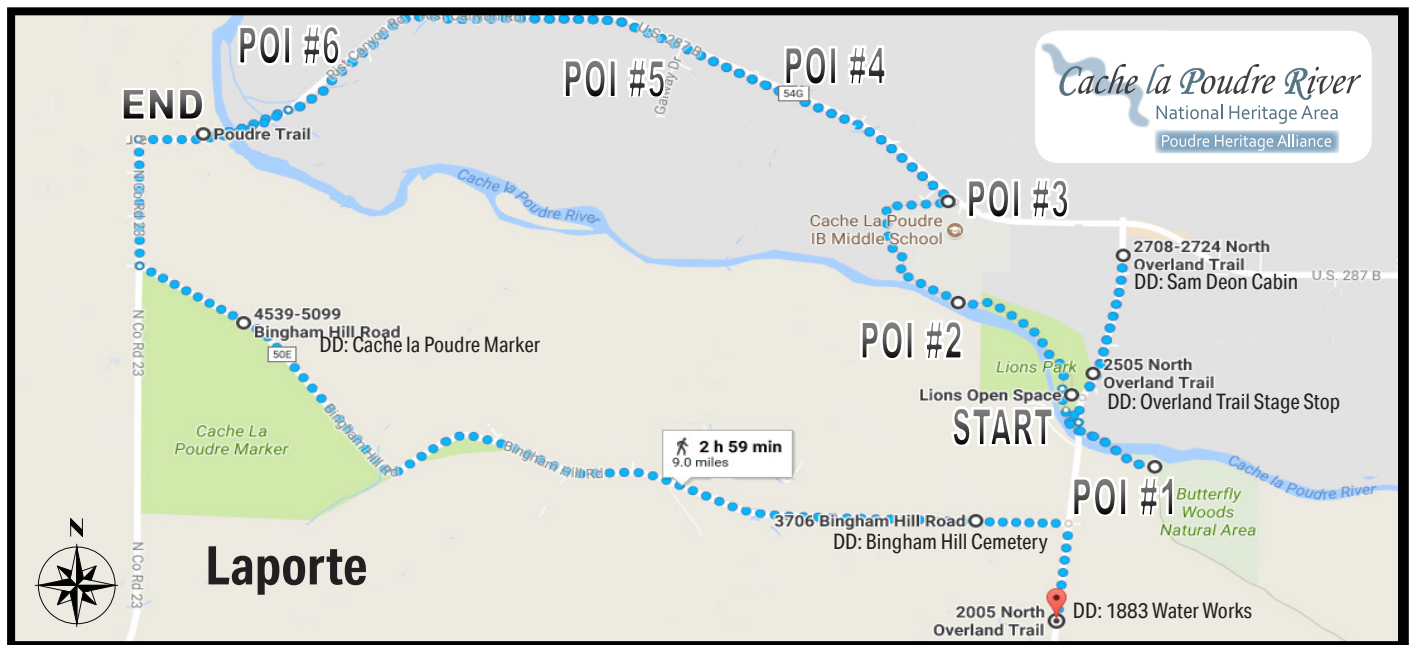


ROUTE 1 - DESCRIPTIVE

Lion's Share of History



START

Lions Open Space trailhead parking lot at 2449 N. Overland Trail, Laporte. From the parking lot, first head southeast on the trail where it crosses under (or over) N. Overland Trail.



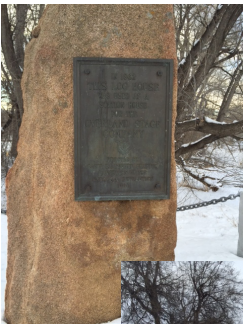
POI #1

Lions Open Space Bridge – .3 miles. Cross the bridge and stop where the bridge ends and heads into the Butterfly Woods Open Space.

- Seasonal Selfie: Take a selfie looking up river with as much of the bridge in the background as you can!

Delightful Diversion—Overland Trail Stage Stop

From the Lions Open Space parking lot, you can walk a short distance north on N. Overland Trail or take the dirt path that runs behind the restroom to reach this monument. A monument designating the site of the stage stop is next to a wooden fence.



Delightful Diversion—Sam Deon Cabin

The cabin was built by Sam Deon, French fur trapper, in 1858. Probably the oldest building in Laporte, the building was used as a saloon for many years.





Head back towards the Lions Open Space parking lot and continue down the trail to POI #2.

POI # 2

Edge of Cache la Poudre School grounds — .8 miles.

- Seasonal Selfie: Take a selfie with the river and foothills in the background.

POI #3

The Poudre Trail takes a sharp left turn (1.2 miles) and proceeds northwest on the trail alongside 287-B/W County Rd 54G to the next POI.



POI #4

Taylor and Gill Ditches wayside interpretive sign — 1.4 miles

- Heritage Hunt Question: How long is the Taylor and Gill Ditch?
- Heritage Hunt Question: Scan the QR code on the interpretive sign (or visit the website listed by the QR code: <http://poudreheritage.org/video/irrigation-ditches-canals/>), watch the Poudre Heritage Alliance video and answer the following question:
 - In what year did Congress designate the Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area?
- Seasonal Selfie: Take a selfie with the Taylor and Gill ditch charthouse in the background.



Continue northwest on the Poudre Trail, cross the Taylor and Gill Ditch, and then turn left (south) onto Galway Drive. Walk a short ways down Galway Drive to the next POI.

POI #5

Antoine Janis monument—1.8 miles. This stone monument and plaque honor Antoine Janis, the first European settler in the area. The original site of Camp Collins from 1862 is unmarked and on private land in the area west of Galway Drive.



Continue to follow the Poudre Trail as it turns left onto Rist Canyon Road.



POI #6

Bellvue Hydraulic Irrigation Laboratory wayside interpretive sign — 2.7 miles

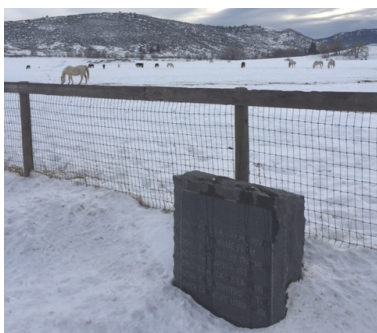
- Heritage Hunt Question: What was the name of the college that Ralph Parshall taught at?
- Heritage Hunt Question: Scan the QR code on the interpretive sign (or visit the website listed by the QR code: www.poudreheritage.org/bellvue), watch the Water Innovation video and answer the following question: In what year was the Parshall Flume patented?

Continue to follow over two bridges until you reach the end of the Poudre Trail.



END OF TRAIL

This is the official end of the Poudre Trail in Larimer County - 2.8 miles. The parking lot is at the entrance to Watson Fish Hatchery/Watson Lake. From here there are three delightful diversions to complete the descriptive route.



Delightful Diversion—Cache la Poudre Marker

From the Watson Fish Hatchery/Watson Lake trailhead, you can either walk or drive to this site - if you walk, be aware that there is no trail and you will be walking on the road. Take a look at the monument to read about the many names of the Poudre River.



Delightful Diversion—Bingham Hill Cemetery

The earliest known grave in this historic cemetery dates to 1862, making it the oldest cemetery in Larimer County.



Delightful Diversion—1883 Water Works

This historic facility was built in 1882-1883 to provide the growing town of Fort Collins with an adequate supply of water for fighting the building fires that plagued the early town.