



# TRAIL DUST



Idaho Chapter  
Oregon-California Trails Association

XIX Issue 2 March 2006

James McGill, Editor  
208 467 4853/ Cell 250 6045

[jwmcgill@pobox.com](mailto:jwmcgill@pobox.com)

## FEBRUARY'S FEATURE: FINALLY, THE FIRST FUN SINCE FALL . . . Editor

This winter of 2005-06, the last month of the old year and the first of the new were not kind to trail-trompers. Weather, lots of moisture and frigid temperatures, required more fuel for warmth and mostly staying indoors. But for the first time in several years *February* began to dry out and a few days of warmer weather allowed a trail activity—however, just before more days of rain! For anyone always ready to go, the Boise Valley offers many miles of trail ruts on main trails, alternates, and cutoffs. There is usually a section within one day's trip to check and remark, and sometimes doing other jobs. Most sections have been marked at one time many years before, but are in need of replacements—new markers and/or decals to cover sun-bleached identifiers.



**SATELLITE PHOTO OF SOUTH ALTERNATE TRAIL. EVIDENCE OF THIS RATHER NEW TOOL FOR TRAIL MAPPING**

Trail information that has become available indicates that the emigrant travel on the South Alternate was about equal to that on the main Oregon Trail, and saved twice-crossing the often-dangerous Snake River. This section of that trail that needed remarking in February 2006, is about 21 miles west of the beginning of that same route, which started near Glens Ferry, ID. There avoiding the three-island river crossing could have been chosen.

The included photo from high above this section of the trail, west of Loveridge Bridge where Highway 51 crosses, shows a section of the trail near the Snake River just a little less than one mile long. The clarity of those ruts on the upper side along the Snake River (not the white road) shows this valuable tool for preservationist. When one knows that there is a zoom feature that allows

about 3 times this magnification, it is easy to see that trail ruts can often be seen in exact locations and in a perspective much better than on the ground!

The white areas in the photo are stretches of concentrated alkali soil where little foliage grows except small salt grasses. The ruts are seen as one almost straight section.

McGill Photo



**BRUSH HARDLY GROWS BACK IN ALKALI-HEAVY RUTS**

This trail, seen as a rather rare straight line, had no rocks, too-thick brush, or other land features that needed to be circumvented! (The thicker crooked lines are present roads.) The thorny bushes across some of the area, however, must have made both man and wagon-beast quite sore and aggravated! During the marking participants endured their own punctures and scratches!



**HIGHWAY 51 BRIDGE RAMP LIES ACROSS THE TRAIL**

In some places the ruts are quite deep because of the soft alkali soil. Now the brush has taken over some spots and one cannot continue walking the trail without thrashing around through bushes or walking around part of it too thick to push through. The brush's thorns are harmful enough that they can do damage even through clothing.

Some markers are hidden from any long distance view, but still in place to fully indicate the route. A few older markers remained, some with the traditional bullet holes that are found constantly! They all had been in place long enough for the decals to greatly fade. The trail workers knew that a new decal would help them to be easier identified—as well as *making better targets!*



**IN PLACES THE NATIVE FEED-GRASSES STILL GROW**

Just to the west there is a small pass that the wagons had to climb over the foothills before dropping down to go through the low-lands and cross the Bruneau River. The C. J. Strike Reservoir now covers some miles of ruts where two different crossings of the Bruneau once were evident, 3-4 miles apart. *Certainly not a 'friend of the trails,'* the local johnny-come-lately farmer has recently closed the trail between these preserved ruts and the pass, where only a few years ago one could follow for miles! He has even made it difficult for the BLM to access a strip of land on the pass, continually building more fences without gates!

