

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM**

Note: For properties 35 years old and newer, starred (\*) sections are the only required fields.

					*County: Clackamas	
*Street Address: Trailhead located near 1300 Fairway Road				*City Lake Oswego		
USGS Quad Name: Lake Oswego				GPS Reading, UTM Format (Universal Transverse Mercator): Longitude: 45.41654 -122.69830		
Township: 2S	Range: 1E	Section: 9	Block/Lot:	Tax Lot #:		
Historic Name: Old Mine Trail				Grouping or Cluster Name:		
*Date of Construction: 1867		Other Name:				
Historic Use or Function: Extractive Facility		*Current Use: Trail		Associated Archaeological Site: Unknown		
Architectural Classification(s): N/A		Plan Type/Shape: N/A		Number of stories: N/A		
Foundation Material: N/A		Structural Framing: N/A		Moved? No		
Roof Type/Material: N/A			Window Type/Material: N/A			
Exterior Surface Materials Primary: N/A		Secondary: N/A		Decorative: N/A		
Exterior Alterations or Additions, Approximate Date: Benches added in 2003; Wood overlook constructed in 1995; Kiosks added after 1989; Original mine openings closed						
Number and Type of Associated Resources: One mine opening and two overlooks						
Integrity: Good		Condition: Good		Local Eligibility: Eligible/Contributing		National Register Listed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
<b>Preliminary National Register Findings:</b>						
Potentially Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/> Individually or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> As a contributing resource in a District						
Not Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/> Intact but lacks distinction or <input type="checkbox"/> Not 50 years old or <input type="checkbox"/> Altered - Choose one:						
<input type="checkbox"/> Reversible/ potentially eligible individually or in a District <input type="checkbox"/> Reversible/ ineligible, lacks distinction <input type="checkbox"/> Irretrievable lack of integrity						
*Researcher/ Organization: Kristen Minor & Brandon J. Grilc/Peter Meijer Architect, PC					Date Recorded: 02/08/2016	
					SHPO #: 31186	

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Description of Physical and or Landscape Features:

The Old Mine Trail is located within the Iron Mountain City Park in the Lake Grove neighborhood of Lake Oswego, Oregon. The trail is located on approximately 51 acres of surrounding city land and runs .66 of a mile in length. Trail heads are located off of Fairway, Glen Eagles, and Brookside Roads. The trail head opening off of Fairway Road includes a wood kiosk and wood post. The kiosk has a front-facing gabled roof finished with asphalt shingles. It also features a glass-covered bulletin board with an Iron Mountain Park map. Two wood posts flanking the trail are located at the trail head opening off of Glen Eagles Road.

The Old Mine Trail is Y-shaped and wraps the hillside of Iron Mountain City Park to the north of Iron Mountain Boulevard. The pathway is gravel and dirt. From east-to-west, starting at the Fairway Road entrance, the trail divides at approximately 1750 feet where one segment of the trail remains at the same elevation and connects to the Glen Eagles Road opening, and the other segment declines to the Brookside Road opening. The trail's landscape features include the primary path surrounded by a densely wooded area which includes maple, pine, ash, cedar, and oak trees. Other vegetation includes English ivy and fern, with large exposed basalt rock faces in places. Located on the hillside is one original mine opening, approximately 2' in size, partially enclosed with large rocks and covered in ivy. Wood benches installed in 2003 are also located along the path.

Near the Glen Eagles Road opening, two former water tower concrete bases are now used as overlooks. The concrete base to the east includes a wood picnic table and two metal informational kiosks with historic narrative boards. The second base, located directly to the east, features a wood deck with balustrade constructed in 1995 by Christopher Graham.

Since the last survey was recorded on this resource in 1989, new benches were installed in 2003 by Spencer Raymond and the BSA Troop 12, a wood deck was constructed on the water tower base in 1995, and wood and metal kiosks were installed at the trail head and at the water tower base. It is likely that the second leg of the trail that extends to Brookside Road was created after 1989. Because this is an organic resource, other landscape changes have occurred over time.

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Statement of Significance: [Required only for Intensive Level Surveys] (Use additional sheets if necessary)

The Old Mine Trail runs through the 51-acre Iron Mountain City Park in Lake Oswego, Oregon. One of its three trail heads is located approximately at 1300 Fairway Road. The Old Mine Trail was used in the development of the iron industry of Lake Oswego as part of the Prosser Mine. Its current alignment follows the original roadbed and later railway that was used to access a series of underground mine tunnels. Though the iron industry declined by 1894, this resource continues to express the early development of Oswego and its early iron industry.

