

## Jacksonville Road (JR) Of Applegate Trail (*Trail*): Grave Creek Road (JA-17E)<sup>1</sup>

**Hugo's Jacksonville Road (JA) from Willamette Valley to Jacksonville** (route of the *Trail*) is located in Josephine County, Oregon from the Rogue River in the south to Grave Creek in the north.<sup>1-2</sup>

**Virgil Pringle's Diary: 1846<sup>3</sup>** His October entries near Grave Creek follow. *Monday, October 19 – Move one mile to a camp [Grave Creek], having none last night, and spent the day burying Mr. Crowley's daughter, who died yesterday evening, age about 14 years [different accounts: 14 or 16 years]. 1 mile.*

**Talbot Carter Reminiscences, 1846<sup>4</sup>** *“Soon a wagon appeared, with weeping and lamentation among its occupants. It was soon learned that an estimable young lady by the name of Crowley, who had been afflicted with typhoid fever [or arrow injury?], had died.... When morning came we found we were a few hundred yards from a small stream” [Rat Creek]*

1. Hugo Neighborhood. 2009 *Hugo's Applegate Trail GLO Points of Interest*. Brochure 1 in Applegate Trail GLO Surveys Series. Hugo, OR.

2. Hugo Neighborhood. 2009 *Hugo's Jacksonville Road Of Applegate Trail Points of Interest*. Brochure 2 in Applegate Trail GLO Surveys Series. Hugo, OR.

3. Virgil Pringle's Diary, 1846. Hugo Neighborhood web page: [http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/Virgil\\_Pringle\\_Diary.pdf](http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/Virgil_Pringle_Diary.pdf)

4. Talbot Carter Reminiscences, 1846. Hugo Neighborhood web page: [http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/Experiences\\_of\\_Emigrants.pdf](http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/Experiences_of_Emigrants.pdf).

5. Lucy (Henderson) Deady 1846 Reminiscences, pages 141 - 142 of Beckham (Beckham, Stephen Dow. 1995. *Applegate Trail: Impressions and Experiences of Emigrants and Other Travelers*. Vol. I & II. Lake Oswego, OR).

6. Collins, James Lyton, *From Independence to Independence*, Levi Scott's authorized and approved, handwritten biography, circa 1880's. Roseburg: Unpublished type-scripted manuscript archived in Douglas County Historical Museum Reference Library, 1955[?]. Pages 192-194. Hugo Neighborhood web page: <http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/diaries.htm>

7. Davis, Charles George. 2001. *The South Road, And The Route Across Southern Oregon*. Page 186. North Plains.

8. Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee, Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society Josephine County Historical Society. March 16, 2010, Draft Updated July 7, 2012. JR Of Applegate Trail: Grave Creek Road (JA-17B) - Surveys. Brochure 21B of Applegate Trail GLO Surveys Brochure Series. Hugo, OR.

## Wagon Trail Camp At Grave Creek: October 19, 1846<sup>1</sup>

**Lucy (Henderson) Deady Reminiscences, 1846<sup>5</sup>** *“One of the emigrants in our party was named Crowley. He had lost several members of his family by death while crossing the plains, and at one of our camps another member of the family, a daughter, Martha Leland Crowley, died. . . . They buried her beneath a big pine tree [other 20<sup>th</sup> century references record an oak tree] on the banks of a small stream which they christened Grave Creek, and which still bears that name.”*

**Levi Scott's Reminiscences, 1846<sup>6</sup>** *“The next morning we moved up a little, and crossed the main creek, where we stopped to bury the dead girl. Mrs. Tabitha Brown, a generous and noble-hearted widow lady, who afterwards founded the College at Forest*

*“They buried her beneath a big pine tree on the banks of a small stream . . .”*

*Grove in the Tualatan Plains, gave the upper side-boards of her wagon to make a coffin. We dug the grave in the middle of the correlle, or circle of the camp, and after depositing the remains, we filled it up level with the surface of the ground, replacing the sods which had first been carefully removed so as to give it the appearance of the natural, unbroken ground as much as possible. We then corralled all the stock so that they should tread over the grave, and when we got ready to start, drove all the wagons, one after another over it, in the hope of so obliterating all traces of it as to prevent the Indians from finding, or disturbing it.”*

## Diaries, Journals, & Reminiscences<sup>1</sup>

**The South Road, 1846<sup>7</sup>** According to Davis “Miss Martha Leland Crowley was buried in the road one-fourth of a mile north of the crossing. . . . The road became the main road to California and was paved some years later. The remains of Miss Martha Leland Crowley still lie under the pavement, one-fourth mile north of the covered bridge and the Sunny Valley Interpretive Center.”

