

Hudson Bay Company

1824 In 1824 the Hudson's Bay Company appointed Dr. John McLoughlin as Chief Factor of the Columbia District in the Oregon Country, which comprised 600,000 square miles between Spanish California and Russian Alaska.

1825 - 1827 Hudson Bay Company trappers under Thomas McKay and Finan McDonald followed Indian trails through the Rogue River valley in 1825.¹ In 1827, Peter Skene Ogden, a fur trader and explorer for the Hudson Bay Company made the first documented exploration through the terrain that would be southern Oregon, including Hugo.²

A local legend is that Joe jumped off a cliff on Jumpoff Joe Creek while being pursued by Indians.

The sparsely used Trapper's Trail, as it would be called, witnessed the naming of Jumpoff Joe Creek in what would become Josephine County, Oregon.

1839 Author Richard Dillon wrote that Michel Laframboise set out on July 20, 1839, with thirty-three engages, some Indians, and McLoughlin's son, Joseph McLoughlin. Joe fell ill on the march. He returned to Fort Vancouver not, presumably, because of the fall which gave the name to Jumpoff Joe Creek, but because of a pulmonary attack.³

1. Sutton, Jack. 1966. 110 Years With Josephine County, The History OF Josephine County: 1856 - 1966

2. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society. January 2005. *Hugo's Indian Trail*. Hugo, OR.

3. Richard Dillon. 1975. *Siskiyou Trail: The Hudson's Bay Company Route to California*. McGraw-Hill Book Company.

Naming of Jumpoff Joe Creek: ca., 1839

1837 or 1839? The Oregon Historical Society attributes the naming of the creek to an accident involving a member of the 1828 Hudson Bay Company Brigade, Joseph McLoughlin, son of the Chief Factor at Fort Vancouver, Dr. John McLoughlin.⁴

*"Jumpoff Joe Creek, Josephine County. Jumpoff Joe Creek is in the extreme northeast corner of the county. The Pacific Highway crosses it in Pleasant Valley. James W. Nesmith, in a letter printed in the Oregonian for November 23, 1883, says the stream was named for an exploit of Joe McLoughlin, in 1837 or 1839, but does not state the nature of the exploit. McLoughlin died December 14, 1848. Data in possession of Oregon Historical Society indicate the naming of the stream probably took place in 1837 [1839?] rather than at the time mentioned by Colonel Nesmith. Joe McLoughlin, son of Dr. John McLoughlin, was in southern Oregon in a trapping party under the leadership of Alexander R. McLeod. The trappers camped one night on this stream and McLoughlin, who came in after dark, fell over the edge of the bluff and received very severe injuries, which it is said, subsequently caused his death. Myron Eells gives this as the correct origin of the name, and practically the same facts are printed in the West Shore, October 1883, page 26. Other stories about this name do not seem to be substantiated by historical records."*⁴

1839 The Hudson's Bay Company Archives provided the following.⁵ "From HBCA B.223/b/23 from James Douglas to Gov. Of Com., dated Fort Vancouver, Oct. 14, 1839 (par.18): "... All things considered I determined to maintain the party and employ them on the same ground, under command of Mr. Laframboise, assisted by Mr. Joseph McLouglin a young man of determined character, with 33 engaged trappers and Indians forming a well

More Information

appointed party of 35 persons. They were dispatched on 20 July, when the horses of the expedition were sufficiently recruited to attempt the journey, and will proceed direct to the valley of the Buonaventura.....I have received satisfactory [accounts] of Mr. Laframboises' progress to Rogues River, from whence I regret that Mr. Joseph McLoughlin was obliged to return in consequence of a severe pulmonary attack, accompanied by a discharge of blood through the mouth, from which he is now partially recovered."

The Oregon Historical Society records Joe McLoughlin, the recognized son of



The "Falls" On Jumpoff Joe Creek

Dr. John McLoughlin, lived near Champoeg, Oregon, and died December 14, 1848, at the age of about 38 years.⁶ Catholic Church records record Joseph McLoughlin was born 1810 and died 1848 and that he was the son of Chief Factor McLoughlin by a native woman in Eastern Canada. He joined his father in the West, becoming an ordinary engage. He died from the effects of a fall over a cliff in the Umpqua region.⁷

4. McArthur, Lewis A. 1982. *Oregon Geographic Names*. Page 403. Western Imprints. The Press of the Oregon Historical Society.

5. Tammy Hannibal-Paci, Archivist, Maps and Architectural Plans Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Provincial Archives of Manitoba, 200 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1T5, email: thannibalp@chc.gov.mb.ca, telephone 204-945-949, 204-945-2622, web page: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/archives/hbca/index.html>.

6. Oregon Historical Quarterly, XXXVI, 342 (register of Saint Paul's Catholic Church, French Prairie, Oregon).

7. Catholic Church Records of the Pacific Northwest. Edited by Harriet Munnick and published by the Oregon Historical Society in 1979.

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. Make checks to the *Hugo Neighborhood* and send them to our Treasurer. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

Hugo Neighborhood Association

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More Information

Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood*.

Brochure 6 in Trapper's Trail Brochure Series -

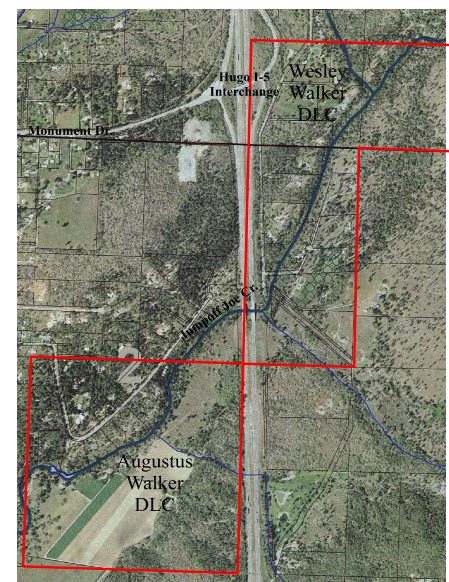
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NAMING OF JUMPOFF JOE CREEK: ca., 1839



Brochure 6 in
Trapper's Trail Series



*Aerial Photo of Land In Walker
Brothers' 1855 Donation Land Claims
Along Jumpoff Joe Creek*

May 25, 2008

Hugo Emigrant Trails Committee

Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society