

Minutes of Field Trip

1855 JA-10A Monument Drive
1857 Niday DLC No. 40 Survey JA-10B
1857 Niday DLC No. 40 Survey JA-10D



General Land Office Field Survey Sub-Committee
Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee
Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society
Inventory Trip, August 11, 2011 Field Trip
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.



Photo 1. Joe Neiderheiser Talking About Monument Markers

I. PURPOSE Members of the General Land Office (GLO) Field Sub-Committee (*SubCommittee*), Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee, previously conducted pedestrian surveys of three Jacksonville Road of the Applegate Trail (*Trail*) sites: JA-10A, JA-10B, and JA-10D. Their primary office tools were public (i.e., GLO and donation land claim (DLC) survey notes and maps) and private surveys, and diaries, journals and reminiscences.

Previous Minutes

1. Minutes of Field Trip to JA-10A Monument Drive, *SubCommittee* Inventory Trip, Friday, April 16, 2010 (Map 1).
2. Minutes of Field Trip to 1857 Niday DLC No. 40 Survey JA-10B, *SubCommittee* Inventory Trip, October 24, 2010 (Map 1).
3. Minutes of Field Trip to 1857 Niday DLC No. 40 Survey JA-10D, *SubCommittee* Inventory Trip, September 27, 2010 (Aerial Photo 1).

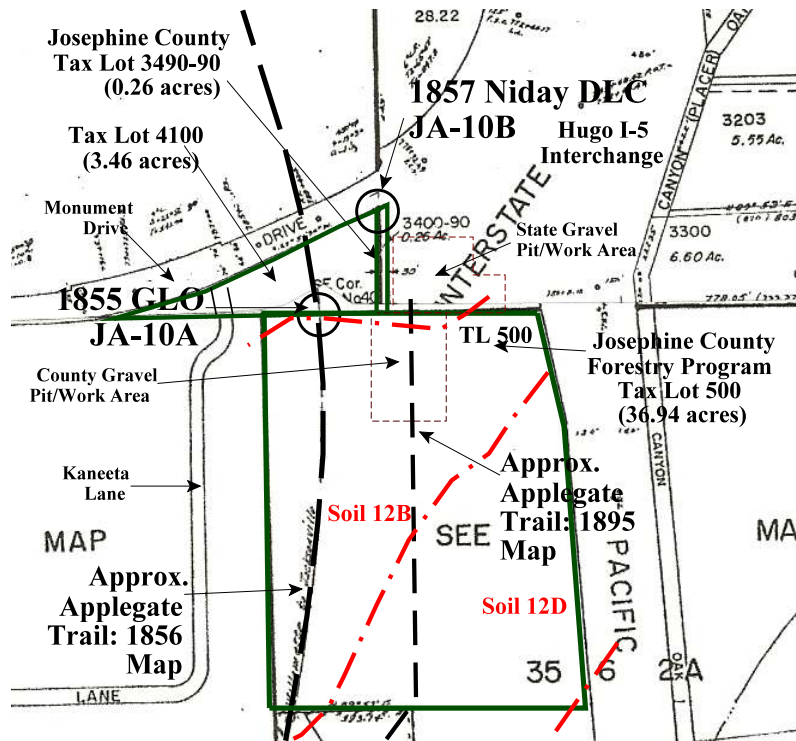
Web Published *Trail* Inventory Brochures

(<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/inventorybrochures.htm>)

1. JA-10A Monument Drive
http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/JA_Monument_Drive_JA10A_bro.htm
2. 1857 Niday DLC No. 40 Survey JA-10B
http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/JA_Niday_DLC_Survey_JA10B_bro.htm
3. 1857 Niday DLC No. 40 Survey JA-10D
http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/JA_Niday_DLC_Survey_JA10D_bro.htm

The purpose of the August 11, 2011 field trip was to place professional carsonite markers with information decals at three 1850s surveys sites along the Jacksonville Road of the *Trail*.

