

Umatilla County Road Records

History

The roads in Umatilla County were established starting in the late 1860's. Most of them were assigned numbers and the numbers gave an indication of the approximate date of establishment. For example, Road #1 was established in 1866; Road #99 was established in 1881; Road #199 was established in 1884; Road #299 was established in 1887; Road #397 was established in 1892; Road #499 was established in 1898; Road #598 was established in 1906; Road #699 was established in 1911; Road #799 was established in 1920; Road #899 was established in 1930; and Road #930 was established in 1955. The majority of Umatilla County's Roads were established by using a board of road viewers and following the general procedures as outlined in today's Oregon Revised Statutes Chapters 368.161 through 368.171. Very little has changed with these procedures over the years. The remainder of Umatilla County's roads were established by deed.

In the late 1980's the County renumbered all of its roads. The current numbers reflect more on which area of the County they are in than when they were established. This has actually caused a lot of confusion, as most deeds still refer to the old numbers. These records were set up to try and minimize the confusion.

Records

When opening the road files, there will be a folder titled "[2011 Road Map Book](#)" which contains a .pdf version of Umatilla County's map book; a folder titled "[Key-Complete Road Information](#)" which contains a Microsoft Excel data file for all road records; a folder titled "[Key-Right of Way Deeds](#)" which contains a Microsoft Excel data file for right of way deeds only; a folder titled "[Key-Right of Way Plats](#)" which contains a Microsoft Excel data file for all plats other than those from the original road surveys; and folders for all roads with 4-digit road numbers from [0500](#) through [1488](#).

All of the road files contain a .pdf file of a portion of the 2011 Road Map Book showing the old road numbers and right of way widths. These files are titled "[ROW WIDTH](#)". Each road file also contains one or more of the following folders: "[Acceptance as County Road](#)" folder such as this one in Road #1227; "[Agreements](#)" folder such as this one in Road 794; "[Correspondence](#)" folders such as this one in Road #900; "[Deeds](#)" folder such as this one in road #500; legalization folders with year such as "[Legalization-2017](#)" in Road #1327; "[Old Road Records](#)" folders such as this one in Road #1215; "[Plats](#)" folders such as this one in Road #1215; relocation folders such as "[North End Relocation-1980](#)" in Road #1303; right of way acquisition folders such as "[ROW Acquisition-1995](#)" in Road #652; Road transfer folders such as "[USFS to Umatilla County-2002](#)" in Road #636, "[Transfer-ODOT to Umatilla County-2003](#)" in Road #1366, "[Transfers](#)" in Road #900, and "[Jurisdiction Transfer-2014](#)" in Road #957; vacation folders with year such as "[Vacation-2012](#)" in Road #1286; and other miscellaneous folders as needed such as "[5N 36 20-Joe West Bridge](#)" in Road 610, "[Extension of Road-1991](#)" in Road #600, "[Plat & Centerline Description](#)" in Road #1058, "[Removal From County Road Status-2011](#)" in Road #908, and "[Road Closure-2014](#)" in Road 1211.

The "Acceptance as County Road" folders contain documents such as [Acceptance Orders](#), [Final Orders](#), [Resolution of Intent](#), [Notice of Acceptance by County Court](#), [Hearing Orders](#), [Dedication Orders](#), [Petitions](#), and [Orders Accepting Deeds](#).

The "Agreements" folders contain documents such as [Abandonment and Retention Agreements](#) between the State of Oregon and Umatilla County, [Resolutions](#), [Relinquishment of Title to County by State](#), [County Court Order Accepting Title from State](#), [Resolutions of Intent](#), [Agreements between Umatilla County and Bureau of Indian Affairs](#), [Resolutions by County to Accept Roads from B.I.A.](#), [Roadmaster Reports](#), [Memorandums of Understanding between County and Cities](#), [Agreements](#)

[between County and Railroad](#), [Maintenance Agreements between Counties](#), and [Agreements between Umatilla County and USFS](#).

