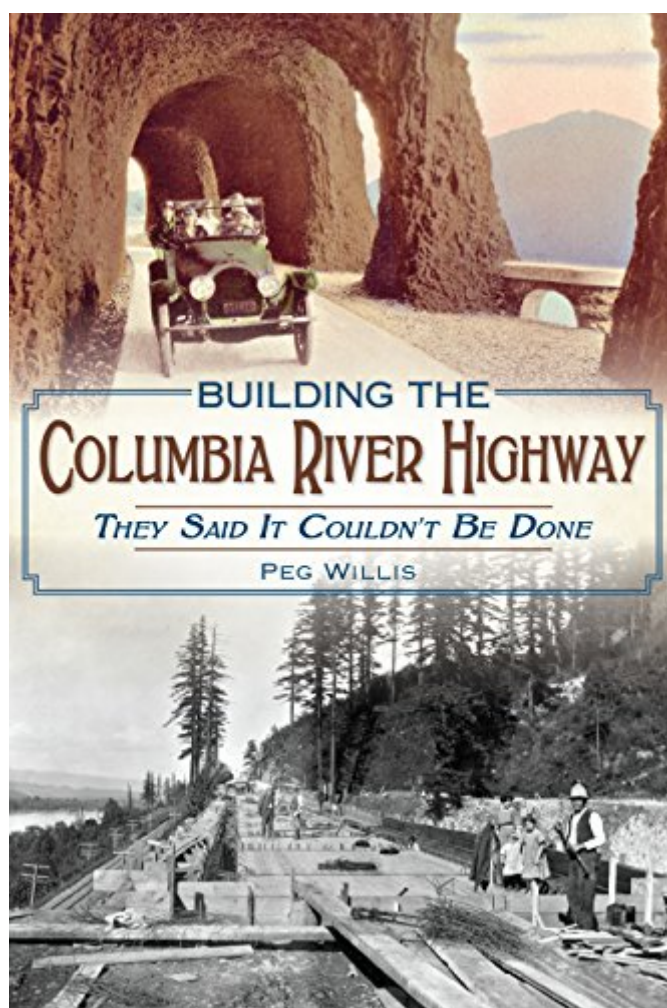


The book was found

# Building The Columbia River Highway: They Said It Couldn't Be Done



## Synopsis

When nine-hundred-foot ice age floods carved the Columbia River Gorge through the Cascade Mountains to the sea, little space was left for man to form a highway of his own. It took an artist-poet-engineer extraordinaire to conquer this reluctant piece of real estate and produce the nation's first scenic highway. Meet Sam Hill, the mover and shaker, and Samuel Lancaster, the polio survivor, who turned modern engineering on its ear to create a "poem in stone." Today, Oregon's historic Columbia River Highway is hidden among the trees, where it meanders past spectacular waterfalls and dramatic views. Ride along with Peg Willis as she explores the beginnings of this miracle highway and the men who created it.

## Book Information

File Size: 4833 KB

Print Length: 192 pages

Publisher: The History Press (March 18, 2014)

Publication Date: March 18, 2014

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00XRP32QO

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #784,093 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #92

in [Kindle Books](#) > [Engineering & Transportation](#) > [Engineering](#) > [Civil & Environmental](#) > [Highway & Traffic](#) #122 in [Kindle Store](#) > [Kindle eBooks](#) > [History](#) > [Americas](#) > [United States](#) > [State & Local](#) > [Pacific Northwest](#) #286 in [Kindle Store](#) > [Kindle eBooks](#) > [Nonfiction](#) > [Travel](#) > [Food, Lodging & Transportation](#) > [Auto & RV Travel](#)

## Customer Reviews

I have been interested in the Old Columbia Gorge Highway, the subject of this book, for a long time. Today, a drive on the Old Highway (as compared to the "new" I-84 which also follows the Gorge) is probably the best scenic drive in Oregon - and that is saying a lot. Wildflowers in spring, lush forest

and ferns and waterfalls everywhere, Vista House, Multnomah Falls, and much more. There is a lot of history that is represented by this highway, created by a unique fusion of visionary movers and shakers of early Oregon and artistic engineering. This creative book introduces you to people like Sam Hill, Simon Benson, and the engineer/designer/artist who brought all of this together, Samuel Lancaster. There are others, of course, who play a vital role in the creation of this, one of the earliest paved roads in Oregon, a road that was widely considered impossible to build due to the steep slopes of the Gorge. But build it they did! This book honors those pavement pioneers as much as it informs the modern reader and driver. "Building the Columbia River Highway" greatly adds to the enjoyment and appreciation of an already incredible road. (\*Bad pun, but I couldn't resist it any more than I can resist a drive on the Old Columbia Gorge Highway.) Peg Willis, thank you for bringing this book to life!

As a history buff I really enjoyed this book. The author delves into the lives and influences that drove the movers and shakers behind the Columbia River Highway project. My life has involved many trips through the Columbia Gorge, and knowing more about the history of this beautiful area will make my next trip even more enjoyable. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in the challenges and the approaches taken to build this wonderful highway.

