

Southern Pacific Railroad

O & C Railroad The first rail out of Portland was laid in 1869 and by December, 1872, the tracks were completed to Roseburg.

Construction of the O & C Railroad was resumed from Roseburg in 1881. Grave Creek Tunnel, better known in later years as Tunnel No. 9, was completed north of Hugo, Oregon on July 4, 1883.

The first official train arrived in Grants Pass, Oregon on December 2, 1883.^{1&2}



O & C Train

Southern Pacific Railroad acquired control in 1884 and the “last spike” or final ceremony in that railroad

was driven at Ashland, Oregon on December 17, 1887, connecting Oregon and California.^{1&2}



05/20/2004

Silica Rocks at Ledge

Gravel Pit Station at mile post 487.0 was developed by the Southern Pacific Railroad ca., the 1880s after

the railroad was constructed through the area in 1883. It is speculated that the station was named after a railroad granite pit north of Hugo. Railroad mile post numbers are from San Francisco which started with the number one. Therefore, Gravel Pit Station was 487 railroad miles from San Francisco.

1. Southern Pacific Company. April 18, 1969. *History Of Southern Pacific In Oregon*. Letter to Josephine County Historical Society.

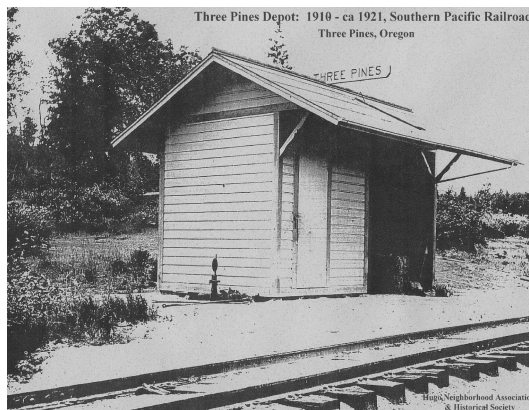
2. Ed Austin & Ton Dill. 1993. *The Southern Pacific in Oregon*. Everett, WA.

3. Hugo Neighborhood. 2008. *Hugo's Railroad Flag Stations*. Brochure. Hugo, OR.

Gravel Pit Station Mile Post 487.0

Flag Station The flag station³ was directly across from the Lucky Queen School on a silica ledge within the railroad right-of-way. The silica can be viewed in the railroad photograph in the cut through the ridge. The station was also located on 40 acres of railroad land (1896 Railroad Patent No. 38). In the 1890s the Lucky Queen School was the center of the local community.

It is assumed that Gravel Pit Station was a very basic depot, perhaps like the later Three Pines mail depot and located in the photograph to the right on the left side of the tracks close to the wood pile.



**Three Pines Depot. MP 486.0:
ca. 1910 - 1921**

Courtesy of Josephine County Historical Society

Gravel Pit Station was christened Hugo by the Southern Pacific Railroad May 6, 1897, after a post office was established that year in Hugo. This first depot served the community until 1913 when a new section house and depot were built in Hugo approximately one-half mile further north.

Flag Station



Gravel Pit Station - Railroad Mile Post 487.0

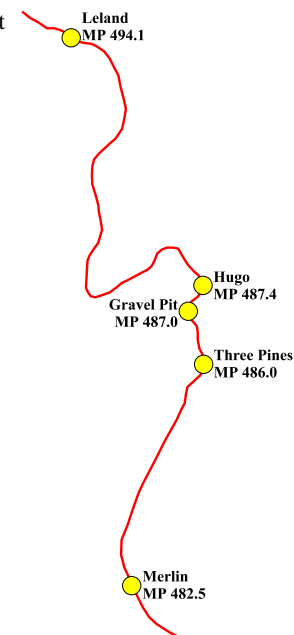
Courtesy of Mike Walker

More information Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood* on how you can become involved in your community's land use, and/or history projects.

This brochure is one of five in the “depot” series.

1. Leland 494.1
2. Hugo 487.4
3. Gravel Pit 487.0
4. Three Pines 486.0
5. Merlin 482.4

Mile posts (MP) are in railroad miles from San Francisco.



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 promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhood's* land use mission is to promote the social welfare of the citizens of the area by working to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and by preserving, protecting, and enhancing the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. 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 our Treasurer. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

Hugo Neighborhood
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Gravel Pit Station

Brochure 3 in Depot Series



**Gravel Pit Station:
Railroad Mile Post 487.0**

December 24, 2004

**Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society**