



MEMORANDUM

TO: Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners (BCC)
FROM: Gary Schmidt, County Administrator
RE: Oregon Geographic Names Board Proposals - Borges, Deardorff, & Pleasant Butte
DATE: January 21, 2025

REQUEST: Staff are seeking Board direction on three proposals to name geographic features near Happy Valley that are currently under consideration by the Oregon Geographic Names Board.

BACKGROUND: Through a public proposal process, geographic features throughout the United States are officially named by the United States Board on Geographic Names, based on recommendations from state-level geographic naming boards. The Oregon Geographic Names Board is currently considering three proposals, submitted by the City of Happy Valley, to name geographic features in recognition of early settlers of the area or their relation to other geographic features. The Oregon Geographic Names Board is required to ask local jurisdictions and relevant parties for their input on the proposals as part of the recommendation process.

Attached are the three proposals:

- Borges Butte - Would name a butte south of Borges Road and east of Foster Road that sits on the original Carl Borges 1885 land claim
- Deardorff Butte - Would name a butte approximately 1 mile NNE of Damascus in honor of the Deardorff family that had Donation Land Claims in the area
- Pleasant Butte - Would name a butte at the southeast corner of Pleasant Valley

The Borges and Deardorff families are supportive of the relevant proposals. No opposition to the proposal has been raised by any stakeholders, but most parties appear to have taken a “no comment” position on the proposal. Federally recognized Tribes in the area have not responded to a request for comment.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommend that the Board offer no comment on the proposal.

Attachments:

Letter from the Oregon Geographic Names Board requesting comment
Board on Geographic Names Domestic Names Committee Proposal - Borges Butte
Board on Geographic Names Domestic Names Committee Proposal - Deardorff Butte
Board on Geographic Names Domestic Names Committee Proposal - Pleasant Butte



OREGON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES BOARD
Oregon Historical Society
1200 SW Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97205

January 6, 2025

To: Clackamas County Board of Commissioners

Re: Proposals to name three un-named features in Clackamas County

From: Oregon Geographic Names Board

This cover letter accompanies three Domestic Geographic Name proposals to name unnamed geographic features in Clackamas County. The City of Happy Valley is the proponent of all three proposals. The features are classified as buttes and are currently privately owned. The City of Happy Valley sent two separate letters to property owners asking for feedback back on whether they supported, opposed, or had no opinion to the proposed name for their butte. The buttes are located between Happy Valley and Damascus.

The OGNB would appreciate a written response to these proposals. Please let the OGNB know whether your county supports the proposed names of Borges Butte, Deardorff Butte, and Pleasant Butte, opposes one or all names or have no opinion. Additional comments about any or all these proposals are welcome.

Your response can be made by e-mail or postal mail. Please direct your email to ognb@ohs.org, or if your response is by letter, send it to the postal address under the heading of this letter.

Respectfully,

Bruce Fisher, President, Oregon Geographic Names Board



Oregon Geographic Names Board

This document is for those interested in proposing:

1. **A new name for a currently unnamed geographic feature, or;**
2. **A change to an existing name, spelling, or where a name is applied.**

*Submit this completed form to: **OGNB@ohs.org***

Oregon Geographic Names Board
Oregon Historical Society
1200 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97205
OGNB@ohs.org

[Visit us online](#)

Domestic Geographic Name Proposal Form

The Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) is the official state geographic names authority for Oregon and serves as the official advisor to the United States Board on Geographic Names (USBGN). OGNB works with proponents to help them gather input from tribes, counties, landowners and affected public agencies on geographic naming proposals. OGNB then makes recommendations to the USBGN on those proposals.

This form is to propose a new name or name, spelling, or application change for a geographic feature. Proponents should carefully review the proposal prior to submission to ensure that it is consistent with the [BGN policies](#). The entire proposal—including identifying information and any associated correspondence—is in the public domain and may be made publicly available at any time.

Read more about OGNB by [visiting our website](#).

Date Submitted:

July 20, 2024

Submit Proposal:

1. Download, complete and email this form OR 2. Send by mail to:
and supporting documentation to:

OGNB@OHS.org

- i. Email Subject: *Oregon Geographic Name Proposal*

Oregon Geographic Names Board
Oregon Historical Society
1200 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97205

Naming Basics

Proposed Name:

Borges Butte

Is this to change an existing name? Y N

If yes, please provide the official name and Feature ID as it appears in [the Geographic Names Information System \(GNIS\)](#).

Is this name in current local use? Y N

What is the Feature Type?

Summit

GNIS Name:

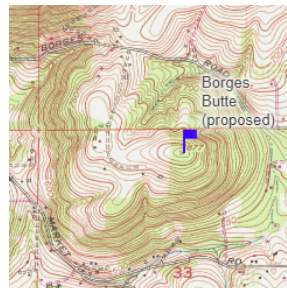
GNIS ID:

Location Basics

Where is the feature?

Latitude: 45.4458 (38.94741)

Longitude: -122.4442 (-77.36839)



General Location:

State: Oregon

County: Clackamas

City/Town/ Township/ Borough: Happy Valley

For Linear Features (e.g. stream or valley):

Mouth/Confluence

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)

Source/Headwater

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)

Public Land Survey System:

Section(s), Township, Range, Meridian

T1SR3E Section 33

Feature Description

Physical shape, length, width, etc. (Maps can be submitted separately by email)

790-ft elevation butte about 1 mile wide just west of Sunshine Valley. See attached maps

Name Details

Name information:

Please provide relevant information about the proposed name, such as origin, meaning, how long it has been in current use, as well as current or historical significance. Also include why you believe the feature requires a name or name change and why the proposed name is appropriate. Describe any documents that you will be submitting (separately by email) to support your proposal.

Carl Christian Frederick Borges 1847-1928 born in Germany and his son Frederick Henry William Borges 1893-1965 hold the southwest quarter of Section 28, 160 acres. The road between their properties is now Borges Road. See additional documentation provided by Mark Hurburt, local historian.

Please provide a list of supporting documentation, including any web links:

Examples: Published sources showing the proposed name or letters of support (local government, historical society, etc.).

BLM GLO record OROCAA 045028 <https://glorerecords.blm.gov/details/patent/default.aspx?accession=OROCAA%20045028&docClass=SER&sid=d3xqtymm.tw1>

Is the name [commemorative](#)? Does the name honor or refer to a person or persons? Y N

Please note that the BGN will only accept proposals for names that are intended to honor a person or persons deceased at least five years. The BGN will disapprove names that could be construed to honor living persons. The person being honored should have had either (1) some direct or long-term association with the feature, or (2) have made a significant contribution to the area, community, or State in which it is located; or (3) have outstanding national or international recognition. The BGN discourages the use of an individual's full name except to avoid ambiguity.

If yes, please provide the following:

Honoree's Date of Birth: 1847

Honoree's Date of Death: 1928

Short biography and significance or association with the geographic feature: *(list any additional honorees here)*

Carl Borges appears to have acquired his land in 1885 under the 1862 Homestead Act where settlers could obtain up to 160 acres without cost other than certain filing fees by meeting requirements to live on the land in a habitable dwelling for 5 years and cultivate the land. Carl Borges in the U.S., General Land Office Records, 1776-2015
Name Carl Borges Issue
Date 19 Dec 1885
Place Clackamas, Oregon, USA
Meridian Willamette Township
001s
Range 003E Aliquots
SW¼ Section 28
Accession Number OROCAA 045028
Document Number 1925

Is the feature in a Wilderness Area or Wilderness Study Area? Y N
 Unknown

If yes, please provide your justification for making an exception to [the Wilderness Policy](#):

Please note that the US Board on Geographic Names (USBBGN) will not approve new names for unnamed features within wilderness areas or wilderness study areas, unless an overriding need can be demonstrated by the proponent.

Is the name you are proposing intended to honor Native Americans, their language, or culture? Y N

If yes, to ensure that the proposed name is appropriate, OGNB strongly advises proponents to work with Tribal Leaders, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and/or Native American linguists or other expert(s) associated with the Tribe to determine the acceptability of the proposed name and application. Please review [the BGN's Cultural Sensitivity for Native American Names guidance](#).

Proponents should also seek letters of endorsement from the governments (e.g., Tribal Councils) of any affected Tribes. Please indicate below, or in documentation submitted separately (with this proposal or any time after the proposal is submitted), any efforts to solicit Tribal input.

Additional Information +

Is there any local opposition or conflict with the proposed name? Y N

If yes, please explain and describe any opposition:

A canvas of landowners by the City of Happy Valley Economic & Community Development Dept. found no opposition to the proposed name.

Additional notes, including any Tribal input details

E-mail (11/25/2024) from Borges descendant reads:

Renaming it to Borges Butte is fine. I would like the official narrative that's going to be attached to the name be correct. And its not now. That's how history gets screwed up. Long after you and I are gone that's what's going to be left. Since there won't be anyone around that knows otherwise it will be accepted as the truth. I thought you were going to have someone involved with that get ahold of me.

