

Conde McCullough

Conde Balcom McCullough (May 30, 1887 – May 5, 1946) was a [U.S. bridge engineer](#) who is primarily known for designing many of [Oregon's coastal bridges on U.S. Route 101](#).^[1] The native of [South Dakota](#) worked for the [Oregon Department of Transportation](#) from 1919 to 1935 and 1937 until 1946. McCullough also was a professor at [Oregon State University](#).

Early life

Conde McCullough was born in [Redfield, South Dakota](#), on May 30, 1887.^[2] In 1891, he and his family moved to [Iowa](#) where his father died in 1904.^[2] McCullough then worked at various jobs to support the family.^[2] In 1910, he graduated from [Iowa State University](#) with a [civil engineering](#) degree.^[3]

Career

McCullough began working for the Marsh Bridge Company in [Des Moines, Iowa](#), where he remained for one year.^[2] He then went to work for the [Iowa State Highway Commission](#).^[2] Conde moved to Oregon in 1916 and became an assistant professor of civil engineering at [Oregon Agricultural College](#), and the sole structural engineering professor at the school.^[2] In 1919 he became the head of the Bridge Division of the [Oregon Department of Transportation](#), making him personally responsible for the design of Oregon's bridges at a time when the state was completing Highway 101.

His designs are well known for their architectural beauty.^[4] McCullough advocated that bridges be built economically, efficiently, and with beauty.^[1] He helped design over 600 bridges, many with architectural details such as Gothic spires, art deco obelisks, and Romanesque arches incorporated into the bridges.^[5] In 1928, he graduated from [Willamette University College of Law](#) and passed the bar the same year.^[6] In 1935 he moved to [San José, Costa Rica](#) to help design bridges on the [Pan-American Highway](#). He returned to Oregon in 1937 to become the assistant state highway engineer.

Later life and legacy

In 1934 McCullough was granted an honorary doctorate from Oregon State University.^[6] He published

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Born	May 30, 1887 Redfield, South Dakota, U.S.
Died	May 5, 1946 (aged 58) Oregon
Nationality	American
Buildings	Isaac Lee Patterson Bridge Yaquina Bay Bridge Alesia Bay Bridge

The Engineer at Law with his son John McCullough who also was an attorney.^[6] McCullough died of a stroke at his home on May 5, 1946. After his death the state renamed the Coos Bay Bridge the Conde McCullough Memorial Bridge.

Bridges designed by McCullough

Bridge name	Location	Year completed	Total length	Carries
Old Youngs Bay Bridge	Astoria, Oregon	1921	1,766.2 feet (538.3 m)	U.S. Route 101
Oregon City Bridge	Oregon City, Oregon	1922	745 feet (227 m)	Oregon Route 43
Dry Canyon Creek Bridge	near Rowena, Oregon	1922	101.1 ft	U.S. Route 30
Winchester Bridge	Winchester, Oregon	1923	884 feet	Oregon Route 99
Lewis and Clark River Bridge	Astoria, Oregon	1924	828 feet	U.S. Route 101
Ellsworth Street Bridge	Albany, Oregon	1925	1,090 feet	U.S. Route 20
Rocky Creek Bridge	Lincoln County, Oregon	1927	360 feet	U.S. Route 101
Depoe Bay Bridge	Depoe Bay, Oregon	1927	312 feet	U.S. Route 101
Crooked River High Bridge	Jefferson County, Oregon	1926	464 feet	U.S. Route 97
Big Creek Bridge	Lane County, Oregon	1931	180 feet	U.S. Route 101
Ten Mile Creek Bridge	near Yachats, Oregon	1931	180 feet	U.S. Route 101
Wilson River Bridge	Tillamook County, Oregon	1931	180 feet	U.S. Route 101
Rogue River Bridge	Grants Pass, Oregon	1931	550 feet	Redwood Highway
Cape Creek Bridge	near Heceta Head	1932	619 feet (188.6 m)	U.S. Route 101
Isaac Lee Patterson Bridge	Gold Beach, Oregon	1932	1,898 feet (578.5 m)	U.S. Route 101
John McLoughlin Bridge	Oregon City, Oregon	1933	720 feet	Oregon Route 99E
Umpqua River Bridge	Reedsport, Oregon	1936	2,206 feet	U.S. Route 101
Siuslaw River Bridge	Florence, Oregon	1936	1,568 feet	U.S. Route 101
Alsea Bay Bridge	Waldport, Oregon	1936	3,028 feet	U.S. Route 101
Yaquina Bay Bridge	Newport, Oregon	1936	3,223 feet (982 m)	U.S. Route 101
Coos Bay Bridge	North Bend, Oregon	1936	5,305 feet (1.6 km)	U.S. Route 101

