

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Washington
COUNTY:	Garfield
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JAN 11 1974



1. NAME

COMMON:
Lewis and Clark Trail - Travois Road

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Five miles east of Pomeroy, U.S. Route 12

CITY OR TOWN:
Pomeroy

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
#5 - Honorable Thomas S. Foley

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Washington	53	Garfield	023

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:	Lower portion: Mr. Clarence Cole	Upper portion: Mrs. Pat Herron
STREET AND NUMBER:	Lewiston Highway	McKeirnan Hill
CITY OR TOWN:	Pomeroy	Washington
STATE:	Washington	Washington
CODE	53	53

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Garfield County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Pomeroy	Washington	53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
(Check One)		(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

An existing portion of the Lewis and Clark Trail - Travois Road crosses U.S. Route 12 at Pataha Creek, five miles east of Pomeroy and approximately fifteen miles south of the Snake River. This is a region of moderately-steep rolling hills, cut by creek valleys, which form the foothills of the Blue Mountains to the south. Occasionally lined with brush and trees, Pataha Creek meanders around the toes of hillsides and bluffs. Some of the steeper areas retain the native grasses and bushes, but the gentler slopes and plains have been planted with wheat. The region is hot and dry in summer, cold in winter, and receives a minimal amount of yearly precipitation.

A still visible portion of the Indian trail leads from the Pataha Creek Valley up a small, relatively-steep ridge. This portion of the travois road is specifically mentioned several times in the journals of the Lewis and Clark expedition, the first white men known to travel through the area. On May 3, 1806, for instance, Meriwether Lewis stated the following while the expedition was traveling eastward toward the Rocky Mountains: "We continued still up the creek bottoms [Pataha Creek] ... to the place at which the road leaves the creek and ascends the hills to the plain, here we encamped [on Pataha Creek] in [a] small grove of cottonwood trees."

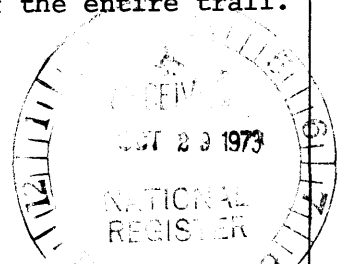
Originally, the travois road extended from the confluence of the Walla Walla and Columbia Rivers in the west to the confluence of the Clearwater and Snake Rivers in the east. From this latter location, other roads fanned out in various directions including trails reaching to the Great Plains.

A travois road usually appeared as numerous pairs of parallel ruts in soil hardened by the repeated travel of horses, dogs, and men. The ruts resulted from the dragging of wooden travois behind dogs in aboriginal times, and later, horses in historic times. Ruts remain on the ridge located on the eastern portion of the nominated five-acre site. This area has been left in its natural state.

Because of farming, however, no ruts are visible on the western or valley-bottom portion of the nominated site. But here, the Lewis and Clark Expedition camped on May 3, 1806, in a grove of cottonwood trees. Farmers have since cut down this grove and only a few, small cottonwoods and some brush line the creek bed. Both the travois ruts and the camp-site can easily be seen from U.S. Route 12 which passes between.

Because of extensive farming along most of the trail, this visible 1/4 mile section is one of the last surviving portions of the entire trail.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1805

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Exploration</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An ancient Indian road, used by the Lewis and Clark expedition on their return trip to the United States, once extended from the mouth of the Walla Walla River in what is now South Central Washington to the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers in present-day Idaho. The trail followed the Walla Walla River and Pataha Creek Valleys to the site indicated in this nomination. From here the trail went east over the plains-divide to Alpowa Creek and the Snake River.

Many Plateau Indian groups, particularly the Nez Perce, Walla Wallas, and Cayuse, used this road extensively. In late spring and summer, for instance, the trail provided access to Salmon fishing spots on the rivers; in early fall, the road provided a route to the highlands for deer and elk hunting.

The travois was a frequent mode of transportation on this road, which was sometimes referred to as the Nez Perce Trail. A travois was built with two long trailing poles, one on either side of a dog or horse, and attached in front with a makeshift collar. The poles were held together behind the animal with hides supported by short cross poles, forming a hammock or pocket on which possessions were carried. These devices were dragged over the trail wearing deep, parallel tracks. This, of course, accounts for the ruts visible on the eastern portion of the nominated five-acre site.

On May 3, 1806, the Lewis and Clark expedition camped in a grove of cottonwood trees on Pataha Creek at the spot where the trail left the valley and went up the ridge to the higher plains. Earlier the same day, at some considerable distance west of the campsite, Lewis and Clark were agreeably surprised when they met eleven Nez Perce men led by Weahkoonut, known as the Big Horn Chief "from the circumstance of his always wearing a horn of that animal suspended by a cord to the left arm." Lewis and Clark needed a guide and Weahkoonut had helped direct the party down the Snake River the year before, proving highly serviceable. Today, the Indian trail in the valley bottom leading to and from the campsite has been obliterated by the farmer's plow.

Both Meriwether Lewis and William Clark specifically mention the surviving trail and campsite. Clark, for instance, wrote the following:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Coues, Elliott, History of the Expedition Under the Command of Lewis and Clark, Volume III. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1965. Reprint of 1893 publication.

Lewis, Meriwether and Clark, William. Original Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, 1804 - 1806, Volume IV. Edited, with Introduction, Notes, and Index by Reuben Gold Thwaites, LL.D. New York: Arno Press, 1969. Reprint of 1905 publication.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

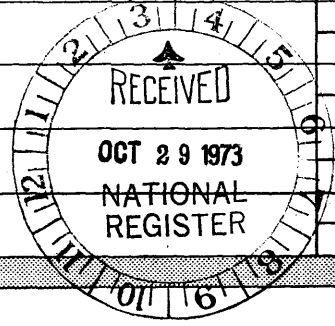
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	46°	27' 20"	117° 28' 23"
NE	° ' "	° ' "			
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

11/463670
514555B
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Five**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Robert Beale, Garfield County Liaison

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: **March 8, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: **Pomeroy** STATE: **Washington** CODE: **53**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Charles H. Odegaard
Charles H. Odegaard

Title: Director - Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission

Date: October 18, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AR Martensen
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 1/11/74

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 1-7-74

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Washington	
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(Number all entries)

#8 - Significance
Lewis and Clark Trail - Travois Road

after meeting this Chief we continued still up the creek bottoms N.75° E.2 m. to the place at which the road leaves the creek and ascends the hill to the high plains. here we Encamped in a small grove of Cotton trees which in some measure broke the violence of the wind ... it rained, hailed, snowed and blowed with Great Violence the greater portion of the day ... the air was very cold. we divided the last of our dried meat at dinner when it was consumed as well as the ballance of our dogs nearly we made but a scant supper, and had not any thing for tommorrow.

On the following day, May 4, 1806, Lewis referred to the still visible portion of the trail when he stated: "Collected our horses and set out early; the morning was cold and disagreeable. We ascended the Lard hills of the creek and steered ... through a high level plain."

In the years after Lewis and Clark, the travois road was used by fur trappers, traders, and other whites as well as being continually used by Indians. In the early 1860's, many miners used the road to get to the gold-rush country in what is now Northern and Central Idaho.

This site is significant because it includes a portion of one of the last remaining sections of a trail that was very important in aboriginal times. The site also includes a well-documented campsite used by the Lewis and Clark expedition.

