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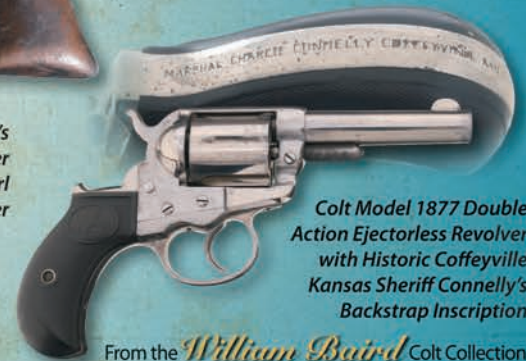
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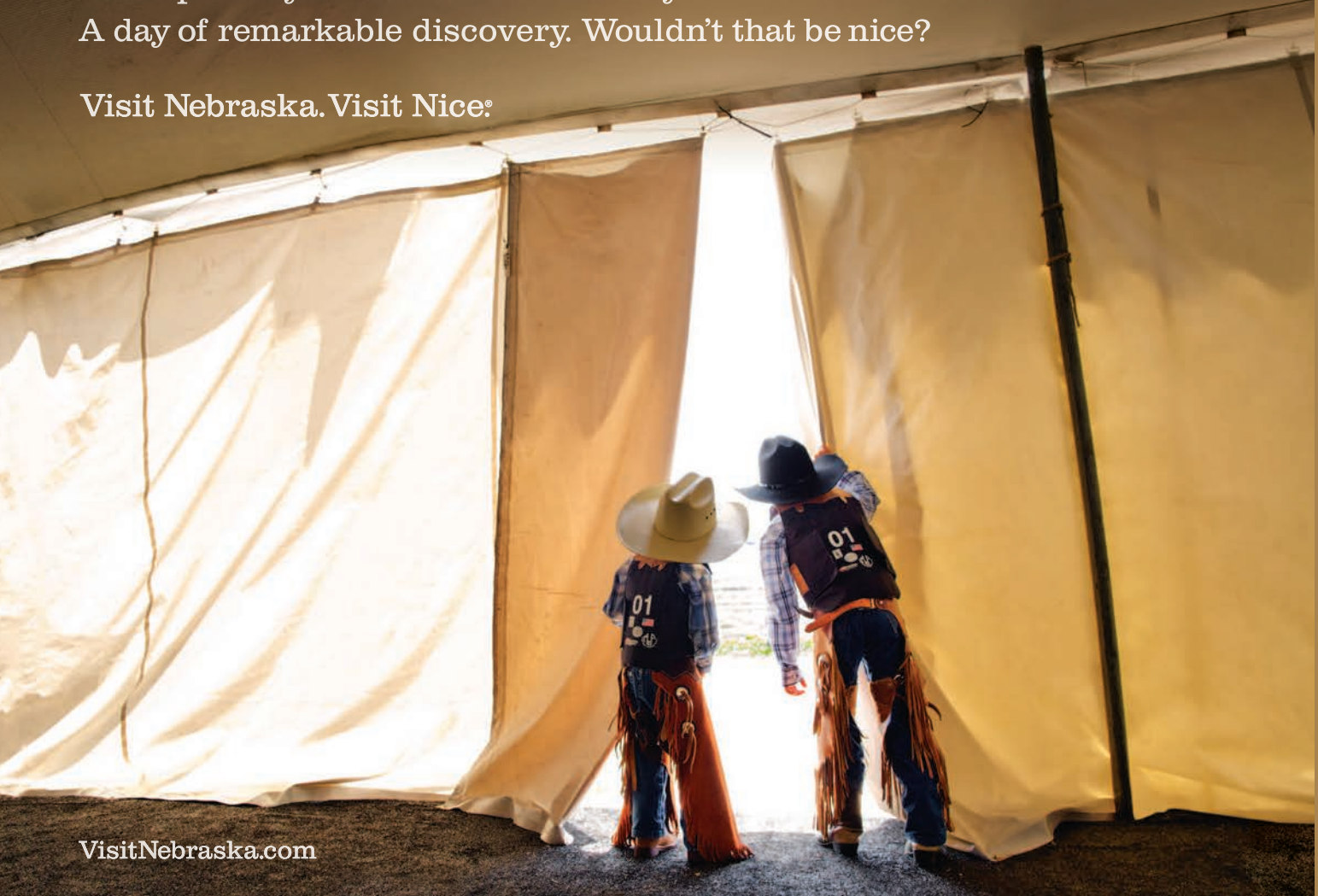
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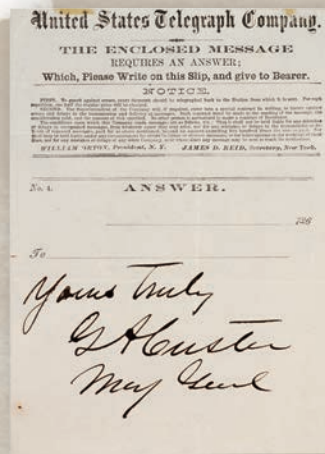
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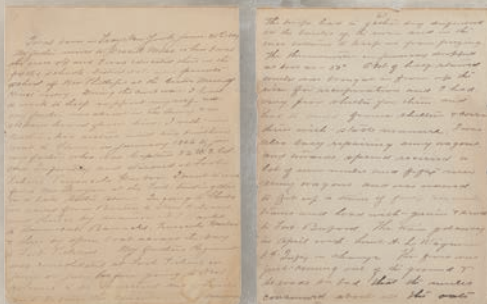
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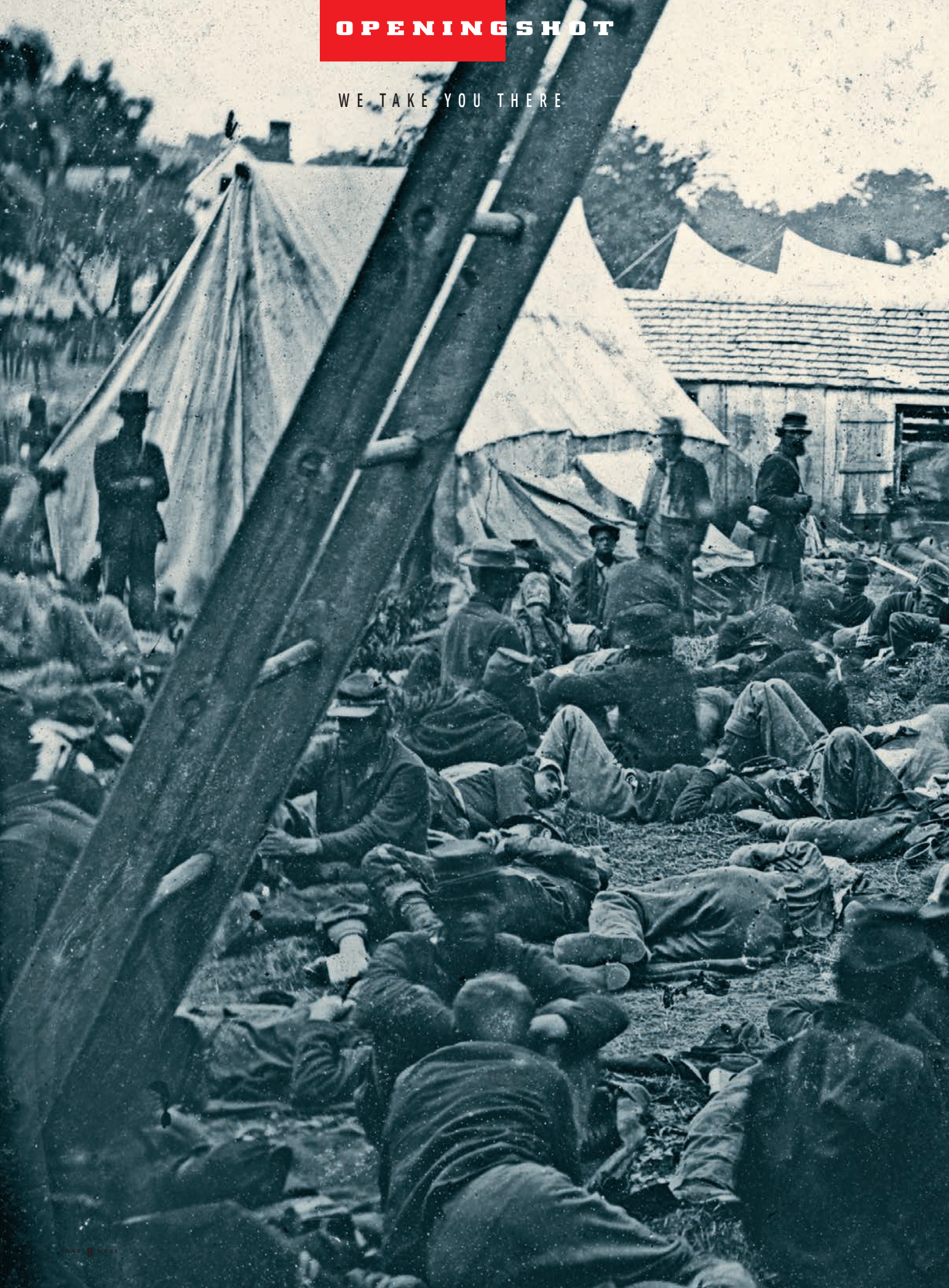
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ARMY FIELD HOSPITAL

During the Battle of Savage's Station on June 29, 1862, Confederates captured about 2,500 wounded Union soldiers from this makeshift field hospital photographed by James F. Gibson. The fellows in the straw hats are from the 16th New York Infantry. John Magruder's slow advance during the battle got the Confederate sent west, to the District of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

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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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April 2015 Online and Social Media Content



This circa 1890s street scene in Abilene, Kansas, shows a medicine show drumming up business. Find this and more historical photography on our "Western History" board.

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Go behind the scenes of *True West* with Bob Boze Bell to see this and more of his Daily Whipouts (search for "February 13, 2015").

Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com



Join the Conversation

"My maternal grandfather, Ernest Doman, worked at the St. Louis world's fair as a carpenter. He sent postcards from there to his love, Edna, my maternal grandmother."

— Ken Anderson of Spruce Pine, North Carolina



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—Carol Markstrom

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CIVIL DISAGREEMENT

As a *True West* "Maniac" and subscriber since 1967, I must take exception to the *Renegade Roads* article about Buffalo Soldiers in the February 2015 issue. Johnny D. Boggs did a commendable job with his article. But as a former re-enactor who has represented the 4th U.S. Infantry of the Civil War era in many battles over the years, I feel that he was unfair and unjustified in his opening description of what Civil War re-enactors represent. All re-enactors should not be painted with a broad brush just because he doesn't understand them. Re-enactors encompass thousands and include a wide variety of individuals from police to doctors to teachers and lawyers and even the clergy, not exactly low class individuals. Also, whether or not those who portray Buffalo Soldiers like to identify themselves as re-enactors, they are representing their living history, just like the Civil War buffs.

Ken Bock

Mansfield, Ohio

RANDOM EXCERPT OF A LETTER WE WON'T BE RUNNING

"Kit Carson's name is reviled to this day on the Navajo reservation, and rightfully so. He proved to be a man without a moral compass."



David Stoecklein, 1949-2014: A Remembrance

We had known of each other's work for many years, but our trails finally crossed when Barney Nelson invited us both to a 2009 photography symposium at Sul Ross University in Alpine, Texas. David Stoecklein, who died of cancer on November 10, led students to the big corral at the O6 Ranch for the chance to shoot the crew catching mounts, saddling up and riding out—a fabulous morning for aspiring photographers on one of the great cow outfits of the American West. Stoecklein was truly "at home" in this milieu, a setting that many might consider exotic (see Stoecklein above, flanked by Lance and Chris Lacy of the O6 Ranch). The man was respected—nay, more like cherished—by the proud class of cowboys who he has portrayed so truthfully.

—Photographer Jay Dusard



The Mystery Continues

After seeing your mystery woman (below), the "Arizona Female Scout" photographed by A. Frank Randall, in your December 2014 cover story, "Branded but Unbroken," I thought you might find this

Randall photo (far left) interesting. Does her jacket look familiar? Labeled on the back of photo: "New Mexico Female Scout." I got the photo seven years ago from the great-granddaughter of William Wallace Chapel, the postmaster and Indian trader at San Carlos, in Arizona Territory, 1886-88.

Tony Sapienza

Ridgewood, New Jersey

Thanks for sharing the photo with us, Tony! Randall photography expert Allan Radbourne did point out to readers that he had seen this Apache-manufactured jacket on at least three different subjects photographed by Randall during his time in San Carlos, Mexico, but he hasn't seen this image before! As reported in the article, Radbourne did not believe the Arizona lady was a scout because no female Apache scouts served in 1886, the date of the photo. To him, the lady looked to be Hispanic.

Tracking the Stilwells

Intriguing clues on both sides of the ledger.

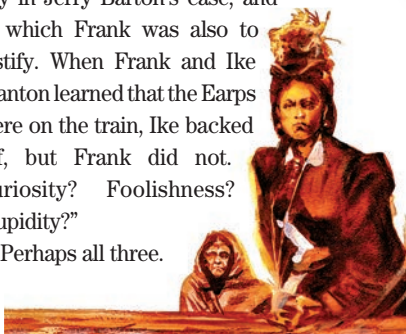
In this issue, historian and author Roy Young helped us track down two disparate siblings. As you will soon discover, the Stilwell brothers could not be more opposite (see Jack's story, on p. 26).

Roy started studying genealogy as a teenager in the 1960s and learned early on that Wyatt Earp had killed Frank Stilwell (Young's mother was a Stillwell). Fast forward to the twin Earp movies 1993's *Tombstone* and 1994's *Wyatt Earp*, and Roy's interest in the Stilwell case was revived. As he puts it, his research has "been nonstop ever since."

For 10 years, Roy has edited the journal for Wild West History Association (WWHA) and is the organization's first vice president. He is also a former president of Oklahombres. Two years ago, he received WWHA's Six-Shooter Award for lifetime contributions to Wild West history.

Regarding Frank's demise in Tucson, Arizona, shared in *Classic Gunfights* on p. 42, Roy says, "I believe that Frank did not intentionally go to the train station to kill any of the Earps, or even to see them or let himself be seen. He was there to meet Milt McDowell who was to testify the next day in Jerry Barton's case, and in which Frank was also to testify. When Frank and Ike Clanton learned that the Earps were on the train, Ike backed off, but Frank did not. Curiosity? Foolishness? Stupidity?"

Perhaps all three.



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



Tantalizing Tidbits: Tucson had just turned on the new gas lights (above) that deadly day when the Earp crew arrived at the train depot on March 20, 1882. Wyatt Earp's posse all added bullets to Frank Stilwell's lifeless body (left), which prompted an eyewitness to remark Stilwell's body was the "worst shot up man I ever saw" (see below). Marietta Spence, along with her mother (far left), paid the price for copping out her husband, Pete (given their matching black eyes, some conclude Pete was right-handed).

—ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL—



Quotes

“There’s three times in a man’s life when he has a right to yell at the moon: when he marries, when his children come and... and when he finishes a job he had to be crazy to start.”

– *Montgomery Clift to Harry Carey Sr., after Clift’s character leads the herd into Abilene, Kansas, in 1948’s Red River*

“Not to know what happened before you were born is to remain forever a child.”

– *Roman philosopher Cicero*

“Today is Yesterday’s Pupil.”

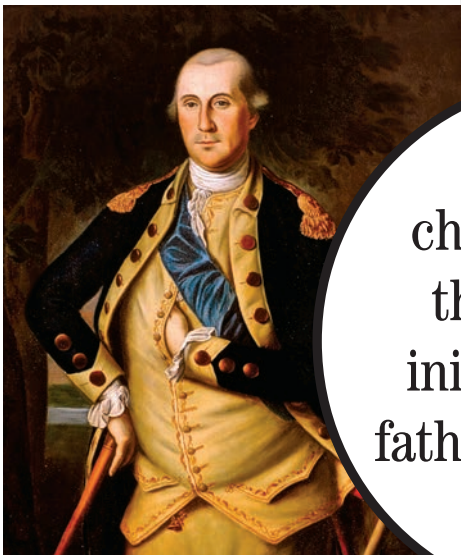
– *Benjamin Franklin, in Poor Richard’s Almanack*

“Haste in every business brings failures.”

– *Greek historian Herodotus*

“It is the flag just as much of the man who was naturalized yesterday as of the man whose people have been here generations.”

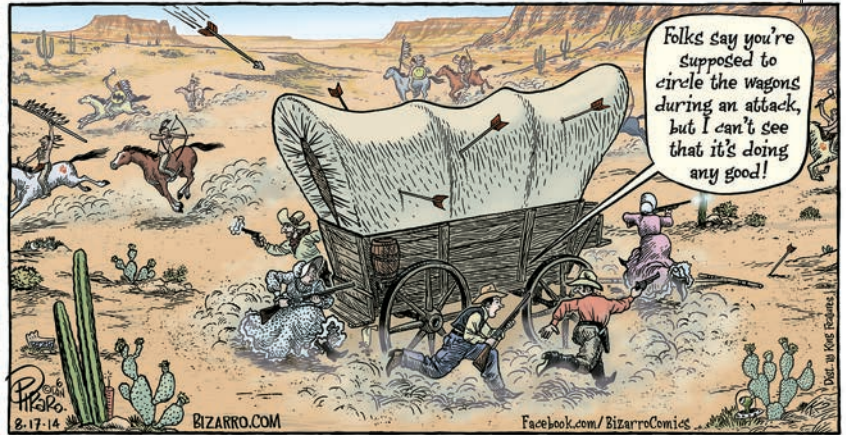
– *Historian and U.S. Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge*



“It is the child of avarice, the brother of iniquity, and the father of mischief.”

– *First U.S. President George Washington, on gambling*

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO



“I would say that for me the future of the image is going to be in electronic photography.... And you will see perfectly beautiful images on a screen. I’d say that would be very handsome. They would be almost as close as the best reproductions.”

– *American West Photographer Ansel Adams*



“I drink as much as I ever did. I eat more than I should. And my sex life is none of your goddamn business.”

– *John Wayne, Playboy interview, May 1971*

Old Vaquero Saying



“A quiet conscience sleeps in thunder.”



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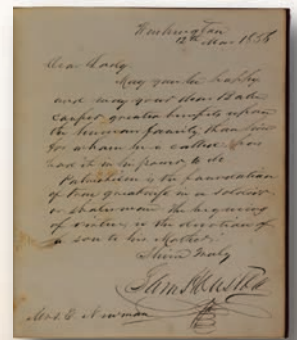
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Death in the Mississippi

The post-Civil War tragedy of the Sultana.

The end of wars does not always mean the end of death and destruction. The *Sultana* tragedy proved that.

In April 1865, Robert E. Lee had surrendered, President Abraham Lincoln had died from an assassin's bullet and Union prisoners of war were returning from the terrible camps in the South.

From Andersonville in Georgia, they were directed to the *Sultana*, a Mississippi river boat that could carry 376 passengers and crew. Private boat owners had discovered a lucrative business after the Civil War ended; the Army paid \$5 per enlisted man and \$10 per officer for the trip. Certain Union officers, including regional quartermaster Reuben Hatch, a man with a history of corruption, were reportedly getting kickbacks on the deal.

As many as 2,400 men were crammed onto the *Sultana*, more than six times its capacity. The exact number is unknown—officials stopped counting—but the ship was standing room only for men who were weakened by illness, injury and horrible incarceration.

Even worse, the boat's boilers were in bad shape. Boilermaker R.G. Taylor placed a patch on one of them while the boat was docked in Vicksburg. He recommended that new boilers be installed before departure. He was ignored,

and the *Sultana* began its voyage on April 24.

At about 2 a.m. on April 27, seven miles north of Memphis, Tennessee, the boilers exploded, ripping the boat apart and



Some of these Union prisoners of war receiving rations on August 17, 1864, at the Andersonville prison in Georgia survived the Civil War only to meet death aboard the *Sultana* (shown in inset, just prior to the explosion on April 27, 1865).

— ALL PHOTOS COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —



throwing men into the freezing river. Many died in the blast. Some died of burns. Others drowned or died from hypothermia. The first rescue boat got to the site an hour after the explosion.

The government reported as many as 1,547 men died in the tragedy, but since nobody knew how many had boarded, the death count was a guess. Even with this low count, this was the worst maritime disaster in our nation's history. The famous *Titanic* shipwreck lost 1,513 lives.

Most Americans didn't even hear about the tragic explosion. Newspaper headlines focused on the death of Lincoln's assassin, John Wilkes Booth, killed the day before.

The military brought charges against two officers, including Hatch, but neither was punished; both had political connections in Washington, D.C. that protected them. The

This was the worst maritime disaster in our nation's history.

Sultana tragedy was more or less forgotten for nearly 120 years.

In 1982, Memphis, Tennessee, attorney Jerry Potter organized an archaeological expedition to find the boat. His team hit paydirt when they found blackened wood from the deck under an Arkansas soybean field—the Mississippi River channel had moved about 300 yards between 1865 and 1982. The boat has yet to be dug up to rescue artifacts that could be showcased in a museum.

As of now, the only memorial to those who died in the *Sultana* tragedy is a small monument in a Knoxville church cemetery. That's a tragedy unto itself.



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This stylish and beautiful ring is hand-crafted of solid sterling silver and features a large genuine turquoise cabochon framed in a Native American-style beaded setting. The sides of the ring are beautifully textured to resemble an eagle feather. The rich colors of the Sedona sky and landscape are represented on the center band in delicately crafted, hand-enameled red, black and turquoise colored accents.

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One Man's Dream

A Nebraska Sandhills community has stepped up big time for Dobby Lee.

When she was a seventh grader, Lori White knew Kenneth “Dobby” Lee as her school bus driver in Alliance, Nebraska.

She later found out that he had been a carpenter and mayor of the town before he began driving kids to school. After he retired at age 65, she attended the fall festival in the frontier town he was assembling with his son on the outskirts of her hometown in the Nebraska Sandhills.

When Lee died in 2009, White went to his funeral and mourned the passing of a man who had meant so much to her community. Then she read a disturbing story in the local newspaper.

At a community cookout, she says, Lee’s “son and daughter-in-law told us the problem—they couldn’t maintain the town on their own and asked for the help of the community. Well, after that, it was like a house afire.”

White, a “happy housewife,” jumped in as one of the volunteers who were adopting buildings to watch over. She and a friend adopted a two-room house constructed out of hay bales. White, who had not finished college because she refused to take one class, a required American History course, was now keeping history alive.

Others adopted the Lonesome Duck Saloon & Bordello. Still more took over the German Evangelical Lutheran church, built in 1912. Alliance—a town of about 8,500 residents—found citizens to adopt all 19 buildings that Lee had assembled for his two-and-a-half-acre town. “We’re a little town with a big heart,” White says.



The Nebraska Sandhills is home to Dobby’s Frontier Town (above). The most prized building is the 1888 cabin built by Robert B. Anderson (left; cabin interior shown above left). An ex-slave and Buffalo Soldier, Anderson was Nebraska’s first black homesteader.

— COURTESY DOBBY’S FRONTIER TOWN —

“And they don’t look into buildings from behind ropes; they get a hands-on experience.”

After pledging their help, the townsfolk went several steps further. They created a board of directors, and White became president. They got the town designated a 501(c)(3), so they could accept tax-deductible donations. They also got a grant in 2014 for \$3,800 to buy a John Deere riding lawn mower and to pay for new shingles on the 1888 Robert B. Anderson cabin—the first black-owned cabin in Nebraska. They proved what elbow grease can do—White estimates volunteers have contributed more than 20,000 hours to restoring, maintaining and operating the free-admission town.

“We’ve had visitors from all 50 states and 33 foreign countries,” she says proudly. “We

get 5,000 to 6,000 visitors a year. And they don’t look into buildings from behind ropes; they get a hands-on experience.”

Dobby’s Frontier Town—now 26 buildings—does not have electricity, nor a paid staff, so the only expense is maintenance. “We get a dollar, we spend a dollar,” White says, noting that the town exists because of goodwill donations. She hopes to get funds to hire a caretaker, but if not, the good people of Alliance have so far kept this dream alive.

Dobby’s Frontier Town is open from April to October, seven days a week. The fall festival is still held here, in September, speaking to the spirit of a frontier town that still lives today in this piece of Nebraska.



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

FOR A NEW LOOK AT THE OLD WEST

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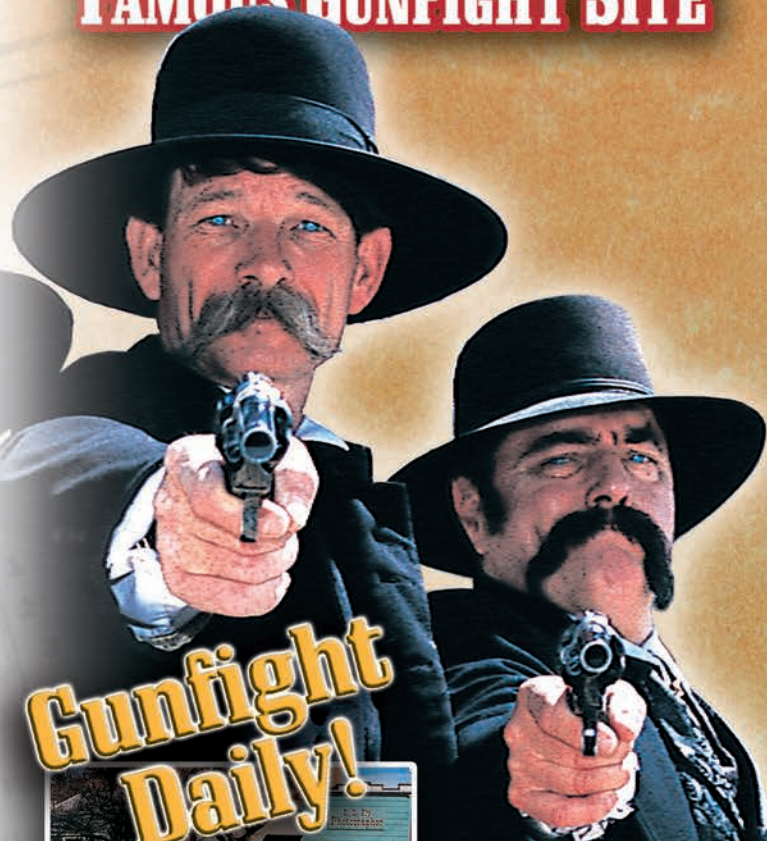
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Hired Gun's Last Weapon

Weapons and artifacts tied to Tom Horn and two different Wild Bunches among the notable lots sold.

On June 1, 1903, three men who knew Tom Horn rode together in the parade at Cheyenne Frontier Days in Wyoming. Horn had been found guilty of murdering 14-year-old Willie Nickell the previous October. The Winchester Model 1894 .30-30 rifle he carried at the time of his arrest hammered down as the top lot, for \$130,000, at High Noon's auction in Mesa, Arizona, on January 24, 2015.

Horn gave the rifle to Charles B. Irwin, one of the men in the parade, and the family has owned it all these years, until this auction. Another man riding with stock contractor Irwin was Buffalo Bill Cody, the showman behind the Wild West extravaganza that began in 1883. After Horn beat

Charlie Meadows in a steer-tying event in Phoenix, Arizona, on October 17, 1889, the news reached Cody, who was organizing a European tour for his show. He asked both Horn and Meadows to join him; Meadows joined Cody's show overseas, three years later, but Horn dismissed the idea entirely.

The stock contractor and the showman were joined in the parade by the cowboy president, Theodore Roosevelt. As chief packer during the 1898 war in Cuba, Horn rode up San Juan Hill with Roosevelt and his volunteer cavalry known as Teddy's Rough Riders. Despite contracting yellow fever and losing 40 pounds, Horn served admirably, earning high praise from Capt.

Marion Maus. Horn even supplied mules directly to Roosevelt, but the chief packer may have given himself more credit than he deserved; he claimed he gave the mule to Roosevelt before the defining battle at San Juan Hill. But since Roosevelt rode his horse in that battle, Horn likely gave the mule to him afterwards.

After the war, Horn recuperated at John C. Coble's Wyoming ranch near Iron Mountain. Until 1894, or perhaps earlier, he tracked outlaws for the Pinkerton National Detective Agency. He went back to his cattle friends to work as a range detective. Historians suspect Coble and partners hired Horn to kill sheepman Kels Nickell in July 1901, but Horn accidentally killed Kels's son, Willie, instead.

Oh, to be the horse who heard the conversation that day in the parade. Given that all three knew Horn, Irwin must have told his partners of Horn's death sentence. After all, he was doing everything he could to get the sentence commuted to life imprisonment. Roosevelt would have carried the most influence, of course, but perhaps he still had a bad taste in his mouth for the mule packers during that campaign, whom he had denounced as cowards after the war.

