

**Table II.B.3.b). General Land Office Surveys & Surveyors For Townships In Hugo, Oregon Region**

**GLO Field Review Subcommittee  
Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee  
Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society**



**August 18, 2010**

**1855 GLO Map: T. 36S., R. 5W., WM (Pearce Riffle Ford of Rogue River)**

<u>Surveys<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Survey No.<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Awarded<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Surveyors<sup>1-2</sup></u>	<u>When Surveyed<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Map In Conformance<sup>1</sup></u>
Township Lines	No. 47	April 18, 1854	B. Ives & Hyde	July 30, 1855	July 30, 1855
Subdivisions	No. 47	April 18, 1854	B. Ives & Hyde	July 30, 1855	
Meanders	No. 47	April 18, 1854	B. Ives & Hyde	July 30, 1855 October 21, 1854 <sup>3</sup>	

**1856 GLO Map: T. 36S., R. 6W., WM (Vannoy Ford of Rogue River)**

<u>Surveys</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Awarded</u>	<u>Surveyors</u>	<u>When Surveyed<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Map In Conformance<sup>1</sup></u>
8 <sup>th</sup> Standard Parallel	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856	March 31, 1856
Township Lines	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856	
Subdivisions	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856	
Meanders	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856 August 1855 <sup>3</sup>	

**1856 GLO Map: T. 35S., R. 5W., WM (Upper Louse Creek)**

<u>Surveys</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Awarded</u>	<u>Surveyors</u>	<u>When Surveyed<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Map In Conformance<sup>1</sup></u>
Willamette Meridian	No. 39	January 4, 1854	B. Ives & Hyde	January 16, 1855	March 31, 1856
Subdivisions	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856 August 1855 <sup>3</sup>	March 31, 1856

**1895 GLO Map: T. 35S., R. 5W., WM (Upper Louse Creek)**

<u>Surveys</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Awarded</u>	<u>Surveyors</u>	<u>When Surveyed<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Map In Conformance<sup>1</sup></u>
Subdivisions	No. 618	June 3, 1893	Sharp	May 16 to June 3, 1894	November 8, 1895

**1856 GLO Map: T. 35S., R. 6W., WM (Merlin)**

<u>Surveys</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Awarded</u>	<u>Surveyors</u>	<u>When Surveyed<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Map In Conformance<sup>1</sup></u>
Township Lines	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856	March 31, 1856
Subdivisions	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856 August 1855 <sup>3</sup>	

**1856 GLO Map: T. 34S., R. 6W., WM (Hugo)**

<u>Surveys</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Awarded</u>	<u>Surveyors</u>	<u>When Surveyed<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Map In Conformance<sup>1</sup></u>
Township Lines	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856	March 31, 1856
Subdivisions	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856 August 1855 <sup>3</sup>	

**1894 GLO Map: T. 34S., R. 6W., WM (Hugo)**

<u>Surveys</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Awarded</u>	<u>Surveyors</u>	<u>When Surveyed<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Map In Conformance<sup>1</sup></u>
Subdivisions	No. 613	April 29, 1893	Bushey	September 8 - 12, 1893	June 26, 1894

**1856 GLO Map: T. 33S., R. 6W., WM (Wolf Creek)**

<u>Surveys</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>	<u>Awarded</u>	<u>Surveyors</u>	<u>When Surveyed<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Map In Conformance<sup>1</sup></u>
7 <sup>th</sup> Standard Parallel	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856	March 31, 1856
Township Lines	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856	
Subdivisions	No. 54	February 19, 1855	Lake & Hyde	March 31, 1856 August 1855 <sup>3</sup>	

**1855 Indian Hostilities In Rogue River Valley: October 1855**

## Footnotes

1. Per published GLO Survey Maps. For date of “When Surveyed”, this means when the survey was completed on the ground. Per published GLO Survey Maps. For date of “Map In Conformance”, this must mean after everything has been completed and approved, including a published map which was not the responsibility of the surveyor to whom the contract was awarded. And, most importantly the township map was approved as published on a certain date as being in conformance with the GLO field survey notes. For example, the following information is on the GLO Map: T. 36S., R. 5W., WM (Pearce Riffle Ford of Rogue River)