The “Correspondence” folders contain documents primarily related to roads on the Umatilla Indian Reservation such as [Correspondence from the B.I.A. to the Secretary of Interior](#), [Correspondence from the B.I.A. to the Superintendent of the Umatilla Indian School](#), [Correspondence from the County to the Secretary of Interior](#), and [Correspondence from the County to the B.I.A.](#)

The “Deeds” folders contain [Bargain and Sale Deeds](#), [Warranty Deeds](#), [Quitclaim Deeds](#), and [Right of Way Deeds](#) that are named by Township, Range, Section, Grantor, and Grantee as well as [Acceptance Orders](#), [Right of Way Grants from the B.L.M.](#), [Relinquishments of Title from the State of Oregon](#), and [Condemnation Case Documents](#).

The “Legalization” folders contain documents satisfying the requirements of Oregon Revised Statutes Chapters 368.201 through 368.221 and 368.401 through 368.426 and include [Survey Orders](#), [Legalization Surveys](#), [Road Reports](#), [Hearing Orders](#), [Final Orders](#), [Posting Affidavits](#), [Service Affidavits](#), [Public Notices](#), [Publication Affidavits](#), and [Return Receipts](#).

The “Old Road Records” folders contain other folders with old road numbers or names. Within these folders are documents relating to the establishment of the roads such as [Acceptance Orders](#), [Agreements](#), [Correspondence](#), [Petitions](#), [Resolutions](#), [Field Notes](#), [Plats](#), [Viewers Reports](#), [Road Notices](#), and [Final Orders](#). They also contain [Final Vacation Orders](#), [Field Notes](#), and [Plats](#) for the older road vacations.

The “Plats” folders contain plats other than the original road surveys and includes [State Highway Maps](#) for roads that were transferred to the County by the State of Oregon, [Market Road Plats](#), [Private Surveys](#), [Subdivisions](#), and [Land Partitions](#) that monument portions of county roads, and [Realignment Plats](#) done by the County.

The “Relocation” folders contain documents such as [Plats](#), [Acceptance Orders](#), [Final Orders](#), [Agreements](#), and [Resolutions](#).

The “ROW Acquisition” folders contain documents such as [Acquisition Surveys](#), [Acceptance Orders](#), [Reports](#), [Survey Orders](#), and [Service Affidavits](#).

The “Road Transfer” folders contain documents relating to road transfers between the County and cities. They contain documents such as [Hearing Orders](#), [Posting Affidavits](#), [Public Notices](#), [Transfer Orders](#), and [Transfer Reports](#). They also contain other folders which in turn contain documents such as [Transfer Orders to County](#), [Transfer Orders from County](#), and [Transfer Agreements](#) for County-Bureau of Indian Affairs transfers; [Exhibits](#), [Resolutions](#), [Agreements](#), and [Orders](#) for County-State of Oregon Transfers; and [Agreements](#) for County-U.S.F.S. transfers.

The “Vacation” folders contain documents for the more recent road vacations which satisfy the requirements of Oregon Revised Statutes Chapters 368.326 through 368.366 and 368.401 through 368.426. The documents include [Final Orders](#), [Hearing Orders](#), [Posting Affidavits](#), [Public Notices](#), [Publication Affidavits](#), [Reports](#), [Return Receipts](#), [Service Affidavits](#), and any required [Surveys](#).

Other miscellaneous folders were created for many of the road folders for things specific to that road. They include documents such as [Removal from County Road Status Orders](#), [Road Status Reports](#), [Centerline Descriptions](#), [Agreements](#), etc.