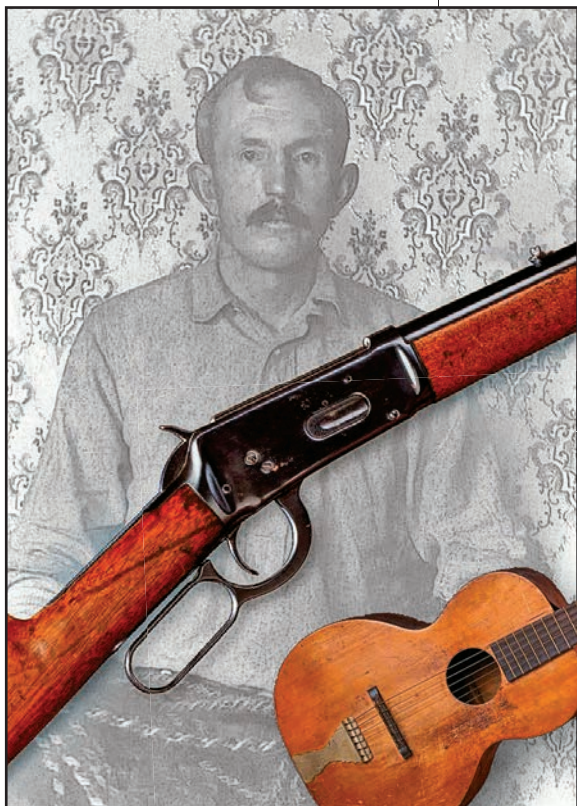
Irwin didn't succeed. On November 20, 1903, Horn walked a few feet from his Cheyenne jail to the gallows. Irwin and his brother sang "Life's Railway to Heaven" before the trap opened and Horn gasped his last breath.

The Wild Bunch Gang Horn chased and Buffalo Bill's own Wild Bunch are tied to notable lots featured here. Collectors earned more than \$1.5 million at the auction.

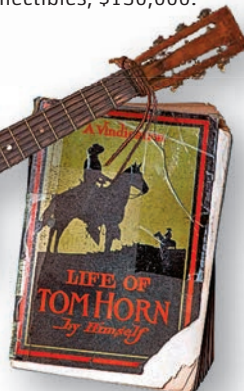


Notable Old West Collectible Lots Included

(All images courtesy High Noon)



Tom Horn's Winchester Model 1894 .30-30 rifle (left) sold along with Charlie Irwin's copy of Horn's published autobiography, which Horn wrote while he awaited his fate in the jail in Cheyenne, Wyoming (below right), as well as the guitar Irwin reportedly played at the hanging (below left), among other Irwin collectibles; \$130,000.





Cy Compton (bottom) joined Buffalo Bill Cody's show in 1894 as a bronc rider and rose up the ranks to become chief cowboy. He toured with Cody's "Wild Bunch" of cowboys until Cody's death in 1917 and then joined the Wild West contingent at Barnum & Bailey Circus. Along with Wild West show memorabilia, Compton's Pattern 1418 California spurs by August Buermann (below) bid in at \$9,500.

Friend Carey
 at the H wagon last year when I eat
 their was som buried treasures on your
 ranch that present no cash of the old
 Spanish Pandits But a plant of your own
 in deep corn and rye quice could be got
 for one dollor a quart you were foxy and
 buried what you couldnt swallow but not
 having the nose of the fox you couldnt
 locate the high beach this in these days
 of drowth there were times when it got
 on your nerves you told me you were
 going to organize a small band of trappers
 booze hounds and go prospecting I hope
 you raised the cash we got your notand
 with but whiskey to you and yours
 from me and mine your friend M. Russell

Harry Carey Sr. played Tom Horn in a 1916 silent film, and the famous actor counted cowboy artist Charles M. Russell among his friends. A February 25, 1921, letter written by Russell to Carey Sr. bid in at \$110,000. Russell jokes about prospecting for buried treasure on Carey Sr.'s ranch: booze. Prohibition went in effect in the U.S. the year before and would end in 1933. The photo above shows (first row, from left) Russell, Carey Sr. and his son, also named Harry, at his knee.



During his Pinkerton days, Tom Horn chased Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch. The root of the gang tracks to June 24, 1889, when Cassidy committed his first major crime; he, Matt Warner (shown) and Tom McCarty robbed the San Miguel Valley Bank in Telluride, Colorado. A circa 1878 Colt Single Action Army revolver (below) and a Marlin 1889 rifle (above) that Warner "put away for emergency after the Telluride bank robbery" hammered down for \$13,000. John Oscar Anderson, who claimed his friend Warner gave him the weapons in 1935, stated in an affidavit that "[Warner] said he did not like the long barreled Colt to carry."



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 Altermann.com • 480-945-0448

April 10, 2015

American Indian & Western Art
 Cowan's & Little John's (Cincinnati, OH)
 Cowans.com • 513-871-1670

April 11, 2015

American West Artworks
 Scottsdale Art Auction (Scottsdale, AZ)
 ScottsdaleArtAuction.com • 480-945-0225

April 24-26, 2015

Historic Firearms
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 RockIslandAuction.com • 800-238-8022

April 28, 2015

California & Western Art
 Bonhams (Los Angeles, CA)
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CARTRIDGE RIFLES



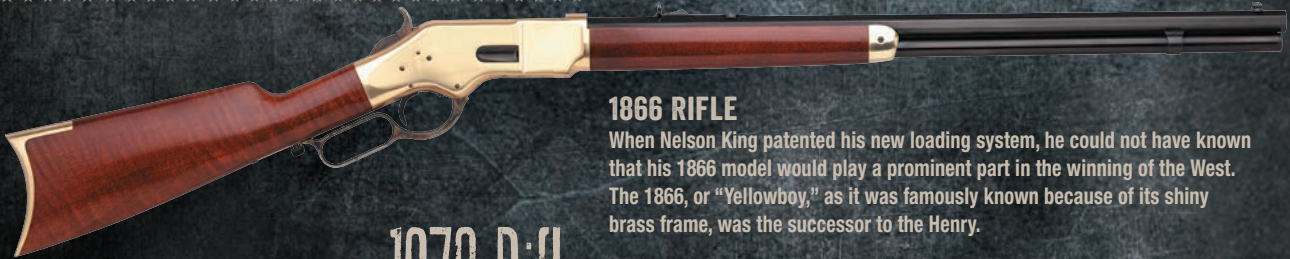
1860 Henry Lever Action



1860 HENRY

In October 1860, B.T. Henry was granted a patent for the design of a new gun, a repeating rifle that used metallic cartridges. With it, one man could load 15 cartridges in eight to ten seconds. It was such an important innovation that the gun was named after its inventor. All models feature a walnut stock with 13-round capacity (Henry Trapper holds 10 rounds).

1866 Lever Action



1866 RIFLE

When Nelson King patented his new loading system, he could not have known that his 1866 model would play a prominent part in the winning of the West. The 1866, or "Yellowboy," as it was famously known because of its shiny brass frame, was the successor to the Henry.

1873 Rifle



1873 RIFLE – CHECKERED STRAIGHT STOCK

This rifle is an ideal option for any shooter who enjoys the enhanced grip and look of a checkered rifle. A full octagonal barrel, case-hardened frame and checkered straight stock are featured on this 1873.

Taylor's '92



TAYLOR'S 1892 RIFLE

The 1892 Rifle was mechanically stronger and less costly to produce than the '73. A total of 1,004,675 of the 1892s, in both solid and takedown models, were manufactured from 1892 to 1941. Taylor's & Co. is proud to offer reproductions of these favorites.

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The Gun that Won the Western

How the 1892 Winchester made its way from the frontier to the silver screen.

During the “Golden Age” of film, which spanned the 1920s through the early 1960s, moviemakers often relied on the classic lines and smooth action of the 1892 Winchester to depict the archetypal saddle rifle of the Old West. Thanks to the likes of John Wayne and many other movie cowboys, this rifle has probably seen more use in Western and adventure films than any other rifle associated with the American frontier.

Moviemakers relied on the 1892 Winchester to depict the archetypal saddle rifle of the Old West.

In 1892, smokeless powder was beginning to change the face of the firearms world, yet the older blackpowder chamberings were still quite popular. Anticipating the changeover from blackpowder to smokeless powder, Winchester brought out a new and more modernized rifle for its popular .44-40, .38-40 and .32-20 cartridges—one that would readily accept blackpowder ammunition, but with the additional strength necessary to handle the greater pressures generated by the new smokeless propellants.

Taking the basic mechanism of Winchester’s larger John M. Browning-designed 1886 model, Winchester simplified and scaled down the component parts, which produced a reduction in the weight



The 1892 Winchester moved from the final days of the frontier into the legendary West, in the hands of movie icons such as Ben Johnson in 1969’s *The Wild Bunch* (at right). During the frontier era, the fellow at left, probably heading to the Yukon to strike it rich, armed himself with an 1892 Winchester and an 1878 Colt double-action revolver.

— YUKON PHOTO COURTESY HERB PECK JR. COLLECTION; JOHNSON PHOTO COURTESY WARNER BROS. —

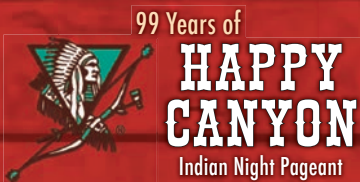
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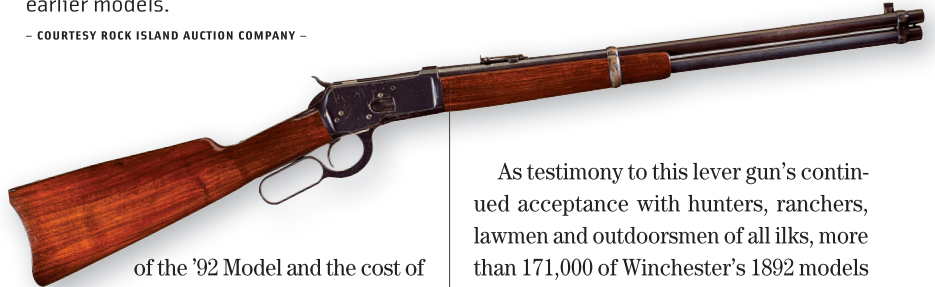


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Saddle ring 1892 carbines were fitted with 20-inch round barrels, although shorter Trapper's models with tubes of 12, 14, 15, 16 or 18 inches could be ordered. With the exception of special-order guns, carbines were generally fitted with steel butt plates of a modified shotgun style. The '92 butt plates were made without trapdoors as found on some of Winchester's earlier models.

- COURTESY ROCK ISLAND AUCTION COMPANY -



of the '92 Model and the cost of its manufacture. The strong dual locking bolts, the breech bolt, the extractors and the levering system of the big '86 were retained, giving the '92 the silky smooth action of its big-game predecessor. The new model combined an updated 1873 model with a scaled-down Model 1886.

The first 1892 Winchesters were finished in time for delivery to the company's warehouse in New Haven, Connecticut, by May 3, 1892, and the gun made its public debut in the July 1892 catalog. The short rearward travel of the '92's bolt relegated the model for use with the shorter, above-mentioned cartridges only. In August 1895, Winchester developed the short .25-20 chambering for the '92 and added it to the line. The company produced a few rifles in .218 Bee caliber on special order in 1935-1938, but never advertised them.

Due to the popularity of the older Winchester Center Fire chamberings, coupled with a hardy demand out West for a lightweight, rapid shooting, inexpensive rifle, this new Winchester, which initially sold for just \$18, was an immediate success. A full 23,701 examples were produced before its introductory year ended.

As testimony to this lever gun's continued acceptance with hunters, ranchers, lawmen and outdoorsmen of all ilks, more than 171,000 of Winchester's 1892 models were turned out in the few years before the end of the 19th century. Production of the '92 ended in 1941, with a total production of 1,004,067 guns. The '92 was Winchester's second gun to reach the million mark, in 1932 (the Model 1894 was the first, in 1927).

Reintroduced by Winchester back in the late 1990s, due to the demand by cowboy action and cowboy mounted shooters, the gun is back in production, along with a number of clones put out by other manufacturers.

A big part of the Winchester '92's ongoing appeal is undoubtedly the nostalgia and romance created by the likes of John Wayne, Chuck "The Rifleman" Connors, Ben Johnson, Jane Russell, Kirk Douglas and other action-adventure stars who, for decades, tamed the celluloid West while packing a Model 1892 Winchester. The rifle made a transition from the frontier to the big screen for several reasons. In the early days of the motion picture business, many of these rifles were around at cheap prices. Studios also found the '92 handy because the rifle, chambered in the same calibers (.38-40 and .44-40) as Colt



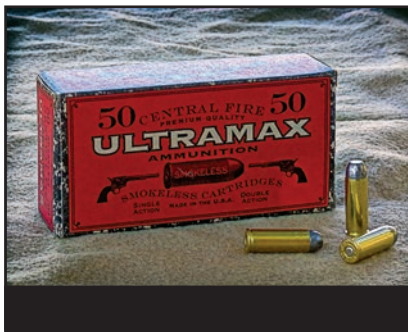
Designed as a modern smokeless powder successor to Winchester's Model 1873, the 1892 Model was the second Winchester to reach the one million mark, in 1932. Standard finish on the '92 was blued steel parts, but color case hardening was available for certain parts, as this 24-inch octagonal barreled rifle reveals on its hammer, lever and butt plate. Stocks were normally of straight-grained, oiled walnut and a varnished finish was extra.

- COURTESY ROCK ISLAND AUCTION COMPANY -

and other six-guns of the time, was capable of using the same "five-in-one" blanks as these revolvers. Best of all, the '92 Winchester had the classic look of a frontier-era lever-action rifle.

From the frontier West to the reel West, the 1892 Winchester has earned a permanent place in firearms and Western lore. ❏

Phil Spangenberg 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.



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THE WEST'S FORGOTTEN SCOUT

The true story of the hero of Beecher Island, "Comanche Jack" Stilwell.

"Comanche Jack" Stilwell is a name little remembered today, but an 1868 battle made him well known in his lifetime. The Beecher Island affair was so prominently reported throughout the country that Jack became famous before Buffalo Bill Cody achieved a large degree of attention—Cody wouldn't receive the Medal of Honor until 1872. Wild Bill Hickok's career was still young at the time; only the year before, 1867, *Harper's* gave him international recognition. Stilwell was better known in his own time, but he never reached the heights of Cody, Hickok or any dozen other Old West characters who have retained their fame into the 21st century.

In the annals of the American West are accounts of innumerable battles between settlers and American Indians. For many students of the Indian Wars, three battles stand out above the rest: Little Big Horn, Washita and Beecher Island. Though the Beecher Island affair does not today have the acclaim of the other two, it stands as one of the most significant displays of frontier courage in military history.

America's Original "Rough Riders"

The name "S.E. Stilwell" first appeared on the Quartermaster's Records at Fort Dodge in Kansas in March 1867, when Jack was 16, almost 17, years old. He entered service as a "laborer," but by June, he was listed as a scout under Maj. Henry Douglass's command.

Frontier scouts, like interpreters, guides and packers, had long been a staple in the military. They were non-soldier employees who the Army usually hired month by month. When Gen. Philip Sheridan authorized Maj. George A. "Sandy" Forsyth to try a new scouting tactic, raising a company of 50 "first class handy frontiersmen to be used as Scouts against the hostile Indians," 18-year-old Jack readily signed up, on August 24, 1868.

These scouts, America's original "Rough Riders," were first known as the "Solomon Avengers" and soon as "Forsyth's

Scouts," in honor of their commander. Of the 50 total scouts, 30 were enrolled at Fort Harker and 20 more at Fort Hays.

Within five days of their enrollment, the column left Fort Hays for a scout in the area of the Solomon River where Indian depredations had resulted in the deaths of several settlers. Finding no Indians, the scouts rode farther west to Fort Wallace, arriving there on September 5.

The Beecher Island affair stands as one of the most significant displays of frontier courage in military history.

During five days rest, the scouts organized needed supplies. On September 10, they were all set to rescue some settlers between Bison Basin and Hardingens Lake when word came of an Indian attack in Sheridan, Kansas. From Sheridan, Forsyth's scouts followed the trail northwest for five days, a trail which led up the Arikaree Fork of the Republican River and into Colorado. On September 17, they began the Battle of Beecher Island some 17 miles south of the present-day community of Wray in Yuma County.

Jack's own account of his role in this affair has been rarely told with any detail of his personal exploits. While he occasionally shared his story with friends, he gave few formal interviews. On August

29, 1895, he responded to a letter from Franklin G. Adams of Topeka, Kansas, in which Adams had asked for Jack's story of the "Arikaree Fight." Jack stated that he was not in the habit of writing about himself and that most of the articles about Forsyth's scouts he had read needed to have about a thousand I's removed.

When Jack told the story of the battle, he did not glorify his part, as was often done by old-timers; rather, he shared a simple, straightforward retelling of the events from his perspective.

The following is a combination of basic information condensed from Jack's few extant interviews with newspapermen and writers, like Frederic Remington, who called Jack, "My hero."

Jack Stilwell (at right) stands with James N. Jones, a fellow scout at Fort Sill in Indian Territory around 1874. The region was engrossed in the Red River War that would see Quanah Parker and his Comanche followers surrender at Fort Sill the following summer.

- COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION -





Frederic Remington painted the above watercolor, *Battle of Beecher Island, 1868*, circa 1885. The artist consulted Col. James Forsyth about the details of the battle.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

Jack Stilwell's Account

"Along about the middle of September, 1868, Colonel 'Sandy' Forsyth was ordered by General Sheridan to hire frontiersmen and start out to overhaul a war party of Brule and Ogallala [*sic*] Sioux and Dog Soldier Cheyennes which had been raiding the country..."

"It was not long after leaving Fort Wallace with our supplies that we struck the trail of the marauders. From the tracks Indians left behind them we judged that there were about 3,000 tepees in the outfit. It was evident that the Indians were making slow progress, owing to their great number and camp truck. We were thus enabled to cover as much ground in one day as they were in two.

"On the night of the 16th we camped on a flat and narrow sandbar. Early the next morning we were attacked by the Indians, who attempted to run off our stock. While we were saddling our horses a large party began a more vigorous fight upon us. The sun was just rising when it was decided that we should move upon a sandbar, which was an island in wet weather..."

"We quickly took possession of the upper end of the island, while the Indians swooped down upon the lower end. The fight was now on.

"Colonel Forsyth detailed myself and five other men to go bushwhacking and capture, if possible, the position held by the Indians. This we accomplished, but the Indians had by this time stationed their sharpshooters in the hollows nearby and



Taken three years before the Battle of Beecher Island, this Civil War photograph shows Gens. Wesley Merritt, Philip Sheridan, George Crook, James William Forsyth and George Custer.

- COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS -

prevented us from returning to the main body. The fight had lasted an hour and a half when we received the relief that we had sent for....

“At 10 o'clock old Roman Nose, chief of the Dog Soldiers and the most celebrated Indian fighter of that day, assumed command.... The Indians bore down on our center, and, breaking it, dashed almost half way to the main party of our men when a bullet [said by fellow scout Amos Chapman to have been from Jack's rifle] struck Roman Nose behind and pierced his abdomen...he soon fainted and was borne off the field by his soldiers. A young warrior... relative of Dull Knife now assumed command... [but] he, too, fell dead with a bullet in his head. From that moment the Indians didn't recognize any commander, but kept up the fight in a haphazard way until after 5 o'clock when they received reinforcements and a new man in command.... At sundown the Indians drew off their horsemen, but left their sharpshooters.

“I then joined the main party and for the first time learned the effect of the fire of the Indians. Colonel Forsyth had both legs broken, Lieutenant [Frederick] Beecher had a broken back and three bullets in his body, and Dr. [John] Mooers had been fatally shot in the head...more than one half our force were either dead or wounded.

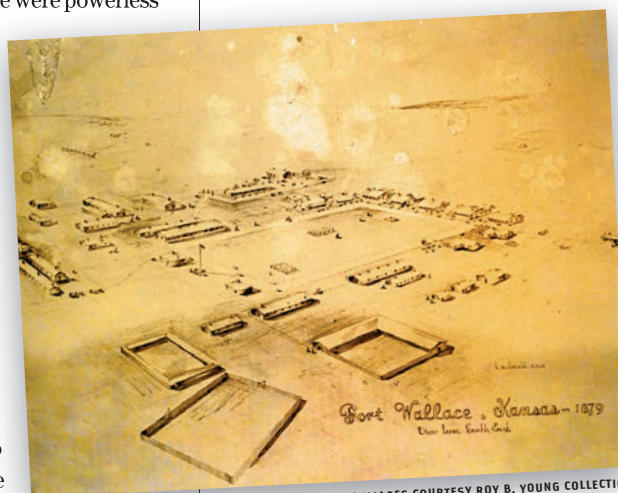
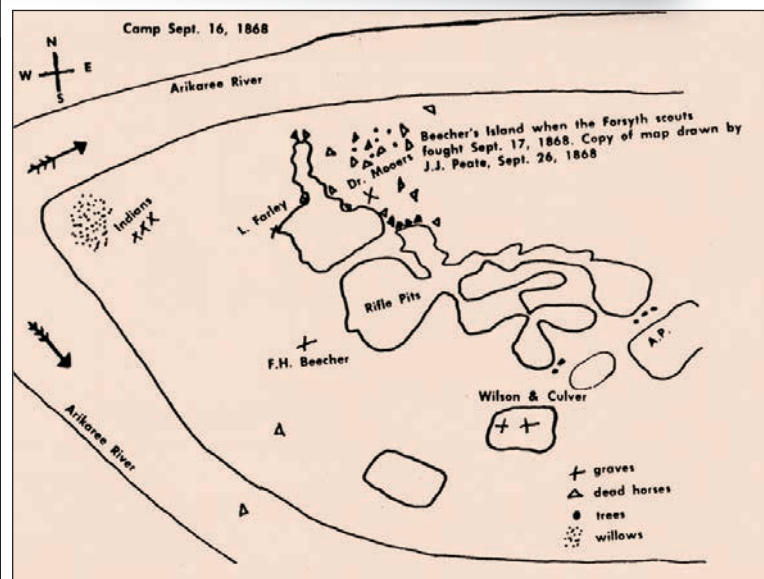
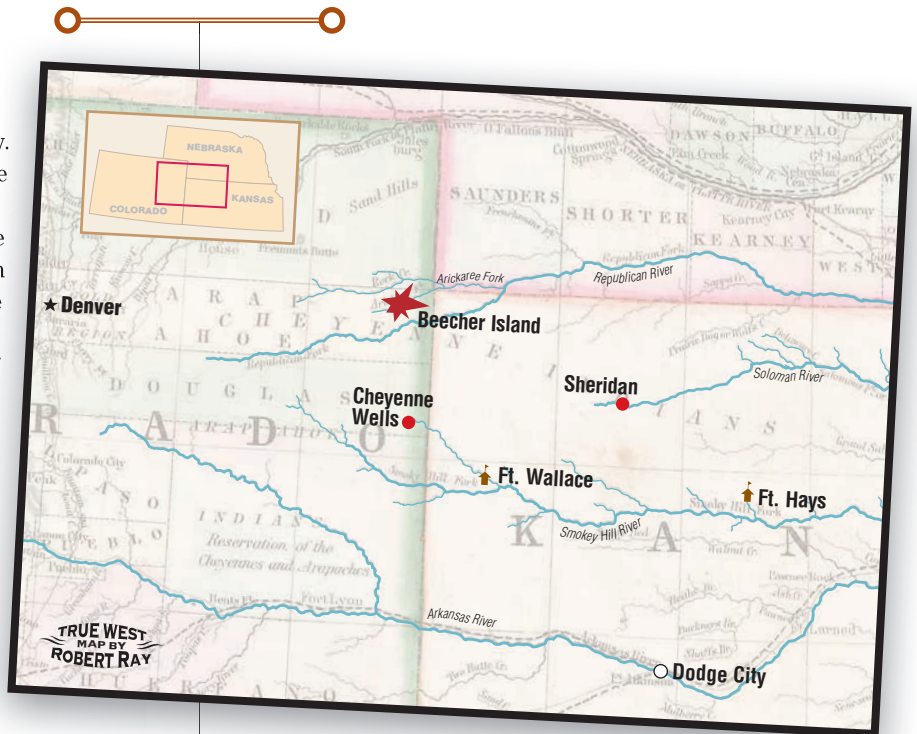
“It was nearly midnight when Col. Forsyth ordered old Pete [Trudeau] and myself to make a forced march to Fort Wallace, which was 120 miles away.... Wrapping blankets about ourselves, we crawled out among the Indians....

“Each of us had cut off a chunk of raw horse meat on the way and then with moccasins, made from the tops of our boots and with the rather stinking saddle blankets wrapped around us we made, we thought, fairly representative Indians....

“We succeeded in making three miles the first night. Then we hid ourselves in a washout in a ravine where the grass had grown so tall that it hung over the ledges. Here we lay all the next day listening to the fighting on the island, and yet we were powerless to get the relief we were after or return to our party. We had made up our minds, if we were hailed in Cheyenne, to answer in Sioux, and if hailed in Sioux, to answer in Cheyenne, so that either would be likely to let us pass.

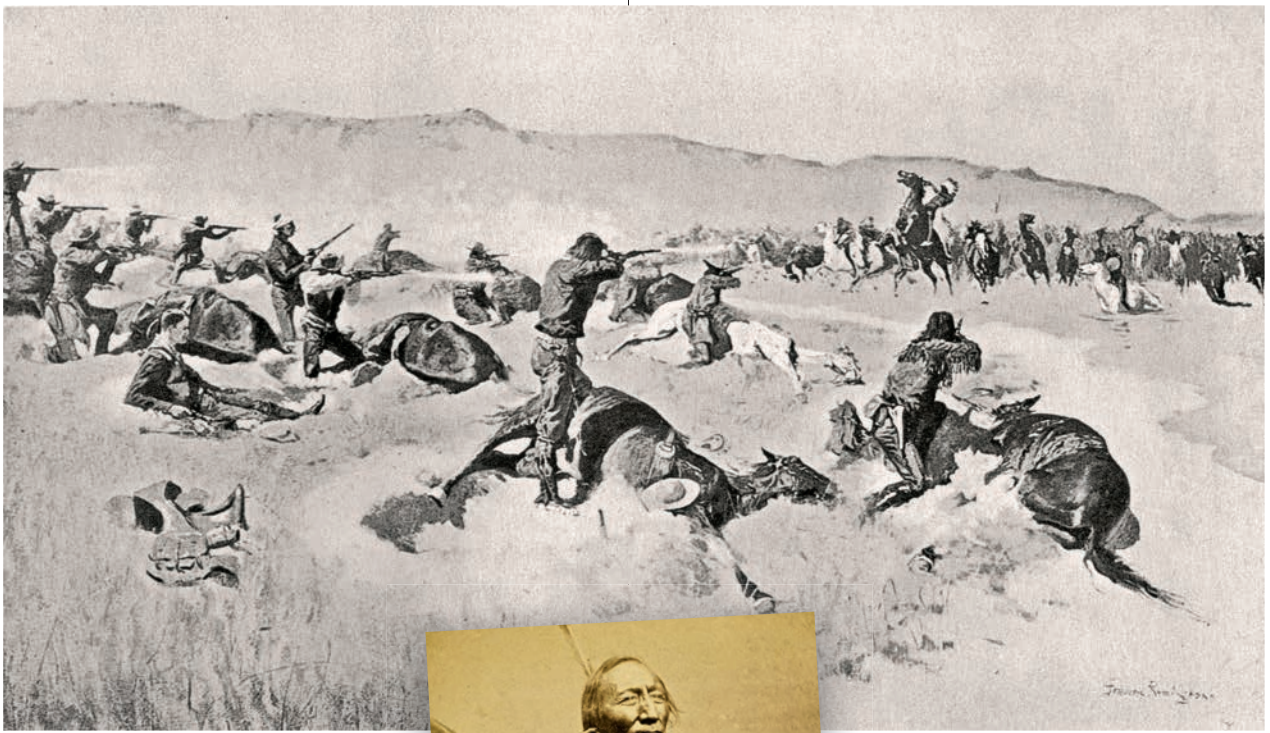
“That night we made more track toward Fort Wallace only to find ourselves within half a mile of the main village of the Indians on the south fork of the Republican. We got into a swampy place and hid during the day....

“The next morning we found ourselves at the head of Goose Creek on a high, rolling prairie. The Indians were so thick all around that we had to hide in the carcasses of two buffaloes.... There was just enough hide on the



J.J. Peate, a member of Lt. Col. Louis Carpenter's relief expedition, drew the center map of Beecher Island a few days after the troops rescued Forsyth's scouts. At left is an 1879 sketch of Fort Wallace, drawn 11 years after Forsyth and his men left the fort to fight the Indians. At the top is a locator map of Beecher Island.

- ALL IMAGES COURTESY ROY B. YOUNG COLLECTION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED -



Frederic Remington drew the above sketch of *The Charge of Roman Nose* in 1897. The artist destroyed the original of the second painting in 1908. At left is a photo of Roman Nose, the Cheyenne chief who Jack Stilwell was credited with killing during battle on September 17, 1868.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

bones to conceal us.... When night came we pulled out and reached Fort Wallace.

“As soon as we told our story, General Sheridan ordered all available troops to the scene of the fight. Meantime, however, two couriers [Allison Pliley and John Donovan] had reported the fight to [Lt.] Colonel [Louis] Carpenter’s command, and that good old soldier...struck right out and reached the battlefield forty-eight hours before the troops from the fort got there.

“That fight was fought on the Arickaree [*sic*] fork of the Republican. I don’t know how to spell that word and I never saw a man who did. But that’s the story [John] Burke wanted me to tell you.”

Forsyth’s Heroes

Jack’s published accounts of this great rescue effort never included the famous story of his spitting in the eyes of a rattlesnake, though he did mention hiding in the carcasses of two buffaloes. The “legend” goes that while Jack and Trudeau were hiding, a rattlesnake took up his abode in the same carcass Jack had climbed in. With Indians nearby who would have heard his cry if bitten, Jack spit tobacco juice in the snake’s eyes. The snake slithered off. As the saying goes, “If it’s not true, it ought to be.”