Thanks,
Nick

Proponent Information

Please provide one form of contact (email preferred):

 Proponent's Name: Michael Walter AICP

Agency or Organization, if applicable:

City of Happy Valley

 Email: michaelw@happyvalleyor.gov

 Mailing Address: 16000 SE Misty Drive Happy Valley, OR

 Phone: 5037833839

 Are you completing this form for someone else? Y N

If yes, please fill out the following:

Completed by:

Full Name:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

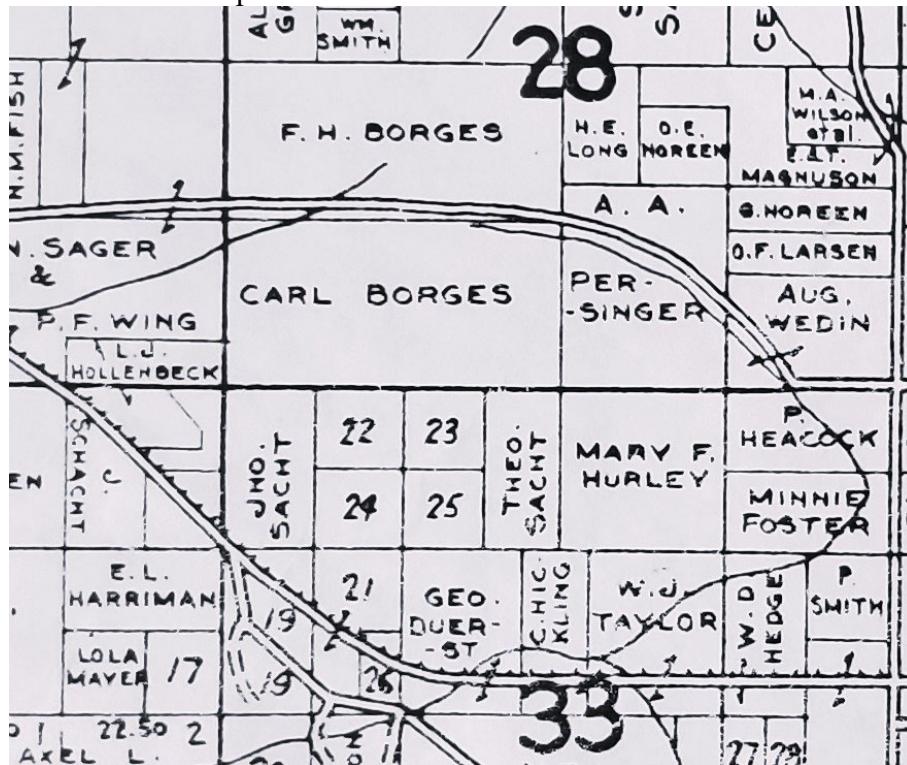
Name Proposals for Buttes

Butte 1

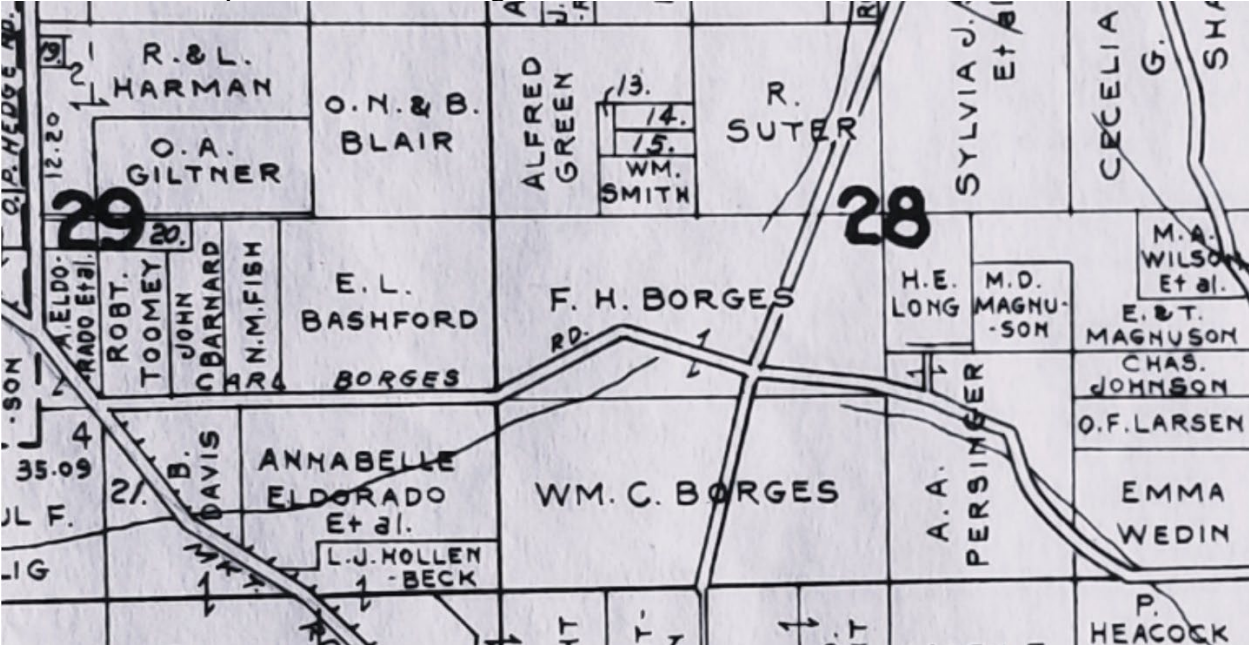
Proposed Name: Borges Butte

Background: Named for the Borges family who owned property at the location of the butte. Butte 1 is located on the southern end of section 28, the Borges family property, and the northern end of section 33. Carl Christian Frederick Borges was born in 1847 in Germany and immigrated to the United States in the 1870s. He later moved to Oregon and owned 160 acres of land in Section 28 of Township 1S Range 3E. Carl Borges acquired his land as a patent in 1885 under the 1862 Homestead Act. According to the 1910 U.S. Census, Borges worked as a farmer on his land. Carl's son Frederick Henry William Borges was born in 1893 and owned property on the northern side of his father's. The road between their properties is now Borges Road, which straddles the northern side of Butte 1. Carl Borges died in 1928 and was interred in Lincoln Memorial Park on Mount Scott, which borders Happy Valley. The Carl Borges property became owned by Christian William Borges, Carl's son and Frederick's brother, and this is shown on the 1937 Metsker map. Christian was born in 1890 and served as a Private in the Infantry during World War I. He died in September 1951 and was one of the first to be buried in Willamette National Cemetery with the first interment taking place earlier that year. Frederick Borges died in 1965 and was buried in Gresham.

