

**NON-SURVEYED APPLGATE TRAIL SITE:  
EAST I-5 MANZANITA REST AREA MET VERIFIED**

**Outline**

**APPENDIX**

Appendix D2. *Subsurface Reconnaissance of the I-5 Chancellor Quarry Stockpile Project, and Metal Detector Survey Within the George and Mary Harris 1854 - 55 DLC*

**Appendix D2. *Subsurface Reconnaissance of the I-5 Chancellor Quarry Stockpile Project, and Metal Detector Survey Within the George and Mary Harris 1854 - 55 DLC***

**University of Oregon  
Museum of Natural and Cultural History's 2011 Report No. 2011-002**

The UO Report No. 2011-002 is one of three reports serving as relevant evidence for the "Applegate Trail Site: East I-5 Manzanita Rest Area" (EI-5Man Site).

1. University of Oregon. May 27, 2010. *Pedestrian Survey of Stockpile Site South of Chancellor Quarry in the I-5 Jumpoff Joe-Glendale Project, Josephine County* (ODOT Key 16763; Museum of Natural and Cultural History Report No. 2010-026). Eugene, OR.
2. University of Oregon. May 27, 2010. *Subsurface Reconnaissance of the I-5 Chancellor Quarry Stockpile Project, and Metal Detector Survey Within the George and Mary Harris 1854 - 55 DLC (35JO246), Josephine County*. Museum of Natural and Cultural History Report No. 2011-002) Eugene, OR.
3. Hugo Land Use Committee. May 18, 2011. *Email/Letter to James Black, Planner, Josephine County Planning Department*. From Hugo Land Use Committee, HNAHS. Hugo, OR.

The information that follows for the three documents does not disclose location information of archaeological sites or objects from public records (ORS 192.501 (11)).

The following are excerpts from Museum of Natural and Cultural History Pedestrian Survey Report No. 2011-002 on the noted participation of the HNAHS. On this trip the HNAHS met Paul Baxter and Julia Knowles. Baxter was the lead Archaeologist, Research Division, Museum of Natural & Cultural History & State Museum of Anthropology, University of Oregon. Knowles was a Research Assistant.

The following are excerpts from Museum of Natural and Cultural History Subsurface Reconnaissance Report No. 2011-002 on the noted participation of the HNAHS.

Local interest in this project was very great, in large measure due to the efforts of the Hugo Neighborhood Association and Historical Society. Mike Walker and Kelly Rarey, active members of this organization, visited the site and provided valuable information, observations, and advice. Their members, some of whom are retired surveyors, had plotted the location of the Harris Cabin from the field notes made by the original land surveyors in May 1855. Their continued interest is much appreciated. Also visiting the project were Chelsea Rose and Katie Johnson from the Southern Oregon University Laboratory of Archaeology. (p. v).

In addition to the subsurface reconnaissance probing, a systematic metal detector survey was conducted in the area of the Harris homestead, made somewhat more challenging by the presence, in places of modern debris left by recent campers. Thirty-two 20x20 meter blocks were swept with a metal detector at five meter-intervals. Each of the alerts was flagged and a sample of these ground-truthed. The survey was conducted along the west edge of the project area where the General Land Office map and surveyors notes had indicated the location of the Harris cabin and which had been tentatively re-located by the Hugo Neighborhood Association and Historical Society, an avocation group some of whose member are retired surveyors. A cluster of cut nails was discovered in the vicinity of a rock pile that had been identified by this group as the cabin location. A second cluster was discovered at another rock pile that had heretofore gone unnoticed and which may be the remains of an outbuilding said to have been burned during the October 1844 attack. Several horseshoes were found, possibly marking the path of the Applegate Trail along the west side of the project. (p. 4).

**Chapter 7, Summary and Recommendations** The reader is referenced to Appendix D3 Chapter 7, Summary and Recommendations, of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History's 2011 Report No. 2011-002.

**Abstract and Preface** The Abstract (pps. iii - iv) and Preface (pps. v - vi) of the Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History's 2011 Report No. 2011-002 follows.

## Abstract

Subsurface reconnaissance and metal detector survey, undertaken as part of the Oregon Department of Transportation's Chancellor Quarry Stockpile project, was conducted by the Museum of Natural and Cultural History, University of Oregon during August and September, 2010. ODOT is planning to expand quarrying operations as part of planned I-5 maintenance and improvements.

This location, just north of the I-5 Manzanita rest area, lies on what was a Native American fire-managed prairie, much of which became the George and Mary Harris Donation Land Claim and homestead in 1854-55. In addition, the historic Willamette Valley to Jacksonville Wagon Road crossed near the Harris cabin, perhaps in the same general route as the Applegate Trail. The Harris Homestead was the location of a famous Indian attack during the 1855 Rogue Indian War, part of a larger response to an unprovoked attack by whites on a Native encampment that is considered by historians as the trigger to open war. Today, much of the area is easily accessed from the Manzanita rest area and has become the location of a large number of transient camps.

The archaeological fieldwork was accomplished in two parts. The first was a standard systematic subsurface reconnaissance of the entire 58 acre project area, with 441 30x30 cm shovel probes placed on a 20 m grid. Probes were excavated to a minimum 50 cm deep, or to 20 cm below cultural material, unless an impasse was encountered. While several pieces of modern trash were recovered, a single isolated piece of lithic debitage was the only prehistoric item located with these probes.

