

Postal Telegraph Company's Brookfield CD 133 Insulators

1945 The Thatchers emigrated to Hugo from Southern California in 1945.

	Name	Birth Date	Birth Place
Father	Ed	12/12/10	New Jersey
Mother	Bessie	10/04/14	California
Child	Bill	09/12/36	California
Child	Joyce	05/19/34	California
Child	Betty	07/07/48	Oregon



Bill Thatcher: 1946
Courtesy of Bill Thatcher

1960s 30-plus year old Bill Thatcher was looking for a rumored 1880s Chinese railroad camp along the SPR right-of-way (ROW) near what would become Three Pines Road north of Three Pines, Oregon. He was walking the railroad ROW on the communications line side which would be cut down in 1978.¹ This line had 10-foot

long, 10 insulator pin cross arms, and their attached insulators. Many were still standing and many were on the ground. This is where he found the three light blueish-aqua color insulators he donated to the *Hugo Neighborhood*.

- No 1. Brookfield CD 133
- No 2. Brookfield CD 102 Pony
- No 3. Brookfield CD 102 Pony With "Star"

Southern Pacific Railroad's (SPR) Communications Line

Brookfield Huge quantities of insulators marked "W.BROOKFIELD", "BROOKFIELD", and later, with just a "B", were produced. Brookfield maintained business offices in Manhattan throughout most of its history, and these office addresses were embossed on many of the earlier insulators. 55 FULTON ST (1868-1882); 45 CLIFF ST (1882-1890) and 83 FULTON ST (1890-1893).

CD Numbers Consolidated Design (CD) numbers are assigned to specific shapes of pintype glass insulators, regardless of the manufacturer, embossing or style number. See **CJOW Magazine** for explanation.² <http://www.crownjewelsofthewire.com/>

Brookfield CD 133 (No.1) This insulator was associated with the **Postal Telegraph Company**, a new telegraph company created in 1881 to compete with Western Union.³ It was built through Josephine County ca., 1886 - 1887. The following embossing is on the insulator.

Dome	Shop Number "10?"
One Side of Crown	"W Brockfield" "45 CLIFF ST" ST = "T" underlined. "N.Y."
Other Side of Crown	"PAT" "JAN 25 1870" "N.Y."
Width	2 3/4"
Height	3 3/4"



This telegraph system was expanded to six lines in Hugo before it was abandoned to the elements in the middle 1940's.

Telephone Line CD 102 "Ponies"

CD 102 Ponies The two small insulators both have the same CD number: 102. They are nicknamed "ponies" and were used on rural, open wire, telephone lines c.a., 1900 - 1930. Sometimes such lines ran from tree to tree with the insulators mounted on side pegs. Both are very common in aqua.²

Brookfield CD 102 Pony (No. 2) The following embossing is on the medium sized Blob Top.

Dome	"C?"
One Side of Crown	"W BROCKFIELD"
Other Side of Crown	"NEW YORK"
Width	2 & 1/4"
Height:	3 & 1/2"



Brookfield CD 102 Pony With Star (No. 3)

The following embossing is on the unusually small Pony.

Dome	A vertical bar or number 1
Crown	A "star" symbol/markings
Width:	2 & 1/8"
Height:	3 & 1/4"



Insulator Brochure Series This brochure is number 16 of several in the "insulator" series. See web page.

<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/insulatorbro.htm>

1. Hugo Neighborhood. April 3, 2010. *Interview: Claude Dunivin Southern Pacific Railroad Signalman, Merlin, Oregon.* By Mike Walker, Education Chair. Hugo, OR.

2. Hugo Neighborhood. March 19, 2006. *Crown Jewels of the Wire.* Hugo, OR; Howard Banks, Editor of *Crown Jewels of the Wire*, August 7, 2010 Email to Mike Walker.

3. Hugo Neighborhood. March 19, 2006. *Postal Telegraph Company.* 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 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 collect, preserve, interpret, and research its local history and to encourage public interest in the history of the Hugo area.

Membership dues are \$10.00 annually and due in January. They are used for paper, ink, envelopes, publications, and mailings.

Hugo Neighborhood

Email: hugo@jeffnet.org

Web Page: <http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/>

Edited by Bill Thatcher, Karen Rose, & Mike Walker

Bill Thatcher, Hugo Neighbor from 1945 - 2010, donated three insulators to the *Hugo Neighborhood* on July 11, 2010.

Bill Thatcher
1007 NW Birch Street
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526
541-479-8821



Thatcher Family: 1948
Courtesy of Bill Thatcher

Mike Walker, Education Chair
Hugo Neighborhood
3388B Merlin Rd #195
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526
541-471-8271

Brochure 16 in Insulator Series: HNA&HS 2010-6
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**Bill Thatcher's
Three Pines,
Oregon, Insulators**



Brochure 16 in Insulator Series



**Thatcher Insulators: left to right
CD 102 Pony With Star, CD 102, & CD 133**

Howard Banks wrote: "CD 133s were used on the Postal Telegraph Line in the Hugo area. The CD 133s I found on the Postal Telegraph Line in the 1960's along Oxyoke Road had the Brookfield name on one side of the dome and an 1870 patent date on the other. Sometime the embossing is weak and you have to look hard to spot it. The CD 133 style was manufactured by numerous companies from the 1880's through the 1920's. They are common in aqua colored glass and were often used on telegraph lines. I have also taken them off side pegs on trees where they had been used on open wire telephone lines."²

August 28, 2010

**Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society**