Colonel Forsyth explained why he had selected Jack and “Avalanche” Trudeau to make the first attempt at going for help: “I had volunteers in plenty to go to Fort Wallace, and of these I selected two—Pierre Trudeau [*sic*], an old and experienced trapper, and a young fellow named Jack Stillwell [*sic*].... Two better men for the purpose it would have been difficult

to find. I gave Stillwell [*sic*], as he was by far the more intelligent and better educated man of the two, my only map....”

Jack and Trudeau reached the stage road station in Cheyenne Wells, Colorado, about sundown and waited until the stage from Denver came through on its way to Fort Wallace, arriving there on the evening of September 22. Colonel Henry Bankhead wired Jack’s report to Gen. Sheridan.

Although exhausted, Jack insisted on joining Bankhead’s command to witness the rescue. His feet were bruised, sore, dreadfully swollen and stung full of cactus needles and thistles. He bound them up with strips off his blanket and then got in an “ambulance” that transported him from Fort Wallace to the island, a two days journey. Upon arriving, he forgot his condition and rushed to meet his comrades, his eyes filled with tears of joy at seeing those yet alive. Scout John Hurst later described the teenaged Jack during this event as “one of the bravest, nerviest and coolest men in the command.”



When George A. Forsyth, shown here between 1861 and 1865, found himself severely wounded, he gave his only map to Jack Stilwell, who volunteered with Pierre Trudeau to fight through Indian lines to get to Fort Wallace for relief.

The Life of a Courageous Adventurer

Jack had signed on with Forsyth’s Scouts at a pay rate of \$75 per month, based on his furnishing his own horse and tack. He received a bonus of \$150 for his bravery in the Beecher Island battle.



Inscribed "S.E. Stilwell,"
for Simpson Everett "Jack"
Stilwell, and "Ft. Sill I.T.,"
this Remington New Model

Army Conversion was carried by Stilwell when he served as a guide for Lt. Col. George Custer's expedition at Fort Sill in Indian Territory, as inscribed on the gun.

- COURTESY CORDIER AUCTIONS, DECEMBER 2, 2012 -



After several weeks of recovery at Fort Wallace, 17 of the Forsyth Scouts, including Jack, went to Fort Hays. There, on October 20, they were placed on Capt. Amos S. Kimball's roll. William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody recorded in his biography that Fort Hays was where he met and spent a few days with the "survivors of this terrible fight."

On October 31, Bvt. Lt. Col. J. Schuyler Crosby directed Capt. Kimball to "pay S.E. Stillwell [*sic*], Scout and Guide now on your rolls, up to and after Nov. 1st, 1868 at the rate of \$100 per month from his last payment as one of Forsyth's Scouts—transferred."

The pay rate of \$100 per month was exceptional, and Jack was one of only three scouts to receive such a fee. Cody, who served under the same command, was receiving only \$75 per month.

From their first meeting at Fort Hays, Cody and Jack developed a lifelong friendship. In Jack's later years, he worked for Cody as a ranch foreman and on behalf of Cody in his fight for water rights in the Bighorn Basin of Wyoming.

Most of the 17 Forsyth scouts transferred to Capt. Kimball, including Jack, were reorganized under the command of Lt. Silas Pepon. Jack and "Pepon's Scouts" were associated with George Armstrong Custer in the winter campaign of 1868 against the Southern Cheyenne, Arapaho, Kiowa and Comanche tribes including the Battle of Washita River.

In April 1875, Jack and one other man made a trip into the Staked Plains and induced the Quahada Comanches, under the leadership of Mow-way and Quannah Parker, to surrender. Jack scouted for Custer, Sheridan, Benjamin F. Grierson, Ranald S. Mackenzie, John "Black Jack" Davidson, George A. Armes and numerous other frontier military leaders, many of whom wrote glowing testimonials on his behalf in 1896, when he applied for a military pension.


Jack continued his service to the frontier army into the early 1880s, primarily at Fort Sill in the Indian Territory. During much of his time in the 1870s-80s, he also served as a deputy U.S. marshal, and his exploits in chasing and corralling outlaws are legion.

Jack Stilwell is shown in his prime, above left, as a scout. The 1893 photo of Jack, above right, was taken when he was elected police judge of El Reno, Oklahoma. He likely earned his nickname "Comanche Jack" as early as 1877, while serving as court interpreter, in all cases dealing with Comanches, for Judge Isaac Parker at the Western District of Arkansas that oversaw the Indian Territory.

In 1877, he went with his younger brother, Frank, W.H.H. McCall and others to Fort Whipple in Arizona. There, he served as a packer until he grew dissatisfied with that country, whereupon he went to Fort Stockton and Fort Davis in Texas. In 1882, when Frank was killed in Tucson, Arizona, by Wyatt Earp's Vendetta Posse, Jack went to Tombstone and Cochise County to avenge his brother's murder. After several weeks of unsuccessfully hunting the Earps with Pete Spence, John Ringo and other Arizona cowboys, Jack gave up the search and returned to Oklahoma.

In the 1890s, Jack served as police judge of El Reno, Oklahoma, for two terms and as U.S. commissioner in Anadarko for three years. In 1898, at Cody's invitation, Jack and his bride, Esther, moved to Cody, Wyoming, where he received another appointment as a U.S. commissioner.

Jack died of pneumonia in Cody in 1903, his health broken and his body much crippled with rheumatism from his many years in the saddle on the frontier. His body now rests at Cody's Old Trail Town under an imposing, yet fitting, memorial.

The West has known few men of the caliber of "Comanche Jack" Stilwell. While his deeds of daring were often recorded in frontier newspapers and turn-of-the-20th-century books, he was never a self-promoter. He never appeared in a Wild West show, and he didn't participate on the lecture circuit. So it is time that "long may his story be told" put Jack into the prominence he deserves. 

Roy B. Young has been trailing Jack Stilwell for many years. His mother was a Stilwell; they all descend from a common ancestor, Nicholas Stillwell, of New York. Some branches of the family use the spelling Stilwell (like Jack did) and some use Stillwell.

BY MIKE COX

THE GREAT TEXAS TREASURY

REBEL BANDITS STEAL MILLIONS DURING THE POST-CIVIL WAR HAVOC.

When the bell atop Austin's First Baptist Church began clanging that moonlit Sunday evening of June 11, 1865, the town's civilian home guardsmen knew it signified trouble, not a call to worship.

With hundreds of battle-hardened ex-Confederate soldiers swarming the town of 4,000, none of the volunteers were surprised that a need for their services had arisen. But the nature of the emergency would rock the war-weary state.

Once the Civil War effectively ended with Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender on April 9, Texas rapidly descended into near anarchy. One Confederate general refused to lay down his arms: Joseph "Jo" Orville Shelby. Hoping the South might rise again, Shelby and the 400-plus soldiers of his "Iron Brigade" of Missourians marched toward Austin enroute to Mexico.

Most Texas officials, unsure if they would be hanged as traitors or merely told to go and sin no more, preferred not to find out and vacated their offices. Only the lieutenant governor (now acting governor) and two financial officials, Comptroller Willis L. Robards and Treasurer Cyrus H. Randolph, opted to stay.



"...Confederate soldiers, without officers or order, are coming in every hour, and there is nothing but plunder and sack going on—and the citizens are as bad as the soldiers," Amelia Barr wrote in her diary on May 25. Eight days later, she noted, "Everything in confusion...and there is no law."

But newly discharged Confederate Cavalry Capt. George Freeman had taken it upon himself to organize a 30-man home guard to help preserve the rule of law in the capital city.

Shortly before nine, on the night of June 11, Nathan Shelley, a former state attorney general before joining the Confederacy, received word that some 40 armed men had broken into the unguarded state treasury.

Shelley told Freeman something was afoot. Easing through the shadows toward the Capitol, the two heard metal striking metal from the treasury. Freeman ran to spread the alarm.

Confederate veteran Fred Sterzing heard hurried footsteps followed by someone knocking on the door and yelling that the treasury was being looted. He raced to the Dieterich Building, where the armory occupied the second floor.

Nineteen volunteers removed rifles from their stacks, fixed bayonets and gathered in formation in front of the building. Freeman led the company to the Baptist church across from the Capitol. At his command, the guardsmen charged toward the three-story limestone state house. Lookouts posted by the bandits fired at them, but no one got hit.

Freeman's men entered the Capitol without encountering further resistance. They sprinted to the adjacent treasury. The bandits inside the treasury bailed out the north door, clutching their hats, shirts and tied-off trousers filled with coins.

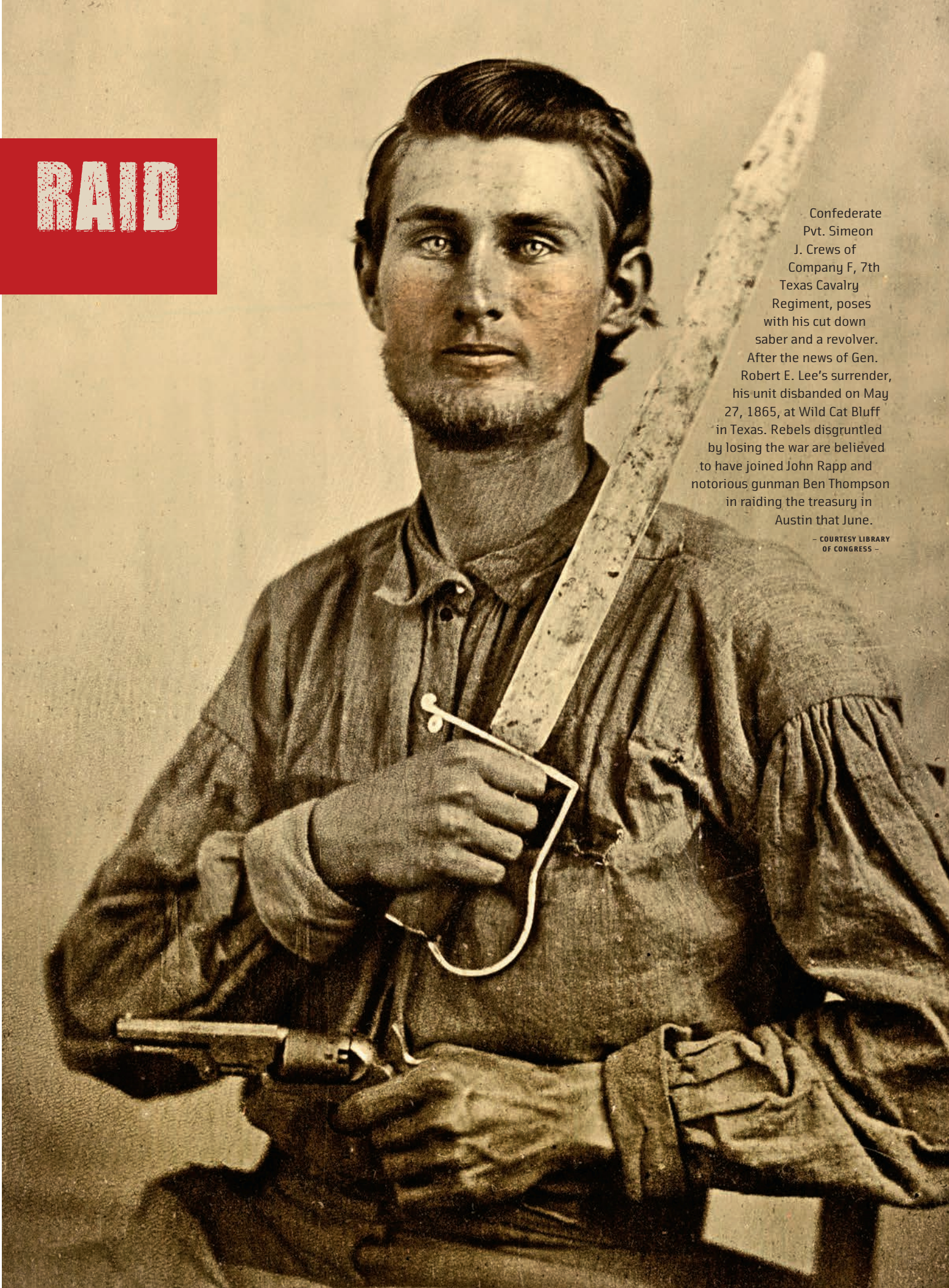
Johanna Domschke, who lived across the street from the treasury, heard the



Ben Thompson (above left), an Englander who moved to the Austin, Texas, area at age eight, fought for the Confederacy and rode with the 2nd Texas Cavalry. In 1865, the same year he may have helped pull off the treasury raid in Austin (treasury is behind Capitol in above sketch), Thompson was arrested for killing a teamster in Austin. He escaped from jail to Mexico where he fought for Emperor Maximilian. After the fall of the empire in 1867, Thompson returned to Texas. Despite a stint in prison and other killings on his hands, the deadly gunman turned lawman in 1880 when citizens elected him city marshal of Austin.

— THOMPSON PHOTO COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION; CAPITOL PHOTO COURTESY MIKE COX —

RAID



Confederate
Pvt. Simeon
J. Crews of
Company F, 7th
Texas Cavalry
Regiment, poses
with his cut down
saber and a revolver.
After the news of Gen.
Robert E. Lee's surrender,
his unit disbanded on May
27, 1865, at Wild Cat Bluff
in Texas. Rebels disgruntled
by losing the war are believed
to have joined John Rapp and
notorious gunman Ben Thompson
in raiding the treasury in
Austin that June.

— COURTESY LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS —

"Don't shoot... I am mortally wounded."

sharp reports of rifles and pistols. As she watched, wind raised her apron and a stray bullet punched a hole in the garment, barely missing her. Despite the danger, she stayed outside and observed the bandits as they fled on horseback.

His men dismounted and outnumbered, Freeman decided not to give chase. He focused on the one intruder who remained inside. Freeman and three men headed for the second floor. He and his brother took one set of stairs; Sterzing and Al Musgrove, the other. The rest of the volunteers surrounded the building.

When the guardsmen reached the top of the stairs, the man fired at them. Musgrove recalled that the bandit "came...into the hallway. In one hand was his hat filled with silver and his six-shooter in the other..."

Musgrove and Sterzing fired back, and one of the bullets hit the robber in the stomach. The man retreated into the vault room. Musgrove stuck his pistol through the door to fire again, but before he could pull the trigger, the man cried, "Don't shoot...I am mortally wounded."

Still covering the man, Musgrove watched as he "came out bent almost double and fell to the floor," whiskey oozing from his wound.

Inside the vault room, scattered coins, negotiable bonds and worthless Confederate States of America cash covered the floor. The robbers had used pickaxes to punch holes in the backs of two large safes to get to the money.

Freeman's men carried the wounded bandit to the former Swisher Hotel, the

San Marcos. Musgrove recognized the man as a drunk he had seen in town a few hours earlier. "As he passed me he said, 'It's about time for the boys to meet, isn't it?'" Musgrove recalled, but he had paid no attention to the remark at the time.

Freeman's company guarded the treasury that night. Shortly after daylight, Freeman led a posse in pursuit of the bandits. The raiders had split into two parties to make following them harder. One trail led northwest, and another ran north. Riding each, all the volunteers found were a few dropped coins.

Alex Campbell, the gut-shot robber, died hard. While refusing to name his colleagues, to his last breath, he profanely upbraided his fellow bandits as cowards.

One night, shortly after the raid, someone broke into Sterzing's room. Awakening to see a man standing over him with a knife, he struggled with the intruder, who escaped. Sterzing snapped off a shot, but missed. The same night, someone found

Comptroller Robards bound and gagged. The city feared another attack on the treasury, but nothing more happened.

Austin not only lacked sufficient law enforcement to keep the peace, it also had no newspaper to report the crime. *The Galveston News* later ran an item that noted, "It is the universal belief of the citizens that the robbers...had been waiting to lay blame on Shelby's men when they arrived there."

Freeman wrote to Maj. F.W. Emory in Galveston, telling him that the troops had saved about \$30,000 in specie and U.S. coupons, and hundreds of thousands of dollars in liabilities to the state. "This service was voluntary and without expectations of reward," he declared.

A final audit showed the treasury held \$1.753 million in railroad bonds, \$475,000 in U.S. Treasury bonds, \$384,000 in valueless Confederate notes, \$90,000 in Comptroller's certificates, \$25,000 in state warrants and \$27,525 in specie. A reported



Shown four years after his surrender to the Union, Robert E. Lee sits with Confederate officers at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. (From left standing) James Conner, Martin Witherspoon Gary, John B. Magruder, Robert D. Lilley, P.G.T. Beauregard, Alexander Lawton, Henry A. Wise and Joseph Lancaster Brent. (From left seated) Blacque Bey (Turkish minister to the United States), Robert E. Lee, philanthropist George Peabody, philanthropist William Wilson Corcoran and politician James Lyons.

— COURTESY HERITAGE AUCTIONS, FEBRUARY 21, 2006 —

\$17,000 in coin had been taken, which, based on growth in financial asset to today, would equal \$3.18 million.

Until federal troops reached Austin in mid-summer, Freeman's men continued to guard what remained of the state's public funds. They also tried to identify the bandits, but no arrests were made.

Some thought it suspicious that Gov. Pendleton Murrah left town with Gen. Shelby soon after the raid, but he probably fled because he feared federal prosecution.

Shelby vigorously denied that he or his men had participated in the break-in. He threatened to torch the town if residents persisted in spreading that rumor.

Some suggested Shelby's men pulled off the robbery on their own. Treasury defender Joe Owens insisted years later that "such was not the case." He said Shelby's command had not even reached Austin until the day after the robbery.



Confederate Cavalry Maj. Gen. Joseph "Jo" Orville Shelby (left) refused to surrender. He led his "undefeated rebels" into Mexico, where they joined other ex-Confederates in a new colony, Carlota. Before they made their way into Mexico, though, Shelby and his men were accused of stealing treasury warrants (see example below) and other financial notes and coins from the treasury behind the Capitol in Austin, Texas.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

been wounded and captured in the war, he may have felt such a strong sense of entitlement that he and his comrades helped themselves to some hard currency.

But in two years, Rapp's name surfaced in print as a likely suspect. The revelation didn't become well known until 1897, when Shelby's death prompted some newspapers to publish excerpts from a sensational and largely inaccurate account of the general's career, written in 1867 by his adjutant, John N. Edwards. Edwards

No one outright said Rapp was the ringleader. But one of Freeman's men reported that a raider had called out to Rapp by name during the melee following the discovery that the treasury was being robbed. The woman who nearly got shot during the raid said she recognized Rapp among the bandits.

Another person who may have been involved in the robbery became one of the Old West's most noted characters—gambler, gunman and gadabout Ben Thompson. Near the end of the Civil War, Thompson had recruited a company of men to protect the Texas settlements from hostile Indians. Rapp became captain, and Thompson became his lieutenant.

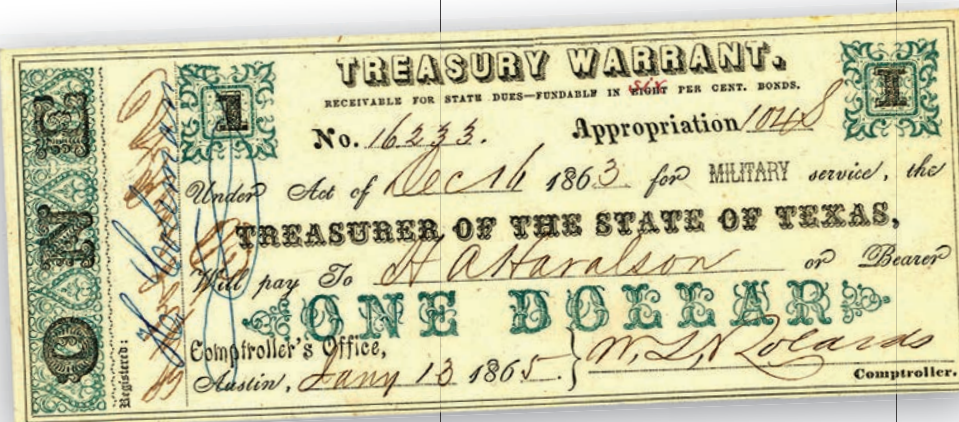
Thompson disappeared from Austin immediately after the raid. Returning in July, he soon got arrested for another offense, but escaped and fled to Mexico.

Further bolstering the belief that the two had participated and even led the treasury robbery, Alex Campbell, the raider killed

in the robbery, had been a member of the Rapp-Thompson company.

As for the 19 heroes, in 1909, the Texas House adopted a resolution extending thanks to the defenders of the state treasury that summer night 43 years earlier. One hundred fifty years after the robbery, the State of Texas is still short \$17,000, nearly \$3.2 million today.

Mike Cox is the author of 23 nonfiction books, including a two-volume history of the Texas Rangers. An elected member of the Texas Institute of Letters since 1993, he writes a syndicated news column called "Texas Tales."



Texas's oldest cold case remains unsolved on the books, but circumstantial evidence points to John Rapp—a rebel soldier originally from Missouri who had been living in Austin—as the mastermind of the raid.

In 1861, Rapp had joined the Confederate Army, with the 5th Regiment of Texas Mounted Volunteers, and taken part in two bloody battles in New Mexico before returning to Texas in the summer of 1862. Rapp's final discharge came in May 1865, just days prior to the treasury raid. Having

claimed Shelby's men, not Freeman's volunteers, had mitigated the treasury raid. That falsehood riled Freeman and others who had risked their lives that night. Freeman wrote the Galveston newspaper to blast Edwards, and so did Owens.

Owens indirectly suggested the raid had been led by Rapp, who Edwards had mentioned in his book: "...some thirty or forty Texans from the neighborhood of the town—led by a notorious Captain Rabb [*sic*—made a furious sledge-hammer and cold-chisel onslaught upon five large iron safes in the treasury house there..."

VALIANT SURGEONS

BY JOHN LANGELLIER

The diverse and oftentimes brave men who left behind a rich legacy in frontier Arizona.

“There was one class of officers who were entitled to all the praise they received and much more besides, and that class was the surgeons, who never flagged in their attentions to sick and wounded, whether soldier or officer, American, Mexican, or Apache captive, by night or by day,” wrote John Bourke, in *On the Border with Crook*.

For the frontier soldier serving in the Southwest, a point often came when luck ran out and an arrow or a lead slug felled him, or a mosquito sting brought him low with malaria. Likewise, other diseases, acquired innocently at times, or as a result of sprees on Whiskey Row or in the cribs at hog ranches, lurked. Fortunately, these casualties of human and macrobiotic enemies had an ally—military doctors.

In fact, the arrival of the U.S. Army into the territory we know today as Arizona brought some of the first medical men to the region. As early as the Mexican-American War that waged from 1846 to 1848, physicians accompanied Stephen Watts Kearny’s Army of the West, and the Mormon Battalion that followed, on marches to conquer California.

More than a dozen years later, Arizona became a territory. A call went out for contract surgeons—men of medicine hired to undertake all garrison and field duties. In exchange, they held the rank of acting assistant surgeon (equivalent to acting first lieutenant), but they were not authorized to wear the uniform. They received a base pay of \$1,600 a year, not a princely sum considering a successful sales clerk in New York City might earn \$1,200 a year.

Candidates arriving from the East were somehow willing to practice in what must have seemed like a sweltering Siberia.

Their number included Dr. Charles Leib, who dabbled in politics in Prescott, then the territorial capital. He also penned a colorful memoir of his American Civil War activities, with the provocative, timeless title, *The Chances for Making a Million*.

Medical Corps assistant surgeons received the same salary as their contract colleagues, but the amount rose according to the length of military service. Both classes drew the same benefits. Army regulations authorized the lowest ranking medicos a billet with a multipurpose living space of approximately 15 feet by 15 feet and a kitchen. Captains were provided with larger spaces, such as two rooms and a kitchen, and so on, as one moved up the military ladder. No provision was made for the number of members in the household. Consequently, rank had its privilege.

Whether on contract or as members of the regular Army, the scores of military doctors assigned to Arizona Territory, from the 1860s through statehood in 1912, ran the gamut. These men ranged from Civil War veterans, who came West in hopes of striking it rich, to young medical school graduates, who saw the Army as a means to further their budding careers.

Medical care stretched beyond a doctor’s garrison. As Fort Bowie’s post surgeon Charles Smart noted in his 1870 report, emigrants from Texas to California frequently called “upon the post medical officer for assistance and supplies for their sick and wounded.”

Some performed admirably outside their roles as healers. For instance, doctors recorded the weather until the Signal Corps assumed the mission after the Civil War concluded. A number of doctors turned their inquisitive scientific minds

toward studying geology, flora, fauna, customs of the local peoples or antiquities discovered in their new surroundings.

Several doctors received the Medal of Honor for valor under fire or for putting aside their duties as a doctor to serve in combat. These men faced the privations of campaigning during violent conflicts against Apaches and others that raged for decades. At least one doctor was a combat casualty himself; in 1871, Apaches wounded Dr. A.F. Steyer, resulting in the amputation of his arm.

Other doctors were not so valiant in their medical duties and were relieved for incompetence. One even went to prison for bigamy.

Regardless of the dangers of field service or the monotony of mundane medical responsibilities at one of Arizona’s scattered camps and forts, these surgeons in blue left behind a rich legacy, along with a healing tradition for those who followed in their footsteps.

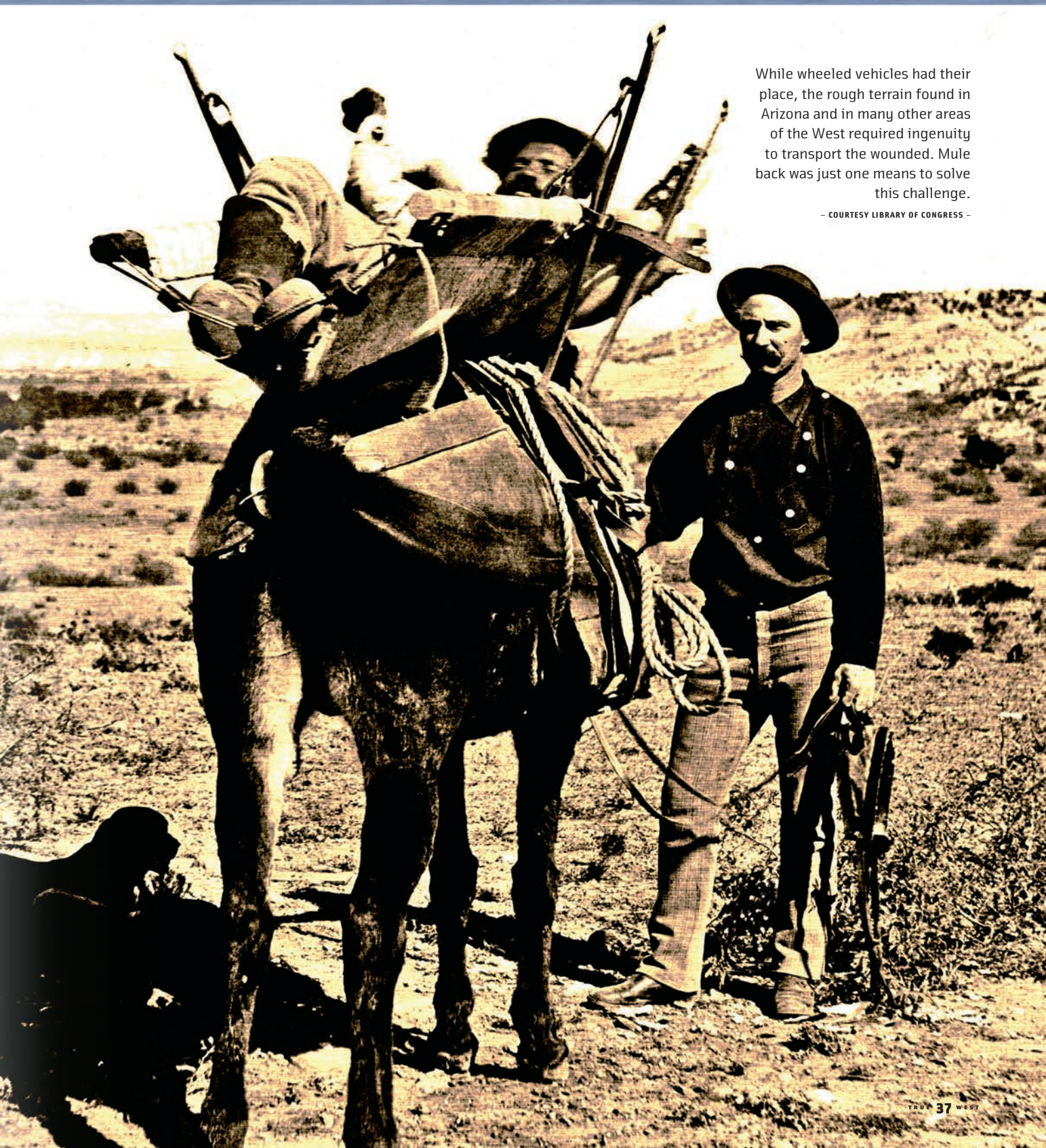


John Langellier received his PhD in military history from Kansas State University. After a 45-year career in public history, he retired in Tucson, Arizona, in 2015. He is the author of dozens of books and continues to be a consultant to museums, film and television.

IN ARMY BLUE

While wheeled vehicles had their place, the rough terrain found in Arizona and in many other areas of the West required ingenuity to transport the wounded. Mule back was just one means to solve this challenge.

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The interior of a late 19th-century military medical ward, like this one at Fort Riley in Kansas in 1899, was a far cry from earlier wards that, in some instances, barely kept patients out of the elements.