See also

- Samuel Hill
- Glenn Jackson
- Robert Moses

References

1. [^] ***a b*** Oregon Department of Transportation. *Spanning Oregon's Coast* (PDF). Retrieved 2013-15-29.
2. [^] ***a b c d e f*** *His Life: From Iowa State to Oregon State*. Oregon State University: Civil & Construction Engineering, accessed October 8, 2007.
3. [^] Hadlow, Robert W. (2001). *Elegant Arches, Soaring Spans: C.B. McCullough, Oregon's Master Bridge Builder*. Oregon State University Press. p. 17. ISBN 0-87071-534-8.
4. [^] Smith, Dwight A. (1989). *Historic Highway Bridges of Oregon*. Oregon Historical Society Press. pp. 242–243. ISBN 0-87595-205-4.
5. [^] Sens, Josh. *Oregon Coast Bridges*. Via, March 2003.
6. [^] ***a b c*** *Not Just Bridges*. Oregon State University: Civil & Construction Engineering, accessed October 8, 2007.

External links

- Hadlow, Robert W. "Conde McCullough". *The Oregon Encyclopedia*.
- American Society of Civil Engineering profile
- Oregon State University profile
- Oregon Blue Book: Notable Oregonians: Conde McCullough
- Conde Balcom McCullough information at Structurae

Conde Balcom McCullough was an American bridge engineer who is primarily known for designing many of Oregon's coastal bridges on United States. Route 101. Redfield, Spink County, United States of America. The native of South Dakota worked for the Oregon Department of Transportation from 1919 to 1935 and 1937 until 1946. McCullough also was a professor at Oregon State University. McCullough then worked at various jobs to support the family. Conde B. McCullough, born in Dakota Territory in 1887, was raised and educated in Iowa, earning undergraduate and graduate degrees in civil engineering from Iowa State College. McCullough moved to Oregon in 1916 to teach structural engineering at Oregon Agricultural College (now Oregon State University). In 1919, he went to Salem to take a job state bridge engineer. For eighteen years, McCullough headed the bridge design and construction program of the Oregon State Highway Department (OSHD). Conde Balcom McCullough (May 30, 1887 – May 6, 1946) was an American civil engineer who is primarily known for designing many of Oregon's coastal bridges on U.S. Route 101. The native of South Dakota worked for the Oregon Department of Transportation from 1919 to 1935 and 1937 until 1946. McCullough also was a professor at Oregon State University. Conde McCullough was born in Redfield, South Dakota, on May 30, 1887. In 1891, he and his family moved to Iowa where his father died in 1904. McCullough Conde Balcom McCullough (1887-1946) was the notable State Bridge Engineer for the Oregon State Highway Department from 1919 to 1935. During McCullough's tenure as bridge engineer, Oregon developed one of the most impressive collections of beautiful and efficient bridge in the United States. McCullough began his career designing bridges under another notable engineer, James B. Marsh and his Marsh Engineering Company. After a year working for Marsh The 1936 Conde B. McCullough Memorial Bridge over Coos Bay was named after the engineer who designed this and so many of the Oregon Coast Highway Bridges. One of the most significant bridges in Oregon, this unique bridge consists of numerous open spandrel concrete arch approach spans and a steel riveted cantilever through truss for the main spans. McCullough was a strong supporter of concrete bridges, and often resorted to use of steel only when the crossing needs dictated it.