

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 15 1977

DATE ENTERED SEP 13 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Wells Springs Segment - Oregon Trail

AND/OR COMMON

Boardman Bombing Range Segment - Oregon Trail

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

N/A

--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Boardman

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

 VICINITY OF Oregon's Second

STATE

Oregon

CODE

041

COUNTY

Morrow

CODE

049

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

N/A

STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Oak Harbor

VICINITY OF

STATE

Washington 98278

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Morrow County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Heppner

STATE

Oregon

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

"The Oregon Trail"

A potential addition to the National Trails System

DATE

June 1975

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Bureau of Outdoor Recreation

Department of the Interior

CITY, TOWN

Seattle

STATE

Washington

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The segment of the Oregon Trail crossing the Navy Bombing Range property consists of 7 miles of continuous visible wagon ruts. It is located in the buffer zone for the actual target area for the bombing practice and is not subject to bomb damage. Some bomb craters are on or near the Trail within a 2,000-foot segment. They were created as a result of practice bombing near the end of World War II when the Bombing Range was under Army control. The craters are approximately 4 to 5 feet deep and 6 feet in diameter. They have not destroyed any of the visible wagon ruts.

The area of the Bombing Range traversed by the Oregon Trail has been and is presently being leased to local ranchers for cattle and sheep grazing. The only effect of this grazing has been one of the wagon ruts is more prominent on the ground than the other one. This is due to the tendency of cattle to trail to water in single file and they have used one rut only, in most cases.

The Wells Springs segment of the Oregon Trail also contains a portion of the upper Wells Springs. This Springs is not a reliable source of water due to the deep well drilling recently done in adjacent irrigation developments. Also at this site are the remains of a stage station. These remains consist of a stone foundation and scattered lumber and metal. Some vandalism and artifact hunting has occurred at the site; however, no excavation has been done and no evaluation has been made by a qualified historian.

Near the upper Wells Springs site is an important graveyard dating back to the Oregon Trail migration. It is not known how many are buried there, but it is one of the largest emigrant cemeteries identified along the Oregon segment of the Oregon Trail. At the same graveyard, Colonel Cornelius Gilliam of the Oregon Volunteers, in the Cayuse War of 1848, was buried. His grave is marked by a granite stone with a brass plaque. The graves of the emigrants are unmarked. The graveyard is fenced and has not been grazed by cattle or excavated by artifact hunters.

At a point approximately half way along this 7-mile segment, a dirt road follows the Trail for about one mile. This road is used by the ranchers and has obliterated some of the wagon ruts. This damage extends for approximately 2,000 feet.

The westernmost 2-1/2 miles of the Trail are paralleled by a gravel country road about 1/2 mile to the south.

The corridor width, recommended for preservation, is 200 feet on each side of the Trail in order to preserve the historic appearance of the lands adjacent to the Trail, plus the stagecoach station site and the graveyard.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES **1841 - 1846** BUILDER/ARCHITECT **N/A**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The portion of the Oregon Trail crossing the Navy Bombing Range property contains 7 miles of visible continuous wagon ruts. It extends from mile point 1728 to 1735 of the Oregon Trail. Along this segment of the Trail are located upper and lower Wells Springs, remnants of the stagecoach station at upper Wells Springs and the marked grave of Colonel Gilliam and numerous unidentified pioneers.

The Oregon Trail carried a quarter of a million people on the 6-month journey from Missouri to Oregon's Willamette Valley. By 1846, enough settlers had reached the Willamette Valley to give the United States a suitable basis for entering into a long sought new agreement with Great Britain for settlement of the Oregon question. Great Britain retained Vancouver Island and the northern part of the country; the United States gained the rest of the Oregon Territory south of the 49th Parallel. This division gave the United States desirable ports on Puget Sound well beyond the territory occupied by emigrants who had come over the Oregon Trail. But, without the settlements brought about by emigrant traffic over the Oregon Trail, the United States would have had little basis for such a generous agreement.

181 miles of the Oregon Trail within the State of Oregon have been identified as high potential segments. All of this 7-mile segment is included in the 181-mile total.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation The Oregon Trail Report of a Cooperative Study - June 1975
2. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation Draft Environmental Statement - June 1975
3. H.K. Hines History of Oregon 1893 Lewis Publishing Co., Morrow County Museum
4. Sam C. McMillan The Bunch Grassers History of Lexington, Morrow County

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 389.7

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,1	219,516,40	5,015,913,10	B	1,1	219,516,39	5,015,911,88
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,1	218,911,78	5,015,708,6	D	1,1	218,911,68	5,015,615,79
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

88 E 11 287 330 5056599-620 F 11 287 340 5056888-258 916
 G 11 285 827 5057091 H 11 285 817 5057213

A 400-foot strip of land, 200 feet on each side of the Oregon Trail. The area starts at the eastern boundary of Sec. 13, T2N., R25E. Willamette Meridian, and continues for 7.08 miles. The area ends at the western boundary of Section 19, T2N., R25E. Willamette Meridian. The area also