— ALL IMAGES COURTESY SIDNEY B. BRINKERHOFF COLLECTION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED —



After two years on the Northern Plains, Maine native William Stephenson (above, at left) transferred to Fort Verde in Arizona, where he daily supervised the post's hygiene. He also monthly inspected the sanitary conditions of all structures, drainage, water supply, clothing and post rations.



The dispensary included the pharmacy, such as this well-stocked example from Fort McPherson in Nebraska in 1873. The hospital steward was often the best-trained soldier in the garrison. For Fort McPherson, that man was Charles Hendy (sitting at the desk), who, three years later, found himself in Montana, chasing the Sioux and Cheyenne during the Battle of Powder River that initiated the Great Sioux War.

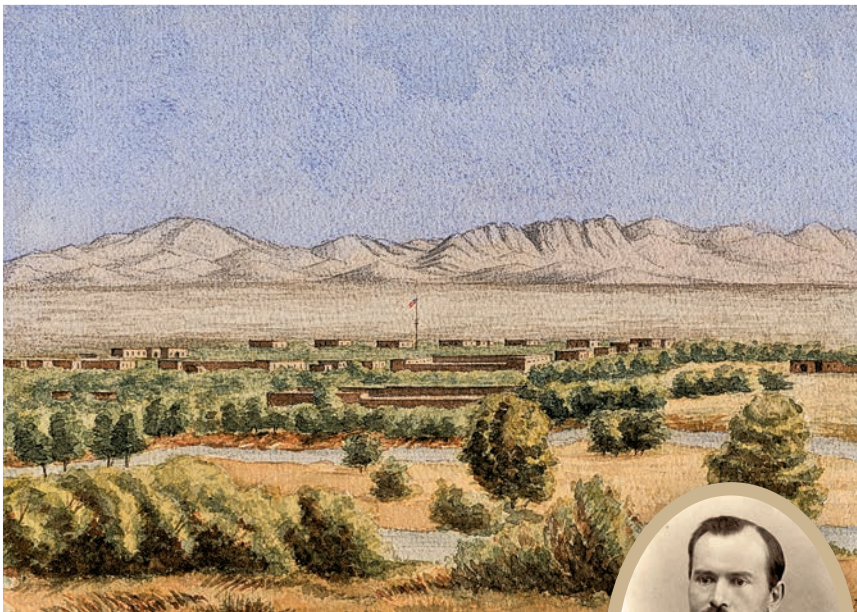
— COURTESY UNION PACIFIC MUSEUM —

ARIZONA'S FRONTIER MILITARY DOCTORS



Edgar A. Mearns wears a white duster in this photo of the doctor at an Indian ruin in Arizona. At Fort Verde and other places, he catalogued some 50 plants and animals, such as the Mearns quail named after him. Particularly fascinated by the Gila Monster (inset), he contended its bite was not deadly because the poison came from the reptile's saliva.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —



For 43 years, the French-born Joseph Basil Girard (inset) practiced medicine as an assistant surgeon at numerous Western posts and in Hawaii and the Philippines. He also was a talented artist, as one of his watercolors depicting Fort Lowell, near the end of that post's existence, demonstrates (above).

— COURTESY ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY —



John Vance Lauderdale: Surgeon at Fort Yuma in 1868 and chief medical officer of the Subdistrict of Southern Arizona in 1869.

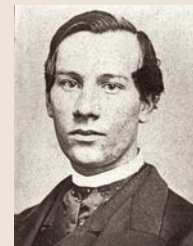
— COURTESY YALE UNIVERSITY BEINECKE RARE BOOK & MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY —

Benjamin Franklin Pope: Assistant surgeon for the Department of Arizona from 1869–1871, and was assigned to Fort Whipple in 1889.

— COURTESY JOHN LANGELLIER —



Elliott Coues: Assigned to his first military post, Fort Whipple, in 1864, the physician became known for his interest in arrow wounds; removing arrowheads was a difficult and often fatal procedure.



John C. Handy: Contract surgeon for Fort Apache and Camp Thomas for three years before he opened his practice in Tucson in 1871.

James C. Worthington:

In 1876, transferred to Fort Whipple, where he became the medical director of the Department of Arizona.



Joseph K. Corson: Commissioned assistant surgeon in 1867, he arrived at Fort Whipple in 1878 before being sent to Fort Yuma, where he served until 1882.

— COURTESY ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY —



“...the surgeons...never flagged in their attentions to sick and wounded, whether soldier or officer, American, Mexican, or Apache captive, by night or by day.”



After three Indian scouts were executed for mutiny during the ill-fated Cibecue Affair of 1881, Fort Grant's hospital steward Woodville G. Staubly (far left) plotted to exhume the bodies. The post surgeon beat Staubly to the punch and sent the skulls away for scientific study. After his military stint, Staubly opened a drugstore in Lordsburg, New Mexico. The standing shackled figure in the accompanying photo is Skippy, one of the scouts hanged.

- STAUBLY PHOTO COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION; SKIPPY PHOTO TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

ARIZONA HISTORY CONVENTION

Hear author John Langellier give a talk on these “Surgeons in Army Blue” at this year's Arizona History Convention. Held in Tucson from April 23-26, the convention features various history lectures, including “Wyatt Earp in Hollywood: The Untold Story” by Bob Boze Bell, executive editor of *True West Magazine*. For registration information, contact Bruce J. Dinges at 520-628-5774.

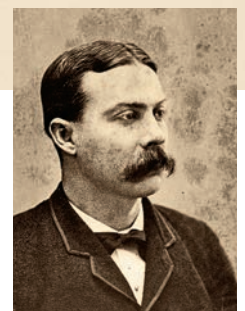


In 1884, Assistant Surgeon W.W.R. Fisher (seated next to an unknown Indian scout) left his pleasant posting at California's Presidio of San Francisco for a more austere existence at Arizona's Fort Apache, which, by comparison to his considerable time campaigning in southern Arizona and northern Mexico, seemed comfortable.

PLATE III. BULLET EXTRACTING INSTRUMENTS.



The army surgeon's kit had medical implements not found in kits used by civilian doctors, such as bullet extractors (above). After his tours as a contract surgeon at Arizona Forts Whipple, Lowell and Bowie, George E. Goodfellow (right) lived in Tombstone, where he became a self-taught expert on bullet wounds. C.S. Fly photographed the doctor in Fly's studio adjacent to the O.K. Corral.



TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE
CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

BLOOD ON THE TRACKS

WYATT EARP VS FRANK STILWELL

“THE SHADOW OF TOMBSTONE’S BLOODY FEUD REACHES TUCSON”



Two men watch intently as passengers detrain from Benson, Arizona. One of them will soon be dead.

— ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL —

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Maps & Graphics by Gus Walker

Based on the research of Roy Young

Two days after assassins kill Morgan Earp, Wyatt Earp has spent his 34th birthday attending to the details of shipping his younger brother’s remains home to California.

With Morgan’s body safely out of Arizona Territory, Wyatt, his younger brother Warren, Doc Holliday and two other handpicked men accompany another brother, Virgil, and his wife, Allie, to Tucson. Virgil is still weak from an assassination attempt in December.

Guarded by Wyatt and his men, Virgil and Allie travel by buckboard to Contention City, where they board the train. They then switch trains at Benson, and the party has a little over an hour ride to Tucson.

Dusk falls as the passenger train slows down for its approach. Tucson is lit up. The city’s modern gas lighting system has been turned on for the first time. Celebratory shots can be heard as the engine glides into the station.

Under the veranda of the brand new Porter Hotel, Ike Clanton and Frank Stilwell watch the passengers detrain.

Stepping off the train, Doc Holliday carries two shotguns, which he deposits in the depot office. The Earp party makes its way to the dining room in the Porter Hotel.

After finishing their meals, the Earp party walks back to the train and retrieves the shotguns from the depot office. Wyatt and his men say their

goodbyes to Virgil and Allie. They then get their tickets for an eastbound train for the trip back to Benson.

While waiting for the train to move out, a passenger allegedly informs Wyatt that Frank and Clanton are lurking near the hotel and may plan on shooting Virgil through the train window as it goes by.

Bristling with shotguns and rifles, the Earp bodyguards, led by Wyatt, run down the train tracks, straight for Frank, who is standing near the southeast corner of the hotel.

Frank runs for his life. In the lead, Wyatt chases Frank for about 100 yards (saloonkeeper George Hand claimed it was a few hundred yards).

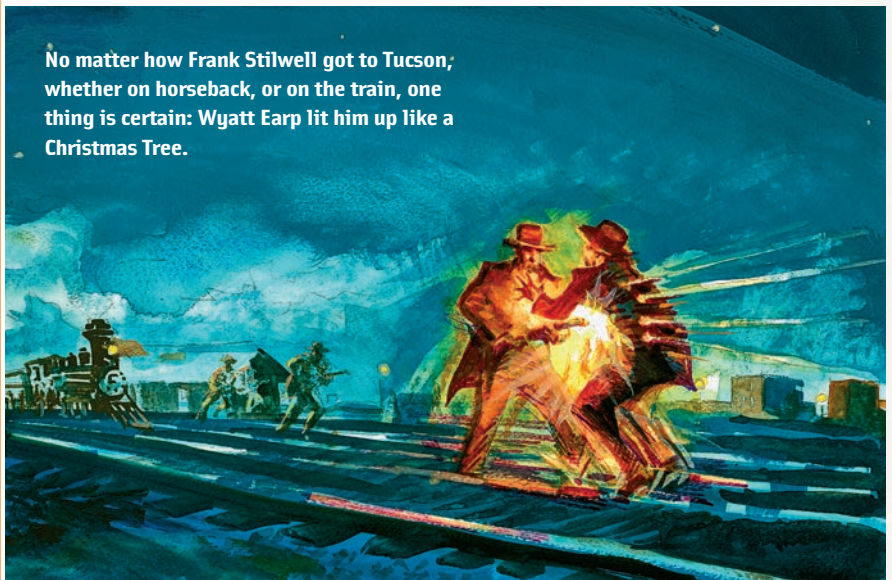
“I ran straight for Stilwell,” Wyatt later recounts. “It was he who killed my brother. What a coward he was. He couldn’t shoot when I came near him. He stood there helpless and trembling for his life. As I rushed upon him he put out his hands and clutched at my shotgun. I let go both barrels, and he tumbled down dead and mangled at my feet.”

Other shots are heard, but locals assume they are part of the gas light celebration.

As the train carrying Virgil chugs out of the station, Wyatt runs up to the cars, holding up one finger and mouthing the words, “One for Morgan.” Or so the legend goes. Virgil and Allie glide by in the darkness.



No matter how Frank Stilwell got to Tucson; whether on horseback, or on the train, one thing is certain: Wyatt Earp lit him up like a Christmas Tree.



Frank's Incredible Ride

Two nights earlier, Morgan Earp is shot in Tombstone, Arizona, at approximately 10:50 p.m. Six hours later, Frank Stilwell allegedly signs his name as a guest at the Palace Hotel in Tucson, a 75-mile run. Could he have made that ride on horseback? Historians still argue about it. The fastest stagecoach time from Tombstone to Tucson was a nine-and-a-half-hour run. A cowboy crony of Frank's, John Pleasant Gray, wrote a manuscript, "When All Roads Led to Tombstone," in which he stated, "A long time afterward it came out that an old roan saddle horse could have told a different story had he the power of speech."

Why Did Wyatt and Crew Go On to Tucson?

Wyatt Earp and his men originally plan to accompany Virgil Earp and his wife to Benson, recalls a fellow passenger on the Contention City to Benson train, who heard it from Vendetta posse member Sherm McMaster.

Historian Roy Young speculates that, while Wyatt waits for the westbound train at Benson, he receives a telegram warning him of danger in Tucson.

A train news boy, who rides on the train with the Earps from Benson to Tucson, gets off and says to the luggage clerk, "I guess there will be hell here tonight." The boy claims one of the Earp men told him, "the man who killed Morgan Earp" is in Tucson.

Virgil, in a May 1882 interview, says, "When my brothers were leaving Arizona, they got dispatches from Tucson saying that Stilwell and a party of friends were watching all the railroad trains passing that way, and were going through them in search of all Earps and their friends, carrying short shotguns under their overcoats and promising to kill on sight."

Some, including Young, debate whether Ike Clanton and Frank Stilwell were gunning for the Earp posse at the train station, since the two were there to meet a friend. Yet if they weren't looking for a fight, they picked a dumb spot to lollygag.

Loaded for Bear

Wyatt Earp and his boys are heavily armed. Sherm McMaster reportedly carries two belts of cartridges (right). Doc Holliday, with an ulster overcoat across his shoulder, carries a shotgun in each hand (far right) that he deposits in the "freight house," as Deputy U.S. Marshal Joseph W. Evans later testifies.

The Frank Stilwell Crime Scene

The Earp party detrains in front of the brand new Southern Pacific depot (1), then walks to the Porter Hotel (2) for supper. Ike Clanton and Frank Stilwell are standing under the veranda on the southeast corner (3) next to the garden. The shooting takes place on the tracks northwest of the hotel (4).

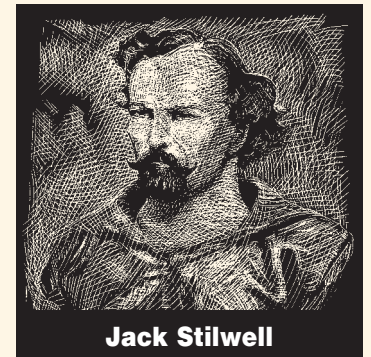


Did Frank ride a horse or a train to Tucson?

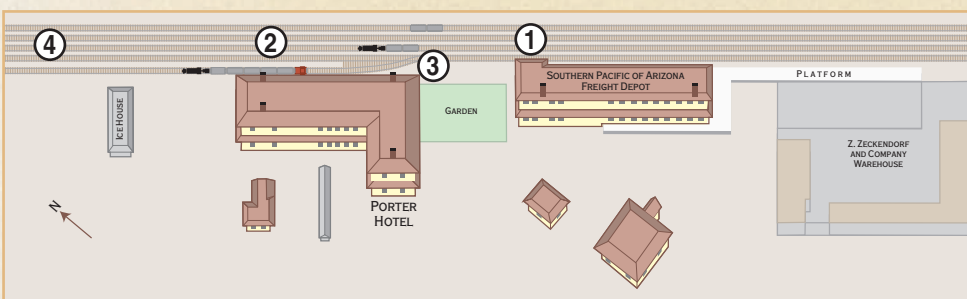
Aftermath: Odds & Ends

After the killing of Frank Stilwell, Wyatt Earp and his men searched for Ike Clanton for several hours before giving up and walking eastbound on the Southern Pacific train tracks to Papago Station, about 10 miles east of Tucson, Arizona. There, Wyatt flagged down an eastbound freight train. The crew hitched a ride to Benson, and from there, on to Tombstone.

Wyatt and his posse were now wanted fugitives. After a week of maneuvering and two alleged killings (Florentino Cruz and Curly Bill Brocius), Wyatt fled Arizona Territory as a wanted man.



In mid-April, the famous scout and Frank's older brother, "Comanche Jack" Stilwell, arrived in Tombstone to investigate his brother's death and settle his affairs. While there, he joined a 30-man posse, which included John Ringo, Ike Clanton and Pete Spence, that hunted the Earp party, unsuccessfully. Wyatt and his men had headed out for Silver City, New Mexico, where they sold their horses. After taking the stage to Deming, they boarded a train for Albuquerque and spent two weeks there, before going on to Colorado and evading the law. That is, until Doc Holliday got arrested in Denver in May and narrowly escaped extradition to Tombstone.



Recommended: *Pete Spence: Audacious Artist in Crime* by Roy Young, published by Young & Sons Enterprises.

LITTLE-KNOWN CHARACTERS OF THE OLD WEST

TOM AUGHERTON

Ely S. Parker

STRADDLING TWO CULTURES, HE SAVED TWO NATIONS.



As military secretary to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's staff, Bvt. Brig. Gen. Ely S. Parker handwrote the surrender documents that Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee signed at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

SENECA Indian Ely S. Parker was born Hasanoanda, which means “Leading Name,” in 1828 as his parents William and Elizabeth Parker attempted to return home in their buckboard to the Tonawanda Reservation, in Indian Falls, New York. His father was a Seneca chief, a veteran of the War of 1812, a Baptist minister, and a local miller; his mother a descendent of an Iroquois prophet. Ely's life had been foretold to his parents, in a prophecy describing a distinguished warrior and peacemaker from their tribe.

At age 14, Ely first attended Yates Academy, and after two years transferred to the elite Cayuga Academy, where he learned self-confidence by stoically

enduring racial hostility. Later, the Seneca gave him a new name, as he reached manhood: Donehogawa (“Keeper of the Western Door of the Iroquois Loghouse”). In 1851, he became great sachem of the Six Tribes—the head chief.

Despite the respect he earned from his tribe, Harvard University denied admission because he was an Indian; the New York Bar would not consider his application to practice law, saying he was not a citizen. He turned to engineering, earning a degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and in 1857, met lifelong friend Ulysses S. Grant in Galena, Illinois, while working on two government projects.

Parker, who was told he could not fight for the Union because he was an Indian, turned to his friend Gen. Grant for help in May 1863, and Grant had him commissioned as a captain. Parker served in the Vicksburg campaign as an engineer, and later was attached to Grant's command reaching the rank of lieutenant colonel before being brevetted as a brigadier general in the U.S. Volunteers on April 9, 1865.

As Grant's adjutant, he wrote out the final articles of Confederate surrender in April 1865 at Appomattox. He later reported that General Robert E. Lee mistakenly believed that Parker was a black man and was surprised to see him serving in a prominent role. After learning his background, Lee said he was glad to see “one real American” there, to which Parker replied, “We are all Americans.”

After the war, Parker continued to serve on Grant's staff. In 1869, President Grant appointed his friend the first American Indian to serve as commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. His two years as leader of the BIA was fraught with controversy and scandal as he attempted to enforce Grant's peace policy in the West.

Parker, who never found success in business after the Wall Street crash of 1873, slowly sank into abject poverty and died on August 31, 1895. He was first buried near his home in Fairfield, Connecticut, but two years later, his remains were reinterred with those of tribal ancestors at Forest Lawn in Buffalo, New York.



Tom Augherton is an Arizona-based freelance writer. Do you know about an unsung character of the Old West whose story we should share here? Send the details to stuart@twmag.com, and be sure to include high-resolution historical photos.



“We are all Americans.”

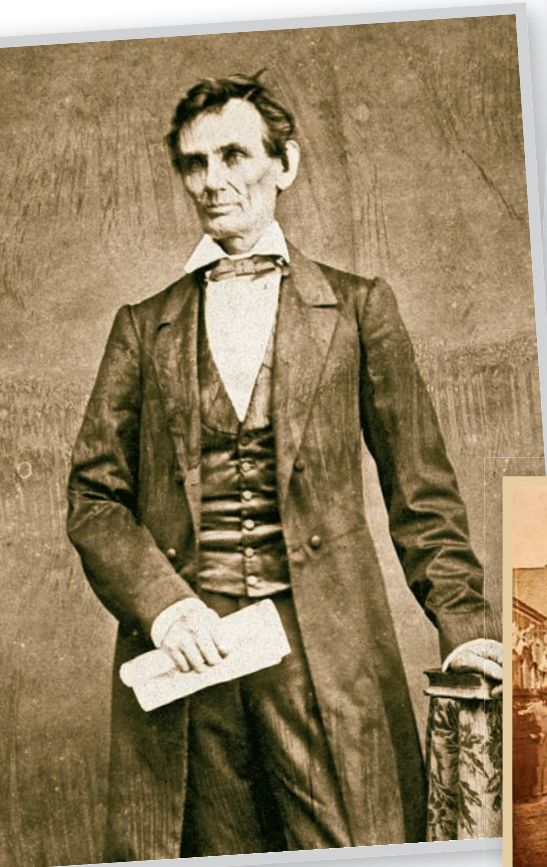
Ely S. Parker, the only American Indian to reach the rank of general in the Union army during the Civil War, attempted to assimilate into New York business life after his tenure as BIA commissioner ended in controversy in 1871.

- COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES -

BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS

Lincoln's Western Past

Adventure and history abound on Lincoln's Western trails from Springfield, Illinois, to Mankato, Minnesota.



The national influence of President Abraham Lincoln's career from the time he was elected from Springfield, Illinois, in 1860, to his second inauguration in Washington, D.C., to his return to his final resting place via funeral coach in April 1865, can be discovered on a coast-to-coast tour of the Union he loved—and saved.

— PHOTOS COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —



It's utterly fascinating.

So is Lincoln.

Typically, Lincoln brings to mind the Civil War, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Gettysburg Address and Ford's Theatre.

Yet on the 150th anniversary of his death, let's seek out Lincoln's influence and legacy pertaining to the American West.

Springfield—also home of Lincoln's Tomb—definitely tops the list for Abe fans. But your travels should also include:

1. Hodgenville, Kentucky

Lincoln was born in a single-room farm cabin here on Sunday, February 12, 1809. Andrew Jackson might be the first "Western" president, but Lincoln did a lot

At first, I think I've made a wrong turn somewhere, because this doesn't feel like the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. It's more like...Disneyland.

Don't get me wrong. Springfield, Illinois, Honest Abe's home and final resting place, should brag about its state-of-the-art museum that opened in 2005. Exhibits give visitors a you-are-there feeling. Even the late journalist Tim Russert covers the 1860 presidential campaign with 21st-century technology. That should make history relevant for kids.

Andrew Jackson might be the first *Western* president, but Lincoln did a lot for the West...

for the West, and Kentucky was the frontier and helped shape the man (his parents belonged to an anti-slavery Baptist church).

Today, an 1800s log cabin inside the Memorial Building stands on the birthplace site. The building was dedicated by President William Taft in 1911. While the cabin is not Abe's actual home, that doesn't matter; the National Park Service also maintains Lincoln's Boyhood Home about 10 miles away. In 1811, a land title dispute sent the Lincolns from Sinking Spring to Knob Creek, where the family lived for the next five years before moving to Indiana.

No, the Lincolns did not make Knob Creek bourbon, but today it's a Jim Beam product and visitors can tour the Jim Beam American Stillhouse in nearby Clermont.

2. Pea Ridge, Arkansas

Of course, Lincoln is most identified with the Civil War, and while most battles were fought in the East, the war reached the West.

Perhaps the most important battle west of the Mississippi took place at Pea Ridge, Arkansas, on March 7-8, 1862.

Roughly 26,000 soldiers battled here, and things got Western. Wild Bill Hickok is said to have fought for the Union while some of Confederate Gen. Albert Pike's Cherokee

Mounted Rifles scalped and mutilated Union soldiers.

The Union victory kept Missouri in Union control.

Today, this 4,300-acre National Military Park honors those who fought on both sides. For the true Western experience, there's even a nine-mile horse trail.

3. St. Joseph, Missouri

Most people know about the Pony Express, whose riders delivered some 34,763 letters and rode roughly 616,000 miles during its 18 months of existence.

The fastest delivery from St. Joe to Sacramento, California, took seven days, 17 hours; the riders carried the story of Lincoln's inaugural address. Another series of rides—eight days, 14 hours—informed California that Fort Sumter, South Carolina, had been shelled.

Yet another Pony Express story claims that *Sacramento Bee* founder James McClatchy uncovered evidence that General Albert Sidney Johnston, commanding the Department of the Pacific, planned on

turning army stores over to the South. McClatchy sent a letter to Senator E.D. Baker, delivered by the Pony Express (at least to St. Joe), and when word reached Lincoln, he ordered Gen. Edwin Sumner to California to relieve Johnston. I'm not sure if it's true, but it makes a good tale. Johnston resigned in March 1861 and was killed at Shiloh in April 1862.

Even if you don't go for spy-thriller stuff, the Pony Express National Museum in St. Joseph, with its Pikes Peak Stables and great artifacts, is fun to visit.

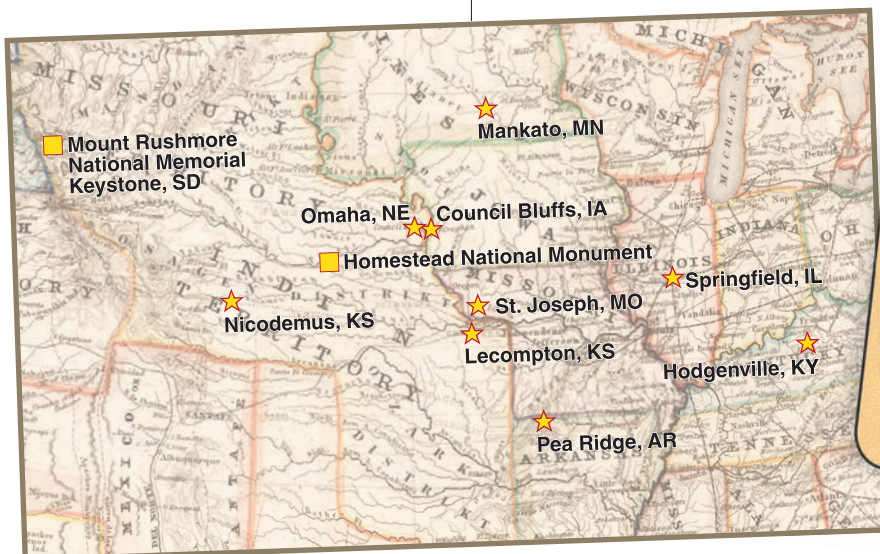
4. LeCompton, Kansas

No, Lincoln didn't speak here—he did in Elwood, Kansas, just across the river from St. Joe, in 1859—but LeCompton might have been the key to Lincoln's political life.



The cornerstone of the Memorial Building at Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park was laid by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1909. The building was dedicated in 1911 by President William H. Taft.

- JOHNNY D. BOGGS -



Historical Marker

In 1859, Abraham Lincoln made his first trip to Kansas, stopping to stump for the Republican presidential nomination at the Great Western Hotel in Elwood, just across the Missouri River from St. Joseph. Elwood would later serve as a Pony Express station.

A historical marker can be found in the parking lot of the Fort Luxembourg Information Center at 203 Roseport (the town was first called Roseport) Road in Elwood.



The Civil War and the Battle of Pea Ridge were still on the minds of Americans and American artists in 1889, when Kurz and Allison published this recreation of the 1862 battle.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

become president without the Lecompton constitution.

At least, that's what they say here, where history is preserved at the Territorial Capital Museum, Constitution Hall and 1854-61 Democratic Party headquarters.

5. Nicodemus, Kansas

Sure, it's post-Lincoln, but there would be no Nicodemus—or other black settlements in the West—if not for our 16th president.

Former slaves from Kentucky decided to head for the promised land of Kansas, forming Nicodemus Town Company on April 18, 1877. A 160-acre townsite plat was filed in June. By the end of July, some 30

In 1855, Lecompton became Kansas's territorial capital, and here the legislature drafted a constitution that would admit Kansas as a slave state. Slave state? When most Kansas settlers abhorred slavery? That happened because pro-slavery Missourians crossed the border to cast ballots (another reason it's not safe to wear University of Missouri T-shirts in this state).

In Washington, the Senate passed the constitution, but the House eventually rejected it in February 1858. President James Buchanan wanted the constitution to pass; Senator Stephen Douglas was adamantly against it. In the end, the Democrat party split into bickering factions, which allowed Lincoln to win the presidential election with 39 percent of the popular vote. Lincoln wouldn't have

“THE ‘TRUE STATEMENTS’ PAGE OF MY RIFLE LOG IS FILLED WITH BENCHMARKS ACHIEVED WITH BH AMMO. DON'T BELIEVE IT? TRY IT YOURSELF!”

ROGER ECKSTEIN
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
GUN TESTS MAGAZINE

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Homesteaders William Moore and Family Sargent (right) were photographed in 1886 in Custer County, Nebraska, by acclaimed pioneer photographer Solomon D. Butcher.

— PHOTOS COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —



Nicodemus, Kansas, was one of the first all-black settlements established in the West.

settlers had arrived. Hundreds more would follow before hard winters and the lack of a railroad doomed Nicodemus, which began fading away by the late 1880s.

Faded, but never completely abandoned. Since 1996, Nicodemus National Historic Site has preserved one of the oldest and the only remaining black settlements west

of the Mississippi. Five buildings keep this town's legacy alive.

6. Homestead National Monument, Nebraska

Lincoln absolutely helped the Westward movement with the Homestead Act of 1862, saying the government needed "to elevate

the condition of men, to lift artificial burdens from all shoulders, and to give everyone an unfettered start and a fair chance in the race of life."

The act granted 160 acres of free land to claimants.

Easy land? Not hardly. You had to improve the claim to get your deed. Plowing

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- Mar 27-29 Doswell VA * Trained Animals available
- Apr 11 Orange, MA
- Apr 21-May 5th • Internet * Includes Sulphur Horses
- Apr 24-25 Marshall, NC
- Apr 24-25 Queen Creek, AZ * Trained Animals available
- Apr 24-25 Springfield, OH

For schedules and directions to these events, and to learn about other adoption and sale opportunities throughout the year, go to blm.gov.





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Mary Miller Jordan and her adopted horse, Silver Lining. (photo: Sarah Woody)

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Rock Creek Station in Nebraska served as a Pony Express and Overland Stage stop but is probably best remembered for a shootout involving Wild Bill Hickok.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

10 acres—required for the homestead—meant walking at least 100 miles.

