusing on athletics, sports venues, campus construction, and other school activities. The book features many photographs and biographies of people connected with North Bend schools.

Exploration


• Men Against the Mountains: Jedediah Smith and the Great South West Expedition of 1826-29 by Alson J. Smith (1965).


• Bastion of Empire: The Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Umpqua-- Being a Narrative of the Early Explorations and the Fur Trade in Douglas County by Norman Dennis Schlesser (1973).*
• *First Approaches to the Northwest Coast* by Derek Pethick (1979).


• *A Guide to Oregon South Coast History: Following the Jedediah Smith Trail* by Nathan Douthit (1986, revised 1999)** tells about each campsite of the Smith expedition on their Oregon trip and has been one of the most popular recent local history books.

• *Exploring the Far West with Jedediah Smith* by Charles George Davis (2002). The book covers Smith’s route up the coast to Oregon from California.

**Fisheries**

• Oyster Farming in Oregon (no date, no author)*. A scrapbook about early efforts to grow oysters with coverage of the industry on Coos Bay.


• *Fish or Cut Bait* by Cortland L. Smith (1977) is a publication by the Oregon State University Sea Grant program.

• *Oregon Fishboat: A Study in Maritime Folklife* by Janet C. Gilmore (1986, 2nd edition 1999).** The author describes life on a late 1970s fisherman’s vessel in the Coos Bay community of Charleston based upon her years of interviewing and research.


• *The Affordable Oyster* by Lilli Clausen (1997).* Oyster fisheries and recipes from an author associated with an oyster business on Haynes Inlet and Coos Bay.

• *Living off the Pacific Ocean Floor* by George Moskovita (2015).** Stories of a commercial fisherman in the Pacific Northwest.

• *It Takes a River to Make a Fish* by William A. Lansing (2017).* A richly illustrated text about the biology of salmon with a focus on the forces that affect salmon on the Oregon South Coast.

• *It Takes a Watershed to Make a River* by William A. Lansing (2017).* A companion volume to *It Takes a River to Make a Fish*, this text covers the history of each watershed between the Winchuck River at the California border, north to the Umpqua River with an emphasis on the salmon fisheries.
**Geology**

- *Roadside Geology of Oregon* by David D. Alt and Donald W. Hyndman (1978, reprinted in 2009).** The book has several chapters covering South Coast roadside geology.

- *Secrets of the Oregon Dunes: How Did All That Sand Get There, Anyway?* by Dina Pavlis (2008).* The book is intended to provide information about the Oregon Dunes in non-scientific terminology for young and mature readers.

- *Oregon Geology* by Elizabeth and William Orr (2012). This work has information on geologic features of the state including much on the South Coast.

**Government/Politics**
- *The Elusive State of Jefferson* by Peter Laufer (?).* The history of a region of northern California and southern Oregon counties which considered forming a new state called Jefferson.

- *Paper Fight: The Coos Bay Times and the Ku Klux Klan* by Jon Littlefield (2014).** Discusses the competition of the two leading newspapers in Marshfield in the 1920s and the influence that KKK activities had on local and state politics. Good biographies of the Maloney brothers (who ran the *Times*), Charles Hall (businessman who ran for governor), and other local businessmen and politicians.


**Guidebooks**


• **Gerry Frank’s Oregon** by Gerry Frank (2012). A guide book to seven regions in the state including the coast. Lodging, restaurants, stores, museums, and other “esoteric historic tidbits and hundreds of other Oregon gems”.

• **Oregon South Coast Bicycle Ride Guide** by Tom Baake (2012).** The first section of the 144-page book offers details of the Oregon Coast Bike Route (US 101) from Florence to Brookings, with maps, elevation charts and photos. The rest of the book has information, elevation charts and photos of road rides and mountain biking opportunities in every community from Florence to Del Norte County, Calif.

• **Out Our Back Door** by Tom Baake (2017)** It updates three earlier editions also named Out Our Back Door, beginning in 1997, with subsequent versions in 2002 and 2008. In 144 pages, it describes more than two dozen driving tours and day-hikes in Coos County along with sections on the Powers region and the Smith River country out of Reedsport. The final chapter highlights rainy day activities.

• **Oregon South Coast Canoe, Kayak and Stand-up Paddle Guide** by Ron Wardman and Tom Baake (2019).** A guidebook that updates and expands on two previous versions, Oregon’s Coos Region Canoe and Kayak Guide by Ron Wardman (2001) and Oregon’s South Coast Canoe and Kayak Guide by Ron Wardman (2004). In 144 pages, with maps and photos by the authors, it features about 75 paddling treks on inland waters from Florence to Crescent City, Calif.

**Law/Crime**

• **Landis: Pillar of the Church, Hypocrite and Murderer** by Marilee Miller (1982).* The true story of a businessman in Coquille who was found to be a murderer in the late 1920s/early 1930s.

• **Necktie Parties: A History of Legal Executions in Oregon, 1851-1905** by Diane L. Goeres-Gardiner (2005) has three chapters on executions in Coos and Curry Counties.

• **Hangman’s Call: the Executions and Lynching’s of Coos County, Oregon 1854-1925** by Andie E. Jensen (2009).**

• **Law on the Bay: Marshfield, Oregon 1874-1944** by Andie E. Jensen (2010).** The author shares extensive newspaper research about the crimes and law enforcement officers in old Coos Bay.

