

Things to remember

Park hours:

April 1 - Sept. 30, 6:30 a.m. to dusk

Oct. 1 - March 31, 8 a.m. to dusk

Tours and activities

Free, guided public tours of the park take place noon to 4 p.m. weekends Memorial Day through Labor Day, and by appointment year round. Group tours and school field trips also are available for free. To schedule tours and field trips, call the park at (509) 925-1943.

In addition to interpretive activities, the park features picnicking, winter recreation, fishing and wildlife viewing. The Altapes Creek Interpretive Trail runs along Coleman Creek from the red barn to the Seaton Cabin School House. A trail guide is available at each trailhead.

The beautiful restored historic gardens are perfect for weddings and other events. To book a reservation, call the park office. Fees vary with size of party.

The park is open to cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in winter (no groomed trails).

The **Discover Pass** is required for day visits to state parks and access to other state-managed recreation lands. The pass provides access to millions of acres of parks, wildlife areas, trails, natural areas and water-access sites. The annual pass is transferable between two vehicles.

- Annual pass: \$30
- One-day pass: \$10 (transaction and dealer fees may apply)

The Discover Pass can be purchased online, by phone or in person. For details, visit www.discoverpass.wa.gov or call (866) 320-9933.

Thank you for supporting Washington state recreation lands.



Olmstead Place Historical State Park

921 N. Ferguson Road
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(509) 925-1943

State Parks information:
(360) 902-8844

Reservations: Online at www.parks.state.wa.us or call (888) CAMPOUT or (888) 226-7688

Other state parks located in the general area: Ginkgo Petrified and Iron Horse state parks, Wanapum Recreation Area and Helen McCabe State Park Property



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If you would like to support Washington State Parks even more, please consider making a donation when renewing your license plate tabs. You also may place a check in a donation box when you visit state parks.

Donations are a significant part of the State Parks budget and are needed to keep your parks open and operating.

For more information, visit www.parks.state.wa.us/donations

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

P.O. Box 42650
Olympia, WA 98504-2650
(360) 902-8500
www.parks.wa.gov



Commission members:

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Lucinda S. Whaley
Agency director: Don Hoch

All Washington state parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all people.

To request this brochure in an alternative format, please call (360) 902-8844 or the Washington Telecommunications Relay Service at (800) 833-6388.



P&R 45-62503-02 (02/17)

Washington State Parks

Olmstead Place

Historical State Park



EMBRACE YOUR NATURE

www.parks.state.wa.us

Welcome to Olmstead Place

Olmstead Place Historical State Park, located four miles east of Ellensburg, is a charming and rustic 217-acre day-use park that celebrates the legacy of the family farm. Open year round, the park's pastoral landscape provides an escape from the hustle and bustle of modern-day life and a rare opportunity to experience a historic pioneer homestead. Olmstead Place offers public tours and is perfect for school and youth group field trips. The park gives students an opportunity to learn about science, social studies, the environment and sustainability. The 160-acre homestead is a heritage area and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The map shows the heritage area, where many historic buildings still stand, complete with original furnishings. As you wander across the park, imagine what it was like arriving and settling in the Kittitas Valley in 1875. Try to perceive the rewards early pioneers cherished and the hardships they endured.

The Olmstead Legacy

Early Cabin Home

In 1875, Samuel and Sarah Olmstead crossed the Cascade Mountains on

horseback with their young family and were among the first wave of homesteaders in Kittitas Valley. The family built the Olmstead cabin from cottonwood logs from the Yakima River Canyon (about 20 miles away). The lumber was cut at a local sawmill. The family squared the logs with a

broadsax, dovetailed them at the corners and held the logs together with round pegs made from small tree limbs. Windows were brought by freight from The Dalles, Oregon.



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The 20th-century farm

The Olmstead farm entered into a period of its greatest development in the early 1900s. It boasted a milk house, dairy barn, wagon shed, granary and tool shed. In 1908, the family constructed a new, large, five-bedroom home and a red barn for hay storage. The house and furnishings inside reflect the heritage of several generations over 70 years. All the buildings are still on-site for visitors to enjoy.



The little schoolhouse

The Olmstead children once carried tin lunch pails and tablets made of brown wrapping paper as they rode on horseback to Seaton Cabin Schoolhouse. The schoolhouse, moved to the park in 1980, was originally built in the 1870s in a meadow several miles away from the Olmstead farm. It can be seen at the north end of the park.

A living history

Leta May Smith and Clareta Olmstead Smith, granddaughters of Sarah and Samuel Olmstead, envisioned a historical farm that would preserve and interpret an important part of our state's heritage. In 1968, the Smiths deeded the 217-acre farm to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.