The first person to file claim was Daniel Freeman, who filed in Brownville, Nebraska, at 12:10 a.m. (government hours were not like they are now) January 1, 1863.

It's Freeman's farm that the National Park Service preserves roughly four miles west of Beatrice, but the park's not just about Freeman. It celebrates those 1.6 million homesteaders who transferred 270 million acres from public land to private hands.

7. Council Bluffs, Iowa/Omaha, Nebraska

Another part of what might be considered Lincoln's New Deal for the West was the Pacific Railway Act, which became law on July 1, 1862.

This law paved the way for the transcontinental railroad, which linked East and West. Abe didn't live to see completion of the railroad at Promontory Point, Utah, in 1869.

To celebrate Lincoln and the rails, check out the Union Pacific Railroad Museum in Council Bluffs, where the Lincoln Collection Exhibit celebrates all things Abe. And cross over into Omaha's Historic Old Market to see the Durham Museum, housed in Union Station.

8. Mount Rushmore National Memorial, South Dakota

Three million people can't be wrong, and that's how many people visit this towering monument near Keystone in the Black Hills.

Lincoln shares billing with George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Theodore Roosevelt.

George did the founding, Tom did the expanding, Teddy did the preserving and Abe did the unifying.

Gutzon Borglum did the carving. Well, a lot of it, anyway.

Construction began around 1927, and the presidents' faces were completed between 1934 and 1939. The original plan was to feature the presidents all

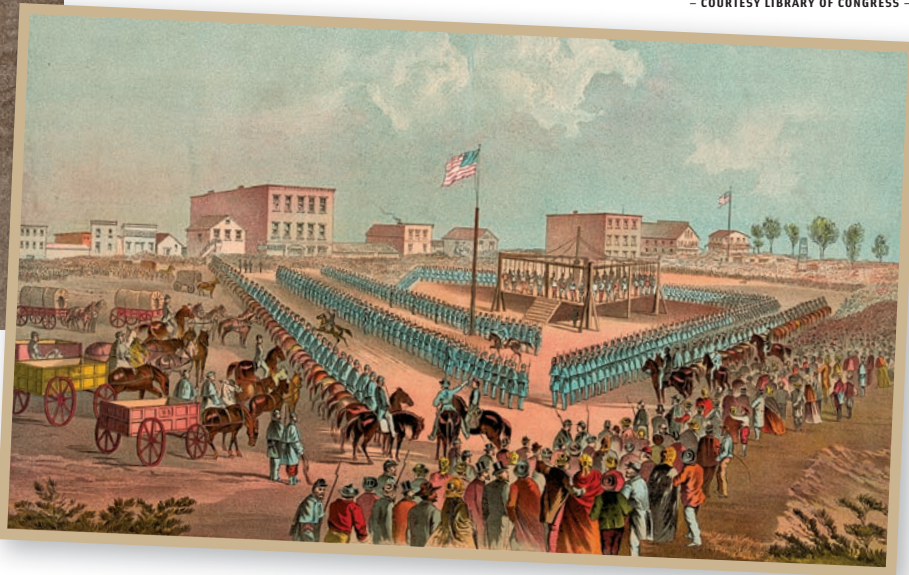


Travelers following the trail of Lincoln across the West should not miss a pilgrimage to see the president's visage in granite at Mount Rushmore National Memorial in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

- STUART ROSEBROOK -

Eighteen sixty-two ended on a grim note when 38 Dakota men were hanged in Mankato, Minnesota, after the Dakota War, as depicted in this 1883 lithograph. More than 300 Indians had been sentenced to death before Lincoln stepped in.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —



the way down to their waists, but Borglum died in March 1941, which pretty much ended the carving and led to the dedication of Mount Rushmore on October 31, 1941.

9. Mankato, Minnesota

Not everything Abe did was pleasant. A lot of Indians west of the Mississippi likely aren't celebrating the passage of the Homestead or Pacific Railway acts. And they certainly don't like what happened in this southern Minnesota city in 1863.

Lincoln, whose grandfather had been killed by Indians, met with several Indians during his terms, but "Lincoln's call to 'bind up the nation's wounds' was never applied to Native Americans," historian David A. Nichols writes.

With the Dakota outbreak almost over, military tribunals left more than 300 Dakotas sentenced to death. Lincoln stepped in to review the transcripts and eventually commuted the sentences of hundreds, but not all.

Thirty-eight Indians were hanged here on a single platform on December 26, 1862, in America's largest mass execution.

More than 150 years later, one Indian website notes: "YOUR GREAT 'EMANCIPATOR' WAS A MURDERER PLAIN AND SIMPLE."

Visitors won't find much about the hanging at the Blue Earth County Heritage Center, but Reconciliation Park was dedicated in 1997 on the execution site.

It's not a fun place to visit, which is why maybe we should return to Disneyland—I mean, Springfield, Illinois.



Johnny D. Boggs thinks Raymond Massey is a better Abe in *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* than Henry Fonda is in *Young Mr. Lincoln*—but Hank's still his favorite Wyatt Earp.



The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum opened in 2004, but its history dates to 1889 with the establishment of the Illinois State Historical Library. Unlike most presidential libraries and museums, this one covers a wide array of history, though the museum is pretty much all Honest Abe.

— JOHNNY D. BOGGS —



PLACES TO VISIT, CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

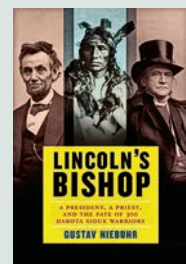
Places to Visit: Jim Beam American Stillhouse, *Clermont, KY*; Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, *Prairie Grove, AR*; Poison Spring Battlefield State Park, *Camden, AR*; Frontier Army Museum, *Fort Leavenworth, KS*.

Celebrations & Events: "Lincoln and the Music He Loved" free concert, April 29, Washington Park, *Springfield, IL*; Lincoln Funeral Reenactment, May 2-3, *Springfield*; Lincoln Days, October 3-4, *Hodgenville, KY*.

GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

Good Grub: Rainbow House Asian Bistro (*Pea Ridge, AR*); The Cozy Inn (*Salina, KS*); The Black Crow (*Beatrice, NE*); Gorat's (*Omaha, NE*); Charlie Parker's Diner (*Springfield, IL*).

Good Lodging: Crossroads Country Inn (*Hodgenville, KY*); Candlewood Suites (*St. Joseph, MO*); The Butler House Bed & Breakfast (*Mankato, MN*); The Lodge at Mount Rushmore (*Keystone, SD*); Inn at 835 (*Springfield, IL*)



GOOD BOOKS/FILM & TV

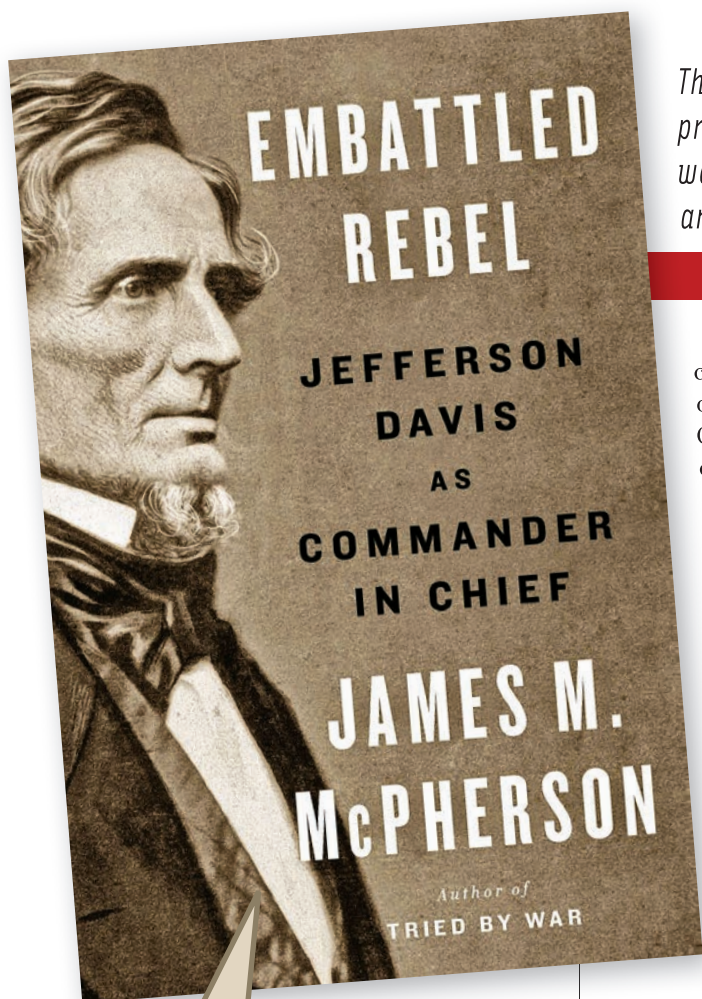
Good Books: *Lincoln's Bishop: A President, a Priest, and the Fate of 300 Dakota Sioux Warriors* by Gustav Niebuhr; *38 Nooses: Lincoln, Little Crow, and the Beginning of the Frontier's End* by Scott W. Berg; *Lincoln and the Indians: Civil War Policy & Politics* by David A. Nichols; *Railroaded: The Transcontinentals and the Making of Modern America* by Richard White; *Abraham Lincoln* by James M. McPherson.

Good Films: *The Iron Horse* (Fox Film Corporation); *Young Mr. Lincoln* (Twentieth Century Fox); *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* (RKO); *Lincoln* (Walt Disney).

WESTERN BOOKS

BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR: STUART ROSEBROOK

Jefferson Davis: Across Five Aprils



The life and leadership of the Confederate president reconsidered, and wild tales of Western women, the big die-off in Texas, bloody Missouri, and the life and death of a Texas Ranger.

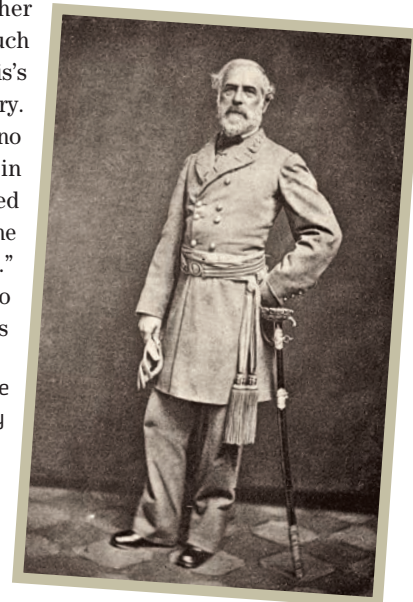
With the sesquicentennial of the Civil War quietly coming to a conclusion in 2015, a reconsideration of the Confederate presidency of Jefferson Davis and his leadership as commander-in-chief of the Confederacy gives pause, considering the terrible toll the war exacted on the United States. Award-winning biographer and Civil War historian James M. McPherson's *Embattled Rebel: Jefferson Davis as Commander in Chief* (The Penguin Press, \$32.95) is a thoughtful, focused, biography of the controversial Confederate leader. Like his earlier biography of Davis's nemesis, *Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander in Chief*, McPherson does not expound beyond the boundaries of Davis's role as military leader of the Confederacy, albeit the complexity and magnitude of the Confederate commander's life would lead many other biographers to author a much broader examination of Davis's influence on American history. McPherson concludes that "no other chief executive in American history exercised such hands-on influence in the shaping of military strategy."

As a Lincoln scholar, McPherson, who admits in his introduction "his sympathies

According to author McPherson, Confederate President Jefferson Davis's strategic military partnership with Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee defined his career as Confederate commander in chief.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

"No other chief executive in American history exercised such hands-on influence in the shaping of military strategy."





Fans of Western publishing enjoyed a banner year in books in 2014. In 2015, I am convinced that fans of the Old West will find their bookshelves overflowing with great books.

Old West Mystery is a hot genre!

Three I recommend:

Ethan J. Wolfe's *The Regulator* (Five Star, March 2015)

Clifford Jackman's *The Winter Family* (Doubleday, April 2015)

Joe Lansdale's *Paradise Sky* (Mulholland Books, June 2015)

Pre Civil War History:

The 150th anniversary of the Civil War has passed and publishers are trending to the first decades of the 19th century:

Three I recommend:

Donald R. Hickey's *Glorious Victory: Andrew Jackson and the Battle of New Orleans* (Johns Hopkins University Press, April 2015)

Nancy Plain's *This Strange Wilderness: The Life and Art of John James Audubon* (University of Nebraska Press, March 2015)

William Heath's *William Wells and the Struggle for the Old Northwest* (University of Oklahoma Press, March 2015)

And while 2015 publishing is building up momentum, three more favorites from 2014 should not be overlooked:

Old West Mystery: Scott Phillips' *Hop Alley* (Counterpoint)

Culture: Douglas Brode's *John Wayne's Way: Life Lesson's from the Duke* (TwoDot)

Women: Carmen Goldthwaite's *Texas Ranch Women: Three Centuries of Mettle and Moxie* (The History Press)

—Stuart Rosebrook



After Confederate President Jefferson Davis ordered the warehouses of Richmond burned as he fled the city on April 2, 1865, rather than letting the Union capture the supplies, the fire spread to the city's center, including Carey Street.

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lie with the Union side of the Civil War," attempts with a great deal of academic caution, to embrace the "hero" of his biography. This approach seems to be one of the most difficult assignments the George Davis '86 emeritus history professor from Princeton University has ever attempted. Nonetheless, McPherson admits, "I found myself becoming less inimical toward Davis than I had expected when I began the project." The Pulitzer Prize-winning author successfully overcame his biases and his work demonstrates that Davis's fortitude to overcome personal challenges, health issues and political rivals was equal to his rival, Lincoln. The author's cautiousness in embracing his hero's (Lincoln) sworn enemy does not lead to broader praise or contextual importance to American history, McPherson does conclude that Davis was a near-match for the savior of our nation: Davis shaped and articulated the principal policy of the Confederacy with clarity and force: the quest for independent nationhood."

Fortunately, McPherson's *The Embattled Rebel* is not the final biography or synthesis on the Civil War scheduled for publication during the

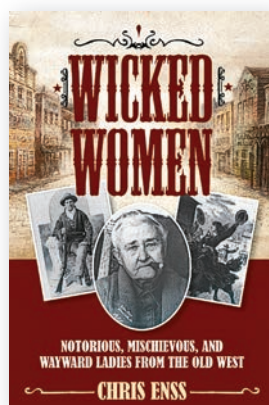
sesquicentennial. Readers seeking greater context to Davis's complex life and career as soldier, citizen and politician prior to 1861, hopefully will find it through McPherson or Emory M. Thomas providing a broader understanding of the Confederate commander in chief's influence on Manifest Destiny, the antebellum political battle over slavery, states' rights, national economics, international trade, and the development of the West, including the transcontinental railroad. In the interim, McPherson's penultimate conclusion on Jefferson Davis's role as commander in chief, and strategic partner with Lee contrasted with Lincoln and Grant, is simple and at the foundation of 150 years of debate: "the salient truth about the American Civil War is not that the Confederacy lost but that the Union won."

—Stuart Rosebrook

WAYWARD WESTERN WOMEN

In *Wicked Women: Notorious, Mischievous, and Wayward Ladies from the Old West* (TwoDot, \$18.95),

award-winning author Chris Enss offers a collection of 29 biographical sketches of female gamblers, madams, soiled doves and





Chris Enss' compendium of *Wicked Women: Notorious, Mischievous, and Wayward Ladies from the Old West* includes the poignant story of beloved prostitute Julia Bulette, who proudly wore the uniform of the Virginia City, Nevada's volunteer fire department.

— COURTESY NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY —

"fictional tone" vignettes, that give way to well-investigated profiles of each woman's life. Selections are readable and compelling with the depth of detail evidencing the full scope of study involved. Enss provides insight into these ladies' motivations and many specifics about their lives, while shifting effortlessly between scholarly exploration and entertainment. This book is well worth reading.

—Pamela Nowak, author of *Changes*.

WHEN WINTER KILLED

Patrick Dearen's novel *The Big Drift* (TCU Press, \$22.95) is set during the deadly blizzard and subsequent die-off of cattle

in West Texas in 1884-'85. In addition to being a realistic historical account of the catastrophe, it is the story of two men, one black and one white, who are driven by guilt and a need for

repentance. This is a story for our times, as each man has been responsible for the deaths of members of the other's race. Although the narration and prose style are often cloyed, *The Big Drift* offers a great deal to readers interested in evocation of place (Dearen has also written non-fiction books about this region), historical realism



entertainers. While her research and management of historical fact are evident in the introduction, chapters open with short

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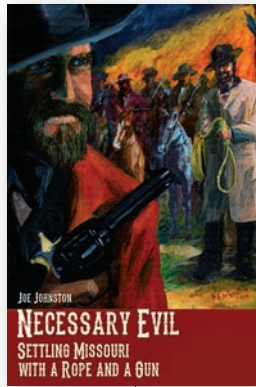
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and the timeless significance of confronting racially based conflicts and guilt.

—John Nesbitt, author of *Twin Rivers*

FRATRICIDE ON MISSOURI FRONTIER

I don't study war too much, but Joe Johnston's book, *Necessary Evil: Settling Missouri with a Rope and a Gun* (Missouri History Museum, \$24.95) struck a chord with me. He writes his story well and his book educated me, kept my attention. It was timely and illuminating, though he may have painted "vigilante" with a little too broad a brush. Too little has been written about that time of conflict along the Kansas-Missouri-Arkansas borders, where the Uncivil War began long before Fort Sumter and lasted long after



Appomattox. Necessary Evil has gone a long way toward filling that void. What's the application for us? Barnabas Sackett said it best, "Man is not long from the wilderness,

and it takes him but a short time to go back living with it...."

—James Crownover, author of *Wild Ran the Rivers*

LIFE AND DEATH OF A VALIANT TEXAS RANGER

"No man in the wrong," legendary Texas Ranger Capt. W.D. (Bill) McDonald famously declared early in the 20th century, "can stand up against a man in the right who keeps on a comin'." These days, it is books on the Texas Rangers and individual rangers that "keep on a comin'"



According to author Joe Johnston, in *Necessary Evil: Settling Missouri with a Rope and a Gun*, the brutal guerilla warfare of the Kansas-Missouri border defined the young life of Jesse James and his family.

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**ERIC H. HEISNER: WESTERN NOVELIST,
ACTOR, FILMMAKER**



Eric Heisner's career as Western novelist, screenwriter, actor and professional gunfighter—especially for a Midwestern boy raised in Northern Illinois, is anything but the norm. Eric's father Ron, an agri-business professor, is also a professional Old West actor, stunt-gunfighter and entertainer, who, while Eric was growing up, took the family on Western gunfighting and Civil War reenacting weekends every summer. Eric has fond memories of his summers of historical War camping, listening to the tales around the campfire, and by the age of 13, participating in his father's gunfighter troupe. His father's favorite Western actor is Jimmy Stewart and Heisner credits his dad with introducing him to Stewart's Anthony Mann trilogy as an influence on his screenwriting, acting and first Western novel, *West to Bravo* (Skyhorse Publishing, \$22.95).

After finishing Columbia College in Chicago with a film degree, Heisner moved West to Los Angeles, where he is pursuing his writing, acting and directing career in film and television, including writing and directing the award-winning Western television pilot, *Friend of the Devil*. Heisner credits these five Western classics as major influences on his writing:

- 1 *Monte Walsh* (Jack Schafer, Houghton Mifflin Company): This classic buddy relationship story integrates humor in the hard living of the Old West. The stories of Monte and Chet ring true to form of an enduring friendship over the years as the western frontier comes to a close.
- 2 *Trails Plowed Under: Stories of the Old West* (Charles M. Russell, Doubleday): Wonderful stories of cowboys and American Indians are told by an active participant and colorful storyteller. The dialogue and speech really ring true to authentic Western speech. The illustrations are, of course, outstanding!
- 3 *Hondo* (Louis L'Amour, Bantam): The epitome of a self-reliant Westerner, Hondo and similar characters portrayed by Randolph Scott and Gary Cooper were an inspiration for my buckskin-clad character in *West to Bravo*. The independent spirit doesn't get any better

than a man, his horse and a dog set against Western landscapes.

4 *Lonesome Dove* (Larry McMurtry, Simon & Schuster): As a filmmaker, I love it that one of the greatest Western novels ever written is said to have first been a screenplay that went around Hollywood for the likes of John Wayne, James Stewart and Henry Fonda. After it was put in novel form, the best-selling story was adapted to become the finest Western miniseries ever produced.

5 *Historic Photos of Texas Lawmen* (Mike Cox, Turner): This is great resource of period photos that show the look and firearms of choice for those who enforced the law in frontier Texas. There are great photos of adventure-ready men that put an interesting face to the stories of daring escapades on the Texas borderlands. Cox is an accomplished authority on Texas Rangers and has several excellent books on the subject.

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A New Look at the Life of Billy the Kid
Patrick Manley

July 14, 1881: BILLY THE KID is shot dead under suspicious circumstances. The young outlaw may be the most misunderstood character in the history of the Old West.

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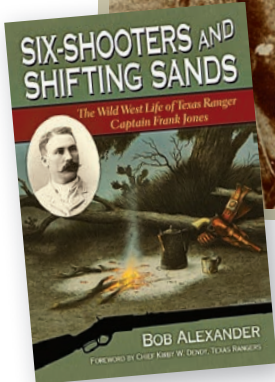
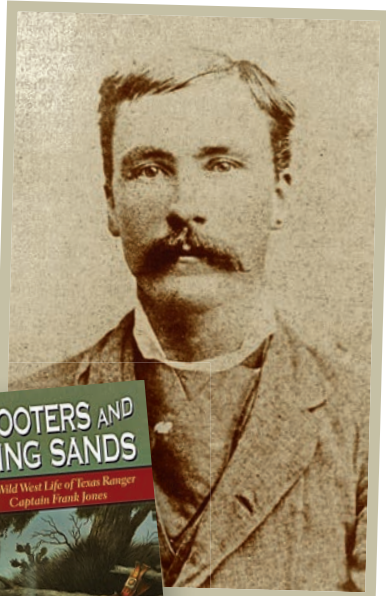
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Bob Alexander's biography of Texas Ranger Capt. Frank Jones is an complex, well-researched profile of a legendary lawman who was dedicated to his duty and the Lone Star State.

- PHOTO FROM TEXAS RANGER SKETCHES COURTESY THE AUTHOR, ROBERT W. STEPHENS -



The latest title in a genre that's been booming since the beginning of the current century, is

Bob Alexander's *Six-Shooters and Shifting Sands: The Wild West Life of Texas Ranger Captain Frank Jones* (University of North Texas Press, \$34.95). Prior to this book, Capt. Jones was better known for his death than his life. Though nothing can change the fact that Jones died in the line of duty in a border shootout in 1893, Alexander has brought the hard-working Ranger back to life, in a literary sense, by focusing on the rest of this state lawman's story. The book is well-researched, and includes ample previously unknown information from Ranger correspondence at the Texas State Archives, contemporary newspaper reports and other sources. A retired federal agent-turned-writer, Alexander knows cops—old-school or modern—and he knows how to find information. This is a solid book that will appeal to any fan of Wild West history.

—Mike Cox, author of *Time of the Rangers: Texas Rangers: From 1900 to the Present*

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O'Reilly's *Legends & Lies*

Bill O'Reilly steers the first-ever docudrama from Fox News Channel, which promises to debunk Old West "legends" and expose the "lies."

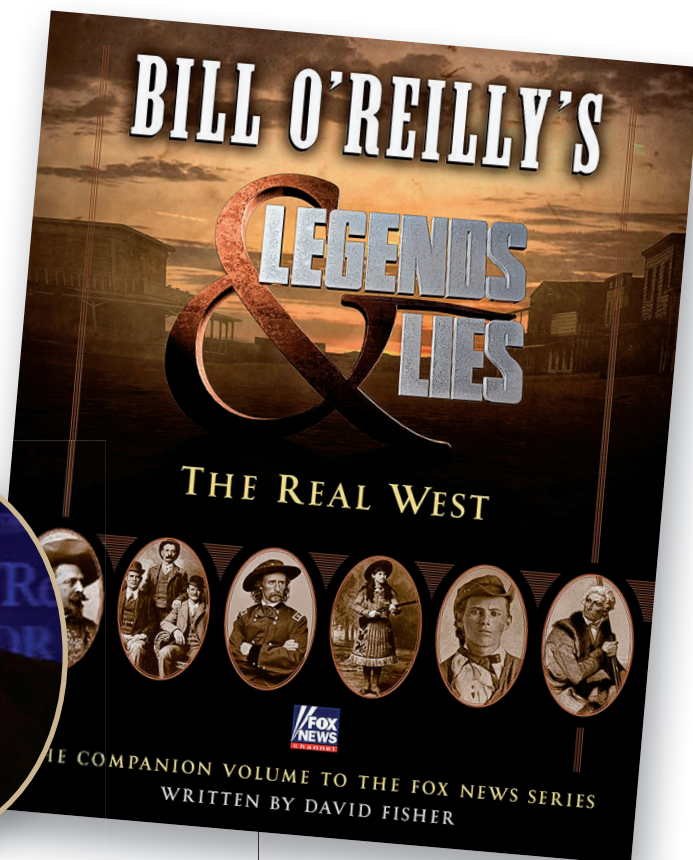
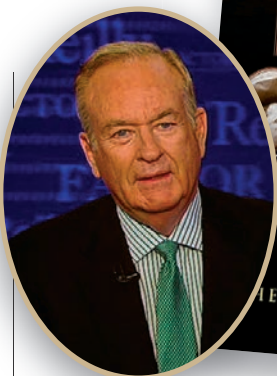
Bill O'Reilly is no stranger to digging into history. The political commentator and host for *The O'Reilly Factor* on Fox News Channel has put his History degree to work in his nonfiction books, particularly *Killing Kennedy*, *Killing Lincoln* and, most recently, *Killing Patton*, all cowritten with author Martin Dugard.

Like O'Reilly himself, the books have invited controversy over their accuracy. But he has counter-punched his critics, all while his book sales number in the millions. And let's not forget, even as some lambasted the Lincoln book, *Mother Jones* called the film version based on it the "most historically accurate" of the recent biopics, which included Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln*.

Now O'Reilly is looking further into the history of the United States. And he's heading to the Western frontier to stake his claim.

Executive produced by O'Reilly and premiering on April 12 on Fox News Channel, *Legends & Lies* promises to target the hokum surrounding the most iconic outlaws and lawmen of the West, and blow away the over-told tall tales, letting audiences see the truth behind the image.

Legends & Lies is an experiment in form for the network, which has never attempted



this kind of series before, much less one digging into the truths of the Old West.

"There are 10 episodes, each one focusing on a different character from American Western history, spanning many decades," producer John Finley says. "We go back as far as Davy Crockett, in the early 19th century, and all the way through the 1890s, with Billy the Kid, Doc Holliday. With regards to Billy, for example, there's a lot of mythology to explore."

The yarn spinning about the Kid has been unending, even in his time. Newspapers reported on geezers claiming Sheriff Pat Garrett never fired the fatal shot that killed the Kid, or that they themselves were the Kid. Add to this, more than 100 years of novels, movies and TV shows about the outlaw, and an iconic, but distorted, image is built.

Bill O'Reilly's latest venture for Fox News Channel promises to recast Old West legends, such as Buffalo Bill Cody, George Custer and Jesse James, for a mass audience (see the companion book cover, next to the photo of O'Reilly).

- LEGENDS & LIES BOOK COURTESY HENRY HOLT AND CO.; O'REILLY PHOTO COURTESY FOX NEWS CHANNEL -

Legends & Lies intends to strip the myth from each pioneer, through interviews with historians, dramatic re-creations of the subject's life and scientific analysis about the person's death.

Says Finley, "We talk to some forensic experts about these deaths. We're not *CSI*, but we are looking at events in a different way for a documentary about the West, and the audience sees the forensic details, and these stories in a new way."

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Among the Old West historical events featured on *Legends & Lies* is the most famous gunfight of them all, the 1881 shoot-out behind the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona (above).

Not new to covering the Old West pantheon, Fox News Channel aired a "newly discovered image" (center) of outlaw Billy the Kid in 2013. The evidence was New Mexico historian Frank Parrish's identification of the other man (on the left) as Dan Dedrick, a friend of the Kid's. The network reported that the claim had its skeptics. Indeed, most historians are sticking to the only authenticated photograph of the Kid (right).

- COURTESY FOX NEWS CHANNEL/BILLY & DAN COURTESY FRANK PARRISH AND PHOTO OWNER JOE SOEBBING -



O'Reilly's persona alone lets *Legends & Lies* viewers know the series won't be shy in shaking up concepts about the history of the American West and about the people who made it.

"Bill O'Reilly is one of the most powerful brands in all of television," Finley says, "and he's extended that very successfully. He has a great passion for history, and was a great, natural fit for this project, and our audience."

A *Legends & Lies* companion book, written by noted novelist and biographer David Fisher, will be released in April by Henry Holt and Co. Going into greater detail about each episode, Fisher's extensively illustrated volume covers mountain man Kit Carson, gunfighter Wild Bill Hickok, Deputy U.S. Marshal Bass Reeves and other pioneers whose lives will be explored on the show.

Western Writers of America President Sherry Monahan is one of the on-camera experts, and she says she was impressed

by *Legends & Lies* research: "Their list of questions was exhaustive. They were also open to me suggesting questions they hadn't thought of. I've worked on documentaries in the past and was occasionally asked to read a statement that was unverified, which I refused."