1928 Metsker Map:

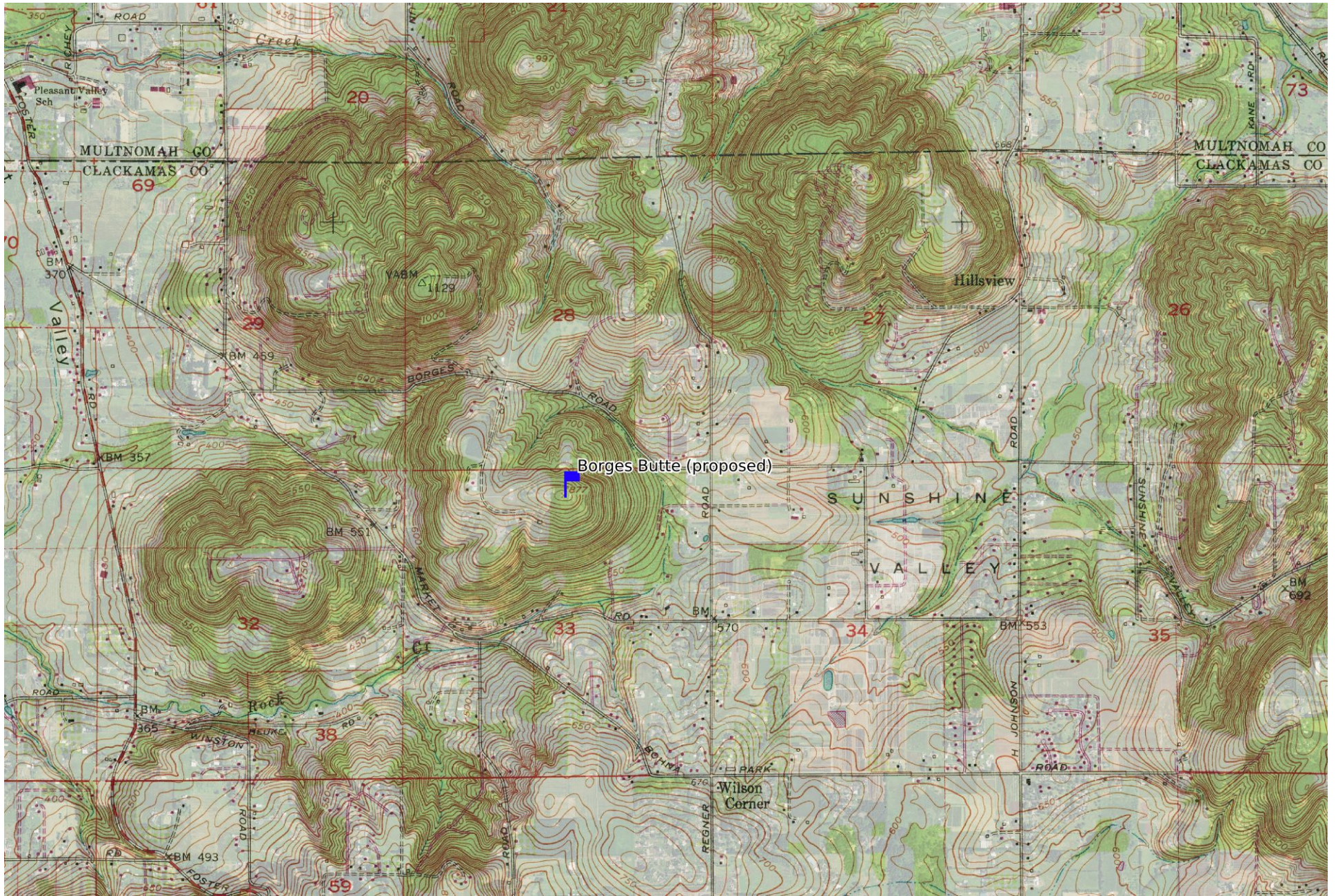


1937 Metsker map, also note Carl Borges Road:

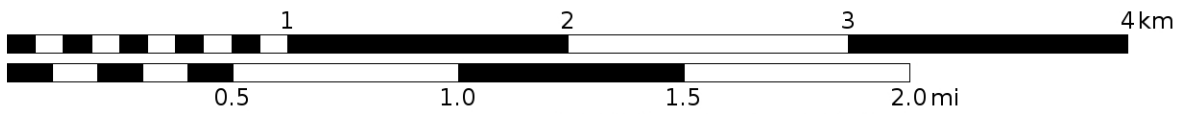


Frederick Borges and his wife Lenna:

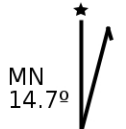


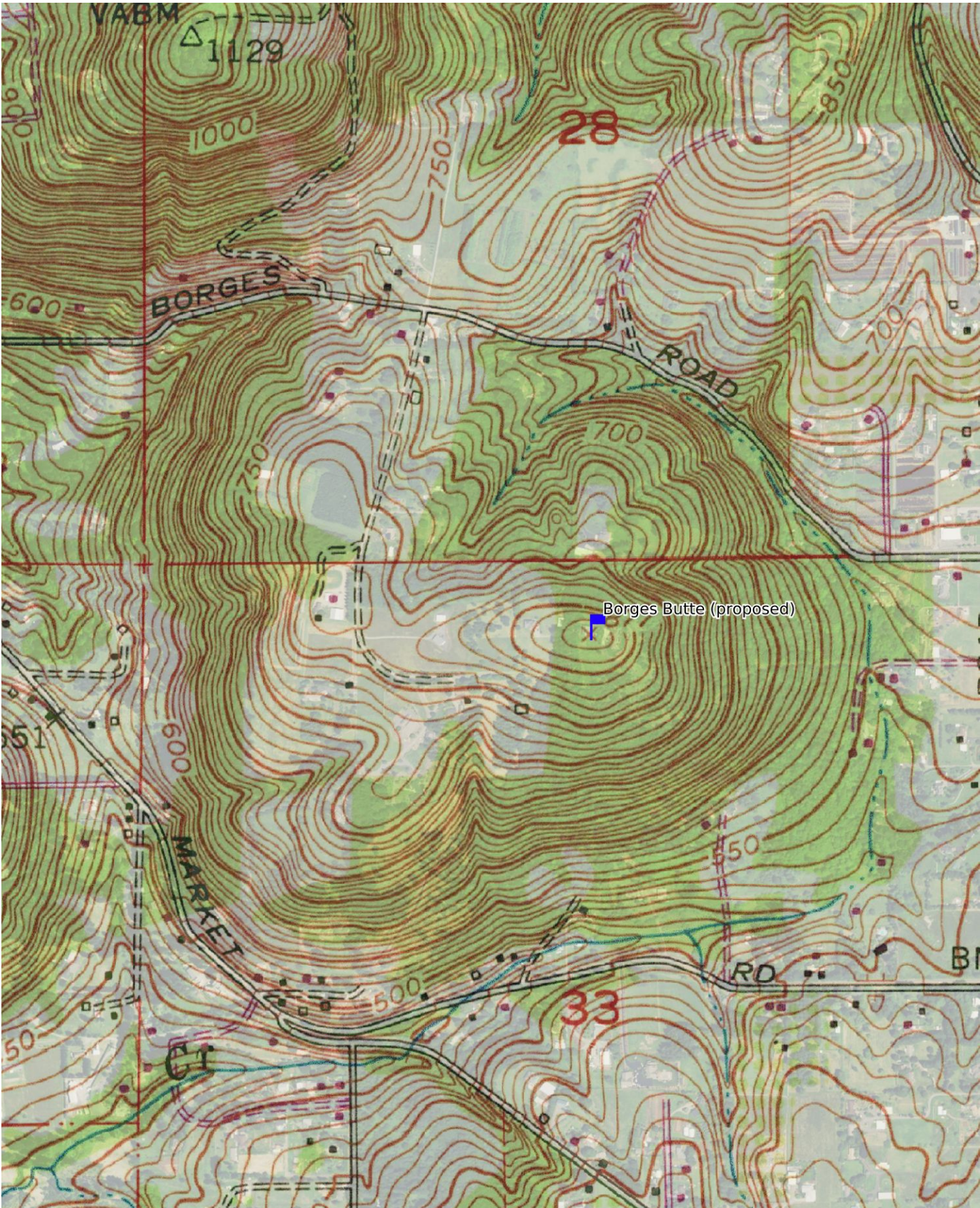


Mercator Projection
 NAD27 Conus
 UTM Zone 10T

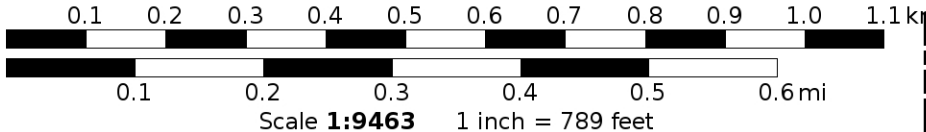


Scale 1:26958 1 inch = 2247 feet






Mercator Projection
 NAD27 Conus
 UTM Zone 10T

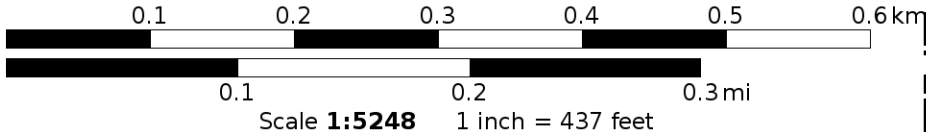




MN
 14.7°





Mercator Projection
NAD27 Conus
UTM Zone 10T

MN
14.7° 



Oregon Geographic Names Board

This document is for those interested in proposing:

1. **A new name for a currently unnamed geographic feature, or;**
2. **A change to an existing name, spelling, or where a name is applied.**

*Submit this completed form to: **OGNB@ohs.org***

Oregon Geographic Names Board
Oregon Historical Society
1200 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97205
OGNB@ohs.org

[Visit us online](#)

Domestic Geographic Name Proposal Form

The Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) is the official state geographic names authority for Oregon and serves as the official advisor to the United States Board on Geographic Names (USBGN). OGNB works with proponents to help them gather input from tribes, counties, landowners and affected public agencies on geographic naming proposals. OGNB then makes recommendations to the USBGN on those proposals.

This form is to propose a new name or name, spelling, or application change for a geographic feature. Proponents should carefully review the proposal prior to submission to ensure that it is consistent with the [BGN policies](#). The entire proposal—including identifying information and any associated correspondence—is in the public domain and may be made publicly available at any time.

Read more about OGNB by [visiting our website](#).

