

Auto Tour for the
2024 National Fur Trade Symposium

Pierre's Hole to Museum of the Mountain Man

The same tour will be held twice in opposite directions

Inbound Tour: Thursday, September 12, 2024

Begin at Pierre's Hole, Tetonia, Idaho at 9am

End at Museum of the Mountain Man, Pinedale, Wyoming about 2pm

Outbound Tour: Sunday September 15, 2024

Begin at Museum of the Mountain Man, Pinedale, Wyoming at 9am

End at Pierre's Hole, Tetonia, Idaho at about 2pm

Guided by Jim Hardee

Auto Caravan: You will use your own vehicle to travel a series of stops along a one-way (130 mile) route from Pierre's Hole, Idaho to Pinedale, Wyoming as if coming to rendezvous or in reverse as if leaving rendezvous. Your guide will discuss the fur trade history that happened at or near each stop. Since the inbound tour will start early, you may want to find lodging the night before near the start.

Stops & Driving Directions: An outline of stops and driving directions from stop to stop for both inbound and outbound tours are included below. GPS coordinates for each stop have also been included that can be entered in to cell phone or car mapping apps which can then give directions from your current location in case you get separated from the group.

Supplies: Bathroom stops will be arranged, but guest should bring along their own snacks, drinks and supplies.

Registration: The guided tours are free, but you are encouraged to register for the tour to aid in logistics and to ensure everyone intended is present. Register by providing attendee names, and a cell phone contact for each auto by either emailing symposium@mmmuseum.com or calling 307-367-4101.

Discussions: Background material for each stop have been included at the end of this document.

Inbound Tour – Outline & Driving Directions

(Scroll down for the outbound tour. Discussion materials for each stop included near the back.)

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Meet at Stop 1 at 9am

(Tour will be 9 stop with an optional 4 stops if time permits and guest want to see)

Stop 1 - Pierre's Hole overlook

(GPS [43.8250, -111.2389](#) for cell phone or car map app)

Directions from Rexburg: US-20E drive north 5 miles. Take exit 339 to ID-33E/Driggs. Drive 35.1 miles east. Turnout on the right.

Directions from Driggs: ID-33W drive north 12.9 miles (Through Tetonia at 8.4 miles). Turnout on the left.

Stop 2 - 1832 Rendezvous Historic Marker

(GPS [43.7073, -111.1108](#))

Directions from Stop 1: Turn right on ID-33E drive 14 miles (1 mile south of Driggs). Turnout on the right.

Stop 3 - Battle of Pierre's Hole

(GPS [43.6063, -111.1212](#))

Directions from Stop 2: Turn right on ID-33E and drive 7 mile south to Victor. Turn right on Cedron Road and drive ½ miles. Turn left on S 1000 W and drive 250 feet south.

Stop 4 - Teton Pass

(GPS [43.4973, -110.9552](#))

Directions from Stop 3: Drive north on S 1000 W for 250 ft. Turn right on Cedron Road and drive 0.5 mile east. Turn right on ID-33W/Main St and drive 12.2 miles south & east (road changes to WY22E at 5.9 miles). Turnout on the right.

Stop 5 - Hoback River Historical Marker

(GPS [43.3199 -110.7194](#))

Directions from Stop 4: Turn right on WY22E and drive 11.1 miles east & south (pass through Wilson at 5.5 miles). Turn right on US191S/US89S/US26W and drive 11.8 miles south. At the traffic circle take the second exit onto US191S and drive east 0.6 miles. Turnout on the right.

Stop 6 - Sulphur Spring

(GPS [43.2888, -110.6343](#))

Directions from Stop 5: Turn right on US191S and drive 5 miles east. Turnout on the left.

Stop 7 - Red Ledges

(GPS [43.2900, -110.5605](#))

Directions from Stop 6: Turn left on US191S and drive 4.2 miles east. Turnout on the right.

Stop 8 - Reverend Samuel Parker's Sermon

(GPS [43.2454, -110.4767](#))

Directions from Stop 7: Turn right on US191S and drive 5.9 miles east. Turnout on the right.

Stop 9 - Astorian Historical Marker

(GPS [43.1194, -110.1796](#))

Directions from Stop 8: Turn right on US191S and drive 19.5 miles east. Turnout on the left.

Optional Stop 10 – Fort Bonneville

(GPS [42.8929, -110.1363](#))

Directions from Stop 9: Turn left on US191S and drive 17.2 miles south. Turn right on WY354 and drive 3.2 miles west. Historic site in on the right.