When one sees the trail closed-off, plowed up, and even cluttered with cast-off farm equipment that has worn out, it becomes more expedient to go and mark what is left. Appreciation needs to be shared for the trail ruts that still remain, for people who have the heart of a preservationist, and for the intrinsic pleasures of experiencing what emigrants gave so much of themselves to endure and accomplish! Come help us--know *unmatched pleasure.*

**TIM'S 2<sup>nd</sup> "WINONA," MARY WINONA GOODALE HIGHBARGER HANSON**

On February 19, 2006, by the wonder of email came two marvelous photos to this Editor! In one's research and work on trails and emigrant information there are a few highlights of pleasure and satisfying results that will ever be a fondness to memory. This was one of those very thankful, "Ah-ha" moments!

During our report in the last *Trail Dust*, we had just mentioned that contact with a grandson of Winona Goodale (great-grandson of Tim and Jennie Goodale), Dick Bostrom, had been made. On February 17, we also received long informative letters from both Dick's youngest sister, Patricia Ann Carter, and her daughter, Margaret (remember the two prior "Maggies?") Carter! Within two more days a copy of a photo of Winona, her first daughter, baby Katie, and husband William Hanson, and a second of Winona's first four children were in our possession. These two ladies are already both *friends of our trails*—well, at least greatly interested in Goodale's Cutoff! And our research was very satisfying to them!

**Carter Historic Photo**



**MARY WINONA GOODALE HIGHBARGER HANSON, 1897**

These descendents of Tim and Jennie Goodale had been searching for years for their roots, but had made little progress back beyond Jennie, known only under her second married name, Highbarger. The connection through Jennie and Winona was an emigrant-related blessing both to our researchers and to that family.

The knowledge about Mary Winona's origin as the daughter of the Shoshoni maiden, Jennie, was especially pleasurable to Margaret Carter! She has had Mary's picture available for many years and has appreciated her Indian heritage, and so finally found an answer that she had sought diligently for a long time. Margaret, named for her grandmother, Margaret Bostrom (who was named for Winona's half-sister that died at age 13, in 1896) lives on the Yakama (correct spelling) Indian reservation in Washington, and teaches school there! Her life is being dedicated to those children, and she leads an award winning and often sought after native dancing group! Margaret wrote:

"I am also the only family member that has claimed any Indian heritage. I live on the Yakama Indian Reservation, as a Native person, I am a foster parent for the Yakama Nation and I have a group of Indian dancers from middle school/high school called 'The Wapato Indian Club'. We travel extensively performing -we have been from New York to Hawaii and we are heading back to Hawaii at the end of May this year. We won the Washington State Governor's Heritage Award this year for promoting the culture throughout WA State. We attended a reception at the Governor's Mansion and received the award in Nov. [2005]."

Carter Historic Photo



**TIM GOODALE'S GRANDCHILDREN, KATHERINE, AMOS, MARGARET, AND BABY RALPH VALENTINE--B. 2/14/1902!**

Tim's daughter, Winona, was only 4 ft. 10 in. tall. She died in child birth on June 28, 1903, with her sixth child, Elmer—only months after the above photo was taken. She was 39 years old. (She had lost an infant early in her marriage.) Elmer was raised by his maternal grandmother after Mary's death. Look at the youngest girl of

the four beautiful children, Margaret, and read the story about this little girl—written by her daughter, Patricia!

"I have a heart-wrenching story about my mother. She was 3 years old when Mary Winona died. As they did in those days, the body was in a casket in the living room of the house. My mother, being so young, couldn't understand why Mama wouldn't hold her. During this wake period, my grandfather got up in the middle of the night to check on his children and couldn't find my mother. He frantically searched the house and found her. She had pulled a chair over to her mother's casket, crawled up and into the casket and was asleep on her mother's chest. I still cry for her, and for Winona, when I think of the story. My mother never had another mother, Grandpa never remarried"

Our trail research, somewhat concentrated now on the Goodale Cutoff in Oregon, continues, the trail seeking and mapping goes on, the trail marking will happen, and the history of the now better-known *first family* of Idaho's historic trails, the Goodales (this editor has now made that claim!) goes on!