II. SPONSORS This *SubCommittee* work has five co-sponsors: Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (*Hugo Neighborhood*), Josephine County Forestry Program (JCFP), Josephine County Historical Society (JCHS), Josephine County Public Works Department (JCPWD), and the NW Chapter of Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA).



Map 1. JA-10A & JA-10B

III. PARTICIPANTS There were nine members of the *SubCommittee* and co-sponsor representatives that participated on this field trip (Appendix A).



Photo 2. Kelly Rarey and Richard Marshall With Carsonite Marker

IV. ACCOMPLISHMENTS JA-10A, JA-10B, and JA-10D were located and marked with professional carsonite markers donated by NWOCTA.

V. BACKGROUND A wealth of information on the *Trail* can be found at the *Hugo Neighborhood's* web page (<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/applegat.htm>). Please be respectful and *do not trespass*. Many *Trail* sites are located on private property not open to the public.

This marking action is one of the last steps of the seven-member GLO Subcommittee in researching, inventorying, and marking the *Trail* in northern Josephine County from the Rogue River in the south to Grave Creek in the north: Glen Campbell, Jim Ford, Rene Ford, Joe Neiderheiser, Kelly Rarey, Mike Walker, and Chris Wytcherley. The sites are researched, located, mapped, and marked by the Subcommittee using the inventory methodology described in OCTA's *Mapping*



Photo 3. Joe with Carsonite Pounder, and Wayne, Janet, & Glen with Carsonite Marker At JA-10A

Emigrant Trails Manual (MET), including the composite trail description method of integrating diaries, journals, reminiscences, aerial photographs, and government reports.

The first step in locating the *Trail* sites is through the use of accurate historical and modern government survey notes (i.e., the 1850s GLO survey notes and maps, 1850s donation land claim (DLC) survey notes and maps, modern local Josephine County surveys (C.S.) and maps, and the GPS, including bearing and distance measurements). This method is being used because after 150 years the *Trail* in wet western Oregon is usually buried beneath 6 - 12 inches of soil and debris. In the field what is usually seen is the participant's imagination. Ruts are gone and traces are few, but a verified "surveyed" *Trail* site can make sense of the local terrain where there are several skid roads, and faint traces aligned along the recorded course of the *Trail* which clear up otherwise normally appearing swales. And, on occasion, the mystery of a cairn appears at the end of a GPS or C.S. track.

Eventually mother nature and/or development will bury all our historic emigrant trails, even those in the high dry deserts. However, the archeological approach is accepted and treasured by people, especially urban dwellers, as it opens up the excitement of the scientific method and the imagination of the modern pioneer trail discoverer. Of great excitement is a recent Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) sponsored survey conducted by University of Oregon archeologists. In the process of their using the archeological approach, they corroborated the Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee's use of the MET (i.e., artifacts supported MET and MET surveys supported artifacts for a more conclusive picture of the *Trail*). In April of this year the UO published the results of this survey undertaken as part of the ODOT's Chancellor Quarry Stockpile Project



Photo 4. Richard, Kathy, Joe, Wayne, Janet, Glen, and Mike At JA-10A

(Museum of Natural & Cultural History, University of Oregon. April 2011. University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History's Report No. 2011-002, *Subsurface Reconnaissance of*

the I-5 Chancellor Quarry Stockpile Project, and Metal Detector Survey within the George and Mary Harris 1854-55 DLC (35J0246), Josephine County).

