
William A. Cox (“Senior”) Homestead

Hudson Bay Trappers Trail and/or Applegate Trail? William A. Cox’s son, William M. Cox, was born in California in 1856.



1897 W. A. Cox Hugo Homestead

On October 20, 1897 William A. and Elizabeth Cox were issued a homestead patent for 160 acres in Hugo, Oregon (Patent No. 3982).¹⁻² William A. Cox is the father of William M. Cox. Elizabeth was also issued the patent because W. A. died before the final certificate was issued.

W. A. is buried in the PVC. Mother Elizabeth Cox is also buried at the PVC, but has no marker. She lived until 1932, when her son, W. M., had long since removed from Oregon.

The 160 acre W. A. Cox homestead was adjacent to his son’s 160 acre homestead.

Cox Family³⁻⁴ The W. A. Cox family resided on, and proved up, the property for some time prior to the homestead certificate being issued.

Hugo Granite Tombstone Quarry Site (Quarry Site)³⁻⁴ The *Quarry Site* is located on the old William M. Cox homestead. The parcel is described as SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 14, T.35 S., R.6W., WM.

1. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), General Land Office (GLO) Records. 2007. Official Federal Land Records Site (<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>). Internet.

2. Hugo Neighborhood. 2007. *Hugo Pioneers*. Map Of Federal Land Transfer in Hugo, Oregon. Hugo, OR.

W. A. Cox Family, Hugo Pioneers: ca.,1890 - 1903

Pleasant Valley Cemetery (PVC) Over three dozen tombstones in the PVC were evaluated as having an extremely high probability of coming from the *Quarry Site* as identical-looking stones, including rubble, drill marked, squared and flat finished tombstones, which can be found at the *Quarry Site* and the PVC.⁵



W. A. 's Tombstone

William A. Cox Tombstone W. A. was born May 1, 1828. He died May 25, 1893. His 55.5" tall obelisk tombstone is in the PVC and is a good example of a three-stoned tombstone having both flat finishes and squared stone finishes. It also demonstrates how the *Quarry Site* stone is losing the flat finished carvings on the back side of the vertical tombstone. The size, complexity, and workmanship of the William A. Cox tombstone feels like a monument to the father and an advertisement of the quarry tombstone business.

Granite Base Stone	21" x 21" x 10.5"
Granite Middle Stone	15" x 15" x 9"
Granite Obelisk Stone	10" x 9.5" x 36"

Hugo Granite Tombstone Quarry Site

Quarry Site⁴⁻⁵ The site is small, around 1.5 acres. It is a rare site which was operational from ca., 1880s through 1929. It has a high probability of qualifying for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

1899 Homesteads In 1862, Congress established the Homestead Act which provided for a gift of 160 acres to actual settlers who would settle on and cultivate the lands and reside upon them for five years. It became effective on January 1, 1863, the same day President Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation.

The W. M. Cox homestead certificate was issued subject to certain reservations, including: “. . . and also subject to the right of the proprietor of a vein or dike to extract and remove his ore, therefore, should the same be found to penetrate or intersect the premises hereby granted, . . .”.

Want more information? Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood* on how you can become involved in your community’s history and land use.

3. Hugo Neighborhood, Josephine County Historical Society, et. al. 2007. *Hugo Granite Tombstone Quarry Site: Preliminary Resource Assessment*. Two volumes. Hugo, OR.

4. Hugo Neighborhood, Josephine County Historical Society, et. al. 2007. *Assessment Of Proposed Pioneer Meadow Subdivision Containing Applegate Trail Resources*. Hugo, OR.

5. Hugo Neighborhood, Josephine County Historical Society, et. al. 2007. *Pleasant Valley Cemetery “Tombstone Quarry” Granitic Tombstones: 1880s - 1920s*. Two volumes. Hugo, OR.

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. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

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WILLIAM A. COX FAMILY: HUGO PIONEERS

Brochure 14 in Hugo's Pioneers Brochure Series



*Part of the 1.5 mile Applegate Trail nomination to
Federal Register of Historic Places*



W. A. Cox Tombstone

May 12, 2008

**Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society
Josephine County Historical Society
Rogue Advocates**

Brochure 14 in Hugo's Pioneers Brochure Series

HNA&HS 2008 - 14

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