

Thomas & Mittie Wise

Thomas L. Wise

Born: 1867 Texas
Father John A Wise: 1843 Pennsylvania
Mother Minta A Simmons: 1844 Illinois

Mittie Wise

Born: 1845 Illinois
Father:
Mother:

1877 State of Washington Census. Spokane County, Territory of Washington

J. A. Wise	Male	PA	1843	44 yrs
M. A. Wise	Female	IL	1846	41 yrs
<u>T. L. Wise</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>IA</u>	<u>1867</u>	<u>20 yrs</u>
D. M. Wise	Male	NE	1870	17 yrs
E. M. Wise	Female	NE	1875	12 yrs
E. Wise	Female	NE	1875	12 yrs
A. M. Wise	Female	NE	1879	8 yrs

1900 Census. Slate Creek Precinct, Josephine Co., OR

Thomas T. Wise Partner IA 1869 31 yrs

Thomas's occupation was wood chopper.

1904 John Wise and his wife, Minta, purchased the property in August of 1904 from James Robertslaw of Siskiyou County. He was particularly known throughout the area as a breeder of thoroughbred Jersey cows.¹

1905 The Wise-Tavis Barn was constructed ca., 1905 by John A. Wise.¹

The Thomas Wise Family, Hugo Settlers: 1904 - 1943

1906 Hugo has a post office, store, good schoolhouse and will soon have a dairy in operation. John Wise and son have all of the machinery necessary and are preparing to start a first class dairy. Both gentlemen are experienced butter makers and we hope they will make a success of the business. *Rogue River Courier*. September 14, 1906. Hugo. It is assumed that the son was Thomas Wise.

1908 Thomas' father, John A Wise, farmed the land until his death four years after arriving in Hugo on December 31, 1908.⁴

1911 In 1911 members of the Wise family granted their parts of his farm estate to their brother-in-law, George W. Tavis, a resident of Washington state. George moved to the farm immediately and took over the operation.¹

1920 Census. Merlin Precinct, Josephine Co., OR

Mittie A. Wise Head IL 1845 75 yrs
Thomas **T. Wise** Son **TX** 1868 52 yrs

1920 The Tavis continued to farm there until George Tavis was killed when struck by a Southern Pacific train on July 16, 1920. He left his wife, Emily, and five children.¹

1927 Thomas's Mother, Minta A. Wise, continued to live on the farm until her death on August 18, 1927.⁴

Wise-Tavis Pole Barn

1930 Census. Merlin Precinct, Josephine Co., OR

Thomas **L. Wise** Head **IA** 1868 62 yrs

1932 Thos. L. Wise was in possession of the farm.²

1943 Oregon Death Index, 1903 - 98 Thomas L. Wise died in Josephine County, Oregon June 1943.

1955 George Tavis was identified as in possession of a part of the old Wise ranch.³

Importance¹ The Tavis and Wise families were well known through the Merlin-Hugo area and relatives continue to reside there. The barn is one of the oldest barns in the Merlin-Hugo region and the complete pole construction is unique.

Pleasant Valley Cemetery⁵

Wise, John A. b. 11/4/1842 d. 12/31/1908
Wise, Minta A. b. 7/30/1844 d. 8/18/1927
Wise, Thomas L. d. 10/6/1943

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

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

2. Metsher, Chas. F. 1932 *Metsker Map. Josephine County, Oregon*. Portland, OR.

3. Metsher, Chas. F. 1955 *Metsker Map. Josephine County, Oregon*. Portland, OR.

4. Oregon Death Index, 1903-98. Internet.

5. Internet.net. October 22, 2007. *Pleasant Valley Cemetery, Hugo, Josephine County, Oregon*. Contributed by Jean Boling.

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

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

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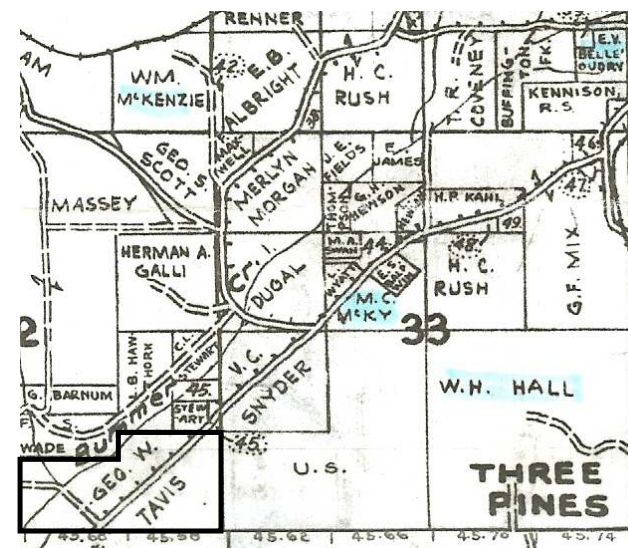
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THOMAS WISE FAMILY: HUGO SETTLERS



Very Draft

Brochure 424 Of Hugo's Early
Settler Brochure Series



George Tavis's Hugo Ranch: 1955

Not Quality Controlled, Nor Edited

February 14, 2008

Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society

Brochure 424 in Hugo's Early Settler Brochure Series

HNA&HS 2008 - 424

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