The New York Times bestselling author Chris Enss was also interviewed. She feels the show is trying for a complete view of the historic figures, warts and all: "The producers for this series have done a sensational job gathering together historians, professors, authors and even psychologists to speak to the motives of the Western legend's actions they are spotlighting."

The interest in *Legends & Lies*—some of it curiosity, some pundit speculation and some viewer excitement—is amazing for a show that has not yet aired. (Screeners were not made available by press date.) Whether this series receives good reviews or bad, the fact that it is being launched by media powerhouse Fox News, with O'Reilly leading the charge, means this series could be seen by more people than any other documentary about the Old West.

O'Reilly's persona alone lets viewers know the series won't be shy in shaking up concepts about the history of the American West.

"From the Fox News Channel perspective, this is the first series like this we've ever done, and that's exciting," Finley says. "We're producing this for a mass audience, and I think it's going to appeal to a wide range of people, the ones who know about the West, and the ones who want to find out."

DVD REVIEW

BAD COMPANY

(Warner Archive; \$21.99) Robert Benton's 1972 gem, with a superb Jeff Bridges and Barry Brown, is available again in this solid transfer. This is no *Young Guns* teen-throb flick, but a true, gritty look at life in the violent West, and at young men forced to pick up a gun.



C. Courtney Joyner is a screenwriter and director with more than 25 produced movies to his credit. He is the author of *The Westerners: Interviews with Actors, Directors and Writers*.

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Michael Bennett (above), known as Nugget Noggin to his YouTube followers, found these items—a Civil War belt plate, a War of 1812 button, a Civil War button, and a rare two-cent piece—found with his Garrett AT Pro.



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SURVIVAL

OUT WEST

BY TERRY A. DEL BENE

Surviving Captivity

IDAHO-BOUND FANNY KELLY KEPT HER WITS ABOUT HER DURING HER SCRAPES WITH DEATH.

In 1864, as the Civil War ground toward its bloody finish, the West was aflame in widespread Indian conflicts of unimaginable violence and scope. Unconcerned by the dangers of traveling in small groups, a party of Idaho-bound emigrants camped on Little Box Elder Creek in present-day Wyoming. On July 12, they were detected by a roaming party of Oglala led by their war chief, Ottawa.

As the Indians approached, the emigrants prepared to issue a welcome of powder and shot, but Fanny Kelly dissuaded them. She passionately pointed out the Indians' overwhelming numbers. Fanny's husband, Josiah, acceded to her pleas and parlayed with the Sioux. The warriors demanded provisions and a prized racehorse. The Kellys gave everything asked for, save Josiah's guns.

The emigrants were allowed to go in peace, but became apprehensive as the warriors continued to travel with them. Approaching a rocky glen and fearing a trap within, Josiah called a halt. Josiah convinced the leader to accept a farewell feast before departing.

As the emigrants prepared dinner, the Oglala attacked, killing or wounding all seven men. Fanny, her seven-year-old niece and adopted daughter Mary and another woman and child were whisked into captivity. Fanny devised a plan for Mary to escape. After dark, Mary slipped off the horse carrying her to make her way back to the massacre site. But warriors detected Mary's escape and headed back to kill her; Mary's scalped and arrow-ridden body was discovered a few days later by her father and his soldier escorts.

Fanny Kelly (right) endured great hardships.

She lived as a captive with two different Sioux families before she was released in December 1864. Her husband, Josiah, lived only three more years and died from cholera just before the birth of their first child.

She lived to be 59.

— ALL PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

Fanny despaired the loss of her entire family and the role her advice had played in these events. After a disastrous attack by Union Brig. Gen. Alfred Sully's force, the Sioux threatened to burn Fanny at the stake; Ottawa spared her. For the next five months, Fanny was passed around between tribes.

Fanny gained notoriety while in the Indian camp at a little-known action near Rhame, North Dakota. The September 5 fight at a makeshift sod fort, Fort Dilts, was one of the only recorded iconic wagons-in-a-circle siege, as Sitting Bull's warriors surrounded James L. Fisk's wagon train. Fanny penned notes from the Indians to the besieged wagon party. She cleverly inserted pleas for her release among the Sioux demands. Fisk unsuccessfully tried to ransom her, and the Indians scattered when an Army relief force arrived.



FANNY DESPAIRED THE LOSS OF HER ENTIRE FAMILY AND THE ROLE HER ADVICE HAD PLAYED.

HISTORY IN ART

BY ILLUSTRATOR ANDY THOMAS

Fanny Kelly's account is melodramatic and no doubt sensationalized. I chose to illustrate her journey after she had parted from Mary: "...the dizzy, fearful heights leading over the dark abyss, or the gloomy, terrible gorge, where only an Indian dares to venture.... I remember looking longingly at the dim shelter of these friendly trees, and being possessed by an almost uncontrollable desire to leap from the horse and dare my fate in endeavoring to reach their protecting shade; but the Indians' rifles behind me, and my dread of instant death, restrained me."



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Brigadier Gen. Alfred Sully returned from fighting hostile attacks in Dakota Territory (see top 1864 photo of Sully's camp on the move) to discover he had to rescue the wagon train party escorted by Capt. James L. Fisk (above). The only good that came out of the fiasco was the discovery that Fanny Kelly was being held captive. Fort Sully paid her ransom in December.

Fanny became a valuable commodity and eventually was turned in for ransom (reportedly 19 horses) at Fort Sully on or around December 9. Her captors and subsequent owners had moved her across hundreds of miles of the Northern Plains. She experienced prairie fires, warfare, starvation, physical abuse and scrapes with death. Fanny was reunited with Josiah, and her captivity narrative remains a classic. ★

Terry A. Del Bene is an archaeologist and freelance writer who worked for many years for the Bureau of Land Management in Wyoming before he retired to Alaska in 2010.



HOW TO START A FIRE

Prior to the invention of the friction match in 1826, starting a fire often involved flint and steel. Iron has properties that allow it to spontaneously ignite at normal temperatures. Flint, being harder than steel or iron, detaches particles of iron when the two are struck together.

The sparks can kindle various materials, such as a char cloth. You can make this blackened cotton cloth with an Altoids mint tin. Punch a small hole in the lid, so the gas doesn't pressurize and cause the tin to explode. Closely pack a cotton cloth, like a white t-shirt, inside the tin and heat over a fire. Wait until the tin cools to open.

Flint is common in most areas of the West and easy to find. Iron is found in many places naturally, though our ancestors have littered the West with metal refuse that you could also use. You can fabricate tinder by shredding a piece of rope, or create it naturally, through evergreens, especially pines.

Look around and see what the environment has to offer. If you can make a hot spark and have dry tinder, you can have fire.

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Every Dog Has its Day

A tropical treat chased by pups became a frontier delicacy.

Mark Twain's critical view of the exotic coconut tree, which he described as a "feather-duster struck by lightning," didn't keep American pioneers from appreciating the fruit it bore.

Coconuts, despite being from tropical locales, became popular in the American West in the mid-1800s. Usually spelled cocoanut or cocoa nut, the fruit could survive the sea voyage during an era of unrefrigerated sailing vessels. As early as 1860, *The Daily Evening Bulletin* in San Francisco, California, advertised coconuts for sale: "Cocoa Nuts... Schooner Hornet, 42 days from Fanning's [*sic*] Island, Direct."

American pioneers not only used coconuts for food, but also used coconut oil to make soap and hair products.

The U.S. imported both from the Hawaiian Islands, Fanning Island, Tahiti and other locales. In 1869, *The Daily Bulletin* in Leavenworth, Kansas, reported merchant A. Biega had received 1,000 coconuts in

June. That entire year, the U.S. imported nearly one million coconuts.

By the 1870s, thanks to a new product called desiccated coconut, cooks and housewives no longer had the arduous task of breaking open coconuts to shred the tropical fruit. In 1872, San Francisco's *The Daily Evening Bulletin* reported, "New York and its vicinity takes hundreds of thousands of cocoanuts, desiccates them, so that at all times and seasons of the year you can have your cocoa-nut puddings or

cocoa-nut candy. One firm alone prepares monthly 140,000 cocoanuts in this way."

Children and dogs liked coconuts, too, but for different reasons. In May 1883, some young boys found a way to get the "nuts" for free. The

boys wanted the coconuts so they could sell them for about 18 cents per pound—the equivalent of \$4.50 today. When the schooners reached San Francisco, young boys employed the help of playful pups on

"This continued for
some time, and was
enjoyed by some
who saw the affair."



— BY SHERRY MONAHAN

COCONUT CAKE

- 1 c. butter
- 2 c. sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 c. milk
- 3 c. flour
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla or lemon extract
- 1-2 c. fresh coconut

Cream butter and sugar together in a large bowl. Add the eggs and vanilla, and beat until smooth and foamy. Combine the flour, baking powder and salt in a bowl and stir. Add the flour mixture and then the milk to the egg mixture. Once combined, beat for about three minutes until light and fluffy. Pour mixture into greased and floured nine-inch cake pans. Bake at 350°F for 25-30 minutes or until done. Test with a toothpick. Cool and spread with your favorite frosting, and then coat the frosting with coconut.



Recipe adapted from
The Kansas Home Cook Book, 1874

the wharf. The boys would “accidentally” kick a coconut, and the dog would chase after it. The dog then absconded with the coconut and added it to a pile of them around the corner. The city’s *Evening Bulletin* reported, “This continued for some time, and was enjoyed by some who saw the affair.”

While some dogs played with the coconuts like they were balls, others got their coats shiny for dog shows by bathing in coconut oil. Then in 1889, one man placed an ad stating dog owners should switch to Ivory Soap. Yes, that Ivory. It was invented in 1879, and John Bolus claimed the soap was cheaper and better to use for dogs over coconut oil.

Coconuts themselves were chiefly a food staple. The most popular coconut dishes were cakes, pies, cookies (called drops), candies and, to quench your thirst, coconut sodas. The invention of baking powder in the 1850s allowed cooks to easily create layer cakes, such as the yummy coconut cake shared in the frontier recipe. ❖

Sherry Monahan has penned *Mrs. Earp: Wives & Lovers of the Earp Brothers*; *California Vines, Wines & Pioneers*; *Taste of Tombstone*; *The Wicked West* and *Tombstone’s Treasure*. She’s appeared on the History Channel in *Lost Worlds* and other shows.

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IN SEARCH OF

Six writers crisscross their states seeking our iconic Western heroes.

Can you imagine walking in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery as they saw the Pacific Coast for the first time? Fighting the Comanches on the frontier lines with the Texas Rangers? Following the Santa Fe Trail from Bent's Fort to Santa Fe with Kit Carson? Riding hard against the wind across the Arizona landscape with Geronimo? Walking the boardwalks of the wicked Kansas cowtowns with Wyatt Earp? Or tracking outlaws across the Indian Territory with Big Bill Tilghman?

For our 13th annual travel issue, we asked six writers to do just that: travel across Oregon, Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas and Arizona in search of the history and heritage of these iconic Western heroes. What they discovered and share with us will inspire your own travel-adventure into the West where you will create your own trail into the past, and leave your own footsteps in time.

—Stuart Rosebrook



THE WEST



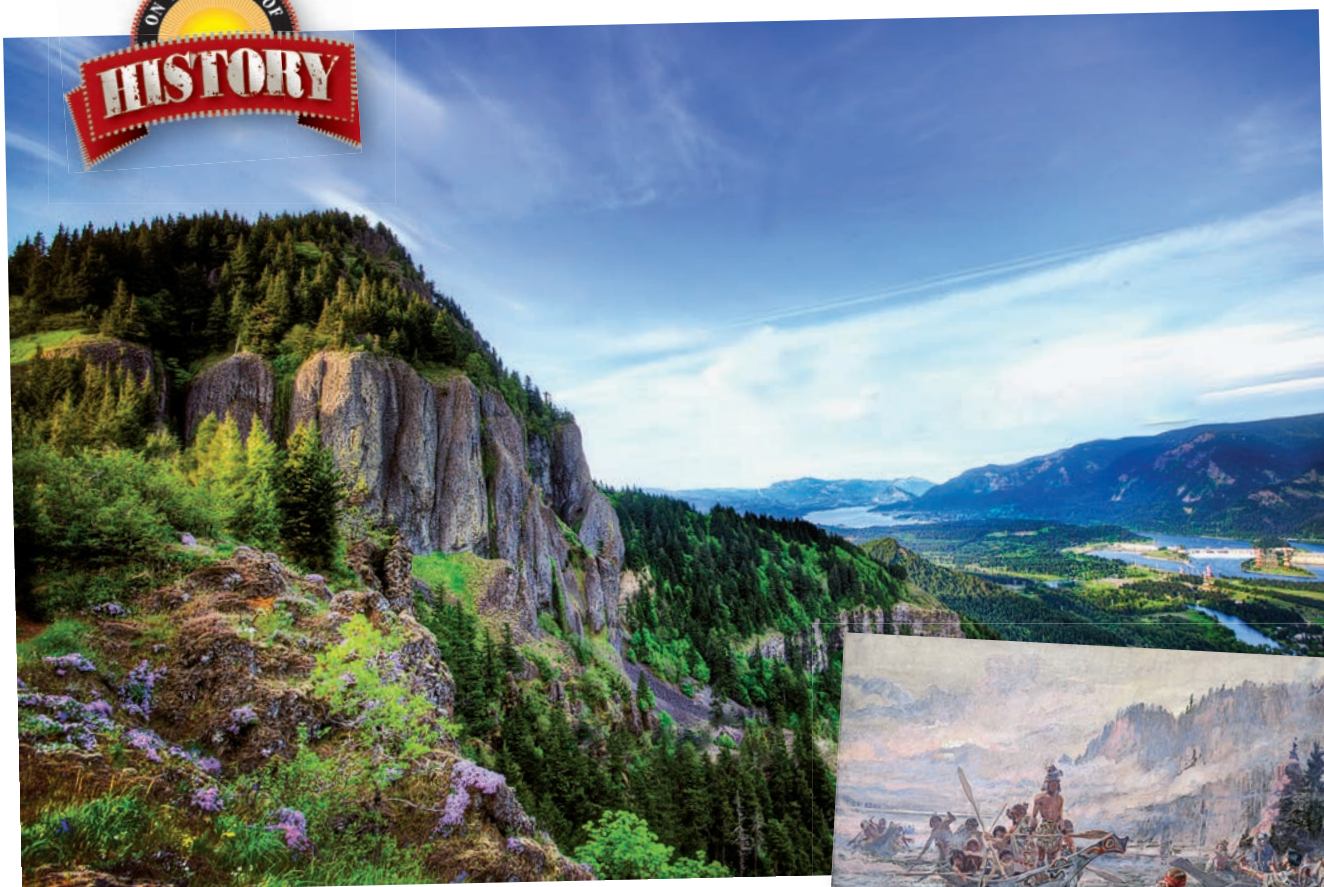
Alfred Jacob Miller's *The Lost Greenhorn*, painted circa 1860, quintessentially captures the details of the fur trappers Miller traveled with decades before, and his own personal experiences on the trail in search of new adventures.

— COURTESY WHITNEY WESTERN ART MUSEUM, BUFFALO BILL CENTER OF THE WEST —

By Terry Del Bene

Lewis and Clark's Oregon

The Columbia River leads travelers to the sea along the route of the Corps of Discovery.



Today the scenic Columbia River Gorge is a recreational and commercial waterway, but in 1805 when explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark traveled down the river to the Pacific Ocean, they faced many challenges, including negotiating safe passage with local Indian tribes, as imagined a century later by Charles M. Russell in his 1905 painting *Lewis and Clark on the Lower Columbia*.

— COURTESY VANCOUVER USA REGIONAL TOURISM OFFICE/COURTESY AMON CARTER MUSEUM, FORT WORTH, TEXAS —

In November of 1803 the tiny Corps of Volunteers for North Western Discovery (shortened to Corps of Discovery or Corps) set out from St. Louis on their journey to explore and document the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase. The expedition was carefully planned and outfitted by the Jefferson Administration. Its leaders, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, were to take the Corps up the Missouri River and

eventually to the Pacific Ocean. Some, including Thomas Jefferson, believed that the Missouri might be the Northwest Passage that would allow the shipping of goods from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean without circumnavigating South America.

The Corps was tasked to gather information about peoples, plants and animals that inhabited the purchase, and to establish friendly relations with the native

inhabitants. The explorers managed to get along with their numerous hosts on the route, despite intense intertribal competition to control trade. The Corps narrowly avoided enraging the Brule Sioux sufficiently to start an armed conflict early in their journey.

By good planning and better luck, the Corps managed to reach the limits of the Louisiana Purchase, the headwaters of the Missouri, in September of 1805,

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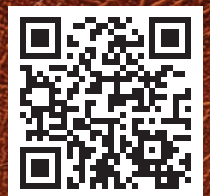
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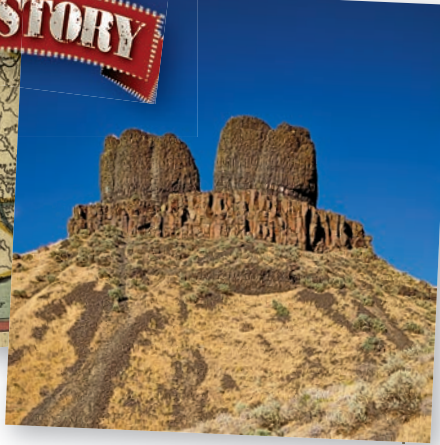
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Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's successful, round-trip expedition of the West that mapped much of the Great Plains, Rocky Mountains and Pacific Northwest, including the Upper Missouri watershed and the Columbia River to the Pacific, inspired a young nation toward its Manifest Destiny.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —



Lewis and Clark would have passed Twin Sisters Rock on their journey to the Pacific Ocean in 1805. The landmark is near Wallula Gap on the Columbia River, just north of the Oregon state line and Hat Rock State Park near Umatilla, Oregon.

— CAROL M. HIGHSMITH/COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

having suffered the loss of but a single life. The expedition continued west into lands claimed by multiple nations. The explorers entered the Columbia River drainage following that watercourse, alternately canoeing and portaging around rapids and waterfalls. Near Umatilla they entered Oregon. The swift currents gave the Corps some of its fastest days of travel, surpassing an incredible thirty miles a day on occasion. On November 6, 1805 Clark's journal proclaimed, "Ocian in view! O! the joy." It took the explorers another eight days to reach the actual ocean as Clark had only seen an estuary and swift progress was thwarted by contrary tides and winds.

The Corps set about exploring the coastlines of Washington and Oregon before settling on a location in Oregon, where they built a stockade to shelter their thirty-plus members, a baby and a Newfoundland dog. The choice of the winter camp's location was put to a vote of all the adult participants, including a Native American woman and an African American slave. The Corps named its winter home Fort Clatsop after a local tribe. Pelted by rains, hail and occasionally snow, the Corps struggled to complete its shelters, even plundering boards from abandoned Indian huts.

The explorers hoped to contact a trading vessel and obtain supplies, but such an encounter was not realized. The expedition

spent the winter preparing for the trip home by repairing equipment, hunting, fishing and preserving food. A furnace was built on the beach, in the modern town of Seaside, and a work detail spent weeks boiling seawater to render salt. The several bushels of sea salt produced preserved food for the return journey.

The Corps invested significant time learning about and learning about and keeping notes on the local Indians and the environment of the Northwest. The explorers traded with several tribes and documented the life-ways and customs of their hosts in detail. For example, they documented the manufacture of Clatsop

and Chinook Indian bows that were backed with sinew and

held together with glue made of sturgeon. They recorded local plants and animals and often provided names for them in local languages.

When news of a beached whale reached the explorers, a party was dispatched to the site but arrived too late to harvest this bounty. Local Indians shared some of the whale with their guests.

Several of the men were afflicted with influenza while others complained of venereal disease. The former was attributed to the climate and the latter to liaisons with Chinook women. Lewis nursed

the men back to health. With buffalo unavailable, the Corps took to purchasing dogs, dried fish and roots from the Clatsop to break up the monotony of the elk meat that dominated their diet.

On March 23, 1806, the Corps began to retrace their steps and return home. Having made no contact with trading vessels, they left certificates with tribal leaders, a record of their having reached the Pacific. Going upstream against the current of the Columbia was hard work. The task required paddling and portaging until they could get into Nez Perce country and recover their horses left there for safekeeping. The adventures continued on the rapid return home. The

Clark's
journal proclaimed,
"Ocian in view! O!
the joy."

SIDE ROADS

Places to Visit:

Fort Stevens State Park, Astoria • Fort Clatsop National Memorial • Lewis and Clark National Park • Columbia River Maritime Museum • The Oregon Historical Society & Museum, Portland • Fort Dalles Museum, The Dalles • Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum, The Dalles.

Celebrations & Events:

The Saltmakers Return, August, Seaside • Whale Watching Week, Oregon Coastline, December • Fort Dalles Days, July, The Dalles.

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Corps split into two for a period and one group had a skirmish with the Blackfoot Indians, the only such violence on the journey. The reunited party reached St. Louis on September 23, 1806, having covered roughly 8,000 miles in just under three years. Lewis and Clark did not blaze a route for others to follow but they dangled the vision of western horizons and boundless resources before many who followed. The door to the Northwest had been pried open.

FOLLOW THE PATHS OF THE CORPS OF DISCOVERY

A visit to Oregon offers opportunities to visit landscapes passed through by the expedition. There are no places along the Corps' route in Oregon where it is possible to state with confidence that the Corps actually trod that exact piece of ground. Hat Rock is a landmark named by the Corps but not visited by them. Even Lewis and Clark National Park, the site currently maintaining a replica of the famed Fort Clatsop, may not be the precise location of

this historic fort, the placement of which has yet to be verified archaeologically.

The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is marked along highways of the state. The path in Oregon follows the Columbia River and the Pacific shoreline between Hat Rock and Seaside. Working an east-to-west trip starting at Hat Rock State Park (the 1805 route) along the route one follows U.S. Route 730 to Interstate 84/U.S. Route 30. These routes follow the southern bank of the Columbia River all the way to Portland. After Portland, U.S. Route 30 continues to follow the southern bank and eventually winds up in Astoria. From Astoria, follow U.S. Route 101 to Fort Clatsop and sites associated with the ocean around the town of Seaside. One can follow the 1806 the 1806 route of the Corps by taking by taking the same roads in reverse.

Along the route be sure to see Hat Rock State Park (near Umatilla), Columbia Gorge Visitors Center (The Dalles), Lewis and Clark National Historic Park (Astoria), the Historical Salt Works (Seaside), and pay attention to signs along the entire Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail for more points of interest.

Despite modern barges plying the Columbia River, on a quiet, misty morning one can almost look into the past and discern the dark shapes of the Corps' crude canoes. Those vessels were piloted by a handful of intrepid explorers who unknowingly brought amongst their cargo of trade items and medallions portents of the great changes to come and the terrible fall of nations.



The Lewis and Clark statue, symbolically facing West, welcomes visitors to Seaside, Oregon, and the Pacific Ocean on the trail of the Corps of the Discovery.

— COURTESY JON RAHL, CITY OF SEASIDE VISITORS BUREAU —

Good Eats, Sleeps and Reads

Good Grub: Charburger, (Cascade Locks) • Jake's Famous Crawfish (Portland) • BRIDGEwater Bistro, (Astoria) • Baldwin Saloon, (The Dalles).

Good Lodging: Cousin's Country Inn, (The Dalles) • Red Lion on the River, (Portland) • Astoria Crest Motel (Astoria).

Good Books: *The Journals of the Expedition of Capts. Lewis and Clark* edited by Nicholas Biddle • *Undaunted Courage, Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the West* by Stephen Ambrose • *Lewis and Clark Through Indian Eyes: Nine Indian Writers on the Legacy of the Expedition* by Alvin M. Josephy Jr.

DETOUR:


Fort Clatsop National Memorial

It never rains but when it pours! To the Corps their arrival in the Northwest after over a year in the semi-arid Missouri River drainage was made almost intolerable by the virtually incessant rains that characterized winter in that region. The diaries are full of references to the tribulations created by the weather. Until the Corps could build huts they were forced to sleep out in the tatters of their tents, often kept awake all night while streams of water ran through the tents. On December 17, 1805, Lewis wrote one of his many mentions of the foul weather, "It rained all night, and this morning there was a high wind, and hail as well as rain fell; and on the top of the mountain about ten miles to the southeast of us we observed some snow. The greater part of our stores is wet, and our leathern tent is so rotten that the slightest touch make a rent in it, and it will now scarcely shelter a spot large enough for our beds."

Terry A. Del Bene is an archaeologist and has authored several books including *The Donner Party Cookbook: A Guide to Survival on the Hastings Cutoff*.



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The Texas Rangers' 192-year service to the citizens of the Lone Star State is legendary from the earliest American settlements to the present.

— COURTESY ROBERT McCUBBIN COLLECTION —

By Mike Cox

The Texas Rangers

History is revealed in the boot prints of the Lone Star State's famous lawmen.

Pursuing hostile Indians or stage-robbing outlaws, Texas Rangers rode many a hard trail in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Luckily for today's heritage tourist, the legendary Lone Star lawmen, in doing their duty, left deep boot prints.

A logical starting place in search of Ranger history: Waco, Texas. Located astride Interstate 35 near the center of the state, Waco is home to the Texas Ranger Museum and Hall of Fame. The complex stands about where Fort Fisher, a Republic of Texas-era Ranger outpost, once protected settlers along the upper Brazos River.

Opened in 1973, the year the Rangers marked their 150th anniversary, the museum has continued to expand both in floor space and in the extent of its artifact collection—from well-used six-guns to silver “star-in-a-wheel” badges and more. In addition to the permanent displays and changing exhibits illustrating the evolution of the Rangers from 1823 to the present, the museum's Moody Library also houses extensive archival material.

Adjacent to the museum is Oakwood Cemetery, one of Waco's oldest. Here lies the grave of Lawrence Sullivan “Sul” Ross, governor of Texas from 1886 to 1891. As a young man, he


served as a Ranger captain. In 1860, Ross and his men rescued Cynthia Ann Parker, one of the more famous Indian captives in Western history.

To pursue that story, go east from Waco to near Groesbeck and a 78-year-old replica of Fort Parker, a key place in Ranger history. Here, not a month after Texas assured its disconnect from Mexico when Sam Houston defeated Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna in the Battle of San Jacinto, an event took place that underscored the need for a permanent Ranger force.

On the morning of May 19, 1836, a large Comanche war party attacked the log stockade. The warriors



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Ranger Capt. John Coffee Hays fought in the Texas Revolution against the Comanches at numerous battles, including the Battle of Plum Creek. He helped to thwart a Mexican invasion in 1842, and helped defeat Mexico at the Battle of Monterrey in the Mexican-American War.

— MATTHEW BRADY —

Captured in bronze, Ranger Capt. John Coffee Hays eternally rides the Texas frontier astride his favorite horse at the San Marcos Courthouse square.

— LAUREN CHERNOW/COURTESY HAYS COUNTY —

killed five members of the Parker clan and abducted two women and three children. One of them was little Cynthia Ann, later found by Capt. Ross and his Rangers in what is now Hardeman County. By then, she had been assimilated into the tribe and was married to Chief Peta Nacona. Their son, Quanah, became the last great chief of the Comanches.

After touring Fort Parker, turn south and travel to Stephen F. Austin State Site, near Bellview. The park sits on the site of the town of San Felipe, the first Anglo-American municipality in Texas. Here, or near here, Stephen F. Austin penned a document in 1823 proposing to hire 10 men “for the common defense” to protect the 300 families in his charge from Indians.

Also at San Felipe, with Texas on the verge of revolution against Mexico, members making up what they called a Permanent Council voted in the fall of 1835 for an ordinance creating a provisional government and calling for “a corps of rangers.” The ordinance marked the beginning of the Rangers’ transition from militia-like volunteers to an arm of government.

From Austin County, head to the small community of Burton to see the grave of Capt. Leander McNelly. Following service in the Confederate army, McNelly became a Ranger captain whose exploits in South Texas and along the border in the 1870s went a long way toward furthering the Ranger legend.

From Burton, set your GPS for downtown Round Rock in Williamson County. In the summer of 1878, the town was just a sleepy railroad stop 17 miles north of Austin. Outlaw Sam Bass and his gang figured the bank there would be an easy mark, but they didn’t take into account the investigative and coordinative skills of Ranger Maj. John B. Jones.

The major went to Round Rock with a Ranger force to prevent the robbery from happening. In a running gun battle on July 19, 1878, that began when Bass shot and killed a Williamson County sheriff’s deputy (and ex-Ranger) who tried to arrest him for openly carrying a pistol, one of Bass’s men died outright and Bass caught a Ranger bullet that claimed his life a day later.

In Round Rock’s cemetery are the graves of Bass and his fellow outlaw Seaborn Barnes, along with that of A.J. Grimes, the

SIDE ROADS

Places to Visit:

Texas Ranger Museum and Hall of Fame, Waco • Fort Parker State Park, Mexia • Stephen F. Austin State Park, San Felipe • Burton Railroad Depot and Museum, Burton • Bullock Texas State History Museum, Austin • The Alamo, San Antonio • Fort Martin Scott, Fredericksburg • Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, Fredericksburg • El Paso Museum of History, El Paso • Concordia Cemetery, El Paso.

Celebrations & Events:

Frontier Days, every July, Round Rock • Silver Stars and Six-guns, Former Texas Rangers Association Gala, October 10, San Marcos • Texas Rangers Reunion, every May, Fredericksburg • The Parker Family Reunion, every July • Viva El Paso! Four Centuries. Four Cultures. One City, every June, El Paso • Texas Independence Day Celebration, every March 2, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park.