• **Law on the Bay: Coos County Sheriff’s Office, 1854-1897** by Andie E. Jensen (2012).** This volume has biographical information on every sheriff that served Coos County as well as stories about the crimes that occurred during their administrations.

• **Dealing with the Dead: Coos County Coroner’s Office, 1854-1962** by Andie Jensen (2016)** provides biographical details of many Coos County coroners. Coroners were responsible to report to the district attorney any suspicious deaths.
• **Coos County Bench, Bar & Beyond** by John W. Whitty (2016).**  A history of Coos County lawyers, judges, and their cases from 1853 to 2014.

**Lighthouses** (see Maritime)

**Lumbering/Timber**
• **The Lady and the Lumberjack** by Olive Barber (1952)* is an autobiography written by the wife of a lumberjack who worked in Coos County.

• **The Woods Were Full of Men** by Irma Lee Emmerson (1963)* is the true story of a female cook in a Coos County logging camp. “It provides a firsthand cultural and historical snapshot of the 1940s gender roles in addition to a number of regional issues concerning the often stigmatized profession of loggers.”

• **Reflections of a Logging Camp Cook** by Hattie Nevin (1980).* A personal family history of the Noah family with depictions of typical life during the period to the mid-20th century.

• **Timber Cutting Practices and Logging Practices: Principles of Timber Harvesting Systems, both by Steve Conway (1984).** In the first book the author, who worked in Coos County, covers crew organization, cutting patterns, felling, bucking, and safety procedures. The second book’s topics include: changes in forest resources and the labor force, effects of economic downturns, harvesting smaller logs, and 1980s forest technology.

• **Gyppo Logging Days** by Curt Beckham (1978)* is a logging account with short biographies of loggers and information on logging companies, techniques, and equipment.

• **Early Coos County Loggers** by Curt Beckham (1987).* This 58 page book contains a number of chapters on early logging techniques as well as biographies of a number of local loggers.


• **The Company by the Bay: A Portrait of Edward S. Evans and the People of the Evans Products Company of Coos Bay, Oregon 1928-1962** by Sandra Beebe (1988)* is a book about a company that produced battery separators during WWII and many other wooden products after the war.

• **Tall Timber Tales** by Curt Beckham (1989).* Loggers and logging in Coos County.

• **Swift Flows the River: Log Driving in Oregon** by Dow Beckham (1990)* is a book about the unique “splash dams” used to get logs to the mills in Coos County.


• *Plundertown, USA: Coos Bay Enters the Global Economy* by Al Sandine (2003)* whose thesis is that large timber corporations were ultimately harmful to the local economy.

• *Seeing the Forest for the Trees: Menasha Corporation and its One Hundred Year History in Coos Bay, Oregon, 1905-2005* by William A. Lansing (2005)** is very good history of the lumber industry and the Coos Bay Wagon Road history.


• *The Wobblies: Solidarity Forever and other Articles* by Lionel Youst (2012).** The story of a union formally known as the Industrial Workers of the World which had a presence in Coos County.

• *Reminiscing: One Man’s Recollection of Logging in the Golden Years* by Glen Olson (2014). A history of South Coast logging by one of the strong supporters of the Coos County Logging Museum located in Myrtle Point.

• *Southern Oregon Timber: The Kenneth Ford Family Legacy* by R.J. Guyer (2015).** A book about one of the largest privately owned wood-products companies in the region. The author explores the evolution of logging and the challenges faced by the men and women who plied this trade.

**Maritime / Shipwrecks**

• *Schooners Out of Coos Bay* by Robert Irwin Johnson (1953).* A three-ring binder of approximately 100 pages. Chapters on how the Pacific Coast shipbuilding got underway, the era of sail, steam schooners, war-born prosperity, the climax of Coos Bay shipbuilding, becalmed between wars, and warships and the end of an industry.

• *Sentinels of the North Pacific* by James Gibbs (1955).* Lighthouses and lightships on the Oregon Coast.
• **Wooden Ships and Master Craftsmen** by Ernest Lynn Osborne (1978).* Contains material about ship building in the Bandon region with some biographical information.

• **Southern Oregon Shipwrecks** by Victor C. West (1980).* A three-ring binder of research notes on shipwreck history on the Oregon Coast from 1899 to 1980.

• **Men of Action: A History of the U.S. Life-Saving Service on the Pacific Coast** by Ernest Osborne and Victor West (1981).*

• **A Guide to Shipwrecks Along the Oregon Coast** by Victor West and R.E. Wells (1984).*

• "**A History of the Port of Coos Bay (1852-1952)**“ by George B. Case (1984).* A manuscript written for his educational program.

• **The World of the Oregon Fishboat: A Study in Marine Folklife** by Janet C. Gilmore (1986, 2nd edition 1999).** The author describes life on a late 1970s fisherman’s vessel in the Coos Bay community of Charleston based upon her years of interviewing and research.

• **Peril at Sea: A Photographic Study of Shipwrecks in the Pacific Ocean** by “Shipwreck Jim” Gibbs (1986) has a chapter on Oregon coast wrecks.

• **Southern Oregon Mosquito Fleet: Stories About Coos County Boats, 1853 -1948** by Victor West (1986).*

• **Windjammers of the Pacific Rim** by Jim Gibbs (1987). A book about commercial coastal sailing vessels, with many photos including vessels of Oregon’s south coast.