The resultant second research paper on Goodale's Cutoff is in the works and on course, dealing especially with the extension of that route across Oregon. There is a lot of thunder to be shared, and as complete and detailed story of Tim Goodale as is possible. Many notes about his early accomplishments have been gathered, thanks to the contributions of many researchers who have shared with this writer. The later part of Tim's life, possibly for as much as 20-25 years after 1870, is still quite mysterious—apparently because Tim wanted it to be that way!

## OREGON'S GOODALES CUTOFF TRIP

On **June 23-25, 2006**, OCTA's NW Chapter and Idaho Chapter will co-sponsor a field trip to seek the on-ground evidence of the part of Goodale's Cutoff that connected the Brownlee Ferry in Hells Canyon to Auburn, Oregon. The first planned order of that trip is to locate the so-called "Zig-Zag" road that was built by the emigrants on Tim Goodale's Wagon Train. It came up from the ferry on the Oregon side, and soon met the earlier Powder River mining road. We will be searching easterly for the remnants of that trail route during the remaining days. Four-wheel drive vehicles will be needed, or arranging with others to ride with them!

*As things stand now*, we will meet in Halfway, OR, at the parking lot of the **Halfway Motel**, at 9:00 a.m., on **June 23**. That Motel is available at 1 541-742-5722, [hlfmotel@pinetel.com](mailto:hlfmotel@pinetel.com). This Motel has an **RV camper/trailer park** available! There is also a **Hillside Bed & Breakfast**, 208-785-3389, [info@hellscanyonb-b.com](mailto:info@hellscanyonb-b.com) Patti and this Editor will be there on Thursday afternoon. Any changes in plans will be included in the next issue of *Trail Dust*, and emailed out as early as possible. We welcome participation by all who have any interest!

## ANOTHER GOODALE! Bill Wilson

Jim:

Neat picture of Tim's daughter. You've really done yourself proud, finding that. She's quite a beautiful lady, isn't she? I've enjoyed all the things you've reported about your research on Tim's descendants.

I don't remember if I ever told you. In 1970, when I first was Librarian at Coeur d'Alene, there was an elderly lady who used to come into the library. She'd been a longtime patron. I think her first name was Frances and her last name was Goodale. She *claimed she was kin to Tim Goodale*. At the time I wasn't into trails. Oh, I knew about the Goodale Trail and Tim, but that's about all. I don't remember that she knew exactly how she was related, but Goodale was her maiden name---she had never married. I expect she must have passed on before I left there in 1978, as I don't remember much about her in my later years there. Now, of course, I wish I'd queried her a lot more about her connection to Tim. (Of course, maybe she just thought there was a connection because of the same spelling, but as I remember it she seemed adamant that she was related.)

Now that I've tantalized you, you'll probably shoot me. Later this spring, after Phoenix, taxes, etc., **I'll try and see what I can dig up on her, maybe find an obit, etc.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Bill

**EDITOR** A quick search of the SSI records turned up one Frances Goodale, who was probably Bill's lady in question-----and maybe Tim's off-spring!

**Frances Goodale, Born--25 Aug 1905, Died--  
Coeur D Alene, Kootenai, Idaho, May 1978.**

This is interesting, and nothing is impossible! We do not know the place of her birth, but one *Frances Goodale* was found to be born in Colorado about that same year.

It will become evident when the next Goodale Paper is published that the earliest date placing *Jennie Goodale* with Tim was 1856, a "wife," in an emigrant's writings, Preston Thomas. By 1857, "Jennie" was named by Colonel Randolph Marcy! This is years earlier than the 1860 date that was before indicated in several writings.

However, one diary writer, A. Scarborough, wrote as early as 1849, that Tim had a "family" with him as he was escorting one group, joining him at *Pueblo, CO*, and he had spent some years living around that area! If this reference was meant to indicate more than just a wife, it was surely not Jennie because of her age, probably born no earlier than 1834-35. She had no children with her 6-7 years later, in 1856-57! F. W. Cragin had once written in one of his *Notebooks* that Tim "had a succession of Indian wives!" Could this Frances have been a possible grandchild of Tim's from an earlier wife?