**SUMMARY** On October 19, 1846, the wagon train traveled one mile and camped in a prairie after fording Grave Creek. The rest of Monday was spent in burying Martha Leland Crowley at the camp.

The burial location was in a east-west prairie north of Grave Creek identified on an 1856 GLO map based on a 1855 GLO survey (Map 1). Our research identified the 1846 camp location to be approximately in the location of *Trail* site JA-17B<sup>8</sup> beneath a pine tree which is 370' west of the Sunny Valley Road and 650' north of Grave Creek, not a quarter-mile (1,320')<sup>7</sup> north of Grave Creek which would place the burial site north of Leland Road.

**Be Respectful** *Do not trespass. The 1846 camp and burial location is on private property not open to the public.*

*Grave was approximately 1/4 mile north of Grave Creek crossing and 320' - 350' west of today's Sunny Valley Road (SVR).*

**Want more information?** Contact a member of the Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee.

## 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*

Jean Boling  
Glen Campbell  
Janet McKy  
Joe Neiderheiser  
Leta Neiderheiser  
Berneata Rarey  
Kelly Rarey  
Karen Rose  
Mike Walker

### *General Land Office Field Survey SubCommittee*

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

## 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*

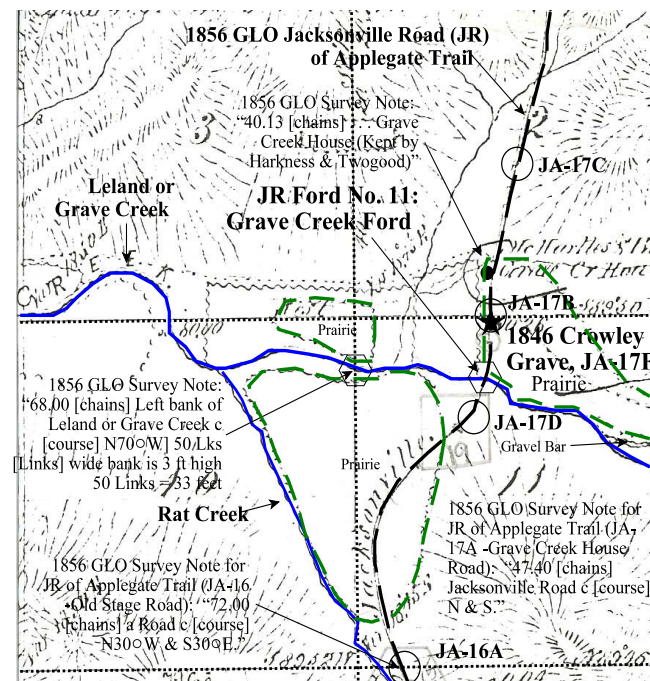
3388B Merlin Rd # 195, Grants Pass, Oregon 97526  
541-471-827; Email: hugo@jeffnet.org  
Web Page: <http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/>

Edited and approved for HETC by Jean Boling,  
Jim & Rene Ford, Joe Neiderheiser,  
Karen Rose, and Mike Walker.

## Martha Leland Crowley Grave: October 19, 1846 (JA-17F Site)



Brochure 21F of Applegate Trail  
Grave Creek Project Brochure Series



**Map 1. Crowley Buried At Grave Creek:  
October 19, 1846**  
Base Map is 1856 GLO Map

**August 14, 2012**

**Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee  
Hugo Neighborhood Association &  
Historical Society  
Josephine County Historical Society**