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- COURTESY TEXAS TOURISM -

young former Ranger killed by Bass before a Ranger shot him down.

The next stop is Austin, home to the Bob Bullock Texas History Museum and, among many other attractions, the Texas State Cemetery. Stephen F. Austin

is buried there under an elaborate monument.

The 1857 cemetery is the final resting place of 29 Rangers. A new visitors' center at Texas's "Arlington," provides a history of the historic acreage. Outside Austin in Travis County is the private Hornsby Cemetery, where 18 former Rangers are buried.

The journey to uncover the Rangers' past continues to San Antonio, 75 miles south of Austin, on I-35, much of which tracks an old road blazed by Rangers during the days of the Republic.

On the way to San Antonio, stop at the courthouse square in San Marcos to see a life-size bronze statue of Ranger Capt. John

Coffee Hays by noted Texas sculptor Jason Scull. The Ranger justifiably credited with starting the Ranger legend, Hays was the namesake of the county. Today, revolver in hand and another holstered on his belt, his metal likeness sits perpetually on a horse with its ears back and nostrils flared.

Most people don't associate San Antonio's most famous landmark—the iconic Alamo—with the Texas Rangers. But when co-commander William B. Travis sent a letter from behind the walls of the besieged mission seeking help, 32 Rangers from Gonzales answered the call. When the old mission fell in the predawn hours of March 6, 1836, the Rangers—along with the rest of the garrison—died to the last man.

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Across Alamo Plaza from the historic battle site is the 1859-vintage Menger Hotel and the nearby Buckhorn Saloon. The historic watering hole includes a Ranger museum operated by the Former Texas Rangers Association. One of many Ranger-associated weapons in the museum is a mesquite-scarred .30-.30 rifle carried in the saddle of famed Ranger Capt. John R. Hughes. (The captain is one of the Rangers buried in the State Cemetery.)

After enjoying the Alamo City, drive west to the old German town of Fredericksburg. On the edge of town, adjacent to the site of Fort Martin Scott, the Former Texas Rangers Association is building a Texas Rangers Heritage Center. The center will feature a Ranger Ring of Honor, dedicated to all the Rangers who have died in the line of duty over the years, as well as an education center and archive.



Sixteen miles north of Fredericksburg at Enchanted Rock State Park towers the huge granite mountain where in the early 1840s Jack Hays held off a band of Comanches with his Colt five-shot revolver until other Rangers arrived to save his scalp.

Circle back through Fredericksburg for a 30-minute drive to the small town of Comfort. Near here is the Center Point

The Alamo Mission stands as an icon of Texas independence and the final resting ground of 32 brave Rangers who heeded the call from Gonzalez to join the fight to the death against Gen. Santa Ana's Mexican army.

— JOHNNY D. BOGGS —

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The grave of notorious outlaw John Wesley Hardin, who was killed in an El Paso saloon in 1895, can be visited, along with the grave of Ranger Ernest St. Leon and Hardin's killer, John Selman, in the city's Concordia Cemetery.

— PHOTOS BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS —

Cemetery, where 33 former Rangers lay buried. A state historical marker notes that the rural graveyard has more Ranger graves than any other cemetery in the state.

From Center Point, drive to Sisterdale. Near there, along Walker's Creek on June 8, 1844, Capt. Hays and his Rangers encountered a force of Comanches four times their number. The Rangers all packed the new Colt revolvers, and Hays and his men prevailed in a battle now considered a turning point in the history of the Old West.

William Alexander "Bigfoot" Wallace missed that fight, but he rode with Hays. A giant of a man, Wallace became one of Texas's more colorful frontier characters. He spent the last years of his long life in Frio County. The small community of Big Foot runs a museum dedicated to the celebrated Ranger.

It's an easy drive from Big Foot to Floresville in Wilson County, which has the distinction of being the birthplace of several notable Texas Rangers, including Captains Will Wright and Frank Hamer, who would earn lasting fame as the lawman who tracked down Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker.

Go back to San Antonio and get a good night's sleep for a side trip to far West Texas. You can rest well, knowing that Texas still has 150 Rangers—a division



Visitors on the trail of Texas Ranger history should start their tour at the Texas Ranger Museum and Hall of Fame in Waco.

of the Texas Department of Public Safety since 1935 —helping to maintain law and order in the Lone Star State.

DETOUR:

El Paso is nearly 600 miles west of San Antonio, and in the 19th and early 20th centuries, it seemed even farther from the rule of law. From the bloody El Paso Salt War in 1874 to the violent days of the Mexican Revolution, this city has been tough on Texas Rangers. More Rangers have died in the line of duty in or near the City of the Pass than in any other city in the state.

Several Rangers are buried in the city's Concordia Cemetery, along with outlaw John Wesley Hardin. One of many men Hardin killed during his career was Brown County sheriff's deputy Charles Webb, a former Texas Ranger. El Paso constable John Selman gunned down Hardin in one of the wild town's saloons in 1895.

Visit the El Paso Museum of History for an overview of the city's rich past, one inextricably linked to the Texas Rangers.

Mike Cox is the author of 23 nonfiction books including *The Texas Rangers: Wearing the Cinco Peso, 1821-1900* and *The Time of the Rangers: The Texas Rangers, 1900 to Present*.

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Good Grub: Kreuz Market (Lockhart) • Mi Tierra (San Antonio) • Threadgill's (Austin).

Good Lodging: The Menger Hotel and Buckhorn Saloon, (San Antonio) • The Hangar Hotel, (Fredericksburg) • The Camino Real Hotel, (El Paso).

Good Reads: *The Texas Rangers: Wearing the Cinco Peso, 1821-1900*, by Mike Cox • *Lone Star Justice* by Robert Utley • *The Texas Rangers: A Century of Frontier Defense* by Walter Prescott Webb.

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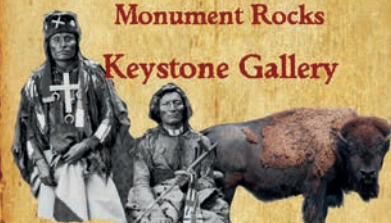
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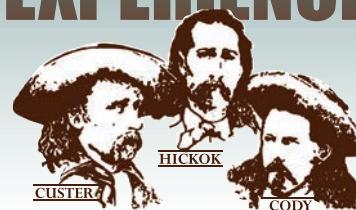


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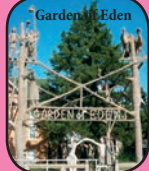
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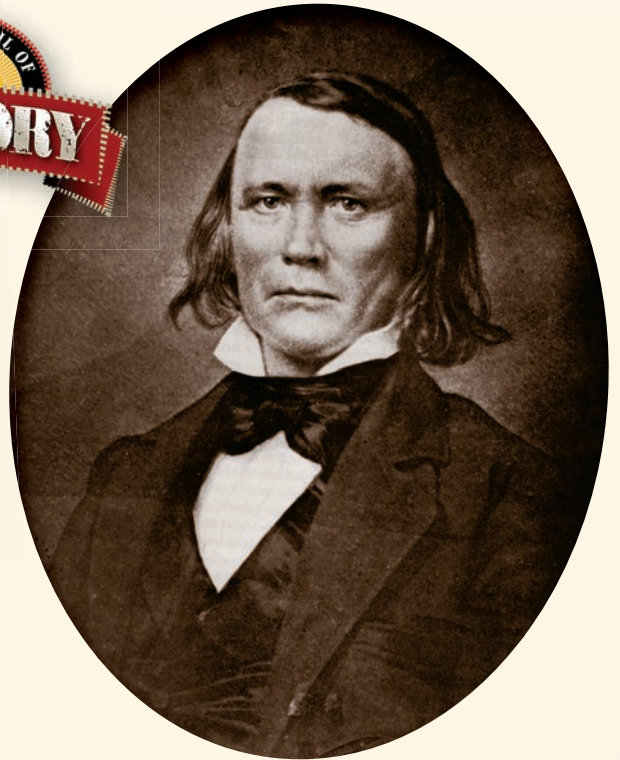
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Christopher "Kit" Carson (below) came West to Taos as a youthful, 16-year-old greenhorn, but before he died in 1868, he had achieved an iconic status—and lived a life as large as any American in history.

— COURTESY LEE BURKE COLLECTION —



As a stock boy on a Santa Fe-bound wagon train, Kit Carson would have stopped at Colorado's Bent's Fort on his first trip to New Mexico, in 1826.

— JOHNNY D. BOGGS —

By Ollie Reed Jr.

Kit Carson's New Mexico

The life of the famed trapper, trailblazer and soldier is poignantly remembered across the state.

Kit Carson—trapper, scout, rancher, family man, Indian agent and soldier—has been dead since 1868, but the trail he blazed in New Mexico, his home base for most of his 58 years, is as fresh as breaking news.

"The most hated white guy in American history?" Kit Carson. Debate Rages After Park Name Change in Taos" read a headline in the June 22, 2014, edition of the *Albuquerque Journal*.

The *Journal* story is about the Taos Town Council's efforts to change the name of Kit Carson Memorial Park to something less offensive to people who brand Carson an Indian killer. Later the council compromised, voting to retain the Carson name for a portion of the park—the cemetery in which the frontiersman and his family are buried.

Admired by some, despised by others, Carson is as controversial today as he was colorful in his own time.

To many, Kit Carson was a hero, a man who helped open the West by acting as guide for soldier/explorer John Charles Fremont on three expeditions—a courageous American who served his country during the Mexican War, the Civil War and in campaigns against the Apache, Navajo, Comanche and Kiowa peoples; a decent man who ignored orders from his superiors to kill the men of enemy Indian tribes on sight.

Those who paint Carson a villain point to the suffering endured by the Navajo people during and after his fight with them in 1863-64. In order to subdue the Navajos, Carson burned crops, destroyed orchards and killed livestock, pushing the tribe to the brink of starvation. Following their surrender, hundreds of Navajos died during forced marches of 350 to 450 miles to the Bosque Redondo Reservation at Old Fort Sumner, New Mexico. Another two thousand died during the four years they were held at Bosque Redondo, a harsh place of alkaline water, saline soil and scarce firewood.

To many, Kit Carson was a hero, a man who helped open the West...

Was Carson or U.S. policy to blame?

He was born in Kentucky, raised in Missouri and he died in Colorado, but whatever else Carson may have been, he was and is every bit New Mexican. You can pick up his trail almost anywhere in the state. We'll start in Santa Fe, but we won't linger there because Carson didn't.

In August 1826, when he was 16, Carson abandoned an apprenticeship to a saddlemaker in Franklin, Missouri, and signed on as a stock handler with a caravan bound for Santa Fe. The party arrived in Santa Fe late in the fall of that year, but Carson left almost immediately for Taos, 70 miles to the northeast. Taos served as headquarters of the Southwest fur trade and as the wintering grounds of mountain men—that reckless, adventurous breed Carson would soon join.

To get to Taos from Santa Fe, take U.S. 84-285 to Espanola and N.M. 68 from Espanola into Taos. It's a beautiful drive, especially in the late summer or fall. As

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Kit Carson and his wife, Josefa, raised their family in their adobe home (above) in Taos, which today is maintained as a museum.

— PHOTOS BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS —

you approach Taos, mountains and gorges spill out onto high plains studded by juniper, piñon pine, sage and brilliantly yellow chamisa. Taos itself is set against the backdrop of an exceptionally impressive segment of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

First stop in Taos is the Kit Carson Home and Museum, on Kit Carson Street, just east of the plaza. Carson bought this place in 1843, the year he married Josefa Jaramillo. They lived much of their life together in this house and raised their family here. Visitors can watch a 20-minute video about Carson's life and take in exhibits that include photos and paintings of the Carson family, Carson's military saber, Josefa's sewing kit and lots more. Admission is \$5 to \$7, and children 13 and younger are free.

From the Carson home, walk the short distance west to the plaza. This



The ruins of Fort Craig are all that remain to remind visitors of Lt. Col. Kit Carson and the First New Mexico Volunteer Infantry's valiant battle at Valverde against Confederate E.R.S. Sibley's forces on February 21, 1862.

is one of the few places in the country where the U.S. flag is permitted to fly 24 hours day. That fact pays homage to an incident during the Civil War, in which Carson and his friends Smith H. Simpson, Ceran St. Vrain and Tom Boggs re-erected the flag after it had been removed by Southern sympathizers. They then stood guard by Old Glory day and night to protect it from additional indignities.



On Bent Street, just north of the plaza, is the Governor Bent House and Museum. Charles Bent was the first civil governor of New Mexico under American rule. His wife was Josefa Carson's sister. Kit Carson was in California with Fremont in 1847, so Josefa was in the Bent home on the morning of January 16 of that year when Taos Indians and others intent on overturning the young American government forced their way into the house, killed Governor Bent and scalped him. Josefa, her sister and others managed to escape by digging through an adobe wall. Today you can see the escape hole in the wall and the iron spoon and poker supposedly used to do the digging. Admission is \$3.

The park that was the subject of the name-change controversy is in the north-

SIDE ROADS

Places to Visit:

New Mexico History Museum, Santa Fe, NM • Palace of the Governors, Santa Fe • Kit Carson Home & Museum, Taos • Governor Bent House & Museum, Taos • Fort Union National Monument, Watrous • Fort Craig Historic Site, 35 miles south of Socorro • Old Mill Museum, Cimarron • Kit Carson Museum at Rayado, Rayado • Bosque Redondo Memorial at Fort Sumner State Park, Fort Sumner • Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Chinle, AZ.

Celebrations & Events:

Fort Union Days, June 20-21, Fort Union National Monument, Watrous • Fiestas de Taos, July 17-19, Taos • Feast of San Geronimo, September 29-30, Taos Pueblo, three miles northeast of Taos.

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wishes, their bodies were moved to Taos.

From Taos, drive east on U.S. 64 through the small ski village of Angel Fire and on through the former gambling town of Eagle Nest into the magnificently rugged Cimarron Canyon State Park, where mule deer stroll along the highway.

Kit Carson was well known in Santa Fe from his earliest days in the capital city in the 1820s until his death in 1868, when he was one of the territory's most famous residents, military leaders and businessmen.

- COURTESY ROBERT MCCUBBIN COLLECTION -

east section of town, within walking distance of the plaza. Stately ravens frequent the grounds, which include the graves of Kit and Josefa. They died within weeks of each other in 1868 in Colorado and were buried there. But in less than a year, in response to Carson's previously expressed

The canyon dumps you into the small community of Cimarron, 60 miles east of Taos, and onto the Cimarron Cutoff portion of the Old Santa Fe Trail, the route taken by the caravan Carson joined in 1826. Now, it is N.M. 21 that leads past the St. James Hotel, founded in 1872 and open

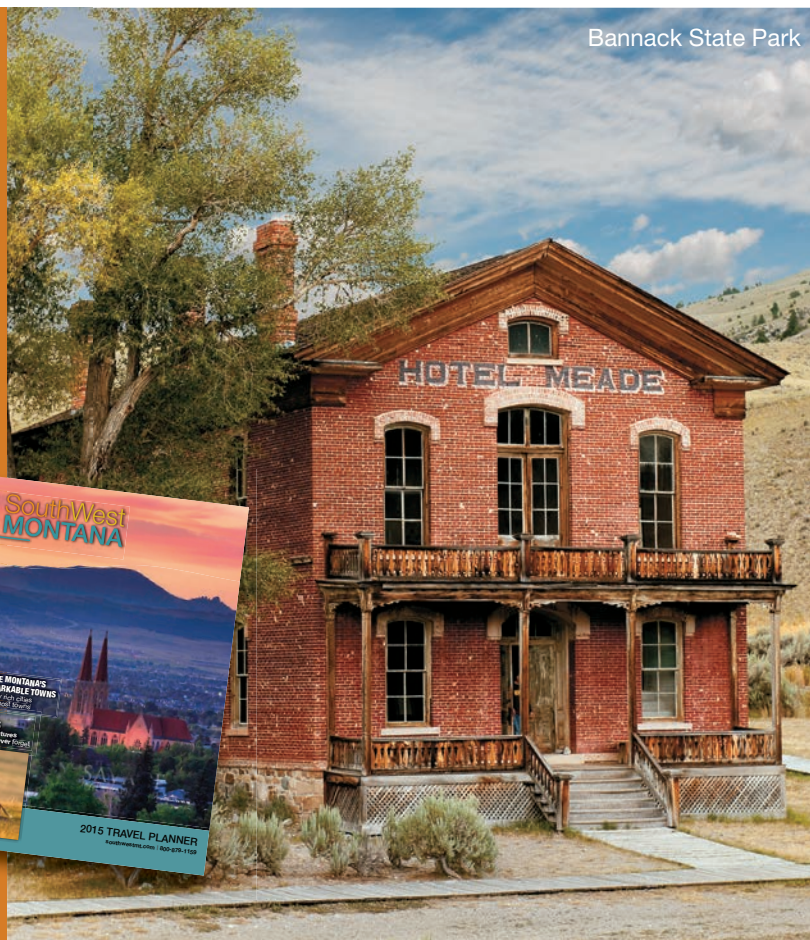
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Taos was Kit Carson's first home when he came to the Mexican state of New Mexico in 1826. His relationship with American Indians across the West is controversial and reflective of the life and death struggle between Mexican, American and Indian nations during Carson's 42 years in the West. He is buried next to his wife, Josefa, in his adopted hometown.

- JOHNNY D. BOGGS -

for business today. Near the hotel is the Old Mill Museum, housed in a gristmill built in 1864 by Lucien Maxwell, a former trapper, owner of the immense Maxwell Land Grant and Carson's friend and business associate. The museum displays exhibits related to area history. Admission is free.

Continuing 14 miles south on N.M. 21, you will come to Rayado, where, starting in 1849, Carson and Maxwell were partners in a ranching business that supplied forage, meat, livestock and supplies to the U.S. Army and others. Today, the Boy Scouts of America operate the Kit Carson Museum in Rayado, a replica of Carson's ranch house. Volunteers in frontier attire

demonstrate 1850s skills such as blacksmithing, cooking, shooting and tomahawk-throwing. Admission is free.

From Rayado, drive 23 miles along N.M. 21 to Springer, where you get onto I-25 South and start back to Santa Fe. On the way, take Exit 366, the Watrous Exit, 28 miles north of Las Vegas, N.M., to Fort Union National Monument, where you can see the adobe remnants of the old Army fort where Carson served as

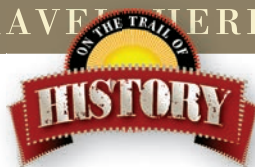


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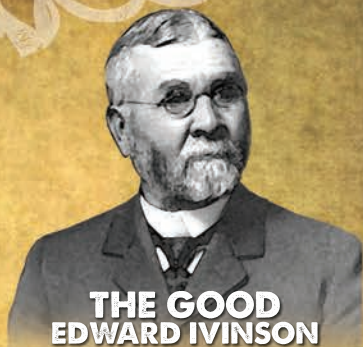
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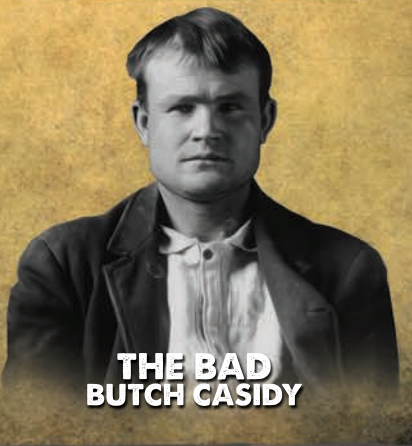
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Kit Carson's role in leading the U.S. Army against the Navajo people in Canyon de Chelly, and relocating them to the Bosque Redondo Indian Reservation near Fort Sumner in 1863, remains a controversial historical event today.

— COURTESY THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES —

commander in late 1865 and early 1866. The Mountain Route and the Cimarron Cutoff branches of the Santa Fe Trail converge at this site, so Carson would have passed through here in 1826. It is still possible to see wagon ruts from the old trail. After the fort was built in 1851, Carson visited here in his role as a rancher providing food, livestock and supplies to the Army.

From Fort Union, continue 94 miles south on I-25 to Santa Fe and the end of the Kit Carson trail.

DETOUR:

Bosque Redondo Memorial

Start in Santa Fe, but instead of heading to Taos, take this long detour (158 miles) to Old Fort Sumner and the monument and museum devoted to the tragic story of the imprisonment here of Navajo and Mescalero Apaches after they were subdued by Carson.

Get on I-25 North and drive eight miles to the Lamy exit onto U.S. 285 South, continue south to Clines Corners and I-40, drive east on I-40 to Santa Rosa, exit south onto U.S. 84 and drive 45 miles to Fort Sumner, turn east onto U.S. 60-84 and drive three miles to a right turn onto a paved road that leads to the memorial. The museum is open daily. Admission is \$3.

Carson was superintendent at Bosque Redondo for three months in 1864 before being assigned to fight Comanches in Texas. Just North of the memorial is the Old Fort Sumner cemetery. Outlaw Billy the Kid is buried here, as is Carson's friend, Lucien Maxwell.

Ollie Reed Jr., a newspaper reporter in Corrales, N.M., is an editor of and a contributor to *Max Evans and a Few Friends*, published by Rio Grande Books.

Good Eats, Sleeps and Reads

Good Grub: El Meze (Taos) • La Cueva (Taos) • St. James Hotel (Cimarron) • The Porch (Cimarron).

Good Lodging: Kachina Lodge (Taos) • El Pueblo Lodge (Taos) • Historic Taos Inn (Taos) • St. James Hotel (Cimarron).

Good Books: *Blood and Thunder: An Epic of the America West* by Hampton Sides • *Kit Carson & His Three Wives: A Family History* by Marc Simmons • *Kit Carson: The Life of an American Border Man* by David Remley.



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By Brett Cogburn

Bill Tilghman's Oklahoma

A famed lawman's exploits reveal a rich tapestry of state history.



Oklahoma's evolution—from its founding as Indian Territory in 1835 to the land rush that created the Oklahoma Territory in 1890 to its consolidation into a state in 1907—created a decades-long haven for lawlessness that led Deputy U.S. Marshal Bill Tilghman to spend a career tracking outlaws across the state until his death in the line of duty in 1924.

— COURTESY ROBERT McCUBBIN COLLECTION/
MAP COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

There once was long, tall man with a jaw like a wolf trap, a hard glint in his eyes, and killer mustache draped above his stubborn lips. Bill Tilghman turned buffalo hunter when only 15, and once claimed to have knocked down over a thousand shaggies with his big bore rifle. At one time or another, he ran a Dodge City saloon, scouted for the army, and became an acquaintance of such notable gunmen as Wyatt Earp and Luke Short. It is said that he strapped

a hog leg on his hip and took his first job as a lawman when he went to work for Bat Masterson as a deputy sheriff. In 1889, after participating in a gun battle in Cimarron, Kansas, he decided to strike out for the south, heading toward Guthrie, a booming town in the Oklahoma Territory. By then, in the prime of middle age, he was a tough,

seasoned man. And it so happened that he was going somewhere that needed his special brand of courage.

Perhaps none
was tougher than
Bill Tilghman.

Oklahoma—first known as Indian Territory, or the Indian Nations in the slang of early times, because during the early 1830s the Five Civilized Tribes were forced from their homes in the southeast and allotted holdings in the territory. One by one, other tribes submitted to the onslaught of the advancing white men and were forcibly removed to I.T.—Plains tribes from the north like the Cheyennes, Arapahos and Pawnees, Comanches and Kiowas from Texas, Apaches from the Southwest, and more and more, until there were approximately forty distinct tribes scattered within its boundaries.

During those years, the tribal courts held no jurisdiction over white men, and the bad element soon found that the Indian Nations were one hell of a place to hide. With only a few deputy U.S. marshals riding the territory for Hanging Judge Parker's federal court out of Fort Smith, Arkansas, the bad guys held sway for almost four decades. Rob a bank in Texas or Kansas? Run to

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In 1895, Bill Tilghman was involved in the unique pursuit and arrest of two Oklahoma teen outlaws: Jennie "Little Britches" Stevens and Anna "Cattle Annie" Emmaline McDoulet, although historians debate whether Tilghman was the lawman who put 16-year-old Stevens in jail.

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Photo Courtesy of the City of Las Vegas Museum



Guthrie, the Oklahoma Territorial capital after the Oklahoma Land Rush in April 1889 brought over 10,000 residents to Logan County, became a haven for settlers—and for outlaw gangs eager to take advantage of the new frontier residents.

- JOHNNY D. BOGGS -

cowboys drove bawling, dust-coated longhorns to the Kansas railroad towns or tended herds on various tracts of rangeland leased to cattlemen by the tribes.

If one were to write a “who’s who” list of Old West outlaws, many of them at one time or another called Indian Territory their home or hideout: the James-Younger Gang, Bill

Doolin, The Dalton Boys, Belle Starr,

Cherokee Bill, etc. The list goes on and on. Equally famous were the lawmen who fought to bring civilization to the area, such as Heck Thomas, Chris Madsen, Sam Sixkiller and Bass Reeves.

Among those star-packing stalwarts, perhaps none was tougher than Bill Tilghman. He was a dead shot with any kind of pistol, and by the time he took the job of a deputy U.S. marshal, he had already fought Indians and had a reputation as one of the gunmen/lawmen who made up the famous Dodge City Peace Commission. If there was any one thing that sealed his reputation as a lawman and made him a legend, it was his single-handed capture of Bill Doolin. Later he added to his fame when he and a posse trailed Doolin gang member Little Bill Raidler to his hideout. Raidler decided to make a fight of it, and Tilghman shot him in the wrist with his Winchester and put two more rounds into him when the outlaw tried to flee.

Indian Territory. Railroad companies and governors have a price on your head? You got it. Run to Indian Territory.

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Inch by inch, manifest destiny and demand for cheap or free land slowly took away the tribal lands in the form of one land run after another, and Indian Territory crawled toward statehood. Railroad tracks soon crisscrossed the land and boomtowns popped up everywhere. With that move came more and more rowdies and rugged individualist types. In its infancy, prior to statehood in 1907, Oklahoma was a place in need of steely-eyed Bill Tilghman. He saw all those changes, not only witnessing them, but playing a hand in high stakes game. As a member of the trio of deputy marshals known as the Three Guardsmen, he, Chris Madsen and Heck Thomas brought down one outlaw after another. Packing a gun on the side of law and order until the end, Tilghman's last job was as the city marshal



of the rough and tumble oil boomtown of Cromwell, Oklahoma, where he was killed in the line of duty by an allegedly corrupt Prohibition agent.

Just off the I-44 corridor north of Tulsa lies the Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve. Beginning as a ranch and getaway for Phillips Petroleum founder

The Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve, one of the premier Oklahoma history museums in the state, includes an outstanding art collection, a frontier firearms exhibition and a unique display of taxidermy in oilman Frank Phillips' Lodge

- COURTESY WOOLAROC MUSEUM -

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The J.M. Davis Arms and Historical Museum, which has Bill Tilghman's .38-.40 Colt on display, is located in Claremore, Oklahoma. The 1902 Colt is displayed with numerous firearms owned and used by Western lawmen and outlaws.

- COURTESY JM DAVIS ARMS & HISTORICAL MUSEM -

J.M. Davis Arms and Historical Museum. Founded by J.M. Davis, a local collector and businessman, much of the museum's collection was originally displayed in the lobby of his hotel. After his death, the State of Oklahoma leased Davis's collection and moved it to the building that now houses it.

If you are a fan of firearms, and especially those old smoke poles from the Old West, then this might be the place for you. The museum has over 10,000 guns on display and more in storage, making it the largest collection of any private museum in the United States.

Next stop on the trail of Big Bill Tilghman is Guthrie, which was the capital of the Oklahoma Territory, created in 1890, and

Frank Phillips, Woolaroc soon grew into a lodge for entertaining friends, politicians and high-rolling corporate types, and fellow ranchers and tribal leaders. The museum on the grounds is home to a world-class collection of Western and American Indian art in the form of pottery, paintings and sculptures. The museum also

displays a large Colt firearms collection and all manner of high quality memorabilia that showcase the Western frontier and Oklahoma history.

Almost due east of Woolaroc lies the small town of Claremore, where one of the Colts Tilghman used while serving as a deputy U.S. marshal is housed at the

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photo by Diann Hayes



Tilghman's primary headquarters when he was tracking the Wild Bunch, Bill Doolin and the Daltons. From Claremore, travel west on State Highway 66 through Tulsa on I-44 to Highway 33 through the Cimarron River Valley to Guthrie. When in Guthrie, don't miss the historic downtown district, the Oklahoma Territorial Museum, and the cemetery where numerous outlaws are buried, including Doolin. When you visit the museum, don't miss Tilghman's 1915 Western about the "real outlaw West," *Passing of the Oklahoma Outlaws*, in which he actually had Dalton gang member Arkansas Tom temporarily released from prison to consult on the movie.

Bill Tilghman epitomized the larger-than-life characters of the Old West, and there's a place in Oklahoma that pays




Paul Moore's dramatic life-size bronze *On the Chisholm Trail* greets visitors to Duncan, Oklahoma's Chisholm Trail Heritage Center. Built in honor of Jesse Chisholm, the museum includes a large exhibit on the history of the trail drives and cowboys who crossed the state.

