

Interstate Highway 5 (I-5): 1958 - 2010¹

U.S. 99: 1926 The Pacific Highway became U.S. 99 in 1926.

1956 The interstate program began in August 1956 when Congress passed the Federal-Aid Highway Program Act. Oregon had 47 miles of the interstate system already completed. U. S. 99 would be replaced by I-5. Many Oregon highways were realigned to carry interstate routes.

1958 A new I-5 four-lane highway opened the fall of 1958 between Grants Pass and Jumpoff Joe Creek Road bypassing U.S. 99, including the segment that would become Monument Drive. This bypass of traffic was pretty much the end of the local auto courts and gas stations that had dotted U.S. 99 in the Hugo region. The last hold outs were Scotty's Texaco, Hamilton's One Stop, Antler's Service Station, Wildwood Auto Court, and Court Conway.

1960 I-5 through northern Josephine County was completed in 1960. By September 1960, about 105 miles of the 308-mile Interstate 5 had been completed and opened to traffic in Oregon.²

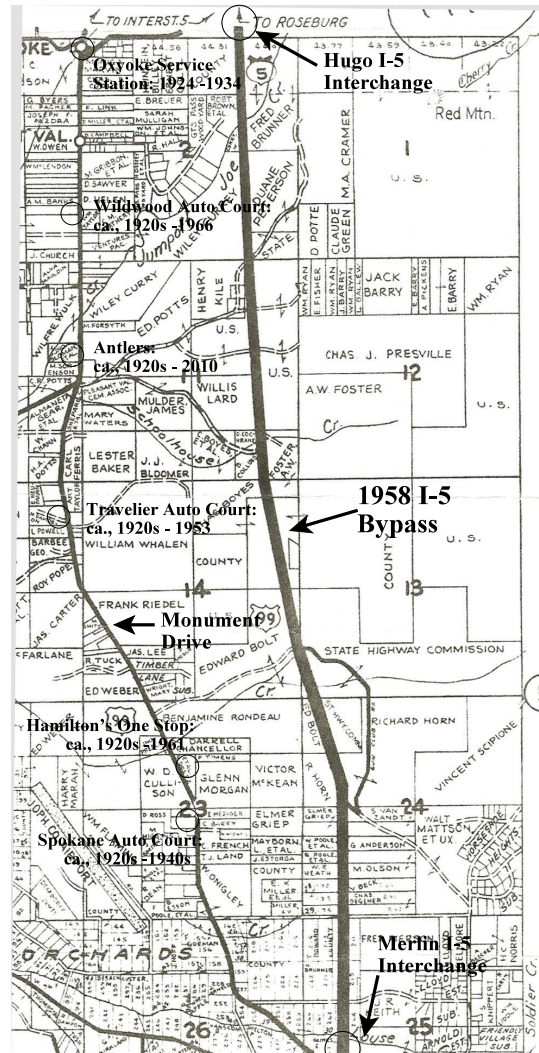
1961 - 1962 I-5 opened from Grants Pass to near Rock Point, in the Gold Hill area.² For awhile it seemed traffic through downtown Grants Pass dried up.

1965 - 1966 I-5 was completed from Mount Sexton to Canyonville.²

1. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society. March , 2006. *Auto Camps In Northern Josephine County: 1910 - 2001*. Hugo, OR.

2. Oregon Highway Division. 1988 *The First 75 Years*. Section B.

First I-5 Segment: Grants Pass to Jumpoff Joe Cr Rd: 1958



I-5 Between Hugo & Merlin Exits: 1970

No Traffic Signals or Stop Signs

1966 The Oregon Highway Department's construction program hit one of its most significant milestones with the completion of I-5 to four lanes. It marked the first time travelers could enter the state at the Interstate bridge in Portland and head southbound along the high-speed freeway to California without one traffic signal or stop sign. The 308-mile highway was dedicated on October 22, 1966, in ceremonies at the Cow Creek Safety Rest Area in southern Douglas County.²



North Grants Pass I-5 Interchange: July 22, 1959

2010 Although there have been many changes in bridges and signals, the location and 4-lane design of I-5 are basically the same today as when it was built.

Want more information? Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood*.

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's Mission

This information brochure is one of a series of documents published by the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (*Hugo Neighborhood*). It is designed to be shared with neighbors for the purpose of helping protect our rural quality of life by promoting an informed citizenry in decision-making. The *Hugo Neighborhood* is an informal nonprofit charitable and educational organization with a land use and history mission of promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhoods* land use mission is to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and to preserve, protect, and enhance the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, if requested, as a technical resource assisting neighbors to represent themselves.

Its history mission is to educate, collect, preserve, interpret, and research its local history and to encourage public interest in the history of the Hugo area.

Volunteer membership dues are \$10.00 annually per family and normally used for paper, ink, envelopes, publications and mailings. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

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Interstate Highway 5 (I-5): 1958 - 2010

Brochure 1F of Hugo's Auto Camp
Brochure Series



Northern I-5 Entrance to Hugo, Oregon

May 20, 2010

**Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society**