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

STATE	N/A	CODE	COUNTY	N/A	CODE
STATE		CODE	COUNTY		CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Donald C. Rappel, Staff Forester, U.S. Navy

4/13/76

ORGANIZATION

Seattle Branch WESTERN DIVISION, NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

7500 Sand Point Way N.E.

AC 206 527-3285

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Seattle,

Washington 98115

STATE

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Donald C. Rappel
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Francis B. Baker

TITLE Director, Real Property and Natural Resources

DATE

2/7/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

R. B. Rettig

DATE

9/13/78

DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

William Blouin

DATE

Sept 12, 1978

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

9

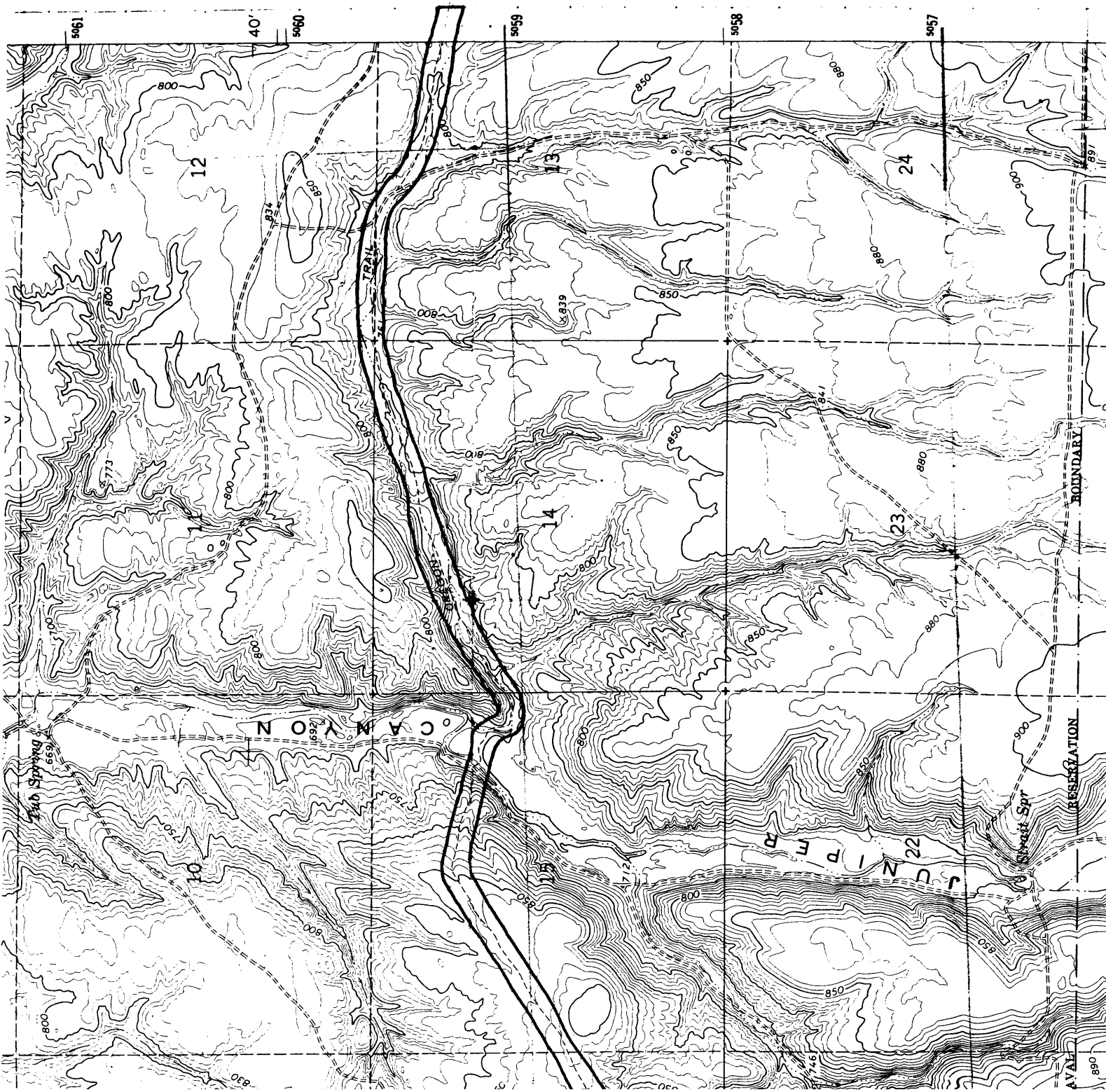
1974 Morrow County Museum

5. Personal correspondence Morrow County Museum Curator May 23, 1975
6. Personal correspondence State Historic Preservation Office - Oregon
Dec. 30, 1974

10

includes all of the SW 1/4 of Sec 20 T 2N R25E W.M. lying south of the Oregon Trail and north of Immigrant Road. The area of the trail alone is 339.4 acres. The stage station and cemetery comprise the additional 50.3 acres for a total of 389.7 acres.

