

## Gordon W. Cochrane Family: Early Hugo Pioneers

### Gordon W. Cochrane

Born: September 6, 1898; OR  
Died: October 1975; Santee, San Diego, CA

### Father John C. Cochrane

Born: 1869; PA

### Mother: Florence M. (Neely ) Cochrane

Born: 1874; OR

### Wife Lela M. (Dodson) Cochrane

**1895** Gordon's father, J. C. Cochrane, owned 240 acres in Hugo, Oregon in 1895 that were on the main Applegate Trail.<sup>1</sup> The 160-acre 1861 military patent by Davis/Heatt included most of the open wetlands of what would become the J. C. Cochrane Ranch.<sup>2-6</sup>

### 1910 Census. Merlin Precinct, Josephine Co., OR

J. C. Cochrane	Head	41 years	PA
Florence Cochrane	Wife	36 years	OR
Narma Cochrane	Daugh	13 years	OR
<u>Gordon Cochrane</u>	Son	11 years	OR
Curtes Cochrane	Son	10 years	OR
Emmet Cochrane	Son	3 years	OR

**1910s** The Town of Three Pines, Oregon was a going concern in the early 1910s. However, the Three Pines mill and lumber town had declined by ca., 1915 - 1917. Except for some homes and the Three Pines School the Town of Three Pines was disappearing.



## The Gordon Cochranes, Early Pioneer Family: 1898 - 1975

### 1920 Census. Merlin Precinct, Josephine Co., OR

Laborer Gordon Cochran was living with the Louis E. Wilson family in Three Pines, Oregon.

**1925 - 1927** Gordon started his teaching career in 1925 at Three Pines School.<sup>7</sup> Verlin Grimes had lived in the Town of Three Pines from 1925 - 1941. "*Gordon Cochrane was his 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. He also had teacher Cochrane in the seventh grade. Verlin felt he was a good teacher and patient with his students. The first fall a Baptist Minister came through Hugo on a chapel car, a railroad car made up like a chapel. The chapel car stayed in Hugo a week or so for a revival meeting. Some after-noons Gordon would load his students in his 1923 Chevrolet touring car and take them to the revival. Verlin and the other kids especially enjoyed a watermelon feed they were treated to the last Saturday the minister was in Hugo.*"<sup>8</sup>

### 1930 Census. Lucky Queen Precinct, Josephine County, Oregon

John C. Cochrane	Head	61 years	PA
Florence Cochrane	Wife	56 years	OR
<u>Gordon W. Cochrane</u>	Son	31 years	OR
Emmett Cochrane	Son	23 years	OR
Ann Potts	Boarder	59 years	IL

Gordon's occupation was grade school teacher.

**1937** *Ralph Kolkow started first grade during the 1937 - 1938 school year when Gordon Cockran was the teacher at Three Pines Elementary School. Cockran was the one teacher for all eight grades. In 1937 all teacher, Mr. Cochran, wanted to teach was arithmetic. He did not teach Ralph Kolkow his "A, B, Cs." Ralph learned his A, B, Cs from the other kids — from John Webb, Martin Brazille, and his brother Charles Kolkow.*<sup>9</sup>

## Gordon Cochrane, School Teacher

**1960** Gordon would recall for the newspaper that "Schools Better Way Back When!"<sup>7</sup> Kids just did not get the fine points of good grammatical construction.

### Children of Gordon and Lela Cochran <sup>7</sup>

Elwyn L. Cochrane of Fort Lewis, Wash.  
Laverne Cochrane, San Diego, Calif.

**1975** Gordon passed.

**Pleasant Valley Cemetery (PVC)** Gordon is buried in the PVC along with several other members of the Cochrane Family: Florence M., b. 1874, d. 1939; Gordon W., b. 1898, d. 1975; John C., b. 1867, d. 1939; Lela M., b. 1907, d. 1965; and Emmett, b. 1907, d. 1959.

**Want more information?** Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood* on how you can become involved in your community's history and land use.

---

1. Koch, Joseph , Draughtsman. 1895 Official Josephine County, Oregon. Map. Scale 1 inch = 1 mile. Meston - Dygert Book M'F'G. Portland, OR.  
2. Hugo Neighborhood. 2007. *Hugo Pioneers*. Map Of Federal Land Transfer in Hugo, Oregon. Hugo, OR.  
3. Lincoln, Abraham, President of United States. 1861. Military Warrant to John Davis. City of D. C., Washington.  
4. Hugo Neighborhood & Josephine County Historical Society. 2007. *Pioneers For Hugo Tombstone Quarry Section Of Applegate Trail: 1856 - 1927*. Map of Federal Land Transfers for 1.5 miles of Applegate Trail. Hugo, OR.  
5. Hugo Neighborhood, Josephine County Historical Society, & Rogue Advocates. 2007. *John Davis: Warrant Locator*. Hugo, OR.  
6. Hugo Neighborhood & Josephine County Historical Society. 2008. *J. C. Cochrane Family: Early Hugo Pioneers*. Hugo, OR.  
7. *Grants Pass Daily Courier*. April 2, 1960. Schools Betty Way Back When!  
8. Hugo Neighborhood. 2007. *Verlin Clare Grimes' Three Pines & Hugo Memories: 1913 - 2002*. Hugo, OR.  
9. Hugo Neighborhood. 2001. *Ralph LeeVon & Irene Edith (Brazille) Kilkow's Three Pines & Hugo Memories: 1931 - 2001*. Hugo, OR.

---

---

## 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 of promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

### Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhood's* land use mission is to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and to preserve, protect, and enhance the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, if requested, as a technical resource assisting neighbors to represent themselves.

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. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

Email: [hugo@jeffnet.org](mailto:hugo@jeffnet.org)  
Web Page: <http://jeffnet.org/~hugo/>  
Edited by Jean Boling, Karen Rose,  
Wayne McKy, & Mike Walker

---

---

### HNA&HS Officers

Hal Anthony, Outreach Chair  
3995 Russell Road  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Wayne McKy, Chair  
6497 Hugo Road  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Karen Rose, Web Master  
575 Red Mountain Drive  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Mike Walker, Education Chair  
3388B Merlin Rd #195  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

### Josephine County Historical Society

Jean Boling, Historic Sites Chair  
Josephine County Historical Society  
124 NW Booth Street  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Brochure 11 in Hugo's Early Pioneer Brochure Series - HNA&HS  
2008 -11 C:\Documents and Settings\mike\My  
Documents\Genealogy\History\_Brochures\People Pioneers  
1800s\BROCHURE\_11 Cochrane Gordon 060908.wpd

---

---

# GORDON COCHRANE FAMILY: EARLY HUGO PIONEERS

Draft

Brochure 11 Of Hugo's Early Settler Brochure Series



*Three Pines School: 1914*

June 9, 2008

**Hugo Neighborhood Association &  
Historical Society**

**Josephine County Historical Society**