

ntsayka Ikanum - Our Story



Grand Ronde's Trail of Tears

Removal of Tribes 1855-1857

- During the discovery of gold in 1852 and the Oregon Donation Land Act of 1850, settlers flooded Indian Country via the Applegate Trail.
- Much of the land and their resources to survive were taken and dispersed.
- Due to the treaties negotiated between the US government and the Tribes, Table Rock Reservation was only a temporary placement for Tribes.
- As a result of the national policy of removal and relocation the tribes that resided on Table Rock Reservation and around it were gathered and relocated to the Grand Ronde Reservation.
- A reservation is land held for special use, in this case a place for Indians.
- Indian Agent George Ambrose led the tribes and recorded their journey in a diary.



Photo of Table Rock

Native people were gathered up near Ft. Lane, at the base of Table Rock (near present day Medford) and forced to march during the winter months beginning February 23 through March 25, 1856, to the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation.

- The march was over 30 days long.
- During this march 8 people died and 8 babies were born, so the military officers supervising the march were able to state that “they had arrived with the number of people they had left with.”
- The Grand Ronde Indians were taken by horse, wagon, and steam boat, but mostly by foot.



Gertrude Mercier and Martha Jane Sands (left to right) were on the Grand Ronde Trail of Tears

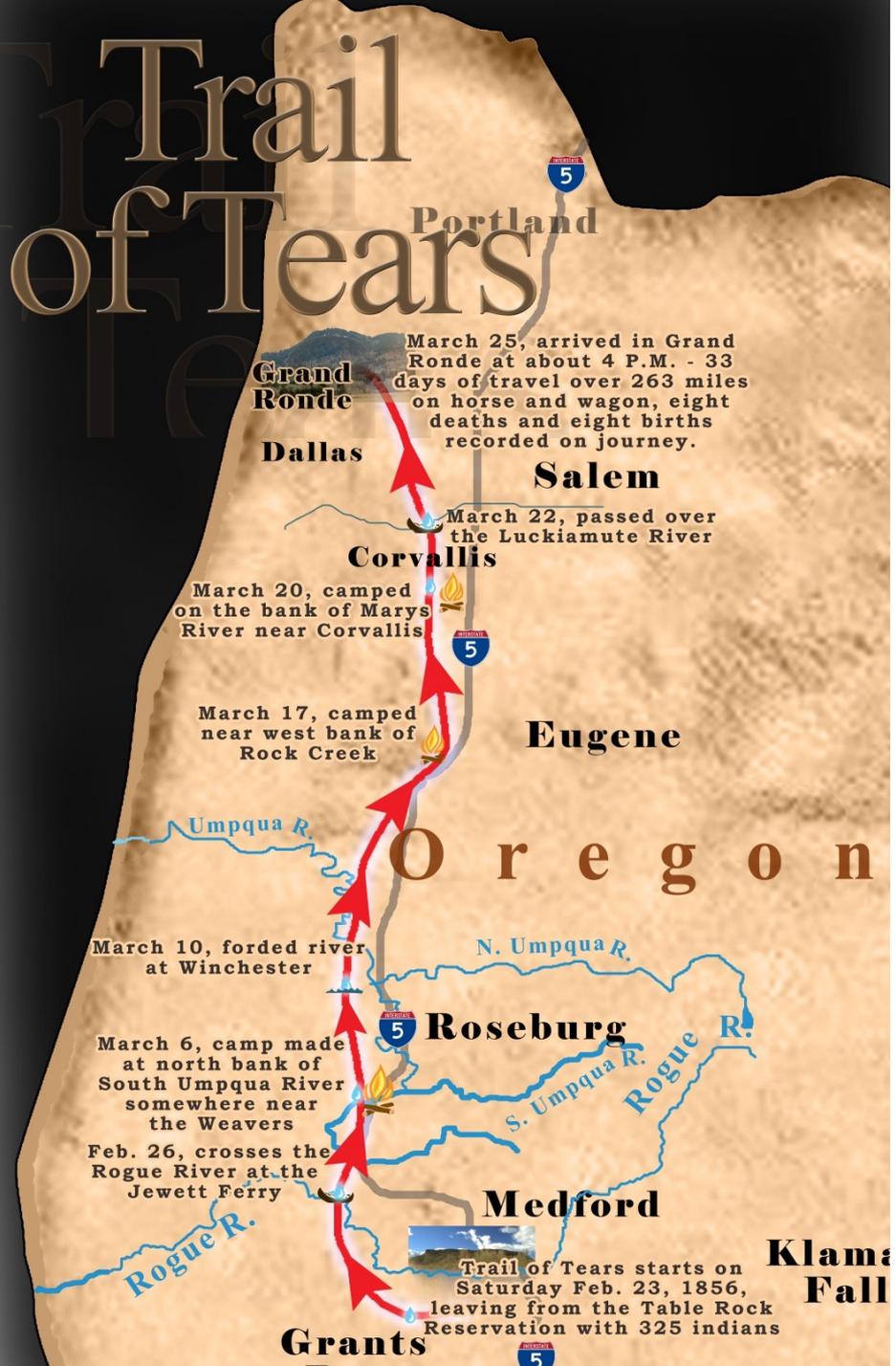


The Hudson Family was also on the Trail of Tears



Solomon and Jenny Riggs were also on the Trail of Tears

Trail of Tears



March 25, arrived in Grand Ronde at about 4 P.M. - 33 days of travel over 263 miles on horse and wagon, eight deaths and eight births recorded on journey.

March 20, camped on the bank of Marys River near Corvallis

March 17, camped near west bank of Rock Creek

March 10, forded river at Winchester

March 6, camp made at north bank of South Umpqua River somewhere near the Weavers

Feb. 26, crosses the Rogue River at the Jewett Ferry

Trail of Tears starts on Saturday Feb. 23, 1856, leaving from the Table Rock Reservation with 325 indians

Klamath Falls

Life on the Reservation

- There were few jobs at the Reservation; Indians were paid $\frac{1}{2}$ wages.
- Many people left the Reservation to work in agriculture.
- Many men worked in logging.
- Others worked in hops and bean fields.
- Others worked in canneries.



Life on the Reservation

- Tribal members adapted to the changing times.
- Many intertribal marriages took place.

