

## Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee<sup>1-2</sup>

On July 21, 2003 six volunteers<sup>1-2</sup> found a 310' segment of the Applegate Trail (*Trail*) on the south slope of Grave Creek Hills at Mt. Sexton Pass: Hal Anthony, Malcolm Drake, Wayne McKy, Boyd Peters, Karen Rose, and Mike Walker. The segment's

location is identified by the 1850s and 1890s Government Land Office surveys and maps, and a 1895 county map.

The road segment is on a side hill (ca., 1853 - 1900) orientated the only way over the Grave Creek Hills, Mt. Sexton Pass. The road width was 9' - 10'. A large 75 - 85 year old fir tree (dbh 33") was

growing in the *Trail* segment which means the road had not been used since the late 1930s.

**1853** Larry McLane, Historian<sup>3</sup>, feels that the road segment is the 1853 military road from Oakland, Oregon to Fort Steward surveyed and improved by Major B. Alvord, U.S. Surveyor.

1. Hugo Neighborhood. 2005. Public Outreach & Educational Brochure Program: Hugo's Emigrant Trails. Hugo, OR.

2. Hugo Neighborhood. 2005. Hugo Applegate Trail Field Notes. Brochure 10. Hugo, OR.

3. McLane, Larry L. 1995. *First There Was Twogood*. Sexton Enterprises. Sunny Valley, OR.


4. Howard Banks. March 16, 2006. Interview. by Mike Walker. Banks is Publisher of Crown Jewels of the Wire & Expert on Insulators. Hugo, OR.

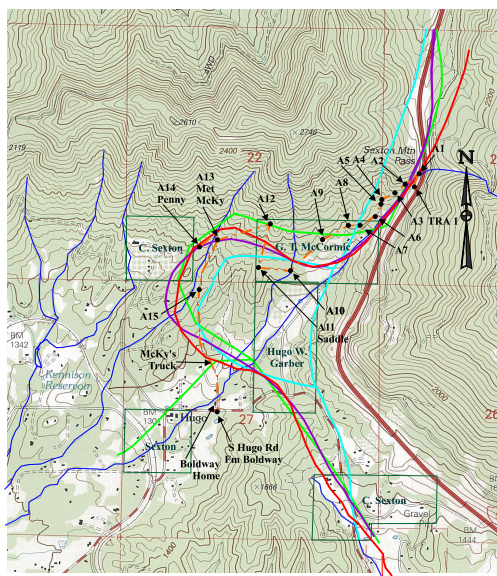


## Wagon Trail Inventory - OR- JA-00-34-06-23 Mt. Sexton Pass

**1860s** Howard Banks, Insulator Expert<sup>4</sup>, feels that the road segment could go back to the Collins Telegraph Line in the 1860s when the line construction, in some places, went from tree to tree. He based this conclusion on some very old galvanized steel telegraph wire in an old oak tree along the road. The tree was rotted and deteriorated. By the time that the Postal Telegraph Line was built through Hugo in the 1870s - 1880s, everything was pole to pole. In Banks's opinion this telegraph wire predated the Postal Telegraph Line.

### Applegate Trail Field Trip July 21, 2003

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society	1856 Road	<span style="color: red;">—</span>	 07/21/03 Field Trip <span style="color: orange;">- - - - -</span>
	1894 Road	<span style="color: purple;">—</span>	
	1895 Road	<span style="color: green;">—</span>	
	1995 Atlas	<span style="color: cyan;">—</span>	



## Applegate Trail Segment: Mt. Sexton Pass

**1870s - 1880s** A down pole was identified by Banks<sup>4</sup> as a Postal Telegraph pole near the road segment.

**In 1941** a new right-of-way on Sexton was cleared.<sup>5</sup> The residence [Smith house] overlooking the Pacific Highway summit on the shoulder of Mt. Sexton was raised and trees felled for a new road. The 1941 newspaper article had a photograph whose orientation was "toward the summit from the Grants Pass side showing the steep, old dirt road on the left (*Trail* segment), the curving present high on the right, and the felled trees on the right-of-way." The grade of the *Trail* segment aligns with the original summit elevation.



**Administration** The *Trail* segment is located on land administered by the Oregon Dept. of Transportation.

**Used Trail** The *Trail* segment retains elements of its original character, but shows use by motor vehicles.

**OCTA Trail Classification** Class ② Used Trail.<sup>6</sup>

**Coherence Rule** Linear Uniformity. Yes

**Corroborative Rule** Confirming Evidence. Yes

**Collateral Rule** Physical/Topo Evidence. Yes?

**Correlation Rule** Overall Agreement. Yes.

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

5. Grants Pass Courier. January 6, 1941. Front Page, Right-of-Way Cleared on Sexton. Grants Pass, OR.

6. Office of National Trails Preservation & Oregon-California Trails Association (P.O. box 1019, Independence, MO, 64051-0519, 816-252-2276, octa@indepmo.org). July 2002, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. *Mapping Emigrants Trails MET Field Manual*.

## 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 of the Applegate Trail, 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*

Karen Rose  
Janet McKy  
Kelly & Berneata Rarey  
Glen Campbell  
Norm Tieman  
Joe & Leta Neiderheiser  
Kristen Boyce  
Kathy Burkey  
Penny Shipley  
Mike Walker

### *General Land Office Field Survey SubCommittee*

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

Brochure 17B in Emigrant Trails Brochure Series  
HNA&HS 2010-3

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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*

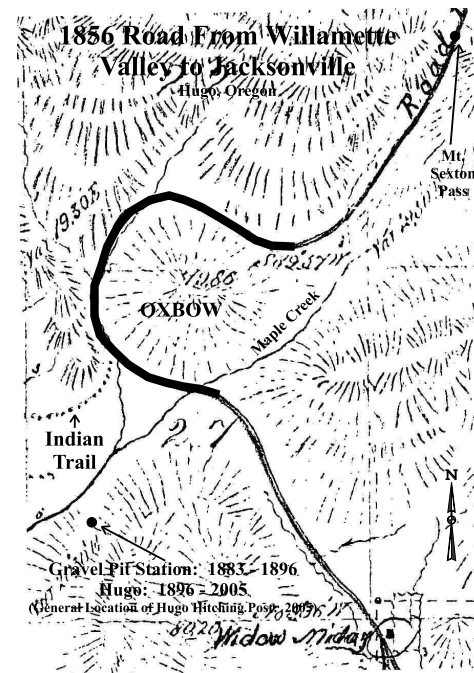
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## APPLEGATE TRAIL: MT. SEXTON PASS

OR-JA-00-34-06-23-Mt. Sexton Pass

Brochure 17B in  
Emigrant Trails Series



SHPO Case # 05-0699: March 22, 2005

March 2, 2005  
Updated July 27, 2005  
Updated March 7, 2010  
Updated April 20, 2010

Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee  
Hugo Neighborhood Association &  
Historical Society