
Railroad Route from Mississippi to Pacific: 1855

Reports of Explorations and Survey to Ascertain the Most Practicable and Economical Route for a Railroad from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean.

In the United States Senate: February 24, 1855

Resolved, That there be printed, for the use of the Senate, ten thousand copies of the several reports of surveys for a railroad to the Pacific, made under the direction of the Secretary of War; and also of the report of F. W. Lander, civil engineer, of a survey of a railroad route from Puget's Sound, by Fort Hall and the Great Salt lake, to the Mississippi river; and the report of John C. Fremont, of a route for a railroad from the head-waters of the Arkansas river into the State of California; together with the maps and plates accompanying said reports, necessary to illustrate the same; and that five hundred copies be printed for the use of the Secretary of War, and fifty copies for each of the commanding officers engaged in said service.

There are 12 volumes of this set of reports, printed by A. O. P. Nicholson between 1855 and 1860. Volume VI is for the Pacific Railroad Survey of 1855.

1. Abbot, Henry L. *Report of Lieut. Henry L. Abbot, Corps of Topographical Engineers, upon Explorations for a Railroad Route from the Sacramento River to the Columbia River, made by Lieut. R. S. Williamson, Corps of Topographical Engineers, assisted by Lieut. Henry L. Abbot, Corps of Topographical Engineers, 1855.* United States War Department. *Reports of explorations and surveys, to ascertain the most practicable and economical route for a railroad from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean.* Made under the direction of the Secretary of War, in 1853-4. House of Representatives Exec. Doc. No. 91, 33rd Congress, 2d Session. Nicholson, Washington, 1856.

The Pacific Railroad Survey: 1855

Volume VI - The Pacific Railroad Survey: 1855¹
Volume VI has four parts: general, geological, botanical, and zoological.

Part 1. Report of Lieut. Henry L. Abbot, Corps of Topographical Engineers upon Explorations for a Railroad Route, the Sacramento Valley to the Columbia River, Made by Lieut. R. S. Williamson, Corps of Topographical Engineers, Assisted by Lieut. Henry L. Abbot, Corps of Topographical Engineers.

***Chapter V. Narrative and Itinerary continued —
Routes of detached parties in charge of Lieut. Abbot.
Part of this chapter is the route from the Willamette
Valley south to Sacramento, including the passage
through the Rogue River Valley***

General Report Part 1 has seven chapters.

Chapter I. General description of the regions examined.

Chapter II. Railroad Report

Chapter III. Narrative and Itinerary — Route of the main command.

Chapter IV. Narrative and Itinerary continued — Routes of detached parties in charge of Lieut. Williamson.

Chapter V. Narrative and Itinerary continued — Routes of detached parties in charge of Lieut. Abbot.

Chapter VI. Computation of Altitudes from Barometrical Observations.

Chapter VII. Route from Shasta Valley, East of Shasta Butte, to Fort Reading; Explored by Lieut. R. W. Williamson, U. S. Top. Eng., in 1851.

Lt. Henry Abbot

Part 2. Routes in California and Oregon Explored by Lieut. R. S. Williamson, Corps of Topographical Engineers, and Lieut. Henry L. Abbot, Corps of Topographical Engineers, in 1855. **Geological Report.**

Part 3. Routes in California and Oregon Explored by Lieut. R. S. Williamson, Corps of Topographical Engineers, and Lieut. Henry L. Abbot, Corps of Topographical Engineers, in 1855. **Botanical Report.**

Part 4. Routes in California and Oregon Explored by Lieut. R. S. Williamson, Corps of Topographical Engineers, and Lieut. Henry L. Abbot, Corps of Topographical Engineers, in 1855. **Zoological Report.**

The Old Military Road in Oregon A military road from Myrtle Creek to Jacksonville was declared a territorial road on January 31, 1854.

U. S. Corps of Topographical Engineers
<http://www.topogs.org/Links2.htm>

More information Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood* on how you can become involved in your community's land use, and/or history projects.

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 by preserving, protecting, and enhancing the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, as 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. Make checks to the *Hugo Neighborhood* and send them to our Treasurer.

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Edited by Karen Rose & Mike Walker

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PACIFIC RAILROAD SURVEY: 1855



Draft Brochure 15A in
Trapper's Trail Series



Lt. Henry Abbot

May 26, 2008

Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee

**Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society**