

Quite evidently this road is as old as the others. The explanation for it lies, I think, in the floods of the Olmos valley. There was a great flood a century ago, and this watershed must have held innumerable small floods. When a train of mules came to this high water, they turned southeast and hiked to our present Broadway.

It is my impression that this same aim to avoid the high water caused travelers to follow a route a half mile east of the W.O.W. hospital. The main road east from the hospital has been plowed up if indeed it did not make a turn along New Braunfels northward. There is an interesting deep road cutting out to the road running just north of the hospital.

On the graded road to be found now just east of the hospital, I am inclined to believe the east approach of the old road passed. I have left it to strike a continuation along the side of the hills that is well marked. One branch of this road winds around to Garraty road. You may know how old that road is, but it seems too steep to have been a route for mules. They probably veered through the Brackenridge property, or else followed a little to the northwest coming out just east of Joske hill. There are three streets which suggest they may have been the line of the old road. The road must have gone on one or the other side of, Joske Hill. I am inclined to believe that it passed along the north side of that hill for there is a spring at the lower side. The northeast to southwest road from Joske hill is on a direct line with the road that turns from Broadway at the Catholic church, suggesting that it was the real entrance to Broadway.

Of course, the whole problem is complicated by many parallel roads along one route. I hope to follow more and more of its parts as time goes by. Hoping that you will find some little hint in what I have put down here,

Sincerely,

Matthew Paxton