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first planted in 1951 by area residents with the help of parks department. The location was considered ideal because of the shade provided by trees and the hilltop setting.

Although thousands of visitors flock to Hendricks Park every year, the most frequently used park in Eugene is Skinner Butte Park. Located on the south bank of the Willamette River in close proximity to downtown, the 92-acre park offers baseball fields, playground equipment, picnic tables and a replica of Eugene Skinner's log cabin.

Skinner built his original cabin in 1846 with the help of one other person. It contained a single room and its exact location is believed to be under an apartment house today.

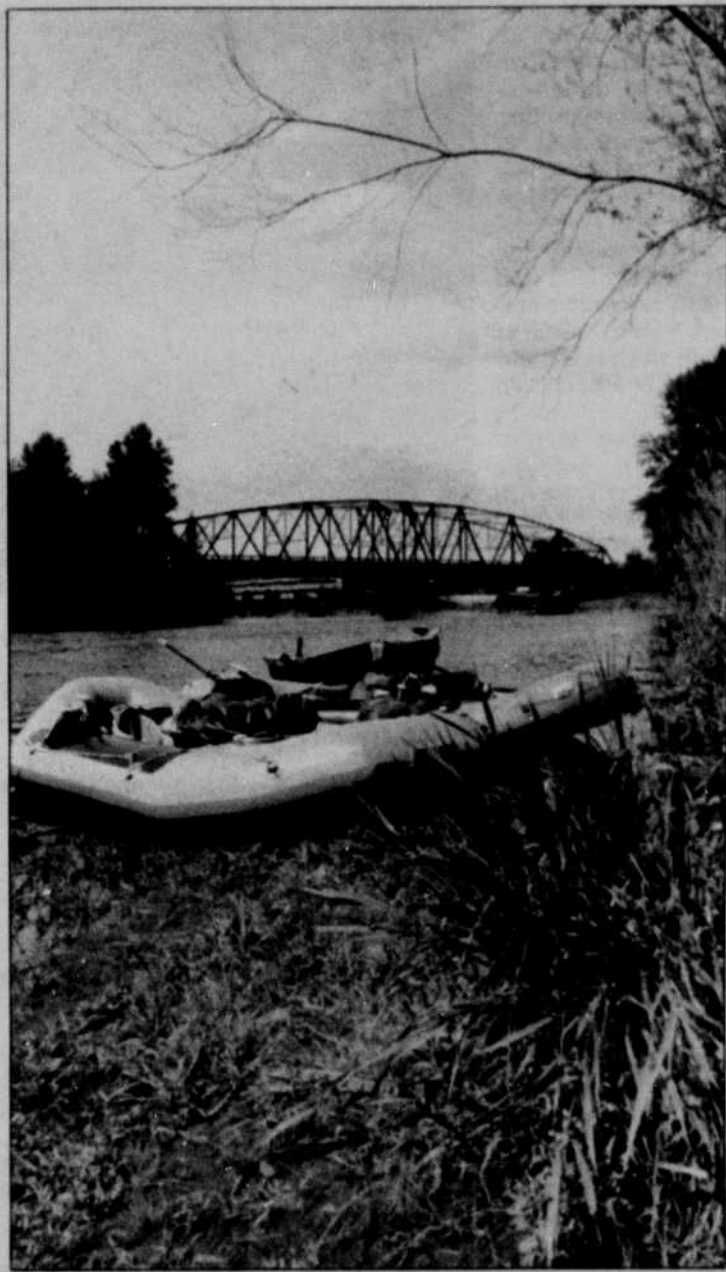
The replica was built in 1970 with the help of 1,000 hours of donated labor. At the time the Lane County Historical Society called it "a memorial to our pioneer heritage and to those grand men and women who braved the hardships of early settlement to make today possible."

The park is named after the butte that rises up from the river's edge. Roads lead to the top, providing a view of the city looking south. There also are a few hiking trails blazed up and down the butte.

The butte also attracts rock climbers, who scale up and down a 40-foot rock cliff on the west side. The rock columns are similar in style to the famed "Devil's Postpiles" found in the California Sierra Nevadas.

Before it became a park in 1914, the Skinner Butte area was the site of various early day business enterprises, including a sawmill, an excelsior plant and a gravel plant.

Five miles to the south of Skinner Butte is "the other butte," Spencer Butte. Reached by traveling along South Willamette Street two miles



File Photo

Rafting down the Willamette River near Alton Baker Park and the Ferry Street Bridge is a popular recreational activity.

south of the city limits, the park encases 300 acres of forest. Hiking trails climb the 2,065-foot butte, providing from the summit a tremendous view of the Coast Range, the Cascade Mountains and the South Willamette Valley.

Native Americans used to call the butte "Cham-o-tee," meaning rattlesnake mountain. However, the origin of

the butte's name never has been established. One version states that a young Englishman by the name of Spencer, who was traveling through the area with a Hudson's Bay Company party, went hunting one day and climbed the summit. When he failed to return a search party

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