
Melvin & Margaret Culp, Early Settlers

For purposes of the Hugo's Settler brochure series, an early Hugo settler includes anyone who lived there sometime from 1900 through the 1930s.

Heelwe Culp

Born: 1835
Birth Place: Missouri
Father's Birth Place: Kentucky
Mother's Birth Place: Tennessee

Margaret Culp

Born: 1861
Birth Place: Oregon
Father's Birth Place: Kentucky
Mother's Birth Place: Missouri

1900 Census. Merlin Precinct, Josephine Co., OR

Heelwe Culp	Head	MO	1835	65 yrs
Margaret Culp	Wife	OR	1861	39 yrs
Thomston Culp	Son	OR	1885	15 yrs
Albert F. Culp	Son	OR	1888	12 yrs
Benjamin Culp	Son	OR	1899	1 yr
Luttia m Culp	Dau	OR	1893	7 yrs
Wilbur Culp	Son	OR	1895	5 yrs
Sarah Culp	Dau	OR	1897	3 yrs
George M. Culp	Son	OR	1900	4 yrs

It is not know if Heelwe is Melvin. Heelwe was the only head of family in the Merlin Precinct in 1900.

The Culp, Hugo Settler Family: 18?? - 1908

1908 Culp Was Crossing Bridge Near Merlin — Could Not Get Away in Time To Avoid Engine.

Tuesday morning, as Train No. 15 neared the bridge over Jump-Off Joe Creek near Merlin, the fireman called to Engineer Wagenblast that there was a man on the track. The whistle was blown and the brakes applied, but the train could not be stopped in time to keep from striking him, though it was greatly slowed down. The man, **Melvin Culp**, saw the train and turned around and went the other way to get off the bridge but seemed to be excited and did not make much headway. The bridge is only a few feet high and he could have easily gotten over the side without much injury. Both legs were cut off and his body mangled, and the unfortunate man was dead when the train stopped to pick him up.

Melvin Culp was an old resident of Merlin and leaves a large family to mourn his untimely death. The accident was promptly reported and Coroner F. D. Stricker left at once for the scene and held an inquest. The jury decided that there was no one to blame for the accident. *Rogue River Courier*. December 18, 1908. Melvin Culp Killed By Train No. 15.

Train Death

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

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.

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MELVIN CULP KILLED BY TRAIN NO. 15



Very Draft
Brochure 80 Of Hugo's Early
Settler Brochure Series



1998 Topo of Bridge Crossing

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**Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society**