*“The above map of Fractional Township No. 36 South, Range No. 5 West, of the Willamette Meridian of Territory of Oregon, is strictly conformable to the field notes of the survey thereof on file in this office, which have been examined and approved. Surveyor General’s Office, Salem, July 30, 1855, Gardner, Surveyor General of Oregon”*

2. B. Ives & Hyde = Butler Ives and George Hyde  
Lake & Hyde = Wells Lake and George Hyde
3. Atwood, Kay. 2008. *Chaining Oregon: Surveying the Public Lands of the Pacific Northwest; 1851 - 1855*. The McDonald & Woodward Publishing Company. Blacksburg, Virginia.

There is a discrepancy between the GLO maps and *Chaining Oregon* in terms of when the GLO surveys were completed and the GLO maps were published in the area of interest from the Rogue River in the south to Grave Creek in the north..

GLO Contract No. 39

GLO Contract No. 47

GLO Contract No. 54

All the GLO maps for contracts No. 39, No. 47, and No. 54 clearly indicated the surveys were completed on March 31, 1856. This is the same date that the GLO maps were published as in conformance with the GLO field survey notes. Later information from *Chaining Oregon* it is very clear that Contract No. 54 survey was completed at the end of the first week in August 1855.

Ten GLO contracts were awarded in 1855, all between January and July, including GLO contract No. 54 to Wells Lake and George Hyde on February 19, 1855 (*Chaining Oregon*, page 196).

**The following information on GLO contract No. 54 is from *Chaining Oregon* (pages 196 - 200).**

“Gardner awarded Contract 54 to Wells Lake and George Hyde on February 19. This important assignment included areas west of the Oregon-California road in Douglas County and along the Rogue River – townships that Ives and Hyde had recommended for survey, as well as the isolated, gold-rich Illinois Valley in southwestern Jackson County, an area now included in Josephine County (Figure 54).<sup>12</sup> Wells Lake, who resigned as chief clerk in the surveyor general’s office, took the lead on this project – his sole contract in Oregon. Hyde’s familiarity with the region made him a logical partner. Gardner assigned the two deputies the boundaries and subdivision lines of ten townships north and west of the Rogue River in what is now northern Josephine County, as well as ten townships in the Illinois Valley. Acknowledging his lack of information in the region, Gardner further directed the deputies, “As your surveying operations are to extend to a part of Oregon of which there is but little information as to its correct geographical location and extent of country fit for settlement, you are expected . . . to furnish this office with all useful information that may come to your knowledge.”<sup>13</sup>”

“Wells Lake went ahead to assist settlers in the Rogue Valley with their notification documents. “In consequence of delays by bad weather and worse roads,” he wrote the surveyor general from Jacksonville on March 26, “I did not arrive here until the 18<sup>th</sup> inst. between which and the 1<sup>st</sup> inst. the settlers had nearly all made their notifications. I was expected on the 1<sup>st</sup> and had I have been in time should have done nearly all the business.” Lake assured Gardner he would soon be in the field, adding, “The weather has been very fine here since my arrival in the valley.” On April 1 at Jacksonville, devout Episcopalian Well Lake vowed to execute **Contract 54** “well and faithfully as I shall answer to God at the great day.”<sup>15</sup> The next day, Lake, along with Thomas Payne, James Dickey, Joseph Addington, and Sewall Truax, started work. On **April 21**, more surveyors pledged their oaths at Oregon City: Josiah Case, Edward R. Shunk, and John D. Griffiths as chainman, and John J. McConnell, William W. Bixley, and Thomas J. Small as axeman. **Surveying south from Wolf Creek to Jumpoff Joe Creek and the Rogue River**, Lake and his men had been in the field a month when George Hyde arrived. Just a year after beginning his southern Oregon expedition with Butler Ives, George Hyde arrived in southern Oregon the first week in May. He worked in the vicinity of present-day **Wolf Creek**, while Wells Lake and his crew surveyed nearby.”