The Old Mine Trail is located on land originally owned by Henry and Mary Prosser as part of their 300-acre Donation Land Claim. After the discovery of iron near Oswego in 1861, Portland investors created the Oregon Iron Company in 1865 and began mining in Oswego in 1867 (City of Lake Oswego). One of the two mines used during this time was the Prosser Mine located on the Prosser Donation Land Claim. Around 1869, after Henry and Mary Prosser divorced (Stuart 19), Mary Prosser "leased and then sold the property to the [Oregon Iron Company]" (City of Lake Oswego). After segments of land were sold off by Oregon Iron Company to "satisfy a judgment of creditors" (Goodall 46) in 1877, L. B. Seeley and E. W. Crichton purchased the furnace and created the Oswego Iron Company which operated intermittently for several years (Goodall 47). At this time, the Prosser Mine, which "had a 1 ½ miles tunneling under the present Oswego Lake Country Club golf course" (Goodall 47), was one of the two mines used by the newly founded Oswego Iron Company. Four years later in 1882, Prosser Mine and the Oswego Iron Company were sold and reincorporated as the Oregon Iron & Steel Company. Mining ceased in 1894 when mounting debts, compounded by a national economic crisis, forced the furnace to shut down (City of Lake Oswego).

The Prosser Mine was three miles from town along a sloping hillside. The mine was fitted with torches and "the walk is somewhat muddy and slippery and were it not for the ties of the small track on which the ore cars run but little footing would be afforded the underground explorer" (Goodall 52). The Prosser Mine "was a drift mine, meaning ore was extracted by digging horizontal, rather than vertical, tunnels into the mountainside. Between 1867 and 1898 a total of four tunnels, called "adits," were driven into the mountain" (Kuo 2). These adits were located within the hillside. "Instead of being sent down a deep shaft in an iron cage, one simply walks into the slope, taking care to avoid contact with the ore car as it is drawn out or drops back down the slope with great velocity" (West Shore 233). "Small rail cars inside the mine were filled with ore and drawn by cable to a hoist house at the entrance. Here the ore was sifted into two grades and loaded in ore cars that were hauled to the furnace by a small locomotive" (Kuo 2). The ore cars and track were located on what is now the Old Mine Trail.

The Old Mine Trail originated as the Oswego mine roadbed, constructed in 1867, which "traversed the slope north of what is now Iron Mountain Boulevard and reached the iron smelter in 2.6 miles and an approximately three hundred foot decrease in elevation" (Stuart 42). Years later in 1877, a narrow gauge railroad was "built along the mine roadbed to carry the ore from the Prosser Mine to the company furnace" (Stuart 43). Other resources cite the construction of the narrow-gauge railroad around 1879.

Today, the Old Mine Trail continues to reflect many of the original characteristics associated with the Prosser Mine such as, the narrow-gauge railroad track, now path, and original mine opening. Though no visible remnants of the railway remain above-grade, it is possible that an archaeological survey would determine further remnants of the Trail's original use and features. Currently, the Old Mine Trail is in good condition.

Overall, based on the information gathered for this survey and further research, it is more than likely that the Old Mine Trail can be found significant in the areas of industry and community planning and development. Given its existing state and historic value, the Old Mine Trail could also be a contributing resource in a potential historic district.

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Trailhead (Viewing West)



Mine Opening

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*Photo Roll #:	*Frame #(s):	Local Designation #:	SHPO #: 31186

