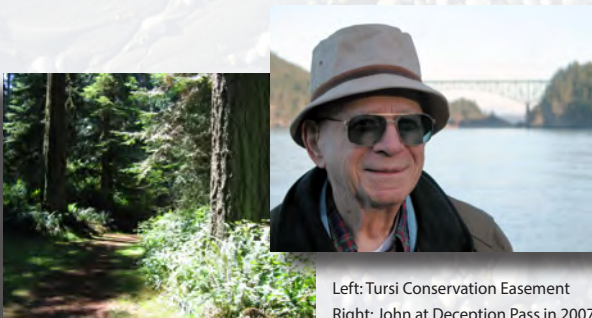


About John Tursi (1917 - 2016)

In 1934, a skinny teenager from Brooklyn, NY stepped down onto the platform at the Depot in Anacortes before boarding a truck to the shores of Deception Pass, where a new bridge was being built to cross a breathtaking expanse of churning water. Although he had never dreamed such a place existed, John Tursi knew that he had found home.

John came to Fidalgo Island under a depression-era program as a member of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). He and the crew helped build much of the Deception Pass State Park infrastructure that still exists today. After the CCC, John settled in Anacortes and married Doris Anderson. John worked for several canneries on Fidalgo Island and then became a supervisor at Shell Puget Sound Refinery, where he worked for over 20 years before retirement.

Community was a very important part of John and Doris' lives and they made generous contributions to help the people, animals and nature of Fidalgo Island. Over the years, John ensured that the places he fell in love with would be here for future generations. Not only did he help build the infrastructure at Deception Pass State Park, but years later he and Doris donated a conservation easement on Fidalgo Bay to Skagit Land Trust. In addition, John was the largest donor in the campaign to forever protect the Anacortes Community Forest Lands.



Left: Tursi Conservation Easement
Right: John at Deception Pass in 2007

Trail Partners

Skagit County Parks and Recreation

Skagit County manages parks and recreation areas throughout the county. The Parks & Recreation Department manages the Campbell Lake Rd. parking area and the Tursi Trail easement through private lands north of the State Park. County Parks Dept: (360) 416-1350



Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Deception Pass State Park is a 4,134 acre marine, camping, and hiking park with old-growth forests, abundant wildlife, sand dunes, and spectacular views. The Tursi Trail runs through a portion of the park. For park information, visit: www.parks.state.wa.us/497/Deception-Pass



Project Partners

Skagit Land Trust

Skagit Land Trust conserves wildlife habitat, agricultural and forest lands, scenic open space, wetlands, and shorelines for our community today and as a legacy for future generations. The Trust assisted in securing trail easements and designing this interpretive guide. Learn more at: www.skagitlandtrust.org



Anacortes Community Forest Lands

The Anacortes Community Forest Lands cover over 2,800 acres with 50 miles of multiple use trails. Find ACFL maps at: www.cityofanacortes.org/acfl_trail_maps/

Volunteer Trail Work Coordination:

Washington Trails Association | Skagit Whatcom Island Trail Maintenance Organization

Guide funded by :



The Tursi Trail

Connecting Deception Pass State Park to the Anacortes Community Forest Lands



Photograph Courtesy of the Anacortes Museum

Discover the Natural History
of South Fidalgo Island



- P** Trail Parking
- ◆ Trail Access Points
- Tursi Trail — Other Trails



Miner's Shack

Area copper deposits were mined in the 1910s and 20s, Later manganese and rock wool for building insulation were mined.



Red Rock Quarry

This quarry provided rock for Anacortes' Causland Park built in the 1920s.



Morris Graves' Rock

One of the Northwest Mystics, artist Morris Graves lived atop this promontory in the 1940s. The rock is now known as Rodger Bluff.



Meadows and Balds

Several open meadows and naturally rocky balds provide a scenic trail experience.

Map provides basic trail information and is not for navigation or other purposes.

The John Tursi Trail

Discover the natural history of South Fidalgo Island on this beautiful forested trail. The trail traverses past meadows and rocky balds, a red rock quarry, a miner's shack, the "rock" of artist Morris Graves' lore, and views of Pass Lake, Campbell Lake, and Mount Erie.

Trail Access Points

- ◆ **Pass Lake:** From Highway 20, turn on Rosario Road and make first right into Pass Lake parking lot. Hike NE on Pass Lake Trail and at .7 mi head up Ginnett Hill Trail. After .9 mi reach the Old Ginnett Homestead. Stay right at junction to head north onto the Tursi Trail.
- ◆ **Donnell Road:** From the Campbell Lake Road parking area east of Heart Lake Road, traverse on Donnell Road south .5 mi to trail entrance.

Please stay on trail or road as some of it crosses private property.