• **Oregon’s Seacoast Lighthouses** by Jim Gibbs and Bert Webber (1994).

• **Oregon Lighthouses** by Sharlene & Ted Nelson (1994).** The first four chapters describe the “South Coast beacons”: Cape Blanco, Coquille River, Cape Arago and Umpqua River.

• **The Pioneer Sea Captain Adam Donaldson and the Pacific Coast** by Esther Murdock (1994).* The biography of a Coos County sea captain who lived from 1864-1944. 60 pgs.

• **South Slough Adventures: Life on a Southern Oregon Estuary** ed. by Melody Caldera (1995, second edition 2006).** This history is about an estuary that runs south of Charleston.

• **Coos Bay North Spit: Historic Investigations of Federal Activities in Coastal Oregon** by Stephen Dow Beckham (2000).* Contents include exploration of fur trappers; shipwrecks; initial mapping of the Coos Bay North Spit; U.S. Life-Saving Service station operation; and jetty construction projects.
• *The Unforgiving Coast: Maritime Disasters of the Pacific Northwest* by David Grover (2002)* Several chapters devoted to shipwrecks off Oregon’s South Coast are included.

• *A Star to Steer By: The Seafaring Adventures of Captain Jim Common* edited by Christopher Common (2005)**

• *Oregon Disasters: True Stories of Tragedy and Survival* by Rachel Dresbeck (2006)* has chapters on the wreck of the *New Carissa*, the Columbus Day Storm, Brookings-Harbor rescues, and the Biscuit Fire among others.

• *Images of America: Lighthouses and Life-Saving on the Oregon Coast* by David Pinyerd (2007)** is mainly a photo collection with sections on the Umpqua River, Coos Bay, Coquille River, and Cape Blanco lights included.

• *A Fleet to Be Forgotten: The Wooden Freighters of World War One* by Louis A. Hough (2009)** has a couple of very good chapters about the effort by North Bend and Coos Bay shipyards to produce wooden vessels during WWI.

• *New Carissa: The Ship That Refused to Die* by Steven Michael Smith (2010). The author has illustrated a book for young readers about the story of an important 1999 shipwreck off of Coos Bay.

• *Lighthouses of the Pacific Coast* by Elinor DeWire (2010)** Stories about 64 lighthouses from southern California to northern Washington including local lighthouses at Cape Blanco, Coquille River, Cape Arago, and the Umpqua River.

• *Images of America: Shipwrecks of Coos County* by H.S. Contino (2011)** One in a series of Images of America books, this volume uses chapter introductions and hundreds of photographs with extensive captions to show the history of local shipwrecks.

• *O Pilot! Historical Sketches of the Coos Bay Bar Pilots* by Capt. Steven E. Woods and Jeanne Woods (2013)** Sea stories from 1850 to the present are told through the biographies of the men who were bar pilots on the Coos Bay Harbor. There is also a first person account of the attempted rescue of the New Carissa.


• *Summary Historical Information for the aids to Marine Navigation of Coos Bay, Oregon, and the Roles and Activities of the U.S. Coast Guard and its Predecessor Services* by Thomas Hines and Timothy R. Dring (2015).* A report in a three-ring binder from a local Coast Guard Aids to Navigation team.

• *Images of America: Shipwrecks of Curry County* by H.S. Contino (2017).* One in a series of “Images of America” books, this volume uses chapter intros and hundreds of photographs with extensive captions to show the history of shipwrecks of Curry County.
**Medicine**
- *The Doctor in Oregon: A Medical History* by O. Larsell (1947).* This book was published for the Oregon Historical Society and written by a University of Oregon professor of anatomy. Pages 271 thru 281 covers the biographies of pioneer doctors in Coos and Curry counties.

- *Dealing with the Dead: Coos County Coroner’s Office, 1854-1962* by Andie Jensen (2016)** provides biographical details of many Coos County coroners. Coroners were responsible to report to the district attorney any suspicious deaths.

**Military**


- *From Coos to Korea: Letters of the Forgotten War* by Conard Melvin Borgard (1998).* Correspondence, military life, and personal narratives of a Coos County soldier in the Korean War, 1950-1953.


- *Hidden History of Civil War Oregon* (2011) by Randol B. Fletcher. The book details a number of Civil War veterans who had connections, during and after the war, with Oregon. Among them Thomas Wyman, a lighthouse keeper at Cape Arago and Nathan Edgerton, a pioneer of Agness in Curry County.

- *Everybody’s War* by Wim de Vriend (2013).* The personal journal of Wim de Vriend, a Dutch immigrant who ran a German restaurant in Coos Bay.
• *Fu-Go: the Curious History of Japan’s Balloon Bomb Attack on America* by Ross Coen (2014).** A detailed account of the WWII balloon bomb attack with an appendix showing places (including the Oregon South Coast) where balloon events occurred.

• *Military History of the Myrtle Point/Powers, Oregon, Area* by Alice DeSoto (2014).**

• *Soldiers in the Woods - The U.S. Army's Spruce Production Division in World War One* by Rod Crossley (2014).* Chapter 12 of this book is about the “Coos Bay District”.

• *Oregon Military* by Warren W. Aney & Alisha Hamel (2016). This arm-chair book reviews the heritage of military service in Oregon from the beginning days of early explorers and their battles with Native American Indians, up through current times. An easy summary read on our state’s military heritage.

