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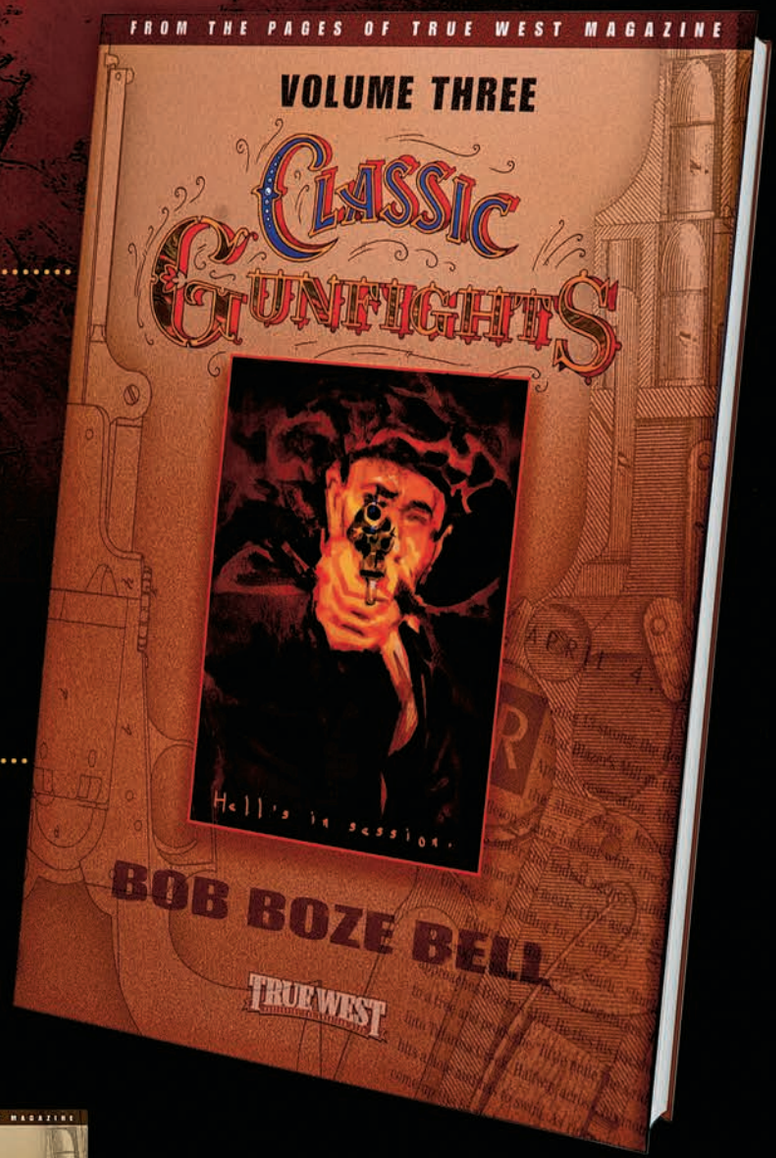

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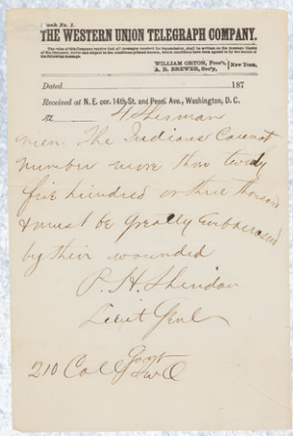

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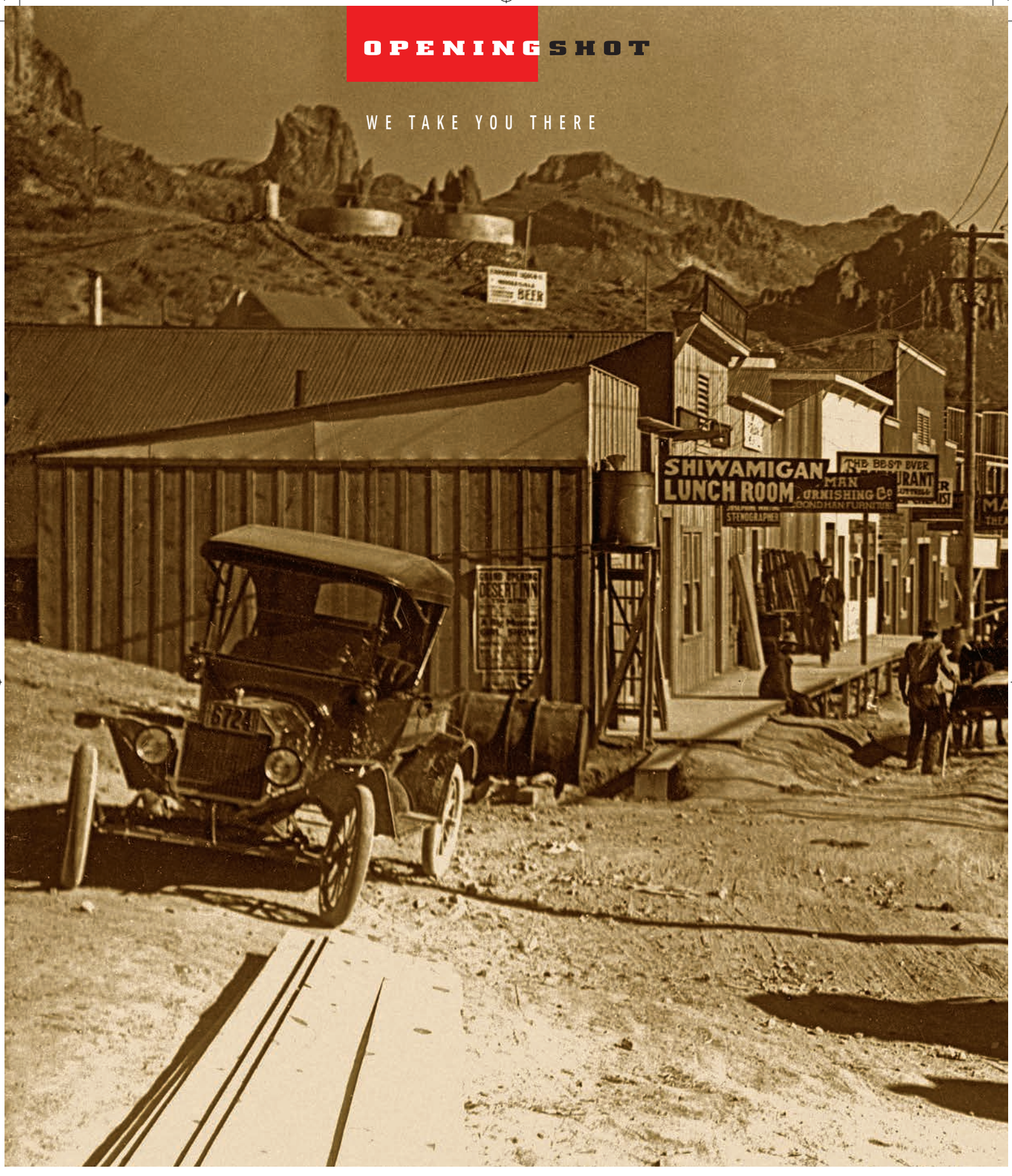

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Olive Oatman's Town

Photographed in 1916, the town of Oatman is shown in its boomtown days, which lasted into the 1920s. The origin of the town's name and its link to famous Mohave captive Olive Oatman, released nearby in 1856, is discussed on p. 30.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

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TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

True West captures the spirit of the West with authenticity, personality and humor by providing a necessary link from our history to our present.

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March 2018 Online and Social Media Content

As one of the delegates from the Lemhi and Fort Hall agencies who signed the treaty of May 14, 1880, Uriewici, a Shoshone also known as Jack Tendoy, was photographed by Charles M. Bell in Washington, D.C. Ultimately, the Shoshone, Bannock and Lemhi would be moved to the Fort Hall area of Idaho. Find this photo and more historical photography on our "American Indian" board.

– COURTESY SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY –

Go behind the scenes of *True West* with Bob Boze Bell to see his sketch *Dalton Firepower* and more of the executive editor's Daily Whipouts (Search for "December 26, 2017").

Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com

Join the Conversation

Responding to the lie that Pinkertons arrested train robber John Reno (shown): "I think the Pinkertons became famous because they were good at marketing, including telling some fibs that gave credit where credit was not due!"

–Shayne Davidson of Ann Arbor, Michigan

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John Wesley Hardin often gets the credit for murdering Sheriff Jack Helm. But does he deserve it?

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Communities celebrate 175 years of Oregon Trail history during the golden anniversary of America's National Trails System.

—By Candy Moulton

Photo composite and cover design by Dan Harshberger

TAMBO & BONES

I was happy to see the tintype on p. 36-37 of February 2018—one of my favorite images of 19th-century musicians in the American West. I first came across it as an illustration in George Gilbert's *Photography: The Early Years*. However, this image does not depict a "military band." While the musicians are enlisted men, they have formed a blackface minstrel troupe (sans blackface in this tintype) to while away their off-duty time. Compare their group to the illustration on the cover of this 1847 sheet music (above).

In the tintype, the soldier on the far left is playing the rhythm bones, while the man on the far right is playing—in the absence of a tambourine—a tin pie pan. These instruments represent Mr. Bones and Mr. Tambo, respectively. Appallingly racist as blackface minstrelsy was, it was among the most popular forms of American musical entertainment from the 1840s to the beginnings of the early 20th century. Blackface minstrel performances by soldiers and sailors were quite common in Civil War camps, on Navy ships and at numerous frontier posts. This tintype is excellent documentation of that.

Mark Lee Gardner
Cascade, Colorado

Jeremy Rowe responds: *I agree that the tintype likely shows enlisted men performing with instruments typically used in a minstrel show, as opposed to a formal military band. I think these soldiers engaged in a less structured activity than a traveling minstrel show. The type of instruments, like the guitars, violin and banjo, seem to be part of the soldiers' individual possessions than formal military band instruments, so could also be an informal group of soldiers performing with instruments available in the area at the time.*

SANTA ANNA GETS HIS CHEW

I can't pick up an issue of *True West* without learning something new. In your December 2018 issue, I discovered that Santa Anna, of Alamo siege fame, invented chewing gum, specifically, Chiclets, which you can still buy today. I wonder if he still gets royalties.

Jeff Mariotte
Gilbert, Arizona

Antonio López de Santa Anna.
– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

Oops!

In January 2018, p. 30, "Wild Bill" Hickok's duel with Davis Tutt should have been recorded as taking place in 1865; Hickok was killed in 1876. In the "Best of the West" coverage, the Best Small Western History Bookstore entry, awarded to Sheridan Stationary, should have identified the location as Sheridan, Wyoming. February 2018: In "Top 10 True Western Towns of 2018," the Laramie entry should state Boswell sent the shooter to Yankton, Dakota Territory, since Deadwood was not yet a legal town.

BREAKING FAST

I worked as a background for 1994's *Wyatt Earp*. In your historically accurate Westerns article [February 2018], a reader pointed out Dennis Quaid lost 40 pounds for his role as "Doc" Holliday. The talk on the set was that he lost between 20 and 30 pounds, and suffered bad headaches from losing so much weight. When he walked onto the Dodge City set, it took a few minutes for me to recognize him. On the last day of shooting, Thanksgiving Day, at Greer Garson Studio, I saw him go through the chow line. His plate was absolutely filled, to running over, and he was smiling, liken' to a possum.

Ron Baker
Santa Fe, New Mexico

FIRST-RATE LAST STAND

The historically accurate Westerns profiled in your timeless February 2018 issue were a nostalgic trip down memory lane. The 1991 ABC production *Son of the Morning Star,* however, merits at least an Honorable Mention.

Adapted loosely from Evan S. Connell's award-winning book of the same title, this miniseries follows George Armstrong Custer (portrayed by actor Gary Cole) from his 1867 assignment to the frontier until his rendezvous with destiny at Little Big Horn. The tightly written script reflects an almost rigid reliance on the known dialogue of Custer and other participants in this saga that is complemented by accurate renditions of cavalry uniforms and weapons, and American Indian appearance and demeanor in 1876. In one scene, for example, Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry (Terry O'Quinn) complains that U.S. Army ammunition corroded by leather cartridge belts has caused trooper carbines to fail. Battle scenes, such as Maj. Marcus Reno's Valley Fight, are accurately reconstructed. The representation of the "Last Stand" is plausible based on what we know.

Such unprecedented respect for historical detail can be attributed to the film's consultant, the late John Carroll, although some dialogue is repeated out of context, and characters, such as guide Mitch Boyer and reporter Mark Kellogg, failed to make the final cut. Cole's somewhat stilted performance appears to be a casualty of this admirable attempt to stick strictly to the facts—and not as an awkward effort to imitate Custer's deportment and speech.

C. Lee Noyes
Morrisonville, New York

Gary Cole's Custer (shown) offers authentic dialogue.
–COURTESY ABC –

MAR18_Shooting Back.indd 6 1/11/18 3:59 PM

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Tracking the Truth

A big shout-out to all the historians hot on the trail of the Olive Oatman story.

I had some major help on the Olive Oatman cover story. At the top of the list is author Brian McGinty, whose groundbreaking 2005 book, *The Oatman Massacre*, is the go-to source for solid scholarship on Olive Oatman and her tragic, but amazing life.

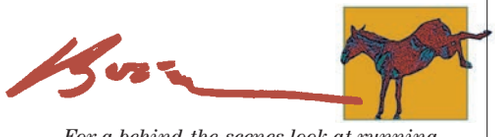
Retired engineer and avid history buff Jeff Cuneo first became fascinated with the Olive Oatman story 40 years ago. After he retired from Motorola, he moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, to be closer to the locations in the Oatman story. He has spent many months researching, hiking and studying the probable route of the Yavapais who spirited Olive and her sister into a life of slavery. Utilizing Olive's own words and narration of the tragic trek, Cuneo believes he has matched almost all of the descriptions with actual geography. The map on p. 24-25 is based on his research.

My good friend Vince Murray has also spent a good deal of time studying the Oatman story. In fact, Vince took me to the massacre site last year. Vince is also quite conversant on Arizona mining history and provides insights into the naming of Oatman (p. 30) and one of the crazier spin-off stories that came out of the Oatman mining district (p. 44).

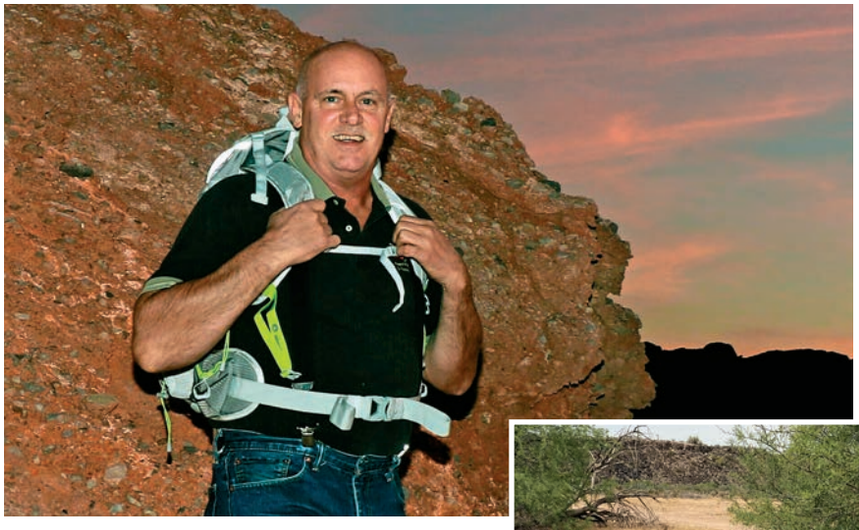
And, of course, I was given wonderful analysis built on solid scholarship by the Top Secret Writer (Paul Andrew Hutton).

Last, but not least, is Andy Sansom, from my hometown of Kingman, who gave me the stunning aerial map of the Oatman Mining District for the coverage (p. 30-31).

Thanks to all of you for making this a great issue.



For a behind-the-scenes look at running this magazine, check out BBB's daily blog at TWMag.com



Vince Murray (top) stands on the rough and rocky road that the Oatmans pushed their wagon up just prior to the attack. Jeff Cuneo (above) poses while hot on the Oatman trail. At right, I kneel in front of the Oatmans' graves at the foot of the bluff where the family was killed. The ground at the top is too hard, so the bodies, what was left of them, had to be buried down on the flats beside the Gila River.

– TOP: BY BOB BOZE BELL; ABOVE: COURTESY JEFF CUNEO; RIGHT: COURTESY BOB BOZE BELL –

MAR18_To the Point.indd 7 1/11/18 2:36 PM

TRUTH BE KNOWN

COMPILED BY ROBERT RAY

Quotes

"Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say: 'This is my community, and it is my responsibility to make it better.'"

–Tom McCall, 30th governor of Oregon

"How narrow is the line which separates an adventure from an ordeal, and escape from exile."

– Harold George Nicolson, British author

"Roses are red. Violets are blue. Horses that buck get turned into glue."

– Lee Pehl, U.S. horse breaker

"If the 'Good Old Days' had been that good, we'd still be living that way."

– Helen Mortensen, U.S. homemaker

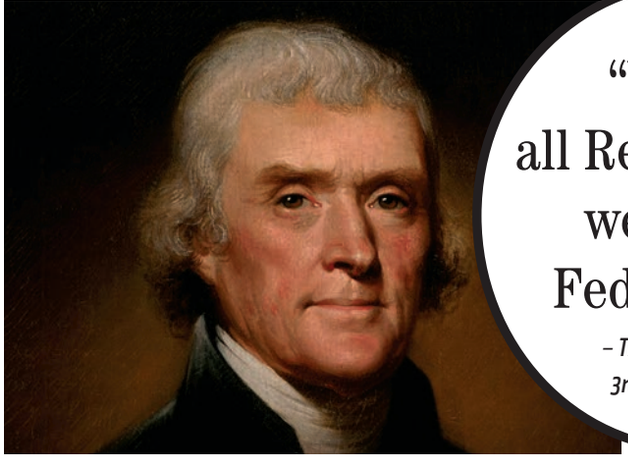
"We are not mad. We are human. We want to love, and someone must forgive us for the paths we take to love, for the paths are many and dark, and we are ardent and cruel in our journey."

– Leonard Cohen, Canadian poet

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO

"I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. Twenty-six times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

–Michael Jordan, NBA shooting guard



"We are all Republicans; we are all Federalists."

– Thomas Jefferson, 3rd U.S. President

Old Vaquero Saying

"Fear the goat from the front, the mule from the back and man from all sides."

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BY MARK BOARDMAN

The Suspect Savannah Strike

Did the James-Younger Gang commit an 1867 robbery in Missouri?

On March 2, 1867, a group of six riders came into the quiet town of Savannah, Missouri, about 15 miles north of St. Joseph. They tied up their horses outside Judge John McLain's private bank and went inside. Pulling their guns, they demanded all the money, but the judge refused. One bandit shot McLain in the chest—a wound he survived—and then panicked. They ran from the building, dodged citizens' bullets and rode off as fast as possible, without any cash.

Over the years, the James-Younger Gang was named as the culprit. Was the gang involved?

Among the reasons to be skeptical is that Savannah would have made a strange target for the pro-Southern outlaws. Although pro-Union supporters could be found, the town was largely run by secessionists during the Civil War, and Jesse James and the boys mainly avoided robbing fellow Confederates.

During that post-Civil War period, the region was overrun with criminals of various sorts, many of them rebels who refused to put down their weapons in 1865. In May 1867, *The Bankers' Magazine and Statistical Register* blamed the attempted Savannah holdup on, "A band of desperadoes, under notorious bushwhackers," but never identified the participants. Other publications followed suit.

The James-Younger outfit was already known at the time, yet no newspapers named them as the Savannah robbers. More recently, doubts have been cast on the gang's participation.

During the Civil War, both Union and Confederate sympathizers could be found in Missouri. This 1862 photograph documents Union soldiers in St. Joseph; they also marched into Savannah in 1861. Like St. Joseph, Savannah flew a secessionist flag (see inset) during the war, so would the pro-Confederate James-Younger Gang have chosen Savannah to rob?

– ST. JOSEPH PHOTO COURTESY STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI, COLUMBIA; SECESSION FLAG PHOTO COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, DECEMBER 11-14, 2009 –

English researcher Robert Wybrow includes Savannah among the questionable robberies attributed to the gang, claiming that the boys were nowhere near Savannah on that March day. Youngers' biographer Marley Brant argues that Savannah was a copycat crime committed by bandits who imitated the work of Jesse and company. James-Younger chronicler William Settle suggested that some men who rode with the gang might have pulled the job, but even he had doubts. Ted Yeatman, in his comprehensive *Frank and Jesse James*, didn't even mention the holdup. T.J. Stiles, author of *Jesse James: Last Rebel of the Civil War*, does bring it up, but doubts that the legendary outlaws were involved.

Who first attributed the Savannah robbery to the James-Younger Gang remains unclear. Perhaps the claim came from a dime novel cranked out after Jesse died on April 3, 1882, and the other members were dead, in jail or retired. Jesse's fame was still on the ascendancy at that point, and writers were more than willing to credit the outlaw with any Missouri stick-up carried out between 1866 and 1882.

Was the James-Younger Gang responsible for the March 2, 1867, robbery? History is showing that their involvement was highly unlikely.

MAR18_Investigating History.DH.indd 9 1/11/18 11:37 AM

BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

Sitting with Wyatt Earp

Never-before-seen biographer materials donated to the Tombstone Courthouse.

Dreams of a "fly-on-the-wall" moment in Western history certainly include sitting with Wyatt Earp in the 1920s as he set the record straight about his life and legend, including his take on the 1881 Gunfight Behind the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona Territory.

During Sunday visits to the Los Angeles cottage Wyatt shared with his wife, Josephine, Wyatt's secretary John H. Flood Jr. captured every word.

For nearly 100 years, those shorthand notes—along with an early typed manuscript of Earp's biography and photos of the last years of the Earps' lives—have been in private hands.

Now the public can become a fly-on-the-wall to Wyatt's version of his days in Arizona, Kansas and Colorado, thanks to a donation to the Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park by Eric Weider, former owner and publisher of *Wild West* magazine.

"This is as close as you can get to talking to Wyatt Earp, and hopefully will contribute to the knowledge of the West," Weider says.

That "coming home" is thanks to two persuasive Arizonans. First, Gordon Anderson, owner of Tombstone's Larian Motel, was dismayed to learn Weider intended to donate the collection to Huntington Library in San Marino, California, and asked that the courthouse be considered. Weider was lukewarm to the idea until he talked with Arizona State Parks and Trails Curator Joanne Brace.

"I was really impressed with her enthusiasm. And she was so responsive, she got me to rethink my plan," Weider says.

Photographs of frontier lawman Wyatt Earp taken during his final years, like the one shown here, are included in the never-before-seen private collection donated to the Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park.

– COURTESY JOSEPHINE EARP COLLECTION, TOMBSTONE COURTHOUSE STATE HISTORIC PARK –

> "This is as close as you can get to talking to Wyatt Earp...."

Thrilled with that decision, Brace says, "This is one of, if not the most, significant item ever given to Arizona State Parks and Trails. Everyone who's interested in Wyatt Earp will find their way to Tombstone to see this display."

The location is particularly significant, since Wyatt watched the two-story Victorian-style courthouse being built. He and his brothers arrived in Tombstone in 1879 and left in the spring of 1882, as the courthouse was under construction.

The collection includes Wyatt's description of his move from Kansas to Tombstone, and his decision to abandon law enforcement work: "So I purchased a Concord coach, two wagons and sixteen head of horses and started for Arizona for the purpose of starting a stage line."

Arizona is calling the donation the Josephine Earp Collection because it includes 33 of her handwritten letters—in her "messy handwriting," as Weider puts it—including one expressing her grief when Wyatt died at the age of 80, on January 13, 1929: "I am telling you Mr. Flood I am sick grieving over my husband and after this is all over and I have my property all fixed up, I really don't care what happens to me as I have lost my best friend."

Weider stipulated the collection be available to the public. "We know the legend," he says, "but this is a look at the real people."

Jana Bommersbach has earned recognition as Arizona's Journalist of the Year and won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She cowrote the Emmy-winning *Outrageous Arizona* and has written two true crime books, a children's book and the historical novel *Cattle Kate*.

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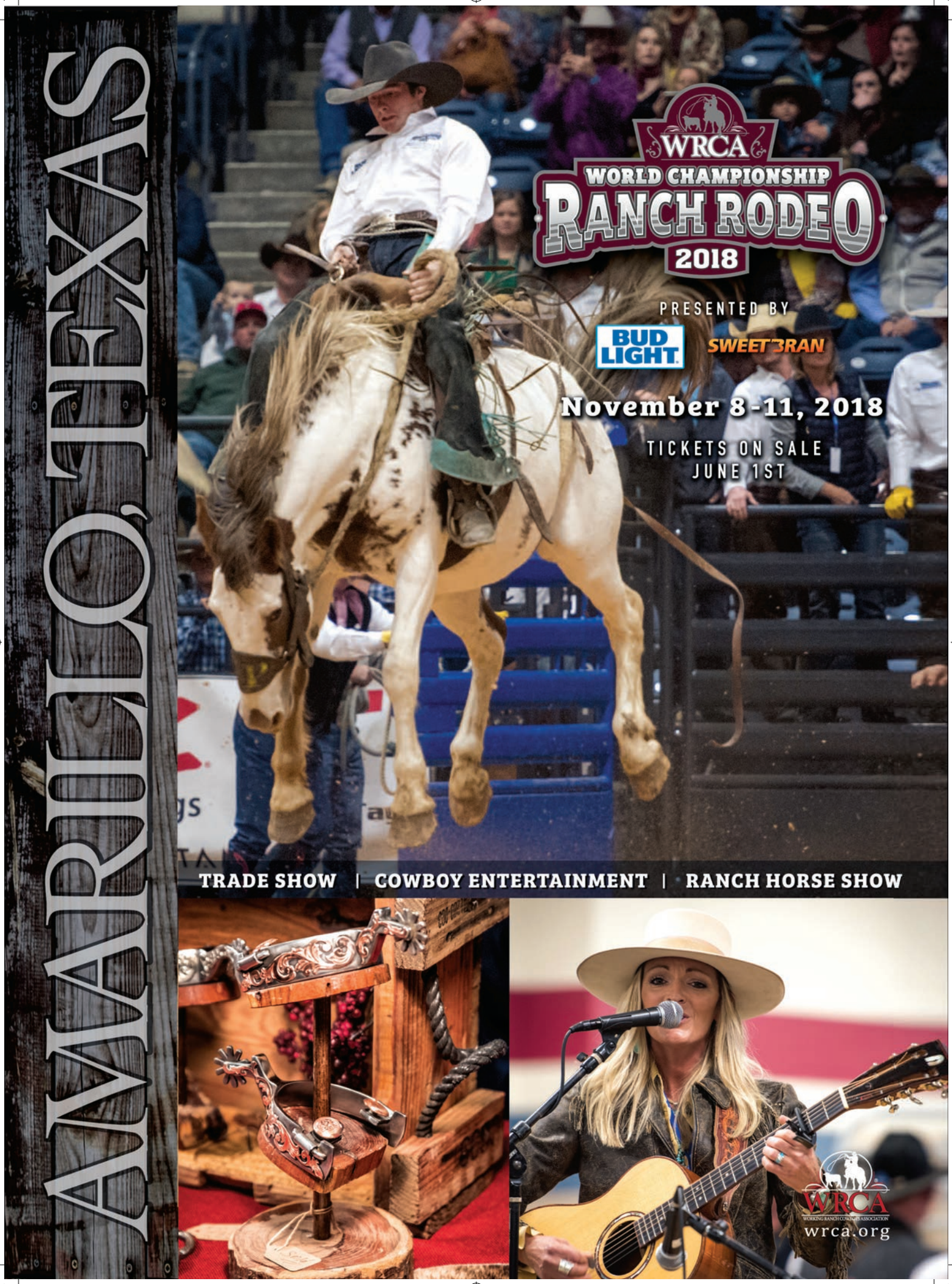

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BY MEGHAN SAAR

Big Year for Custer Guns

Roughly three quarter of a million dollars earned on three Custer-era firearms.

Hammering down at James D. Julia for $400,000, this 1873 Colt (serial 5773) has been positively proven to be used by Custer's men at the famous Battle of the Little Big Horn. Captain Frederick W. Benteen wrote of the pistol: "… rendered unserviceable in action against the hostile Indians at the Battle of the Little Bighorn, N.T. on the 25th & 26th of June, 1876."

The year 2017 turned out to be an excellent year to collect firearms tied to a storied icon, George Custer, and his most famous (and fateful) military fight, the Battle of the Little Big Horn.

Authentic Little Big Horn guns are rare, and in 2017, collectors got the chance to own one with pure pedigree and a couple tied to the battlefield, if not the battle.

The excitement began at Brian Lebel's Old West Auction in Mesa, Arizona. The "first firearm forensically proven to have been used" at the Little Big Horn battlefield hammered down for nearly a quarter of a million dollars on January 27. The Sharps 1874 rifle, serial C54586, was shipped in 1875 and found on the battlefield in 1883 by rancher Willis Spear. Ballistic comparisons of two Martin-primed cartridge cases provided near-certain proof that the 1874 Sharps sold at the auction was fired on Custer's battlefield. It could have been fired after the June 1876 battle, since access to the battlefield was unrestricted. Forensic science proved only that it had been used at the battle site.

In the spring, James D. Julia came through with a revolver that had "pure Little Big Horn pedigree," says C. Lee Noyes, a retired U.S. Customs officer and former editor of the Custer Battlefield Historical & Museum Association quarterly newsletter.

One of three that 7th Cavalry, Company H Capt. Frederick W. Benteen reported unserviceable after the 1876 battle, the Model 1873 Colt Single Action Army revolver, serial 5773 is seen as pure because the "serial numbers (on the back strap, barrel, cylinder, frame, trigger guard) match, and the piece has not been significantly altered, if altered at all," Noyes says.

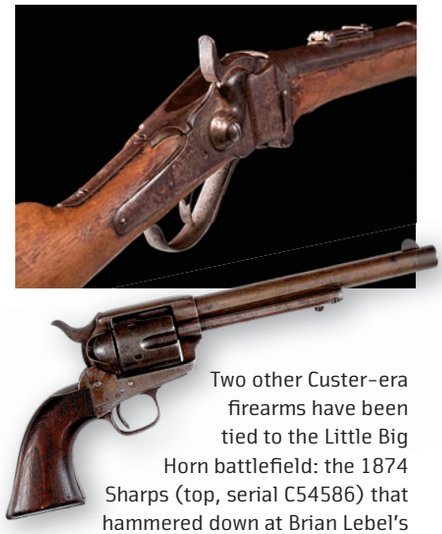
"Less than 600 enlisted men participated in the Battle of the Little Big Horn on June 25-26, 1876. So many first- and second-issue 7th Cavalry Single Action Armies (even if known) are *not* Little Big Horn Single Action Armies," Noyes says.

The other two Colts have drawbacks that the Benteen Colt sold at auction did not. The disposition and whereabouts of serial 5743 is unknown, while serial 6659 was repaired to include parts from other Single Action Army Colts.

In October, a collector snagged another Custer-era firearm off the James D. Julia auction block: a Model 1873 Colt Single Action Army revolver, serial 6045. A letter by Colt authenticator John A. Kopec reported the gun was issued to Company H, part of John Gibbon's "Montana Column" that relieved the 7th Cavalry at the Big Horn battle. The revolver is like the rifle sold at Brian Lebel's, in that it has a strong connection to the battlefield, if not the battle.

Custer fans weren't the only happy firearms collectors in 2017. Aficionados also bought Old West-era weapons that were impressive more for their craftsmanship than ownership, with the highest prices hammering down at Rock Island Auction.

In terms of giving collectors an opportunity to own a true treasure of American history, James D. Julia came out on top for 2017, with its 1873 Colt featuring "pure Little Big Horn pedigree."

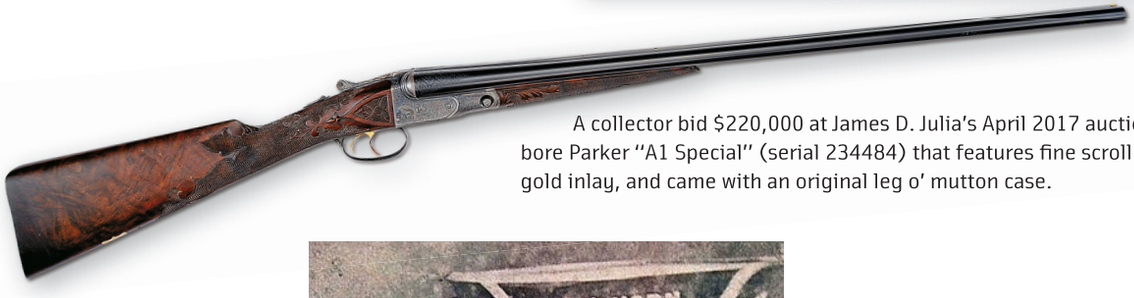


Two other Custer-era firearms have been tied to the Little Big Horn battlefield: the 1874 Sharps (top, serial C54586) that hammered down at Brian Lebel's Old West Auction for $225,000 and the 1873 Colt (above, serial 6045) that sold for $14,500 bid at James D. Julia.

MAR18_Collecting the West.DH.indd 12 1/11/18 11:23 AM

Rock Island Auction earned *True West's* honor as "Best Firearms Auction" this year because of its impressive sales of historical firearms, most notably its highest price for 2017: a $520,000 bid, on May 6, for this Winchester 1866 lever action rifle (serial 79862) engraved with "On the Rocky Mountains" panel scenes.

One of approximately 1,000 Texas Paterson revolvers manufactured by Samuel Colt's company from 1838-40, this No. 5 Squareback Model (serial 141) hammered down for $500,000 at Rock Island Auction on May 6, 2017.



A collector bid $220,000 at James D. Julia's April 2017 auction for this 20 bore Parker "A1 Special" (serial 234484) that features fine scroll engraving and gold inlay, and came with an original leg o' mutton case.

From direct family descent, this rare Confederate octagon barrel dragoon revolver (no serial number) made by the Dance brothers of Texas was carried by Cpl. John Hargrave, who enlisted in Whitfield's Texas cavalry on February 1, 1862; James D. Julia, April 2017, $50,000.

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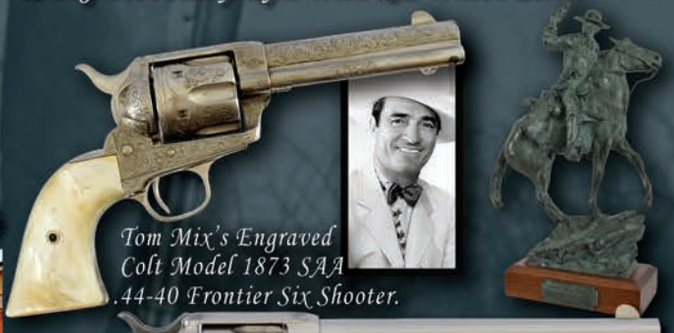
Pair of Cole Agee engraved Colts Attributed to Texas Ranger Lone Wolf Gonzaullus. The pair appeared on the cover of American Rifleman magazine in 1962.

Rare Factory Deluxe Gold Washed & Engraved Henry Rifle With R.L Wilson Letter



Tom Mix's Engraved Colt Model 1873 SAA .44-40 Frontier Six Shooter.

MERLE HAGGARD'S 2008 MCI J4500 "SUPER CHIEF" TOUR BUS

MAR18_Burly Auctions_FPBld.indd 1 1/15/18 12:26 PM

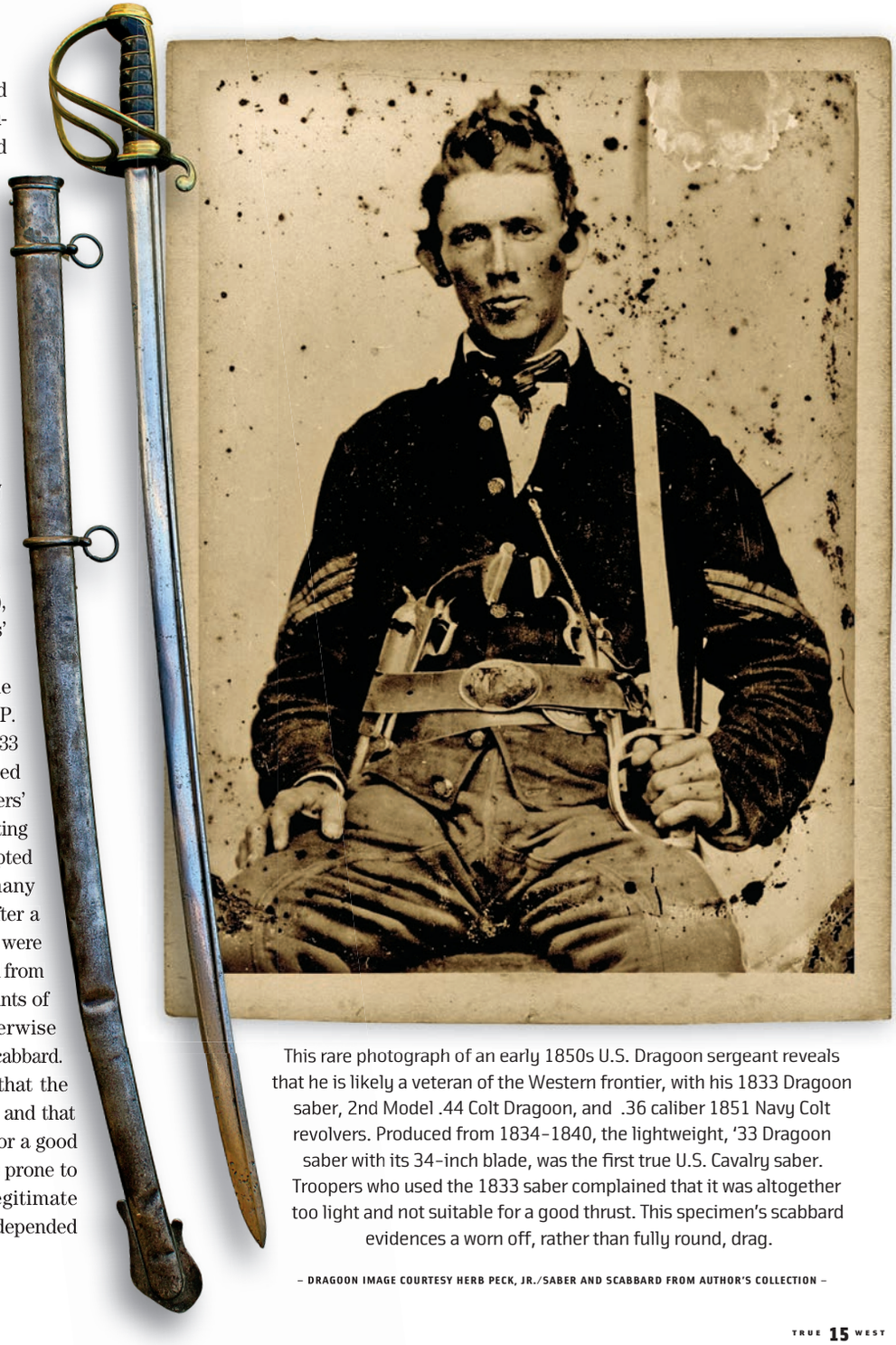
BY PHIL SPANGENBERGER

America's First Cavalry Blade

Despite severe drawbacks, the handsome 1833 Dragoon horsemen's saber earned a solid place in history with the U.S. Cavalry.

In 1833, the U.S. Army formed its first official mounted regiments, the First and Second Dragoons. These soldiers rode to battle, then dismounted to fight, and their units were the beginning of the United States Cavalry. Until then the only mounted units available to the nation were state and local mounted militia, often equipped with surplus, older-model sabers, as per the 1808 "Act for Arming and Equipping the Whole Body of the Militia of the United States." The blades, largely from government stores, including 20,000 Nathan Starr sabers contracted between 1812 and 1818 (with final delivery made in 1822), served as American horse soldiers' primary weapons for decades.

From 1834 through 1839, the government contracted with the N.P. Ames company for 6,100 model 1833 Dragoon sabers, which were based on the Pattern 1822 British Officers' Light Cavalry Saber. It is interesting that the U.S. Ordnance Board adopted this blade design, despite many complaints by the British army after a decade of use. Soon after the sabers were issued, U.S. horse soldiers reported from the field, noting the same complaints of the shortcomings of the otherwise handsome and graceful blade and scabbard. American soldiers complained that the weapon was altogether too light, and that the blade itself was not suitable for a good thrust. Further, the scabbard was prone to being dented or bent—all legitimate grievances for men whose lives depended on the weapons.

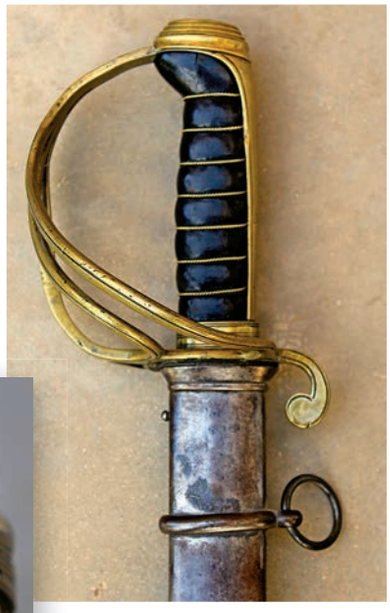


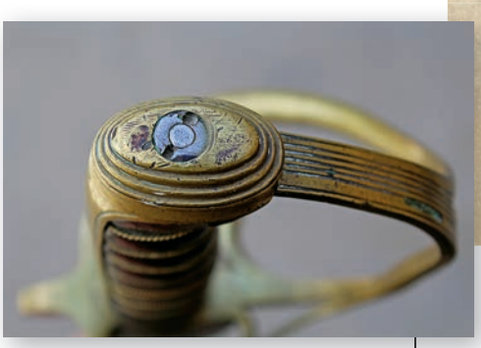
This rare photograph of an early 1850s U.S. Dragoon sergeant reveals that he is likely a veteran of the Western frontier, with his 1833 Dragoon saber, 2nd Model .44 Colt Dragoon, and .36 caliber 1851 Navy Colt revolvers. Produced from 1834–1840, the lightweight, '33 Dragoon saber with its 34-inch blade, was the first true U.S. Cavalry saber. Troopers who used the 1833 saber complained that it was altogether too light and not suitable for a good thrust. This specimen's scabbard evidences a worn off, rather than fully round, drag.

– DRAGOON IMAGE COURTESY HERB PECK, JR./SABER AND SCABBARD FROM AUTHOR'S COLLECTION –

MAR18_Shooting From the Hip.DH.indd 15 1/10/18 3:22 PM

Although the '33 Dragoon saber was not as durable as desired, it was expertly finished with a brass hilt with a knuckle bow, two-branch guard, and a pommel topped with a recessed slotted nut for ease of replacing broken blades in the field. The handles on sabers for enlisted soldiers were wrapped in black leather with seven rows of twisted brass-wire wrapping, while officers' blades featured shark-skin wrapping.





Sometime during its short production life, Ames increased the 1833 Dragoon sabers' weight from 13½ ounces to 19½ ounces, and, for no apparent reason, while the blade's 34-inch length was not changed in any way, the scabbard was lengthened from 35 inches to 36 inches.

While not as durable as desired, the 1833 Dragoon saber was expertly finished with a gleaming brass hilt with a knuckle bow and two-branch guard, and a pommel topped with a recessed slotted nut that facilitated replacement of broken blades in the field. The handles on enlisted sabers were wrapped in black leather with seven rows of twisted brass-wire wrapping. Blades were etched "N.P. AMES, CUTLER, SPRINGFIELD," along with the date of manufacture, ranging from as early as 1834 to as late as 1840. The U.S. sub inspector's initials were stamped on the blade at the ricasso (just under the guard), and frequently with the addition of the stamp "ORD," for Ordnance Department, on the saber hilt and scabbard drag.

The blade etchings on enlisted sabers were dry needle-engraved in a back-slanted, open-faced script in two inscriptions: "*United States*" and the scarcer "*United States Dragoons*." Both legends are contained within a laurel leaf border. Officers' blades are acid-etched, have gilt-finished brass hilts and feature sharkskin and wire-wrapped handles. Scabbards are steel and are made with a flared trumpet-style throat, narrow saber strap ring bands that are split, much like a modern key ring.

Along with those blades produced for the U.S. Dragoons, Ames also manufactured

1833 Dragoon saber blades are etched, rather than stamped, as seen on later model swords, and the markings can be quite difficult to see. Enlisted sabers were dry needle-engraved in a back-slanted, open-faced script in two inscriptions, "*United States*" (as seen here) and the more scarcely encountered "*United States Dragoons.*" Blades are also etched at the ricasso, just below the hilt, with the contractor's name, "*N.P. Ames, Cutler, Springfield,*" along with the date of manufacture, ranging from 1834 to 1840, as viewed on this 1839-made example.

MAR18_Shooting From the Hip.DH.indd 16 1/10/18 3:22 PM

1833 Dragoon sabers for a number of states that requisitioned them from the Ordnance Department or purchased them. The states include Massachusetts, North Carolina and South Carolina, and it's believed '33 pattern sabers were also produced for Georgia and Pennsylvania. Another 280 sabers for enlisted men and 18 officers' Dragoon sabers were contracted for the Republic of Texas. Eventually, however, the '33 saber was phased out in favor of a newer, heavier, French-inspired blade known as the Model 1840 Cavalry Saber. Still, the 1833 Dragoon saber ranks as the first true U.S. Cavalry saber and maintains a place of honor among American cavalry arms.

Phil Spangenberger has written for *Guns & Ammo*, appears on the History Channel and other documentary networks, produces Wild West shows, is a Hollywood gun coach and character actor, and is *True West*'s Firearms Editor.

– COURTESY EL PASO SADDLERY –

EL PASO SADDLERY GUNLEATHER

While many companies make Old West–style gunleather, only a handful make true museum-quality reproductions of the holsters and gun belts worn during our frontier period. Among those few, El Paso Saddlery Co., stands out as a pioneer of Old West gunleather, tracing its lineage back to 1889. The company made gunleather for young Lt. George S. Patton, and later for John Wayne, to be worn in his last film, *The Shootist.* I've dealt with this company for decades and can attest to the quality and durability of its goods. El Paso Saddlery offers gunleather styles from 1849 through the early 1900s, including the 1880s-style, hand-carved Cheyenne rig (above), as well as an extensive line of modern law-enforcement rigs.

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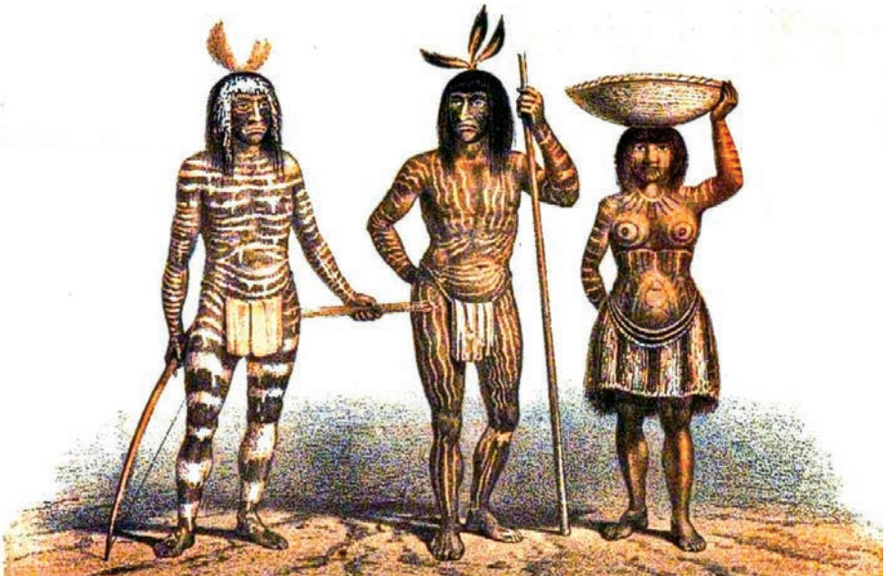
BY BOB BOZE BELL

Heart Gone Wild

DID OLIVE OATMAN WANT TO BE RESCUED?

In 1857, Olive Oatman's ghostwriter said this about her life story: "Much of that dreadful period is unwritten, and will remain forever unwritten." Never say never. Here we are, 161 years since the Rev. Royal B. Stratton wrote those words, and we are ready to look at the brutal truth. Did Olive suffer a "fate worse than death" during her years of captivity among the American Indians? What follows is a closer look at the historical evidence.



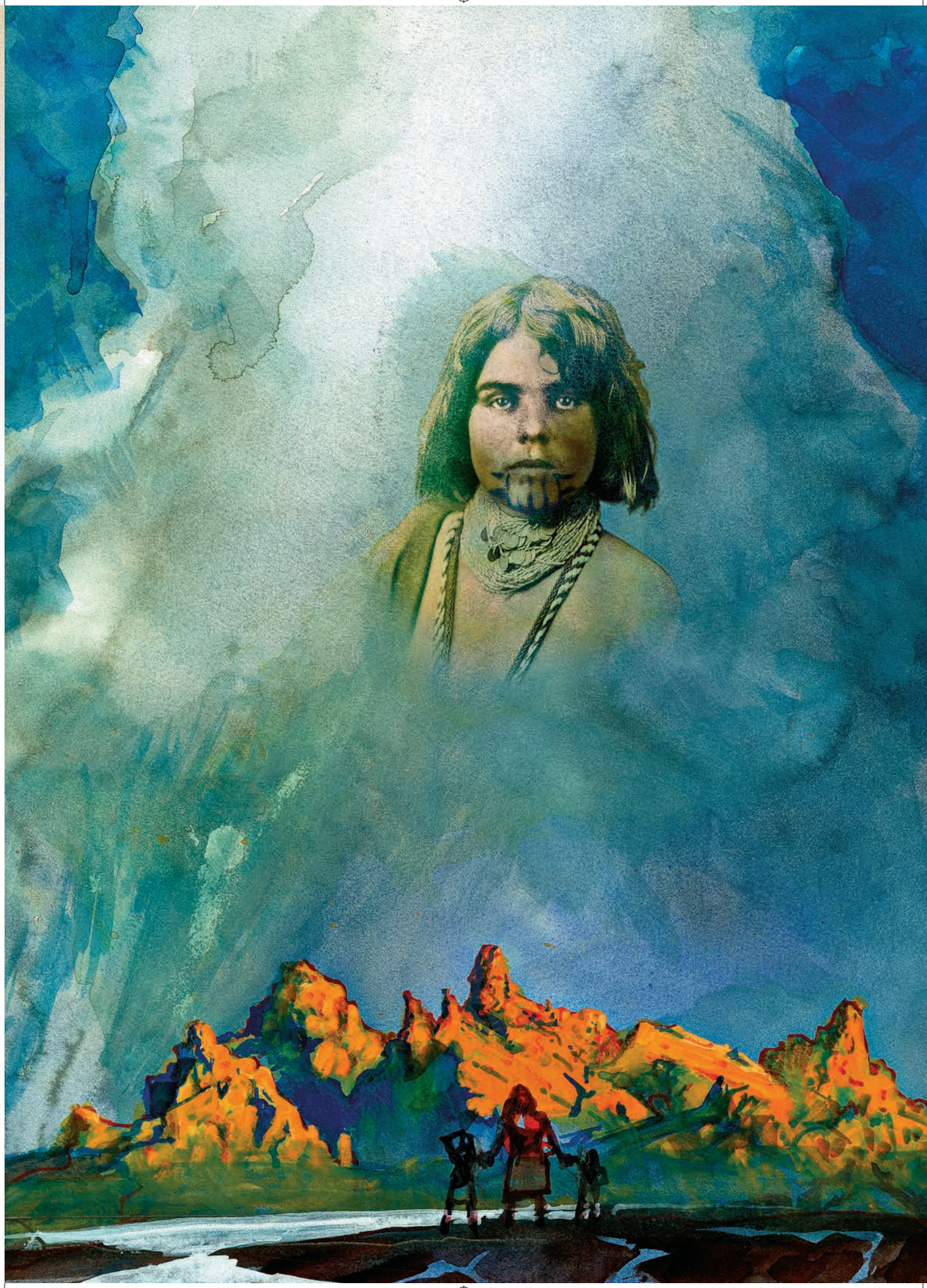
The Mohaves were perhaps the most exotic and sexually liberated tribe in all the Americas. They loved all sorts of tattoos and body paint.

– MOHAVE INDIANS, ILLUSTRATED BY BALDUIN MÖLLHAUSEN, DURING LT. AMIEL WEEKS WHIPPLE'S 1853-54 EXPEDITION –

(Opposite page) The 13-year-old Olive Oatman found herself transformed into a Yavapai captive slave (inset) and eventually a Mohave mother of two. Musk Melon, who accompanied Olive to Fort Yuma in 1856, recalled Olive crediting her Mohave captors with saving her life.

– ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

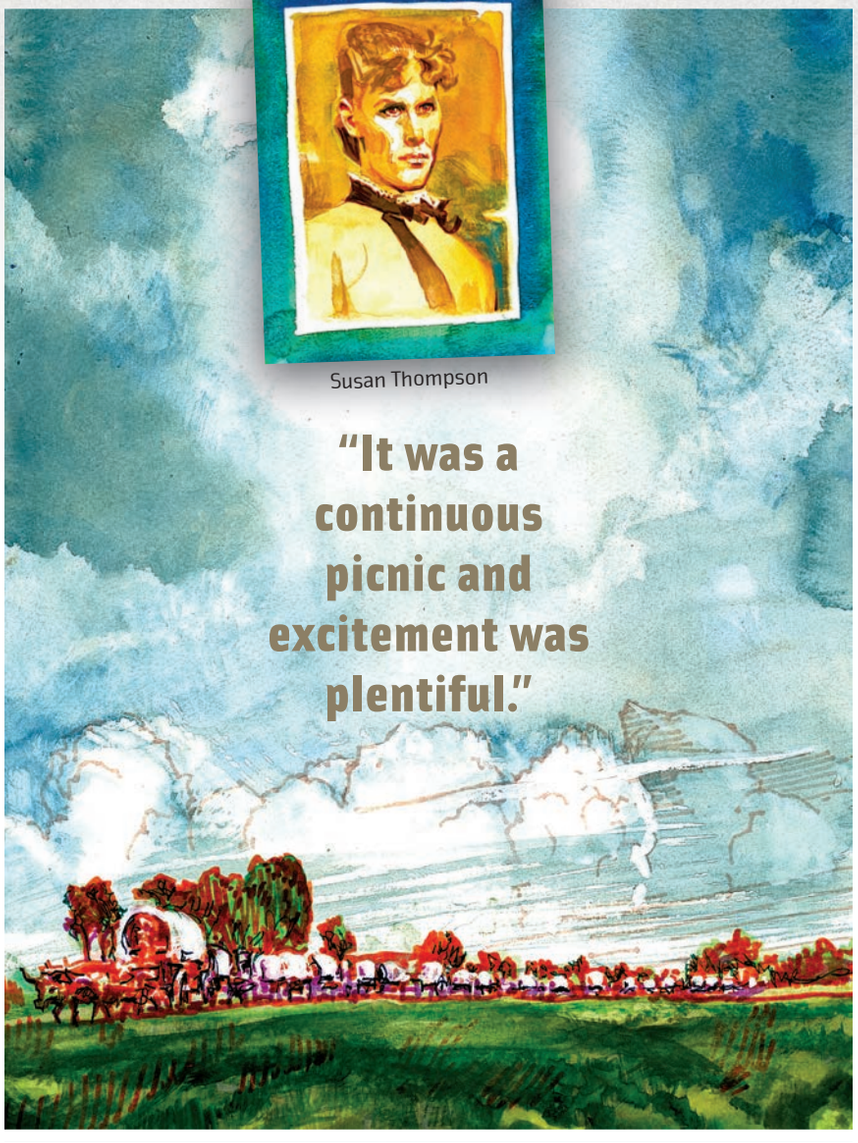
MAR18_FEATURE Olive Oatman by BBB_DH-2.indd 18 1/15/18 11:37 AM



BY BOB BOZE BELL

A Continuous Picnic Goes South

Susan Thompson



Like so many bad trips, this one started out as a fun adventure. The so-called Brewster wagon train left Independence, Missouri, on August 10, 1850. Ninety-three religious pioneers, seeking a life in the Land of Bashan, headed west in 43 wagons, loaded down with eight months worth of provisions.

"It was a continuous picnic and excitement was plentiful" is how Susan Thompson described the journey she took at the age of 17.

She described the food prepared: "The stores of jerked meat, dried apples and berries, flour, corn beef, meal, preserved fruits, bacon and beans that we had prepared during the spring months...."

The wagons stopped every two or three days, she added, "while the women baked and washed, the men hunted for antelopes or buffalos or smaller game.... Often, when we were camping near a stream, we had quantities of fresh fish."

"...In the evenings we gathered about the campfires and played games or told stories, or danced...the young folks danced in the light of the campfire and lard-burning lanterns.... There was plenty of frolic and where there are young people gathered together, there is always plenty of love-making."

Of course, the good times didn't last. Petty infighting, alternative visions and illnesses took their toll. So much so that by the time the wagon train reached Socorro, New Mexico Territory, the ranks had been cut in half. Once those dwindling number of immigrants reached Maricopa Wells (south of present-day Phoenix, Arizona), the wagons had been reduced to three.

MAR18_FEATURE Olive Oatman by BBB_DH-2.indd 20 1/15/18 11:30 AM

Three wagons passed Picacho. Only one wagon remained by the time the travelers reached the Gila Bend. The Oatmans struggled to cross, but they didn't listen to the Talking Rocks—pictographs warned this was a place Indians gathered.

A month later, one wagon would push on toward the Colorado River, where the Edenesque Land of Bashan allegedly awaited, at the confluence of the Gila and Colorado Rivers. That wagon was piloted by Roys (also styled as Royce) Oatman.

From Maricopa Wells, the Oatman family, took off alone. They traveled 1,800-some miles and were 120 miles from their goal.

West of the great Gila Bend, the Oatman wagon bogged down and had trouble crossing the river. Halfway across, the oxen gave out; all the coaxing and pulling didn't work. As nightfall set in, the family was able to push the wagon up on a sandbar, to try and wait out the surging water, so they could continue the journey.

The water kept rising into the night and even snuffed out the family's meager fire. The kids huddled together under their wagon and one heard their father say, "Mother, mother, in the name of God, I know that something dreadful is about to happen."

If Roys actually said this (the comment was attributed to him after the events that followed), no truer words have ever been spoken.

"...I know that something dreadful is about to happen."

–Roys Oatman, on the evening before the attack

MAR18_FEATURE Olive Oatman by BBB_DH-2.indd 21 1/15/18 11:30 AM

TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE

CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

THE OATMAN MASSACRE

THE OATMAN FAMILY VS YAVAPAI RAIDERS

WAYLAID ON THE GILA TRAIL

Members of the Oatman family were slaughtered by a Yavapai hunting party. Daughter Olive put their number at 17.

– ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL –

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Based on the research of Brian McGinty, Vince Murray and Jeff Cuneo

FEBRUARY 18, 1851

Roys Oatman and his family have just finished hauling their belongings up a rocky grade to a bluff on the south side of the Gila River. At the end of this long day, the Oatman oxen are bone tired and so is the family.

Roys' 38-year-old wife, Mary Ann, is eight-and-a-half-months pregnant, and she has just enough strength to prepare a pot of bean soup and some bread for the family to eat before they continue on. The family intends to travel all night to avoid the heat of the day. They are 120 miles from their destination.

The oldest boy, Lorenzo, 14, is loading up the last of the baggage in the wagon, when he turns and sees "several Indians slowly and leisurely approaching us in the road."

Lorenzo later says they converse"with father in Spanish" and "made the most vehement profession of friendship."

Roys is not armed. He has a rifle, but it is in the wagon. The Indians, thought to be Yavapais, ask for tobacco and pipe, which Roys promptly produces. After the warriors finish smoking, one of them mentions seeing "two horses down in the brush." (An American traveler later reports that his two horses had been stolen the day before.)

The Yavapais ask for *pinole* (corn meal). Roys protests that he doesn't have enough to give away, but they persist, and he reluctantly gives them some bread, which they eat. Then they ask for more.

When Roys tells them that he doesn't have any more, a Yavapai brazenly walks over to the wagon and climbs in the back, rummaging around inside. When he comes out, he demands meat.

The emboldened Yavapais start taking objects from the wagon and stuffing items in their clothing. When the family protests, the Yavapais withdraw a few paces and begin talking in their native tongue. Essentially, they are divvying up who will kill who, and who to spare.

Roys tries to keep calm and starts reloading the wagon. At this point, a Yavapai lets out a "deafening yell," and each warrior attacks a member of the family with a war club.

Roys, his wife, his daughters Lucy, 16, and Charity Ann, three, and his sons Roys Jr., five, and Roland, two, are brained senseless, falling to the ground. Lorenzo is also bashed on the head. With blood streaming down his face, he half-runs, half-stumbles toward the edge of the bluff and falls over the side.

Only two are spared: Olivia, 13, and Mary Ann, eight, who are forced to watch the warriors strip their family's dead bodies, looking for items of value. They take the wheels off the wagon and tear the canvas canopy off its frame. While breaking open boxes, the raiders also tear a feather bed, scattering its feathers to the wind.

The Yavapais unhook the oxen, bundle up their plunder and rudely push the girls in front of them. They take the sisters' bonnets and shoes, and force the girls to walk barefoot toward the Yavapai camp, some 90 miles away.

MAR18_FEATURE Olive Oatman by BBB_DH-2.indd 22 1/15/18 11:30 AM

The Massacre

The Yavapais use war clubs to kill the Oatmans.

– PUBLISHED IN *CAPTIVITY OF THE OATMAN GIRLS* BY ROYAL B. STRATTON –

Six of the nine Oatman family members are killed, not counting the unborn fetus the mother is carrying. Lorenzo (bottom right) is left for dead, but miraculously survives numerous blows to the head. A pile of rocks and a plaque mark the spot where the massacre happened. It is know today as Oatman Flat.

Olive Describes What Happens Next:

"After we had descended the hill and crossed the river, and traveled about one half of a mile by a dim trail leading through a dark, rough, and narrow defile in the hills, we came to any open place where there had been an Indian camp before, and halted.

"The Indians took off their packs, struck a fire, and began in their own way to make preparations for a meal. They boiled some of the beans just from our wagon, mixed some flour with water, and baked it in the ashes.

"They offered us some food, but in the most insulting and taunting manner, continually making merry over every indication of grief in us, and with which our hearts were ready to break. We could not eat.

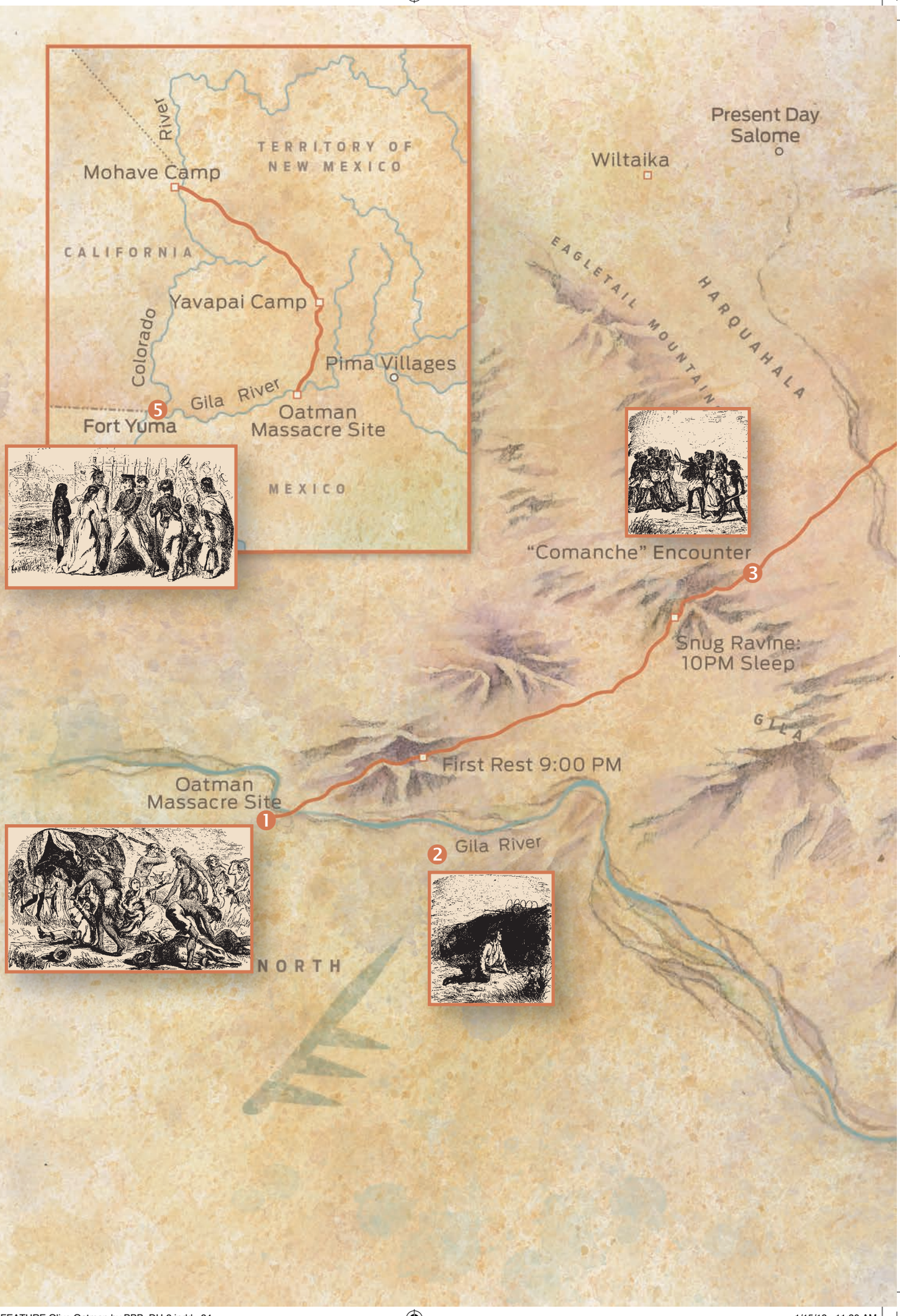
"After the meal, and about an hour's rest, they began to repack and make preparations to proceed."

–Olive Oatman, describing the first grief-stricken moments of her five-year ordeal.

For almost a century, historians thought the raiders were Tonto Apaches and that they took the Oatman girls into the Tonto Basin area. Historians now believe the raiders were Yavapais, and that they took the sisters to a mountain camp in the Harquahala mountains.

Since the Apaches did not traditionally trade with the Mohaves, where the girls ended up, the Indians were probably Yavapais, argues Brian McGinty, in *The Oatman Massacre*.

This map, from *The Captivity of the Oatman Girls,* shows the sisters being taken to the Tonto Basin area. New scholarship reveals a more probable route and destination.


River
TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO
Mohave Camp
CALIFORNIA
Yavapai Camp
Colorado
Pima Villages
Gila River
Oatman Massacre Site
5
Fort Yuma
MEXICO
Present Day Salome
Wiltaika
EAGLETAIL MOUNTAIN
HARQUAHALA
"Comanche" Encounter
3
Snug Ravine: 10PM Sleep
GILA
First Rest 9:00 PM
Oatman Massacre Site
1
2
Gila River
NORTH

HARQUAHALA MOUNTAINS

Present Day Aguila

4

Yavapai Camp

Village of Huts

Present Day Wickenburg

20 Mile Trek

PLAIN

Hassayampa River

Centennial Wash

Gila River

MOUNTAINS

Gila Bend

A *TRUE WEST* EXCLUSIVE

The Oatman Captivity Map

Based on the Research of Jeff Cuneo
Map by Kevin Kibsey
Illustrations Published in *Captivity of the Oatman Girls*
by Royal B. Stratton

1. The Oatmans are slaughtered on the south side of Gila River, technically in Mexico
2. Lorenzo Oatman survives the attack and is rescued near here
3. Olive Oatman claims "Comanches" try to kill her in this area
4. The Yavapai camp is high on the ridges of the Harquahala Mountains, to avoid emigrant trails
5. When found, Olive Oatman and her escorts travel 250 miles downriver to Fort Yuma

Did Olive Oatman Want to Be Rescued?

Mary Ann was eight years old when she and her 13-year-old sister Olive were kidnapped by Western Yavapais west of present-day Gila Bend, Arizona. The raiding party killed her parents and four of her siblings, although a brother, Lorenzo, 14, survived. The sisters marched, barefooted, some 90 miles north to a village, where they were treated brutally, as slaves.

About a year later, a party of Mohaves came to the village and bought the girls, paying two horses, blankets and vegetables. They marched the sisters northwest to the Mohave Valley, which straddles the Colorado River, where they were taken into the home of one of the Mohave chiefs, on the site of the present-day Needles, California. What happened next is controversial.

Here's the essence of the heated disagreement: Olive and her sister either spent their time with the Mohaves as houseguest-slaves (this is Olive's version, after her release), or Olive was married to a chief's son and had two of his children. Even more, a newspaper account claimed both Olive and Mary Ann married Mohave chiefs. If true, this makes the tale all the more sordid because Mary Ann couldn't have been more than 12 years old.

One glaring omission in Olive's version of her post-captivity story is that Lt. Amiel Weeks Whipple's railroad expedition came through the Mohave Valley in February 1854 and spent a week there meeting with the prominent chiefs and traversing the area where Olive claimed to have been held. If she wanted to be saved, why didn't she make herself known?

Here is what Whipple recorded, on February 25, about the captives he saw: "It is said that several sad-looking fellows in the crowd are slaves, prisoners taken in the last expedition against the Cocopas. In the military code of this people, a captive is forever disgraced. Should he return to his tribe, his own mother would discard him as unworthy of notice. There are only two Cuchans, Jose and his friend; others are said to be on their way hither."

From this we know that captured "slaves" among the Mohaves were beneath contempt, which is not an unusual cultural perspective for people at that time.

Whipple also recorded this, about the women he saw: "Young girls wear beads. When married their chins are tattooed with vertical blue lines, and they wear a necklace with a single sea-shell in front, curiously wrought."

In 1856, a messenger from Fort Yuma found Olive, with blue vertical tattoos on her chin, among the Mohaves. Yet Whipple and his men never mentioned seeing Olive or her sister with the tribe.

Were the two girls hidden from the visitors? Or were they hiding themselves because they didn't want to be found? The latter gains some credence when we take into consideration Olive's later account of exactly when Mary Ann died of starvation. She kept moving the date, trying to avoid the obvious question: If Mary Ann was ill in February 1854, why didn't Olive reach out to the U.S. expedition? The inevitable conclusion, at least to me, is Mary Ann had already died, and Olive had assimilated into the tribe, had children by a Mohave and didn't want to be found.

Not every historian agrees that Olive had children while she was a captive.

Author Margot Mifflin says no: "Olive almost certainly didn't marry a Mohave or bear his children. If she had, it would have been a highly unusual, thus memorable, piece of tribal history."

Mifflin, whose 2009 book, *The Blue Tattoo*, was featured in the August 2009 issue of *True West* ("10 Myths About Olive Oatman") goes on to say, "Although she married after her ransom, Olive never had biological children, which raises the possibility that she couldn't. Finally, a half century after her ransom, when the anthropologist A.L. Kroeber interviewed a Mohave named Musk Melon who had known Olive well, he said nothing about her having been married."

This is a solid argument on why Mifflin believes Olive did not have biological children, period. In fact, Olive, herself claimed nothing "improper" transpired between her and her captors, although that was after her ghostwriter, Royal B. Stratton, got ahold of the story and cleaned it up for his 1857 book, *The Captivity of the Oatman Girls*.

The most compelling argument for her having children comes from a friend of the Oatman girls, who was on the Brewster wagon train with them, before the massacre. Susan Thompson was living with her father and husband at the former's inn in Monte (today El Monte), California, when Lorenzo and Olive, reunited in February 1856, stopped there on their way from Fort Yuma. Most important, she sees Olive before the famous captive meets Stratton.

Late in life, Thompson described the visit. She claimed her friend Olive was a "grieving, unsatisfied woman, who somehow, shook one's belief in civilization."

Susan also remembered that Olive confessed to being the mother of two Mohave children and that having to leave these children behind was the source of her grief.

Yet Mifflin dismisses Thompson's claim: "Compelling as it is, the statement is unreliable: [Thompson] also claimed Olive lived with the [Thompson] family for four years (in fact it was for two months after her ransom)."

Brian McGinty, author of *The Oatman Massacre*, offers a different take. "I believe she may have [had children]. There were reports that she did, as detailed in my book," he states. "Her unhappiness in later years may be explained by sorrow over the loss of her children. The eagerness with which she greeted Irataba in New York in 1864 may also be linked to that. However, there have been denials by Mohaves. Perhaps they wanted to avoid recriminations from whites.

