

## Oregon General Land Office (GLO) Surveys: 1851 - 1855<sup>1</sup>

### GLO Northern Josephine County Rogue Valley Surveys: 1854 - 1855

- Butler Ives, U.S. Deputy Surveyor
- George Hyde, U.S. Deputy Surveyor
- Wells Lake, U.S. Deputy Surveyor

The Oregon U.S. Deputy Surveyors of 1854 - 1855 for the Hugo region were all competent, especially Ives, Hyde, and Lake.<sup>2-3</sup> They were all experienced with Burt's Solar Compass. Their competence and the accuracy of their work has been confirmed by local experts.

- Glenn Campbell, 40-years Surveyor, Josephine (JO) County (CO) Public Works.
- Max Hull, Private Surveyor, JO CO.
- Terry Nickerson BLM Surveyor<sup>2</sup>
- Tom Newcomb, Surveyor, JO CO Surveyor's Office
- Kelly Rarey, 20-plus years earning a living in the surveying business.
- Roger Roberts, Jackson County Surveyor: 1995 - 2008
- Chris Wytcherley, JO CO Surveyor's Office.

All **Rogue River Valley GLO** Maps for contracts No. 39, No. 47, and No. 54 clearly indicate the surveys were completed on March 31, 1856. This is the same date that the GLO maps were published as in conformance with the GLO field survey notes. However, from information in *Chaining Oregon* it is very clear that Contract No. 54 survey was completed at the end of the first week in August 1855.<sup>2</sup>

Ten GLO contracts were awarded statewide in 1855, including GLO Contract No. 54 to Lake and Hyde.

## GLO Maps In Rogue Valley: 1855 - 1856

### GLO Contracts In Hugo's Area Of Interest

- **GLO Contract No. 39 Awarded January 4, 1854**
  1. Southern Willamette Meridian, &
  2. 1856 GLO Map: T. 35S., R. 5W., WM (Upper Louse Creek)
- **GLO Contract No. 47 Awarded April 18, 1854**  
1855 GLO Map: T. 36S., R. 5W., WM (Pierce Riffle Ford of Rogue River)
- **GLO Contract No. 54 Awarded February 1855**

Oregon Surveyor General Gardner awarded Contract No. 54 to Wells Lake and George Hyde on February 19, 1855 (*Chaining Oregon*, page 196).<sup>3</sup> This important assignment included townships along the *Trail* in northern JO CO, and along the Rogue River – as well as the isolated, gold-rich Illinois Valley in southwestern Jackson County, an area now included in Josephine County. Wells Lake, who resigned as chief clerk in the surveyor general's office, was the lead surveyor on this project – his sole contract in Oregon. Hyde's familiarity with the region with Contract No. 39 made him a logical partner.<sup>2</sup>



1. 1856 GLO Map: T. 36S., R. 6W., WM (Vannoy Ford)
2. 1856 GLO Map: T. 35S., R. 6W., WM (Merlin)
3. 1856 GLO Map: T. 34S., R. 6W., WM (Hugo)
4. 1856 GLO Map: T. 33S., R. 6W., WM (Wolf Creek)

**1893** William M. Bushey surveyed JA-15A South Rat Creek in 1893. The quality of his work is unknown.

## GLO Rogue River Valley Surveyors: 1854 - 1855<sup>1</sup>

**August 1855** As the hot summer wore on, mining dried up along the creeks and tensions simmered between Indians and restless miners. Hearing reports of random killings in the mountains, Lake and Hyde hurried their subdivisions and, at the end of the first week in August 1855, finished Contract No. 54. This completed the GLO township and subdivision surveys in the Rogue River Valley.<sup>3</sup>

**October 1855** Indian hostilities in Rogue River Valley commenced October 9, 1855. What this means is that, except for the Harris Cabin, all houses in the Jumpoff Joe Creek drainage identified in August 1855 GLO surveys were burnt by the Indians.

**DLC Surveys** Sewall Truax, U.S. Deputy Surveyor's, work was excellent.<sup>2</sup> He had been a compassman for Ives and Hyde. He surveyed the Niday and Twogood DLCs.

**Be Respectful** *Do not trespass. Most of the Trail is located on private property not open to the public.*

**More Information** Contact a member of the Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee.

1. General Surveyor Office of Oregon. Subdivision Lines For 1856 Map (T.34., R. 6. W., Willamette Meridian). Field Notes. Surveyor Luke G Hyde. Contract February 19, 1855; Surveyed March 31, 1856; Hugo Neighborhood. 2006. *Hugo's Applegate Trail Field Notes*. Brochures 10A - 10D in Emigrant Trail Series. Hugo, OR.

2. Nickerson, Terry. January 1996. *On The Ground Performance Of Earlier Surveyor's Who Did Surveys For The Government*. Presentation for Rogue River Chapter of the Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon. Rogue Valley, OR.

3. Atwood, Kay. 2008. *Chaining Oregon: Surveying the Public Lands of the Pacific Northwest; 1851 - 1855*. The McDonald & Woodward Publishing Company. Blacksburg, Virginia.

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## Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee

Hugo is blessed with a rich heritage of historic roads, rough though they were. The *Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee* was formed to bring together all those who want to learn more about the early transportation in the area, from the casual admirer to the dedicated researcher. Its aim is to collect and record information about Hugo's emigrant trails, especially its two historic 1850s General Land Office mapped roads, and to share this information (e.g., through *Hugo History Day*, talks, hikes, group visits, training exercises, workshops, publications, web sites, etc.).

Karen Rose, Co-Project Leader  
Mike Walker, Co-Project Leader

### *Diaries, Journals & Reminiscences SubCommittee*

Jean Boling  
Glen Campbell  
Janet McKy  
Joe Neiderheiser  
Leta Neiderheiser  
Berneata Rarey  
Kelly Rarey  
Karen Rose  
Mike Walker

### *General Land Office Field Survey SubCommittee*

Terall Blalock  
Glen Campbell  
Jim Ford  
Rene Ford  
Joe Neiderheiser  
Kelly Rarey  
Mike Walker  
Chris Wytcherley

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## Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's Mission

This information brochure is one of a series of documents published by the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (*Hugo Neighborhood*). It is designed to be shared with neighbors for the purpose of helping protect our rural quality of life by promoting an informed citizenry in decision-making. The *Hugo Neighborhood* is an informal nonprofit charitable and educational organization with a land use and history mission of promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

### Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhood's* land use mission is to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and to preserve, protect, and enhance the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, if requested, as a technical resource assisting neighbors to represent themselves.

Its history mission is to educate, collect, preserve, interpret, and research its local history and to encourage public interest in the history of the Hugo area. Volunteer membership dues are \$10.00 annually per family and normally used for paper, ink, envelopes, publications and mailings.

### *Hugo Neighborhood*

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## Oregon General Land Office Surveyors: 1850s



Brochure 4C of Applegate Trail GLO  
Surveys Brochure Series



On February 26, 1836 Burt's solar compass  
was issued patent number 9428X.

October 18, 2011

**Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee  
Hugo Neighborhood Association &  
Historical Society  
Josephine County Historical Society**