• *A Matter of Honor* by Verla Shirley-Chaddick (2016). North Fork Siuslaw resident George Esgate served with the Quartermaster Corps Graves Registration unit during WWII with the grim task of recovering, identifying and burying American GI’s killed in action. In 1999, he returned to retrace some of that journey by visiting some of the graveyards he helped establish – and to find his Belgian lost love. Enjoy this riveting account of a Florence family during and after the war.

• *World War II: Lest We Forget* by Patti Strain (2017-2018)*. This four-volume set is a comprehensive history of World War II mixed with stories of local people from the South Coast on both the home front and the battle front. The set of books is indexed.

• *The "Happy” Letters: a Long Short Story* by Daniel and Greg Collver (2018)*. WWI letters sent home from Hurley “Happy” Collver, a descendant of a pioneering family from Coos River.

**Mining**

• *Geology and Coal Resources of the Coos Bay Quadrangle* by John E. Allen and Ewart M. Baldwin, Oregon Bulletin No 27, State of Oregon, Dept. of Geology and Mineral Resources.

• *Lost Mines and Treasures of the Pacific Northwest* by Ruby El Hult (1957).* Stories of old mines including some in southwest Oregon like the Lost Port Orford Meteorite.

• *Gold Mines of Southwest Oregon* by Roy F. Mayo (1987).

• **Stars in the Dark: Coal Mines of Southwestern Oregon** by Dow Beckham (1995). The first important work on this topic. Discussion of the Libby mines, markets and competition, coal transportation, Isthmus Slough mines, Beaver Hill mines, Coquille River mines, and mining industry changes.

• **They Found Gold on the Beach: a History of Central Curry County, an Oregon Documentary** by Walt Schroeder (1999).

• **Can't You Hear The Whistle Blowing: Logs, Lignite, and Locomotives in Coos County, Oregon** by William A. Lansing (2007) is a complete book, full of photos, about the mining and logging railroads of the area.

• **Gone But Not Forgotten: Beaver Hill, Oregon** by Andie Jensen (2015). Much primary source material and many photos of the community with the most productive coal mine in Coos County.

• **Welcome to Rural Coos County** by Gordon Ross (2017). This volume contains stories of unincorporated areas including mining areas like Libby, Bunker Hill, Beaver Hill, and Coaledo.

Native American
• www.orww.org/Coquelle_Trails/index.html is a research project report (PDF) by Bob Zybach with Don Ivy. Zybach also has historical tribal accounts at www.orww.org/Coquelle_Trails/History_1826-1875index.html and tribal maps at www.orww.org/Coquelle_Trails/Maps_1856-2012/index.html

• **The Early Indian Wars of Oregon: Compiled from the Oregon Archives and Other Original Sources**, with Muster Rolls by Frances F. Victor (1894).

• **Chinook: A History and Dictionary of the Northwest Coast Trade Jargon** by Edward Harper Thomas (1935).* A history and collection of words in Chinook Jargon: a language of native, French and English origin used for trading.


• **Indian Battles Along the Rogue River (1855-1856)** by Frank Walsh (1972).

• **Land of the North Umpquas** by Lavola J. Bakken (1973). Although most of the focus is on the Umpqua tribe in the upper reaches of the river, the book does describe Umpqua Indian culture.

• **When Grandmother Sang Her Song** by Esther Stutzman (1975).

• **The Indians of Western Oregon: This Land Was Theirs** by Stephen Dow Beckham (1977)* is a good history and depiction of South Coast Native American culture that was written for high school students.

• The Coquille Indians: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow by Roberta Hall (1984).* This book became instrumental in the tribe’s efforts to pass the 1989 Coquille Restoration Act.

• White Moccasins by Beverly Ward (1986).* The story of the author’s Indian grandmother, Susan Ned, and the Coos and Coquille Indian tribes.

• Living With the Land: The Indians of Southwest Oregon, ed. By Nan Hannon and Richard K. Olmo (1990) is a collection from the 1989 Proceedings of the Symposium on the Prehistory of Southwest Oregon that includes articles related to South Coast Indian history.


• The First Oregonians: An Illustrated Collection of Essays on Traditional Lifeways, Federal-Indian Relations, and the State’s Native People Today by Carolyn M. Buan and Richard Lewis (1991).*

• People of the Coquille Estuary: Native Uses of Resources on the Oregon Coast by Roberta Hall (1995).


• Until the Last Arrow, A True Story of the Indian Wars and Gold Rushes that Opened the...Rogue River Valley by Percy T. Booth (1997).

• She’s Tricky Like Coyote: Annie Miner Peterson, An Oregon Coast Indian Woman by Lionel Youst (1997)** is the story of the last native Coos language speaker who served as an informant to anthropologists in the 1930s.

• Changing Landscapes by Jason Younker, Mark Tveskov, and David Lewis (2001). Nine articles by scholars and cultural resource managers related to native culture on the South Coast.

• Coquelle Thompson, Athabaskan Witness, A Cultural Biography by Lionel Youst and William R. Seaburgh (2002)** is another native who served as an informant to anthropologists.

• Uncertain Encounters: Indians and Whites at Peace and War in Southern Oregon 1820s-1860s by Nathan Douthit (2002).** Investigates the Hudson’s Bay fur trading company and its relations with Indians on the South Coast, white exploration, conflicts with settlers, the removal of Indians to reservations, and the culture afterwards.