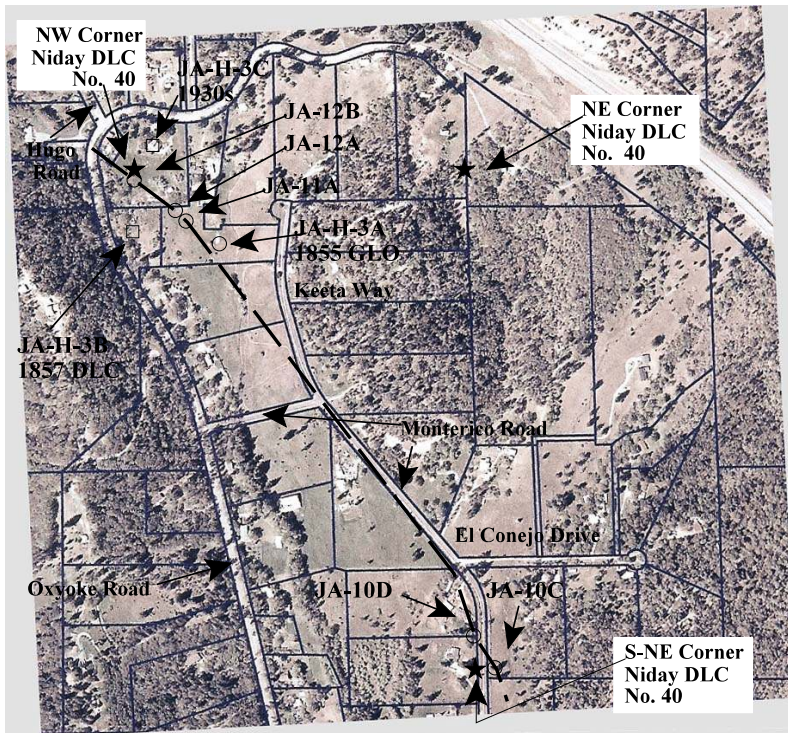
These verified surveyed *Trail* sites greatly facilitate the search for the *Trail* by showing the researcher where to look for *Trail* traces. They help solve the mystery of several trail traces or logging skid roads in the vicinity and in determining and verifying which of the traces or evolved roads are related to emigrant wagon use. For example, now that you are looking at the terrain at the surveyed site, where would you really travel as a high-centered wagon hating wet areas and sideling? When encountering hills on steep ascents or descents, wagons normally traveled directly up or down to avoid sideling or side hilling on steep slopes, and the real possibility of tipping over.

An effective means of applying diaries, journals, reminiscences, and government reports, including GLO survey notes and maps, to locate and verify particularly vexing segments of



Photo 5. Wayne, Janet, Kathy, Kelly, Richard, Karen, Glen, and Joe at JA-10B

emigrant trails is creating a composite trail description. You begin by gathering together as many accounts as possible that describe in any way the trail segment under study. Descriptions, for example, could include references to rivers and creeks, fords, mountains, bluffs, ridges, ravines, roads (i.e., Road from Willamette Valley to Jacksonville and Road to Illinois Valley via Van Noys Ferry), forks in the *Trail*, and any distances or directions recorded. Arranging all of these descriptions — really clues — in some kind of sequential order will reveal the course, direction, and location of the trail. In this way, a detailed composite description of the trail segment under study can be created. Diaries, journals, and reminiscences that describe human



Aerial Photo 1. JA-10D



*Photo 6. Kathy, Kelly, Richard, & Karen
At JA-10B*

thoughts, actions, and fears for a particular trail segment bring the physical terrain alive with human suffering and hope for the future.

The accuracy of the 1850s GLO and DLC surveys has been verified by local surveyors in Josephine County, Oregon as well as an independent researcher (Atwood, Kay. 2008. *Chaining Oregon*, Surveying the Public Lands of the Pacific Northwest: 1851 - 1855. McDonald & Woodward Publishing Company. Granville, OH).

In northern Josephine County the 1850s surveys for the Rogue Valley, except for the later Rogue River ferries, accurately reflect the emigrant wagon use from 1846 - 1855. The rationale is simple. There were not many settlers in the Rogue Valley that needed improved year around roads until the Indians were defeated and moved out the valley in 1856. In 1855 there were only five settler families in the entire Jump-off Joe Creek drainage: Haines, Harris, Niday, Wagner, and Walker brothers.