"To the best of my knowledge, there has never been convincing proof that Olive did or convincing proof that she didn't have Mohave children. The question is vital to understanding the tragic story of Olive Oatman and should not be dismissed out of hand, as at least one writer has. Some convincing proof may eventually emerge. I hope researchers will continue to pursue the question."

Olive herself claimed she never had sexual relations with her captors. "She has not been made a wife, as has been heretofore erroneously reported, but has remained single, and her defenceless *[sic]* situation entirely respected during her residence

MAR18_FEATURE Olive Oatman by BBB_DH-2.indd 26 1/15/18 11:30 AM

among the Indians," the *Los Angeles Star* reported in 1856, when covering Olive and Lorenzo's arrival to Monte.

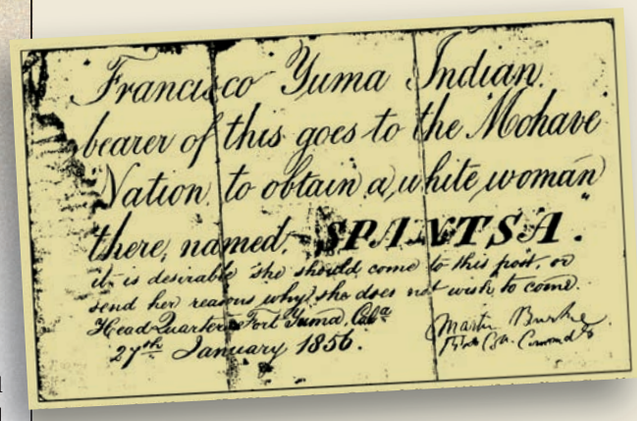
But even today, women do not feel comfortable discussing rape or sex forced during captivity. Perhaps this is what Stratton meant when he wrote, "Much of that dreadful period is unwritten, and will remain forever unwritten."

"The unspoken underpinning for the entire Olive Oatman story is the question of her sexual relationship with her captors," says Paul Andrew Hutton, University of New Mexico professor of history. "This was something the Victorian mind fed on. The Puritans before them had made this a central part of the captivity narratives that formed an important part of colonial American literature. The 'fate worse than death' may seem a quaint concept today, but it was very real in the 19th century. So real, in fact, that Gen. George Custer had standing orders that his wife Elizabeth was to be shot rather than allowed to fall into the hands of the Indians.

"Not only did Olive Oatman not die in captivity, she had grown into a young woman of striking beauty during her time with the Indians. The tattoo on her lovely face only fueled the Victorian mind—what else had the 'savages' done to her? That tawdry undercurrent of suspicion fueled the success of Stratton's book and the lectures that kept Olive's story before the public. That question, of course, despite the sea change in public morals, still fascinates us."

The final word is perhaps best summed up by McGinty, who concludes his book with this haunting passage:

"Perhaps the story has no end—at least not in the conventional sense. Perhaps there is no date on a calendar or place on a map that represents the last chapter in the tragic history. Perhaps it will end only when the truth is known and sober minds can reflect on it. Perhaps it will really be over only when all the characters in the drama are released from the captivities—physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual—that so long and so forcefully held them in their grip."


Francisco Yuma Indian bearer of this goes to the Mohave Nation to obtain a white woman there, named SPANTSA. It is desirable she should come to this post, or send her reasons why she does not wish to come. Head Quarters Fort Yuma, Cal. 27th January 1856. Martin Burke Brvt Lt. Col. Comd.

To liberate Olive Oatman, Francisco, a Quechan (misidentified as Yuma), gave this document to Mohaves. Olive is called "Spantsa," translating as "Sore Vagina," which could signify her as sexually active. This document could indicate that Olive had to be taken away from the Mohaves to Fort Yuma against her will.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

Olive Lost Two Mothers

One of the true and purest heroines in the Olive Oatman story is a Mohave woman named Aespaneo. She literally saved Olive's life when she discreetly gave the 13-year-old captive her last food. "Had it not been for her," Olive later said of the chief's wife, "I might have perished."

When Olive's younger sister, Mary Ann, died of starvation, believed to be in the spring or summer of 1855, Aespaneo came to Olive's side to weep over the body and share her grief, states Brian McGinty in *The Oatman Massacre*. And when the Mohaves began to prepare Mary Ann's body, in Mohave fashion, for cremation, Olive's Mohave mother, Aespaneo, interceded and allowed Mary Ann to be buried in the Christian custom. Aespaneo even insisted her husband provide two of their best blankets to wrap the girl for the burial.

After Olive left the Mohaves and returned to the white world, Aespaneo probably raised Olive's children.

Eight years later, when Olive was living in upstate New York, she read about Irataba, the great Mohave chief, touring the East Coast (he may have even met President Abraham Lincoln). When Irataba reached New York City, Olive took the train to Manhattan and looked him up at the elegant Metropolitan Hotel. They met in the lobby. After clasping him with the left hand (held as a sacred pledge among the tribe), she asked about the Mohaves and her family. Irataba told her that Aespaneo's daughter still hoped she would "tire of her pail *[sic]* faced friends & return."

Although Olive was clearly touched, she never returned to the Mohaves.

Late in life, Olive Oatman complained of headaches. Some speculate she suffered these because of her time in captivity, particularly from the act of carrying water on her head, like the Mohave does here, in this Edward S. Curtis photograph.

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Aespaneo

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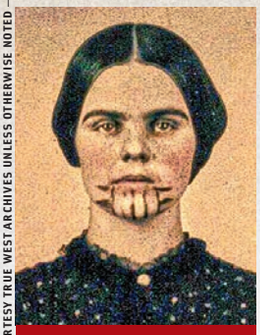
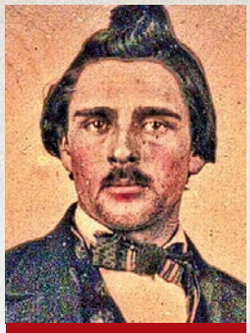
Five Who Knew the Truth

– COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –



Olive Oatman



Lorenzo Oatman

Royal B. Stratton

Susan Thompson

Sharlot Hall

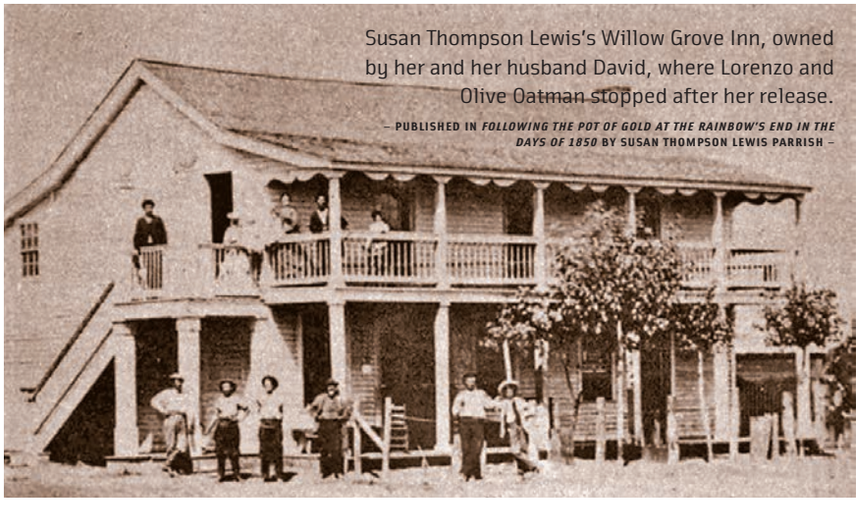
● After five years in captivity, when Olive Oatman was repatriated to Fort Yuma, she was so thoroughly assimilated into Mohave culture, the commander did not recognize her as a white woman. Someone had to pull back her hair and show the whiteness behind her ear to convince him.

● Olive's brother Lorenzo miraculously survived at least four death blows to his head with a war club. After being rescued by two Pima tribesmen, Lorenzo made it to Fort Yuma, where he was successfully treated and rehabilitated. Moving on to California, Lorenzo tirelessly pleaded, with any authority who would listen, to try and find his sisters. When he rushed back to Fort Yuma five years later to meet his only surviving sister, they sat in a room together for an hour and said nothing. He did not recognize her and was stunned at her transformation.

● After her reunion with her brother, Olive traveled with Lorenzo by stage to Monte (today El Monte), California, and stayed with Susan Thompson, who had been on the Brewster wagon train with them. Years later, Thompson admitted Olive had confessed to being the mother of two Mohave children.

● A Methodist minister, the Rev. Royal B. Stratton met Olive in Yreka, California, and interviewed her at length for his book that became a national bestseller. In the book, he admitted he had purposely left out some episodes and facts. Since the book was first published by an arm of the Methodist Church, we can imagine that anything sexual would be a subject to leave out or gloss over.

● Sharlot Hall had the honor of being the first woman to hold an office in the Arizona Territorial government, and she is commemorated by a museum in Prescott, Arizona. Hall was among those historians who believed Olive became a mother, writing a letter to a researcher in 1906 declaring, "Olive had two children while among her captives, and one of them sometimes visits Fort Yuma."



Susan Thompson Lewis's Willow Grove Inn, owned by her and her husband David, where Lorenzo and Olive Oatman stopped after her release.

– PUBLISHED IN *FOLLOWING THE PDT OF GOLD AT THE RAINBOW'S END IN THE DAYS OF 1850* BY SUSAN THOMPSON LEWIS PARRISH –

HEART GONE WILD
Final Thoughts

Olive was caught between a punishing Christian culture and an exhilarating and hedonistic Mohave culture: suppression begets overflow. In modern terms, she went with the flow. She wasn't alone. Other captive stories offered similar outcomes. Comanche captive and mother Cynthia Ann Parker comes to mind. In the 1970s, psychologists labeled the bond that can form between captives and their captors "Stockholm Syndrome."

Olive did what she had to do, as we all do in this world. What's amazing about her is that she adapted, at such a young age, and she survived her ordeal.

Olive Oatman (opposite) posed for this carte de visite portrait circa 1860s to 1870s after being held five years in captivity. Her dress features hash marks across the sleeve that matched her chin tattoo.

– COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, DECEMBER 11-12, 2012 –

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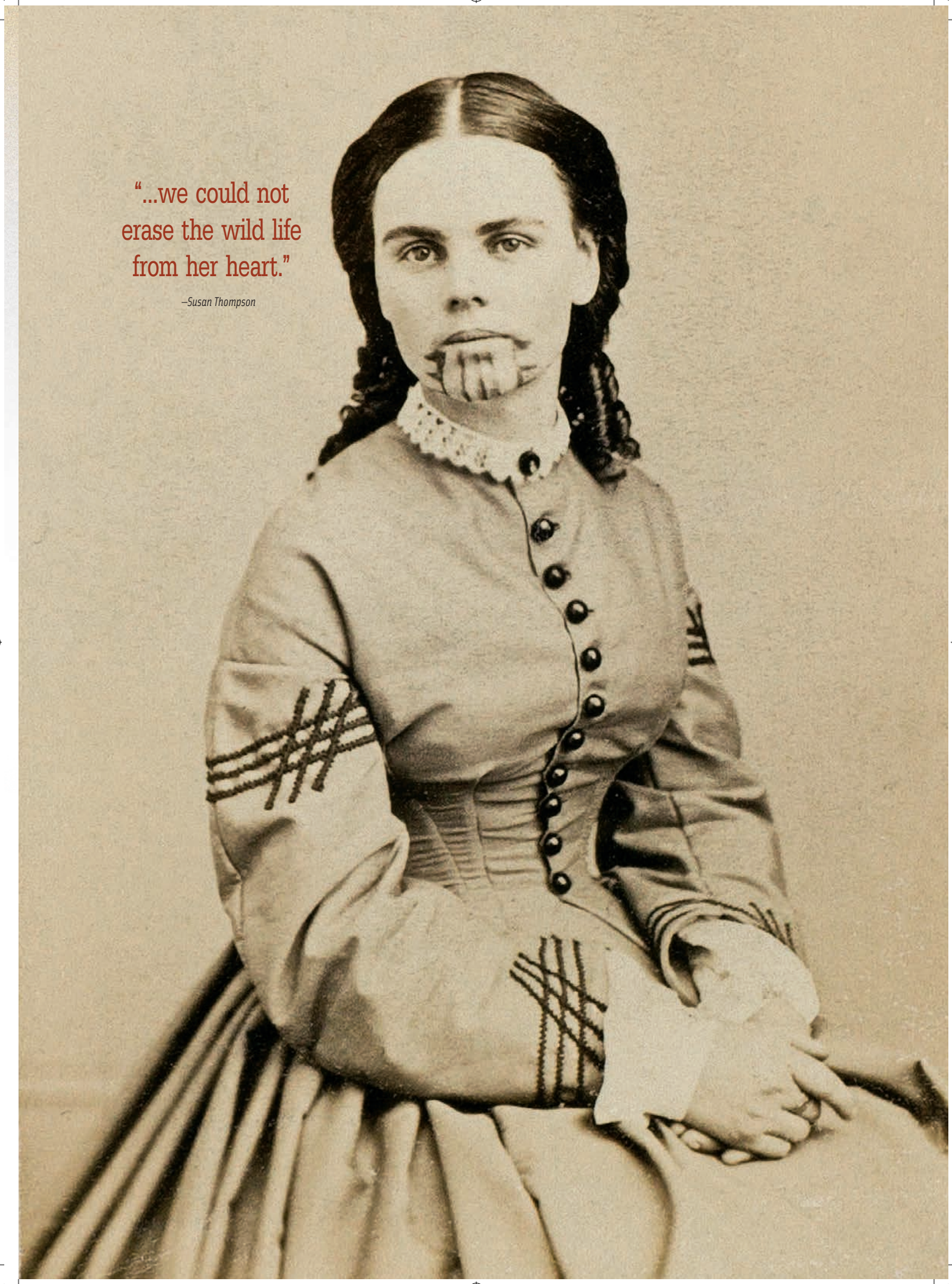
"...we could not erase the wild life from her heart."
–Susan Thompson

BY VINCENT MURRAY

Oatman Genesis

IS OATMAN NAMED FOR OLIVE, OR NOT?

Did John Moss, friend of Mohave leader Irataba, name the Oatman mine and, hence, the town after Olive Oatman? Or was the town originally called Vivian and renamed Oatman in Olive's honor? Or was it named after himself by Olive's alleged half-Mohave son?

The answer is "none of the above."

Though these stories have circulated for decades, and are found in reputable sources, including Will C. Barnes's *Arizona Place Names* and Byrd Howell Granger's *Arizona's Names: X Marks the Place*, they are untrue.

The town's name comes from the nearby Olla Oatman Mine, which was located in 1900 by Eli Hilty, Joe B. Anderson, Walter Hawkins and Dubois Tooker. The mine acquired its name from the nearby Olla Oatman Spring and was one of a group of claims, including the Thos. B. Reed and Benjamin Harrison claims. This eliminates John Moss, who prospected the area in the 1860s, as he died 20 years earlier.

In 1901, Ben Paddock discovered the Vivian mine two miles to the west. Folks claimed the mine was discovered by a half-Mohave, which may be how Olive's alleged half-Mohave son ended up getting credit, but Paddock was actually a half-Chemehuevi who lived among the Mohaves on the reservation along the Colorado River. The community of Vivian, which received its post office in 1904, developed around the Vivian and adjacent mines. Two miles away, the Oatman camp began near the Olla Oatman Mine and soon surpassed the Vivian camp in size. In 1909, the U.S. Postal Service moved the post office from Vivian to Oatman, leading to the oft-repeated story that the town of Vivian was renamed Oatman.

The Olla Oatman Spring was seldom referenced in early texts, except to acknowledge it as the location where a young white girl was held captive by Indians until being rescued, and that story, with variations, came later. Though Olive's popularity may have been equal to that of the celebrities the other claims were named for—9th U.S. President William Henry Harrison and Maine Congressman Thomas Brackett Reed—the historical record is unclear as to why the name Olla was used instead of Olive.

The Mohave County Miner called it the Olive Oatman Mine in 1901, but in 1902, when the partners sold their claims, the name Olla almost immediately gave way to Ollie—not Olive—on both the mining claim and its namesake spring. In 1916, newspapers began printing stories about Olive Oatman's life in captivity at the spring, which led to a site visit, in 1926, by Olive's great-nephew Roy Fairchild Oatman.

The legend that Olive's alleged half-Mohave son named Oatman after himself also rings false. Oatman reporter Robert Shaw Doman probably heard this name origin rumor—which folks got mixed up with the Vivian mine founder, who was not a half-Mohave—and fabricated a 1920s divorce tale involving an imagined grandson he called John Oatman (see *Unsung*, p. 44).

The truth is the town of Oatman was named for a mine which was named for a spring where Olive Oatman was reportedly held in captivity.

A historian and cultural resource advocate, **Vince Murray** is an Arizona native from a pioneer family. He has a master's degree in Public History from Arizona State University. The president of the Coordinating Committee for History in Arizona, he owns Arizona Historical Research, a consulting firm in Phoenix.

Friend of the Mohaves

John Moss appeared in California before the Civil War and devoted 20 years to exploring and prospecting the Southwest. While a few of his self-reported exploits—solo rafting down the Colorado River and locating precious gems in the Four Corners—were fictitious, he forged positive relationships with the native population, including Irataba, who traveled to the East with him in 1864. Olive Oatman met with the Mohave chief during her lifetime, so a tenuous connection could be threaded between Moss and Olive. Yet he is not the likely source behind the Oatman town name.

(Opposite) One legend credits John Moss as the man behind the Oatman town name. Moss poses in his fur-tipped buckskin next to Paiute Chief Tercherum at Fort Mohave along the Colorado River, circa late 1860s.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

This early 1900s Oatman Mining District photograph shows all the mining claims, including the Vivian and Oatman sites (note: multiple claims bearing the name Oatman).

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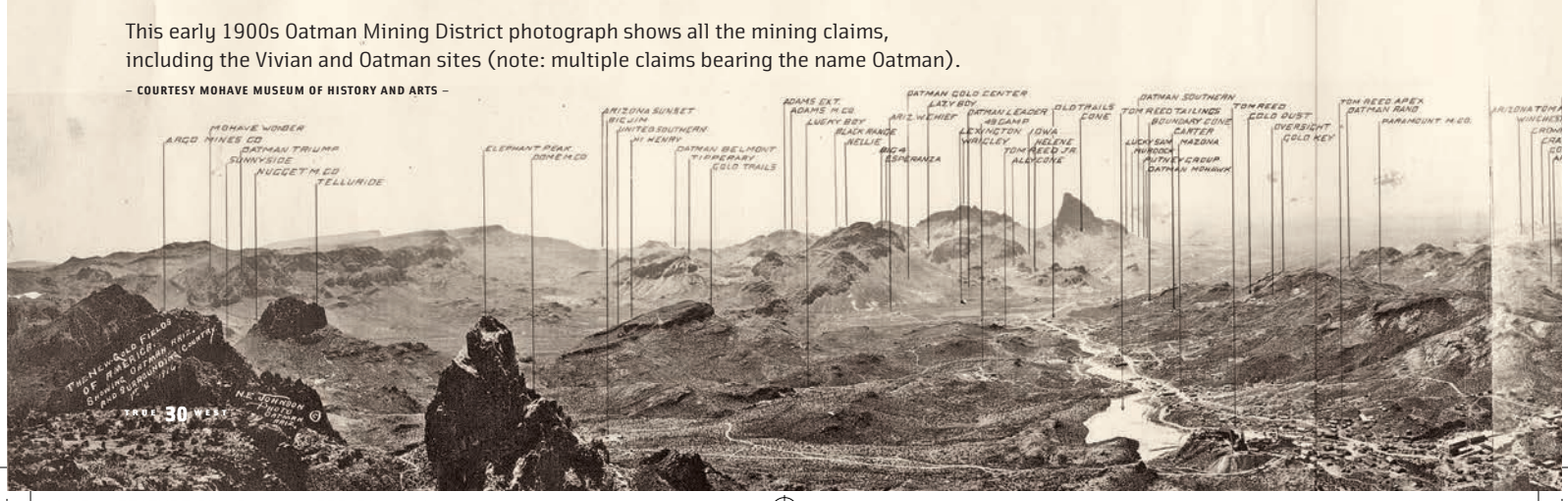

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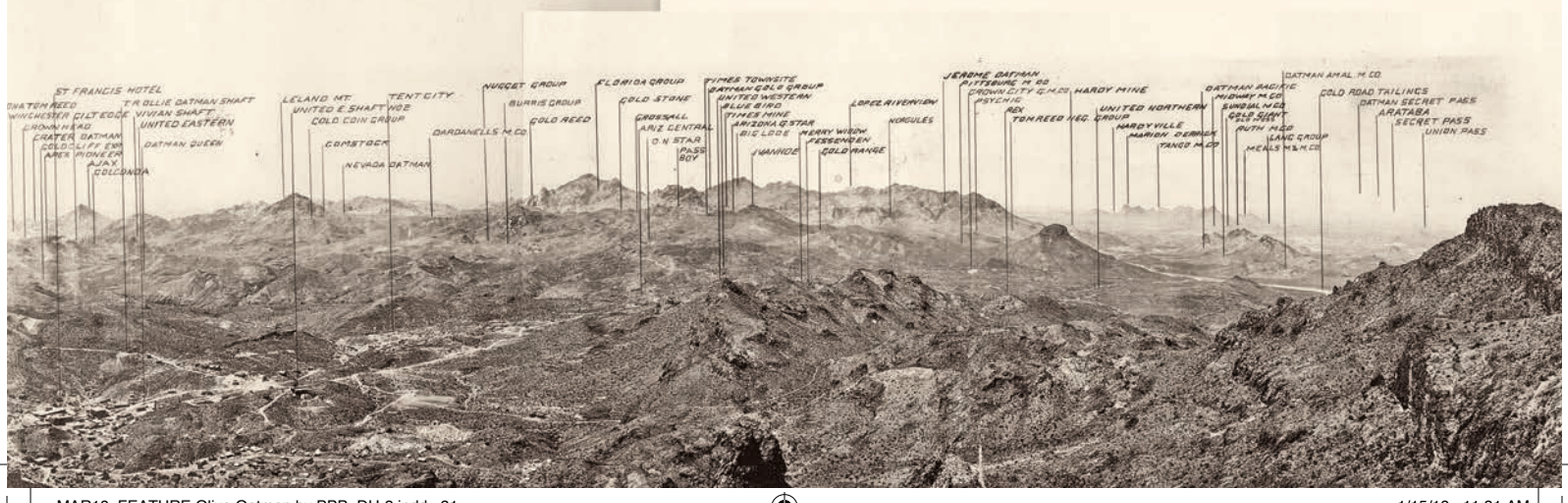
ST FRANCIS HOTEL
OATMAN REED
WINCHESTER GILT EDGE
CROWN KING
CRATER OATMAN
GOLDCLIFF EXT
NEW PIONEER
AJAX
GOLCONDA
TR BILLIE OATMAN SHAFT
VIVIAN SHAFT
UNITED EASTERN
OATMAN QUEEN
LELAND MT
UNITED E SHAFT
GOLD COIN GROUP
COMSTOCK
NEVADA OATMAN
TENT CITY
WOE
DARDANELLS M CO
NUGGET GROUP
BURRIS GROUP
GOLD REED
FLORIDA GROUP
GOLD STONE
GROSSMAN
ARIZ CENTRAL
O N STAR
PASS
BOY
TIMES TOWNSITE
OATMAN GOLD GROUP
UNITED WESTERN
BLUE BIRD
TIMES MINE
ARIZONA STAR
BIG LODE
IVANHOE
HENRY WILSON
FEDERATION
GOLD RANGE
LOPEZ RIVERVIEW
HERCULES
JEROME OATMAN
PITTSBURG M CO
CROWN CITY G M CO
PSYCHIE
REX
TOM REED
HEG GROUP
HARDY MINE
UNITED NORTHERN
HARDYVILLE
MARION OATMAN
TANGO M CO
OATMAN AMAL M CO
OATMAN PACIFIC
MIDWAY M CO
SUNDIAL M CO
GOLD STAR
RUTH M CO
LANG GROUP
MEALS M & M CO
COLD ROAD TAILINGS
OATMAN SECRET PASS
ARATABA
SECRET PASS
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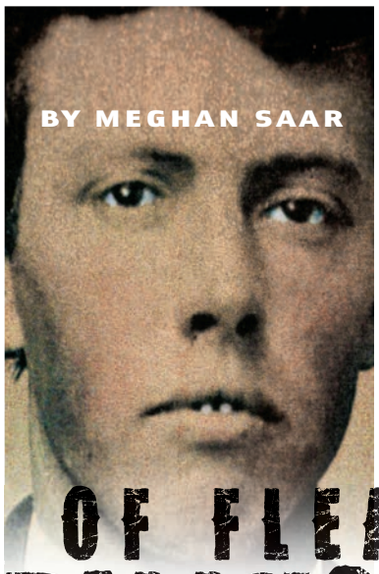

BY MEGHAN SAAR

A PLAGUE OF FLEA MARKET BILLYS

Another alleged Billy the Kid tintype finds a new worldwide audience.

The conversation all started with a letter from my hometown, Buffalo, New York. Rob McElroy had sent a note to the Yahoo group "Photo History" about the latest mystery, writing, "Another indistinct tintype has surfaced that purports to show Billy the Kid and Pat Garrett in the same photograph. There isn't any credible proof for that assertion except for the less-than-qualified opinions of two so-called 'experts' whose names many here will recognize."

Then McElroy shared a link to *The New York Times* article from November 16, 2017, telling the story of yet another flea market tintype purported to show not only the famous New Mexico Territory outlaw Billy the Kid, but also his killer, Lincoln County Sheriff Pat Garrett.

This was not the first time we have seen this tintype. The owner, Frank Abrams, a criminal defense attorney in Asheville, North Carolina, brought the tintype he had purchased for $10 at Smiley's Flea Market in Fletcher into the magazine's headquarters in Cave Creek, Arizona, in August 2017. He wanted to get feedback from our executive editor and acknowledged Billy the Kid buff, Bob Boze Bell.

Why visit our magazine? *True West* had earlier featured a tintype Randy Guijarro purchased for $2 at a flea market in Fresno, California, in 2010. By 2015, Guijarro had convinced the National Geographic Channel to tell its story, and the network had convinced actor Kevin Costner to join the project as executive producer and narrator. In our February 2016 issue, Features Editor Mark Boardman shared the controversy behind this "Croquet Kid" tintype—so-called because this Billy the Kid was holding a croquet mallet, surrounded by several other men, women and children—and provided an excellent analysis for our readers to decide for themselves if the tintype was indeed an authentic photo of the Kid.

Why are all these flea market Billys coming out of the woodwork? The only-authenticated tintype of the Kid sold at Brian Lebel's Old West Auction in 2011 in two-and-a-half minutes for $2.3 million. Western art collector William Koch had made history, paying about $460,000 a half square inch for the roughly three-inch-by-two-inch Kid tintype.

Who wouldn't want to make millions off a piece of history? The debate over any historically important photograph is serious. Solid provenance could mean a huge chunk of change.

Dan Dedrick, whose tintype was included in the Kid lot that Koch purchased, was a pal of the outlaw's, and the Kid tintype traces directly to him. Historians didn't just trust Dedrick's claim that this showed the Kid; the tintype was identified as him during the Kid's lifetime in the *Boston Illustrated Police News* in January 1881. Even more, the man who ended the Kid's life that July, Sheriff Garrett, published the same photo in an 1882 book he partly wrote, *The Authentic Life of Billy, the Kid.*

When Abrams found out that "experts" had valued the Croquet Kid tintype at $5 million, he decided to take a closer look at the tintype he had bought at a North Carolina flea market. He turned to a familiar name, Kent Gibson, who concluded the Kid and Garrett were in the picture.

Who is Gibson? He's the forensic scientist who's worked with the FBI and the U.S. Secret Service who came aboard the Croquet

Frank Abrams, right, and his brother Dr. Michael Abrams, far right.

– ALL IMAGES TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

MAR18 Flea Market Billys._DH.indd 32 1/15/18 10:59 AM

Could Be Billy?

Great photo—love the hat and the cocky look on his face. So is it the Kid? Probably not.

Kid project as the facial recognition expert. In the National Geographic Channel show, he shared how he had used facial recognition technology to compare known photos of folks he concluded were in the tintype: not only the Kid, but also his acquaintances, Charlie Bowdre, Tom Folliard, Sallie Chisum and Paulita Maxwell. But Gibson also said of his identifications, "In a court of law, I would have to deny it. It's not detailed enough to make it a really valid image."

You can imagine how the reappearance of Gibson set off the folks in that Yahoo group "Photo History." Daniel Buck, who, with his wife Anne Meadows, has dedicated time to tracking down the whereabouts of notorious bank and train robbers Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, was the first to respond to McElroy.

"Your skepticism is well-founded," Buck wrote. "Billy boffins are laughing at this tintype…."

You may feel this is a fight between experts, the so-called Kid experts who include biographer Frederick Nolan, and forensic and photograph experts who include Gibson. Why is one side more valid than the other? To be clear, we are friends with many of the Kid experts, but we also aim to stick to the facts. And we believe the Kid experts because that is their aim as well. In this case at least, they are not drawing backwards to figure out how a photograph could track to a person; they rely on direct ties and contemporary confirmations.

Gibson, on the other hand, has made the news authenticating another photograph. Not an Old West one this time, but an out-of-focus photograph showing several people on a dock, including, he claimed, the famously disappeared Amelia Earhart and her navigator after the Japanese captured them—despite the fact that Earhart has her back to the camera. As Buck puts it, "The pixels were hardly dry on that story when a Japanese researcher found that the photo had been taken a couple of years before Earhart's 1937 flight."

Now just because an authenticator has made a few false calls does not automatically disqualify his work. But basing a claim on forensic science alone is not an accepted method of provenance. Ask any major auction house.

When these debates over alleged photos showing famous people happen, you can get in the weeds pretty quickly. Folks in the Yahoo group, including Phil King, Edward J. Lanham and others who had also added to the debate on the Croquet Kid, talked about the envelope that accompanied the Abrams tintype. On it was writing that might suggest this tintype is linked to a family in Lusk, Wyoming: "Lusk Root" and "B.A. Root."

The crew tracked down Judge Benjamin A. Root in Lusk, Wyoming, who lived there around the same period of time the tintype was allegedly taken. (Tintype expert William Dunniway told *The New York Times* that the Abrams tintype was taken between 1875 and 1880.)

Lanham tracked down an obituary that stated Root had been born in Royalton, Vermont, on April 23, 1842, and that he had moved from Vermont to Iowa in 1878, then to Nebraska and finally to Wyoming in 1887, where he became justice of the peace in Lusk.

Abrams has countered back that "Root" could refer to Elihu Root. Abrams purchased the alleged Billy the Kid tintype with four others, including one that came with an "Eddie F. Root" calling card and a note, stating, "This came from Clinton, N.Y. perhaps a member of Elihu Root's family."

Why is that connection important? Abrams has learned that a member of journalist Ash Upson's family married into the Root family. Upson, of course, is the ghostwriter who assisted Garrett in his Billy the Kid biography.

In his tintype, Abrams has identified the second man, with the bulging Adam's apple and signature sweater (he wore a sweater in the only-authenticated tintype), as the Kid. The man at the far right, with a mustache, he identifies as Garrett. He also thinks the man in front, clutching a pistol, is "Dirty Dave" Rudabaugh and the man in the middle could be cattle rustler Barney Mason, other Kid acquaintances. He speculates that the tintype could have been taken on January 14, 1880, the day of the double wedding of Garrett to Apolinaria Gutierrez and Mason to Juana Madril.

Again, we are going to leave the decision up to you, our readers, to determine whether or not you believe this tintype shows the Kid or any of the other Old West characters identified by Abrams and others.

We do have one request, in terms of debating historical photographs. This can be a fun parlor game that may even result in an honest-to-goodness identification that changes our understanding of history. But let's cease on the personal attacks.

You may think folks are above name calling and sending hate mail in the interest of pursuing the truth, but apparently not when millions may be at stake. Everyone at *True West* hopes we can all conduct these conversations with respect and acknowledge everyone's right to chase the facts in the way they feel will produce the best outcome for the historical record.

Hearing about a new Kid image is pretty common at the magazine these past couple of years. Maybe the appeal to find another photograph of the outlaw will never die out. A description of him, when *The New York Times* reported the Kid's death in 1881, crystallizes why: "His soft blue eye was so attractive that those who saw him for the first time looked upon him as a victim of circumstances. In spite of his innocent appearance, however, Billy the Kid was really one of the most dangerous characters which this country has produced."

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BY BOB BOZE BELL

The Brutal Truth About Most Billy the Kid Wannabes

We get a "new" Billy the Kid photo sent to us almost every week. The photo of the cocky-looking gent on the opposite page is a good example.

Some guys bring the photo right into our *True West* office. Check out Frank Abrams, with brother Mike, and his alleged Billy the Kid and Pat Garrett photo on p. 32.

And here is a typical inquiry that hits my e-mail inbox:

"I am a reporter with the *Daily Press* newspaper in Victorville, California. I recently interviewed two brothers who claim to have a never-before-seen photograph of Billy the Kid posing with his brother/half brother Joseph. I would like to speak with someone from *True West* about the photograph and its authenticity.

"The brothers are convinced it's Billy in the photograph for a few reasons. Here are a few:

1. The gambler's ring on the pinkie finger.

2. The wounds on his other fingers that the brothers say are 'consistent with a fistfight matching historical records of the fistfight between Billy and Frank Cahill.'

3. A side by side comparison they did of their photo and the authenticated Billy, which they say are similar."

Shown at the top of this page is that alleged Billy the Kid and Joseph photograph, located by brothers Keith and Brian Collins.

Okay, here's the deal: these Billy the Kid wannabes are invariably intriguing and always exasperating because the people who own them want *True West* Magazine to sign off on their claims. When we tell them we are not in the business of authenticating historical collectibles, they get upset and some of them call us names.

Some of my friends in the business have it even worse. One photo expert I know has to wear a bulletproof vest because one of these photo finders showed up at an Old West auction and pulled a Glock on him; security had to take him down. This is a bit drastic for such a lighthearted hobby, yes?

Billy & His Brother?

A California reporter contacted us about this alleged photograph of Billy the Kid (at right) with his brother.

With regards to this latest batch of alleged Billy the Kid photographs: Are they fun to look at and consider, maybe this could be the Kid? Absolutely. Can we prove it's him? No, short of a printed authenticated document from someone who actually knew the Kid and who specifically mentions the photograph in question, these are nothing more than average antique photographs.

In response to the two Collins brothers who believe their photo shows the Kid and his brother: The pinkie ring is circumstantial, wounds are totally subjective and hard to prove, and any facial recognition measuring is about as accurate as a wing ding is for direction. It's kind of close, but so what? Although I know this brutal truth will break these folks' hearts, someone has to tell them the truth.

The only known authenticated photograph of Billy the Kid has strong provenance. When the Kid had his photograph taken in Fort Sumner, New Mexico Territory, during 1879 or 1880, he was given four copies, in tin.

One of these was sent to an engraver to be copied for the frontispiece in Pat Garrett's book on the Kid, which came out in 1881, the year of the Kid's death. We don't know what happened to that tintype, but the document is early provenance that the image is indeed of the Kid. Another copy of the tintype, heavily doctored, was published in the years after the Kid's death.

Really Billy

The only known authenticated photograph of Billy the Kid.

– COURTESY WILLIAM KOCH COLLECTION –

MAR18 Flea Market Billys._DH.indd 35 1/15/18 10:59 AM

The outlaw gave a third tintype to a Lincoln County War pal of his, Dan Dedrick, who ended up in Oregon in later years. His heirs came forward in 1986 and loaned the tintype to the Lincoln County Heritage Trust. While it was there, some complete jerk monkeyed with the tintype, trying to "wipe off the grime," so he could see the image better and, in the process, damaged the photo. The trust returned the tintype to the family who, in turn, decided to sell it.

This tintype is known as the Upham tintype because Dedrick gave it to his nephew, Frank L. Upham. The family hired Brian Lebel, who auctioned off the tintype in Denver, Colorado, in 2011; William Koch paid $2.3 million for it.

Since news of Koch's purchase broke, every yahoo in the world wants a similar payday for his antique photograph.