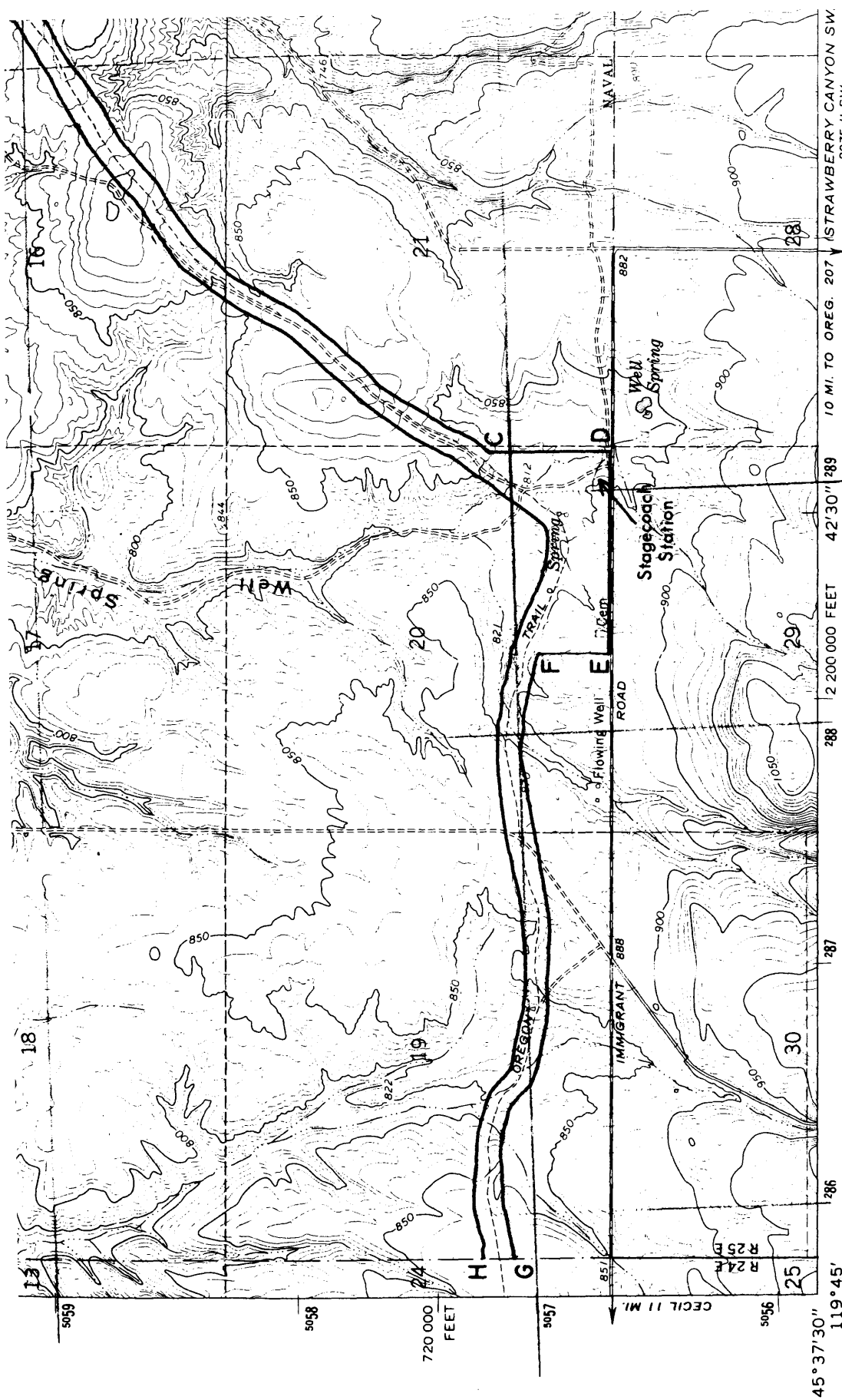
NAVY BOUNDARY



WELLS SPRINGS SEGMENT OREGON TRAIL

UTM REFERENCES

- A 11/295640 / 5059310
- B 11/295635 / 5059188
- C 11/289178 / 5057086
- D 11/289168 / 5056579
- E 11/~~289168~~²⁸⁹¹³³⁰ / ~~5056579~~⁵⁰⁵⁶²⁰⁰
- F 11/~~2891340~~²⁸⁹¹³⁴⁰ / ~~5056888~~⁵⁰⁵⁶⁸⁸⁸
- G 11/285827 / 5057091
- H 11/285817 / 5057213



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
 photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1968
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Oregon coordinate system,
 north zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 11, shown in blue
 Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines

(ZONE NORTH)
 2075 III SE

10 MI. TO OREG. 207
 2075 III SW
 STRAWBERRY CANYON SW

2 200 000 FEET

42'30" 289

288

287

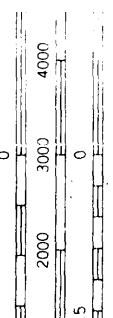
1286

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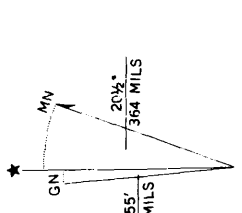
1289

1290



SCALE 1:24,000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



UTM GRID AND 1968 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCI
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOL