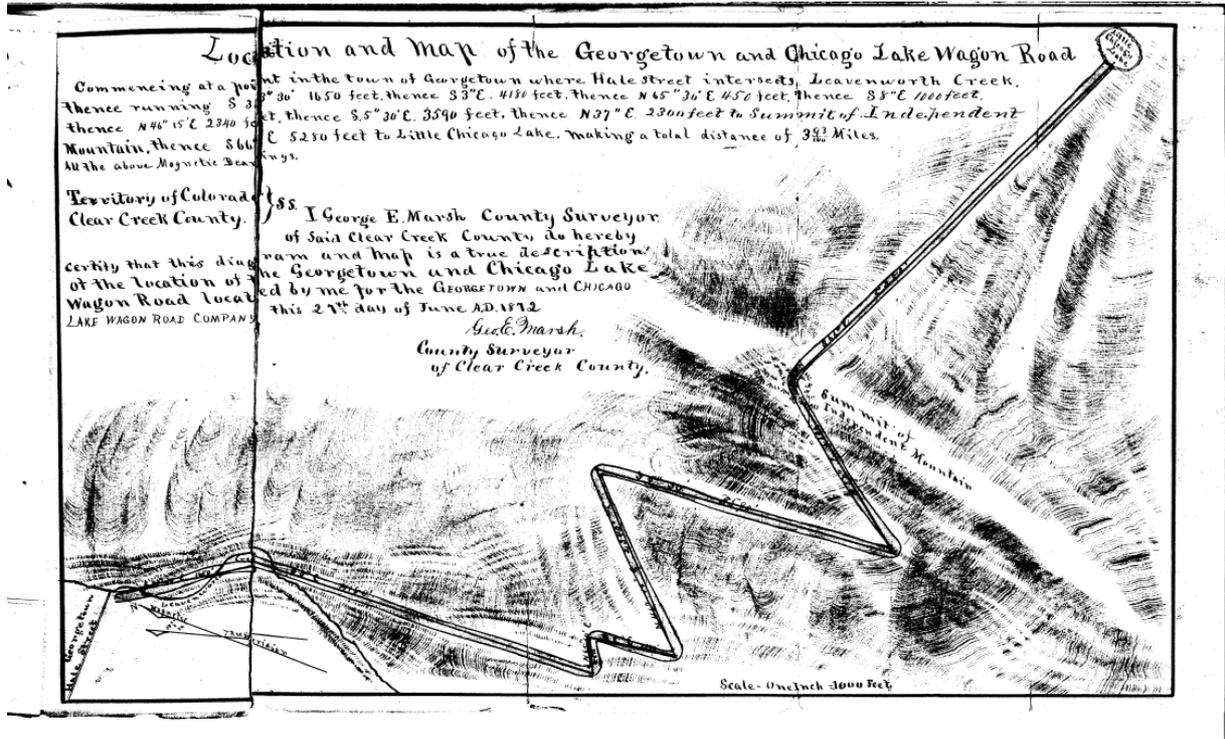


Rutherford Trail

Site 3:



Today's Rutherford trail starts up the route first planned by the developers of the Georgetown and Chicago Lake Wagon road, a toll road designed in 1872 to cross the range to the east and end up near Edith Lake near the head of today's West Chicago Lakes trail (USFS Hells Hole Trail #53). Early trail builders filed papers with the county and territorial offices, using plats which were vague, to say the least. The county would regulate the amount charged in tolls, while making sure that the companies regulating the roads maintained their trails as needed. The Georgetown Chicago Lakes trail was completed through the general area around Silver Dale, but was never completed over the top. In 1874 a new route was developed to the southwest from the Georgetown Chicago Lakes road up to what is now Guanella Pass. The Leavenworth Branch road would end up being more popular than the earlier Georgetown Chicago Lakes. *Map from the Articles of Incorporation of the Georgetown and Chicago Lake Wagon Road, County Archive, Georgetown*