The second phase of fieldwork was to lay out a grid of 32 20x20m (12,800 m<sup>2</sup>) survey blocks in the area of the Harris Homestead and wagon road, and conduct metal detector survey. This resulted in the location of a great number of "alerts" which were flagged and mapped. A sample of these alert targets was investigated with 30x30 cm shovel probes to ground-truth the metal detector survey. Unless the metal item was found under the forest duff on the surface, the ground-truthing shovel probes were excavated to 50 cm deep or two levels below cultural material. Many of the alerts were found to be modern items, primarily the debris from transient camps; also represented were many cut nails and other historic artifacts. Five features were located which appear to be remains of the Harris Homestead, as well as later historic items from the continued use of the area, such as by travelers along the historic wagon road. These included scatters of cut nails, cobble piles, and various kinds of ammunition cartridges.

The metal detector survey and ground-truthing clearly showed the presence of a relatively dense scatter of historic artifacts, many of which are obviously related to the Harris Homestead. This resulted in the designation of the Harris Homestead as site 35JO246. The deposits are shallow and fragile. In addition, a second piece of debitage was located during the project. This, and the flake from the subsurface reconnaissance, was recorded as an Isolate.

It was recommended that the eastern part of the Chancellor Stockpile Project area that lies east of Highland Avenue needs no further management in terms of cultural resources, but that the area west of Highland Avenue, an area that was mostly inside the Harris DLC, should be declared a NO WORK ZONE in which all access should be avoided, until the area can be developed and managed for public outreach education. It is clear too, that the Harris Homestead site, 35JO246, extends westerly beyond the present project limits, into the I-5 right-of-way corridor. The adjacent right-of-way should also designated a NO WORK ZONE, until the site limits and integrity can be evaluated..

## Preface

Subsurface archaeological reconnaissance was undertaken within an approximately 58-acre Oregon Department of Transportation-owned parcel east of Interstate 5, between the Manzanita Rest Area to the south and the Chancellor Quarry to the north. ODOT is proposing to use the parcel as a stockpile, staging, and potential asphalt batching site to support contemplated improvements in the Jumpoff Joe to Glendale section of Interstate 5. The parcel includes a portion of a Donation Land Claim patented by George and Mary Ann Harris. Their homestead was attacked in 1855 during the Rogue Indian War, an attack which claimed the lives of Mr. Harris, his son, and a hired hand. The purpose of these investigations was to examine the parcel for existing prehistoric and historic cultural resources, particularly evidence of the events of 1855. The investigation was conducted pursuant to a contract with the Oregon Department of Transportation and was authorized under the provisions listed in Archaeological Permit (AP) 1400 issued by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office.

Field work spanned three weeks, beginning August 23 through September 3, and September 20 through 24, 2010. Field work was directed by Museum staff archaeologists Drs. Brian O'Neill and Paul Baxter. Field crew members included Dr. Richard Bland, Amory Bettles, John Craig, Jaime Dexter, Dustin Kennedy, Julia Knowles, J.D. Lancaster, Kaylon McAlister, Christine O'Neill, Chris Ruiz, Joe Salvetti, and Kevin Wright. Museum Laboratory supervisor Julia Knowles cataloged and prepared the artifacts for analysis. She and J.D. Lancaster produced the project maps.

The Museum gratefully acknowledges the assistance of ODOT Environmental Services archaeologists Jessica Bochart-Leusch and Tobin Bottman. We also express our appreciation for the assistance and interest in the project shown by Sam Dunnavant (Region 3 environmental coordinator), Kim Wyttenberg (ODOT geologist), Paul Benton (ODOT wetlands specialist), Roger Allemand (ODOT permit specialist), and Adam Stallsworth (ODOT permit specialist).

The Museum thanks the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and Confederated Tribes of Siletz for their interest in the project. Visiting the project were Cow Creek tribal archaeologist Jessie Plueard and Cow Creek Cultural Resources Committee Chairman and site monitor Jack "Tooter" Ansures.

Local interest in this project was very great, in large measure due to the efforts of the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society. Mike Walker and Kelly Rarey, active members of this organization, visited the site and provided valuable information, observations, and advice. Their members, some of whom are retired surveyors, had plotted the location of the Harris Cabin from the field notes made by the original land surveyors in May 1855. Their continued interest is much appreciated. Also visiting the project were Chelsea Rose and Katie Johnson from the Southern Oregon University Laboratory of Archaeology.

Prior to initiating field work, the Museum recognized that metal detecting would be an integral technique for discovering historic features in the project area. Museum staff arranged a visit to the offices of White's Electronics, manufacturer of White's Metal Detectors in Sweet Home, Oregon, where Tod Marshall offered valuable advice. During field work the Museum had the assistance of John Craig, an archaeological investigations at the Custer Battlefield National Monument overlooking the Little Bighorn River in South Dakota.

The report was prepared by Paul Baxter, Brian O'Neill and Chris Ruiz. Dr. Thomas Connolly, Museum Research Director, edited the report and oversaw all aspects of the project. Jaime Dexter conducted and reported the macrobotanical analysis. The project records, digital images, and artifacts of the I-5 Chancellor Quarry Stockpile Project are curated at the Oregon State Museum of Anthropology on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene, Oregon, under Accession Number 1921.