Optional Stop 11 – Rendezvous Park – Green River Rendezvous

(GPS [42.8664, -110.0714](#))

Directions from Stop 10: Turn left on WY354 and drive 3.2 miles east. Turn right on US191S and drive 0.2 miles east. Turn right on US189S and drive 1.7 miles south. Rendezvous Park is on the left.

Optional Stop 12 – Trapper's Point

(GPS [42.8798, -109.9825](#))

Directions from Stop 11: Turn right on US189N and drive 1.6 miles north. Turn right on US191S and drive 4.9 miles west. Turn right on East Green River Road and drive 0.1 mile south. Turn right on dirt access road and drive 0.5 miles west up hill to parking lot. Trappers Point is 150 feet walk to top of hill (no ADA access).

Optional Stop 13 – Duck Creek Overlook

(GPS [42.8734, -109.9341](#))

Directions from Stop 12: Drive on dirt access road 0.5 miles east. Turn left on East Green River Road and drive north 0.1 mile. Turn right on US191S and drive 2.1 miles east (bypass first turnout at 1.6 miles). Turnout on the left.

Museum of the Mountain Man

(GPS [42.8693, -109.8520](#)) 700 E Hennick, Pinedale, Wyoming

Directions from Stop 13: Turn left on US191S and drive 41 miles east. Turn left on Fremont Lake Road and drive north 0.4 miles north. Turn right on E Hennick St and drive 0.1 miles. Museum on the right.

Directions from Stop 9: Turn left on US191S and drive 28.7 miles south & east. Turn left on Fremont Lake Road and drive north 0.4 miles north. Turn right on E Hennick St and drive 0.1 miles. Museum on the right.

Outbound Tour – Outline & Driving Directions

(Scroll up for the inbound tour. Discussion materials for each stop included near the back.)

Sunday, September 15, 2024

Meet at MMM at 9am

(Tour will be 9 or 13 stops in reverse order with stops to be determined after inbound tour)

Museum of the Mountain Man (Start)

(GPS [42.8693, -109.8520](#) for cell phone or car map app) 700 E Hennick, Pinedale, Wyoming

Optional Stop 13 – Duck Creek Overlook

(GPS [42.8734, -109.9341](#))

Directions from MMM: Turn left on Fremont Lake Road and drive 0.4 miles south. Turn right on US191N and drive 4.1 miles west. Turnout on right.

Optional Stop 12 – Trapper’s Point

(GPS [42.8798, -109.9825](#))

Directions from Stop 13: Turn right on US191N and drive 2.1 miles west. Turn left on East Green River Road and drive 0.1 miles south. Turn right on dirt access road and drive 0.5 miles west up hill to parking lot. Trappers Point is 150 feet walk to top of hill (no ADA access).

Optional Stop 11 – Rendezvous Park – Green River Rendezvous

(GPS [42.8664, -110.0714](#))

Directions from Stop 12: Drive on dirt access road 0.5 miles east. Turn left on East Green River Rd and drive north 0.1 mile. Turn left on US191N and drive 4.9 miles west. Turn left on US189S and drive 1.7 miles south. Rendezvous Park on the left.

Optional Stop 10 – Fort Bonneville

(GPS [42.8929, -110.1363](#))

Directions from Stop 11: Turn right on US189N and drive 1.6 miles north. Turn left on US191N and drive west 0.4 miles. Turn left on WY354 and drive 3.2 miles west. Historic Site is on the right.

Stop 9 - Astorian Historical Marker

(GPS [43.1194, -110.1796](#))

Directions from Stop 10: Turn left on WY354 and drive 3.2 miles east. Turn left on US191N and drive 17.2 miles north. Turnout is on the right.

Directions from MMM: Turn left on Fremont Lake Road and drive 0.4 miles south. Turn right on US191N and drive 4.1 miles west. Head west on US191N and drive 28.7 miles west & north. Turnout is on the right.

Stop 8 - Reverend Samuel Parker's Sermon

(GPS [43.2454, -110.4767](#))

Directions from Stop 9: Turn right on US191N and drive 19.5 miles west. Turnout on the left.

Stop 7 - Red Ledges

(GPS [43.2900, -110.5605](#))

Directions from Stop 8: Turn left on US191N and drive 5.9 miles west. Turnout is on the left.

Stop 6 - Sulphur Spring

(GPS [43.2888, -110.6343](#))

Directions from Stop 7: Turn left on US191N and drive 4.2 miles west. Turnout on the right.

