

Lincoln Highway Notes Nevada

Are you familiar with the name William H. Wagner? He is the road builder who laid out the route Butler Ives used to build the Helm & Co. toll road up King's Canyon. In Nevada Archives is a September, 1861 letter to Gov. Nye about the road and the "Brigade" tree claim at Tahoe. Included is his route map for the Toll Road. The franchise was granted by the remnant Utah Courts. He had built the section of the Lander Overland Wagon Road from Ft. Hall, Idaho, to Honey Lake, Calif. He died suddenly in October 1861, as noted in a letter by his friend and roommate, Mark Twain, at Mrs. Margret Murphy's boarding house in Carson City. Because he died before he could begin work, he is lost to the road's history.ⁱ

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