

---

---

## Cherries, Grapes, Watermelons, & Walnuts

### Walter W. Penny

Born: 1882 Iowa  
Parents Birth Place: f - WI m - IA

### Pearl G. Penny

Born: 1888 Iowa  
Parents Birth Place: f - MN m - IA

**1880s Tunnel No. 9 Road** A broad research topic is Wayne McKy and Mike Walker's studied opinion that the original Tunnel No. 9 Road was built by the railroad during the 1881 - 1883. The purpose was to transport supplies to the south end of Tunnel No. 9's during its construction prior to its completion in 1883. The wagon route providing supplies was from the Applegate Trail at Mt. Sexton pass along a high drier winter more passable road to the tunnel.<sup>1</sup>

**1908** Susan A. Erickson to M. A. Penny E ½ of SW ¼ and the NW ¼ SW ¼ and SW ½ of NE ¼ of sec 22 in twp 34 S of R 5, 160 acres, \$1650. *Rogue River Courier*. October 8, 1908. Josephine County Realty Transfers.<sup>2</sup>

**1910** Walter Penny is building fences. *Rogue River Courier*. January 28, 1919. Sparks From Hugo.

**1909 - 1920** Orville Dingler lived in Hugo from 1909 through 1920. He remembered the Pennys.

### 1910 Census. Merlin Precinct, Josephine Co., OR

Walter Penny	Farmer	28 years
Pearl Penny	Wife	22 years

---

---

## The Pennys High Road House: ca. 1908 - 1910s

**1917** *The post office was moved into the Hugo Supply Company around 1917 and Mrs. Penny became the post mistress. Walter and Mrs. Penny had a home about a half mile out of Hugo toward Mt. Sexton. The Pennys raised and sold Tokay grapes from their Hugo farm.*<sup>3</sup>

**1917** The Dingler family knew the Pennys when they lived in Hugo. Mrs. Pearl Penny was the Sunday school teacher for Juanita and Ethel Dingler. The kids thought Mrs. Penny was very attractive. Back then, of course, the kids did not call any adult by their first name. It was always Mr. or Mrs. Juanita and Ethel were the only two children taught by Mrs. Penny for a long time. Hugo Neighborhood Association. 2000. *Juanita (Dingler) Pratt's Hugo Memories: 1907 - 2000*. Hugo, OR.

Walter Penny raised grapes and watermelons and did a lot of farming. Juanita thought Walter and Pearl Penny were nice people. Even so, her brother, Orville, and the other boys used to steal a melon from time to time. The Pennys had no children of their own and that is why Juanita thinks they sort of adopted her and her sister, Ethel. Hugo Neighborhood Association. 2000. *Juanita (Dingler) Pratt's Hugo Memories: 1907 - 2000*. Hugo, OR.

**1919 - 1933** Prohibition in the United States.

### 1920 Census. Lucky Queen, Josephine Co., OR

Walter Penny	Farmer	38 years
Pearl Penny	Wife	32 years

---

---

## Tunnel No. 9 Road: ca., 1881 -1883

**1925** Verlin Grimes lived in the Town of Three Pines just below the school house from 1925 - 1941. *The Penny place on Hugo Road was there when Verlin Grimes came to Three Pines in 1925. Mrs. Boldway lived in the Penny Place on Hugo Road in 2001. When they were younger the Pennys used to have a cabin up the hill across from the old Heller place. They later built the place on Hugo Road.*<sup>4</sup> Grapes were raised at the Pennys' High House.

### 1930 Census. Merlin Precinct, Josephine Co., OR

Walter Penny	Farmer	48 years
Pearl Penny	Wife	42 years
Jenny Stumbo	Boarder	47 years

*When they were younger the Pennys used to have a cabin up the hill across from the old Heller place.*

**1932** The Pennys possessed a sizable ranch in Hugo, Oregon in the 1930s.<sup>5</sup>

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

---

1. Hugo Neighborhood. 2008. *Tunnel No. 9 Road & Trail: Hugo, OR*. Hugo, OR.

2. Atwood, Kay. 1984. Josephine County Historical Resources Inventory: 1983 - 1984. Volume I. Grants Pass, OR.

3. Hugo Neighborhood. 2004. *Orville's Hugo Memories: 1910 - 1920*. Hugo, OR.

4. Hugo Neighborhood. 2007. *Verlin Clare Grimes' Three Pines & Hugo Memories: 1913 - 2002*. Hugo, OR.

5. Metscher, Chas. F. 1932 *Metsker Map. Josephine County, Oregon*. Portland, 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 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.

Email: [hugo@jeffnet.org](mailto:hugo@jeffnet.org)

Web Page: <http://jeffnet.org/~hugo/>

Edited by Jacque Hardwick, Karen Rose, Wayne and Janet McKy, & Mike Walker

### HNA&HS Officers

Hal Anthony, Outreach Chair  
3995 Russell Road  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Wayne McKy, Chair  
6497 Hugo Road  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

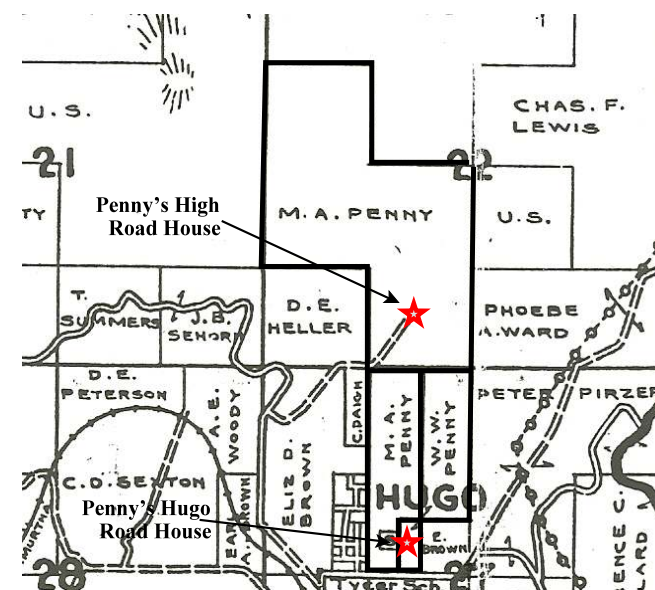
Mike Walker, Education Chair  
3388B Merlin Rd #195  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Karen Rose, Web Master  
575 Red Mountain Drive  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

## PENNY'S HIGH ROAD HOUSE



Very Draft  
Brochure 304 Of Hugo's Early  
Settler Brochure Series



*Penny's Houses: Map 1932*

Not Quality Controlled, Nor Edited

April 14, 2009

Hugo Neighborhood Association &  
Historical Society