Listen to the second possibility also. Tim and Jennie

were separated, for unknown reasons, before 1870, and Jennie had taken their only child, Winona, with her. There is now some scant evidence that after he and Jennie were parted Tim Goodale went back and lived like an Indian among the Indians in Montana, probably on the Crow Reservation. (Jennie was a Shoshoni, born in Montana.) Tim lived *at least until the mid 1890s!* At age 60 in 1870, we can believe that he may have had a 3rd Indian wife! Might also this Frances have been a grandchild from a later Indian marriage? We do *invite Bill to get involved* and help answer these questions!

Of further interest was a report by the Enumerator of the *1870 Census* in Montana—for the Crow Indian Agency—that a group of unnamed white men were living remotely among the Crow Indians. He could not then locate these men for the count. Tim had been known and called for many years by the Indians, "White Horse," because of his premature, white hair.

Some excitement was kindled when on the *1900 Indian Population Census*, for the Crow Reservation, an old man named "No-Horse" was found. He was *almost 90 years old* (No-Horse by then?) and living with a 36 year old wife, "Hugs the Weasel" (no Freudian jokes). He had a *1 year old daughter*, "Gretchen No-Horse!" This was probably not Tim, but little other evidence could be found to prove or disprove it, either way!

---

## Wyoming Mapping, Marking & Monitoring

[To the MMM Training Team]

Don Hartley and I are looking at doing the preservation training in Rock Springs, WY on May 18 and 19 (Thursday and Friday). We will have to get to Rock Springs on May 17 to do some planning. We will convene the group on the evening of May 17 for a social get together with some preliminary discussions. There is a chapter meeting on May 19 (evening) and a chapter outing May 20.

If this is agreeable, Don Hartley will help with the local arrangements. I'll put together an agenda which I will circulate to you all and the Wyoming chapter leadership. We will need to adjust the course to fit Wyoming. Perhaps we can entice Randy Brown to do a segment on his work with the pipeline companies. Depending upon the response from Wyoming OCTA members, we may also invite Utah folks to attend.

Comments and suggestions?

**Dave Welch**, OCTA National Preservation Officer

---

## TRAIL-RELATED PRESENTATIONS

As a part of the Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month in May some presentation sponsored by the Canyon County Parks Department—with cooper-

## **I-OCTA OFFICERS AND STAFF**

**Douglas Jenson** - - President [jensondd@ida.net](mailto:jensondd@ida.net)  
**Lyle Lambert** - - Vice-Pres. [Antiquesaz@aol.com](mailto:Antiquesaz@aol.com)  
**Jerry Eichhorst** - - Vice-Pres. [jeichho@mail.com](mailto:jeichho@mail.com)  
**William Wilson** - - Treasurer [ma\\_bill@msn.com](mailto:ma_bill@msn.com)  
**Kay Coffman** - Secretary [minikatz2@aol.com](mailto:minikatz2@aol.com)  
**James McGill** - Preservation [jwmcgill@pobox.com](mailto:jwmcgill@pobox.com)  
**Jerry Eichhorst** - Webmaster [IdahoOCTA.org](http://IdahoOCTA.org)  
**Peg Cristobal & Jane Wyllie** - - Historians (below)  
**William Wilson** - - Membership Chair (above)  
**Wendy Miller** - Library Chair - -  
[canyoncountymuseum@netzero.net](mailto:canyoncountymuseum@netzero.net)

### **Board of Directors**

**Peggy Cristobal** [crispp@mindspring.com](mailto:crispp@mindspring.com)  
**Walter Meyer** [wallywanch@worldnet.att.net](mailto:wallywanch@worldnet.att.net)  
**Gil Wyllie (Jane)** [gilwyllie@msn.com](mailto:gilwyllie@msn.com)  
**Clair Ricketts** [virginia@northrim.net](mailto:virginia@northrim.net)  
**Lynn Porter** [k9hrd@hotmail.com](mailto:k9hrd@hotmail.com)

ation by the Canyon County Historical Society—will feature historic trail's information. **Donald Shannon** will share part of his vast knowledge about the 1854 Ward Massacre, at 10:00 am, Saturday May 13, 2006, **Ward Park** SE of Middleton, ID, on Lincoln Road.

