

Winona, Oregon

Winona, Josephine County, Oregon “A recent number of the *Postal Guide* shows more than a dozen post offices in the United States named Winona, a word of the Santee Indian dialect meaning first-born (if a girl). The name was well known for its use at Winona, Minnesota, and was apparently introduced to the reading public by Keating in his *Narrative of Long’s expedition, 1823*. The musical sound of the word has made it popular as a name. The principal use of the name in Oregon has been for a place on Jumpoff Joe Creek, Josephine County, a few miles north of Grants Pass. A post office called Winona was established here in June 1897, with Herbert M. Gorham first postmaster. The office was closed on Jan. 31, 1905.”¹⁻²

Covered Bridges A covered bridge is a bridge, often single-lane, with enclosed sides and a roof. They have typically been wooden and often serve as prominent local landmarks. Wooden bridges tended to deteriorate rapidly from exposure to the elements, having a useful life span of approximately nine years. Covering them protected their structural members, thus extending their life to 80 years or more.

The old Swastika Mine was a low gravel bank in the forks where Jack Creek flows into Jumpoff Joe Creek. (T.34S., R.5W. Section 32).³ In 1895 it was on Sarah J. Pollock’s homestead where the William Henry Pollock’s family was residing.

1. Oregon Historical Society Press. 1992. *Oregon Geographic Names*. Sixth Edition revised and enlarged by Lewis L. McArthur. U.S.A.
2. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society. 2007. *Winona Post Office: 1897 - 1905*. Brochure. Hugo, OR.
3. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society. 2008. *William Henry Pollock: Hugo Pioneers*. Brochure. Hugo, OR.

Winona Covered Bridge

Grave Creek Bridge at Sunny Valley is the best example of a covered bridge in northern Josephine County. Features of the wooden structure include six gothic style windows on either side, concrete abutments, a Howe truss, rounded portals and a shake roof. It was built in April 1920 through an Oregon State Highway Department contract by J. Elmer Nelson.

Four months later, traffic passed through its portals. The 105-foot Howe truss is supported by "dumb bell" concrete piers. Total cost of the construction, including the engineering fees was \$21,128.



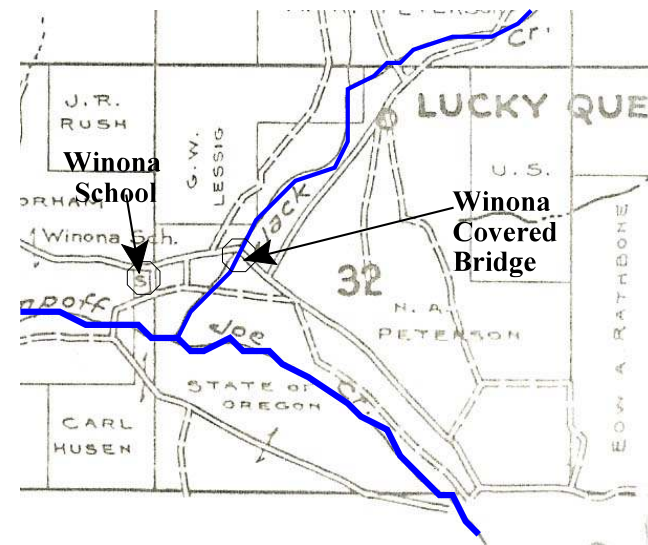
Grave Creek Covered Bridge

Other Minor Covered Bridges There is not much history on other minor covered bridges in Josephine County, but they must have been numerous and widespread.

More Information

Winona Covered Bridge There are three streams that today pass under Jumpoff Joe Creek Road in the vicinity of the old Winona School location: 1. Shorthorn Gulch (1.5 miles from I-5), 2. Unnamed creek (1.6 miles from I-5), and 3. Jack Creek (2.5 miles from I-5).

There is no doubt that the Winona Covered Bridge was built over Jack Creek as depicted on the 1932 map (Map 1) as the old road bed with the sharp turn at the creek is easily visible on the ground.



*Winona Covered Bridge Over Jack Creek: 1932
Plotted on 1932 Metsker Map*

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

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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WINONA COVERED BRIDGE: c.a., 1930s

Brochure 218 Of Hugo's Early
Settler Brochure Series



Eva Pollock at Winona Covered Bridge: ca., 1930s
Courtesy of Larry McLane

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