



Oregon-California Trails Association

Trail Markers and the OCTA Trail Marking Policy

Dave Welch

May 2008

EZRA MEEKER



ENROUTE



ON THE PLAINS



BY BOULDER MARKED



SUMMIT OF ROCKY MTS.





Trail Marker and Trail Marking Policies

- The purpose of trail marking is to identify trail resources and promote their protection.
- Policy intent is to provide guidelines while allowing flexibility to mark diverse segments of the trails.

You can't protect it if you don't know where it is!



Chapter Responsibilities

- Appoint a person to oversee trail marking
 - Chapter Trail Marking Coordinator or
 - Chapter Preservation Officer
- Chapter board of directors or the executive committee should formally “approve” all trail marking activities
 - “Official” chapter event to be sure of insurance coverage under National’s policy
 - Assure consistent and accurate trail marking



Trail Markers

- Carsonite:** Carsonite International
White or Brown CRM3066
5' 6" long 3.75" wide 2.5 pounds
About \$30.00 each with decals
- Steel Rail:** 6' long with 18" horizontal top rail
2.5" x 12" plate bolted to fishing
Engraved diary quote for location
- Novalloy:** Interpretive sign
Aluminum; gold lettering on black panel
- Concrete:** BLM favorite
6' long 8" at bottom tapered to 4" at top
- Decals:** BLM, USFS, USFWS or NPS labels
Metal or plastic on posts or trees
Trail name decal



Beckwourth Trail Carsonite





Trail Marking



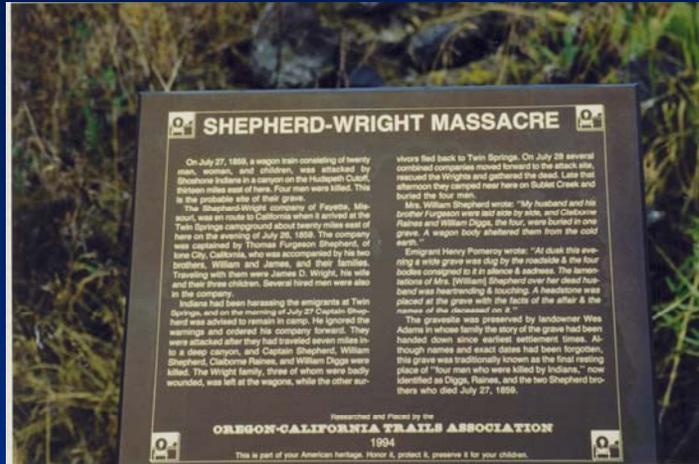


Steel Rail Marker





Shepherd-Wright Novalloy



The Shepard-Wright Massacre Grave Site.





Novalloy and Steel Rail at Grave Site





Concrete Post (Wyoming)





Wooden Post





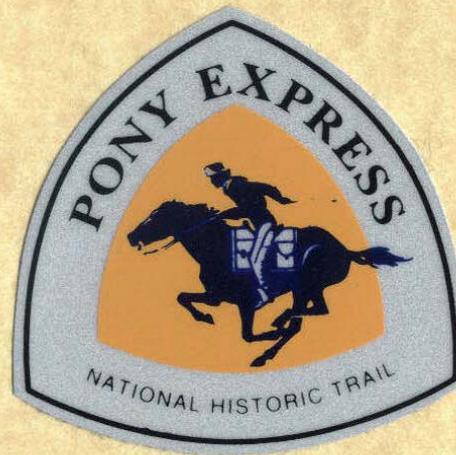
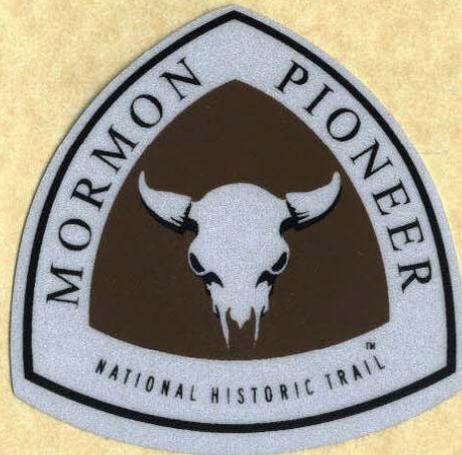
Highway Trail Site Sign





Carson Route – California Trail





Trail Marking – The Process





The Process

- Initial planning
- Research
- Permits
- Final approval
- Installation

See “OCTA Trail Marking Policy” for details and forms.



The Process- Approvals Needed

Initial Planning: Get chapter approval
 Project leader
 Type of markers
 Funds needed

Mapping/Research been done

Landowners: Permission & Release

Public lands: BLM; Forest Service; Parks, etc.
Permit

County or state roadsides
Permit



Final Approval (Before Placement of Marker)

Minimum information required:

1. Mark location on 7.5 map
Carsonite approximate along route
2. Description of marker to be used
Carsonite - steel rail - cement - Novalloy – other
3. Location of existing markers in the area
4. Text to be used on markers
Carsonite - approved decals
Steel rail - engraving to be reviewed by chapter
Novalloy - must be reviewed by National Graves and Sites Committee Chair (Randy Brown); he usually asks Publications Committee member for assistance.
5. Copies of all permits and permissions
6. Identify any controversy of the trail marking.