Wonderful book, but probably because my parents and I used to drive it from Portland to Bonneville, our home. This was the only highway available. It was (is) crooked but very scenic, never tired of it even though the trip was at least three times as long as it is today. I have been a fan of the "old highway" all my life. My mother worked in the gift shop at Crown Point and also at Multnomah Falls. I was a busboy for a few months in the dining room. My parents knew Mr. Landcaster. He wrote a very nice message to them after he was hosted in their (before I was born) home. He had beautiful handwriting, so you can imagine how surprised I was to read in this book about his early Polio attack which left him unable to walk or write. But he overcame this and went on to be the lead engineer on the Columbia River Highway.

I bought this book because I saw the author on tv and she made it all sound so interesting that I knew my dad would really enjoy it. Being a smart person I ordered it well ahead of my dad's birthday so I could read it myself first. I am so glad I did, I am enjoying it thoroughly! The author really makes the subject and the people come alive on the pages, and there are many intriguing photographs as well. Being from this area I am having fun looking at the photos and matching them up to the familiar

places they are today, as well as matching up the names of the significant people to streets and buildings here. I highly recommend this book, it makes what could be a dry subject a joy to read.

This is a well-written book that tells the story of and behind the individuals who were responsible for getting the Columbia River Highway built. It was the first highway in the USA to cross a major mountain range and required enormous care to lay it out with sufficiently gradual grades that the low horsepower cars of the 19-teens could navigate it. Special care was also taken in its layout to provide travelers with spectacular views, including tunnels with openings in their sides so that travelers could look out on the wonderful scenery. The men and women who made it happen were visionaries and deserve our thanks today as segments of this historic highway can still be traveled. Highly recommended!

I love local history, wherever I may be, and even if I didn't happen to live in Oregon and travel along the great Columbia on fairly frequent occasion, I'd sure want to even more after reading this book. The author writes in a very refreshing way, not as someone feeling accomplished and simply proud of the extensive research required for this degree of output, but as someone on my level, clearly excited to share the news she's learned of a fabulous treasure discovered. I can't imagine someone finding this great nugget any bit dull, and look forward to my next trips down through the Gorge, hoping to block extra time for touring these finds in greater detail!! Thanks to Peg Willis!

I thoroughly enjoyed reading the history of the construction of one of the most beautiful highways in the country. The historic photographs add so much to understanding the difficulty in building the highway, especially with the tools that were in common usage at the time. As a native of the Pacific Northwest I have traveled the Columbia River Highway and have heard the names of men such as Sam Hill, Henry Pittock and Simon Benson and this book tells the story of these men and others who were instrumental in bringing the beautiful Columbia River Highway to the people.

Loved! Loved! Loved! Picked it for a book club book, bought one for my sister. I traveled this "old highway" as we call it now, many times as a child from The Dalles to Portland. My mother talked a lot about the builders of the highway (although she came to Oregon in the early 1930s and the road was already built) and how they respected the land.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Building the Columbia River Highway: They Said It Couldn't Be Done Geologic History of the

Columbia River Gorge, As Interpreted from the Historic Columbia River Scenic Highway (Jack Murdock Publication Series on the) God Couldn't Have Done It Without Africa: Earth's Final Great Awakening From Zero to Sixty on Hedge Funds and Private Equity: What They Do, How They Do It, and Why They Do The Mysterious Things They Do They Hurt, They Scar, They Shoot, They Kill: Toxic Characters in Young Adult Fiction (Studies in Young Adult Literature) CANOEING The Jersey Pine Barrens: Paddling adventures along the Batsto River, Toms River, Rancocas Creek, Great Egg Harbor River, Mullica River A Reformer on the Throne: Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said Just Eat Less? Easier Said Than Done. The World Famous Alaska Highway: Guide to the Alcan & (World-Famous Alaska Highway: A Guide to the Alcan & Other) The Alaska Highway (Adventure Guide to the Alaska Highway) The Get it Done Divas Guide to Business: The Definitive Guide to Getting it Done and Standing Out as a Leader and Expert Understanding Girls with ADHD, Updated and Revised: How They Feel and Why They Do What They Do Working: People Talk About What They Do All Day and How They Feel About What They Do The Employee Experience Advantage: How to Win the War for Talent by Giving Employees the Workspaces they Want, the Tools they Need, and a Culture They Can Celebrate Defeating ISIS: Who They Are, How They Fight, What They Believe The 100 Best Business Books of All Time: What They Say, Why They Matter, and How They Can Help You Miracles: What They Are, Why They Happen, and How They Can Change Your Life Queens of the Ice: They were fast, they were fierce, they were teenage girls (Lorimer Recordbooks) Moon British Columbia: Including the Alaska Highway (Moon Handbooks) Western Canada roadmap: Including maps of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan : plus mini-maps of Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, ... Alaska Highway (A Gousha travel publication)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)