Date Submitted:

July 3, 2024

Submit Proposal:

1. Download, complete and email this form OR 2. Send by mail to:
and supporting documentation to:

OGNB@OHS.org

- i. Email Subject: *Oregon Geographic Name Proposal*

Oregon Geographic Names Board
Oregon Historical Society
1200 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97205

Naming Basics

Proposed Name:

Deardorff Butte

Is this to change an existing name? Y N

If yes, please provide the official name and Feature ID as it appears in [the Geographic Names Information System \(GNIS\)](#).

Is this name in current local use? Y N

What is the Feature Type?

Summit

GNIS Name:

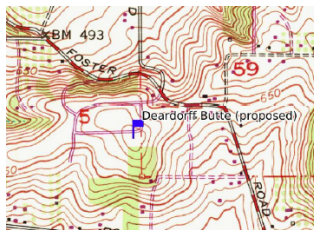
GNIS ID:

Location Basics

Where is the feature?

Latitude: 45.42449 (38.94741)

Longitude: -122.46550 (-77.36839)



General Location:

State: Oregon

County: Clackamas

City/Town/
Township/
Borough:

For Linear Features (e.g. stream or valley):

Mouth/Confluence

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)

Source/Headwater

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)

Public Land Survey System:

Section(s), Township, Range, Meridian

T2R3E Section 6

Feature Description

Physical shape, length, width, etc. (Maps can be submitted separately by email)

770-ft elevation conical-shaped volcanic butte

Name Details

Name information:

Please provide relevant information about the proposed name, such as origin, meaning, how long it has been in current use, as well as current or historical significance. Also include why you believe the feature requires a name or name change and why the proposed name is appropriate. Describe any documents that you will be submitting (separately by email) to support your proposal.

The Deardorff family acquired 320 acres in 1851 as a Donation Land Claim. At one time the surrounding farming community was known as Deardorff Valley, See attached biography.

Please provide a list of supporting documentation, including any web links:

Examples: Published sources showing the proposed name or letters of support (local government, historical society, etc.).

E-mail (4/30/2024) from Deardorff descendant reads:

Hi Michael

From what I understand in your email and the threads, the city is pursuing naming/renaming the buttes in the area. The Deardorff family would have no objection if our name was used. In case you were not aware, on the top of Scouters Mtn. there is a pioneer cemetery established by John Deardorff, the first son of Christian, and Matilda Deardorff, original settlers of the HV bowl. Our family has maintained the cemetery property since its plotting. It is registered with the State of Oregon as the Christilla Pioneer Cemetery. (See the PDF attached)

Is the name [commemorative](#)? Does the name honor or refer to a person or persons? Y N

Please note that the BGN will only accept proposals for names that are intended to honor a person or persons deceased at least five years. The BGN will disapprove names that could be construed to honor living persons. The person being honored should have had either (1) some direct or long-term association with the feature, or (2) have made a significant contribution to the area, community, or State in which it is located; or (3) have outstanding national or international recognition. The BGN discourages the use of an individual's full name except to avoid ambiguity.

If yes, please provide the following:

Honoree's Date of Birth: 1805

Honoree's Date of Death: 1884

Short biography and significance or association with the geographic feature: *(list any additional honorees here)*

See attached documentation provided by Mark Hurburt, local historian.

Is the feature in a Wilderness Area or Wilderness Study Area? Y N
 Unknown

If yes, please provide your justification for making an exception to [the Wilderness Policy](#):

Please note that the US Board on Geographic Names (USBBGN) will not approve new names for unnamed features within wilderness areas or wilderness study areas, unless an overriding need can be demonstrated by the proponent.

Is the name you are proposing intended to honor Native Americans, their language, or culture? Y N

If yes, to ensure that the proposed name is appropriate, OGNB strongly advises proponents to work with Tribal Leaders, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and/or Native American linguists or other expert(s) associated with the Tribe to determine the acceptability of the proposed name and application. Please review [the BGN's Cultural Sensitivity for Native American Names guidance](#).

Proponents should also seek letters of endorsement from the governments (e.g., Tribal Councils) of any affected Tribes. Please indicate below, or in documentation submitted separately (with this proposal or any time after the proposal is submitted), any efforts to solicit Tribal input.

Additional Information +

Is there any local opposition or conflict with the proposed name? Y N

If yes, please explain and describe any opposition:

A canvassing of local landowners by the City of Happy Valley found here is no opposition to naming the feature Deardorff Butte.

The Deardorff family supports the proposed name of Deardorff Butte. see letter below.

Additional notes, including any Tribal input details

City of Happy Valley reached out to the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde and did not receive a reply.

Proponent Information

Please provide one form of contact (email preferred):


 Proponent's Name: Michael Walter AICP


Agency or Organization, if applicable:

City of Happy Valley

 Email: michaelw@happyvalleyor.gov

 Mailing Address: 16000 SE Misty Drive Happy Valley, OR

 Phone: 503-783-3839

 Are you completing this form for someone else? Y N

If yes, please fill out the following:

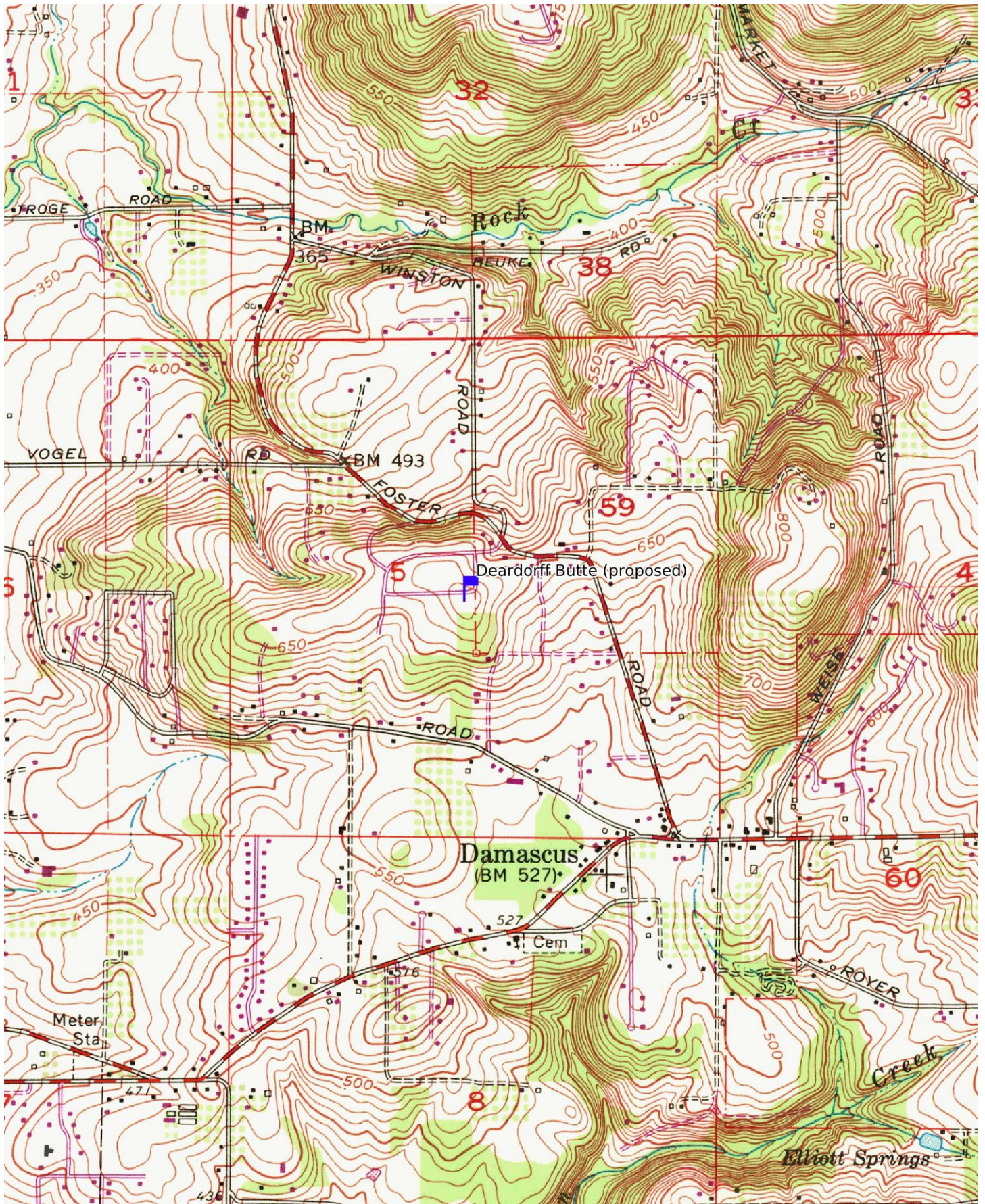
Completed by:

Full Name:

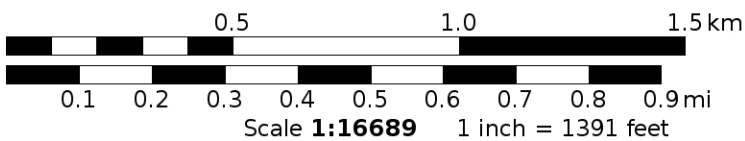
Email:

Mailing Address:


Phone:



Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 UTM Zone 10T

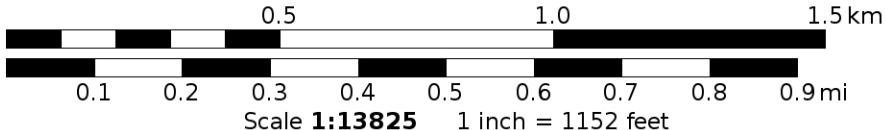




MN
 14.7°





Mercator Projection
WGS84
UTM Zone 10T

MN
14.7° 

The Deardorffs: The First Settlers in Happy Valley

By Mark Hurlburt

Although the City of Happy Valley did not incorporate until 1965, the settlement of the valley began long before then, when the Deardorff family claimed hundreds of valley acreage as donation land claims in 1851. Christian Deardorff, of German ancestry, was born in Virginia on January 15, 1805. He was the first of thirteen children born to John and Catharine Deardorff. His future wife, Matilda Landers, was born in Virginia on August 31, 1802 to Christian and Elizabeth Landers. Christian and Matilda married in early 1824 in Indiana where they had the first of their six children, John Martindell, who was born on October 10th of that year. While in Indiana, Christian worked as a farmer and a miller.¹ The family next lived in Illinois before going overland from Iowa in 1850 to the Oregon Territory in a train of 30 wagons.²



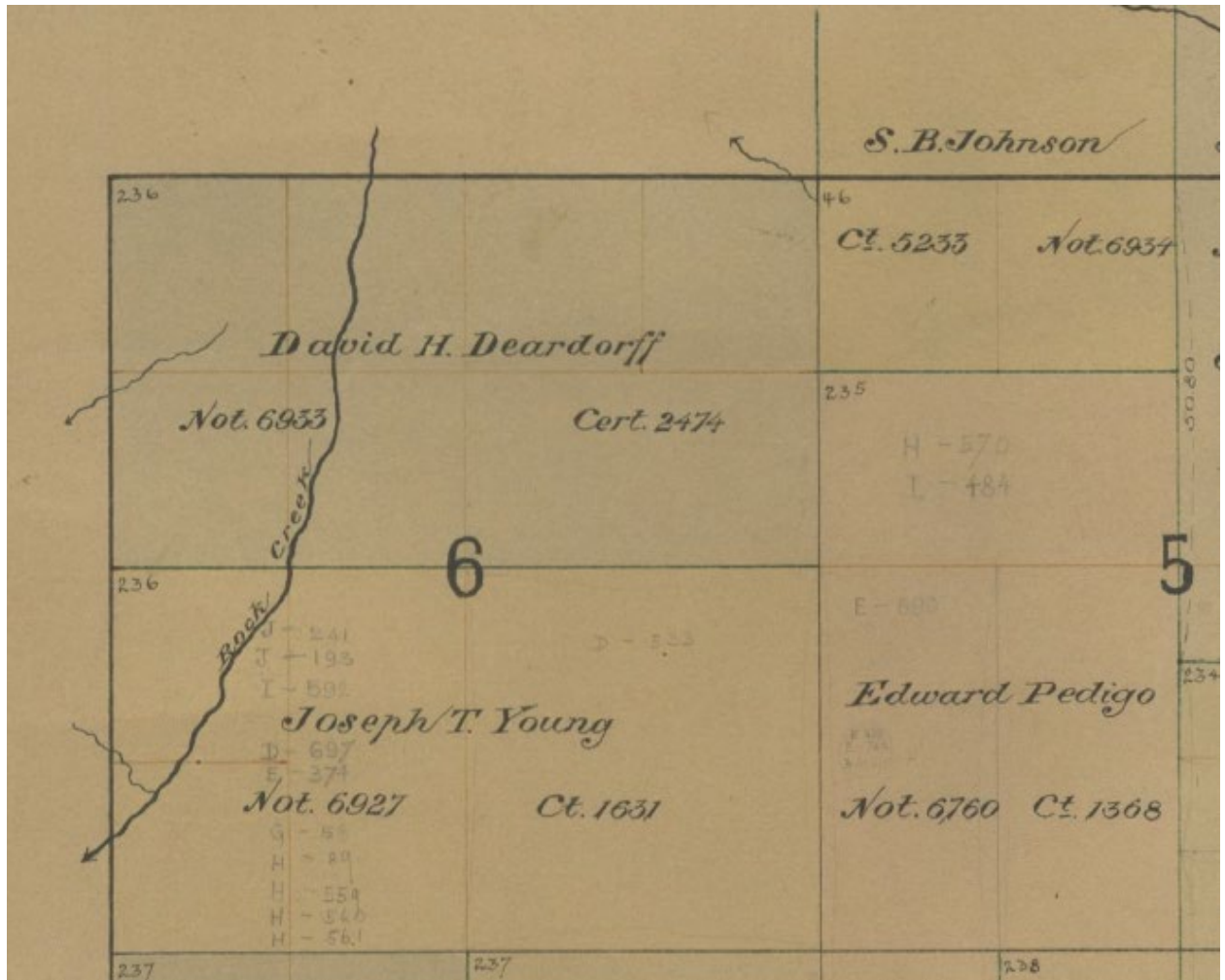
Christian and Matilda Deardorff

Courtesy: Clackamas County Historical Society

After arriving in Oregon, the Deardorffs were among thousands of other emigrants who took advantage of the 1850 Donation Land Claim Act, created by Congress to grant 320 acres to an individual and 640 acres to a married couple as a way of encouraging American settlement in the newly created U.S. Territory of Oregon. In 1851, Christian and Matilda settled on 640 acres in Clackamas County between a cinder cone that would later be named Mount Scott and a knoll now known as Scouters' Mountain. As they were the first to settle there, the area became known as the Deardorff Valley, Deardorff Settlement and Christilla Valley, a combination of Christian (Chris) and Matilda (Tilla). Once they settled, Christian continued his trade as a farmer. As other emigrants joined the Deardorffs and settled in and nearby the valley, the area became a farming community. John went to Salem and Milwaukie in search of employment and at Oregon City he found lodging and an occupation in splitting rails.³ In October 1851, John claimed 320 acres next to his parents' claim in the valley.



The land claims of Christian and John M. Deardorff with present-day roads
Clackamas County Historical Society



The following year an unknown man who had travelled the Oregon Trail with the Deardorffs passed away and needed to be laid to rest somewhere. John donated a small part in the eastern side of his land claim for the man to be buried and the site became a cemetery.⁴ Located on Scouters' Mountain and known as the Christilla Pioneer Cemetery, this is where Christian (d. 1884), Matilda (d. 1891) and other Deardorff family members would be buried. In 1854, John married Rachel Ingram, a native of Illinois whose father received a donation land claim to the northeast of Christian Deardorff's claim. Together they would have three sons, John Bennett, William Albert and James Henry, and a daughter who died in infancy.⁵ In 1858, the family built the famous Deardorff Barn on John's dairy farm, which stood until 1997 when it was torn down to make way for the Happy Valley Heights subdivision.⁶ The barn was built in a Vernacular style with hewn and mortised timbers fastened together with pegs and the siding attached using square nails.



Deardorff Barn, 1989

Photo by Bud Unruh

As part of his occupation as a farmer, John M. would make a weekly trip into Portland with his horse and buggy to sell produce from the farm.⁷ Among the produce grown on the farm were rhubarb, grains and apples, which was condensed into cider and then into vinegar from the farm's cider mill.⁸ Like his father, William Albert made regular deliveries of produce to Portland by horse and buggy. With only a steep, muddy road over Mount Scott as the way out of the valley, William and another local resident, C.W. Gay, petitioned county commissioners in 1898 to have a new county road surveyed and constructed going north to Foster Road.⁹



John and Rachel Deardorff and their sons

Courtesy: The Deardorff family

John Bennett worked as one of the axe men in the survey and laying out of the road that was a joint effort by both Multnomah and Clackamas County. Today, the road on the Clackamas side is known as 132nd Avenue and on the Multnomah side is known as Deardorff Road. For a time the children of the valley went to Rock Creek or Sunnyside for school until 1892 when a small, one-room schoolhouse opened on an acre of land donated to the county from John M. Deardorff's land claim.¹⁰ John Bennett, who was the school district's clerk, got a large bell made to be placed in the steeple.¹¹ This bell continued on when the schoolhouse was replaced by a larger one in 1917 on the same site, which was added on to over the decades to keep pace with the valley's population.¹² The Deardorff bell currently resides outside the present-day Happy Valley Elementary and Middle Schools on Southeast King Road located on the same site of the original school. John M. Deardorff, co-founder of the settlement that would become the City of Happy Valley, died in 1902 and was buried in the cemetery on Scouters' Mountain. As the decades of the 20th century passed, the fertile, agricultural land first cultivated by the Deardorffs and other early settlers were broken up and sold in smaller real estate sales and the farming culture slowly passed away and the valley area transitioned into a suburban residential community.