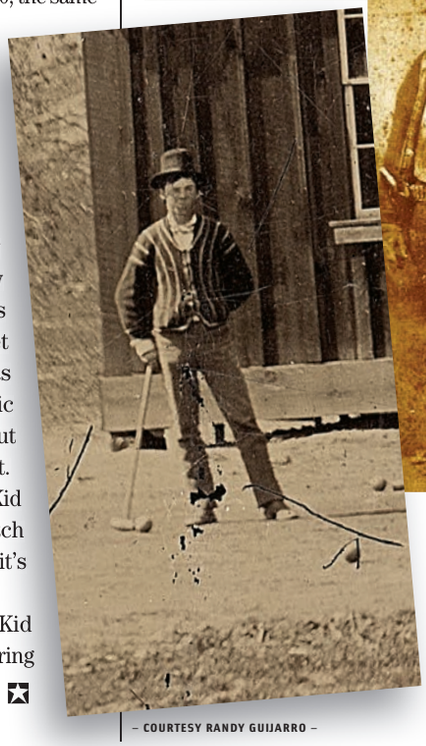
Folks try to work backwards, sometimes through fake provenance. For example, one collector in Las Vegas, New Mexico, claimed his photo of the Kid came out of a family album. The Kid did spend time in Las Vegas, so the location lent an air of authenticity. *True West* asked readers what they thought by putting the photo on the cover in December 1993.

When that photo sold for $30,000, the same collector quickly found another photo that he purported to be of the Kid, but this one didn't look anything like the last one.

People also use digital "facial forensics" to try and map the contours of the face in the authenticated tintype to their new Billy discovery. This is basically a parlor trick masquerading as science. The so-called "Croquet Kid" photograph, which was featured on National Geographic Channel, relied on this sexy, but suspect technique to great effect.

I have seen so many Billy the Kid wannabe photos magically match with the only known photo that it's not even funny.

Sorry, folks, your Billy the Kid photo is probably not going to bring you millions.



– COURTESY RANDY GUIJARRO –

More Wannabes

When a National Geographic Channel show valued the "Croquet Kid" tintype (see detail, left) at $5 million, *True West* once again got inundated with letters from folks claiming they have found their own Billy the Kid photographs. At top is an alleged Kid, seated. Above is another alleged Billy, squeezed in between the only known photograph of the Kid.

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Windy Billy

This photo was first published in 1893 to illustrate the poem "The Cowboys' Christmas Ball" by William Lawrence Chittenden in the book *Ranch Verses*. In the poem, Windy Billy from Swenson's Ranch is a caller at the ball. This photo was misidentified as Billy the Kid for the first time in 1970, by Marion Ballert and Carl W. Breihan, who put it on the cover of their book, *Billy the Kid: A Date with Destiny*.

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BY CHUCK PARSONS

WHO KILLED THE

John Wesley Hardin often gets the credit for murdering Sheriff Jack Helm. But does he deserve it?

Undeniably the darkest hour in Texas's history, the Reconstruction era, between 1865 and 1877, turned the Lone Star State into a bloody and dangerous place. Lawmen of this era were reflective of the society that they served. John Jackson Helm's story is a prime example of those law officers who operated on the fringes of the law.

During the Civil War, Helm fought briefly for the Confederacy. Following the war, he assisted Capt. C.S. Bell in tracking down members of the Taylor Gang during what scholars refer to as the Sutton-Taylor Feud. As an officer of the law, Helm served the cause of "justice" by using tactics just as infamous as those practiced by the men he pursued.

Helm's actions against the Taylors would come back to haunt him.

THE TERROR OF THE COUNTRY

Creed Taylor, a former Texas Ranger and Confederate soldier, wrote with bitterness that Helm "was not a mechanical genius and never invented anything outside of plans to murder innocent men."

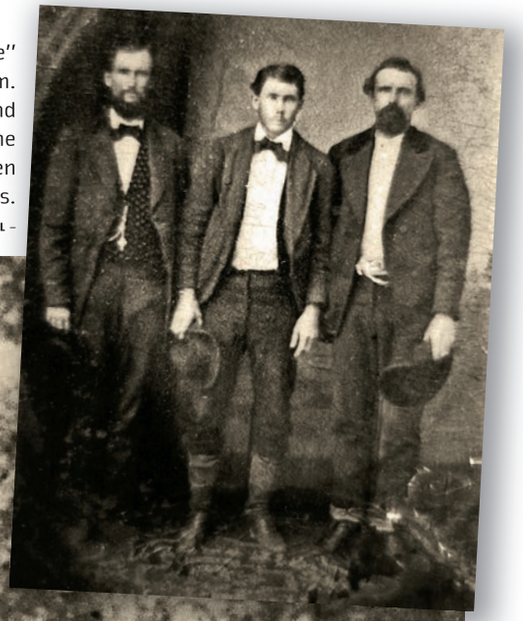
But during the early days of Albuquerque in Gonzales County, Texas, in 1873, Helm was known as an inventor, working away at John Bland's blacksmith shop on his improved cultivator and his cotton worm destroyer, which both received patents that year. The first improved the eveners that connected a pair of cultivators. The second allowed a team of mules to draw a moveable frame that straddled the rows of cotton, sweeping the worms from the plants and crushing them on the ground.

As the DeWitt County sheriff, Helm had plenty of enemies who wished him harm. Yet he considered himself among friends whenever he worked on his inventions in Albuquerque, so he would leave his gun belt and pistols hanging on the hall tree at Samuel L. McCracken Sr.'s boardinghouse, where Helm sometimes stayed. He wasn't completely careless. He did carry his bowie knife, an essential tool that would not interfere with his work in the blacksmith shop.

On July 18, John Wesley Hardin "went to a blacksmith shop and had my horse shod," he recalled, more than two decades later. "I paid for the shoeing and was fixing to leave when I heard Helms' *[sic]* voice: 'Hand up, you d—s— of a b—.'"

MAR18_FEATURE Regulator Jack Helm_DH.indd 38 1/11/18 2:47 PM

TEXAS TERROR?



This circa 1870s photograph of "Creed Taylor Springs near his residence" takes on special significance in relaying the death of John Jackson Helm. None of the men and women are identified, but the figure in the foreground is clearly Creed Taylor, whose nephew played an oft-untold role in the killing of the Dewitt County sheriff. The inset shows Creed (center) between Ed. J. Glover and Ed Harris (far right), in Powder Horn, Texas.

– CREED FAMILY PHOTO COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION; POWDER HORN PHOTO COURTESY JACK CAFFALL –

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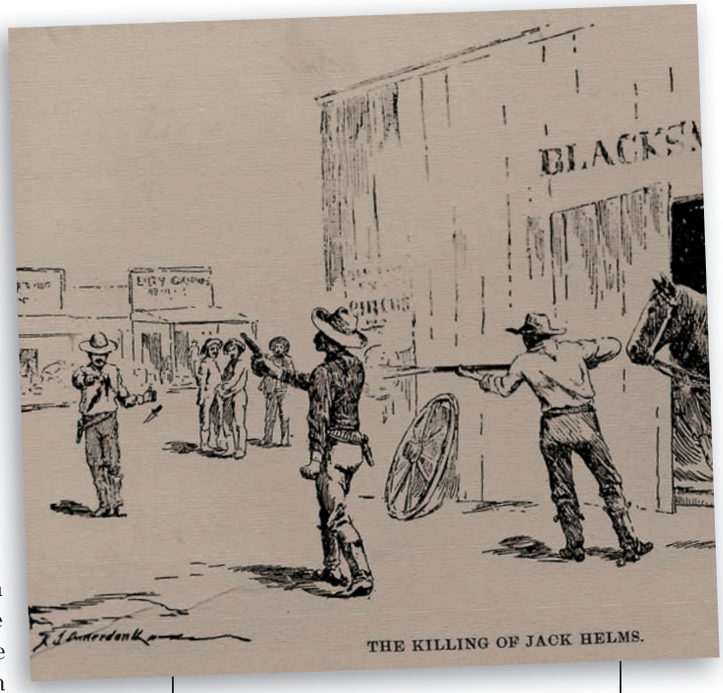


Sheriff John Jackson Helm's death, as interpreted by artist R.J. Onderdonk, was published in 1896's *The Life of John Wesley Hardin*. Although inaccurate in placing the action on the street, this version remains the most frequently published portrayal of Helm's death.

– ALL IMAGES COURTESY CHUCK PARSONS COLLECTION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

Hardin looked around and saw Helm "advancing" on Creed's nephew, Jim Taylor, with the large knife in his hands. Then someone shouted, "Shoot the damn scoundrel!" but Hardin gave no indication who should shoot or who was the scoundrel. Hardin or Helm?

In Hardin's mind, the scoundrel who needed killing was clearly Helm, and he was taking no chances. "So I grabbed my shotgun and fired at Capt. Jack Helms *[sic]* as he was closing with Jim Taylor" is how Hardin relived the dramatic exchange, making it clear that the shotgun was his, not Helm's.

He then pointed his shotgun at the Helm crowd and ordered them not to interfere. "In the meantime," Hardin stated, "Jim Taylor had shot Helms *[sic]* repeatedly in the head, so thus [did] the leader of the vigilant committee, the sheriff of DeWitt, the terror of the country, whose name was a horror to all law-abiding citizens, meet his death. He fell with twelve buckshot in his breast and several six-shooter balls in his head."

WHO SHOT THE SHERIFF DEAD?

Helm's final moments on July 18 remain controversial. A number of people observed what actions transpired, but they provided conflicting reports. The salient point of agreement is that Helm was killed that day—Hardin mistakenly recalled the date as May 17, but a *Gonzales Index* newspaper account confirmed July 18—while the controversy remains: Who should receive credit for the killing?

McCracken told the *Gonzales Index* that he, Helm and Hardin "were sitting engaged in friendly conversation" when a stranger rode up. He dismounted and "walking up behind Helm attempted to shoot him," but the stranger's pistol failed to fire. Of course, Helm, surprised, as certainly were the others, turned around; now the stranger's pistol did work, and as Helm stood up, he shot again, the bullet wounding Helm in the breast.

Helm, no coward now, at the same time rushed at him, attempting to take away his pistol, grappling with him. Just at this moment, Hardin fired at Helm with his double-barreled shotgun, shattering his arm. Helm, now dying on his feet and fully realizing the deadly situation, turned to escape into the blacksmith shop, but the stranger pursued him, shooting him five times about the head and face.

Hardin and the stranger "then mounted their horses and rode away together, remarking that they had accomplished what they had come to do," reported the *Bastrop Advertiser* on August 2, reprinting an undated article from the *Gonzales Index*.

"two young men... announced through the throats of their revolvers the implacable message of fate."

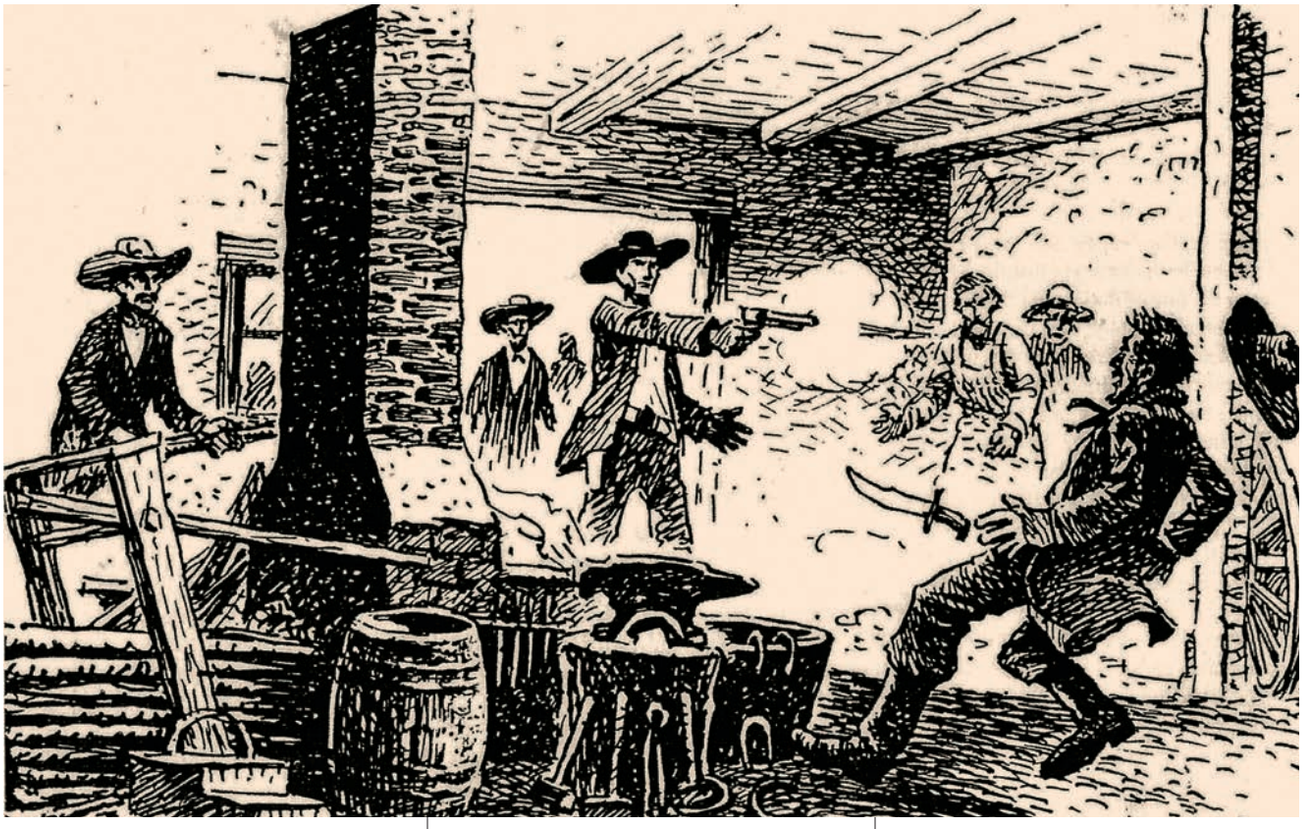
The stranger, of course—not identified in any contemporary source—was Jim Taylor. He wanted the "right" to kill Helm as he considered Helm responsible for the death of his father, Pitkin Barnes Taylor, shot from ambush in late 1872. Jim considered Bill Sutton equally responsible for killing his father, but that act of vengeance would have to wait.

From the available contemporary sources, one must accept that Jim deserves the credit for killing Helm, with Hardin assisting. Jim, putting four or five bullets in Helm's head, did the killing damage. Yet the Gonzales newspaper editor concluded his report with a statement that leaves us wondering: "We heard of no cause of quarrel between Helm and the parties who killed him."

The editor certainly knew who Hardin was, although he claimed to be unaware of any reason for the quarrel leading to Helm's death. Victor M. Rose began writing his history of the Sutton-Taylor Feud in 1880. Some of what he wrote was from memory; of the Helm killing, he wrote, perhaps without checking his files reporting the event: "two young men supposed to have been friends of the Taylors, rode up to the shop and announced through the throats of their revolvers the implacable message of fate."

MAR18_FEATURE Regulator Jack Helm_DH.indd 40 1/11/18 2:47 PM

The late artist Jack Jackson provided a more accurate representation of Helm's violent end, which occurred in the interior of John Bland's blacksmith shop in Albuquerque, Texas.



THE BEST ACT OF HARDIN'S LIFE

Helm's death did not mark the end of the Sutton-Taylor Feud. In March 1874, eight months after his death, the hatred between the Taylors and Suttons still raged. On March 11, Jim and his cousin Bill caught up with their enemy, Bill Sutton. Jim shot Sutton to death while cousin Bill shot companion "Gabe" Slaughter to death on the deck of the steamer *Clinton* in the Indianola harbor. Hardin was not there, but may have participated in the planning of the double killing.

The deaths of Sutton and Slaughter resulted in such negative press concerning the lawlessness in south Texas that Gov. Richard Coke sent a troop of Texas Rangers to DeWitt County to settle the feud. Captain Leander H. McNelly had 30 men under his command; he had been a former captain in the state police, as was Helm. McNelly's presence didn't end the feud, but he did prevent any serious battles while he was stationed there.

One of McNelly's Rangers, T.C. Robinson, under the pseudonym of "Pidge," wrote a letter on November 8, 1874, to Austin's *Daily Democratic Statesman*, that stated: "...Capt. Jack Helm, who kept his helm hard down on the people of this section, until Wes [Hardin] one day, in a playful mood, gave him a broadside and sunk him."

Even among those who may have seen Jim empty his pistol in Helm's head generally considered that Hardin deserved the credit for killing Helm. Apparently Pidge was unconcerned or perhaps unaware of Jim's involvement in the killing.

Hardin recalled that the shooting "happened in the midst of [Helm's] own friends and advisors" who did nothing to help Helm, but "stood by utterly amazed." He then added: "The news soon spread that I had killed Jack Helm and I received many letters of thanks from the widows of the men he had cruelly put to death. Many of the best citizens of Gonzales and DeWitt counties patted me on the back and told me that was the best act of my life."

One is left to wonder just how many congratulatory letters Hardin received for killing Helm, as none have survived.

Jim was killed in 1875 by a posse that included deputies of the late Sheriff Helm. He could not present his version of how he had avenged the death of his father, but in 1894, with many of the feudists dead, Hardin could, and did.

HELM'S TARNISHED LEGACY

In March 1874, Gov. Coke sent Adj. Gen. William Steele to investigate the killings. It may have come as a surprise to the governor, in opening Steele's report, to read: "I find that the present state of violence had its origin in the operations of Jack Helm, a sheriff appointed by Gen'l J.J. Reynolds,

MAR18_FEATURE Regulator Jack Helm_DH.indd 41 1/11/18 2:47 PM

and afterwards made Capt. of State police under Gov. Davis."

Steele explained: "From the statements made to me it appears to have only been necessary for a man should be pointed out to Helm as a cattle thief or a 'bad man' to have been arrested & started off to Helena for trial by Court Martial, but the greater portion of those that started for Helena never reached that point but were reported as, escaped, though never heard of since.

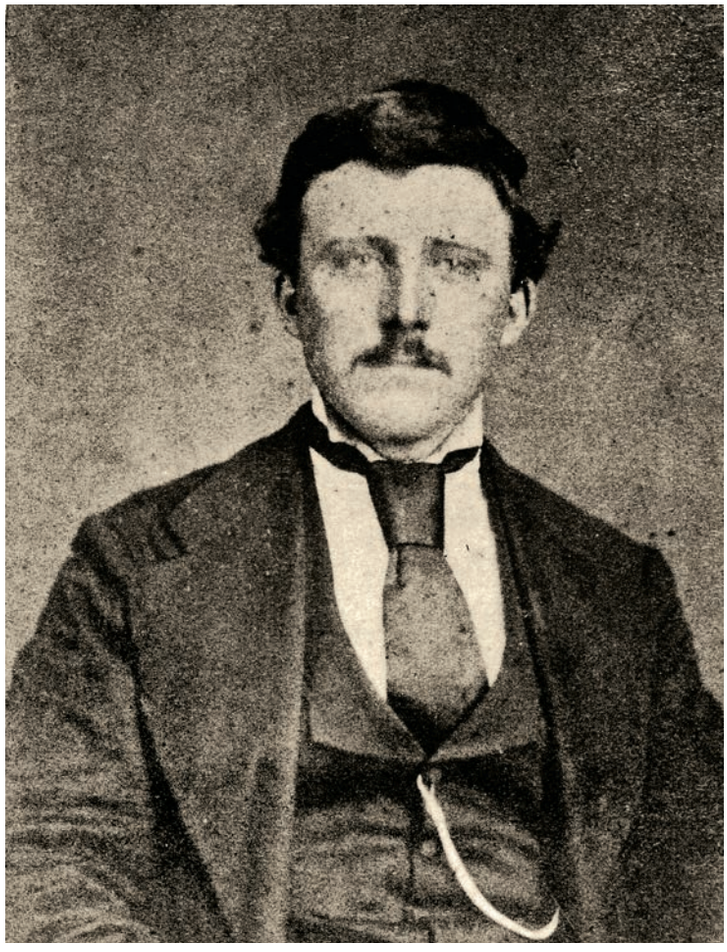
"In one case, two young men by the name of Kelly were started to be returned to Lavaca County, but were killed by the guard, one of whom was Wm. Sutton (whose name now designates one of the contending parties) who was with others tried & acquitted—a verdict which is not believed to be just, the fears of the jurors or other causes having overridden the testimony."

Steele pointed out to Gov. Coke that the Kelly brothers were related to the Taylors, and that the wife of one of the Kellys was the daughter of Pitkin Taylor, "who was assassinated soon after, as is believed because he took an active part, by employing counsel to prosecute in the trial against Sutton & others."

The name of John Jackson Helm would not be remembered as the effective leader establishing respect for law and order in a violence-ridden Texas, but as a tyrant creating terror among the people he was sworn to protect.

As Helm ran into the blacksmith shop on that fateful day, intending somehow to escape from the pair intent on killing him, did he not realize that he was now being killed in attempting to escape? Had the chickens finally come home to roost?

This is an edited excerpt of *Captain Jack Helm: A Victim of Texas Reconstruction Violence* by **Chuck Parsons,** published by University of North Texas and due out in March 2018.



John Wesley Hardin is pictured as he appeared in 1875, a mere two years after the killing of Sheriff Jack Helm. Taken in Florida, this tintype was preserved in Hardin's personal album.

– COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –

This historical marker commemorating the community of Albuquerque could use an update. Located six miles northwest of Nixon in Gonzales County, on FM 1681, the marker gives the credit for killing Sheriff Jack Helm to John Wesley Hardin.

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OATH OF OFFICE.

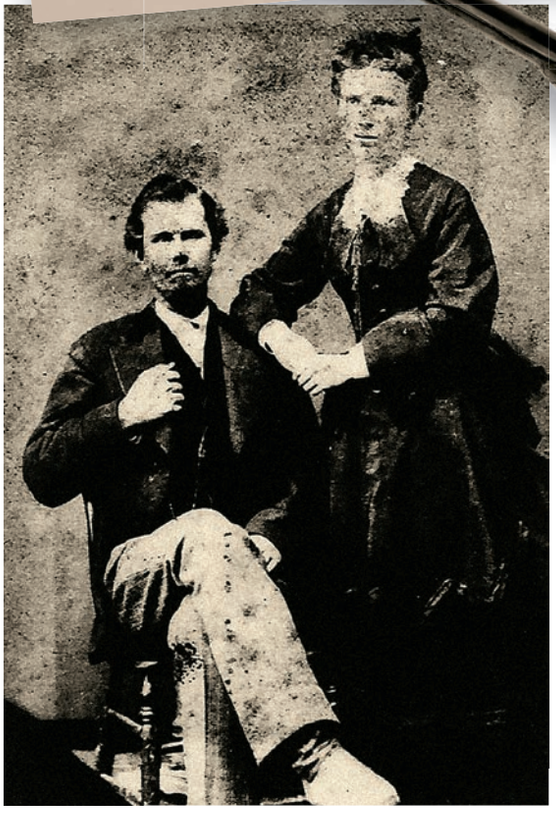
I, Jack Helm, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all duties incumbent on me as Sheriff of DeWitt County according to the best of my skill and ability; and that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State. And I do further swear (or affirm) that since the acceptance of this Constitution by the Congress of the United States, I, being a citizen of this State, have not fought a duel with deadly weapons, or committed an assault upon any person with deadly weapons, or sent or accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, or acted as second in fighting a duel, or knowingly aided or assisted any one thus offending, either within this State or out of it; and that my disability to hold office under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States has been removed by Act of Congress; and further, that I am a qualified elector in this State.

Jack Helm

SWORN and subscribed to before me this 24th day of April, 1870.

Willis Fawcett
Clk. C. C. of DeW.

No photograph of John Jackson Helm is known to exist. The Texas State Archives does have his oath of office (left), when Helm swore in as sheriff of DeWitt County. The Buckhorn Saloon in San Antonio has the weapon that helped kill the sheriff: John Wesley Hardin's muzzle-loading, percussion cap 12-gauge shotgun, manufactured in Birmingham, England by the W & C Scott and Son firearms factory (below).



William Sutton, shown with his wife, Laura, circa 1870, got in a feud with members of the Taylor clan that became known as the Sutton-Taylor Feud. Starting in March 1868 and ending in December 1876, the feud cost at least 35 lives.

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BY VINCE MURRAY

LITTLE KNOWN CHARACTERS OF THE OLD WEST

Fake News Guru

His strange story about Olive Oatman's grandson is finally unveiled.

In the 1920s, Oatman, Arizona, was a boomtown, and while the discovery of gold and the prosperity of the mines were always tabloid fodder, a bizarre narrative of a divorce caught the attention of readers around the country.

Covered first as a special in *The Arizona Republican* on April 30, 1922, the news account carried the juicy headline, "Tribal Atrocities Alleged in Divorce Suit Against Wealthy Mohave Indian Outdoes Fiction."

John Oatman, a Mohave who claimed to be the grandson of Olive, was being sued for a divorce by his wife. The details of the case were quite peculiar.

John's wife, Estelle, accused him of having an affair with an albino Yavapai girl and cavorting with moonshiners. To acquire his half of the communal property when the couple split up, John cut their furniture in half, including a prized crayon likeness of John's mother-in-law.

His allegations against his soon-to-be ex-wife were equally ambiguous. He claimed she fed him prunes with every meal and her father cheated him in a bug fight by poisoning his tarantula.

The press loved the story. In May, the article found its way into newspapers around the country, but, surprisingly, not in the local *Mohave County Miner*. In June, a follow-up story was also picked up nationwide, but with greater details, including the testimony of the albino Yavapai, Starlight Ocatillo.

Robert Shaw Doman penned the elaborate divorce story. Born in Wisconsin on January 11, 1889, Doman had reported as a former international news correspondent during WWI and served in the American Red Cross before returning stateside around 1920. He somehow ended up in Oatman and became well-known; the *Mohave County Miner* called him the "most accurately informed man of the town."

Doman also wrote stories for other newspapers, filed under the title "Hot News from Oatman." These fanciful accounts told of a mastodon discovered in the Oatman Ice Shelf and a local ordinance that allowed people to howl in the street. But none drew the attention that the Oatman divorce did.

After his brief stint in Oatman, Doman became a publicist, most notably for Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, when the Hollywood studio was founded in 1935. Doman was driving to the studio when he died of a heart attack at the age of 61 on February 9, 1950.

> Was John Oatman real or a figment of imagination?

That Doman's yellow journalism articles included the names of real individuals suggested John was real as well. Yet during the 1950s, journalist Roscoe Willson repeated a summarized version of the story and asked: Was John Oatman real, or was he a figment of Doman's vivid imagination?

Doman may have left a clue that answers Willson's query: Estelle Oatman's maiden name, Bois de Vache—a French term meaning "buffalo manure."

A historian and cultural resource advocate, **Vince Murray** is an Arizona native from a pioneer family. He has a master's degree in Public History from Arizona State University. The president of the Coordinating Committee for History in Arizona, he owns Arizona Historical Research, a consulting firm in Phoenix.

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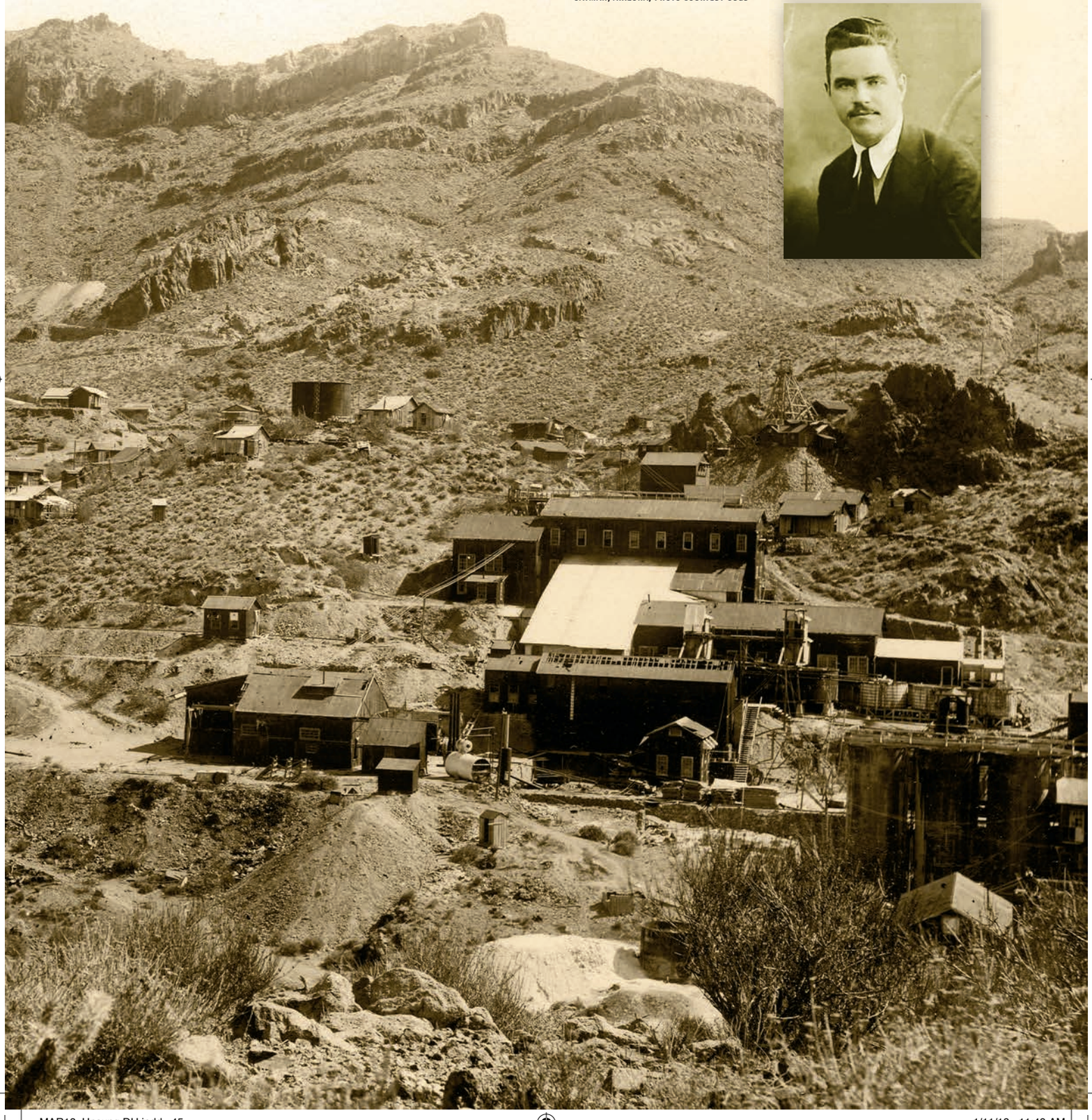
In 1857, the year after Olive Oatman was ransomed back to the Whites from the Mohaves, Olive embarked on a lecture tour to promote the Rev. Royal B. Stratton's book about her ordeal, *Captivity of the Oatman Girls* (see illustration of the Oatman girls from that book, top right). When Robert Shaw Doman (bottom right) made his way to the gold mines of Oatman, Arizona (shown below, in 1921), he reintroduced the Oatman story to the public through his 1920s coverage of a juicy divorce trial.

– DOMAN'S PASSPORT PHOTO COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION; OATMAN GIRLS ILLUSTRATION PUBLISHED IN *CAPTIVITY OF THE OATMAN GIRLS*; OATMAN, ARIZONA, PHOTO COURTESY USGS –



BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS

Cattle, Cowboys and Culture

From stockyards to opera houses, drovers and divas made history from Kansas City to Amarillo.

From 1860, when Kansas City, Missouri, had a population under 5,000, to 1890, when the city topped 132,000, the frontier-river outpost, which had grown into one of the nation's most important cultural urban areas, boasted the National Agricultural Exposition Building (upper left), Grand Opera House (lower left), Board of Trade (upper right) and the Midland Hotel (lower right).

– COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

If you're a vegetarian, stop reading. Unless you like opera.

We don't think of cattle towns as cultural meccas, but many of them were. And still are. Take Kansas City, Missouri, for instance.

By the mid-1880s, KC had a population of more than 500,000. Cattle, I mean. Yes, KC drew that much beef per year. The population of people topped 100,000. And pigs? We're talking around two million hogs a year.

"Kansas City was in the right place at the right time," historian R. Eli Paul tells me. "In 1869, the first railroad bridge to span the nearby Missouri River opened, and in 1871, the first Western cattle came to the new Kansas City Stockyards for shipment to points East. For the next century, KC rivaled its big brother Chicago as a transportation hub, meat packer and agribusiness powerhouse but with its own Western flair."

Culture came to KC at the same time, thanks to Kersey Coates. In the early 1870s, the banker built an opera house at modern-day 10th Street and Broadway. The building burned in 1901, but KC still has culture (Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art).

In frontier towns, opera houses weren't just about opera. As George D. Glenn, an Old West historian, and Richard L. Poole note in *The Opera Houses of Iowa*, opera houses were "the heart of community culture," where residents could see everything from *Fidelio* to *Hamlet* to

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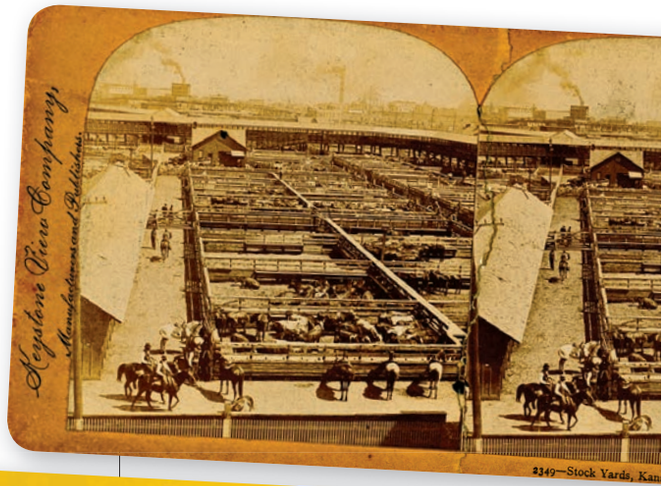


Incorporated in 1850, Kansas City grew exponentially after the arrival of the railroads in 1869. Soon thereafter, the Missouri River crossroads city became one of the most important economic centers in the Midwest. While Kansas City's famous stockyards (top) closed in 1991, from 1871 until a terrible flood in 1951, the 55-acre livestock center was only second to Chicago's Union Stock Yards.

– PHOTOS COURTESY NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY DIGITAL COLLECTION –

sermons, medicine shows, debates and talent contests.

As a cattle mecca, KC thrived, and while the stockyards closed in 1991, that history remains strong. The Livestock Exchange building is on the National Register of Historic Places, and KC is filled with museums. And the annual American Royal showcases livestock, horses, rodeo and—this being KC—barbecue.

"The American Royal livestock show, established in 1899 and the traditional highlight of the social season, kept the city near to its 'cowtown' roots," Paul says, "long after the stockyards had closed."

Wichita

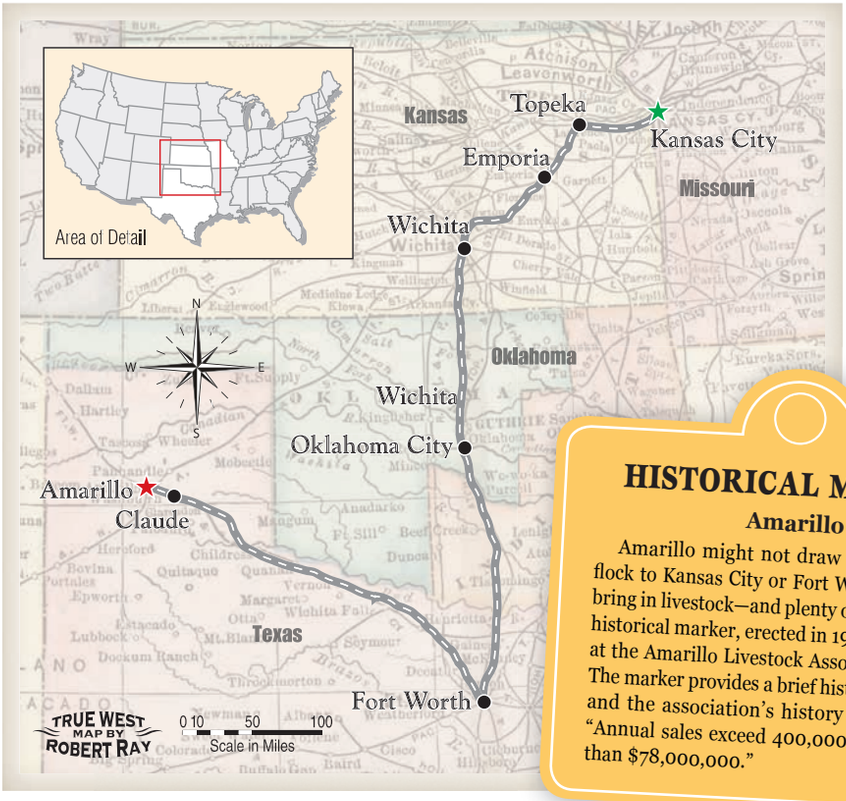
In Kansas, Dodge City, where the feedlots are a tourist attraction, Ellsworth, Caldwell and Abilene celebrate the wild and woolly cowtown era, but Wichita blends the contemporary with history and culture.