Stop 5 - Hoback River Historical Marker

(GPS [43.3199 -110.7194](#))

Directions from Stop 6: Turn right on US 191N and drive 5 miles northwest. Turnout on the left.

Stop 4 - Teton Pass

(GPS [43.4973, -110.9552](#))

Directions from Stop 5: Turn left on US191N and drive west 0.6 miles. At traffic circle, take first exit right continuing north on US191N/US89N/US26E and drive 11.8 miles north. Use left two lanes at light to turn left onto WY22W and drive 11.1 miles north & west (pass through Wilson at 5.6 miles. Turnout on the left.

Stop 3 - Battle of Pierre's Hole

(GPS [43.6063, -111.1212](#))

Directions from Stop 4: Turn Left on WY-22W and drive 12.2 miles west to Victor (road changes to ID-33W at 6.3 miles). Turn left on Cedron Road and drive west 0.5 mile. Turn left on S 1000 W and drive 250 feet south.

Stop 2 - 1832 Rendezvous Historic Marker

(GPS [43.7073, -111.1108](#))

Directions from Stop 3: Drive north on S 1000 W for 250 ft. Turn right on Cedron Road and drive 0.5 mile east. Turn left on ID-33W/Main St and drive 7 miles north. Turnout on the left.

Stop 1 - Pierre's Hole overlook (Last Stop)

(GPS [43.8250, -111.2389](#))

Directions from Stop 2: Turn left on ID-33W and drive 14 miles north & west. Turnout on the left.

Background & Discussion

(Same for both inbound and outbound tours)

Stop 1 - Pierre's Hole overlook

The expanse below is known today as Teton Valley, Idaho. During the Rocky Mountain fur trade era, it was called Pierre's Hole. The river flowing through it was known as Pierre's Fork. The valley and river get their name from Pierre Tevanitagan, a French-Canadian/Iroquois trapper. The basin is bounded by the Teton Range and the Snake River Range on the east. The largest peak on the horizon, Grand Teton, stands at 13,775 feet above sea level. To the south are the Palisades, and the Big Hole Mountains sit on the western side. Rolling hills rise gently on the valley's northern perimeter, undulating ever higher but never becoming truly mountainous.

The first documented Euro-Americans came through the valley in 1811. However, there is circumstantial evidence that trappers attached to Andrew Henry's 1810 brigade probably trapped in, or at least traversed Teton Basin. It is conceivable, though unlikely, John Colter was in the vicinity as early as 1809.

Two rendezvous were held in Pierre's Hole – a gathering in 1829 following a minor rendezvous on the Popo Agie near present Lander, WY, and one of the largest trade fairs of all in 1832, which is known for the battle that occurred near its conclusion.

Trapper Joe Meek described both of these meetings:

[1829] Meek *admire[d] the magnificent scenery of the valley, which is bounded on two sides by broken and picturesque ranges, and overlooked by that magnificent group of mountains, called the Three Tetons, towering to a height of fourteen thousand feet. This emerald cup set in its rim of amethystine mountains, was so pleasant a sight to the mountain-men that camp was moved to it without delay, where it remained until some time in September, recruiting its animals and preparing for the fall hunt.*

[1832] *The lonely mountain valley was populous with the different camps. The Rocky Mountain and American companies had their separate camps; Wyeth had his; a company of free trappers, fifteen in number; led by a man named Sinclair, from Arkansas, had the fourth; the Nez Perces and Flatheads, the allies of the Rocky Mountain company, and the friends of the whites, had their lodges along all the streams; so that altogether there could not have been less than one thousand souls, and two or three thousand horses and mules gathered in this place.*

(For more reading about Joe Meek, see Frances Fuller Victor, *River of the West: The Adventures of Joe Meek* (Missoula, MT: Mountain Press Publishing Company, 1983), 1:58-60; 109-112.)

Stop 2 - 1832 Rendezvous Historic Marker

The plaque on this roadside marker commemorates the 1832 rendezvous and the battle which ensued in its closing days. It is close to what is thought to be the central trading area of that gathering. More first-person accounts of this rendezvous and associated events exist than for any other – as many as fourteen men wrote journals or letters or otherwise recorded their summer experience. This rendezvous had been coordinated primarily by the Rocky Mountain Fur Company (RMFC) to outfit its men, yet Teton Valley saw a greater variety of fur companies at this affair than at any other rendezvous. The enterprises included the well-known RMFC and the American Fur Company (AFC), but several independent concerns also showed up. These included some men of the Gantt and Blackwell outfit, other free trappers and the newborn outfit of Nathaniel Wyeth – the Pacific Trading Company. A small pack outfit under partners Robert Bean and Alexander Sinclair dropped in, as well. A supply caravan led by Benjamin Bonneville and one commanded by AFC's Lucien Fontenelle, headed for Pierre's Hole but never made it.

A diverse group gathered that summer as competition for fur in the Rockies had reached its highest pitch as trappers converged for the eighth annual rendezvous. RMFC fielded about 100 men while AFC showed up with around 90 mountaineers. The Gantt and Blackwell Company was represented by about 22 trappers. The Bean and Sinclair outfit was manned by about 15 guys. Wyeth led about a dozen greenhorns. William Sublette's supply train was staffed by around 85 men. This makes a total of about 325 non-native people in the Basin. With 120 lodges of Nez Perce and about 80 lodges of Flathead anxious to trade for the Americans' goods, the Indian presence far outnumbered the whites – probably close to 1,500 native men, women and children. Camps were spread over many miles within the valley. The exact locations are not known and little detail is provided in the first-hand accounts, though one report indicates camps stretched out in about a five-mile radius. RMFC, host for the event, had its camp close to the center of the valley. Another diary indicated RMFC encamped about a mile from AFC. Presuming everyone in attendance had at least one horse, probably more for packing, there must have been well over 3,000 head of livestock.

(For more reading about the 1832 rendezvous, see Fred R. Gowans, *Rocky Mountain Rendezvous: A History of the Fur Trade Rendezvous, 1825-1840* (Layton, UT: Peregrine Smith Books, 1985), 64-79.)

Stop 3 - Battle of Pierre's Hole

The exact site of the battle fought between trappers and their allies against a band of unfriendly Gros Ventre has not been identified. Though most of those first-hand accounts provide record of the encounter, reconciling those reports often means merging conflicting narratives in to a cohesive interpretation.

As the rendezvous was winding down, Milton Sublette and Henry Fraeb prepared to lead their brigade of trappers out of the valley toward the area in which they would conduct their fall hunt.

Wyeth's rookies tagged along with the RMFC men. They only traveled as far as the south end of the valley and made camp. The next morning, trappers spied a party of Gros Ventre entering the basin, coming down of today's Pine Creek Pass. Estimates vary as to the number of Indians in this group but it may have been as many as 200 or more. The Gros Ventre were politically allied with the Blackfoot Confederacy and some of the mountaineers failed to draw the distinction, thus, some accounts recall these Natives as being Blackfeet.

As their headman rode forward to parley, two mountain men sallied forth to confront him. That pair hatched a treacherous plan to murder the Gros Ventre chief. Meanwhile, the main body of Natives had moved along Little Pine Creek. When their leader went down, the warriors raced toward the RMFC camp intent on revenge and the battle was on! Sublette sent a messenger back to the main rendezvous camp for help.

Some of the Gros Ventre women slipped back into the trees along the creek and began constructing a defensive fortification. Facing Milton Sublette and his handful of mountaineers, the Gros Ventre likely thought the odds were in their favor, boosting their confidence in a quick victory. That is, until they heard thundering hooves as 250 trappers and allied Indians, primarily Nez Perce and Flathead, arrived from the main camp. Gros Ventre warriors retreated into the cottonwoods to assist their women in building an impromptu log fort. They draped lodge covers and buffalo hides over their breastwork to shield themselves from the trappers' view. Many of their horses were brought within the enclosure as well. Furrows were scooped in the ground for some degree of additional cover and perhaps for a water pit.

The fighting went on all day with little true effect. Shots were fired blindly into the enemy fort while Gros Ventre took aim at trappers ducking in the trees. As evening approached, the trappers proposed burning the log structure, but the Flatheads argued against the idea because it would have ruined the plunder they had set their hearts on obtaining once the adversary was defeated. During this debate, a Gros Ventre was heard shouting that an even larger party of their people would soon arrive to avenge their deaths should they be wiped out. This was misinterpreted as a warning that a greater force was already attacking the main rendezvous, now poorly manned, with all the trappers at the battle scene in the south end of the valley. A mad rush back to the primary camp ensued, only to find it was a false alarm.

Even if it were possible to declare a victor in the Battle of Pierre's Hole, it would serve little purpose. Not surprisingly, though, several trappers wrote accounts declaring themselves the winners. Based on the varied reports at the time, there may have been seven or eight mountain men who lost their lives in the fray, and several who sustained wounds during the fighting. Trapper Jim Bridger would later report, "The loss of the Gros Ventres was never fully known. They left nine killed, with twenty-five horses and all their baggage, and admitted a loss of twenty-six warriors."

As recently as 2001, during construction work on the Creekside Meadows subdivision just south of Driggs, Idaho, the skeletal remains of what turned out to be a person of Native American ancestry were uncovered. Associated artifacts included several blue glass beads, a chert tool, some bone gambling dice and a few unidentifiable metal fragments. Archaeologists determined

the burial site dated back to the approximate time of the Battle of Pierre's Hole, surmising this was a casualty of that conflict. Given the grave's location near the confluence of Teton Creek and Teton River, the approximate site of the 1832 rendezvous main camp, this was likely a trapper of Indian descent.

(For more reading about the Battle of Pierre's Hole, see Jim Hardee, *Pierre's Hole! The History of a Fur Trade Landmark* (Pinedale, WY: Museum of the Mountain Man, 2022), 193-280.)

Stop 4 - Teton Pass

In 1811, Wilson Price Hunt's overland Astorians were the first known Euro-Americans to cross the Teton Range. Friendly Shoshone guided them to an "easy and much-traveled trail," up and over what Hunt named the Pilot Knobs. For decades, the crossing was called Hunt's Pass.

Archeologists believe early Indigenous people frequently entered Jackson Hole from the south, likely using the same trail Hunt was shown. Eleven primary routes into that valley have been identified and three of these originated in Pierre's Hole. The northernmost corridor passed through today's Conant Pass. Two options from the south included a path through Philips Canyon by way of the pass of the same name, and one over Mosquito Pass. Trails followed by early trappers and settlers navigating through Pierre's Hole essentially followed these same Indian-made paths.

From the top of Teton Pass, trapper Warren Ferris left a description of the view seen by many tourists and all of those in modern times who commute from Teton Valley to Jackson on a regular basis. For a rough and tumble mountain man, Ferris waxed quite eloquent:

Gazing down, in the direction of Jackson's Hole, from our elevated position one of the most beautiful scenes imaginable, was presented to our view. It seemed quite filled with large bright clouds, resembling immense banks of snow, piled on each other in massy numbers, of the purest white; wreathing their ample folds in various forms and devious convolutions, and mingling in one vast embrace their shadowy substance. – Sublime creations! emblems apt of the first glittering imaginings of human life! like them redolent of happiness, and smiling in the fancied tranquil security of repose; like them, liable to contamination by intercourse with baser things, and like them, dissipated by the blasts of adversity, which sooner or later are sure to arrest and annihilate them. Alike evanescent are the dreamy anticipations of youth, and the aerial collections of vapor. Such the reflections suggested by this lovely scene, which, though often on the mountains, I have never before seen below me. Clouds of this pure snow-white appearance, are, however, by no means uncommon; but those usually observed beneath us, when on the mountains, have a dark and lowering aspect.

(For more reading regarding Warren A. Ferris, see Warren Ferris, *Life in the Rocky Mountains*, Leroy R. Hafen, ed. (Denver, CO: The Old West Publishing Company, 1983), 283-289.)

Stop 5 - Hoback River Historical Marker

In 1810, a St. Louis Missouri Fur Company brigade established a trading post at the Three Forks of the Missouri River. Three Kentuckians were members of that party; John Hoback, Edward Robinson and Jacob Reznor. When spring came, the men in the field were left to make their own way back to the settlements. This intrepid trio ran into Wilson Price Hunt's expedition on the Missouri River and were recruited to guide the Astorians overland, back the way they had recently come.

While crossing Union Pass, the Kentuckians pointed out the Tetons, informing Hunt that the river running at the base of those mountains was a tributary of the Columbia River. Downstream from this marker, the Americans halted for several days, trying to determine if the Snake River, which was then identified as "Mad River," was navigable. Ultimately, they opted to continue their overland travels, crossed the Tetons and arrived at the cabins built by Andrew Henry the prior year.

(For more reading on John Hoback, see Washington Irving, *Astoria, or Anecdotes of an Enterprise Beyond the Rocky Mountains*, Edgeley W. Todd, ed. (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1964), 260-263.)

Stop 6 - Sulphur Spring

On the north side of the highway is the remnant of an old sulphur cave. The milky-colored sulphur spring water flowing into the Hoback River is shown on the map created by Reverend Samuel Parker in 1835, nearly 200 years ago. He reported,

For some distance, I was much annoyed with the strong scent of sulphuretted hydrogen, and soon saw at the foot of the mountain under the bed of gypsum a large sulphur spring, which sent up as much as thirty gallons of water per minute. Around this spring were large quantities of incrustated sulphur, and so strongly is the water saturated, that it colors the water of the river, on the side next to the spring, a greenish yellow for more than a mile below.

According to the area's old-timers, the original road followed the old trail and vestiges of the roadbed can be seen on the hillside across the river over the next several miles.

(For more on Samuel Parker's trip, see Rev. Samuel Parker, *Journal of an Exploring Tour Beyond the Rocky Mountains* (Minneapolis, MN: (Ross & Haines, 1967), 82-90.)

Stop 7 - Red Ledges

The highway through Hoback Canyon follows the Hoback River at or near the water level, but the trail used by trappers during the fur trade era was high along the hillside. In 1811, Hunt wrote

The stream whose course we followed [the Hoback] receives several others and forms a small river. We frequently forded it on the 25th and 26th. Its rapidity is so great that nobody could walk there without assistance. Our road has been very winding amidst small mountains on the edge of the precipices which surround us. One of our horses fell with his pack into the river from a height of nearly two hundred feet, but was uninjured.

The next year, having followed a trail from the mouth of Horse Creek over the ridge to the mouth of Camp Creek on the Hoback, Robert Stuart described

The greater part along an abominable road occasioned by the proximity of the mountains where the track is often in places so nearly perpendicular, that missing a single step you would go several hundred feet into the rocky bed of the stream below.

Warren Ferris wrote of his experience in Hoback Canyon in 1832:

We entered a dark defile, and followed a zig-zag trail along the almost perpendicular side of the mountain, scarcely leaving space in many places for the feet of our horses; we all dismounted, and led our animals over the most dangerous places, but notwithstanding this precaution, three of them lost their footing, and were precipitated sixty or seventy feet into the river below; two were but slightly injured, having fortunately fallen upon their loads, which preserved them from death; but the other was instantly killed.

Stop 8 - Reverend Samuel Parker's Sermon

The first Protestant sermon in Wyoming was held near here on August 23, 1835. A group of Native Americans and Jim Bridger's trapping brigade camped at the entrance to Hoback Canyon and Parker took advantage of it being Sabbath to preach to the group. Parker reported "I did not feel any disposition to upbraid them for their sins, but endeavored to show them, that they are unfit for heaven. Joe Meek told the rest of the story:

The Rev. Samuel Parker preached, and the men were as politely attentive as it was in their reckless natures to be, until, in the midst of the discourse, a band of buffalo appeared in the valley, when the congregation incontinently broke up, without staying for a benediction, and every man made haste after his horse, gun, and rope, leaving Mr. Parker to discourse to vacant ground.

The run was both exciting and successful. About twenty fine buffaloes were killed, and the choice pieces brought to camp, cooked and eaten, amidst the merriment, mixed with something coarser, of the hunters. On this noisy rejoicing Mr. Parker looked with a sober aspect: and following the dictates of his religious feeling, he rebuked the sabbath-breakers quite severely. Better for his influence among the men, if he had not done so, or had not eaten so heartily of the tender-loin afterwards, a circumstance which his irreverent critics did not fail to remark, to his prejudice; and upon the principle that the "partaker is as bad as the thief," they set down his lecture on sabbath-breaking as nothing better than pious humbug.

(For more on Parker's Sermon, see Rev. Samuel Parker, *Journal of an Exploring Tour Beyond the Rocky Mountains* (Minneapolis, MN: (Ross & Haines, 1967), 82-84; and Frances Fuller Victor, *River of the West: The Adventures of Joe Meek* (Missoula, MT: Mountain Press Publishing Company, 1983), 1:186-188.)

Stop 9 - Astorian Historical Marker

As Hunt's 1811 party descended from Union Pass, they were pleased to find the Green River Valley home to plenty of bison. In this vicinity, they camped for 5 days, hunting and drying enough meat to hopefully get the to the mouth of the Columbia. While here, they also met a band of Shoshone with whom they traded for tons of cured meat. Hunt noted

Several among them had never before seen white men and they were very happy about our visit. They fed us and in all made us thoroughly welcome. They had no pelts other than buffalo and a dozen beaver, which we bought; and we urged them to kill more of the beaver. We told them that we would return to their camp to trade with them and they seemed pleased. We bought from them nearly two thousand pounds of dried buffalo meat which, with the more than four thousand that our men had prepared, loaded all our horses but six.

The following year, the east-bound Astorians, led by Robert Stuart, also camped in this vicinity, hoping to find buffalo. They had gone several days without food.