Mark Hurlburt is a lifelong Happy Valley resident and the volunteer librarian in the Wilmer Gardner Research Library at the Museum of the Oregon Territory.

References

- 1 Portrait and Biographical Record of Portland and Vicinity, Oregon. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903. p. 415.
- 2 Portrait and Biographical Record of Portland and Vicinity, Oregon. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903. p. 415.
- 3 Portrait and Biographical Record of Portland and Vicinity, Oregon. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903. p. 415.
- 4 Deardorff Cockle, Mabel. "Some Memories of Childhood Days with My Wonderful Grandparents, John and Rachel Deardorff." 1959.
- 5 Portrait and Biographical Record of Portland and Vicinity, Oregon. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903. p. 415.
- 6 Clackamas County Historic Resources Inventory 1989-1992.
- 7 Deardorff Cockle, Mabel. "Some Memories of Childhood Days with My Wonderful Grandparents, John and Rachel Deardorff." 1959.
- 8 Deardorff, Arthur. "Historical Notes and Stories." 1960.
- 9 Multnomah County Surveyor. Road Book 3. County Road 641. p. 149.
Spickelmeier, Verda. "Deardorffs part of Happy Valley's colorful past." Clackamas County Review 19 June 1991.
Pintarich, Paul. "New covered bridge anachronism spanning Johnson Creek." Oregonian 5 Jan. 1982.
- 10 Deardorff Cockle, Mabel. "Some Memories of Childhood Days with My Wonderful Grandparents, John and Rachel Deardorff." 1959.
- 11 "School Fund Apportionment." Oregon City Enterprise 22 April 1892.
- 12 Happy Valley School. The History of Happy Valley, Oregon. 1969. p. 19

Hi Michael

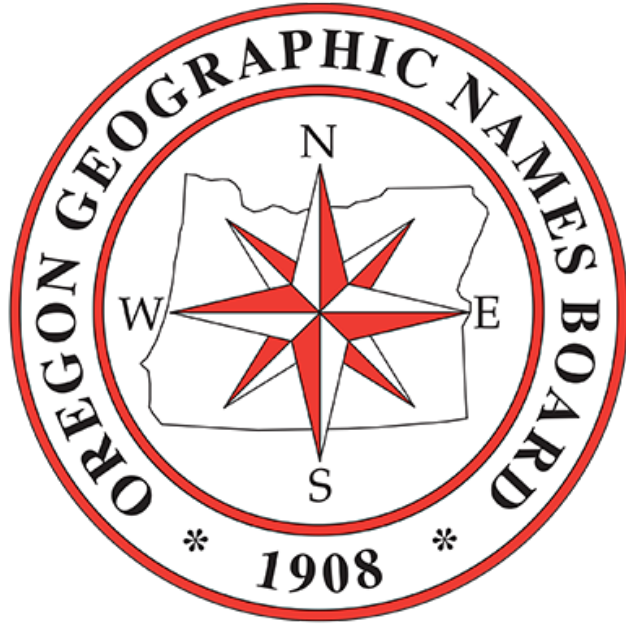
From what I understand in your email and the threads, the city is pursuing naming/renaming the buttes in the area. The Deardorff family would have no objection if our name was used. In case you were not aware, on the top of Scouters Mtn. there is a pioneer cemetery established by John Deardorff, the first son of Christian, and Matilda Deardorff, original settlers of the HV bowl. Our family has maintained the cemetery property since its plotting. It is registered with the State of Oregon as the Christilla Pioneer Cemetery. (See the PDF attached)

You are welcome to call me if you would like to discuss this further.

Thank you

Dennis

Dennis Deardorff



Oregon Geographic Names Board

This document is for those interested in proposing:

1. **A new name for a currently unnamed geographic feature, or;**
2. **A change to an existing name, spelling, or where a name is applied.**

*Submit this completed form to: **OGNB@ohs.org***

Oregon Geographic Names Board
Oregon Historical Society
1200 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97205
OGNB@ohs.org

[Visit us online](#)

Domestic Geographic Name Proposal Form

The Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) is the official state geographic names authority for Oregon and serves as the official advisor to the United States Board on Geographic Names (USBGN). OGNB works with proponents to help them gather input from tribes, counties, landowners and affected public agencies on geographic naming proposals. OGNB then makes recommendations to the USBGN on those proposals.

This form is to propose a new name or name, spelling, or application change for a geographic feature. Proponents should carefully review the proposal prior to submission to ensure that it is consistent with the [BGN policies](#). The entire proposal—including identifying information and any associated correspondence—is in the public domain and may be made publicly available at any time.

Read more about OGNB by [visiting our website](#).

Date Submitted:

July 1, 2024

Submit Proposal:

1. Download, complete and email this form OR 2. Send by mail to:
and supporting documentation to:

OGNB@OHS.org

- i. Email Subject: *Oregon Geographic Name Proposal*

Oregon Geographic Names Board
Oregon Historical Society
1200 S.W. Park Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97205

Naming Basics

Proposed Name:

Pleasant Butte

Is this to change an existing name? Y N

If yes, please provide the official name and Feature ID as it appears in [the Geographic Names Information System \(GNIS\)](#).

Is this name in current local use? Y N

What is the Feature Type?

Summit

GNIS Name:

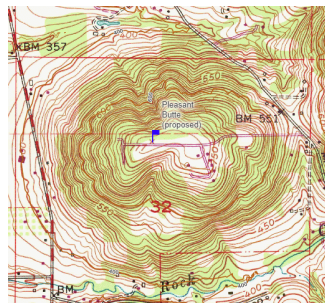
GNIS ID:

Location Basics

Where is the feature?

Latitude: 45.4426 (38.94741)

Longitude: -122.4657 (-77.36839)



General Location:

State: Oregon

County: Clackamas

City/Town/ Township/ Borough: Happy Valley

For Linear Features (e.g. stream or valley):

Mouth/Confluence

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)

Source/Headwater

Latitude: (38.94741)

Longitude: (-77.36839)

Public Land Survey System:

Section(s), Township, Range, Meridian

T1SR3E Section 32

Feature Description

Physical shape, length, width, etc. (Maps can be submitted separately by email)

780-ft elevation circular-shaped basalt butte north of the community of Damascus. See maps.

Name Details

Name information:

Please provide relevant information about the proposed name, such as origin, meaning, how long it has been in current use, as well as current or historical significance. Also include why you believe the feature requires a name or name change and why the proposed name is appropriate. Describe any documents that you will be submitting (separately by email) to support your proposal.

This butte is found at the southeast corner of Pleasant Valley, the north-south running valley just to the west. Pleasant Valley has been named since the 1880's and first appeared on a federal map in 1911.

Background: Pleasant Valley stretches across the Clackamas County and Multnomah County border. It is located east of Happy Valley, northwest of Damascus, and southwest of Gresham. Other nearby locations with the Pleasant Valley name include the Pleasant Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church on 172nd Avenue in Happy Valley and the Pleasant Valley Elementary School in Multnomah County. Pleasant Butte would be an appropriate name for it.

Nearby valley is named Happy Valley.

Please provide a list of supporting documentation, including any web links:

Examples: Published sources showing the proposed name or letters of support (local government, historical society, etc.).

Happy Valley, Oregon: A Brief History, Mark W. Hurburt
About the Author

After graduating with a BS in history degree from Portland State University, lifelong Happy Valley resident Mark W. Hurlburt has been researching, collecting and exhibiting local history. He has worked at the Clackamas County Historical Society's Museum of the Oregon Territory and is the curator at the Milwaukie Museum. He is a coauthor of On This Day in Clackamas County and author of North Clackamas (Images of America series); he enjoys spending time outdoors and with Frankie, his wiener dog.

Is the name [commemorative](#)? Does the name honor or refer to a person or persons? Y N

Please note that the BGN will only accept proposals for names that are intended to honor a person or persons deceased at least five years. The BGN will disapprove names that could be construed to honor living persons. The person being honored should have had either (1) some direct or long-term association with the feature, or (2) have made a significant contribution to the area, community, or State in which it is located; or (3) have outstanding national or international recognition. The BGN discourages the use of an individual's full name except to avoid ambiguity.