Incorporated in 1870, Wichita started out a decade earlier as a trading post. The arrival of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway in 1872 brought the Texas cattle trade. Wyatt Earp pinned on a badge here before civilization, quarantines and Dodge City helped drive the cattle trade West.

But not altogether.

In 1887, the Wichita Union Stock Yards Company opened for business, but seemed to be jinxed from the start. "Unfortunately," J'Nell L. Pate writes in *America's Historic Stockyards: Livestock Hotels*, "on the night of the opening, a fire totally destroyed the yards, burning two carloads of cattle and one hundred tons of hay." The yards were rebuilt, complete with a hotel and exchange building, but the yards and hotel went up in smoke again in 1904. The hotel burned again in 1972. The stockyards closed in 1980. And the exchange building was destroyed 20 years later.

For culture, consider the Turner Opera House, which opened in 1879. In his 1882-'83 edition of *Guide and Directory to the Opera Houses, Theatres, Public Halls, Bill Posters, Etc. of the Cities and Towns of America*, Jno. B. Jeffery bragged: "It is not excelled by any house west of the Missouri," and this, in a city that was a "shipping point for Cattle and Grain."



HISTORICAL MARKER

Amarillo

Amarillo might not draw the tourists that flock to Kansas City or Fort Worth, but it does bring in livestock—and plenty of money. A Texas historical marker, erected in 1970, can be found at the Amarillo Livestock Association building. The marker provides a brief history of the region and the association's history and concludes: "Annual sales exceed 400,000 valued at more than $78,000,000."

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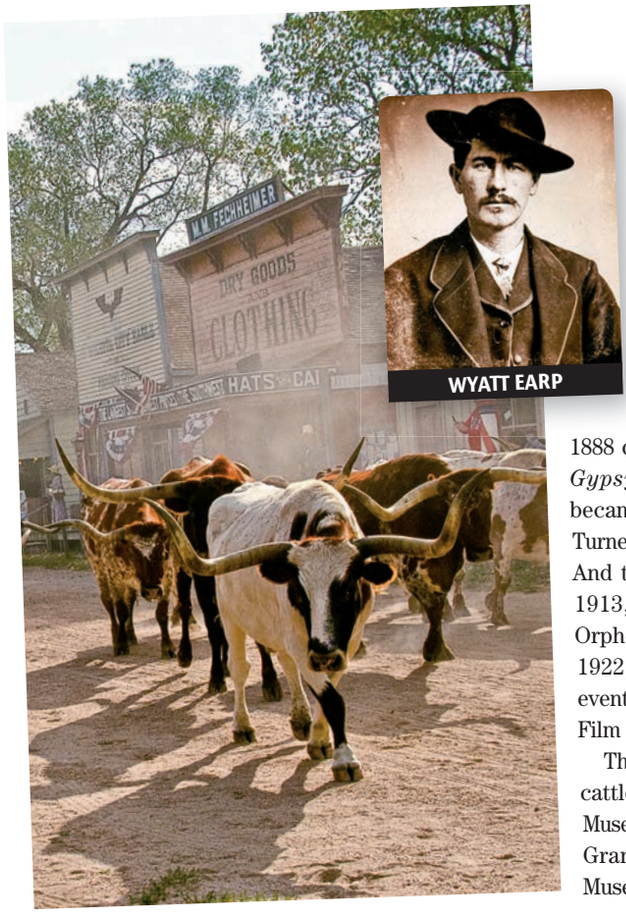


First stop on the trail of the drovers who made Wichita rank with Abilene and Dodge City, Kansas—the cowtowns—is Wichita's Old Cowtown, where you might be able to imagine the real Wyatt Earp (inset) walking the boards as a city policeman trying to keep the peace.

– WICHITA OLD COWTOWN COURTESY KANSAS TOURISM/WYATT EARP PHOTO COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

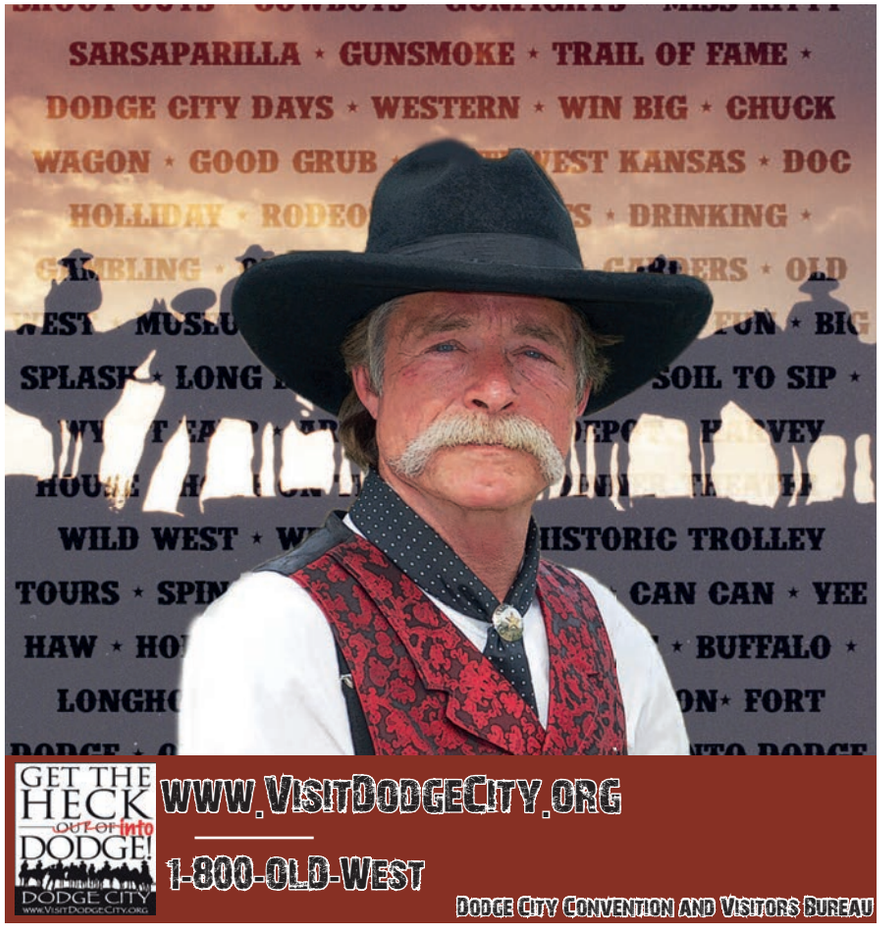
When the Crawford Grand Opera House opened—folks paid 50 cents to $2 for the 1888 debut, a performance of *Gypsy Baron*—the Turner became a market house. The Turner was demolished in 1917. And the Crawford burned in 1913, but the vaudeville Orpheum Theatre opened in 1922, and still showcases events, including the Tallgrass Film Festival each October.

This cowtown hasn't lost its cattle roots (Old Cowtown Museum) or its culture (Wichita Grand Opera, Wichita Art Museum).

Oklahoma City

Just a few years after Oklahoma gained statehood, the Oklahoma National Stockyards started in 1910 as Stockyards City. Before long, the area in Oklahoma City became known as "Packingtown." Major packinghouses built plants, as cattle, hogs and sheep arrived healthy and left….

The plants closed in 1961, but livestock sales began in earnest. Today, Stockyards City brags that it's the world's largest market for stock and feeder cattle. Cattle auctions are held Mondays and Tuesdays, and the district brings in cattlemen and tourists who can still shop (Langston's Western Wear started in 1916) and eat as they have for decades (the Cattlemen's Steakhouse opened in 1910).



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Oklahoma City's Stockyards blend history, contemporary cattle markets and tourism, where visitors are greeted by Harold T. Holden's bronze *Headin' to Market*.

– JOHNNY D. BOGGS –

Meanwhile, Henry Overholser built OKC's first opera house in 1903. The Overholser Opera House would bring in talent like Sarah Bernhardt and Lillian Russell. Warner Brothers bought the venue in 1928, and the theater showed movies until 1964. Eventually, it became—sadly—a parking lot.

Still, OKC celebrates its cattle and culture at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, where the well-attended annual Prix De West Invitational Art Exhibition & Sale ranks among the West's most prestigious art events. In 2015, Painted Sky Opera was founded to bring opera back to OKC.

Fort Worth: 'Cowtown'

Oklahoma City, Wichita and Kansas City owe Texas, so this cattle-culture trail heads to Fort Worth. Cattle drives are a daily event for tourists at the historic stockyards.

As a stop on the Chisholm Trail, millions of cattle trailed through the city. The railroad arrived in Fort Worth in 1876; Union Stockyards went up in 1887.

In 1893, a Yankee capitalist named Greenleif Simpson bought the stockyards, which became the famous Fort Worth Stockyards Company. By the turn of the century, companies Armour and Swift had packing plants nearby. A coliseum, site of the world's first indoor rodeo, went up in 1907. Theodore Roosevelt and Comanche

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Cattle king Charles Goodnight built a 2,900-square-foot Victorian-home (right) upon founding his ranch in 1887. Today, Charles and Mary Ann Dyer Goodnight House in Goodnight, Texas, has recently been restored on its original site at the Charles Goodnight Historical Center.

– PHOTOS BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS –

leader Quanah Parker would step inside the coliseum. So would Elvis Presley.

After the packinghouses had closed, the stockyards became a national historic district in 1976. Today, this mecca offers several shopping, eating and history options. You can even catch a rodeo or event at the Cowtown Coliseum.

Before Fort Worth had a real opera house, it had real opera. In 1877, the Tagliapietra Company performed *Il Trovatore* and *La Favorita* at Evans Hall—on the second floor of a general store.

The Fort Worth Opera House (later the Greenwall Opera House) opened in 1883. It was demolished in 1906, maybe because of a strong wind, or perhaps because the horses on a treadmill during a *Ben-Hur* performance wiped out the stage. Fort Worth still has an opera house (Bass Performance Hall)…an opera festival that dates to 1946…The Cliburn for concert pianists…even a ballet theater. Yet we still call this city "Cowtown."

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Sundance Square in downtown Fort Worth (left) celebrates the city's cattle heritage. Then again, the city still calls itself "Cowtown."

When on a cowboy and culture tour of the Texas Panhandle, don't miss the chance to combine both experiences with a visit to the world-class American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame & Museum in Amarillo (below).

Amarillo

Following U.S. 287 out of Fort Worth, you drive through cattle country. Before reaching Amarillo, check out the restored 1887 home of cattle king Charles Goodnight at the Charles Goodnight Historical Center near Claude. By the way, Claude's Gem Theater opened as a movie theater in 1915, but today is a "presenting theatre" for the Texas Commission on the Arts.

Of course, the major Panhandle cowtown in the late 1880s was Tascosa, where Billy the Kid sold stolen stock. But the Fort Worth and Denver Railway couldn't lay tracks to Tascosa, and that's why Amarillo thrives while Tascosa is a ghost town that's home to Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, open since 1938 for at-risk children ages 5 to 18.

A travel guide once called the Amarillo Livestock Auction "the world's most stomping, snorting livestock auction."

Paul Howard Carlson writes in *Amarillo: The Story of a Western Town*: "In 1997 feedlot operators in the Amarillo area handled about 85 percent in the state. With cattle feeding still a very large business in 1997, the city could claim its place as a 'major cowtown.'"

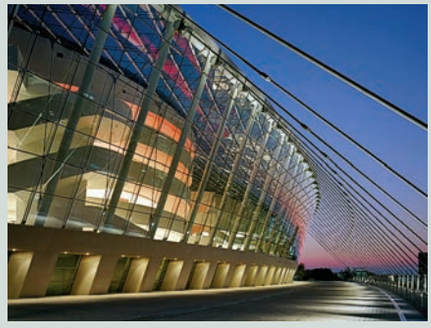
Think Amarillo doesn't do culture or opera? Wrong. The Grand Opera House opened in 1909, and the Amarillo Opera has been a part of the city's culture since 1989.

The Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum is just down the road in Canyon, and the Amarillo Livestock Association remains one of the state's largest independent auction houses.

People here wear cowboy hats. And, yes, you can find a good steak—after an opera, too.

Johnny D. Boggs has eaten much barbecue in Kansas City, consumed many cold beverages in Fort Worth and has even attended the world-famous Santa Fe Opera.

Side Roads



Kaufmann Center for the Performing Arts

–TIMOTHY HURSLEY, COURTESY VISITKC –

PLACES TO VISIT / CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

American Royal, Oct. 17-28, American Royal Complex, *Kansas City, MO*; **Stockyards Stampede**, October 6, Stockyards City, *Oklahoma City, OK*; **Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show**, March 10-17, Cowtown Coliseum, *Fort Worth, TX*; **Working Ranch Cowboys Association World Championship Ranch Rodeo**, Nov. 7-11, Amarillo Civic Center, *Amarillo, TX*; **National World War I Museum & Memorial**, *Kansas City, MO*; **Old Cowtown Museum**, *Wichita, KS*; **National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum**, *Oklahoma City, OK*; **Sid Richardson Museum**, *Fort Worth, TX*; **American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame & Museum**, *Amarillo, TX*

GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

GOOD GRUB: Q39, *Kansas City, MO*; **Redrock Canyon Grill**, *Wichita, KS*; **Cattlemen's Steakhouse**, *Oklahoma City, OK*; **Joe T. Garcia's**, *Fort Worth, TX*; **Coyote Bluff Café**, *Amarillo, TX*; **The Big Texan Steak Ranch**, *Amarillo, TX*

GOOD LODGING: The Raphael Hotel, *Kansas City, MO*; **The Inn at Tallgrass**, *Wichita, KS*; **Skirvin Hilton Hotel**, *Oklahoma City, OK*; **Stockyards Hotel**, *Fort Worth, TX*; **Courtyard by Marriott Amarillo Downtown**, *Amarillo, TX*

GOOD BOOKS

Cowboy Culture: A Saga of Five Centuries by David Dary; ***The Cattle Towns*** by Robert R. Dykstra; ***Kansas City and How It Grew*** by James Shortridge; ***Money on the Hoof, Sometimes*** by Edith Wharton Taylor; ***Maverick Town: The Story of Old Tascosa*** by John L. McCarty; ***Cimarron, A Novel*** by Edna Ferber

GOOD FILMS & TV

Tumbleweeds (Astor Pictures, 1925); ***Red River*** (United Artists, 1948); ***Sundowners*** (LeMay-Templeton Pictures, 1950); ***Fort Worth*** (Warner Bros., 1951); ***Wichita*** (Allied Artists, 1955); ***Cowboy*** (Columbia, 1959); ***Prime Cut*** (Cinema Center Films, 1972); ***Red River*** (CBS, 1988); ***Lonesome Dove*** (CBS, 1989)

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BY SHERRY MONAHAN

Back to Basque

Where to find the sheepherders' cuisine today.

Feast your eyes on the namesake family behind the Martin Hotel in Winnemucca, Nevada, where you can dine on Basque cuisine today. Building owner Alfonso Pasquale (at left) stands with the Martin family (five-year-old A. René, with dog Marco, and parents Elise Henri and Augustine) who opened their "Headquarters for Stockmen" on Christmas Day in 1915.

– COURTESY HUMBOLDT MUSEUM, A. RENÉ MARTIN COLLECTION –

Basque immigrants hailed from a region that stretches across the Pyrenees Mountains into France and northern Spain. They first arrived in America during the California Gold Rush in 1849. When the gold didn't trickle in, many turned sheepherding into a flourishing business in California, Idaho and Nevada. Others ran boarding houses that also functioned as community centers.

A home away from home for Basque ranchers and their families, these boarding houses offered "family-style" meals, where families and strangers sat at one table. Basque favorites included leek soup, garlic soup (they frequently used garlic in their dishes) and lamb courses. Meals consisted of a soup of the day, French bread, Basque beans (seasoned with chorizo and peppers), salad, a main entrée, dessert and a glass of wine.

One such home was Winnemucca, a Nevada town the Central Pacific Railroad reached in 1868. By 1883, about 1,200 pioneers—many of them Basque—lived in town and had ties to the cattle and sheep industries.

One of the largest shipping points in the area, Winnemucca, in 1883, shipped out 33,000 cattle and 600,000 pounds of wool. Since the railroad regularly delivered supplies, the hotels and restaurants offered many tasty tidbits. For instance, the Fulton Market in Sacramento, California, shipped poultry, game, fruit, eggs, honey, cheese, apple butter, canned goods and fish to Winnemucca for its residents to dine on.

> A home away from home for Basque ranchers and their families.

Although the population dwindled to 763 three years later, Winnemucca restaurants were still big businesses. These included the Arcade Restaurant, Mrs. D.P. Crook's place, Chris Diehl's bakery and saloon, and LaFontaine's French restaurant.

Among those restaurants was an establishment that actually got its start as an 1878 residence owned by Frank Naramore, who took ownership of the

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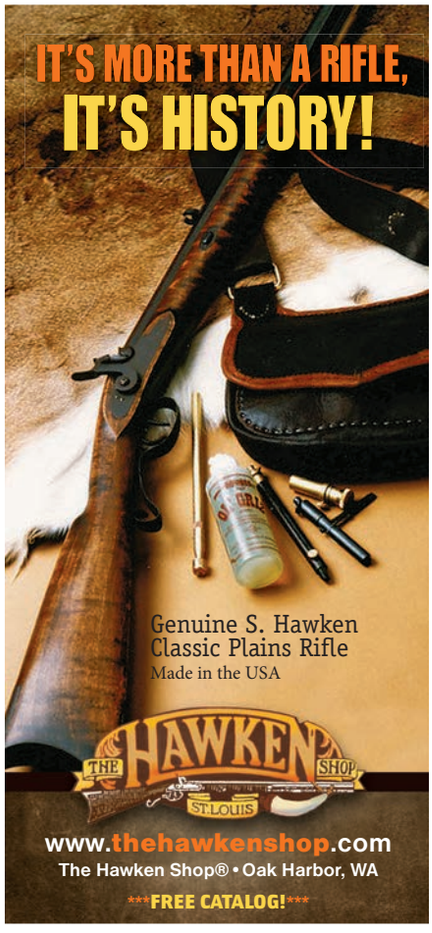

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railroad's feed and sale stables. This residence, along with the Lafayette Hotel, became part of a block purchased by Alfonso Pasquale. In 1908, he built a stone structure next to the hotel.

When a 1919 fire destroyed a majority of the block, the stone structure was credited for preventing the flames from destroying the adjacent hotel. The property, known as the Martin Hotel today, is a place where diners can dine on traditional Basque food, like the Winnemucca pioneers long before them.

The Basque people left their mark on the West with a tasty legacy, and not just in Winnemucca. In California, Bakersfield has Noriega's, and Fresno has the Shepherd's Inn. In Nevada, Elko has the Star Hotel, and Reno has Louis' Basque Corner.

Try your hand at the traditional leek soup served by Basque pioneers at their boarding houses.

Sherry Monahan has penned *The Cowboy's Cookbook*, *Mrs. Earp: Wives & Lovers of the Earp Brothers*; *California Vines, Wines & Pioneers; Taste of Tombstone* and *The Wicked West*. She has appeared on Fox News, History Channel and AHC.

LEEK SOUP

2 tsp. butter
6 leeks, white part only
2 tsp. flour
1 tsp. salt
pepper to taste
4 cups cold water
2½ cups milk
2 egg yolks, beaten
Browned croutons

Melt butter in a deep pot over medium heat. Wash and chop the leeks, then sauté until light brown. Add flour, salt and pepper, and stir. Next, slowly stir in the water. Simmer for 45 minutes. Then strain the liquid into a stockpot. Add two cups of milk. Simmer for 10 minutes, stirring frequently. Remove from heat, but keep warm. Combine the egg yolks with the half cup of milk, and blend well. While whisking, slowly add the egg mixture to the soup. Heat for five minutes. To serve, put croutons in bowls or tureen, and pour soup over them.

Recipe adapted from *Rocky Mountain News*, of Denver, Colorado, March 13, 1892

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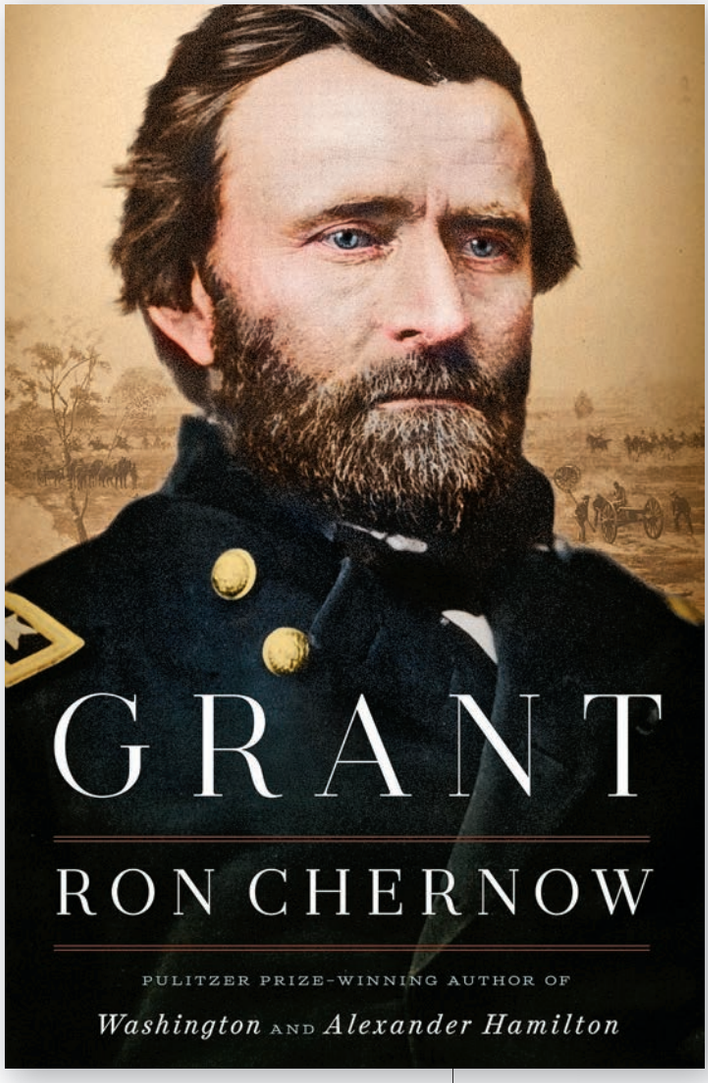
WESTERN BOOKS

BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR: STUART ROSEBROOK



A Man of War and Peace

Ron Chernow's new biography of Ulysses S. Grant challenges misconceptions plus new biographical studies of icons Sitting Bull and Buffalo Bill, Civil War soldier Charles A. Curtis, actors Henry Fonda and Jimmy Stewart, and author Ernest Haycox.

A century and a half ago, Civil War hero General Ulysses S. Grant was fated to become the Republican nominee for president of the United States. Grant was respected for his wartime leadership and post-war leadership of the Army. In 1868, the nation was in the midst of deep political, sectional and regional divisions over President Andrew Johnson's administration, Reconstruction and the Western Indian Wars. Similar to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1952, Grant was nominated on his superb record as a military man, but a novice to the politics of Washington, D.C. A Midwesterner like Ike, Grant won the office in a year of political and racial turmoil and unresolved wars. His subsequent two terms as president, from 1869-1877, would be the longest for a Republican until the man from Abilene served from 1953-1961.

"He...always led by the force of personality, not by gold braid and ribbons."

Ron Chernow's *Grant* (Penguin Press, $40) succinctly challenges a century-and-a-half of character stereotypes and misguided conclusions—many political or regionally biased—that Grant was the right man for the presidency, albeit with all the flaws of a man who struggles with the disease of alcoholism. "While drinking almost never interfered with his official duties, it haunted his official duties, it haunted his career and trailed him everywhere, an infuriating, ever-present ghost he could not shake," Chernow writes. "It influenced how people perceived him and deserves close attention. As with so many problems in his life, Grant managed to attain mastery over alcohol in the long haul, a feat as impressive as any of his wartime victories."

With *Grant*, Chernow has published seven major biography/histories, including *Washington: A Life, Alexander Hamilton and The House of Morgan: An American Banking Dynasty*

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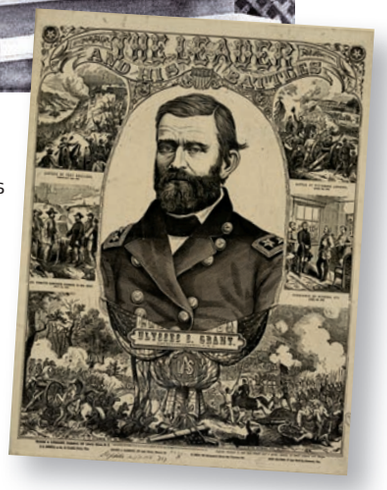
Ron Chernow's comprehensive biography of President Ulysses S. Grant emphasizes the importance of family to the Civil War hero, and his determination to finish his autobiography before succumbing to cancer to assure that his beloved wife, Julia, children and grandchildren would not bear the burden of his debts upon his death.



In Ron Chernow's *Grant*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author vividly recounts with great depth and clarity the complex life of the soldier and statesman U.S. Grant, whose hero-status as the victorious Union general in the Civil Was later became the foundation of his presidential campaign in 1868.

– LITHOGRAPH AND PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

and the Rise of Modern Finance. The Brooklyn, New York, author has established himself as the greatest living American biographer. If his prior six books were not proof enough, *Grant* should be considered his finest effort. He is an empathetic and fair author, who has sought a deeper understanding of Grant's flaws and strengths—as well as his loves and sorrows—with equal vigor. Throughout the biography Chernow also confronts 150 years of stereotypes in the historiography and scholarship that has slowly diminished the legacy of the Midwestern man raised in a temperate, abolitionist family home on the edge of Ohio frontier.

Chernow focuses much of his research and prose on the wartime years, 1861-1865, and Grant's presidency, but like fellow Pulitzer Prize-winner T.J. Stiles' recent biography *Custer's Trials*, *Grant* deftly demonstrates how Grant's egalitarian youth and military service in the West—before and after the Civil War—influenced his style of leadership, misunderstood by so many. "He… always led by the force of personality, not by gold braid and ribbons," Chernow wrote about Grant.

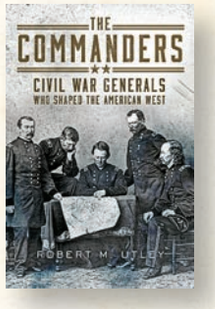
Grant is more than 1,000 pages long with scholarly endnotes, bibliography and index, but Chernow's style does not lag; it paces the reader forward with dramatic intrigue. The historian masterfully reveals that Grant's life is equally common as it is noble. A scholar drawn to the drama of leadership and power, ambition and intellectualism, Chernow brilliantly reminds the reader of the humanity of the man who was raised in a modest, middle-class, Midwestern, Methodist home, only to become one of America's greatest generals and one of the nation's most overlooked and underrated presidents. As Grant's good friend Mark Twain wrote, "All I care to know is that a man is a human being—that is enough for me; he can't be any worse."

—*Stuart Rosebrook*

ROUGH DRAFTS

On March 10-11, 2018, the Tucson Festival of Books at the University of Arizona will host one of the largest annual celebrations of writing, books and authors in the West. *True West* and the Western Writers of America will be well represented at the book festival, and we hope that many of you will be attending and have a chance to come by the WWA and *True West* tent and say hello. If 2018 is anything like 2017, the festival will be both fun and a promising precursor to a great year in publishing.

Speaking of publishing in 2018, the university press catalogs continue to arrive in my mailbox, portending a banner year awaiting fans of Western history. Here are some of my favorites, due out in the first quarter of 2018:

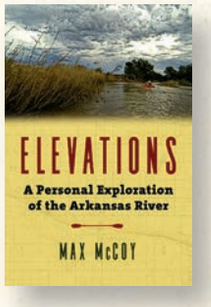


The University of Oklahoma Press: *The Commanders: Civil War Generals Who Shaped the American West* by Robert Utley

Ned Christie: The Creation of an Outlaw and Cherokee Hero by Devon Abbott Mihesuah

Man-Hunters of the Old West, Volume 2 by Robert K. DeArment

The University of North Texas Press: *Captain Jack Helm: A Victim of Texas Reconstruction Violence* by Chuck Parsons



The University of Kansas Press: *Elevations: A Personal Exploration of the Arkansas River* by Max McCoy

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In *Blood Brothers: The Story of the Strange Friendship between Sitting Bull and Buffalo Bill*, author Deanna Stillman details the relationship of how the two iconic men became friends and toured the world celebrating the heritage and cultures of the American West.

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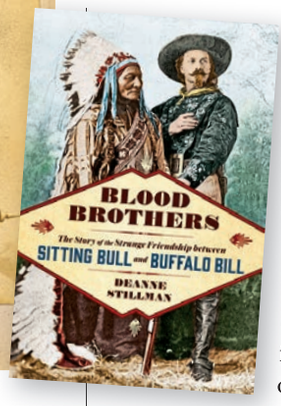

Legendary Westerners

Blood Brothers: The Story of the Strange Friendship Between Sitting Bull and Buffalo Bill by Deanne Stillman (Simon and Schuster, $27) explores the short but complicated relationship between these two legendary characters of the American West. This includes the recounting of their origins as well as the circumstances that brought them together. Woven into the narrative are stories of people like Annie Oakley, whose lives touched and were touched by these two "friends." Rather than following a strict historical timeline, the book explores themes, divided into creatively named chapters. This is an entertaining and thoughtful book, however the author's tendency to mix imagination with fact limits its usefulness. The concluding "Notes on the Writing of this Book" do little to help the reader discern the fact from the fiction.

—*Steve Friesen, author of* Lakota Performers in Europe: Their Culture and the Artifacts They Left Behind

SILVER SCREEN ICONS

Scott Eyman's *Hank & Jim: The Fifty-Year Friendship of Henry Fonda and Jimmy Stewart* (Simon & Schuster, $29) is a sensitive, deeply researched chronicle of the relationship between Henry Fonda and James Stewart that offers fresh perspective on the life of each man. Though opposites in many ways, and steadfast in their opposed beliefs, the pair were, with the exception of one incident, able to put politics aside and forge a heartfelt, lasting friendship. For Fonda especially, this connection was one of the few constants over the course of an exciting but often tumultuous career. Enlivened throughout with touching moments between the two (like Fonda sketching Stewart's beloved but aging horse, Pie, on the set of *The Cheyenne Social Club*), *Hank & Jim* is essential reading for anyone interested in the careers of these men, or in

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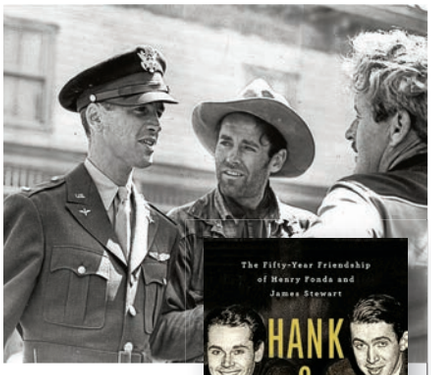


Scott Eyman's dual biography *Hank & Jim* is the heartening story of two great actors and best friends, Jimmy Stewart and Henry Fonda. In the summer of 1942, Army pilot Stewart visited soon-to-be Navy sailor Fonda on the set of *The Ox-Bow Incident* just before Stewart shipped out to England.

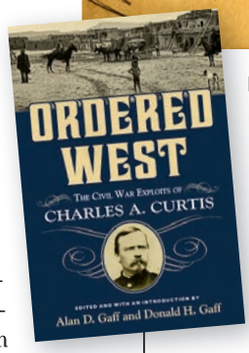
– COURTESY LEONARD MALTIN COLLECTION –

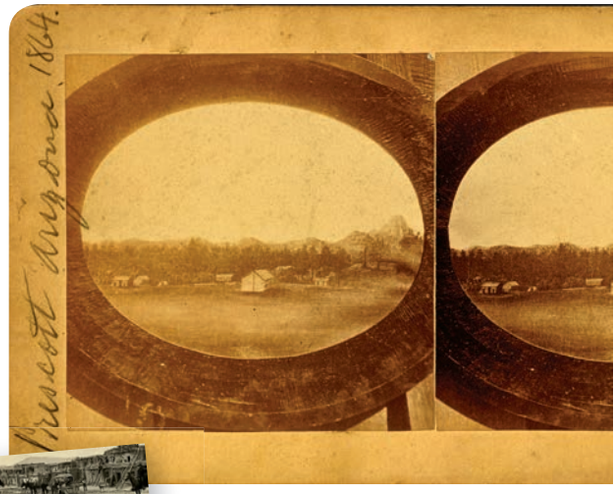
the enduring, popular cinema they helped to shape.

—*Andrew Patrick Nelson, PhD, author of* Still in the Saddle: The Hollywood Western, 1969-1980

FROM THE FRONTIER'S FRONTLINES

Ordered West: The Civil War Exploits of Charles A. Curtis, edited by Alan and Donald Gaff (University of North Texas Press, $39.95), is a long memoir, over 500 pages, covering the service of Lt. Curtis, 5th U.S. Infantry, in the New Mexico and Arizona territories after Sibley's failed invasion. The editors have woven reminiscences that Curtis published in obscure newspapers into a roughly chronological narrative. An engaging writer, his descriptions of life in the territories, as





In *Ordered West: The Civil War Exploits of Charles A. Curtis,* edited and with an introduction by Alan D. Gaff, and Donald H. Gaff, the rugged frontier life of Lt. Charles A. Curtis of the U.S. 5th Infantry is recounted in the Army officer's own words, including his nearly two-year deployment to help with the construction of Fort Whipple in Prescott, Arizona Territory (above), in 1864–'66.

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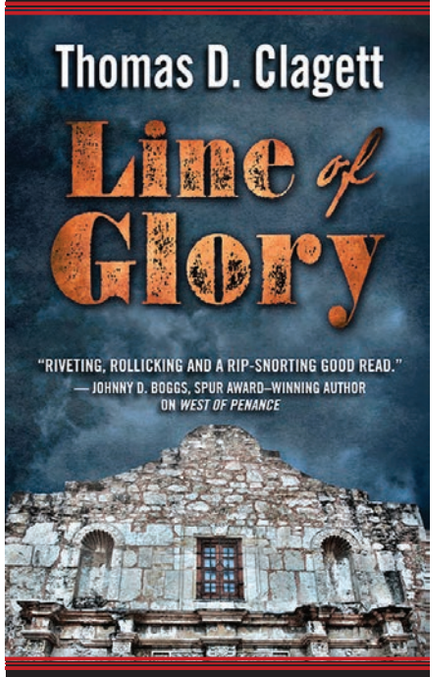
The last thirteen hours at the Alamo began around 5 o'clock the afternoon of March 5, 1836



Hopes, fears and destinies played out that night for four people.

"Gripping… How history may well have been…"
—Paul Andrew Hutton, author of *The Apache Wars*

From the Will Rogers Medallion Award winning author of *West of Penance*

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VIRGINIA AUTHOR RIDES THE TRAILS BEFORE HE PENS HIS WILD WEST TALES

Kevin Hogge is an Old West enthusiast who is part of an elite group of riders and historians who have ridden the trails of Wyatt Earp in southern Arizona, Billy the Kid in New Mexico, and Charles Goodnight and Col. Ranald Mackenzie in the Texas Panhandle.

Hogge, a Virginia native who makes his home in Chesapeake, grew up at a time when TVs were black and white, and Westerns ruled the air waves. His heroes were Matt Dillon and Wyatt Earp. He was drawn to a study of the people and places leading our nation's westward expansion. Now, through years of research and exploration, he has become a respected authority of Old West history.

Hogge, author of four historical-fiction Westerns, *Jackson's Revenge*, *Tale of a Gunfighter*, *Maple Ridge* and *A Ranch by the River*, credits the following five books as the most influential in shaping his passion for writing.

❶ ***Wyatt Earp: The Life Behind The Legend*** (Casey Tefertiller, John Wiley & Sons Inc.): This in-depth look into the life of Wyatt Earp introduced me to a man who I believe I have come to know. Tefertiller inspired me to learn more about this man I had long admired, thus sending me to the back country of Arizona to research and explore the places that Mr. Earp and his posse travelled.

❷ ***John Ringo: King of the Cowboys*** (David Johnson, University of North Texas Press): The myth of Johnny Ringo has always been of a man who did not exist. It was undoubtedly the depth of research and clarity incorporated in this book that inspired and broadened my personal researching skills.

❸ ***To Hell on a Fast Horse: Billy the Kid, Pat Garrett, and the Epic Chase to Justice in the Old West*** (Mark Lee Gardner, Harper Collins Publishers): I have a personal interest in Lincoln, New Mexico. I had ridden across the mountain from the Lincoln Courthouse to White Oaks, knelt at the place where John Tunstall was killed, and seen Salazar Canyon before reading this book. I found it to be well researched, and accurate on every point.

