Peter Skene Ogden, Chief Trader, Hudson's Bay Company

Early transportation was limited to walking, horseback, and pack animals.

Peter Skene Ogden was a chief trader with the Hudson's Bay Company. In the period 1824-1829, he led five trapping expeditions to the "Snake Country" -- the upper reaches of the Columbia. Excerpts from his journals of each of those five expeditions follow.

The Hudson Bay Company (HBC) divided Canada into two districts or departments each with its own forts or factories: Northern and Southern departments. These posts or factories were fur trading centers.

Governor — Each department was to be managed by a governor appointed by London, and a council, comprised of partners in the company — chief factors of districts within the department and chief traders.

<u>Chief Factor</u> — Commissioned gentlemen who were generally responsible for districts within each department.

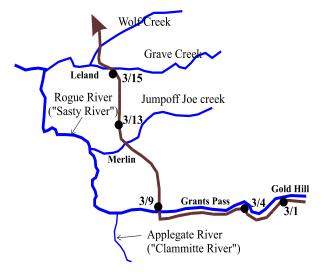
<u>Chief Trader</u> — Commissioned gentlemen who managed posts or headed fur brigades.

1824-25 Expedition This expedition was the first written account of that region of southeastern Idaho and northern Utah which included the Cache Valley, Ogden Valley, and the Weber River Valley; and of the famous confrontation between the HBC and the Americans. Included are Ogden's journal and that of his chief clerk, William Kittson.

Peter Skene Ogden's Snake Country Journals

1825-26 Expedition Ogden crossed Central Oregon in his travels from Walla Walla River to the headwaters of the Des Chutes River, up the Snake to the Malade (Big Wood) River, Raft River, and Portneuf. He returned by way of the Willamette River.

1826-27 Expedition This expedition traveled through the Klamath country, a part of Oregon unknown to white men at the time. The region also included the Rogue River valley.



Chief Trader Ogden's Rogue River Expedition: 1826 - 1827

1826 - 1827 Expedition

Snake River Country For the HBC any region in the upper Columbia River, including the Klamath River basin was "Snake River Country".

1827-28 Expedition This expedition to southeast Idaho included wintering on the Snake River. The journal for this trip included important observations of

the movements of American parties.



Otter

1828-29 Expedition

Ogden's last expedition to the Snake Country was in 1828 - 1829. He Followed the Humboldt River and explored the region north of Great Salt Lake.

Peter Skene Ogden He was a Canadian fur trader and explorer for the Hudson's Bay Company who led five trapping expeditions between 1824 and 1829 to the "Snake River Country" (the upper reaches of the Columbia River) with the aim of discouraging American trappers from coming into the area. The northwestern United States and Canada were Ogden's only home and "playing field." His impact upon the fur trade and explorations of the region were such that schools, parks, and even the third largest city in Utah bear Ogden's name today.

Want more information? Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood* on how you can become involved.

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. Make checks to the *Hugo Neighborhood* and send them to our Treasurer.

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HUDSON BAY COMPANY TRAPPERS

Peter Skene Ogden



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Brochure 3F in Trapper's Trail Series





Peter Ogden
Courtesy of Hudson's Bay
Company Archives

May 24, 2008

Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society