• Foot prints in the Sands of Time: Autobiography of Jerry Running Foxe, Chief of the Na-so-mah Indians, the Coquilles, 'Ko-Kwel' by Jerry Running Foxe (2004). Foxe worked in the timber industry, in the coal mines, as a ship yard worker, an apartment manager, a bartender, a politician and he eventually became an executive of the Coquille Indian Tribe.

• Oregon Indians: Voices From Two Centuries by Stephen Dow Beckham (2006)** is an important collection of primary sources "that strives to let Oregon Indians tell their own story". It includes some primary sources from the South Coast.


• The People are Dancing Again: The History of the Siletz Tribe of Western Oregon by Charles Wilkinson (2010).** This history of the Siletz also has excellent information about other south coast Native Americans such as the Coos, Coquelle, Lower Umpqua, and Rogue River. It also has good maps and illustrations.

• Ethnobotany of the Coquille Indians: 100 Common Cultural Plants by Suzanne Fluharty, Denise Hockema, and Nicole Norris and the Coquille Indian Tribe, Cultural Resources Program (2010).* "This field guide is intended to assist natural resource managers, educators, and the general public to identify some of the plants and plant habitats that are important in the cultural traditions and heritage of the modern Coquille Indian tribe.”


• Tah’s Tools: Another Picture Book for Kids by Jon Ivy and Nicole Harris (2011).** This book compares photos of Coquille Indian traditional tools with modern-day equivalents.
Our Culture and History: The Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians by Don Whereat, with Patty Whereat Phillips, Melody Caldera, Ron Thomas, Reg Pullen, and Stephen Dow Beckham (2011).* This is a compilation of 12 years of research to write over 60 articles for the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI) newsletter.

Indian Baskets of Northern California and Oregon by Ralph Shanks (2015).** An illustrated, detailed study of the Native American basketry of the basketry of the Yurok, Hupa, Karuk, Wiyot, Tolowa, Wintu, Yana, Atsugewi, and other California cultures. It also details the baskets of Oregon peoples including the Klamath, Kalapuya, Wasco, Coos, Tillamook, Tututni, and others. The book features nearly 200 previously unpublished color photographs of baskets of Northern California and Oregon from museums and private collections in the United States and Europe.

Ethnobotany of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians by Patricia Whereat-Phillips (2016).** This text documents the use of native plants by South Coast tribes.

Shipwrecks (see Maritime)

Theater


Hobblin' In and Dancin' Out by Hope Cahill (1991) is a history of the RSVP follies from 1972-1976.

Encore: A History of Theaters and Theater on Oregon’s South Coast by Dow Beckham (2003) ** The most complete book on this topic.

Transportation


Ships and Ship-Builders of Southern Oregon by Victor West.

Vern C. Gorst: Pioneer and Grandad of United Air Lines by Wilbur Gorst (1979).* This book by Gorst’s son has the history and photos of how early pioneers innovatively coped with transportation issues, on land and in the air, at the Bay Area and the West Coast.

Southern Oregon Mosquito Fleet: Stories About Coos County Boats, 1853 -1948 by Victor West (1986).*

Historic Highway Bridges of Oregon by Dwight A. Smith (1989).*

The New Guide to Oregon’s Covered Bridges by Bill Cockrell (1992).* The 96-page book describes the Sandy Creek Bridge near Remote in Coos County.
• **Elegant Arches, Soaring Spans: C.B. McCullough, Oregon's Master Bridge Builder** by Robert W. Hadlow (2001) is a good source of information about bridges on Highway 101, including the McCullough Bridge over Coos Bay and the Patterson Bridge over the Rogue River.

• **Oregon’s Coos Region Canoe & Kayak Guide** by Ron Wardman (2001) for those who wish to ply the local waterways.

• **Seeing the Forest for the Trees: Menasha Corporation and its One Hundred Year History in Coos Bay, Oregon, 1905-2005** by William Lansing (2005) includes a definitive section on the history of the Coos Bay Wagon Road.

• **Oregon Disasters: True Stories of Tragedy and Survival** by Rachel Dresbeck (2006) has a chapter on the wreck of the New Carissa.

• **Lifting Oregon Out of the Mud: Building the Oregon Coast Highway** by Joe R. Blakely (2006). Starting in the early 1920's and lasting into the Great Depression, strong leadership, significant amounts of money, and years of hard labor produced the Oregon Coast Highway (Highway 101).

• **Vern Gorst and the Pacific Air Transport Air Mail** by Ron Bartley (2006). Chronicles the life of an important pioneer in the transportation industry that lived in North Bend.

• **Bridges of the Oregon Coast** by Ray Bottenberg (2006). The book contains photographs with brief captions. There is information on Coos Bay’s McCullough Bridge.

• **Can’t You Hear The Whistle Blowing: Logs, Lignite, and Locomotives in Coos County, Oregon** by William A. Lansing (2007) is a book, full of photos about the mining and logging railroads of the area the Oregon South Coast.

• **Images of America: Oregon’s Covered Bridges** by Bill Cockrell (2008). One in a series of Arcadia books, this volume includes a chapter on Coos County highway and railroad covered bridges.