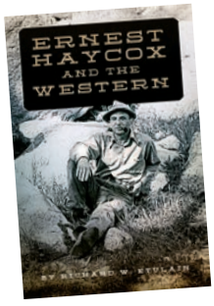
❹ ***A Terrible Glory*: *Custer and the Little Bighorn–the Last Great Battle of the American West*** (James Donovan, Little Brown & Company): Wow, what a book. Donavan writes ostensibly about Gen. George Custer's June 1876 demise in Montana, but begins his trail in 1607 Virginia. It is highly descriptive writing that always stays on point, although taking the reading around some very sharp curves to get back to where it all ties together.

❺ ***Cross Fire Trail*** (Louis L'Amour, Penguin Random House): Who could leave out Louis L'Amour? His style for creating fictional characters and towns, then placing them geographically in real locations, provided the inspiration for Stockley, Arizona (*Jackson's Revenge*), and Maple Ridge, New Mexico (*Tale of a Gunfighter*). As Louis L'Amour once said: "If I say there's a tree there…There's a tree there." I strive to uphold that rule in my own writing.

MAR18_Western Books.DH.indd 58 1/11/18 2:33 PM

well as duties as a junior quartermaster officer, and in camp and field against the Navajo, Apache and other tribes, are entertaining and enlightening. The editors provide footnotes identifying people, places and events, but the chronology tends to waver, and Curtis's accounts are not always accurate. Nevertheless, *Ordered West* provides a fresh look at this often overlooked time in the Southwest.

—Blaine Lamb, author of The Extraordinary Life of Charles Pomeroy Stone: Soldier, Surveyor, Pasha, Engineer



HAYCOX: A LITERARY HISTORY

Ernest Haycox died in 1950, but he continues to cast a long shadow over Western fiction. In *Ernest Haycox and the Western* (University Press of Oklahoma, $29.95), Richard W. Etulain gives us a literary history of the author's work, with special emphasis on two breakthrough novels: *The Wild Bunch* (1943) and *Bugles in the Afternoon* (1944). Both were serialized in major magazines in 1943, and they set the tone for Westerns in print and on film for the rest of the century; *Bugles*, especially, was ahead of its time for its unsympathetic portrayal of George Armstrong Custer. Etulain, a scholar whose previous subjects have included Owen Wister and Calamity Jane, has given us a book that demands space in any serious collection.

—Max McCoy, author of Jesse: A Novel of the Outlaw Jesse James

Ernest Haycox's April 1937 *Collier's* short story "Stage to Lordsburg" changed American cinema and Western film history when John Ford directed John Wayne in Monument Valley from Dudley Nichols's screenplay adaptation.

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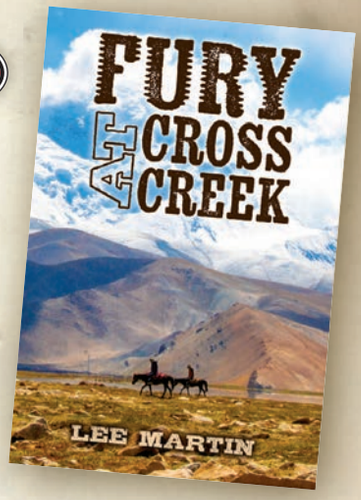
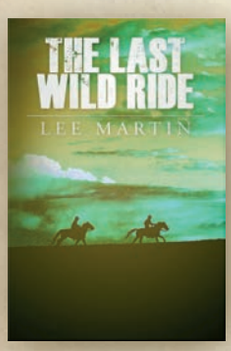


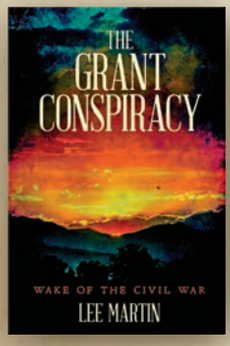


THE LAST WILD RIDE

"In 1877, a bitter ex lawman is roped into escorting a fugitive widow and her mute son through the badlands with the help of old scouts and a gambler, while her vengeful in-laws are hot on their trail."

The story is full of suspense and adventure. It is an easy, fast read that I strongly recommend. It will keep your interest, encouraging you to keep reading to find out what happens next." Lowell F. Volk, Author of the Luke Taylor and Trevor Lane series

*— **TRUE WEST**, July 2017*



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*—**TRUE WEST** April 2016 by author Eric H. Heisner.*

Don't miss Lee's *SHADOW ON THE MESA*, from which Lee wrote the highly rated movie with Kevin Sorbo.

Look for all of Lee Martin's 21 Western Novels at AMAZON or wherever books are sold. Many can also be found on audio at Books In Motion.

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WESTERN BOOKS

For the Love of the Book

Tucson Festival of Books kicks off a cycle of national book fairs.

The 2018 Tucson Festival of Books is March 10–11 at the University of Arizona. Over 135,000 attend the popular book fair set up on the university mall. Concurrent author sessions, some ticketed, are held both days of the festival in adjacent university classrooms.

– COURTESY TUCSON FESTIVAL OF BOOKS –

"Where Words and Imagination Come to Life" is the theme of the 10th annual Tucson Festival of Books, which will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 10-11, 2018, at the University of Arizona. The event attracts more than 135,000 attendees each year and has has quickly grown into one of the nation's most important and well-attended book fairs. The University Mall is transformed into a vast fairground of vendor booths, entertainment tents, bookstores and author-signing areas, while the festival's well-organized volunteers manage hundreds of publisher and author sessions for the public. Many of the sessions are free to the public, but the most popular author events are ticketed-only seminars and sell out quickly.

True West's very own Bob Boze Bell, Leo W. Banks, Johnny D. Boggs, Candy Moulton and Stuart Rosebrook will be at the festival and eager to meet fans of the magazine. Western writers who have committed to attending at press time include: Shannon Blake, Julia Bricklin, H. Alan Day, Kirk Ellis, Chris Enss, Jim Fergus, William Groneman, Melody Groves, Ron Hansen, Mike Hayes, Doug Hocking, Mark C. Jackson, J.A. Jance, Craig Johnson, William Krueger, Gregory MacNamee, Keith McCaffery, Bill Markley, Rod Miller, Phil Mills, Jr., Nancy Plain, Lynn Wiese Sneyd, Rod Timinus, Lowell F. Volk, Michael Wallis and Betty Webb. Western book publishers attending include Rio Nuevo Press, University of Arizona Press and the University of New Mexico Press.

True West's Executive Editor Bell will also be meeting fans and signing his new book, *The Illustrated Life and Times of Wild Bill Hickok*, both days at the WWA-*True West* booth. At 10 a.m. on Sunday, March 11, Stuart Rosebrook will be moderating the Tucson Book Festival Panel "Mommas, Sons & Cowboys," with Bell, H. Alan Day and Rod Miller. A book-signing in the author's pavilion will follow the panel discussion.

—*Stuart Rosebrook*

True West's Stuart Rosebrook and Western writers Nancy Plain, Johnny D. Boggs and William Groneman (above, l.–r.) and Candy Moulton and Kirk Ellis (left, l.–r.) will be at the 2018 Tucson Festival of Books.

– ALL PHOTOS BY STUART ROSEBROOK UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

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Author of *The Apache Wars,* Paul Andrew Hutton, and *True West*'s Executive Editor Bell will be signing their books both days at the WWA–*True West* booth.

Western authors Doug Hocking and Chris Enss (background, left) will be signing books and greeting fans at the Amigos and Ladies of the West tent at the 2018 Tucson Festival of Books.

Tucson festival attendees can talk about Western history and buy books from Western authors Bill Markley and Rod Timanus (right, in sombrero) at the Amigos and Ladies of the West booth.

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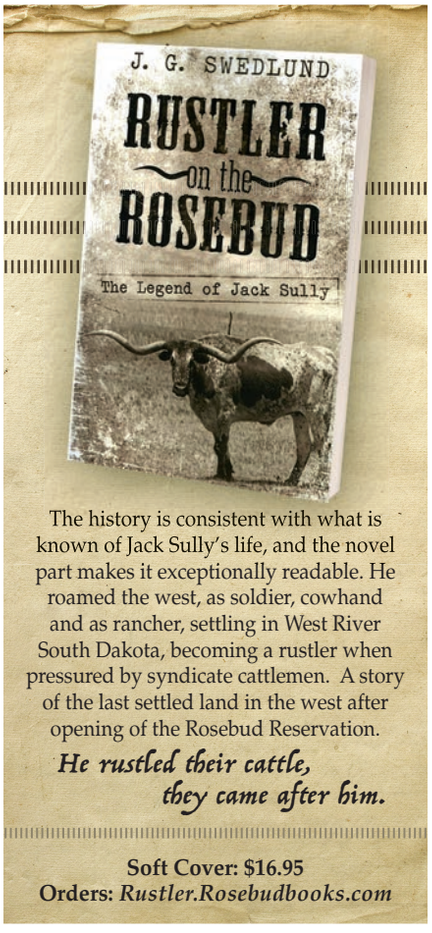

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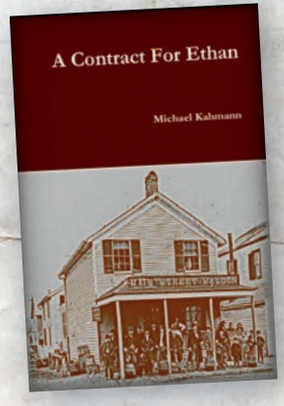
By Michael Kahmann



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THE BEST BOOK FESTIVALS IN 2018

Fans of Old West history, fiction and antiquarian books have great opportunities to attend book festivals in their state or region in 2018, and meet the authors and publishers on the front-lines of Western book publishing. Here is a selection of book fairs that *True West*'s editors recommend. Most have not announced specific festival dates, so check the event's website for the latest information.

ARIZONA
Northern Arizona Book Festival
Flagstaff; Oct.
NoAZBookFest.org

Tucson Festival of Books
Tucson; Mar. 10-11
TucsonFestivalofBooks.org

ARKANSAS
Arkansas Literary Festival
Little Rock; Apr. 26-29
ArkansasLiteraryFestival.org

CALIFORNIA
Los Angeles Times Festival of Books
Los Angeles; Apr. 21-22
Events.LATimes.org

COLORADO
Rocky Mountain Literary Festival
Evergreen; Oct. 20
RockyMountainLiteraryFestival.org

IDAHO
Boise Book Fest
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IOWA
Iowa City Book Festival
Iowa City; Oct.
IowaCityBookFestival.org

KANSAS
Kansas Book Festival
Topeka; Sept.
KansasBookFestival.org

MINNESOTA
Twin Cities Book Festival
Minneapolis-St. Paul; Oct.
RainTaxi.com

MONTANA
Montana Book Festival
Missoula; Sept.
MontanaBookFestival.org

NEBRASKA
Nebraska Book Festival
Lincoln; Jul.
BookFestival.Nebraska.gov

NEVADA
Vegas Valley Book Festival
Las Vegas; Oct. 20
VegasValleyBookFestival.org

NEW MEXICO
Southwest Festival of Words
Albuquerque; Apr.
ReadNewMexico.WordPress.org

OKLAHOMA
OKC-Litfest
Oklahoma City; May
OKC-LitFest.org

OREGON
Wordstock
Portland; Nov.
Literary-Arts.org

SOUTH DAKOTA
The Great American Book Festival
Brookings and Sioux Falls; Sept.
SDHumanities.org

TENNESSEE
Southern Festival of Books
Nashville; Oct.
HumanitiesTennessee.org

TEXAS
Houston Book Show
Houston; May 19-20
TXBA2014.WildApricot.org

Texas Book Festival
Austin; Nov.
TexasBookFestival.org

UTAH
Utah Humanities Book Festival
Statewide; Sept. and Oct.
UtahHumanities.org

WASHINGTON
Seattle Antiquarian Book Festival
Seattle; Oct.
SeattleBookFair.com

WEST VIRGINIA
West Virginia Book Festival
Charleston; Oct.
WVBookFestival.org

WYOMING
Literary Connection
Laramie; Oct.
LCCC.WY.edu

LONGMIRE DAYS
Buffalo; Aug. 10-12
BuffaloWyo.com

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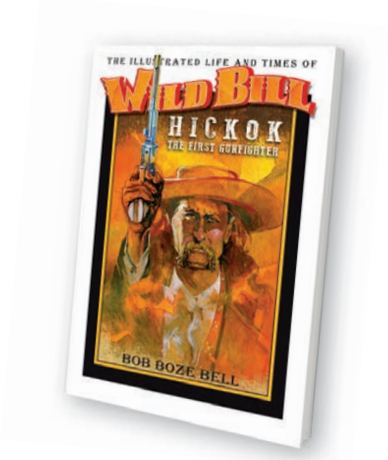
New Books for 2018



The "Prince of Pistoleers" meets the "Prince of Western History" in this much anticipated new book, *Illustrated Life And Times of Wild Bill Hickok*, from Bob Boze Bell—chock full of the great art, rare photos, authoritative history, and that unique dose of Boze whimsy that we have come to expect. Order an autographed copy for $29.95 or an unsigned copy for $24.95
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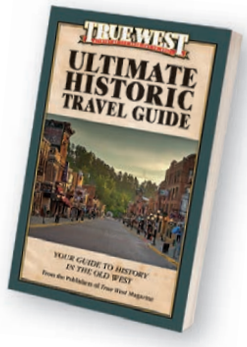

In honor of its 65th anniversary, the publishers of *True West* have compiled the essential Old West guidebook: *True West Ultimate Historic Travel Guide: Your Guide to History in the Old West.* The fact-filled handbook will prove an essential guidebook to experience first-hand its most important historic sites, towns, parks, museums, battlefields, and monuments. Order your copy today for $24.95.
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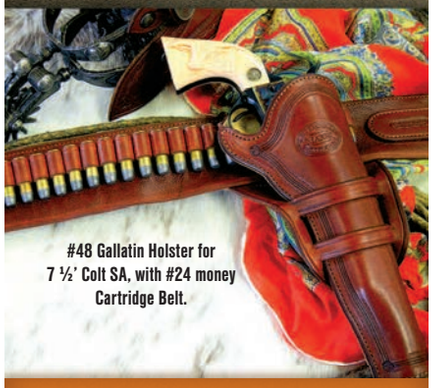

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WESTERN MOVIES

DVD & TV SERIES

BY HENRY C. PARKE

The Nation's Worst Single Lynching

A bloody Chinese massacre finds a new audience through The Jade Pendant.

Tom (Godfrey Gao) searches for Peony as a lynch mob descends upon Chinatown in Los Angeles, California, in 1871. Peony, shown with Tom in the inset, is an unwitting victim sold into prostitution who captures his undying love.

– COURTESY CRIMSON FOREST FILMS –

You might guess that the worst single lynching in U.S. history took place in the Deep South and that the victims were black. But the remarkable truth is that it took place in the burgeoning California metropolis of Los Angeles in 1871, and its victims were 18 Chinese men and boys. That crime is the culmination of the story of *The Jade Pendant*, the Western film based on the novel by Hong Kong immigrant L.P. Leung. It's a story he's been wanting to tell for over 50 of his 80 years.

The Chinatown Massacre, wherein a gun battle between rival Tongs, over ownership of a girl, triggered the slaughter, is the film's climax. But the plot is about the girl, Peony (played by Clara Lee), who flees China to escape a disastrous arranged marriage. Educated by her father in English and martial arts, she believes she's sailing to *Jin Shan*—Chinese for "Gold Mountain," their name for San Francisco—to work as a florist. She doesn't realize she's been sold to a Tong.

Leung explains that although men came from China to work in the goldfields or on the Transcontinental Railroad during the 1800s, "[Chinese] women only came to America if they were forced to, sold to satisfy their father's gambling debts. Those girls were shipped to America as prostitutes."

Peony impresses the Tong brothel's Madam Pong (Tsai Chin) with her literacy and intelligence, and becomes her pet. Peony meets Tom (Godfrey Gao), who has left the violent goldfields to open a restaurant and sell his invention, *chop suey* (Chinese for "leftovers"). They fall in love.

But when Madam Pong considers letting them marry, the couple learns that merciless Tong boss Yu Hing (Tzi Ma) wants Peony for himself, and all Hell breaks loose.

Leung well understands the plight of Chinese immigrants of the era. Although the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the only federal law ever to single out a race or

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A mob of about 500 people descended on Calle de los Negros (Negro Alley), in Los Angeles's Chinatown, shown in the top circa 1875 photograph. Beneath it is a photograph showing the victims killed by the mob: 18 dead Chinese men and boys, lying in the jail yard, on October 24, 1871.

– CALLE DE LOS NEGROS PHOTO COURTESY CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA; JAIL YARD PHOTO COURTESY LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY, SECURITY PACIFIC NATIONAL BANK COLLECTION –

nationality, was repealed during WWII, a quota remained until 1965.

"Only 108 Chinese were allowed to come to the United States a year," he says. "In 1958, a missionary arranged a work study program so that I could come."

The son of a poor minister, Leung left Hong Kong for California with $35 in his pocket. He studied accounting and was hired by Paramount Pictures to track spending on various productions, including *The Rifleman* and *Bonanza*.

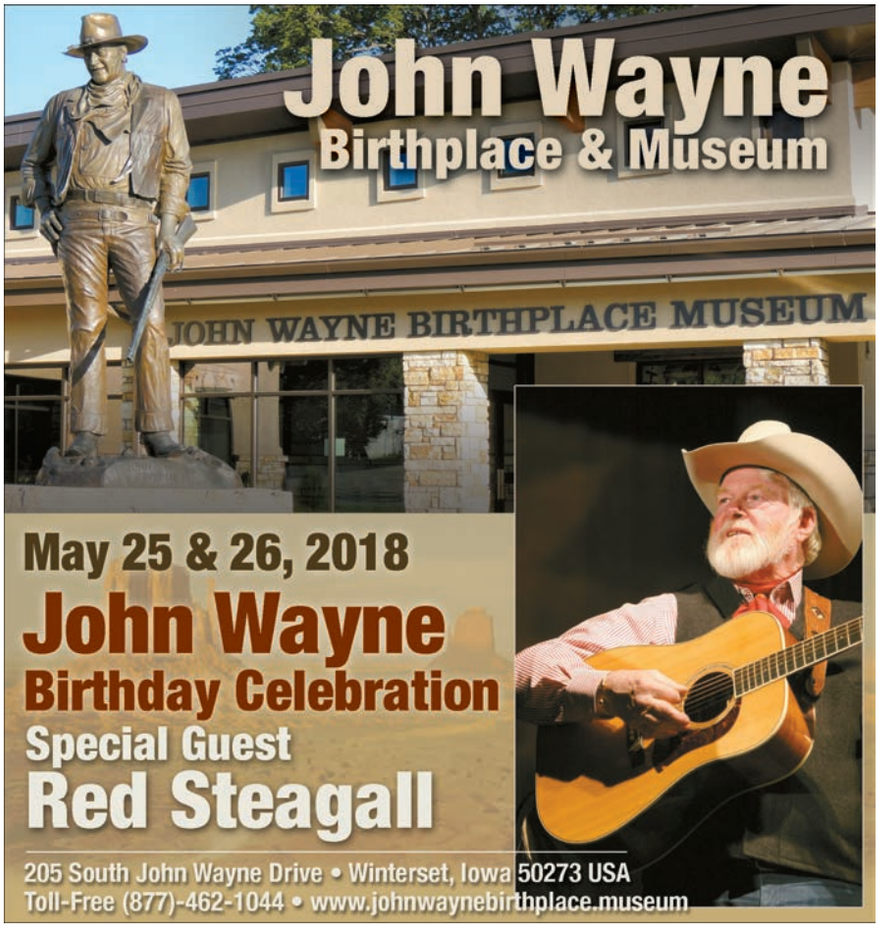
"Many scenes were shot on the Western street backlot," he says. "I always enjoyed going over there to watch during lunch hours."

He also tracked expenses and became friends with legendary Producer A.C. Lyles. "Do you know he used to be a mailroom boy at Paramount? From there, he got to know the stars. When he finally got a chance to make his own movies, he was able to call in his markers for some of those older movie stars. The main studios would not hire them anymore. A.C. could get them a week's work for $10,000, making movies for less than $200,000 each," he says.

The primary market wasn't Americans. "Japanese viewers loved cowboy movies with famous stars, even in their fading years," he says.

The years at Paramount planted the idea of the movie that would become *The Jade Pendant*. "But A.C. kind of told me that America was not ready for what I wanted to tell," he says.

In time, Leung wrote the novel and shopped it without success, until he was introduced to Producer Thomas Leong. "I gave him the screenplay, and I said, 'If you're interested, I want the movie finished in one



MAR18_Western Movies.DH.indd 66 1/11/18 11:53 AM

year, because I'm not young anymore. I can't wait.' I met him in February. By June, we were looking for a director. We started shooting in September and finished in November, so it was all done within one year," he says.

Despite his name, Director Po-Chi Leong is English, Leung says, adding, "And he did most of his work in Hong Kong. Even though he can speak Chinese, he cannot read Chinese. So, he was really at home with *The Jade Pendant*, because it was in English, with the Western and Eastern thing combined; he was kind of perfect."

Of course, the modern-day cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles wouldn't do for a period film. "We built a whole Chinatown near Salt Lake City, Utah," he says.

Much has been written, some factual, some fanciful, about the mob that perpetrated the massacre and about the legal results: 15 were indicted, seven were convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to a range of two to six years, and none of them served a day, due to an atrocious technicality: that Dr. Gene Tong's murder was never entered into evidence. The convictions were overturned; the charges were never refiled.

> "...America was not ready for what I wanted to tell."

Before *The Jade Pendant*, little had been written about events from the Chinese point of view. The people of Chinatown didn't write it, Leung says, "and [the press] did not have access into a Chinese community because they don't speak Chinese, and the Chinese did not associate with journalists."

Though a fictional version based on history, the story has now been told in this romantic, tragic and enlightening Western. If you missed seeing it in theaters, the movie will be out on DVD this May.

DVD REVIEW

PAINTED WOMAN

(Echo Bridge; $15.99) After experiencing both the security and shame of a kept woman, Julie (played by Stef Dawson) knows too much about her keeper (Robert Craighead) to live. Following her heart-pounding escape, can the mustanger (David Thomas Jenkins) protect her? Matt Dallas plays the screen's most lethally debonair Southern gentleman in Writer/Director James Cotten's romantic adaptation of a Dusty Richards novel. With strong portrayals, stunning photography, beautiful and accurate costuming and art direction, this elegant production crackles with brutal action and brims with heart.

Henry C. Parke is a screenwriter based in Los Angeles, California, who blogs about Western movies, TV, radio and print news: *HenrysWesternRoundup.Blogspot.com*

MAR18_Western Movies.DH.indd 67 1/11/18 11:53 AM

BY LEO W. BANKS

Gem City of the Plains

The Old West begins and ends in Laramie, Wyoming.

The Albany County seat, Laramie, Wyoming, started as a tent city in the mid-1860s. It quickly grew into one of Territory's most important cities in 1868, when it became the western terminus of the Union Pacific Railroad. The giant windmill, water tank and round-house for steam-driven locomotives were landmarks for many years.

– COURTESY NYPL DIGITAL COLLECTION –

No one knows what happened to Jacques La Ramée, except that he disappeared on what would become the Laramie River in about 1821. Some suspect Arapaho Indians killed the famed French-Canadian trapper, believed to be the first European to explore southeastern Wyoming.

But he certainly left his mark. In addition to the river, he has a mountain range, a peak, an Army fort and a county named for him, not to mention this charming cowboy town of 32,000.

Laramie got its start in 1862 as a stop on the Overland Stage line, and six years later, the first Union Pacific train arrived. Like most frontier camps, early life saw plenty of trouble, and travelers can relive those times on the Legends of Laramie Tour.

The tour's innovative combination of technology and history allows visitors to type a code into their smartphones and see a video of actors re-creating events from Laramie's past. Those walking downtown, for example, where most tour sites are located, can stand in front of buildings where soiled doves worked, while watching a documentary-style video on their lives.

At the railroad depot, listen to love letters between Frances Casement and husband, Jack, a Union Pacific construction boss. Amid isolation and danger, he wrote every week for four years in the 1860s, and she wrote back:

"My dear husband, last Christmas I thought if your life could be spared another year, we should have such a happy and Merry Christmas. But Christmas comes and

MAR18_True Western Towns.DH.indd 68 1/10/18 3:47 PM

The Wyoming Territorial Prison State Historic Site in Laramie was built in 1872, and served the U.S. government, the territory and the state until its closure in 1901. Since 1991, after 90 years as an agricultural center for the University of Wyoming, the former prison has been a museum, with an exhibit on the outlaws, including Butch Cassidy (inset), who were incarcerated in the prison.

– KACEY CALDWELL, COURTESY WYOMING OFFICE OF TOURISM –

finds us scattered yet." Railroad buffs can visit a small museum in the depot.

Many of Laramie's outlaws landed at Wyoming Territorial Prison, now a state historic site. Built in 1872, the prison offers self-guided tours through furnished cells. Its most famous guest, Butch Cassidy, landed there in 1894 after purchasing a stolen horse.

A new exhibit, five years in the making, describes his life and times, and includes photos, weapons and documents. "It tells of conditions that allowed him to rise to America's most wanted list," says Superintendent Deborah Amend. "It's a comprehensive look at his life and very popular."

Laramie grew into a railroad and livestock center, aided by banker Edward Ivinson, whose 1893 mansion, which includes the Laramie Plains Museum, is open for tours. See photos, cowboy items, women's dresses and period appointments.

"The mansion is basically a time capsule of the Victorian era," says Mike Gray, assistant director of the Laramie Area Visitor Center.

The Laramie Plains Museum at the historic Ivinson Mansion should be on everyone's heritage tour of Albany County. The museum is housed in the restored Victorian home built in 1892 by two of Laramie's earliest and most influential settlers—Jane and Edward Ivinson.

– COURTESY ALBANY COUNTY TOURISM BOARD –

The year's biggest party happens in July with Laramie Jubilee Days and rodeo. The event began in 1940 to celebrate statehood, and this year's bash marks its 78th year. Activities include a kids' horse show, parade, dancing, music, mock gunfights and a jalapeño-eating contest.

Robert Fuller, star of the TV Western, *Laramie* (1959-1963), was last year's grand marshal. "He'd never been to town except to drive through and couldn't believe how cool it is," says Gray.

Stop at St. Matthew's Cathedral, built in 1896, to see a 1926 pipe organ and beautiful stained-glass windows. Check out the 42 murals local artists have painted on buildings downtown. The Laramie Mural Project depicts everything from cultural issues to historic scenes.

Film and TV fans can visit the American Heritage Museum on the

LARAMIE
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150TH BIRTHDAY
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THE GEM CITY OF THE PLAINS
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS
1868 150 2018
LARAMIE, WYOMING
HELL ON WHEELS
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD (1868)
Union Pacific construction crews laid the track connecting Laramie to the rest of the country on May 4, 1868; a few passengers arrived that same day and regular service began less than a week later. The arrival of the railroad inspired entrepreneurs to build more permanent structures in what had been a *"Hell on Wheels"* tent city. For a few months Laramie was the western hub of the Union Pacific Railroad, but even after track was laid to points further west, Laramie's reputation and population - continued to grow. - *The rest they say is history!*
On May 4th 2018 we will celebrate! Go to our website for information about Laramie's 150th Birthday!
LARAMIE
That's WY
HISTORY & ADVENTURE
WWW.VISITLARAMIE.ORG
1-800-445-5303

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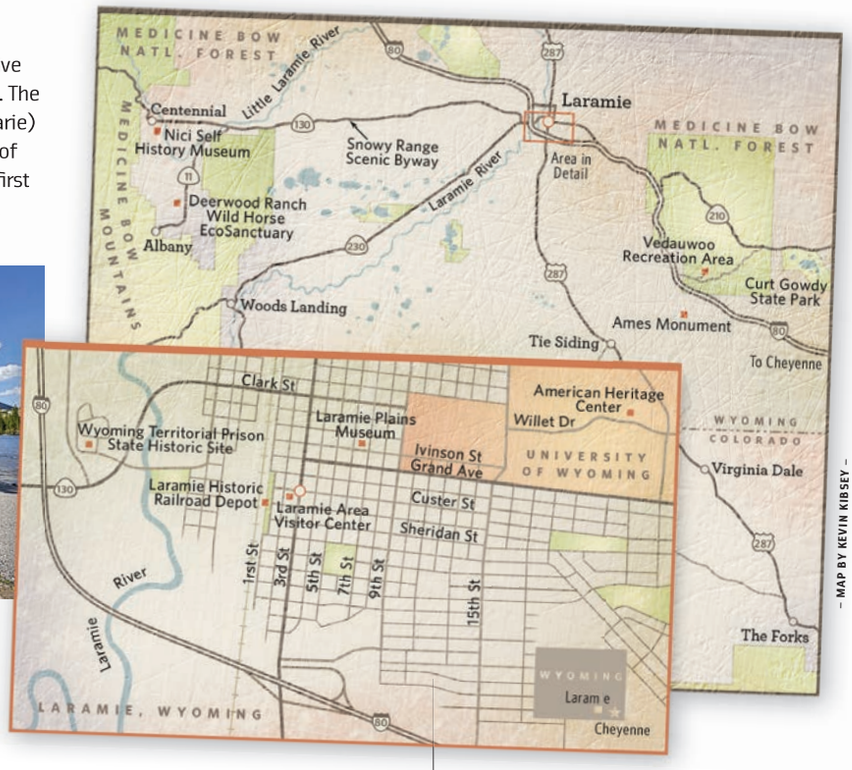
A great side trip when visiting Laramie is a drive on the Snowy Range Scenic Byway to Lake Marie. The lake was named for Mary (formerly known as Marie) Bellamy, who was in the first graduating class of Laramie High School and, in 1910, became the first woman elected to the Wyoming Legislature.

– COURTESY WYOMING OFFICE OF TOURISM –



– MAP BY KEVIN KIBSEY –

University of Wyoming campus, and see saddles used by the Cisco Kid and Hopalong Cassidy.

Outdoor enthusiasts love hiking and climbing at Vedauwoo recreation area. Legend says playful spirits created the pedestal-shaped rock formations. Outlaws used them as hiding places.

Curt Gowdy State Park boasts three reservoirs and enough solitude to hear the distinct, whistling-warbling song of the meadow lark, Wyoming's state bird.

For those who prefer driving, try Snowy Range Scenic Byway. Travelers cross the second-highest mountain pass in Wyoming, which soars to 10,876 feet, offering breath-taking views.

Leo W. Banks is an award-winning writer based in Tucson. He is the author of the mystery novel, *Double Wide*.

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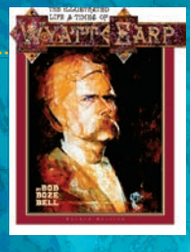

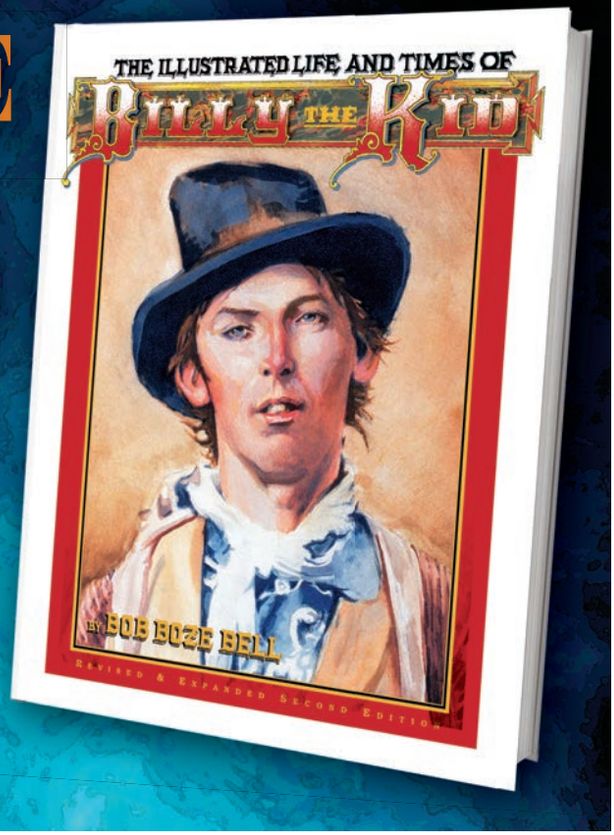

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WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY

LARAMIE AREA VISITOR CENTER

To plan your trip, stop at the center, 210 E. Custer St.

VisitLaramie.org

WYOMING TERRITORIAL PRISON STATE HISTORIC SITE

Hear stories of the "evil doers" housed in this scary stone building, on the National Register of Historic Places. Cigar-maker Julius Greenwald visited a brothel, found his wife there "entertaining," and shot her dead. Greenwald's cigar smoke still wafts through the cells. Butch Cassidy was pardoned for good behavior after 18 months and promptly formed the Wild Bunch, made famous in the movie, *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*.

WyomingTerritorialPrison.com

LARAMIE PLAINS MUSEUM

The collection includes more than 5,000 photos of Laramie's early residents and historic events. See 17 pieces of furniture carved by inmates at the Territorial Prison. A Swedish embezzler named John Hjorth carved the beautiful table in the museum's foyer and reportedly taught the skill to other prisoners.

LaramieMuseum.org

AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

The center is renowned for its collection of papers and reminiscences of Wyoming's pioneers, emigrant trails and Native Americans. The architect designed the unique building as an archival mountain, to mimic the sense of upheaval seen in the surrounding landscape. Its 127,000 square feet include the art museum.

UWYO.EDU

NICI SELF HISTORICAL MUSEUM

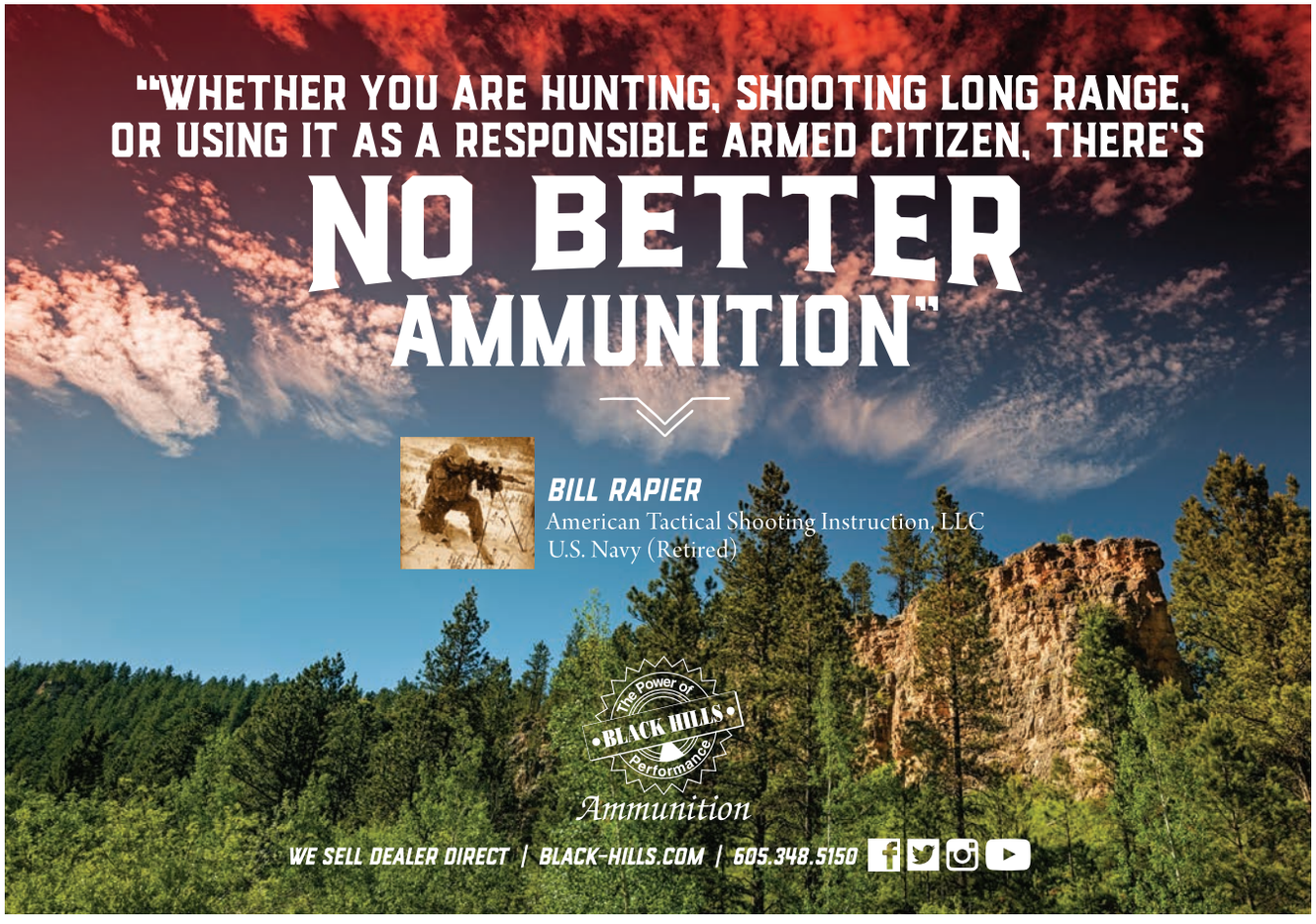
Thirty miles away, in Centennial, the Nici Self Historical Museum has exhibits celebrating the area's railroad, ranching and mining history. Buildings on the grounds include the 1907 railroad depot, a log blacksmith shop and a one-room schoolhouse used into the 1960s.