On Saturday, May 20, at **Celebration Park** (Snake River site near the 1896 historic railroad bridge), at 10:00 am, **James McGill** will present some of the story of the Utter Disaster. Participants will be able to look across to the Owyhee County side of the river, and see where those desperate survivors to the upriver, Henderson Flat attacks passed along in August 1860.

Info/directions: **Sharon Plager**  
[thepark@canyoncounty.org](mailto:thepark@canyoncounty.org)

## **CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS ANTIQUE?**

Hi all:

Hope you may recognize this part from your experience. I can't figure it out! Here is the context in which it was found:

It was found (now been cleaned) on the Uinta Mountains on the Carter Military Road. This road was constructed in 1881-83 by the Frontier Army, 4th Infantry. The road was a supply route between Forts Bridger and Thornburgh.

The Army had a portable "Sawmill" and this part was found in that area. In addition to constructing the Road, the Army built a "Telegraph" line between the two Forts. The telegraph line was strung on cut trees with wooden and glass insulators.

The Army had a portable blacksmith shop on the mountain. We have not found the blacksmith shop as yet, but have found several hand forged items, including shoes. They had oxen, horses, and mules!

I thought it might be the handle of a tool of some type. Seems to me I remember using something like this to place over a "tap" when making threads on pipe fittings.

Your help and guesses are appreciated.

Thank, Gail Carbiener  
[mgccarb@cmc.net](mailto:mgccarb@cmc.net)



**THIS METAL OBJECT IS 24 cm LONG OR 9.5 in, ½ IN HOLE**

Gail,

Here is a reply from David Reiss SHPH archaeologist. (I sure don't know what it is.)

**Randy Brown, OCTA National Trails Marking Chairman**

"I asked Tom Lindenmier and he did not think it was a wagon part, but he does not know what it is. Some ideas are a wrench, for carriage bolts, a drill or auger handle with wooden handles? You might try sending this photo to [pioneervillage.org](http://pioneervillage.org) or [Manager@pioneervillage.com](mailto:Manager@pioneervillage.com). They have a lot of artifacts and are usually willing to help. Other possible web sites.

<http://www.ruralheritage.com/plans/index.htm>

<http://www.carriagemuseumlibrary.org/downloads/new01.pdf>

<http://www.carriagemuseumlibrary.org/draftsmen.htm> "

---

**APRIL 29, 2006. I-OCTA MEMBERSHIP Saturday, April 29, has been approved by I-OCTA for the spring membership meeting. No information has yet been made available for time and place, but we will print the same by the next *Trail Dust* issue. No information has become available for the date of the spring I-OCTA Board meeting. Email Doug Jenson, [jensondd@ida.net](mailto:jensondd@ida.net) for information.**

## **EZRA MEEKER MAPS OF INTEREST**

At a meeting with folks from the Meeker Society I was presented with a map entitled "Map of the Oregon Trail, The Best Route for a National Highway." It purports to be a map of the route followed by Meeker in his 1906-1907 expedition. The copy I have is a blue line about two feet by ten feet. I'll bring it to the chapter meeting.

Dennis Larsen [Meeker Scholar, Washington State] has also determined that Meeker mapped the trail on "section maps" across the country. Dennis was told that the full set is "as big as a football field." We have a lead that they may be at the Washington State Historical Society. Dennis and I will check it out. [Email 3/6/06]

**Dave Welch, OCTA National Preserv. Officer**

---

James McGill, Editor  
Idaho Chapter of OCTA  
305 Melba Drive  
Nampa, Idaho 83686