
HISTORY OF TUBBS HILL

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

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

Read the complete story in the book "The Treasure called Tubbs Hill" by Scott Reed. Available to purchase at local bookstores, Chamber of Commerce, Coeur d'Alene Public Library Bookstore and Coeur d'Alene Parks Department. All proceeds go to the Tubbs Hill Foundation.

GEOLOGY

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

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

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

FOREST HABITATS

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

Tubbs Hill



Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

**City of Coeur d'Alene
Parks Department**

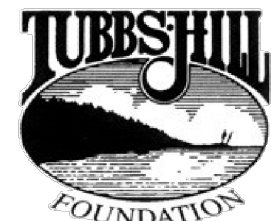
www.cdaid.org/parks

Friends of Tubbs Hill

Become a friend of Tubbs Hill!

**To become a member or to have a
name engraved on one of the
monuments, visit:**

www.tubbshill.org/donate



Trail Numbers

- 1 - Geology
- 2 - Soil
- 3 - Kinnikinnick
- 4 - Lake Coeur d' Alene view
- 5 - Cougar Bay view
- 6 - D.C. Corbin
- 7 - Steamboats and the U.S. Army
- 8 - Lichens
- 9 - Kidd Island view
- 10 - Ponderosa Pine
- 11 - Forest Habitats
- 12 - Snags
- 13 - Summit trail
- 14 - Grandstand
- 15 - Douglas - Fir
- 16 - Thimbleberry
- 17 - Sanders Beach view
- 18 - Myrtle Pachistima
- 19 - Nine Bark
- 20 - Mosses
- 21 - Grand Fir
- 22 - Western Larch or Tamarack
- 23 - Oregon grape
- 24 - Serviceberry
- 25 - Ferns and Ocean Spray
- 26 - Snowberry
- 27 - Coeur d' Alene Mill view

For more detailed information on numbered signs and other maps/guides use QR code below



Tubbs Hill Loop Trail:
 Length of Trail: 2 Miles
 Height of Summit: 2533'
 165 Acres of Publicly Owned Land
 Lake Coeur d'Alene Elevation: 2128'

Thanks to the following for making these signs possible:
 Tubbs Hill Foundation
 Kiwanis of Coeur d'Alene
 Coeur d'Alene Audubon Society
 Maria Ryan - Birds, Trees, Shrubs and Wildflower Illustrations
 Linda Clovis, Savvy Marketing - Graphic Design
 Wren Foundation

Map of Tubbs Hill