NICISelfMuseum.org

DEERWOOD RANCH WILD HORSE ECOSANCTUARY

See 300 wild horses up close on a 4,700-acre family-owned ranch. The beautiful setting includes lots of wildlife. The Middle Fork of the Little Laramie River runs through the property.

DeerwoodRanchWildHorseEcoSanctuary.com



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STORIES OF THE OREGON TRAIL

BY CANDY MOULTON

Fifty years ago the Oregon Trail was designated a national historic trail, and today communities from Missouri to Oregon celebrate its storied 175 years of history.

When the travelers loaded their wooden wheeled wagons and hitched oxen or mules to begin a nearly 2,000-mile journey from the Missouri River to Oregon Country in 1843, they could not envision that 175 years later their journeys would be legendary.

Ezra Meeker began a movement in 1906-07 to recognize the Oregon Trail when he drove his own wagon from Oregon to the east, placing markers where pioneers had trod. Fifty years ago, on October 2, 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the National Trails System Act into law, fulfilling a commitment first voiced in February 1965 when President Johnson noted, "The forgotten outdoorsmen of today are those who like to walk, hike, ride horseback, or bicycle. For them we must have trails as well as highways."

The first trail to receive National Historic Trail status was the Oregon Trail in 1978. Only Congress can designate a National Historic Trail, and in 1992, legislators amended the National Trails System Act to designate the California National Trail. To date there are 19 National Historic Trails, plus another 11 National Scenic Trails and more than 1,200 National Recreation Trails in the National Trails System.

Currently, the National Park Service has recommended that 24 of the 74 historic trail routes that they are studying be added to the National Historic Trails system. Many of those routes are feeder roads for the Oregon Trail.

We celebrate both the 175th anniversary of the Oregon Trail and the golden anniversary of the National Trails System Act—a measure that has preserved an important piece of America's legacy.

Emanuel Leutze's 1863 oil on canvas, *Indians Attacking a Wagon Train*, romantically illustrates the transcontinental Oregon Trail migration that began in earnest in 1843. In the first five years, fewer than 15,000 made the cross-country trek on the route to Oregon and California, but by 1860, nearly 500,000 pioneers had crossed to the Pacific Coast states and Utah Territory.

– COURTESY DOVER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, PUBLIC DOMAIN, WIKIMEDIA –

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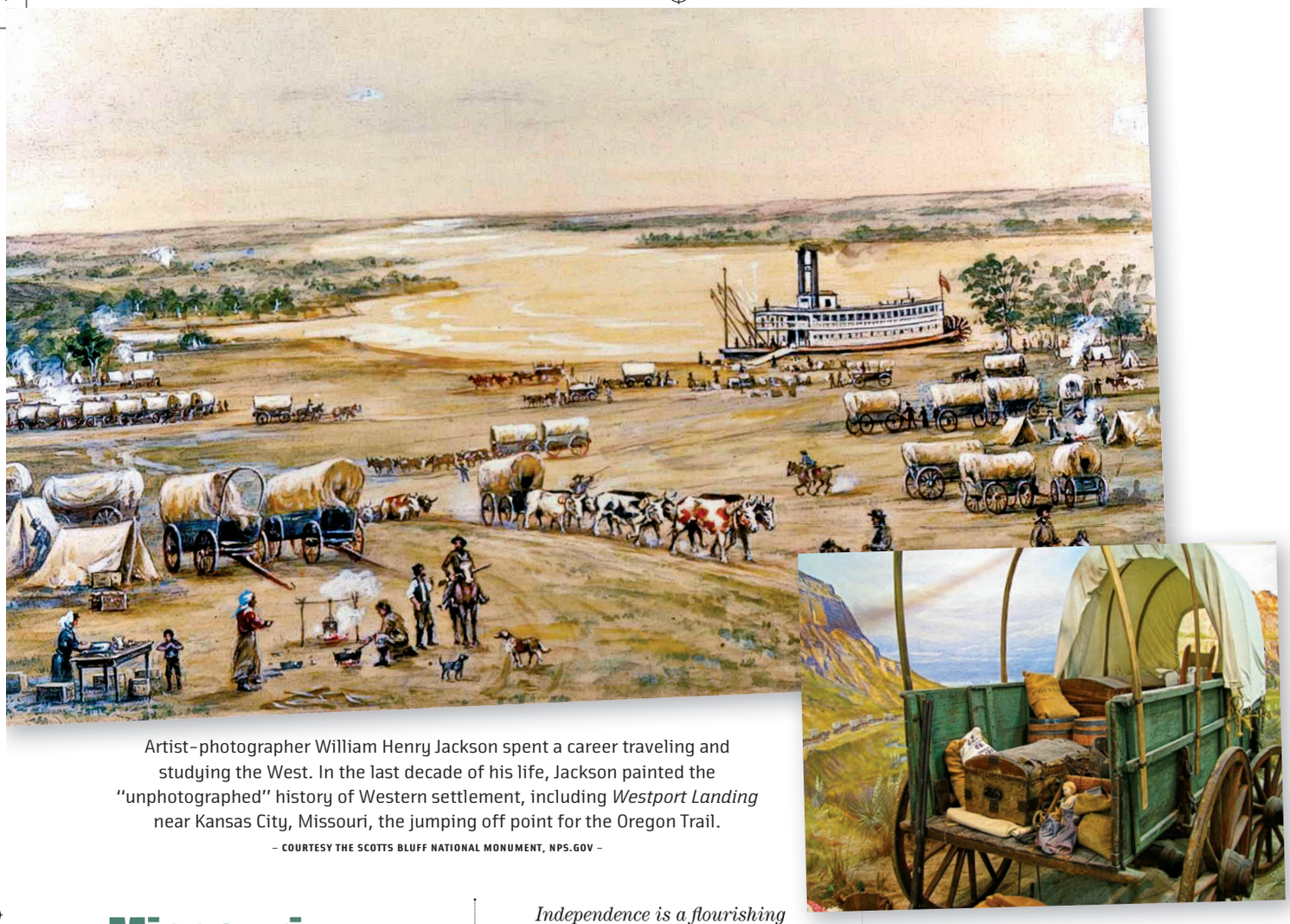

Artist-photographer William Henry Jackson spent a career traveling and studying the West. In the last decade of his life, Jackson painted the "unphotographed" history of Western settlement, including *Westport Landing* near Kansas City, Missouri, the jumping off point for the Oregon Trail.

– COURTESY THE SCOTTS BLUFF NATIONAL MONUMENT, NPS.GOV –

Missouri, Kansas & Nebraska

MISSOURI

The trail to Oregon Country begins at Courthouse Square in Independence, Missouri, but most of the 2,000-mile route followed trails used by American Indians, fur trappers and animals long before any wagon wheels rolled into the West. Missouri's status as a jumping off place into the West actually started with Santa Fe Trail travel in the 1820s, but it was the desire by hundreds of thousands of people headed to Oregon and then California that cemented its status as the starting point for Western migration.

[May 11, 1846] This is the place where emigrants usually rendezvous for the purpose of completing their purchases for the journey, and making their final preparations.... Merchants were doing all in their power to affect the sale of supplies to emigrants.

—J. Quinn Thornton, 1846

Independence is a flourishing frontier town. It contains a courthouse, churches, an Odd Fellow and Freemason's Lodge, hotels, mechanics of different kinds, flouring mills (in the vicinity), and a number of good stores, and a full assortment of goods adapted to a journey across the mountains. The Santa Fe traders fit out here. The merchants are polite and obliging, and sell goods at reasonable rates. ...Good large American mules domesticated and broken, are worth from $60 to $90; work oxen from $25 to $30 per yoke. Horses from $30 upwards.

—T.H. Jefferson, 1846

Independence Courthouse Square
Independence

This is the official start of the Oregon Trail, where wagons were outfitted through much of the emigration era.
VisitIndependence.com

Oregon-California Trails Association
Independence

Dedicated to preservation of the Oregon and California trails, the association headquarters are in Independence. OCTA holds an annual convention, regular symposiums on trail subjects, and publishes the *Overland Journal*. The 2018 convention will be in Ogden, Utah, August 6-10.
Octa-Trails.org

The covered wagon exhibits at the National Frontier Trails Museum in Independence, Missouri, provide the visitor an introductory overview of the necessities and challenges of life on the Oregon Trail between Missouri and Oregon Territory.

– COURTESY GORILLA JONES, CREATIVE COMMONS –

National Frontier Trails Museum
Independence

The first of many museums along the route of the Oregon Trail is dedicated to the story of the overland trails. The museum is home of the Merrill Mattes Research Library with rare books and manuscripts on trail subjects.
CI.Independence.MO.us

Westport Landing
Kansas City

Many emigrants arrived here on riverboats, but switched to wagons for their overland journeys. A walking/biking trail at this site offers views of the Missouri River.
WestportHistorical.com

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STORIES OF THE OREGON TRAIL

KANSAS

The trail west from Independence crosses the northeastern corner of Kansas, a landscape that rises and rolls as it is cut by large and small tributaries to the Missouri River. This section of trail was a transition point from the great river country into the Tallgrass Prairie lands.

The Nimehaw river [is] the most beautiful spot that ever I saw in my life I would like to live here. As far as the eye can reach either way lay grass and flowers meets the eye until you reach the valley of the river which is as level as the house floor.

—Lydia Allen Rudd, 1852

PLACES TO VISIT

BINGHAM-WAGGONER ESTATE
Independence, MO
Nineteenth-century artist George Caleb Bingham was one of the residents of this home.
BWEState.net

NELSON-ATKINS MUSEUM OF ART
Kansas City, MO
The work of George Caleb Bingham, Thomas Hart Benton, Georgia O'Keeffe and an eclectic collection of American Indian art and artifacts are in the permanent collection of this museum.
Nelson-Atkins.org

THE VAILE MANSION
Independence, MO
Built years after the last overland wagon train departed from Independence, the structure is a prime example of a Victorian era mansion. ***VaileMansion.org***

TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL PRESERVE
Cottonwood Falls, KS
A small herd of buffalo now roams this pristine section of Tallgrass prairie lands.
NaturalKansas.org

FLINT HILLS DISCOVERY CENTER
Manhattan, KS
Discover the importance of the history and culture of the tallgrass prairie and Flint Hills ecoregion at this museum and science center.
NaturalKansas.org

A unique historic stop on the Kansas segment of the Oregon Trail is the Moses Grinter House and Ferry Park in Kansas City, Kansas, which was built and established as a key ferry crossing of the Missouri River in 1831.

– PHOTOS BY HAROLD J. SCHUSTER COURTESY KANSAS TOURISM –

Moses Grinter House and Ferry
Kansas City

In 1831 Moses Grinter established a ferry service to transport emigrant wagons across the Kansas River. The Grinter house, made of home-kilned bricks, is the oldest home in Wyandotte County and has some items that belonged to the Grinter family, including quilt blocks Annie Grinter made, family photos, Bibles and furniture.
KSHS.org

Alcove Spring
Blue Rapids

This site has been called the most significant historic site on the Oregon Trail within the state of Kansas. The scenic spring was a popular campsite and is now part of the Alcove Spring Historical Trust, a 300-acre park, where you will find a hiking trail, and emigrant inscriptions.
KansasTravel.org

St. Marys Mission and Oregon Trail Nature Park
St. Marys

Jesuits established this Catholic mission to the Potawatomi Indians in 1848. Located between St. Marys and Belvue, the Oregon Trail Nature Park has nature trails and views of the historic trail route.
NaturalKansas.org

We traveled fifteen miles to Elm Grove, where we encamped for the night. … There are only two trees in this grove—both elms—and I have learned for the first time that two trees could compose a grove.

– Peter H. Bennett, from a letter written to James G. Bennett, January 18, 1845

MAR18_Sales Feature_Oregon Trail.DH.indd 75 1/11/18 4:01 PM

Whether the wagon train was heading west on the Oregon Trail, or a traveler was returning east on the overland route, Scotts Bluff was a key landmark along the North Platte River. Today, modern-day Oregon Trail-visitors can learn about the importance of the natural beacons to transcontinental travelers at Scotts Bluff National Monument.

– COURTESY ANNA REPP, CREATIVE COMMONS –

NEBRASKA

When the Oregon Trail crossed into what is now Nebraska, the route began to change, along with the landscape. Following the Blue River, wagons headed north and west, ultimately striking the Platte to cut a path along the Great Platte River Road. The tallgrass prairie gave way to shortgrass prairie as the land flattened and the climate became more arid.

Rock Creek Station State Historical Park ~ Fairbury

This road ranch served travelers headed to Oregon and California, and later became a stage station and Pony Express station. Here visitors have a chance to walk beside deep swales carved when the wagons pulled up the hill away from the creek, and see pioneer graves, reconstructed buildings and receive historical information about Wild Bill Hickok killing three men at the station.

OutdoorNebraska.gov

Fort Kearny State Historical Park Kearney

The first Western military post built to protect Oregon-bound emigrants, Fort Kearny became an important trail location, providing an opportunity for people to obtain a few supplies, and—most important to many—to write a letter and send it back home.

OutdoorNebraska.gov

MAR18_Sales Feature_Oregon Trail.DH.indd 76 1/11/18 4:01 PM

STORIES OF THE OREGON TRAIL

[May 28] The valley of the Platte is low and in places marshy, though the soil and subsoil is sandy. It never will be arable land. We passed Fort Kearny this day; it is the first western fort I have seen. It is on low land some half mile from the river. It consists of about twenty houses made of sod, some roofed with the same material, walls two feet thick. …Some of our men wrote home from this fort. It has a store and a blacksmith shop.

—John Banks, 1849

The Great Platte River Road Archway
Kearney

The archway spans Interstate-80, but as you ascend the escalator and then cross the archway, you step back in time, taking a virtual trip on the trail to the West.

Archway.org

In the summertime, visitors to Fort Kearny State Historical Park near Kearny, Nebraska, will enjoy military re-enactment events at the reconstructed Army post built in 1848 to protect Oregon Trail wagon trains.

– COURTESY NPS.GOV –

Windlass Hill & Ash Hollow State Historical Park
Lewellen

You'll see an impressive set of trail ruts as they descend Windlass Hill toward Ash Hollow. The areas—more than 1,000 acres—have walking trails, a visitor center and a pioneer grave.

OutdoorNebraska.gov

MAR18_Sales Feature_Oregon Trail.DH.indd 77 1/11/18 4:17 PM

A group of men traveling on the Oregon Trail stopped to resupply at a trading post near Scotts Bluff and stood to have their photo taken, resulting in a rare portrait of 1850s trail-travelers.

– COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

Chimney Rock National Historic Site
Bayard

Pioneers called this area the Valley of Monuments, and Chimney Rock became the most recognized, and written about, location in Nebraska.

NPS.gov

[Friday, June 19] Passed the chimney in the fore part of the day and the formation of the bluffs have a tendency to fill the mind with awe and grandeur. The chimney might pass for one of the foundries in St. Louis, were it blackened by burning stone coal.

—Virgil Pringle, 1846

Scotts Bluff National Monument
Gering

Larger than Chimney Rock, Scotts Bluff is also visible for miles (for the pioneers it was for days). The view from the top of the bluff is surpassed only by the collection of trail paintings by William Henry Jackson. New exhibits are planned for the visitors' center. From here you can get directions to Roubidoux Pass National Historic Landmark and Trading Post.

NPS.gov

Legacy of the Plains Museum
Gering

The great trail collection of diaries, journals, letters and maps assembled by Helen and Paul Henderson is held by this museum, making it a prime place for some in-depth research about the trail.

LegacyOfThePlains.org

STORIES OF THE OREGON TRAIL

PLACES TO VISIT

HASTINGS MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY~*Hastings, NE*
Exhibits highlight the Lakota and Pawnee people, trail-related artifacts, Plains Indian weapons and firearms.
HastingsMuseum.org

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER
Grand Island, NE
This museum has a reconstructed Pawnee earth lodge and an 1890s railroad town.
StuhrMuseum.org

HAROLD WARP PIONEER VILLAGE
Minden, NE
The collections at the village are astounding and range from original William Henry Jackson paintings representing the trail era to wagons, and even trains–which ultimately replaced the need to travel by wagon across the West.
PioneerVillage.org

ROWE SANCTUARY~*Kearney, NE*
In the spring thousands of sandhill cranes congregate along the North Platte River as they follow the Central Flyway north to Canada.
Audubon.org

DAWSON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Lexington, NE
Indian raiders in 1864 attacked a wagon train near Plum Creek, taking Nancy Morton as a captive. An original narrative of the captivity is held by this museum, which also has other trail-related exhibits.
DCHMuseum.com

GOTHENBURG SOD HOUSE MUSEUM
Gothenburg, NE
This sod house museum, combined with the Gothenburg Historical Museum and the Pony Express Museum, delivers a glimpse into early life along the Great Platte River Road.
GothenburgHistory.com

MAR18_Sales Feature_Oregon Trail.DH.indd 78 1/11/18 4:01 PM

Wyoming and Idaho

WYOMING

Robert Stuart's tough little band of trappers located the great South Pass of the Rockies in 1812, but it would be 14 years before the first wagon crossed the area, and four decades before wagon travel began in earnest. In Wyoming, the trails are inextricably linked with the fur traders and trappers. Mountain men Jedediah Smith, James Clyman and Thomas Fitzpatrick, crossed through the gap of South Pass in 1824.

A fur trade caravan in 1836 included missionary wives Narcissa Whitman and Eliza Spalding, proving that women could travel the trail. The family of Joel and Mary Walker, including four children, traveled the route to Oregon in 1840, again affirming that crossing the continent could be managed even by the youngest of adventurers.

Fort Laramie National Historic Site ~ Fort Laramie

When the Bidwell-Bartleson wagon train traveled West in 1841, they found a small fur trade post, known as Fort John, near the North Platte River. This location became key to emigration. Renamed Fort Laramie, it became a military post in 1849, situated and garrisoned to protect travelers on the great overland road.

NPS.gov

Register Cliff State Historic Site and Oregon Trail Ruts State Historic Site ~ Guernsey

Emigrants carved their names into the face of Register Cliff, and just a couple of miles farther west, wagon wheels gouged deep ruts into sandstone, where wagons were forced to traverse a rock outcrop to avoid marshy areas along the North Platte River.

WYParks.State.WY.us

Independence Rock State Historic Site ~ West of Alcova

This is the most-noted landmark of the wagon trails west of Fort Laramie. Thousands of emigrants camped here and many either painted or carved their names

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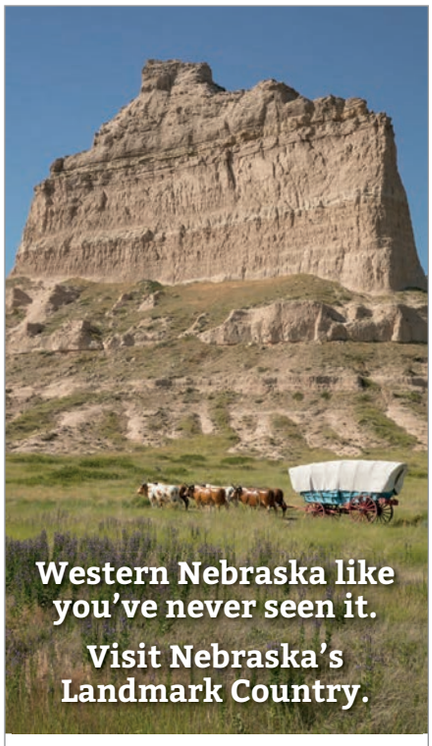

NEBRASKA'S LANDMARK COUNTRY
Scottsbluff · Gering
800-788-9475 | NebraskaLandmarkCountry.com

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Wagon trains began rolling over the Oregon Trail 175 years ago as pioneers departed from homes in the East or Midwest to take a six-month journey from Independence, Missouri, to the Willamette Valley of Oregon.

– CANDY MOULTON –

in the granite. You can climb the rock or hike around its base.

WYParks.State.WY.us

Next came to Independence Rock, it stands alone in the valley of Sweet Water, entirely separated from other Mountains. It is composed of granite & is about 500 ft. long 200 broad and about 250 ft. high. There are thousands of names on it, nearly all who pass leave their names. It is certainly one of Nature's most magnificent structures and is fitly named Independence Rock as it is independent of all others in the vicinity.

—Esther Belle Hanna, 1852

July 2: We started on our way at 7 a. m., came…to the "Devil's Gate," which is something grand—perpendicular rocks of granite formation touring [towering] up 400 feet high on either side of the river, and the Sweetwater running between, having cut its way through this granite formation for about 1,000 feet in length, and about 130 feet in breadth.

—Enoch W. Conyers, 1852

Devil's Gate ~ West of Independence Rock, Natrona County

This deep cleft cut through a rock ridge by the Sweetwater River, is located near the Mormon Trail Handcart Historic Site & Visitor Center, and a replica of Fort Seminoe.

LDS.org

South Pass
Fremont and Sweetwater Counties

This gap in the Rocky Mountains is the reason some 500,000 travelers took this route to Oregon, California and Utah on 19th-century trails. The scars left by the wagons and the horses, mules, and oxen that pulled them are still visible. The crossing of South Pass marked not just a change from the Atlantic to the Pacific watersheds, but also placed travelers in Oregon Country—though they still had hundreds of miles to go before their journey ended.

WYOSHPO.STATE.WY.us

Fort Bridger State Historic Park
Fort ~ Bridger

Built by Jim Bridger and Louis Vasquez "in the road of the emigrants on the Black Fork of the Green River," Fort Bridger served mountain men, Indian traders, Oregon and California emigrants, Mormon pioneers and militiamen, the 49ers, Pony Express riders, stagecoach drivers, U.S. soldiers and railroaders. A replica of Bridger's post is one of the many structures at the fort, which every Labor Day weekend hosts the largest mountain man rendezvous re-enactment in the West.

WYParks.State.WY.us

MAR18_Sales Feature_Oregon Trail.DH.indd 80 1/11/18 4:01 PM

STORIES OF THE OREGON TRAIL

The Oregon Trail Ruts State Historic Site on the south side of the North Platte River near Guernsey, Wyoming, is protected as a poignant reminder of the hundreds of thousands who trod the trail east and west in search of their dreams in the Western territories 175 years ago.

– GATES FRONTIERS FUND WYOMING COLLECTION WITHIN THE CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVE, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION –

PLACES TO VISIT

NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS INTERPRETIVE CENTER
Casper, WY
Take a turn riding the wagon across the North Platte River, or a stagecoach past a herd of buffalo.
BLM.gov

FORT CASPAR ~ *Casper, WY*
This re-created fort also has a replica of a ferry used for crossing the North Platte River.
FortCasparWyoming.com

MUSEUM OF THE MOUNTAIN MAN
Pinedale, WY
See one of Jim Bridger's guns.
MuseumOfTheMountainMan.com

SWEETWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Green River, WY
Exhibits include trail relics and artifacts.
SweetWaterMuseum.org

PAUL KANE Intrepid Artist and Adventurer

On View through June 2, 2018 • starkmuseum.org

The Stark Museum of Art was named one of the "Top Western Art Museums" for 2017, by True West Magazine.

Mount St. Helens with Smoke Cone, 1847, oil on paper, 8.125 × 13.375 inches, Bequest of H.J. Lutcher Stark, 1965, Stark Museum of Art, Orange, Texas, 31.78.207 ©2018 All Rights Reserved.

MAR18_Sales Feature_Oregon Trail.DH.indd 81 1/11/18 4:01 PM

Three Island Crossing State Park near Glenns Ferry, Idaho, is a great place to camp and spend the night while traveling the length of the Oregon Trail National Historic Trail. The park's Oregon Trail History and Education Center is open year round and includes self-guided interior and exterior tours.

– PEG OWENS, COURTESY IDAHO TOURISM –

IDAHO

The pioneers' entrance to what is today's Idaho involved a meander along the Bear River before they needed to ascend—and then descend—a steep hill that quickly earned the name "Big Hill." For most of the journey across Idaho, the wagon pioneers followed the Snake River, marveling at its width and noting awe-inspiring waterfalls. They traveled this section of the trail in late summer, broiling under the sun, seeing few trees, wondering if the trail would ever end.

Tuesday [July] 13: This morning we began to ascend the mountains again, they were very steep [Big Hill] yet the road was smooth with the exception of one in the decent, it was very rocky; we got over safely and came into the valley of Bear River again. We had a most delightful view of this valley & the meanderings of the river for miles & miles from the mountains.

—Esther Belle Hanna, 1852

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STORIES OF THE OREGON TRAIL

National California-Oregon Trail Interpretive Center
Montpelier

The campsite pioneers used on the west side of Big Hill is the location of this interpretive center.

OregonTrailCenter.org

Fort Hall Replica
Pocatello

The replica of Fort Hall interprets the history of the fur trade, and the earliest travelers on the Oregon Trail. The original Fort Hall was located farther north on land that is now a part of the Shoshone-Bannock Indian Reservation.

FortHall.net

Three Island Crossing State Park
Glenns Ferry

Wagons forded the Snake River by leapfrogging across the three islands in the river that are a signature of this park.

ParksAndRecreation.Idaho.gov

Oregon and Washington

The timber had to be cut [in the Blue Mountains] and removed to make way for the wagons. The trees were cut just near enough to the ground to allow the wagons to pass over the stumps and the road through the forest was only cleared out wide enough for a wagon to pass along.... In passing across the mountains we were overtaken by a snow storm which made the prospect very dismal.

—Jesse Applegate, 1843

Here [at The Dalles] was the end of our road, as no wagons had ever gone below this place. We found some sixty families in waiting for a passage down the river; and ... but two small boats running to the Cascade falls....

—Joel Palmer, 1845

PLACES TO VISIT

– COURTESY NARA, NO. 516659 –

Fort Hall, Bingham County, Idaho Territory, 1871

SHOSHONE-BANNOCK FESTIVAL
Fort Hall, ID
Traditional Shoshone-Bannock dances, artwork, and music are showcased at this annual powwow, held Aug. 9-12, 2018.
ShoBanFestival.com

CITY OF ROCKS NATIONAL PRESERVE
Malta, ID
Emigrants called this natural landmark on the California Trail "a city of tall spires," "steeple rocks," and "the silent city."
NPS.gov

HAGERMAN FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT ~ *Hagerman, ID*
View ruts of the Oregon Trail on the southern portion of the monument.
NPS.gov

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THE BARLOW ROAD

John Barlow built the toll road that served travelers as they continued overland in Oregon by traveling through Tygh Valley, around Mount Hood, and ultimately down Laurel Hill and into the Willamette Valley. Filming for the Oregon-California Trail Association documentary *In Pursuit of a Dream* included several days of trail travel on the Barlow Road.

– CANDY MOULTON –

The earliest travelers to Oregon Country abandoned their wagons at The Dalles and proceeded on down the Columbia River on rafts that took them to Fort Vancouver. But overland emigrants wanted to keep their wagons rolling, and John Barlow saw an opportunity. He cut a path over the Cascades, through a forest of massive evergreens, sweeping around the base of Mount Hood.

Barlow's Road crossed through the Tygh Valley and turned west. Winding through a forest, and traversing small creeks and the White River, the road headed west through Summit Meadows to Government Camp before descending the precipitous Laurel Hill. Ultimately, the pioneers put the snow-capped Mount Hood behind them as they followed the Sandy River, and then struck out for Eagle Creek and a campsite at Philip Foster's Farm. This farm served as the final camping spot for travelers on the Barlow Road, a welcome place to rest and make plans for claiming land in the Willamette Valley of Oregon. Foster helped build and fund the Barlow Road, no doubt realizing the strategic location of his own farm.

VISITOREGONTRAIL.ORG

WALK THE OREGON TRAIL RUTS
JEFFERSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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June 2-3 • Rock Island Rail Days
June 2 • Steele City Ride In Bike Show
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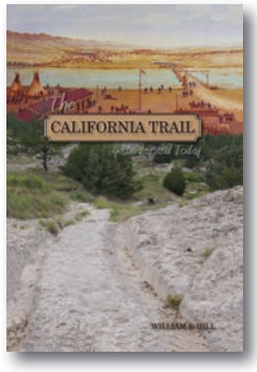
THE CALIFORNIA TRAIL:
YESTERDAY AND TODAY



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MAR18_Sales Feature_Oregon Trail.DH.indd 84 1/11/18 4:01 PM

The long journey along the Snake River finally came to an end at Farewell Bend, although the pioneers had been in Oregon Country for weeks, and hundreds of miles, ever since they crossed South Pass. In today's Oregon they found the traveling conditions more interesting, and also more challenging as they began their ascent of the Blue Mountains. They would soon reach the Columbia River, and follow it as far as they could before they either abandoned wagons and made rafts to continue downriver, or struck out over even more rugged mountains, The Cascades, before reaching their ultimate destination—the Willamette Valley.

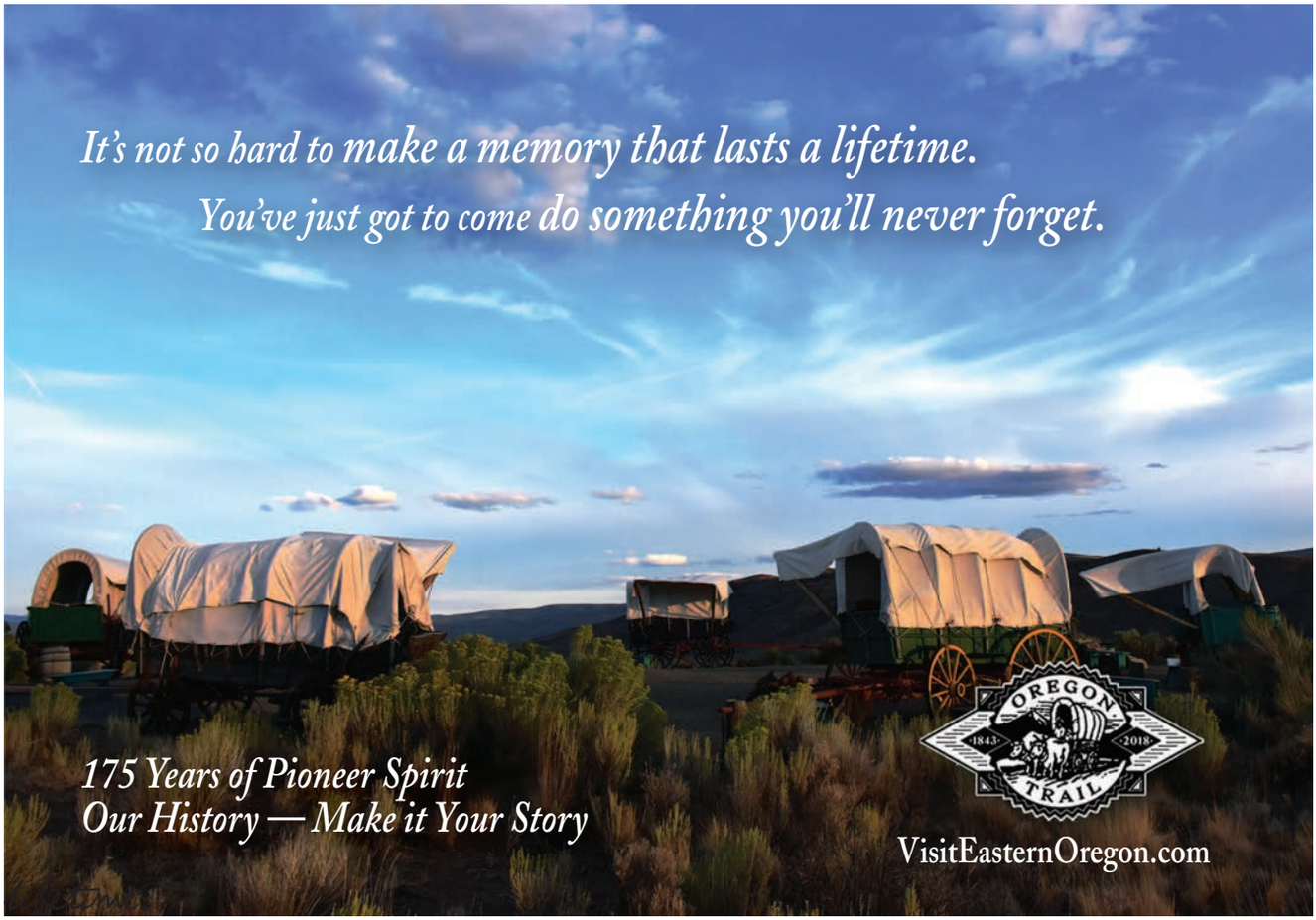
The Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles, Oregon, interprets the geologic, natural and cultural history of the region from the Ice Age to the present.

– COURTESY COLUMBIA GORGE DISCOVERY CENTER –

OREGON

National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center
Baker City

Located on Flagstaff Hill, you can see the trail as it winds across the sagebrush-covered hills. The center, one of the first built to interpret Oregon Trail history, is an immersive experience into the lives of travelers. A wagon circle gives a good view of the trail ruts.
BLM.gov



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www.gorgediscovery.org

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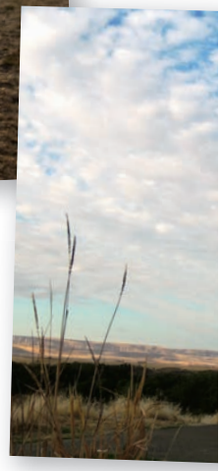


Fort Vancouver National Historic Site has two sites—one in Oregon and one in Washington—with living history programs throughout the year. The historic John McLoughlin House is in Oregon City, Oregon, while Fort Vancouver is in Vancouver, Washington, across the Columbia River from Portland, Oregon.

– COURTESY NPS.GOV –

The Dalles
The Dalles

The overland journey for those traveling on the Oregon Trail in its earliest years ended at The Dalles. That is because here the river encroached so closely on the steep walls of the Columbia Gorge that it was impossible for -wagons to travel beside it. As a result, the travelers abandoned their wagons, built rafts, and continued down the river road to Fort Vancouver.

TheDallesChamber.com

End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center
Oregon City

The Oregon Trail ended at many places in the Pacific Northwest in both Oregon and Washington, which were all Oregon Territory at the time of the pioneer migration. By far the majority of early travelers on the trail were headed to the Willamette Valley, where they would ultimately settle in Oregon City and other surrounding areas, building up communities, a territory and eventually a state.

HistoricOregonCity.org

WASHINGTON

Whitman Mission National Historic Site ~ Walla Walla

Missionary doctor Marcus Whitman and his wife, Narcissa, one of the first two white women to travel the Oregon Trail, established this mission, working among the Cayuse Indians, who called the general area Wy-eé-lat-poo, "the place of the rye grass," spelled Waiilatpu by Dr. Whitman.

NPS.gov

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site ~ Vancouver

When Oregon-bound travelers finally reached the end of their overland and river journey, they found aid at the Hudson's Bay Fur Company post, Fort Vancouver, which had supplies so desperately needed by people who had been on the trail for months. Chief Factor Dr. John McLoughlin managed the post. You can visit his home in Oregon City.

NPS.gov

In 1993 **Candy Moulton** traveled with the Oregon Trail Wagon Train that departed Independence, Missouri, in May and reached Independence, Oregon, in October. She and wagon driver Ben Kern subsequently wrote *Wagon Wheels: A Contemporary Journey on the Oregon Trail*. Ben passed on this year, along with his and Candy's good friend Jere Krakow, a dedicated public servant and trail steward. No two men more loved the trail than Ben and Jere.

MAR18_Sales Feature_Oregon Trail.DH.indd 86 1/11/18 4:01 PM

STORIES OF THE OREGON TRAIL

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the 1847 Whitman Mission Massacre, local Walla Walla, Washington, residents dedicated the Whitman Memorial Obelisk at the old mission site of Waiilatpu in 1897. Today, the monument can be visited as part of a tour of the Whitman Mission National Historic Site.