• **A History of Oregon Ferries since 1826** by Charles F. Query (2008). A history of over 500 Oregon Ferries including their location, dates of operation, owners and brief historical notes. Includes information about ferries on the South Coast. Plus over 30 photographs, a complete index and source list.


• “A Century of Coos County Railroads” by Steven Greif and Martin Callery (2016).** A manuscript written for the centennial of rail in Coos County.

Weather
• The Big Blow: The Story of the Pacific Northwest’s Columbus Day Storm by Ellis Lucia (1963).*

• West Coast Disaster: Columbus Day 1962 by Dorothy Franklin (1963).* Describes the windstorm and its effects in northern California, and western Oregon and Washington. It’s a scrapbook, of sorts, with many photos and news articles about the storm including information about the event in Coos County.

• The Oregon Weather Book: State of Extremes by George Taylor and Raymond Hatton (1999) gives weather and climate records for the entire state and includes many statistics about the South Coast.

• Traditions Through the Trees: Weyerhaeuser’s First 100 Years by Joni Sensel (1999). The Columbus Day Storm is mentioned briefly in this company history.

• Oregon Disasters: True Stories of Tragedy and Survival by Rachel Dresbeck (2006)* has a chapter on the Columbus Day Storm, among others.

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FICTION

• Zane Grey, who had a cabin on the Rogue River, is a famous western author. One novel, Rogue River Feud, originally published in 1929, tells the conflicts between the fish canneries and individual fishermen on the river.

• The Lady and the Lumberjack by Olive Barber (1952)* is a partly fictionalized memoir of a school teacher who marries a logger working primarily the Coos River.

• Tioga Pigs by A.E. Krewson (1955) is a partly fictionalized tale of pioneers who fattened their pigs in the remote Tioga Creek area of east Coos County and then drove them to the Coquille River for market.

• Gold Saga of the Umpqua: an Historical Novel of Southwestern Oregon by Harriet Ward (1966)* is a fictional tale based upon actual characters of the gold era in southwest Oregon.

• The Woods Were Full of Men by Irma Lee Emmerson with Jean Muir (1963)** is a partly fictionalized memoir of a cook at a logging camp on Tioga Creek on the upper reaches of the South Fork of the Coos River.

• Tall Tales from Rogue River: The Yarns of Hathaway Jones edited by Stephen Dow Beckham (1974).* Folklore from the Rogue River area as presented by a famous local miner and mail carrier: Hathaway Jones.
• *Everybody’s Dog* by Lois Cragun (1976).* In this book of juvenile fiction, the author imagines the reasons why the citizens of Marshfield (now Coos Bay) wrote an ordinance, in 1875, exempting one special dog from the license tax.

• *Rainy North Woods* (1990), *Rising Dog* (1992), *Banjo Boy* (1994), and *Raven’s Widow* (1997) all by Vince Kohler. All four featured a character named Eldon Larkin who works as reporter/photographer for the South Coast *Sun*, the local newspaper for small town of Port Jerome, on the southern Oregon coast. Although the author's note in all the books claims "none of the characters, places or events have counterparts in the real world" and "any reference to reality are fictitious," local readers will recognize thinly-disguised places and people, such as real life Jerry Baron, tedious editor of the South Coast *Sun*, and in fact the *Sun* itself, which is clearly modeled after the Coos Bay *World*. An entertaining aspect of the books is that except for interludes of fishing, Kohler clearly doesn't like living here. His disdain often borders on the comic. (Larkin: "I looked down on the miserable smear of Port Jerome," he writes as he views the town from his residence in Eastside, which he renamed "Regret." ) Larkin is a Berkeley, Calif., transplant who yearns for the big city, in this case Portland. In real life, Kohler worked for the *World* but eventually landed a job with the *Oregonian* and relocated to Portland. He died in 2002 at age 54.


• *Coos Bay Shanghai* by Naomi Russell (1999).* A pioneer family on Catching Inlet in Coos Bay experiences adventure in a maritime community in the late 1800s.

• *Katie’s Gold* by Tom Mitcheltree (2000) is a mystery with a Rogue River valley setting.

• *Treasure of Whiskey Run* by Phyllis Hegland (2003). In the 1850s a young man is shanghaied from San Francisco to the Oregon Coast and shipwrecked on the gold mining sands of Whiskey Run.

• *RRR: Rogue River Roy and Young Matt McCoy* by Lewis R. Cannon (2007). A young orphan is sent to live with his uncle, a mule Skinner on the Rogue River, in 1890.

• *Springer’s Quest: Life of a Chinook Salmon* by Nina Foran Gee (2009).* After naming a fictional salmon, the author weaves the story of the entire lifestyle of this amazing fish.

• *Lady at Midnight* by Ty Davis (2015). This is a children’s book about an adventure with animals at Mingus Park in Coos Bay.

• *Brothers in Arms* by R.C. Nelsen (2017). A military mission in Viet Nam that goes horribly wrong in 1966 has devastating consequences on a community on the Oregon South Coast in 1973 ... a murder mystery.
• *Feargus* by Judith Elliot McDonald (2019) is a fictional tale set in Coos County of a woman with a dark history with dogs who must deal with a partner who brings a rescue dog into their lives.

• *Uniquely Stella* by Deborah Menenberg (2019) is a fictional novel inspired by a true story. Part III of the novel is set in Lakeside, but the author refers to it as Hidden Lake.