OCTA Forms

- Form 1 – Waiver of Responsibility
- Form 2 – Landowner Release
- Form 3 – Easement
- Form 4 – Trail Marker Documentation
- Form 5 – Marker Locations (Multiple)
- Form 6 – Certification of Accuracy

See “OCTA Trail Marking Policy” for details and forms.



Form 2 Landowner Release

Form 2 - Landowner/Manager Permission and Release

I hereby grant the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA), a non-profit corporation, with headquarters in Independence, Missouri, and its member's permission to enter onto my property to conduct a survey of the _____ (name of trail) and place a historical marker or markers on my/our property to mark the route of the Trail or a related site.

Property location and legal description is: _____

Any marker will remain the property of the Oregon-California Trails Association, and will in no manner transfer any possession, title, or easement to the real estate or property on which it is placed. Also, OCTA agrees that upon receipt of the landowner's oral or written request, the marker will be removed or relocated, as per the request.

In the event it is necessary or advisable to repair, replace, or update a marker, OCTA and its members shall have the authority to do so, and will advise the property owner prior to entering the property.

Property Owner: By _____ Title: _____

Date: _____ Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Oregon-California Trails Association: By _____ Title: _____

Date: _____ Address: _____

Phone Number: _____



Form 3 Easement

FORM 3 - EASEMENT FOR TRAIL MAKING POSTS SAMPLE FORM

The undersigned hereby grants to the Oregon-California Trails Association, a non-profit corporation, and its members, agents and representatives, successors and assigns, (herein individually and collectively referred to as "OCTA"), the right in perpetuity to enter upon the property described below to install, maintain, and replace, as necessary, a post or posts to mark the route or site of a pioneer or emigrant trail at the location or locations indicated on the drawing or map attached hereto, marked "Exhibit ____", and by this reference made a part of this document.

For this purpose also the undersigned further agrees to preserve and maintain undisturbed whatever remnants or evidence of such trail(s) still in exist on the said property, as also described below and on the said Exhibit ____.

The legal description of the subject property is: _____

The trail remnants or evidence still in existence are: _____

The rights granted by this document shall be binding upon the parties hereto, and their heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone No. _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone No. _____

State of _____ County of _____

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of _____, 20__, by

Notary Public



Form 4 Marker Documentation

Form 4 - Trail Marker Documentation

(Required for concrete post, steel posts and Novalloy pedestal markers)

1. Trail marker number: _____
2. Location (GPS): _____

3. Legal description: _____

4. Trail name: _____
5. Date of marker installation: _____
6. Access route to marker: _____

7. Other information: _____
8. Authentication (MET): _____

9. Description of photographs taken: _____

10. Nearest markers: _____

11. Forms completed: [] yes [] no; why? _____

12. Date information sent to National Trail Marking Committee Chair: _____
13. Marker located on USGS 7.5 minute quad: _____
14. Project Leader _____



Form 5 Marker Locations (Multiple)

FORM 5 - TRAIL MARKER LOCATIONS

Trail _____ Date _____

Marker No.	Latitude	Longitude	UTM E	UTM N	Elevation	Form 4?
Notes/Description: _____						
Marker No.	Latitude	Longitude	UTM E	UTM N	Elevation	Form 4?
Notes/Description: _____						
Marker No.	Latitude	Longitude	UTM E	UTM N	Elevation	Form 4?
Notes/Description: _____						
Marker No.	Latitude	Longitude	UTM E	UTM N	Elevation	Form 4?
Notes/Description: _____						
Marker No.	Latitude	Longitude	UTM E	UTM N	Elevation	Form 4?
Notes/Description: _____						
Marker No.	Latitude	Longitude	UTM E	UTM N	Elevation	Form 4?
Notes/Description: _____						
Marker No.	Latitude	Longitude	UTM E	UTM N	Elevation	Form 4?
Notes/Description: _____						
Marker No.	Latitude	Longitude	UTM E	UTM N	Elevation	Form 4?
Notes/Description: _____						
Marker No.	Latitude	Longitude	UTM E	UTM N	Elevation	Form 4?
Notes/Description: _____						



Summary

<u>OCTA Form</u>	<u>Carsonite Posts</u>	<u>Novalloy Pedestal</u>	<u>Steel Rail Markers**</u>
2 Owner Release	Desired	Required*	Required*
3 Owner Easement	Optional	Optional	Optional
4 Single Marker Location	Optional	Required	Required
5 Multiple Marker Locations	Required	No	No
6 Authentication	Optional	Required	Required

* Superceded if easement is granted

** And other "permanent" markers such as concrete posts