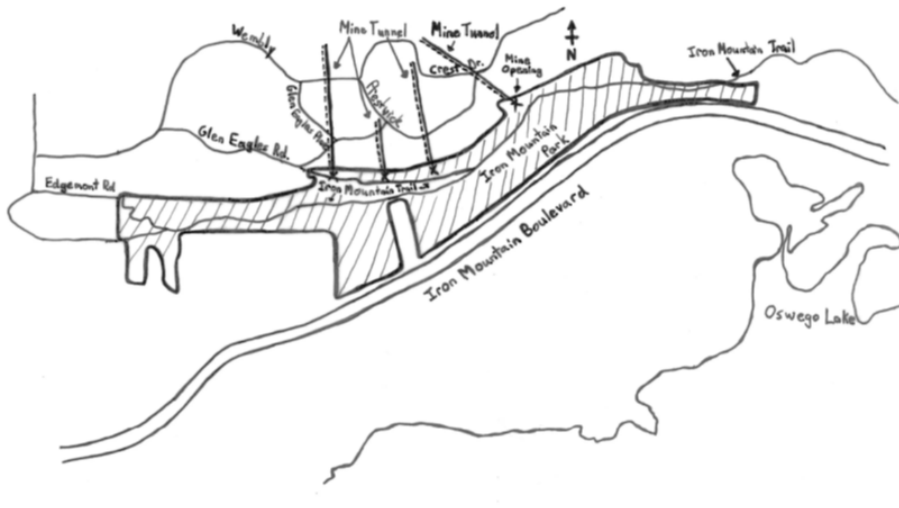
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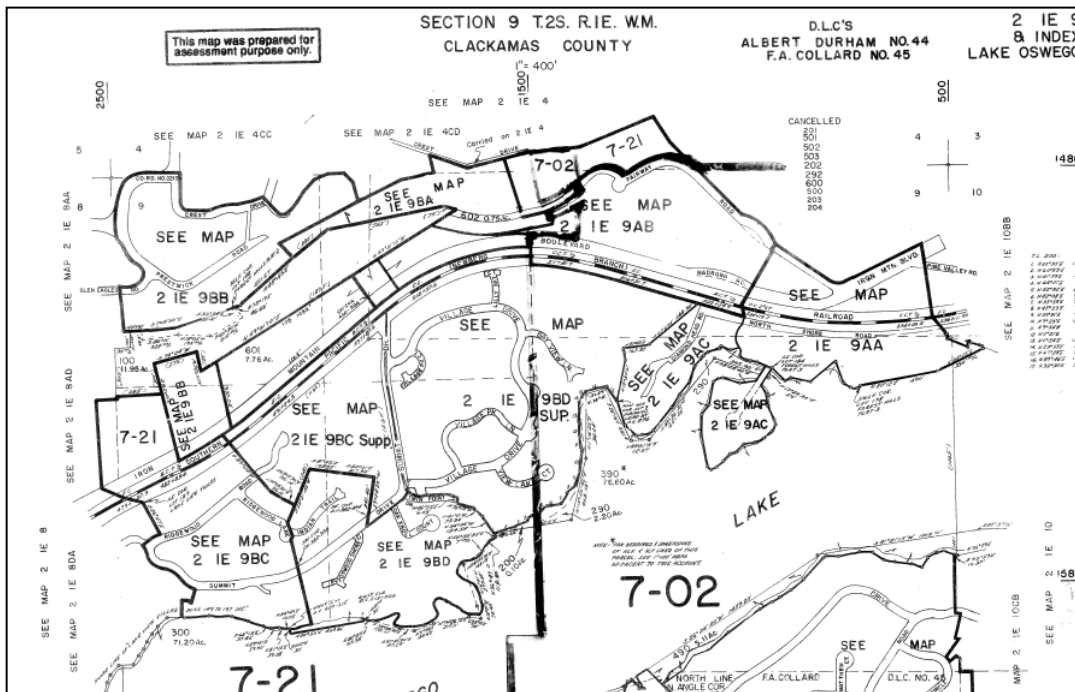
City:  
Lake Oswego

Street Address:  
Trailhead located near 1300 Fairway Road

**1300 Fairway Road  
Prosser Mine Trail**



Prosser Mine Trail Site Plan



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\*Frame #(s):

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Note: This page of the survey form is required only for Intensive Level Survey

		*County: Clackamas
Street Address: Trailhead located near 1300 Fairway Road		City: Lake Oswego
Architect and / or Builder(s): Oregon Iron Company/Oswego Iron Company/Oregon Iron & Steel Company	Owner Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed	
	Owner Name(s):	
Addition or Subdivision Name: N/A	Address:	
	City, State, Zip:	
Area(s) of Significance: Industry and Community Planning and Development	Phone Number(s):	
Property Category: <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> District		

**Documentation**

<b>Research Sources:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Title/ Deed Records <input type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary Index <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Encyclopedias <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers	<input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax Records <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives <input type="checkbox"/> State Library <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Interviews <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs	Local Library (specify): Lake Oswego Public Library Multnomah County Library  University Library (specify):   Historical Society (specify):   Other (specify):
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Bibliographic References (Books, articles, interviews, etc.)

- City of Lake Oswego. "The Prosser Iron Mine."  
[https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/parksrec/webpage/12126/1a\\_prosserironmine.pdf](https://www.ci.oswego.or.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/parksrec/webpage/12126/1a_prosserironmine.pdf).
- Goodall, Mary. *Oregon's Iron Dream: A Story of Old Oswego and the proposed Iron Empire of the West*. Portland: Binford & Mort, 1958.
- Kuo, Susanna Campbell. *Historic Resources In Iron Mountain Park*. Unpublished document courtesy of the City of Lake Oswego, 2015.
- Stuart, Patience. *Oswego's Iron History 1865-1928: A Historical Look at the Iron Industry and Related Developments in Lake Oswego, Oregon*. [http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/HCD/OHC/docs/clackamas\\_lakeoswego\\_ironhistory1865-1928\\_2010.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/HCD/OHC/docs/clackamas_lakeoswego_ironhistory1865-1928_2010.pdf).

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