

Route

- Leave Columbia Lakefront on path and follow to and across pedestrian bridge over Route 29. Continue on pathway to Steven's Forest Rd.
- **.7 miles - Cross Steven's Forest Rd, turn right and pick up path to continue behind Oakland Mills Village Center to Cooke Family Gravesites. Bear right on path and go through White Acre underpass. Bear left at fork and continue to Tot Lot OM 10.**
- 1.25 miles - Bear right and then continue straight on path, bear right over bridge and follow main path.
- **1.7 miles - Turn left and follow path to fork, turn left and continue to Route 175 underpass. Continue on path, cross Bluecoat and continue on path past Tot Lot OM 7, after bridge turn left, pass Tot Lot OM 6. Cross Soaring Hill, continue on path past Tot Lot OM 5 and bear right over bridge.**
- 2.8 miles - Cross Thunder Hill Rd. Continue on path past Tot Lot OM 4, turn right over bridge, follow path to first left, pass Patriot Lane Pond on your right. Continue bearing right on path.
- **3.3 miles – Turn left up the hill. Cross Log Chain, stay on main path, continue past Tot Lot OM 1 and bear left on path to Mellenbrook Rd.**
- 3.7 miles - Turn right and ride on Mellenbrook. Cross Route 108 at traffic light. Follow Bendix Rd, past Pizza Hut, and turn right onto driveway and then first right onto path. Continue on path to Woodlawn Slave Quarters sign. Continue on path, past back of red stable, turn right over bridge to Red Branch Rd. Cross Red Branch Rd and pickup path. Take left, go over bridge, turn right to Red Branch Rd.
- **5.1 miles - Turn right onto Red Branch Rd and then left onto sidewalk along Route 108 to traffic light at Centre Park Dr. Cross Centre Park and then Cross Route 108. Turn left and pick up path and continue to High Tor Hill.**
- 5.6 miles - Cross High Tor Hill and continue on main path to Jackson Pond. Follow path along Jackson Pond, turning right to cross bridge and then left through underpass at Tamar Dr. Continue on main path turning left at intersection and continue on main path to Route 175 underpass. After underpass stay to left, cross bridge and turn left. Stay on main path following the stream. Pass Tot Lot LR15, cross Old Montgomery Rd.
- **7.5 miles - Pass Tot Lot LR16, cross Tamar Rd and continue to follow path. (Possible 4.6 mile extension, see directions below) At split turn right up the hill and right again around Sewells Orchard Pond. Turn right and then left following around the 2nd pond to Hidden Clearing. Make left onto Hidden Clearing and left onto Tamar Dr and right onto Shining Rock. Pick up path at end of cul de sac.**
- 8.5 miles - Following path, cross Waiting Spring. Continue on path. Turn left at bridge, pass Tot Lot LR4, stay on main path over bridge to Old Montgomery Rd. Turn left onto road, cross Tamar Dr and pick up path along Old Montgomery, pass Pete's Snowball and vegetable stand and cross Old Montgomery at Oakland Mills Rd. Turn right onto path and continue to Thunder Hill Rd. Cross Thunder Hill.
- **9.7 miles - Pick up path on right just past the stop sign and follow path back to Oakland Mills Village Center, cross Steven's Forest Rd and pick up path back to Town Center.**
- 10.8 miles – you made it!
- **Possible extension to Lake Elkhorn and back – 4.6 miles.**
At split bear left following main path. Cross bridge and bear right at fork. Follow path to Oakland Mills Rd. (.9 miles) Bear left on sidewalk and turn left onto Dasher Court and then picking up path on the left at the top of the hill. Follow main path straight to bridge and turn left crossing bridge. After bridge turn right and continue bearing right along Lake Elkhorn to the pavilion. (mile 2.1) Bear left past pavilion and then bear right to go all the way around the lake and back to the bridge. (mile 3.2) Retrace your route back to Dasher Court, Oakland Mills Rd sidewalk, under the underpass and back to Sewells Orchard path to pick up main route back to Town Center.

April 30, 2005

Cooke Family Cemetery – The gravestones of George Cooke and other members of his family lie somewhat hidden from view in the open space behind townhouses and Oakland Mills Village Center. The Cooke family home was named Hazelwood and was located near present day Oakland Mills and Kilimanjaro. Other small family graveyards can be found within pockets of Columbia open space, notably on Harper's Farm Rd and near Snowden River Pkwy and Route 175.

Numbered Tot Lots – Columbia's 163 tot lots have been tracked and charted with sophisticated GIS technology so that emergency responders not only know exactly where they are but how to reach them quickly when needed.

Street Names in Thunder Hill – The paintings of Andrew Wyeth are the inspiration for most of the street names in this neighborhood of Oakland Mills. The name Oakland Mills itself is a link to the land before Columbia.

Dalton – The house and the neighborhood of the same name have a history that dates long before Columbia. The home was owned in the mid-1800's by Dr. Allen Thomas and his wife, Elizabeth, whose maiden name, Dall, presumably is the root of the name of the estate. The Columbia history is also worth noting. Columbia's first home builder, James P. Ryan purchased the home in 1967. Ryan came to Columbia from Ryan Homes in Pittsburgh to build homes in the new city of Columbia. He called his homes Ryland Homes. According to Ryland's website, "The name was created when he saw a sign that said "Maryland." The "M" and "A" on the sign were covered, and that combination of Ryan and Maryland seemed a like a perfect name."

Woodlawn Slave Quarters – Believed to have been built in the 1700s probably as a slave dwelling, this is one of the oldest surviving stone dwellings of its kind in Howard County. Preservation Howard County drew attention to the site when it designated it as an endangered site. It sits on Columbia Association open space and later this year CA will stabilize the remaining walls to prevent further deterioration.

Columbia's first industry – Hittman Associates was the first industry to locate in Columbia. It was a good match, an innovative leader in environmental, medical and space engineering locating in a new, visionary city. In 1998 Wilson Greatbatch, Ltd. acquired Hittman Materials & Medical Components forming Greatbatch-Hittman continuing a Hittman-Greatbatch connection that began in the early 1970s.

Street names in Long Reach – The work of Robinson Jeffers provided the rich supply of colorful poetic names for the entire village.

Jackson Pond – Hittman Associates developed this pond from an existing farm pond as part of a study of the effect of urbanization and storm water pollution control measures on water quality and stream ecology during the development of Phelps Luck in the very early 1970s. It was renamed in honor of Howard Jackson in 1978.

Sewell's Orchard Park – The Sewell family grew apples, peaches and berries on their 200-acre farm from the 1940s through the early 1980s. Remnants of that era include the ponds that are now incorporated into the park, the fruit trees that dot the neighborhood, the names of the streets and the historic house where the Sewell family lived which is named Waveland.

The 5th Annual BikeAbout honors the memory of **Warren Raymond** who for more than 25 years devoted his professional endeavors to the enhancement of Columbia's open space. He made the first and all subsequent Bike Abouts possible with his positive attitude and knowledge of the paths.

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