If yes, please provide the following:

Honoree's Date of Birth:

Honoree's Date of Death:

Short biography and significance or association with the geographic feature: *(list any additional honorees here)*

Is the feature in a Wilderness Area or Wilderness Study Area? Y N
 Unknown

If yes, please provide your justification for making an exception to [the Wilderness Policy](#):

Please note that the US Board on Geographic Names (USBBGN) will not approve new names for unnamed features within wilderness areas or wilderness study areas, unless an overriding need can be demonstrated by the proponent.

Is the name you are proposing intended to honor Native Americans, their language, or culture? Y N

If yes, to ensure that the proposed name is appropriate, OGNB strongly advises proponents to work with Tribal Leaders, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and/or Native American linguists or other expert(s) associated with the Tribe to determine the acceptability of the proposed name and application. Please review [the BGN's Cultural Sensitivity for Native American Names guidance](#).

Proponents should also seek letters of endorsement from the governments (e.g., Tribal Councils) of any affected Tribes. Please indicate below, or in documentation submitted separately (with this proposal or any time after the proposal is submitted), any efforts to solicit Tribal input.

Additional Information +

Is there any local opposition or conflict with the proposed name? Y N

If yes, please explain and describe any opposition:

City of Happy Valley canvassed local landowners and did not receive any opposition to the proposed name.

Additional notes, including any Tribal input details

City of Happy Valley reached out to the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde but did not receive a reply.

Proponent Information

Please provide one form of contact (email preferred):

 Proponent's Name: Michael Walter AICP


Agency or Organization, if applicable:

City of Happy Valley

 Email: michaelw@happyvalleyor.gov

 Mailing Address: 16000 SE Misty Drive Happy Valley, OR

 Phone: 5037833839

 Are you completing this form for someone else? Y N

If yes, please fill out the following:

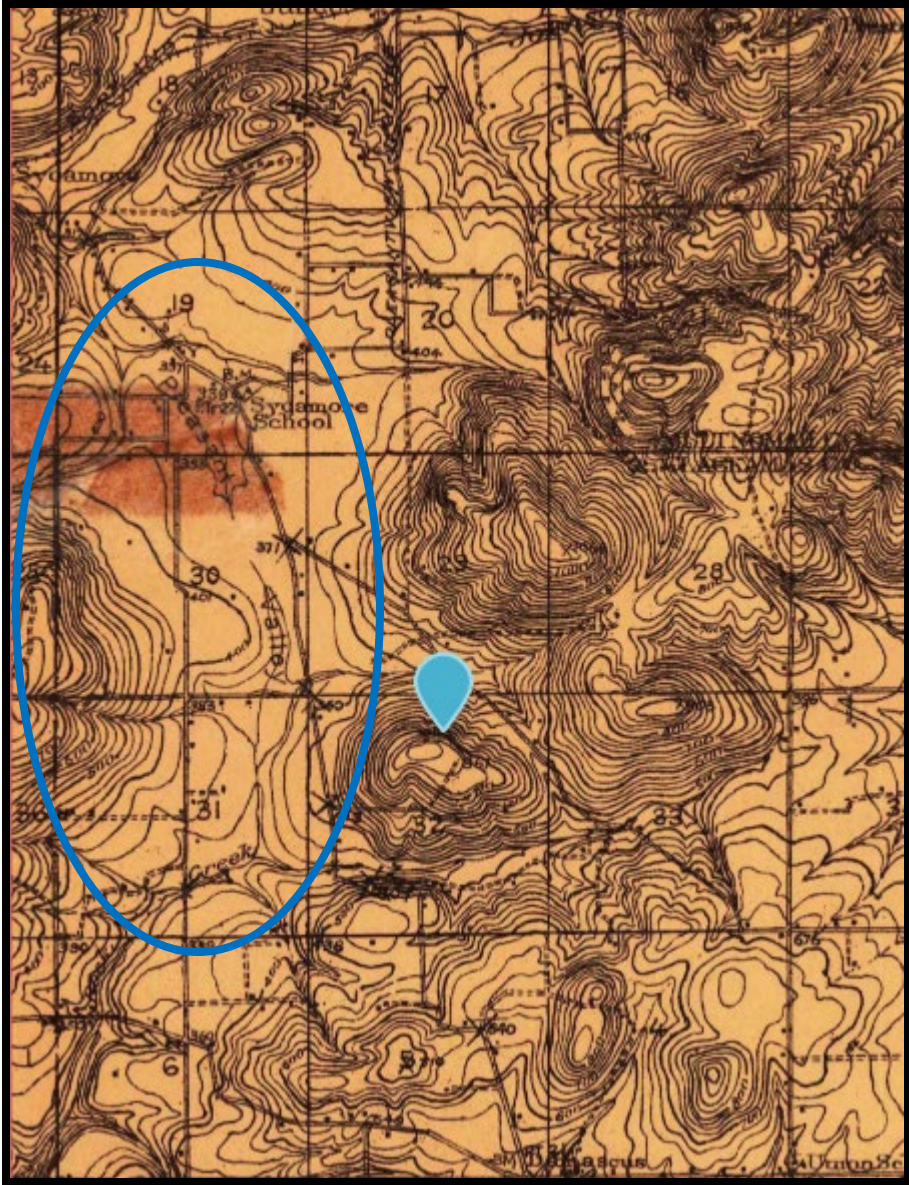
Completed by:

Full Name:

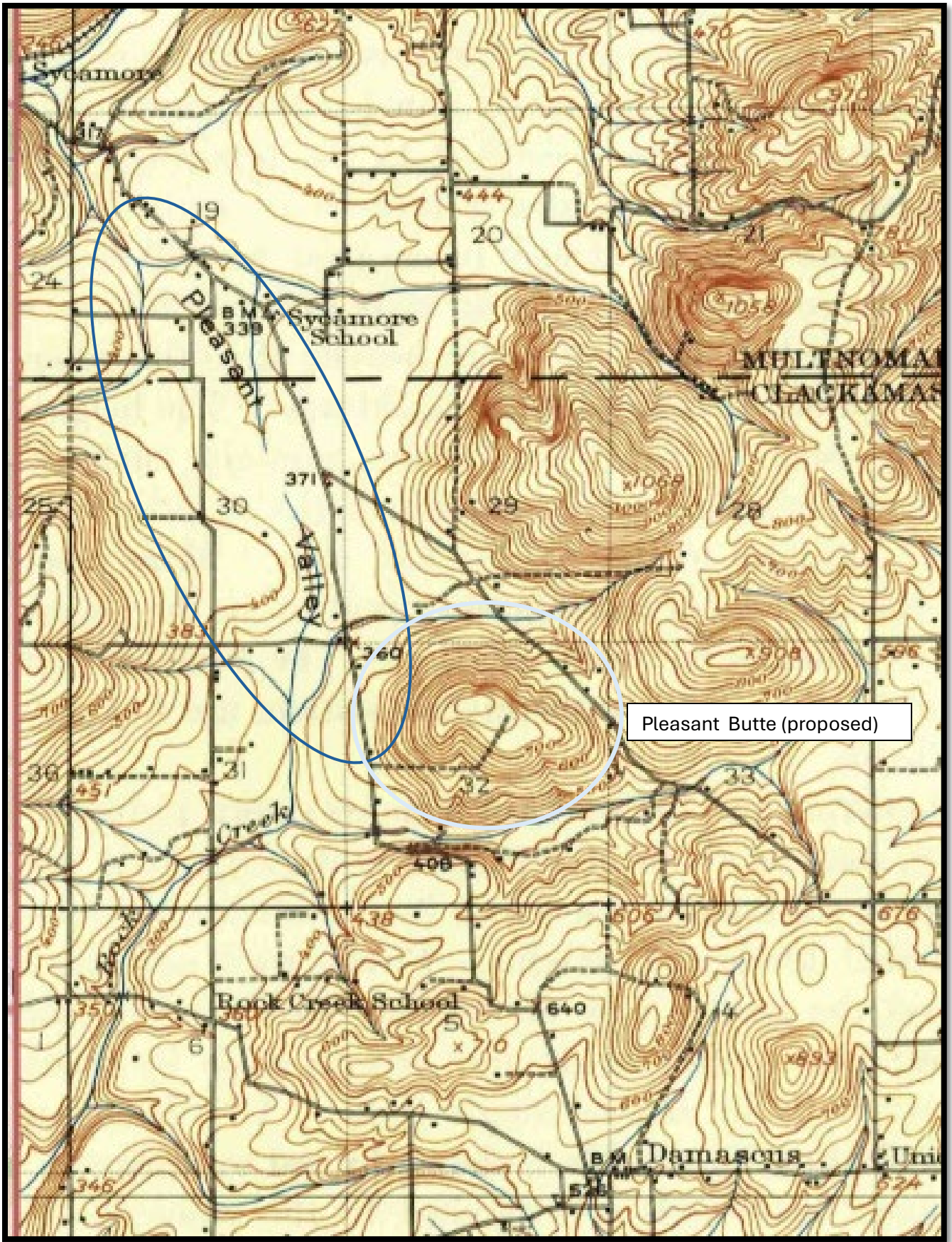
Email:

