

## Rogue River Indian War: 1855 - 1866

**Oregon Militia** Oregon's provisional government passed the first militia law on July 5, 1843. A second military bill passed on March 9, 1844. It called for the organization of militia companies to combat hostile Indians. The situation did not change after 1846 which gave the United States territorial jurisdiction over Oregon. Bills passed by the Oregon legislature in 1854, 1855, and 1856 reorganized the militia. The state constitution passed in 1857 summarized the existing laws.<sup>1</sup>

**Militia Volunteers** Militia units could be called into action during times of war, but unfortunately, were rarely called up as an intact unit. Militia men would be used to augment existing U. S. Army units. They were easy to find during times of strife, but being hastily gathered, they were much less well-trained and far less organized than the army regulars. As a consequence, they were held in a measure of contempt by their professional counterparts. Part of the problem stemmed from an "excess of democracy." Militia men elected and removed their officers at will.

**The 1856 General Land Office (GLO) survey** and map records a house on what would become the 160 acre Davis/Heath military warrant, but no family name identified on 1856 GLO map.<sup>1-2</sup> Part of the warrant is in the present day I-5 right-of-way. The house would have been just to the east of the present day I-5 in the Josephine County Sportsman Association Park and/or the I-5 right-of-way.



## Private Lewis Heath's 1861 Military Warrant

**Natural Prairie & Pasture**<sup>6-7</sup> The military patent number 41877 included most of the open wetlands of what would later become part of the 240-acre J. C. Cochrane ranch. The warrant and the ranch's location had a reason: natural sub-irrigation for pasture during the winter, spring, and early summer.



*Cochrane Wetlands of Military Warrant: 2007*

**Lt. John M. Miller's 1855 Company A** On November 10, 1855, Captain Bruce was elected to major, his first lieutenant E. A. Rice was elected Captain of Company A, with them stood, Rice Captain, John S. Miller, first lieutenant, J.F. and Anderson, second lieutenant. Lewis Heath was a private in Captain Miller's Company Oregon Militia Rogue River War.

## Captain Miller's Company Oregon Militia: Rogue River War

**November 11, 1861 Military Warrant** President Abraham Lincoln issued Private Lewis Heath a Hugo patent for military service.<sup>1-5</sup>

*"WHEREAS, In pursuance of the Act of Congress, approved March 8, 1855 entitled an "Act in addition to certain Acts grants Bounty Land to certain Officers and Soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States," there have been deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE, Warrant No. 41877 for 160 acres in favor of Lewis Heath, Private, Captain Miller Company Militia, Rogue River War with evidence that the same has been duly located upon, the south half of the south east quarter of Section eleven and the north half of the north east quarter of Section fourteen, . . ."*

**More information** Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood* on how you can become involved in your community's land use, and/or history projects.

1. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), General Land Office (GLO) Records. 2007. Official Federal Land Records Site (<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>). Internet.
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. 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. 2007. John Davis: Warrant Locator. Hugo, OR.
7. Hugo Neighborhood, Josephine County Historical Society, et. al. 2007. *Assessment Of Proposed Pioneer Meadow Subdivision Containing Applegate Trail Resources*. Hugo, OR.
6. Hugo Neighborhood, Josephine County Historical Society, et. al. 2007. *Hugo Granite Tombstone Quarry Site: Preliminary Resource Assessment*. Two volumes. 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 by preserving, protecting, and enhancing the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, as 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. Make checks to the *Hugo Neighborhood* and send them to our Treasurer.

*Hugo Neighborhood Association*

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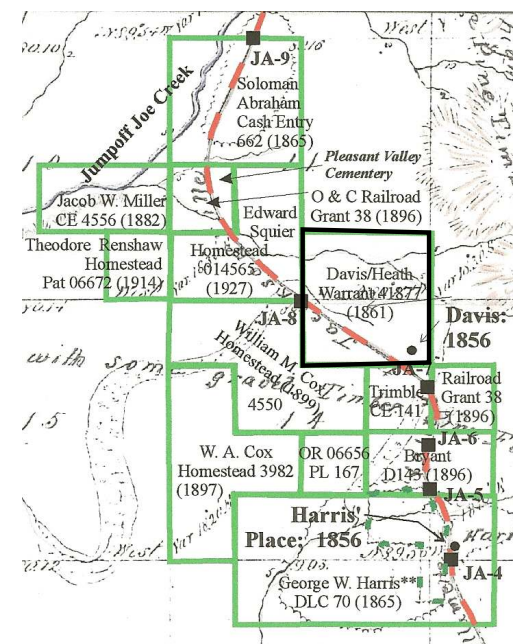
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# PRIVATE LEWIS HEATH'S MILITARY WARRANT: 1861



Draft Brochure 19 in  
Trapper's Trail Series



*Davis/Heath Military Warrant Along  
Applegate Trail*

May 26, 2008

Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee

Hugo Neighborhood Association &  
Historical Society

Brochure 19 in Trapper's Trail Brochure Series -  
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