– COURTESY NPS.GOV –

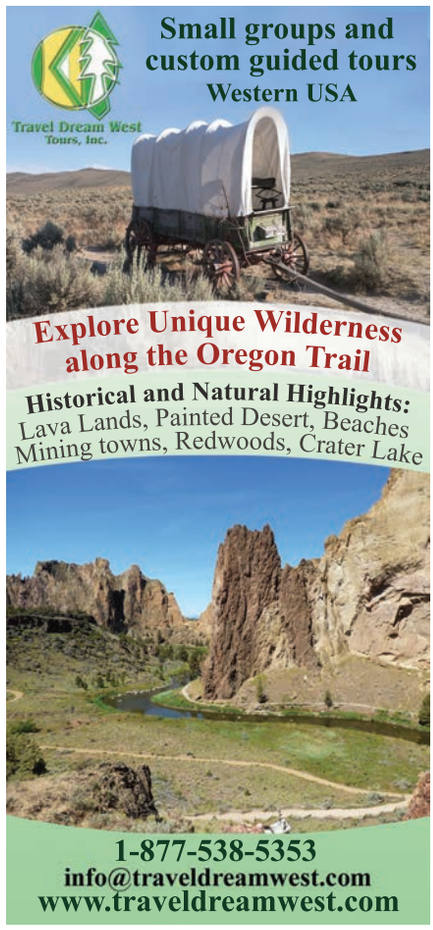
PLACES TO VISIT

FOUR RIVERS CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM
Ontario, OR
Interpretation of the tribes from this area—Palouse, Nez Perce and more—is a focus at this center.
4RCC.com

TAMASTSLIKT CULTURAL INSTITUTE
Pendleton, OR
The presence of pioneers in their wagons irrevocably affected the native people along their route, but the people and their culture endure and their stories are shared in ways that will inspire and inform visitors.
Tamastslikt.org

COLUMBIA GORGE DISCOVERY CENTER
The Dalles, OR
History meets geology in this interpretive center.
GorgeDiscovery.org

OLD AURORA COLONY HISTORICAL MUSEUM ~ *Aurora, OR*
Learn the story of how Willie Keil came to Oregon in a whiskey-filled coffin.
AuroraColony.org



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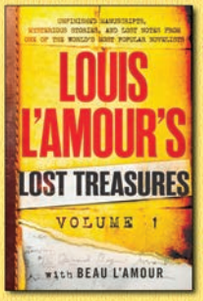

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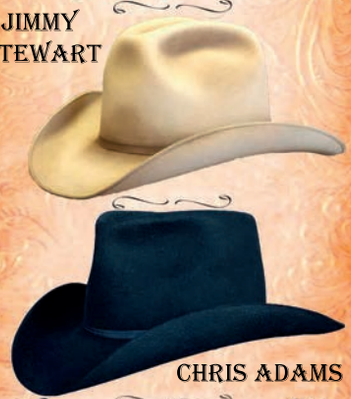

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Western Roundup

FOR MARCH 2018

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW & RODEO

HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW & RODEO

Houston, TX, Through March 18: A one-of-a-kind event that takes place in NRG Stadium, home of the Houston Texans. RodeoHouston occurs over 21 days beginning in late February or early March of that year and is the highest paying professional rodeo in the world.

832-667-1000 • *RodeoHouston.com*

ADVENTURE

ARIZONA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL & ARTISAN MARKETPLACE

Gold Canyon, AZ, Weekends through April 1: Old West time travelers take in Medieval arts and crafts, jousting tournaments and outdoor circus.

520-463-2600 • *RoyalFaires.com*

CRANE WATCH FESTIVAL

Kearney, NE, March 22-25: More than 500,000 Sandhill Cranes migrate to the Platte River Valley during their northward migration.

800-652-9435 • *VisitKearney.org*

ART SHOWS

AMARILLO WESTERN ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES SHOW

Amarillo, TX, March 16-18: Antique firearms, American Indian artwork and more at the longest running Western show and auction in America.

517-568-4188 • *AmarilloWesternShow.com*

MASTERS OF THE AMERICAN WEST

Los Angeles, CA, thru Mar 25: Exhibits stylistically and thematically diverse Western artworks by 75 nationally recognized artists.

323-667-2000 • *TheAutry.org*

LLLANO ART STUDIO TOUR

Llano, TX, March 31: Visit with approximately 20 Western and American Indian artists working in a wide range of mediums in their creative workspace.

325-247-5354

LlanoArtStudioTour.Yolasite.com

AUCTION

JAMES D. JULIA SPRING EXTRAORDINARY FIREARMS AUCTION

Waterville, ME, March 21-23: Known for selling the greatest number of rare and collectable firearms in the world; enthusiasts will be able to purchase a piece of history.

207-453-7125 • *JamesDJulia.com*

– PHOTO BY CRAIG CUTTLER –

COWGIRL UP! EXHIBITION & SALE OPENING WEEKEND

Wickenburg, AZ, March 23-25: Opening gala at the Desert Caballeros Western Museum kicks off the invitational exhibit of Western art by women.

928-684-2272 • *WesternMuseum.org*

MAR18_Western Roundup.DH-R1.indd 89 1/15/18 12:13 PM

Western Roundup

FOR MARCH 2018

CELEBRATE TEXAS!

Fredericksburg, TX, March 17: Meet Texas Rangers and members of the Comanche and Apache Nations (left) and enjoy historical re-enactments and cannon firing, cowboy poetry and entertainment.

830-997-2698 • *TRHC.org*

WINNEMUCCA RANCH HAND RODEO

Winnemucca, NV, Through March 4: Ranch hands compete in rodeo events, plus you can see cow dog trials, horse and bull sales, and a trade show.

775-623-2220 • *RanchRodeoNV.com*

– PHOTO COURTESY BY BRUCE –

FRONTIER FARE

CRAFTS AND DRAFTS

Canyon, TX, March 2: Fun evening of food, crafts, and draft beer samples. Enjoy beer-themed food, trivia, cornhole, and more.

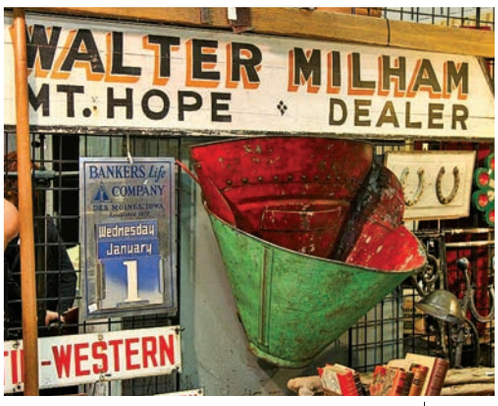
806-651-2244 • *PanhandlePlains.org*

FLYING FEZ WINE TASTING

Muskogee, OK, March 10: Enjoy one of Oklahoma's biggest and best wine tasting events hosted by the Bedouin Shriners.

918-682-2761

BedouinWineFestival.com



OKC LAND RUN ANTIQUE SHOW

Oklahoma City, OK, March 3-4: Shop a wide selection of antiques from some of the region's most prominent and professional collectors.

918-619-2875 • *HeritageEventCompany.com*

GUN SHOW

R.K. GUN SHOW

Oklahoma City, OK, March 10-11: gun and hunting enthusiasts can shop a variety guns, hunting supplies, military surplus and outdoor gear.

563-927-8176 • RKShows.com

HERITAGE FESTIVALS

CACHE VALLEY COWBOY RENDEZVOUS

Hyrum, UT, March 2-4: Gather for western music, cowboy poetry, trading post vendors, Dutch Oven dinners, and so much more.

435-755-1890 • *CVCowboy.org*

TUCSON FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

Tucson, AZ, March 10-11: Join Old West authors and historians at the University of Arizona for panel discussions and book signings.

TucsonFestivalOfBooks.org

THE KAMLOOPS COWBOY FESTIVAL

Kamloops, B.C., CAN, March 15-18: Cowboy heritage gets gritty at Cowboy Heritage Society fair offering art, gear and dinner theatre.

888-763-2221 • *BCCHS.com*

GRAND LAKE RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL

Vinita, OK, March 23-25: Step back in time to experience the music of the shire, watch the sport of Falconry, and shop.

918-244-1887 • *OkieRennie1.wixsite.com*

POWWOW

DENVER MARCH POWWOW

Denver, CO, March 23-25: This annual powwow features the grand entry, intertribal dances and contests, plus arts, crafts, and storytelling.

303-934-8045 • *DenverMarchPowwow.org*

RE-ENACTMENTS

FALL OF THE ALAMO

San Antonio, TX, March 5: The Texas Army and the San Antonio Living History Assoc. portray events leading to the Battle of the Alamo.

TexasArmy.org

GOLIAD MASSACRE RE-ENACTMENT

Goliad, TX, March 24-25: Re-creates the occupation of Fort Defiance and the 1836 Goliad Massacre, with memorial service on the last day.

361-635-3752 • *PresidioLaBahia.org*

MAR18_Western Roundup.DH-R1.indd 90 1/15/18 12:13 PM

– PHOTO BY BARBARA RICHERSON –

32ND ANNUAL TEXAS COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

Alpine, TX, March 2-3: Poets, songwriters and wordsmiths come together for this eclectic event celebrating the oral traditions of the working cowboy.

432-837-2326 • TexasCowboyPoetry.com

RODEOS & HORSE SALES

WINTER SERIES RODEO

Brigham City, UT, March 9-10: This rodeo event sanctioned by the Rocky Mountain Professional Rodeo Association features tie down roping, bronc riding, and more.

435-734-3315 • *BoxElderCounty.org*

STAR OF TEXAS FAIR AND RODEO

Austin, TX, March 10-24: Enjoy horse and livestock shows, concerts, a Wild West show, fair, and rodeo.

512-919-3000 • *RodeoAustin.com*

WESTERN PREMIER HORSE SALE

Brigham City, UT, March 17: See some of the finest horses in the region up for purchase at this quality western horse sale.

435-734-3315 • *BoxElderCounty.org*

SPRING BREAK AT THE PIONEER MUSEUM

Fredericksburg, TX, March 10, 12-17: Early Texas, German, and Native American frontier life is interpreted through stories, demonstrations, music, dance, and more.

830-990-8441 • *PioneerMuseum.net*

TWMag.com:
View Western events on our website.

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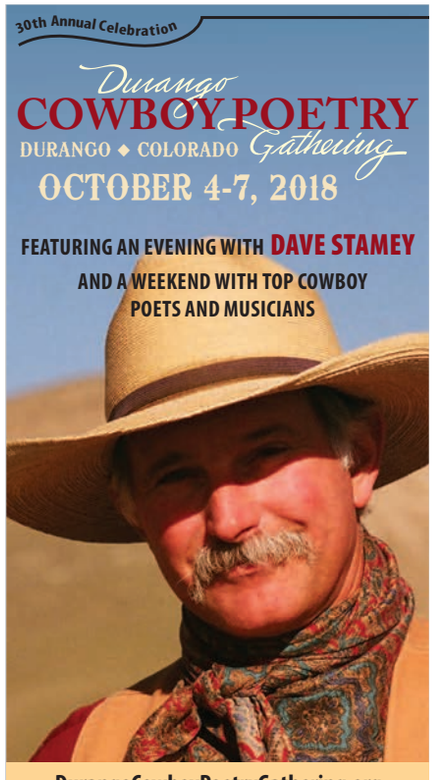

DurangoCowboyPoetryGathering.org
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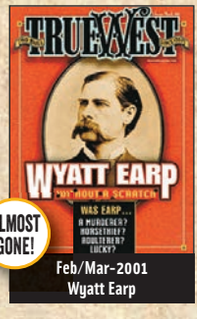
Wild Bill

Jan-2001
Topless Gunfighter



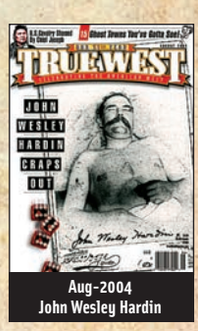
Feb/Mar-2001
Wyatt Earp

Aug/Sep-2001
Wild Bill

Aug/Sep-2002
Defeat of Jesse James

Jul-2003
Doc & Wyatt

Feb-Mar-2003
Guns that won the West


Aug-2004
John Wesley Hardin

Jan-2003
Historical Photos

Dec-2006
Buffalo Gals & Guys

Oct-2006
Tombstone/125th OK Corral

Jan-2007
Cowboys ae indians

Nov/Dec-2008
Mickey Free

Sep-2009
500 Yrs Before Cowboys

Nov/Dec-2010
Black Warriors of the West

Apr-2011
True Grit/Bridges & Wayne

Aug-2012
Butch and Sundance

Aug-2013
Tombstone-The Walk Down

Dec-2014
Women Who Left Their Mark

Dec-15
First Mountain Man

Apr-2016
Lonesome Dove

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WHILE THEY LAST!

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2000
- ☐ Jan: Buffalo Bill
- ☐ Mar: Richard Farnsworth
- ☐ May: Samuel Walker
- ☐ Jun: Frontier Half-Bloods
- ☐ Jul: Billy & the Kids
- ☐ Aug: John Wayne
- ☐ Sep: Border Breed
- ☐ Oct: Halloween Issue
- ☐ Nov: Apache Scout
- ☐ Dec: Mountain Men

2001
- ☐ Jan: Topless Gunfighter
- ☐ May/Jun: Custer
- ☐ Jul: Cowboys & Cowtowns

2002
- ☐ Aug/Sep: Jesse James
- ☐ Oct: Billy On The Brain
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Butch & Sundance

2003
- ☐ Jan: 50 Historical Photos
- ☐ Feb/Mar: 50 Guns
- ☐ Apr: John Wayne
- ☐ Spring: Jackalope Creator Dies
- ☐ May/Jun: Custer Killer
- ☐ Jul: Doc & Wyatt
- ☐ Aug/Sep: A General Named Dorothy
- ☐ Oct: Vera McGinnis
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Worst Westerns Ever

2004
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Six Guns
- ☐ Mar: Fakes/Fake Doc
- ☐ April/Travel: Visit the Old West
- ☐ May:Iron Horse/Sacred Dogs
- ☐ Jun: HBO's Deadwood
- ☐ Jul: 17 Legends
- ☐ Aug: JW Hardin
- ☐ Sep: Wild Bunch
- ☐ Oct: Bill Pickett
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Dale Evans

2005
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Rare Photos
- ☐ Mar: Deadwood/McShane
- ☐ Apr: 77 Sunset Trips
- ☐ May: Trains/Collector's Edition
- ☐ Jun: Jesus Out West
- ☐ Jul: All Things Cowboy
- ☐ Aug: History of Western Wear
- ☐ Sep: Gambling
- ☐ Oct: Blaze Away/Wyattt
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Gay Western? Killer DVDs

2006
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Mexican Insurgents
- ☐ Mar: Kit Carson
- ☐ Apr: I've Been Everywhere, Man
- ☐ May: The Racial Frontier
- ☐ Jun: Playing Sports in the OW
- ☐ Jul/Aug: Dude! Where's My Ranch?
- ☐ Sep: Indian Yell
- ☐ Oct: Tombstone/125th Ok Corral
- ☐ Nov: Gambling
- ☐ Dec: Buffalo Gals & Guys

2007
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Cowboys Are Indians
- ☐ Mar: Trains/Jim Clark
- ☐ Apr: Western Travel
- ☐ May: Dreamscape Desperado/Billy
- ☐ Jun: Collecting the West/Photos
- ☐ Jul: Man Who Saved The West
- ☐ Aug: Western Media/Best Reads
- ☐ Sep: Endurance Of The Horse
- ☐ Oct: 3:10 To Yuma
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Brad Pitt & Jesse James

2008
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Pat Garrett/No Country
- ☐ Mar: Who Killed the Train?
- ☐ Apr: Travel/Geronimo
- ☐ May: Who Stole Buffalo Bill's Home?
- ☐ Jun: The Last Cowboy President?
- ☐ Jul: Secrets of Our Nat'l Parks/Teddy
- ☐ Aug: Kendricks Northern CBs/Photos
- ☐ Sep: Saloons & Stagecoaches
- ☐ Oct: Charlie Russell
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Mickey Free

2009
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Border Riders
- ☐ Mar: Poncho Villa
- ☐ Apr: Stagecoach
- ☐ May: Battle For The Alamo
- ☐ Jun: Custer's Ride To Glory
- ☐ Jul: Am West, Then & Now
- ☐ Aug: Wild West Shows
- ☐ Sep: Vaquero/500 Yrs Before CBs
- ☐ Oct: Capturing Billy
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Chaco Canyon

2010
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Top 10 Western Towns
- ☐ Mar: Trains/Pony Express
- ☐ Apr: OW Destinations/Clint Eastwood
- ☐ May: Legendary Sonny Jim
- ☐ Jun: Extreme Western Adventures
- ☐ Jul: Starvation Trail/AZ Rough Riders
- ☐ Aug: Digging Up Billy the Kid
- ☐ Sep: Classic Rodeo!
- ☐ Oct: Extraordinary Western Art
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Black Warriors of the West

2011
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Sweethearts of the Rodeo
- ☐ Mar: 175th Anniv Battle of the Alamo
- ☐ Apr: Three True Grits
- ☐ May: Historic Ranches
- ☐ Jun: Tin Type Billy
- ☐ Jul: Viva, Outlaw Women!
- ☐ Aug: Was Geronimo A Terrorist?
- ☐ Sep: Western Museums/CBs & Aliens
- ☐ Oct: Hard Targets
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Butch Cassidy is Back

2012
- ☐ Feb: Az Crazy Road to Statehood
- ☐ Mar: Special Entertainment Issue
- ☐ Apr: Riding Shotgun with History
- ☐ May: The Outlaw Cowboys of NM
- ☐ Jun: Wyatt On The Set!
- ☐ July: Deadly Trackers
- ☐ Aug: How Did Butch & Sundance Die?
- ☐ Sep: The Heros of Northfield
- ☐ Oct: Bravest Lawman You Never
- ☐ Nov: Armed & Courageous
- ☐ Dec: Legend of Climax Jim

2013
- ☐ Jan: Best of the West/John Wayne
- ☐ Feb: Rocky Mountain Rangers
- ☐ Apr: US Marshals
- ☐ May: Texas Rangers
- ☐ Jun: Doc's Last Gunfight
- ☐ Jul: Comanche Killers!
- ☐ Aug: Tombstone 20th Annv
- ☐ Sep: Ambushed on the Pecos
- ☐ Oct: Outlaws,Lawmen & Gunfighters
- ☐ Nov: Soiled Doves
- ☐ Dec: Cowboy Ground Zero

2014
- ☐ Jan: Best 100 Historical Photos
- ☐ Feb: Assn. of Pat Garrett
- ☐ Mar: Stand-up Gunfights
- ☐ Apr: Wyatt Earp Alaska
- ☐ May: Tom Horn
- ☐ Jun: Custer Captured
- ☐ Jul: 50 Historical Gunfighter Photos
- ☐ Aug: Bigfoot Wallace/Train Robberies
- ☐ Sep: New Billy Photo/Top Museums
- ☐ Oct: Charlie Russell/Movie Hats
- ☐ Nov: Wild Bills's Last Gunfight
- ☐ Dec: Olive Oatman-Branded

2015
- ☐ Jan: 100 Historical Am. Indian Photos
- ☐ Feb: Mountain Man-First Survivalists
- ☐ Mar: Mickey Free/Severed Heads
- ☐ Apr: Jack Stilwell-Forgotten Scout
- ☐ May: Armed to Survive
- ☐ Jun: Billy the Kid-Special Report
- ☐ Jul: 50 Historical Photos-Panco Villa
- ☐ Aug: Luke Short-Dodge City War
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TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

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Ask The Marshall

BY MARSHALL TRIMBLE

Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian and vice president of the Wild West History Association. His latest book is *Arizona's Outlaws and Lawmen;* History Press, 2015. If you have a question, write: Ask the Marshall, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or e-mail him at marshall.trimble@scottsdalecc.edu

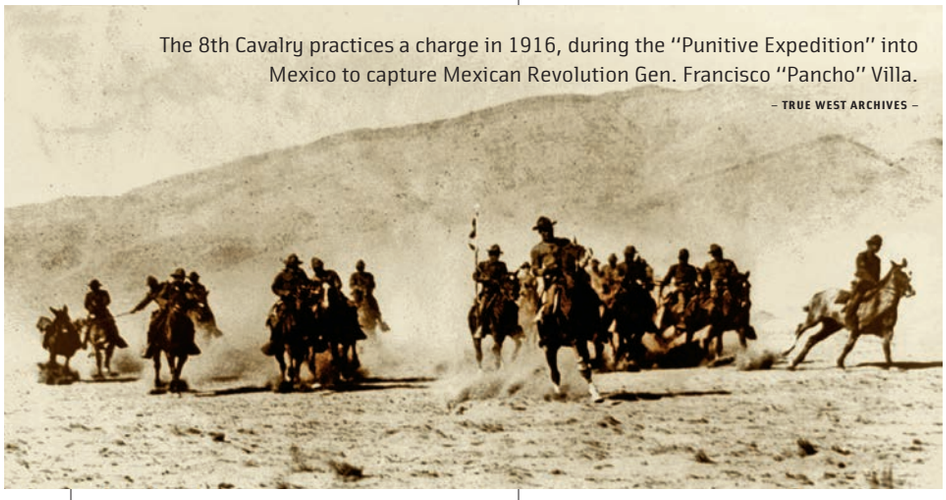
Punitive Expedition?

Is Pancho Villa's "Punitive Expedition" the same as the "Mexican Expedition?"

Tim Powell
Douglas, Arizona

The 1916-1917 action was originally called the "Punitive Expedition," but today it is officially known as the "Mexican Expedition." It's also been called the "Pancho Villa Expedition."

A punitive expedition is a military journey undertaken to punish a state or any group of persons outside the borders of the punishing state. Punitive is considered a condescending term. With the passage of time, folks thought it more diplomatic to rename it the "Mexican Expedition."



The 8th Cavalry practices a charge in 1916, during the "Punitive Expedition" into Mexico to capture Mexican Revolution Gen. Francisco "Pancho" Villa.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

How are cattle brands read, and how do ranchers select them?

John Rankin
Rapid City, South Dakota

Interpreting a brand takes some experience and knowledge. You read them left to right and top to bottom (with some variations). Wings represent "flying." Letters lying on their sides are "lazy." Letters with little legs are "walking." Cursive letters mean "running."

Some outfits are recognized by the brand rather than the name. The Aztec Land and Cattle Company was better known as the Hashknife because the brand resembled a camp cook's hash knife.

Cattle outfits register their brands with the state, county or cattlemen's association to prevent duplication. They have to make sure their brand is not already taken. They also try to create one that isn't easy for rustlers to alter.

Frankly, ear tags are much easier to see than brands.

What happened to the scalp that "Buffalo Bill" Cody took from Cheyenne warrior Yellow Hair at Warbonnet Creek in 1876?

Richard Hill
Santa Rosa, California

The day after the July 18 fight, "Buffalo Bill" Cody sent the scalp and Yellow Hair's quirt and weapons to his friend Moses Kerngood in Rochester, New York, who displayed them in his cigar store. Eventually, the scalp made its way to the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyoming.

Who is Fred Harman?

Walter Wehlauch
Jacksonville, Florida

Fred Harman was born in St. Joseph, Missouri, in 1902, but his family moved to Pagosa Springs, Colorado, when he was only two months old.

Harman's path to success wasn't easy. In 1922, he partnered with Walt Disney to establish Kaycee Studios, but the two went broke after just a year. Obviously, Disney persevered and found success.

Harman's star began to rise in the late 1930s. His *Red Ryder* comic strip first appeared in 1938 and was an instant success, running in newspapers up through 1963. The strip led to comic books, a radio show, a TV series and roughly 30 movies, including Republic's 12-chapter film serial. Harman stopped working on *Red Ryder* so he could focus on his paintings.

In 1941, Harman bought land in Blanco Basin near Pagosa Springs and called it the Red Ryder Ranch. A museum dedicated to his art opened in 1983, a year after his death, and his family still operates it.

Harman left another important legacy. In 1965, he and George Phippen, Joe Beeler, Charlie Dye and John Hampton founded the Cowboy Artists of America. Harman was chosen as the group's first president, but deferred to Phippen.

Sarah "Great Western" Bowman reportedly died of a tarantula bite. Is tarantula venom that poisonous?

David Duggan
Shelton, Connecticut

"Contemporary sources say she died from the bite of a tarantula. Now while

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Readers fell in love with frontier lawman Red Ryder and his sidekick Little Beaver in the comic book reprints of the popular Sunday strips.

– PUBLISHED BY DELL –

tarantula bites are not normally deadly, they are indeed venomous creatures, and sometimes an allergic reaction (just like with a bee sting) can lead to death," says Dr. Paul Andrew Hutton, who wrote the Great Western feature in the September 2017 issue.

"Of course, Sarah could well have been bitten by a black widow, or a brown recluse, or a scorpion, or a centipede or any of the other delightfully deadly creatures that infest Arizona," he adds. "I can testify to the nature of Arizona bugdom from sad personal experience, for while visiting Tombstone a dozen years ago, I was bitten by some unknown critter that resulted in [my] temporary paralysis and left me with permanent nerve damage that still plagues me.

"I sympathize with poor Sarah."

Does consumption exist today?

Roy G Rutter
Turtle Creek, Pennsylvania

Consumption, an early term for tuberculosis, was a dreaded disease of the lung—contagious and often fatal. The afflicted were advised by doctors to move to an arid place like Arizona. Others were directed to the mountains of Colorado to partake of the clear mountain air—a mistake since the low oxygen levels put even greater stress on the lungs and body (as "Doc" Holliday discovered).

Tuberculosis is treated today by a variety of medications over a period of six months. Without proper treatment, it can still prove fatal.

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What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

Brian Downes stands with award-winning Western singer Carin Mari from Buena Vista, Colorado, who performs regularly at John Wayne Birthplace events.

– BY CAROL BASSETT –

– BY WAYNE DAVIS –

BRIAN DOWNES, MUSEUM DIRECTOR

Executive director of the John Wayne Birthplace Museum in Winterset, Iowa, since 2008, Brian Downes oversees the only museum in the world dedicated to the motion picture star. He admits, "The biggest risk I have ever taken was leaving the security and enjoyment of a 35-year career with the *Chicago Tribune* to lead the development of a museum," adding that it was also the "best thing I ever did." He poses here with the site's nearly eight-foot statue donated by the Wayne family on the actor's 100th birthday, in 2007; the museum opened in 2015.

My earliest Old West recollections are watching *The Lone Ranger* on ABC and returning to those "thrilling days of yesteryear" with Clayton Moore. I really loved that guy! After that, it all came together with 1962's *How the West Was Won*. I was just a boy, but I marveled how 50 years of epic nation building could be condensed into a magnificent movie lasting less than three hours.

My favorite novel ever is *Lonesome Dove*. I believe Larry McMurtry's novel stands alongside the best of Mark Twain. It is the "Great American Novel on horseback."

Don't get me started on revisionist history, because it's so sickeningly dishonest. For example, "Buffalo Bill" Cody did not kill all the buffalo, and Americans did not slaughter millions of American Indians. It's utter nonsense, yet so many accept those fantasies as fact.

Nobody will believe it, but, since grammar school, I wanted to be a museum guy. My brother did not object when I turned our bedroom into a mini-museum containing cheesy souvenirs from trips to historic sites. Even today, my guests comment that my house is more a museum than a home.

The problem with most Westerns today is the same for most movies today—they largely lack the sentiment and storytelling of the Old Masters like John Ford. In order for a movie to be great—or even good—the audience needs to truly care about the characters. An outstanding example of quality storytelling is 2017's *Wind River*, a modern-day Western that champions love and loyalty, and clearly defines good and evil.

My daddy always told me: embrace your identity—your heritage, your lineage, your country and your religious faith—because, in the end, that's all you've got.

Before I die, I want to give Red Steagall a personal tour of the John Wayne Birthplace Museum. Not since John Wayne have I admired any Westerner more than Red. In my younger days, he offered me solid advice and encouragement. His friendship is among my greatest treasures.

In my eulogy, be sure to write, "He adored his family, he loved his country, was loyal to his friends and treated everyone exactly the same. But now he's in Ireland."

The dumbest Western ever made has to be 1965's *Cat Ballou*, which also happens to be among my all-time favorites. It's a rotten shame that history has virtually ignored my idol, Kid Shelleen, who was the greatest gunslinger of them all.

One Old West character I never tire of is "Buffalo Bill" Cody. He was America's first superstar and, as John Lennon said of Elvis, before Buffalo Bill, there was nothing.

My favorite place in the entire West is Monument Valley. I once spent a couple of days there with Harry Carey Jr., where we enjoyed his last horseback ride together. Nobody could tell a story better than Dobe. Overlooking John Ford Point, he said of his former movie pals, "They know we are here, and they are glad."

What's the deal with Science Fiction Westerns? Give me a break. A good Western should stand on its own. It's about human emotions and the landscape; it does not need the distractions of spaceships or aliens.

History has taught me that history is what it is. It doesn't change. Accept it, move on and strive to do better. In the words of John Wayne, from 1949's *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon*, "Never apologize, Mister. It's a sign of weakness."

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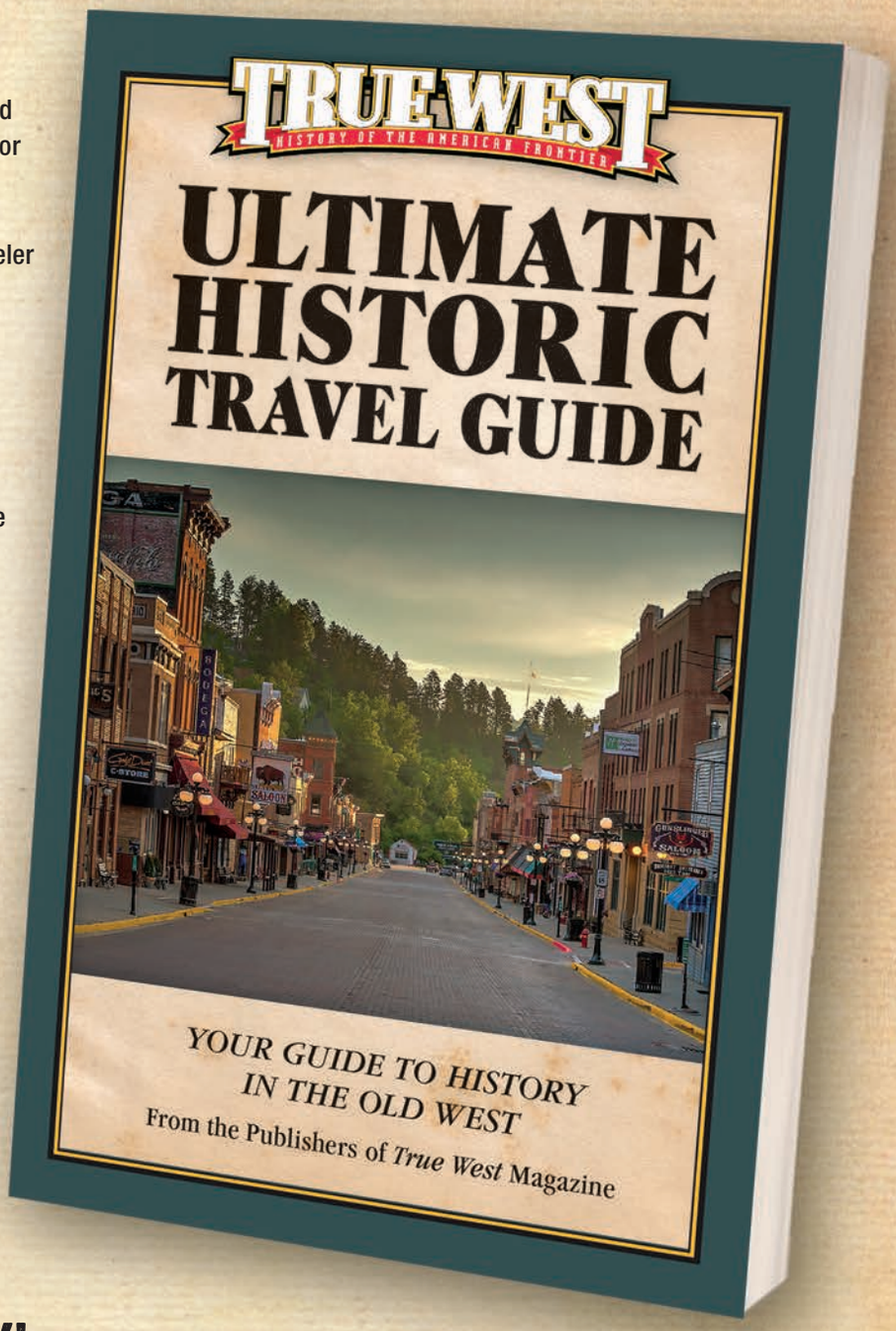
WALK WHERE HISTORY HAPPENED

For 65 years, *True West* magazine has inspired travelers to take the road less traveled and explore the historic sites and towns of the American West. Now, in honor of its 65th anniversary, the publishers of *True West* have compiled the essential Old West guidebook, which takes the traveler to where Old West history happened in 22 Western states.



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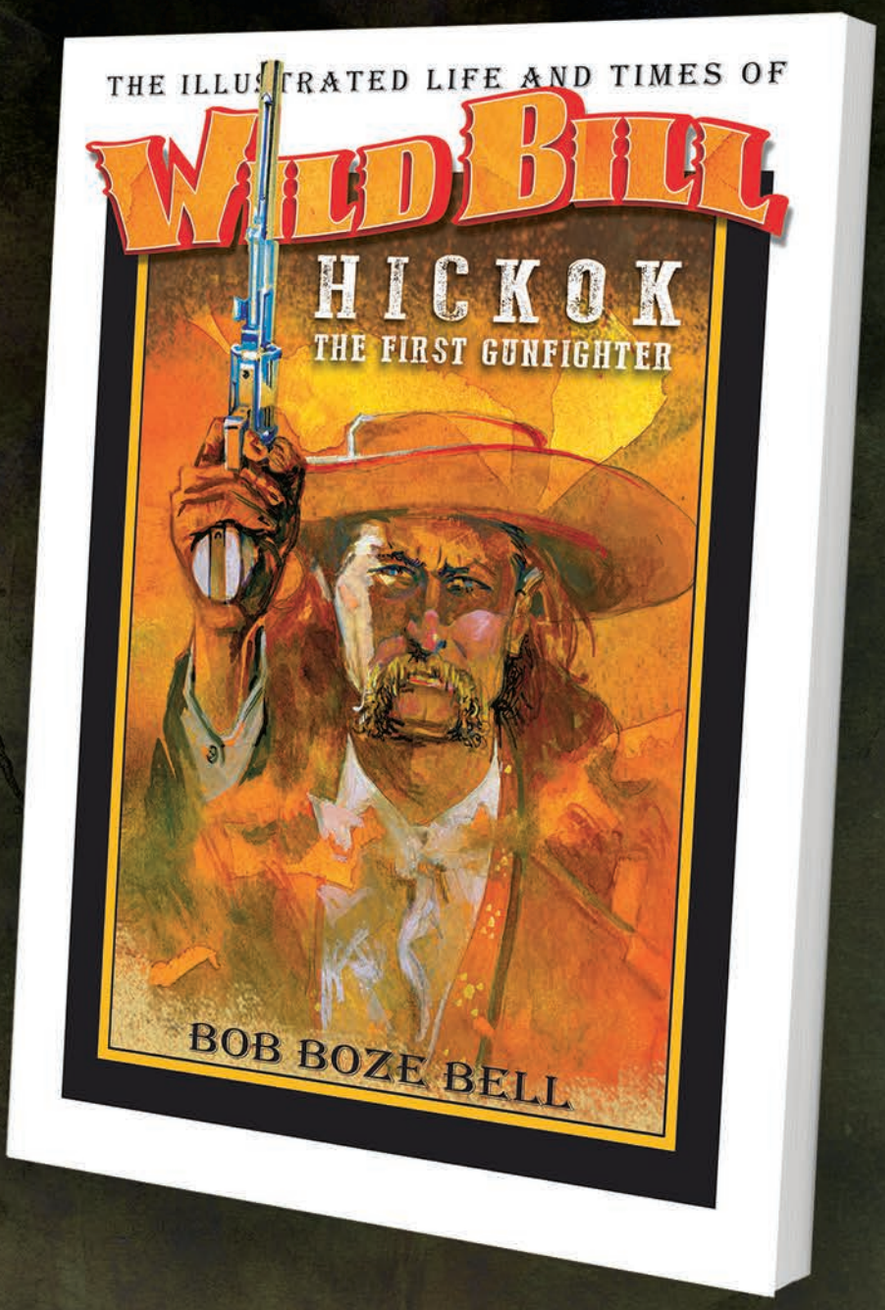

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