

## Minutes of Field Trip to Sexton Pass/1060' Trial Section

Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee

Friday, January 19, 2012

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Purpose: (1) Identify the road in the area of the row of rocks, (2) Recognize and confirm the presence of Road Y 3 and Y 4 on the 1911 road, (3) Examine and compare the condition of the road North and South of each of the road Y, (4) Determine if the access road shown on ODOT Map 05B-28-0011 actually exists (5) Determine the location of an access road from the highway 1911 road,(6) Relocate wagon traces west of the (6) Draw road profiles in area of row of rocks.

Participants: Members of the Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee (Appendix A)

### Results of Field Trip

#### (1) Identify the roads in the area of the row of rocks

The row of rocks start at AT-I inventory station 1+39 and extends to 6+25. The portion of the road has a berm along its westward edge and a ditch on the eastern edge. This section appears to be of newer construction and has been built up by the addition of gravel. The area between the berm and the row of rocks is less developed and is not built up. The area between the berm and row of rocks tappers into the berm at the beginning and the end of its length. It was the conclusion of the group that the area between the berm and the row rocks was an older part of the road and represents the Applegate trail/military road in its early years (Class 1). The area between the ditch and the berm has been build up most likely after the 1874 and 1911 surveys, were made with improving the road. In addition the road between the ditch and the berm was used as an access road when the road the Sexton Mtn. lookout was build. It was probably graveled and graded at this time. Degradation of this part has or is moving this portion of the road towards a Class 2 road.

#### (2) Recognize and confirm the presence of Y3 and Y 4 in the 1911 road section.

In 1911 the Josephine County Commissioners received a court order to "change a portion of the Oregon California Wagon Road from a point near Sexton's Ranch in Sec 27-twp 34S, R 6 WM running north to Grave Creek Post office in Sec 11-34-6:" This road diverged from the 1874 surveyed road at Y 2 and generated the eastward branch. The westward branch was the portion identified as the Oregon California Wagon Road. The 1911 road extended northward from Y2. At 308 ft. a westward branch can be distinguished by the presence of two low berms. The road between the two berms is not developed. At 235 northward from Y 3 a fourth Y is found, Y 4. The mystery post is located immediately north of Y 4. At this point a westward road curves toward and meets the edge of the highway. This branch is less than 100 ft. from the road. It is well developed with a banked curve. This portion of the road can be clearly seen on a 1952 aerial photograph (ODOT photo 4-11-58, JOAK 2-9). This photograph clearly shows a gravel storage area immediately across the highway (with gravel piles).