Mailing Address:

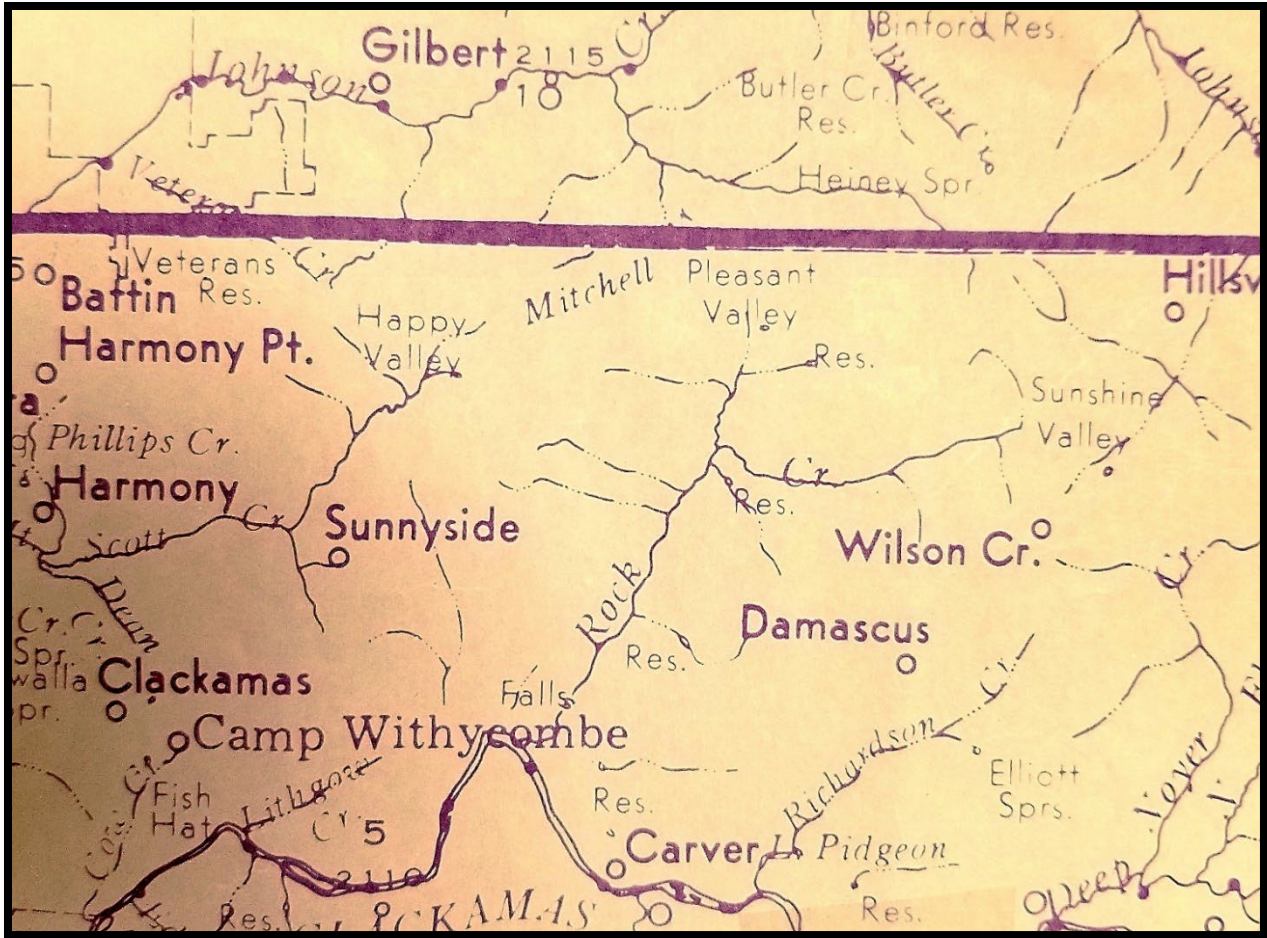
Phone:



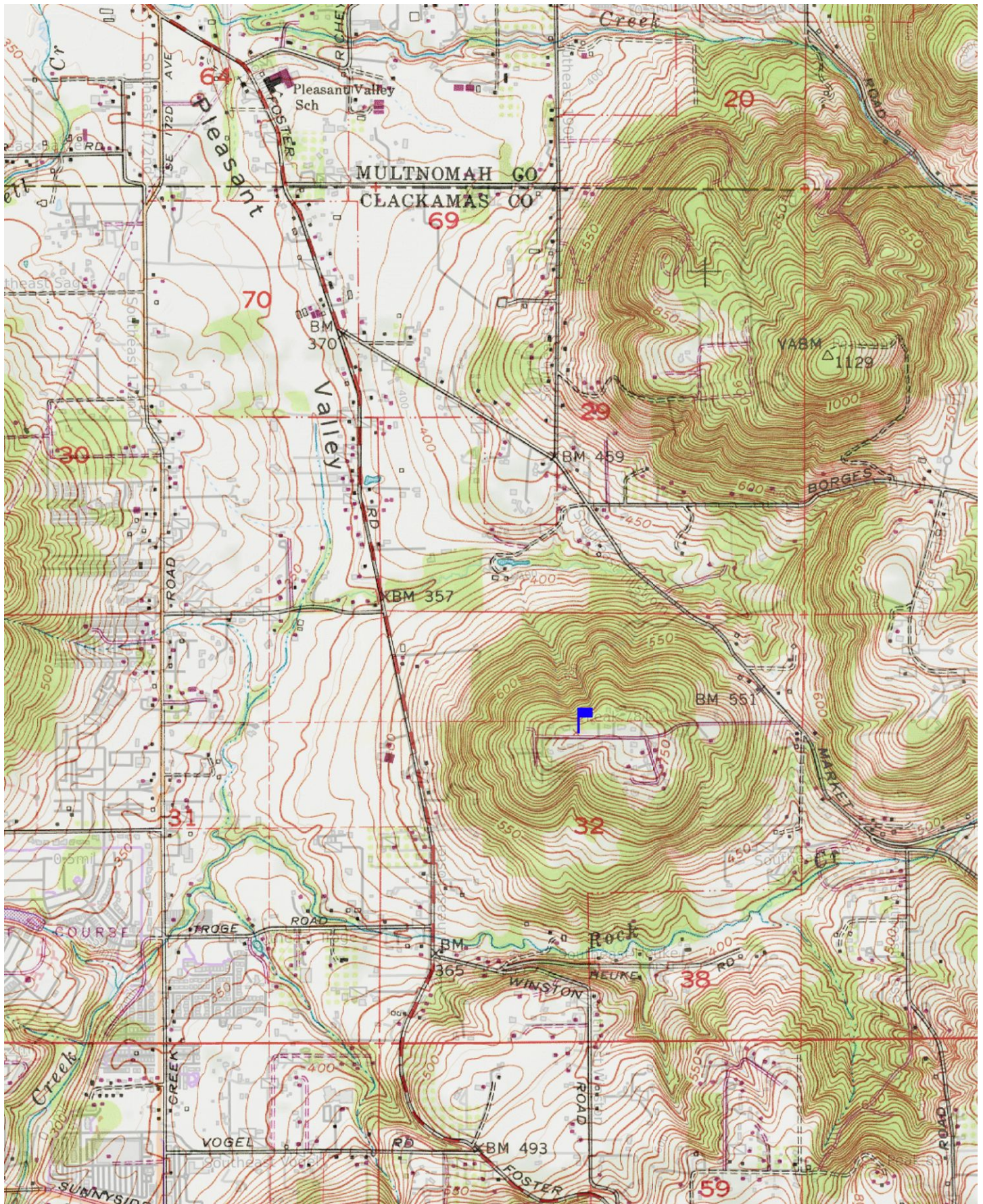
Pleasant Valley, OR and proposed Pleasant Butte on a 1911 USGS 1:48,000 Boring OR map



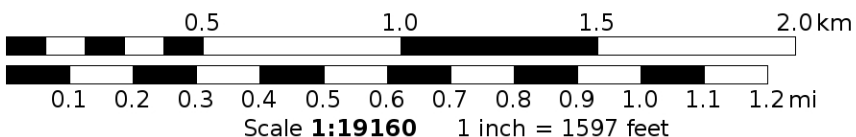
Boring, OR quad 1914 USGS 1:62500.



Undated Clackamas County map from Wilmer Gardner Research Library showing Pleasant Valley by Multnomah and Clackamas County boundary line:



Mercator Projection
 WGS84
 UTM Zone 10T
 CALTOPO



MN
 14.7°



Mercator Projection
WGS84
UTM Zone 10T