Portland
Colonial Heights and Ladd’s Addition

This 2.3-mile loop travels through historic inner Southeast neighborhoods with plenty of places to eat and drink along the way. Platted in 1891, the Ladd’s Addition neighborhood has one of the most unusual street layouts in the nation: a diagonal pattern surrounding five rose gardens. Getting lost on its elm-lined streets is a Portland tradition.

From SE 26th Avenue and Division Street, walk north on 26th and turn left on Sherman. Turn right on 24th. This is the Colonial Heights neighborhood. Both it and Ladd’s Addition are part of the larger Hosford-Abernethy neighborhood. From 24th, turn left onto Stephens, right on 21st and left on Hawthorne.

At 16th, turn left to enter Ladd’s Addition. Ahead is a diamond-shaped rose garden. Stay right on 16th, then left on Maple and right to continue on 16th to Ladd’s Circle, the park in the neighborhood’s center. Go right around the circle to Ladd Avenue and turn right. Follow Ladd to Division.

Cross Division and jog slightly east (left) to walk south (right) on 21st, then turn left on Ivon. Walk two blocks and turn right on 23rd and left onto Clinton, where streetcar era buildings are home to hip businesses. Follow Clinton to 26th, turn left and walk two blocks to the start.

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Inner Southeast History

Volunteers nurture the century old elms in Ladd’s Addition, working to prevent Dutch Elm Disease from wiping out this city treasure.

Once-large lots in inner Southeast neighborhoods were home to Italian-American truck farmers in the early twentieth century. Through the 1950s, they sold their produce at various venues in town, including the Grand Central Market on SE Morrison, and delivered it to homes. Produce Row in the Central Eastside Industrial Area is part of this heritage.

In the 1960s, streets south of Division were slated for demolition for the Mount Hood Freeway; its alignment would have followed Ivon Street along the route of this walk, severing the neighborhood and turning Division into a frontage road. ODOT began buying properties for demolition, but by 1974, opposition stopped the freeway.

Rhododendrons at Ladd’s Circle