Except for the Harris cabin, all these families were burned out by the Rogues on October 9, 1855. Until late 1855 - 1856 emigrants were mainly on a one-way fall/winter route north to the Willamette Valley. These emigrants were not building, improving, or relocating the *Trail* for year around use to avoid the wet bottoms of winter. They were not dallying in the valley checking out possible settlement sites. They were moving as fast as they could north through the dry bottom lands and ridges of October and trying to avoid an encounter with hostiles.

VI. MONUMENT DRIVE

Road POI Name Monument Drive ■ JA-10A.
POI ID Code OR-AG-25-34-06-S35-W-JA-10-A.
 For additional information see minutes of field trip to JA-10A Monument Drive, *SubCommittee* inventory trip, Friday, April 16, 2010.

VII. NIDAY DLC SURVEY JA-10B

POI Name Niday DLC Survey ■ JA-10B.
POI ID Code OR-AG-25-34-06-35-n/a/n/a-JA-10-B.
 For additional information see minutes of field trip to 1857 Niday DLC No. 40 Survey JA-10B, *SubCommittee* inventory trip, October 24, 2010.

VIII. NIDAY DLC SURVEY JA-10D

POI Name Niday DLC Survey ■ JA-10D.
POI ID Code POI OR-AG-25-34-06-35-n/a-n/a-JA-10-D.



Photo 7. Kathy, Richard, Wayne, Janet, Karen, Joe, Glen, & Kelly At JA-10D



Photo 8. Kelly With Old Wooden Stake Replaced By Carsonite Marker; Joe with Marker Pounder: JA010D

property and not private property to the north, west, and south.

2. JA-10B is located on public property (right-of-way of Monument Drive) open to the public, but close (1.19') from private property to the southwest.

3. JA-10D is located on public property (right-of-way of Monterico Road) open to the public, with private property to the west just outside of the right-of-way.

XI. MINUTES

Minutes recorded by Mike Walker: August 14, 2011

Mike Walker, Minutes Secretary & Member
 GLO Field Review Sub-Committee
 Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee
 Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society
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 Grants Pass, Oregon 97526
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 Web Page: <http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/>

Minutes were reviewed and edited and approved by the following participating members of the field trip: Kelly Rarey, Karen Rose, and Mike Walker.

Email Copies of Final Minutes: Members of GLO Field Sub-Committee; Karen Rose, Co-Project Leader, Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee and other participants of field trip.



Photo 9. Karen Reading Pioneer Trail Stories To Group At Niday DLC: JA-10D

For additional information see minutes of field trip to 1857 Niday DLC No. 40 Survey JA-10D, SubCommittee inventory trip, September 27, 2010.

IX. TRAIL CLASSIFICATION

The OCTA trail classification of JA-10A, JA-10B, and JA-10D is Class 4 - Verified Altered Trail. They are verified, but elements of their original condition are permanently altered.

X. BE RESPECTFUL Do not trespass.

1. JA-10A is located on Josephine County Forestry Program public property open to the public; know your way to site over public

The final minutes are public and can be shared by participants of the field trip as they determine desirable.

Appendix A. August 12, 2011 Field Trip Participants

GLO Field Review *SubCommittee* Members

1. Glen Campbell (*Hugo Neighborhood*)
2. Joe Neiderheiser (*Hugo Neighborhood*, NWOCTA)
3. Kelly Rarey (*Hugo Neighborhood*, NWOCTA)
4. Mike Walker (*Hugo Neighborhood*, NWOCTA)

Other Participants

1. Wayne McKy, Chair, *Hugo Neighborhood*
2. Janet McKy, Member, *Hugo Neighborhood*
3. Karen Rose, Co-Project Leader, Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee, *Hugo Neighborhood*
4. Richard Marshall, Director, JCHS
5. Kathy Marshall, Director, JCHS