Research

Assume you are someone new to the area and are doing a survey in Township 2 North, Range 33 East, Section 9, and you want to know what roads (if any) are going to affect your survey. The first step would be to look at the [2011 Road Map Book](#). On the 4th page of the book, there is a map index that indicates 2 North 33 East is on Page 27. Page 27 shows Road 900 going through the center of Section 9 and you believe it will come into play. Open the .xlsx data file titled [“KEY-COMPLETE ROAD](#)

[INFORMATION](#), turn the filter on, and select ROAD 0900 in the left hand column. This brings up all records pertaining to that road. Next, select the hyperlinked file ["ROW WIDTH"](#) in the second column. This will show the right of way width and which old road records you need to look at. In this case, the old roads will be 747 and 800. In the second column of the .xlsx data file, titled "SUB-FOLDER OR FILE", select "OLD ROAD RECORDS"; then in the third column, titled "SUB-SUB FOLDER OR FILE" select ROAD 747 and ROAD 800. You will now be able to view all of the old road records in the fourth column, which are hyperlinked. After viewing these records, tag "select all" in the second and third columns to bring back all of the records for Road 900. In the second column, select "DEEDS" to view any deeds in the section you are working in (in this case ["MOLL TO STATE OF OREGON"](#) and ["VAN PELT ETAL TO STATE OF OREGON"](#)). Another way to research deeds is to open the .xlsx data file titled ["KEY-RIGHT OF WAY DEEDS"](#) and filter by township, range, and section. You would next want to look at plats. In the second column of the "KEY-COMPLETE ROAD INFORMATION" file, tag "PLATS". On a road this long, the easiest way to locate the plats in your area is to open the .xlsx data file titled ["KEY-RIGHT OF WAY PLATS"](#) and sort by township, range, and section. In this case, you will want to look at ["MONUMENTATION SURVEY"](#), ["PENDLETON-CABBAGE HILL SECTION-BOX V"](#), ["PROJECT UIR 8\(1\)-BOX V"](#), ["RELINQUISHMENT MAP 4B-26-15"](#), ["CAYUSE-THORNHOLLOW MARKET ROAD NO. 39"](#), and ["PENDLETON-DEADMAN'S PASS\(1\)"](#). In this area, that is about all that needs to be considered. If a road legalization had been done as it was farther down the road, you would need to view those records also, as legalized locations take precedence over original locations. Information on whose jurisdiction the road is under can be found in the correspondence or transfer folders.

The records for Road 900 are set up as follows and other roads are similar:

ROAD 0900 FOLDER

CORRESPONDENCE FOLDER

7 FILES

DEEDS FOLDER

21 FILES

LEGALIZATION FOLDER

8 FILES

OLD ROAD RECORDS FOLDER

ROAD 435 FOLDER

3 FILES

ROAD 747 FOLDER

7 FILES

ROAD 748 FOLDER

5 FILES

ROAD 750 FOLDER

5 FILES

ROAD 750 CHANGE FOLDER

3 FILES

ROAD 751 FOLDER

7 FILES

ROAD 800 FOLDER

3 FILES

ROAD 896 FOLDER

4 FILES

(CONTINUED)

ROAD 900 FOLDER

OLD ROAD RECORDS FOLDER

ROAD 900 FOLDER

4 FILES

ROAD 901 FOLDER

4 FILES

ROAD 929 FOLDER

3 FILES

PLATS FOLDER

19 FILES

TRANSFERS FOLDER

BIA TO COUNTY-1990 FOLDER

1 FILE

BIA TO COUNTY-2000 FOLDER

1 FILE

COUNTY TO BIA-1990 FOLDER

1 FILE

COUNTY TO BIA-2000 FOLDER

1 FILE

COUNTY TO BIA-2006 FOLDER

1 FILE

STATE TO COUNTY-1955 FOLDER

2 FILES

USFS TO COUNTY-1985 FOLDER

1 FILE

ROW WIDTH FILE

There is also an old plat book where the roads were drawn in and recording information entered as they were established. Each page is a township. It is found elsewhere in the Umatilla County Surveyor Records. There is a .xls data file with it also and is titled "[KEY-PLAT BOOK](#)". [Plat Book Page 44](#) is 2 North 32 East in the Pendleton area.