



Oregon City: The City of Firsts

First saw mill in Oregon City, Island Milling Co., 1842
First temperance society in the Oregon Country, 1837
First flour mill in Oregon City, Island Milling Co., 1842
First moonshine whisky still built in Oregon, 1836-37
First book of fiction written in Oregon in 1842 (Controversial)
First provisional legislature met in 1843; declared Oregon City capitol in 1844
First Protestant Church west of Missouri River, the Methodist Church, organized in 1843
First Congregational Church west of the Rockies organized in 1843
First incorporated city west of the Rockies in 1844
First furniture factory in Oregon in 1844
First jail built in Oregon in 1844-45
Portland named by coin toss at dinner party in Oregon City in 1845
Multnomah County Circulating Library established in Oregon City in 1845
First Catholic Church north of California built in 1845
First hat factory in Oregon opened in 1846
First Oddfellows lodge in Oregon organized in Oregon City in 1846
First Baptist Church in Oregon in 1847
First books bound the first books printed in English in Oregon in 1847
First almanac published on the Pacific Coast by the Oregon Printing Association in 1847
First territorial legislature of Oregon Territory met in 1849
First U.S. troops in OR, a mounted rifle regiment, in Oregon City in 1848-49
First official plat for San Francisco, filed in Oregon City in 1850
First woolen mill in Oregon City in 1862
First paper mill in Oregon Country in 1866
First newspaper in the West, The Spectator in 1846
First Oregon City mayor, William K. Kilborn, in 1850
First masonic lodge west of the Mississippi in 1848
First and only Chinese masonic lodge in Oregon
First privately minted gold coins in Oregon, the \$5 and \$10 Beaver coins, 1849
First Northwest city fire department, 1854
First U.S. flag to fly over Oregon, from the wrecked vessel Shark, unfurled over provisional legislative hall in 1846
First county road in Oregon, between Canemah and Oregon City in 1850
First navigation locks in the Northwest in 1872-73
First long distance transmission line of electricity in the nation, Oregon City to Portland, in 1889
First Interurban street car began in 1893