### NEWSPAPERS

Coos County has had an abundance of newspapers published in the past 140 years and most are available on microfilm at various Coos County libraries. One ought to read *Paper Fight: The Coos Bay Times and the Ku Klux Klan* by Jon Littlefield (2014) which discusses the competition of the two leading newspapers in Marshfield in the 1920s and the influence that KKK activities had on local politics.

The oldest publication held is the *Coos Bay News* which reported about the Bay area starting from the year 1874. The *Marshfield Weekly Coast Mail* is on record from 1879 and the *Coquille City Herald* from 1883. Issues of the *Bandon Recorder* can be viewed from 1890 through June of 1916 and the *Myrtle Point Enterprise* is available from late 1895 through 1917. News of the community of Powers was reported in the *Powers Patriot* from 1918 to 1923.

The longest-running newspaper list is topped by the *Coos Bay Times* which reported for 51 years, from 1906–1957 whereupon it changed its name to *The World* and continues publication to the present. Access online to this paper can be found at Newspapers.com which is also available at the Coos Bay Public Library.

The *Coos Bay Harbor* (actually printed in North Bend) published from 1905–1950s and, after changing its name to the North Bend News, continued publication until 1986 – a span of 81 years. The *Coquille Valley Sentinel* has 67 years of news on microfilm from 1915 through 1982, followed by *Myrtle Point's Herald* which records 61 years of stories from 1928 to 1989. The *Marshfield Sun* revealed 53 years of Bay Area events from 1891 until mid-1944.

Speaking of the *Marshfield Sun*, the non-profit organization on Coos Bay’s Front Street has established a repository of weeklies on the second floor of the Marshfield Sun Printing Museum. In that building are actual copies of the: *Coast Mail* (Jan. 1879–June 1906); *Marshfield Sun* (Feb. 1891–June 1944); *Coos Bay Times* (Jan. 16, 1908–Dec. 26, 1916); *Southwestern Oregon News* (July 29, 1929–Apr. 26, 1940) and the *Empire Builder* (Oct. 1954–Aug. 1977). The Sun Museum also is in charge of a repository of local daily newspapers that was established at a Marshfield School District building in 2017. That repository houses actual copies of the *Coos Bay Times* (Jan. 1, 1907–Aug. 23, 1957); *The Coos Bay World* (Aug. 24, 1957–Dec. 31, 1980 and Aug. 1, 1997–Dec. 31, 2007) and the *Southwestern Oregon Daily News* (Oct. 4, 1922–July 28, 1929). Appointments to do research in either building should be made by contacting the officials of the Sun Printing Museum: Lionel Youst, lionel@wildblue.net; Don Blom, back40four@gmail.com, or Ralph Mohr, mohr1565@charter.net.

Many Oregon newspapers, including some in Coos County, are available online at a website called Historic Oregon Newspapers: [http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/](http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/) Microfilmed newspapers are being digitalized through a program at the University of Oregon Library. The following table shows the names of city newspapers on microfilm. Following each newspaper name is the
library where the microfilmed newspaper is located and the publication dates available for viewing.

**BANDON newspapers**
- *Bandon Recorder*; Coos Bay library; (1890 - Jun 27, 1916)
- *Prime Time*; SWOCC library; (Jun 1993 - Oct 1994; May 1997 - current)
- *Western World*; Coquille library; (Current 6 months)

**CHARLESTON newspapers**
- *Charleston Herald*; Coos Bay library; (Aug 1995 - Mar 1996 irregular)
- *Charleston Herald*; SWOCC library; (Apr 1995 - Mar 11, 1996)

**COOS BAY (Marshfield) newspapers**
- *Bay News Weekly*; SWOCC library; (Jun 19, 1985 - Oct 23, 1985)
- *BayReporter*; Coos Bay library; (Feb 28, 1979 - Sep 1984)
- *Bay Reporter*; SWOCC library; (Sep 21, 1983 - Sep 1984)
- *Coos Bay Harbor*; Coos Bay library; (1905 - 1950)
- *Coos Bay Harbor*; North Bend library; (1905 - 1950)
- *Coos Bay News*; Coos Bay library; (Aug 1893 - Nov 19, 1901; Jul 16, 1907 - Oct 1917)
- *Coos Bay News*; NB library; (1874-76; Jul 1877 - Jan 78; 1879-1901; July1907 - 1917)
- *Coos Bay Times*; Coos Bay library; (Jul 4, 1906 - Jan 7, 1957)
- *Coos Bay World*; Coos Bay library; (Jan 8, 1957 - present)
- *Empire Builder*; Coos Bay library; (Oct 8, 1953 - Feb 28, 1979)
- *Marshfield Sun*; Coos Bay library; (Feb 12, 1891 - Jun 16, 1944)
- *Marshfield Southwest Oregon Daily*; Coos Bay library; (Jan 23, 1915 - Apr 12, 1940)
- *Marshfield Coast Mail*; Coos Bay library; (May 17, 1879 - 1880; 1884 - Jun 1906)
- *Southwester*; SWOCC library; (Nov 10, 1961 - Nov 1, 1988; Mar 1992 - current)

