



IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
REFERENCE SERIES

BARBER DAM AND PARK

Number 1037

September 1993

When extensive Barber Lumber Company (now Boise Cascade) timber holdings led to construction of a saw mill town and a river dam close to Oregon Trail tracks in 1906, natural river features near Oregon Trail routes underwent considerable change. When lumber operations shut down at Barber in 1934, Barber Dam with its large log pond was retained. Barber became a ghost town, with most of its buildings moved to Boise. Eventually Barber townsite was reoccupied by mobile homes, and Barber Dam became an essential feature of an historic park. Park expansion finally incorporated an area adjacent to Oregon Trail access to Boise. Adapted to become Boise Avenue, Oregon Trail emigrant wagon, stage, and freight routes continue to maintain access to Idaho's capital city.

(This information has not been edited.)