

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



A wagon wheel believed to have been from the 1800s was found buried under the Sandy River near Troutdale.

Historic Wagon Wheel Unearthed

The Oregon Department of Transportation has donated what may be a mid-19th century wagon wheel to the Troutdale Historical Society.

The wooden wheel, four-and-a-half feet in diameter, was discovered last summer by contractors excavating for the new Interstate 84 bridge over the Sandy River near Troutdale. The wheel was found about 12 feet below the typical riverbed.

The wheel features a metal outer rim covering a wooden main rim that receives wooden spokes emanating from the rusty hub. The site is downstream from a wagon road chartered by the Legislature around the time Oregon achieved statehood, which was in 1859.

The discovery of historical artifacts in and around the Sandy River isn't unusual although items the size and age of the wagon wheel are rare.

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