“Relations between Native residents and whites were becoming increasingly volatile and dangerous and Lake and Hyde, with their small survey parties in the Rogue country, feared they might be attacked. Certainly the dispossessed bands of Indians were desperate. They had suffered terribly over the winter months from severe cold and hunger and faced starvation, if they could not leave the Table Rock Reserve to find food.<sup>16</sup> Finally, tensions exploded between miners and Indians on the Klamath River in northern California. After a mine on the Klamath was killed, volunteers murdered four native men and women near Kerbyville in southwest Oregon’s Illinois Valley. Later, when Indians killed twelve miners along the Klamath, Scott, and Shasta rivers, soldiers captured those believed guilty of the killings and took them to Fort Lane, where the volunteer militia demanded that the Army turn the prisoners over to them.<sup>17</sup>”

“On June 19, Wells Lake and his men finished subdividing Township 35 South Range 7 West between Galice and present-day Merlin, Oregon. A haze of nervousness drifted over the country. “In consequence of the late Indian troubles,” Lake wrote Gardner from camp on the Rogue, “we have been delayed in extending our surveys into Illinois Valley. The difficulty has been settled and the Indians taken on the reserve by Capt. Smith & Dr. Ambrose the agent. We start over the mountains between R. River & Illinois Valley tomorrow morning. During the Indian war, four white men and 5 or 6 Indians were killed. The Indians were ranging in the Mountains over which we are not to run.”<sup>18</sup>

“Crossing the Rogue at Vannoy’s Ferry about a mile above the mouth of the Applegate River, Lake and Hyde moved south toward the Oregon-California border. Through July and early August, they chained through the Illinois Valley were, by 1855, over fifty families – Turners, Nemans, and Northcutts among them – had taken claims on the fertile plain. Lake and his crew plotted boundaries while Hyde and his men subdivided the townships into sections.<sup>19</sup> Outside the cultivated fields, the surveyors climbed higher into white and black oak, madrone, and Douglas fir forest. On south-facing slopes they clawed their way through buckbrush, manzanita, and abundant poison oak that underlay the Ponderosa pine and cedar. Depending on the demands of their work, the crews shifted at times between the two deputy surveyors. Shunk, Griffiths, and Small usually assisted Hyde, while Case, MacConnel, Truas, Addington, and Bixley helped Wells Lake.”

“The surveyors encountered miners of the Illinois River’s tributary streams. In the mining district know as Sailor’s Diggings, men crowded on claims along Sailor, Scotch, and Allen gulches, while in other areas the placers had already been exhausted. ON the East Fork Illinois River in Township 40 South, Range 7 Wes, the surveyors found the formerly gold-rich stream almost mined out.<sup>20</sup> In the upper Illinois Valley, the surveyors visited Waldo, supply town for the mining region. Developed in 1853 as a mining camp of temporary canvas tents and crude log structures, Waldo was named for a California gubernatorial candidate when the site was mistakenly assumed to be in that state rather than in Oregon. By the time Lake and Hyde visited the community, Waldo had a bowling alley, butcher shop, blacksmith, brewery, stores, hotels and saloons along its single east-west street. Pack trains running from Crescent City to Jacksonville were linked to the town by a branch trail, carrying equipment and supplies to the mines (Figure 55).<sup>21</sup>”

**“As the hot summer wore on, mining dried up along the creeks and tensions simmered between Indians and restless miners. Hearing reports of random killings in the mountains, Lake and Hyde hurried their subdivisions and, at the end of the first week in August, finished the contract.”**

“The surveyors separated and headed in different directions; Wells Lake, James Dickey, and Thomas Payne went to Jacksonville to swear their oaths to the district court clerk while Truax and Addington traveled to Grave Creek, where McDonough Harkness, a justice of the peace and now proprietor of Bates and Twogood’s old inn, would witness their pledges. George Hyde and a few men traveled north to

Salem where, on August 28, Shunk, McConnell, Griffiths, and Small swore to completing Contract 54. Hyde made his own affidavit in Salem on September 7.<sup>22</sup> ”

This completed the GLO township and subdivision surveys in the Rogue River Valley.