**COQUILLE newspapers**
- *Coquille City Bulletin*; Coos Bay library; (Jun 7, 1901 - Jul 1, 1904)
- *Coquille City Bulletin*; Coquille library; (Jun 7, 1901 - Jul 1, 1904)
- *Coquille City Herald*; Coos Bay library; (Sep 11, 1883 - Oct 10, 1893)
- *Coquille City Herald*; Coquille library; (Sep 11, 1883 - Sep 4, 1917)
- *Coquille Herald*; Coos Bay library; (Sep 23, 1902 - Sep 4, 1917)
- *Coquille Tribune*; Coos Bay library; (Apr 1933 - Mar 1947)
- *Coquille Tribune*; Coquille library; (1929 - Mar 28, 1947)
- *Coquille Valley Sentinel*; Coos Bay library; (1917 - Nov 8, 1940)
- *Coquille Valley Sentinel*; Coquille library; (1915 - Jul 21, 1982)

**LAKESIDE newspapers**
- *Tenmile Times*; SWOCC library; (Apr 10, 1985 - Dec 17, 1985)

**MYRTLE POINT newspapers**
- *Myrtle Point Herald*; Myrtle Point library; (Mar 29, 1928 - Mar 3, 1989)
- *Myrtle Point Enterprise*; Coos Bay library; (Nov 16, 1895 - Nov 1917)
- *Myrtle Point Enterprise*; Myrtle Point library; (Nov 16, 1895 - Jun 5, 1908)
- *South Coos County American*; Coos Bay library; (Dec 1917 - Mar 22, 1928)
• With generous financial support from the Coquille Valley Genealogy Club, the Coos County Cultural Coalition, the Floyd Ingram Memorial Fund, and individual donors, the Myrtle Point Public Library Foundation was able to digitize the MP Library's 49 reels of the Myrtle Point Herald microfilm. The Herald archive is now available, and searchable at the following website: http://myrtlepoint.advantage-preservation.com/ The articles appear in .pdf format. The vendor tells us they work best in Adobe reader. The date range is from about 1899, with earlier miscellaneous issues, and some even earlier fragments, up to 2010. The archive includes the Myrtle Point Enterprise, The Southern Coos County American, and the Myrtle Point Herald.

**NORTH BEND newspapers**
• Coos Bay Harbor; Coos Bay library; (1905 - 1950)
• Coos Bay Harbor; North Bend library; (1905 - 1950)
• North Bend News; North Bend library; (1951 - Aug 27, 1986)

**POWERS newspapers**
• Powers Patriot; Coos Bay library; (Apr 26, 1918 - Apr 23, 1923)

**TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES HISTORICAL LIST**

The following titles are in order by the oldest year listed for each. Note that on Coastline there are duplicate links to some of the directories that underwent title and publisher changes but were essentially the same publication; therefore in order to avoid duplication, dates are only listed under the title printed in the directory. (Compiled for the Coos County Libraries by Dianne Zarder and Ann Couture, 2011)

**R.L. Polk & Co.'s Coos County Directory** (PUBLISHER: Portland, OR: R. L. Polk)
Coos Bay, Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 1904, 1907
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 COOS, 1907

**Polk’s Coos County Directory** (PUBLISHER: Portland, OR: R. L. Polk)
Coos Bay, Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 1916, 18, 24, 26, 36, 38, 40, 48, 54
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 COOS, 1913, 24, 38, 40, 48, 54

**Marshfield and North Bend City Directory** (PUBLISHER: North Bend, OR: Coos Bay Harbor) Coos Bay, Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 1922

**North Bend and Marshfield City Directory** (PUBLISHER: North Bend, OR: Coos Bay Harbor), North Bend, OR Case 910.25 NORTH, 1922


**Coos County Directory for 1946** (PUBLISHER: Coos Bay, OR: Wilson & Coos Bay)
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 OREGON, 1922
Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 1946
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 COOS, 1946
Coos Bay, Coquille, Empire, Gold Beach, Lakeside, Langlois, Myrtle Point, North Bend, Port Orford, Powers, Reedsport-Gardiner Oregon

Coos County Directory (PUBLISHER: Portland, OR: Tscheu Publishing)
Coos Bay, Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 1959, 61, 65, 68
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 COOS, 1959, 61, 65, 68

Coos Bay, Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 1959, 65, 68, 75
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 RURAL, 1959, 1968

Coos Bay-North Bend City Directory (PUBLISHER: Eugene, OR: Johnson Publishing)
Coos Bay, Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 1969, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, 80, 87–89
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 COOS, 1969, 70, 72, 73, 75, 76, 80, 87, 88

Southern Oregon Coast (PUBLISHER: [Everett, Wash.: Verizon Directories Corp.]

Coos Bay, Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 1994, 1995 [under 910.25 POL], 1996
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 POLK 1994, 1995

Polk City Directory for South-Central Oregon Coast (PUBLISHER: Livonia, Michigan, R. L. Polk & Co.)
Coos Bay, Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 1996–98
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 COOS, 1996-98 [at Ref Desk]
Bandon, Desk Ref, 1998
Myrtle Point, Work Room, Ready Reference 1996

InfoUSA City Directories cross reference directory consumer and business guide for Coos Bay - Southern Oregon Coast and vicinity. Alternate title: Hill-Donnelly cross reference directory for Coos Bay - Southern Oregon Coast. (PUBLISHER: infoUSA. Omaha, Neb.)
Coos Bay, Oregon Archive 910.25 COO, 2000–2010
North Bend, Oregon Case 910.25 HILL-DONNELLY, 1996-97, 1999–2006