-TONI HOPPER/COURTESY CHISHOLM TRAIL HERITAGE MUSEUM

homage to such men and women in a big way. From Tulsa, travel southwest on I-44 until you reach the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, formerly known as the Cowboy Hall of Fame, in Oklahoma City. Plan at least half a day

to tour this large museum. Bar none, this is the finest collection of artifacts and exhibits pertaining to the Old West. The museum contains everything from frontier military artifacts, firearms, American Indian displays, Western art,




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--- SIDE ROADS ---

Places to Visit

Woolaroc Museum and Nature Preserve, Bartlesville • J.M. Davis Arms and Historical Museum, Claremore • Oklahoma Territorial Museum & the Carnegie Library, Guthrie • National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum Oklahoma City • Robbers Cave State Park, Wilburton • Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, Duncan • Washita Battlefield Historic Site, Cheyenne.

Celebrations & Events

International Finals Rodeo, every January, Oklahoma City • Choctaw Labor Day Festival, August 29-September 2, Tuskahoma • Oklahoma State Fair, September 17-27, Oklahoma City.



memorabilia from the golden age of Western movies and a section dedicated to rodeo cowboys and cowgirls.

The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City offers exhibitions of firearms, the frontier West and the American cowboy and a greater understanding of Cowboy Hall of Fame-inductee Bill Tilghman's life and career. He served as a lawman from the 1870s until his death in Cromwell, where he was the city marshal.

— COURTESY NATIONAL COWBOY & WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM —

Southwest of Oklahoma City, the history of the cattle drives and the trails that brought so many cowboys and outlaws to Oklahoma is brought to life in Duncan at the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center.

A life-size bronze sculpture of cowboys, a chuckwagon, a stock dog and a herd of long-horns greets visitors at the entrance to the Chisholm Trail Museum in honor of Jesse Chisholm. Created by Paul Moore and

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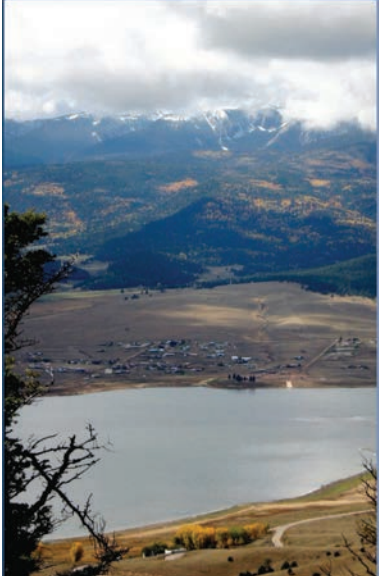
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entitled, *On the Chisholm Trail*, the sculpture, like the exhibits, is all about old-time, trail-driving cowboys. Inside the museum are real life chuckwagons, cowboy gear, firearms, and mannequins dressed up in the cowboy gear of the times. Branding irons, ropes, and bits and spurs make up another large part of what you can see. The Garis Gallery of Western Art contains some exceptional pieces.

Although the years have come and gone like a slow rain sinking into Oklahoma sod, the remnants of wilder, less civilized times remain throughout the state. Take a trip through Oklahoma, and every now and then, close your eyes and don't be afraid to remember what it was that used to make you want to play cowboys and Indians. And at times, if you open your eyes real slow, and look in the right place, you might get a glimpse of the Oklahoma that Bill Tilghman saw.

DETOUR:

Want more cowboys and Indians with an ample dose of scenery thrown in? Travel west from Oklahoma City on I-40 to Elk City and go north on Highway 283, to the Antelope Hills and Black Kettle National Grasslands. Once the stronghold of the fierce Comanches and Kiowas, the highways through those odd, ant-mound-like hills are scattered with historic markers noting battle sites from the Indian Wars. West of the town of Cheyenne is the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site Visitors Center. Visitors should not miss the 1.5-mile nature walk to the Black Kettle campsite or the scenic overlook.

Award-winning author **Brett Cogburn** is a former cowboy and horse trainer, and the author of *Panhandle, The Texans, Forty Loads* and his upcoming release, *Destiny, Texas*. He and his family live on a little ranch in Oklahoma.

Good Eats, Sleeps and Reads

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Good Lodging: Queen Wilhelmina Lodge (Talihina) • Buffalo Creek Guest Ranch (Talihina) • Quartz Mountain Resort (Altus).

Good Reads: *Hell on the Border* by S.W. Harman • *The Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic* by Angie Debo • *Heck Thomas, Frontier Marshal* by Glenn Shirley • *The Cowman's Southwest: Being the Reminiscences of Oliver Nelson*, edited by Angie Debo • *Oklahoma Renegades* by Ken Butler • *Gregg's Commerce of the Prairie* by Josiah Gregg.

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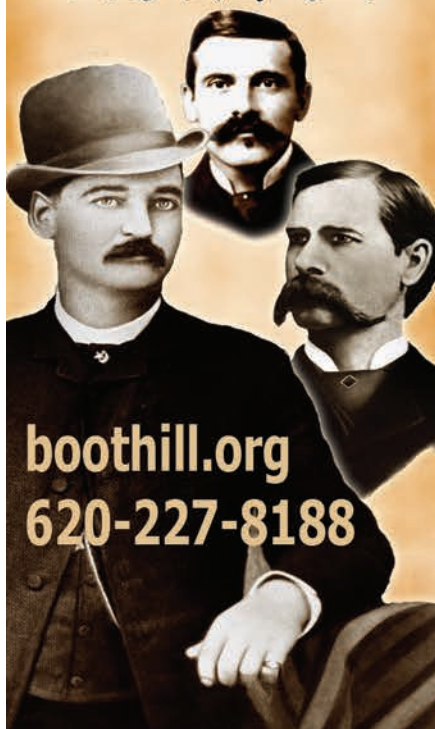
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Wyatt Earp's legendary career as a lawman, which began in the wicked Kansas cowtowns, before his day of destiny behind the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona, is illustrated on Frank Galbraith's 1897 map of the Sunflower State.

— TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —



By Max McCoy

Wyatt Earp's Kansas

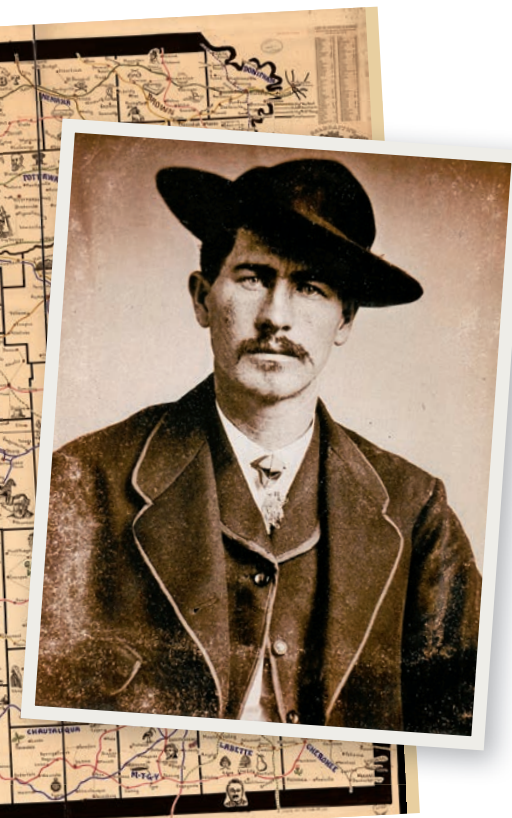
The famed lawman's life on the edge of law and order can be discovered in the Sunflower State.

Before his starring role in the most famous gunfight in history, and long before a bestselling but semi-fictional biography would kick off a cycle of films portraying him as the quintessential Western lawman, Wyatt Earp made his way across Kansas.

It was a nine-year journey that would take him to just about every populated corner of the Sunflower State, and lead to a few out-of-state dead ends. The (possibly) grief-stricken young man who might have flirted with a life of serious

crime would mature into a seasoned lawman with a reputation for toughness—and a taste for sin.

In Kansas, Earp would dwell in the swale of respectability, especially the gambling houses and brothels, and cement a friendship with a peripatetic dentist and inveterate gambler named Doc Holliday. Two years after leaving Kansas, Earp would walk into the gunfight behind the O.K. Corral, Holliday at his side, with a nerve forged by a life lived under the shadow of death in wide-open cattle towns across the state.



Let us now retrace, in a meandering 741-mile journey across the state, the Kansas that Wyatt knew, and search for the man behind the legend along the way.

...Wyatt was no boy scout, but his bravery should never be in question.

FORT SCOTT TO COFFEYVILLE, 102 MILES

Wyatt's first job as a lawman was in Lamar, Missouri, just across the border from Fort Scott. Born in Illinois in 1848, Earp was the fourth son of a traveling family, who in a few years would migrate from Iowa to California. Eventually the family moved back East, finally settling down in bucolic Lamar, Missouri, where in 1870 Wyatt—then just 22 years old—was hired as a constable.

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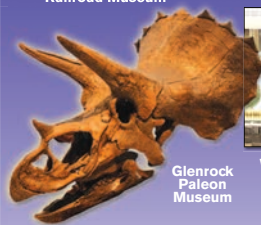
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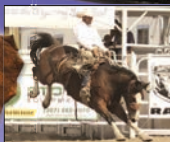
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The Boot Hill Museum's Fourth of July Parade in Dodge City celebrates the Kansas cow town's Wild West past.

— MAX MCCOY —

At Lamar, Wyatt married Urilla Sutherland, the daughter of a local hotel owner. Less than a year later, Urilla died, but the historical record is sketchy; she appears to have succumbed either to typhus or died delivering a stillborn child. But that wasn't the end of Wyatt's troubles. Charges were brought against him for pocketing \$20 of court money, but the case was never tried. By the spring of 1871, Wyatt had left town.

It's tempting to think of Wyatt as leaving Lamar with a broken heart, but there's no evidence to indicate how he felt about the loss of his first wife. He may simply have fled to avoid prosecution. Casey Tefertiller, in his 1997 biography of Earp, says Wyatt never talked much about his time in Lamar, and warned relatives not to talk to others about it, either.

After leaving Lamar, Wyatt drifted down to Indian Territory.

Wyatt would have been familiar with the country between Lamar and Fort Scott, a far cry from stereotypical Kansas. It's neither arid nor flat, and has an abundance of rivers and gently rolling hills.

Coffeyville, our next stop, a historic town known for the 1892 Dalton raid, is on the state line, just above eastern Oklahoma, in what was Indian Territory in 1871. That's the most problematic year for Wyatt's biographers because in April he was arrested on a federal charge of stealing horses. A co-defendant was

acquitted of charges, but Wyatt escaped and fled back to Illinois, his childhood home. There, according to author Steve Gatto, Wyatt worked as a pimp on a floating brothel on the Illinois River at Peoria. After being busted multiple times, he returned to Kansas.

COFFEYVILLE TO ELLSWORTH, 249 MILES

If Stuart Lake's 1931 biography of Wyatt is to be believed—and, really, it shouldn't be—Wyatt's reputation as a lawman began in Ellsworth, a cattle town in central Kansas, when he was appointed town marshal on the spot and single-handedly talked gunmen Ben and Billy Thompson, and a crowd of Texas cowboys bent on a showdown, into surrendering. Tefertiller's biography concludes that Wyatt likely played some part in quelling the situation, but it probably wasn't as dramatic—or heroic—as Lake presented.

You can check out local history for yourself at the Ellsworth Historical Society.

ELLSWORTH TO WICHITA, 115 MILES

By 1874, Wyatt was working as a policeman in Wichita, another of the "wicked" Kansas cattle towns. To get a taste for what it might have been like back then, visit Old Cowtown Museum, a living history attraction in the heart of Wichita with a working farm, print shop, wagon rides and a modest mock gunfight twice a day.

Anthony Horsch, the site's education and interpretation coordinator, says many visitors have formed a favorable impression of Wyatt's relationship with the town through cable reruns of Joel McCrae as the fearless lawman in the 1955 movie *Wichita*. The truth—that Wyatt had a common-law wife who was a working prostitute and that once he nearly shot himself when he dropped his revolver—is often a delicate subject.

Wyatt was the kind of person, Horsch said, that you might want to have a beer with, but only while keeping one eye open. Wyatt left Wichita after serving a year as a police officer, fired for assaulting a candidate for town marshal who suggested his brothers were hired by the current marshal, Mike Meagher, when no additional officers were needed. Later, the police committee voted to withhold Wyatt's pay until all fines he had collected on behalf of the city were deposited with the city treasurer.

SIDE ROADS

Places to Visit

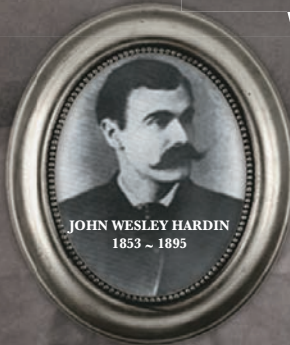
Barton County Historical Society Museum, Lamar, MO • Fort Scott National Historic Site, Fort Scott, KS • Dalton Defenders Museum, Coffeyville, KS • Ellsworth County Historical Society Museum, Ellsworth, KS • Old Cowtown Museum, Wichita • Boot Hill Museum, Dodge City, KS • Morton County Historical Museum, Elkhart, KS • O.K. Corral, Tombstone, AZ.

Celebrations & Events

Wichita Riverfest, May 29-June 6, Wichita • Old-Fashioned Fourth of July, Boot Hill Museum, Dodge City • Dalton Defenders Days, October 2-4, Coffeyville • Medicine Lodge Indian Peace Treaty Pageant, September 25-27, Medicine Lodge.

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Founded in 1869, Coffeyville, shown here in a 1909 panorama, is on the Oklahoma-Kansas line and was notorious for outlaw traffic back and forth from Indian Territory.

— COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS —

WICHITA TO DODGE CITY, 154 MILES

Now, this is the Kansas you've seen in the movies: flat, dry and with lots of cows.

If there is a single family-friendly location in which to look for the spirit of Wyatt in Kansas, it has to be the Boot Hill Museum at Dodge City. You'll want to plan a full day for your visit, because the museum has more than 60,000 items on display, from a room full of period firearms to a television endlessly playing episodes of *Gunsmoke*. There are also stagecoach rides, a re-created "Boot Hill" cemetery, and twice-daily gunfights that are loud and fun.

But the museum's defining feature is the re-creation of the town's 1870s Front Street, complete with the Long Branch Saloon, where you can get a real beer. You can also talk to Brent Harris, the unofficial city marshal, whose face you've already seen on a half-dozen billboards by the time you get to Dodge.

Harris is one of the more convincing of the costumed Old West interpreters, and is an affable and tireless promoter of Boot Hill. He is asked several times a week about Wyatt—who was hired as a lawman here in 1876—but he says that all he knows about him is what he has read.

"The more I study," Harris said, "the more confused I get—and angry. A lot of people try to debunk anything that's been written about him." Harris acknowledges that Wyatt was no boy scout, but his bravery should never be in question. "In one year, he had 374 arrests. Just imagine that, in a wide-open cattle town. Life was very challenging, and every day was a matter of life and death."

When Wyatt left Dodge, it seems he left behind a somewhat better reputation than when he arrived; not only had he been

praised by the local newspapers, he was presented a Bible in recognition of his "Christian Virtues."

Still, you won't discover the spirit of Wyatt Earp in any church pew in Kansas. You'd probably have better luck at Boot Hill Casino, which has brought legal gambling back to Dodge, or at one of the strip clubs in downtown Wichita.

DODGE CITY TO ELKHART, 121 MILES

On Sept. 9, 1879, a Dodge City newspaper reported that Wyatt was leaving town for Las Vegas, New Mexico. If you've a mind to follow Wyatt to Las Vegas, New Mexico, you'll want to follow the old Santa Fe Trail by taking Highway 56 to Elkhart, just above the Oklahoma panhandle; if you want to go all the way to his appointment with destiny in 1881 behind the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona, then you have just another 800 miles to go.

DETOUR:

On June 8, 1878, John Henry Holliday placed a notice in the *Dodge City Times* announcing his services as a dentist, with offices in Room 24 at the Dodge House. The advertisement promised a refund if satisfaction wasn't given.

Doc Holliday had come West from Georgia in hopes the climate would improve his health. After having met Wyatt Earp in Texas, he followed the lawman to Kansas—and found that Dodge City in the summer of 1878 was a town with a well-earned reputation for wickedness. His dental practice soon took a backseat to his true profession—the iconic gambler, ready drunk, and deadly sidekick to Wyatt Earp.

In Dodge, their friendship appears to have been sealed during an altercation

at the Comique Theatre, when a Texas herder got the drop on Wyatt, and Holliday called out a warning—and fired a warning shot for good measure. Both men were young; Wyatt was 30, and Holliday not yet 27. It must not have been easy to have been friends with Holliday, but he would stand with Wyatt, and his brothers, in 1881 at the Gunfight Behind the O.K. Corral.

By the winter of 1887 Holliday was dead, having finally died of his lingering illness at a hotel in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. His last words were reportedly, "Damn, this is funny."

Max McCoy is an award-winning author, journalist, Emporia State University professor and native Kansan. His next novel, *Giving Up the Ghost*, is forthcoming from Kensington Books.

Good Eats, Sleeps and Reads

Good Grub: Casey's Cowtown Steakhouse, (Dodge City) • Cup of Jo-Nes (Dodge City) • The Beacon, (Wichita) • Ad Astra, (Strong City).

Good Lodging: Boot Hill Casino & Resort (Dodge City) • Hampton Inn & Suites (Dodge City) • The Dodge House Hotel (Dodge City).

Good Books: *The WPA Guide to 1930s Kansas* by Federal Writers' Project • *Wyatt Earp: The Life Behind the Legend* by Casey Tefertiller • *Wyatt Earp: A Vigilante Life* by Andrew C. Isenberg • *Doc Holliday: The Life and Legend* by Gary L. Roberts.



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The Cochise Head landmark in the Chiricahua Mountains honors the Chiricahua chief for his lifetime of fighting for his people and his land. In 1876, two years after his death, the Chiricahua Reservation was taken away. Geronimo and his band were sent to the despised San Carlos Reservation that led to a decade of war until Geronimo's surrender in 1886.

— DOUG HOCKING/COURTESY ROBERT McCUBBIN COLLECTION

By Carol Markstrom

GERONIMO'S ARIZONA

The Chiricahua Apache leader's life rides high and low across the state's Sky Islands.

Southeast Arizona is steeped in Apache history and lore with telling place names such as Geronimo, Apache and Cochise. This is a region of great geographical and botanical diversity where the Sierra Madre and Rocky Mountains meet the Chihuahuan and Sonoran deserts with sky islands dominating the long vistas with basins and valleys between them. Apaches knew and understood this landscape, adapting to its

harshness and subsisting on its resources. Today, beyond the San Carlos Apache Reservation, the Apache presence is noted in roadside markers and historical parks and museums. Yet, from 1872 to 1876 the Chiricahua Apache Reservation encompassed a significant portion of southeast Arizona, including the craggy Dragoon, Chiricahua and Dos Cabezas mountain ranges. The Chiricahua Reservation's closure was spurred by the death of iron-fisted Cochise, the Apaches' continual



raiding into Mexico, and U.S. government policy to re-assign Chiricahuas and other Apache groups to San Carlos. Apaches struck fear throughout the land during the last decades of the 19th century and so one-fourth of the U.S. Army was involved in the quest to capture Geronimo.

Geronimo, reaching his limit of tolerance at San Carlos, would bolt to Mexico...

The San Carlos Apache Reservation, 100 miles north of Tucson or 100 east of Phoenix, is the starting point for this tour. Try your luck at the Apache Gold Casino Resort or stay overnight, but most certainly stop at the San Carlos Apache Cultural Center at milepost 272 on U.S. 70. The center's knowledgeable director, Herb Stevens, can orient visitors to the history and culture of San

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The ruins of the old San Carlos Indian Agency adjacent to the confluence of the San Carlos and Gila rivers are visible when the waters recede from San Carlos Lake.

— PHOTOS BY CAROL MARKSTROM —

Carlos. Dioramas at the Cultural Center's small museum depict traditional Apache customs and lifestyle. A small gift shop carries books, plus jewelry, traditional regalia, beaded items and baskets made by local Apache artisans. Tribal headquarters are at the village of San Carlos, a few miles from the Cultural Center.

Today, the original San Carlos Agency, or "Old San Carlos," is sometimes submerged under San Carlos Lake, but its ruins have been visible in recent years. (Ask for directions at the Cultural Center.) Established by executive order in 1871, the joint White Mountain/San Carlos Indian Reservation was first occupied in 1873. Conditions were deplorable for the free-willing Apaches who experienced a concentration camp-like existence complete with a tag system. Malaria and other diseases flourished and opportunities for traditional subsistence activities were curtailed. A breath of fresh air came in 1874 with Indian Agent John Clum (later mayor of Tombstone and founder of *The Tombstone Epitaph*), who encouraged self-sufficiency and farming among Apaches and lent guns for hunting. He diminished the Army's presence and established an Apache police force and tribal court.

A memorial at Old San Carlos was unveiled in 2009 to coincide with the one-hundredth anniversary of the death of Geronimo. Chiricahua Apache Geronimo was confined at San Carlos several times, including a stay at Turkey Creek near



At the Fort Bowie National Historic Site cemetery, the grave of Geronimo's son, Little Robe, sits adjacent to graves of soldiers who died at the army camp during the conflict with the Apaches.



Fort Apache to the north (see *Detours*). Geronimo, reaching his limit of tolerance at San Carlos, would bolt to Mexico with other Chiricahuas accompanying him—either voluntarily or forcibly.

Continue east on U.S. Highway 70, driving across the San Carlos Reservation to milepost 302 to view a roadside marker about Geronimo, just east of the town of Geronimo. This location was also the site of the original Camp Thomas, established in 1876. The birthplace of Geronimo remains unknown. Some historians speculate it is near the town of Clifton, beyond Safford, and close to the Arizona-New Mexico border. Another possible location is the Middle Fork of the Gila River in New Mexico. Geronimo himself, born into the Bedonkohe Band, gave the location of his birth as Nodoyon Canyon.

From Safford head south to I-10 and a short drive east to Bowie, Arizona, where a memorial was erected in 1986 to

SIDE ROADS

Places to Visit

C.S. Fly's Photographs of Geronimo's Surrender, C.S. Fly's Gallery, O.K. Corral, Tombstone • Fort Bowie National Historic Site, south of Bowie • Chiricahua National Monument, southeast of Willcox • Cochise Stronghold Recreation Area, west of Sunsites and Pearce • Slaughter Ranch Johnson Historical Museum of the Southwest, east of Douglas • Fort Huachuca Historical Museum (call ahead, currently being remodeled), Sierra Vista.

Celebrations & Events

Pow Wow, San Carlos Reservation, March • Apache 'Jii' Celebration, October, Globe • American Indian Arts Exposition and Gem Show, January-February, Tucson.

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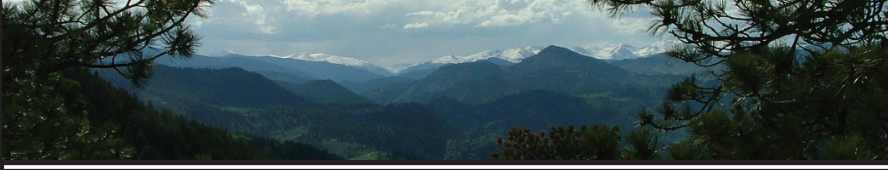
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History Lives, Legends Begin



For two decades, Fort Bowie strategically controlled Apache Springs along the Butterfield Trail in the Arizona Territory in its conflict with the Chiricahuas. Gen. George Crook led his cavalry from Bowie and Fort Huachuca for ten months across the Southwest and into Mexico to find Geronimo and negotiate his first surrender in 1885-'86.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

Wars in Arizona cannot be mentioned without the trigger of the "Bascom Affair," which occurred at Fort Bowie. In 1861 Lieutenant George Nicholas Bascom met with Cochise to discuss recovery of kidnapped 12-year-old Felix Ward (Mickey Free). Cochise's veracity was doubted by Bascom, who attempted to imprison Cochise and his family. Cochise escaped, but a series of tit-for-tat captures and killings escalated contributing to 25 years of conflict.

Dominating the view from the Fort Bowie Visitor Center is Bowie Peak,

mark the centennial of the Chiricahua Apaches' surrender and the return to Arizona of the Chiricahua ex-prisoner-of-war and their descendants. Thirteen miles south on Apache Pass Road leads to the trailhead for the three-mile roundtrip hike into Fort Bowie National Historic

Site (handicap entrance available). This visit should not be missed. Allow several hours to view the ruins of the Butterfield Stage Coach Station, the post cemetery, an Apache wickiup, the Chiricahua Apache Indian Agency, Apache Spring, the original fort, the later fort, and the Visitor Center's exhibits and small gift shop. The Apache

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where, according to legend, Geronimo was praying for his sister during her difficult labor. In praying to his Creator, or Ussen, Geronimo was assured by His power that his sister would live, and that he would never be killed with weapons and would die in old age. Geronimo was shot in battle but not killed, and lived to old age, dying as a prisoner-of-war in Oklahoma. Another point of significance is the Fort Bowie cemetery where a grave marker indicates the resting place of Geronimo's two-year-old son buried under the name "Little Robe."

Upon leaving Fort Bowie, backtrack to I-10, driving slightly into New Mexico and then traveling south on New Mexico/Arizona Highway 80 to milepost 406 to the Geronimo surrender roadside marker at Apache, Arizona. The marker reads: "Near



A tour of the John Slaughter Ranch east of Douglas gives visitors an understanding of the Indian, Spanish, Mexican and American history of cattle ranching on the border, and a view of the Sierra de Embudos, where Gen. George Crook negotiated Geronimo's first surrender.

- DOUG HOCKING -

here, Geronimo, last Apache chieftain, and Nachite with their followers, surrendered, on September 6, 1886, to General Nelson A. Miles, U.S. Army. Lieutenant Chas. B. Gatewood..." The actual surren-

der site, Skeleton Canyon, is nearby but not accessible to the public.

Continuing south on Arizona Highway 80, pass through the towns of Douglas and Bisbee—historically significant

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in their own rights. Certainly this vast landscape would have been known and well-traveled by Geronimo and other Apaches. Nearby, across the border in Sonora, is Cañon de los Embudos where the historic council between Geronimo and General Crook occurred. (A visit there is not recommended for safety reasons.) After Bisbee, a short detour to Tombstone is possible or take Arizona Highway 90 to Sierra Vista and Fort Huachuca, where a camp was established in 1877 to offer protection to settlers and travelers in southeastern Arizona, as well as to disrupt Apache mobility in the area. Camp Huachuca became a fort in 1882 and served as advance headquarters for General Nelson A. Miles in 1886 during the final act of the Apache Wars ending in Geronimo's surrender to Miles. The Fort Huachuca Historical Museum offers outstanding exhibits detailing the

significant history of this place during the Apache Wars and at other times in the Southwest. A Museum Annex across the street houses additional artifacts.

An easy drive from Fort Huachuca north on Highway 90 to I-10 then east to Tucson should include stops at the Arizona Historical Society's Fort Lowell Museum and the Arizona History Museum. The Fort Lowell Museum, in the reconstructed commanding officers' quarters, features exhibits on military life on the Arizona frontier including the Apache Wars. A highlight of the Arizona History Museum is a Geronimo exhibit that showcases the Springfield rifle that he surrendered to John Clum at the Warm Springs Agency. Also of interest are blowups of some of C.S. Fly's photos from the Canyon de los Embudos series.

The tour can be brought full circle by heading north from Tucson on U.S.



Guadalupe Canyon in the Peloncillo Mountains is near where Geronimo surrendered to Gen. Nelson A. Miles in August 1886.

- DOUG HOCKING -

Highway 77 for the 100-mile drive to San Carlos. About 10 miles north of Mammoth, Arizona, is the site of the infamous Camp Grant Massacre of 1871, in which over 100 Aravaipa and Pinal Apaches lost their lives to the stealthy actions of residents of Tucson and the larger number of Tohono O'odhams recruited to carry out the attack. Continuing toward San Carlos, pass through the lower Sonoran life zone and then the road climbs the eastern side of the Pinal Mountains with a pull-off. Look north because the view is San Carlos as far as the eye can see, including noted landmarks such as Cassadore Knob. Geronimo's footprints are evident throughout the expanses of southeast Arizona. One's imagination

can readily picture Chiricahua Apaches hiding in rocks and crevices or moving rapidly across the valley floors to their havens in Mexico.

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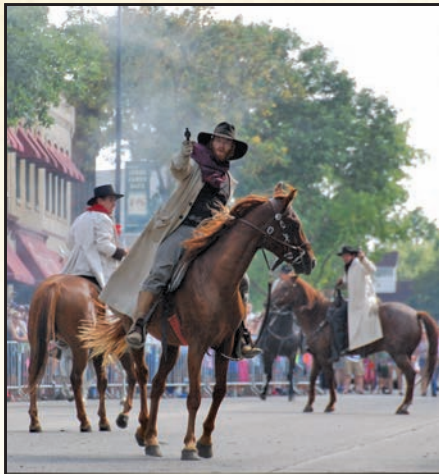
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DETOUR:

Two places to visit while on tour of Geronimo and Apache history are the San Carlos Apache Reservation and the historic Spanish settlements south of Tucson.

First, start at the Fort Apache Reservation and visit Fort Apache Historic Park located at the Whiteriver, headquarters of the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Visit the Cultural Center and Museum, structures at Fort Apache including Gen. George Crook's Cabin, and Kinishba Ruins.

Second, from Tucson, drive 48 miles south to Tubac Presidio State Park, adjacent to the Anza National Historic Trail. Visit the oldest Spanish presidio in Arizona established in 1752. The park features a museum and galleries, a gift shop, an underground archaeological exhibit and three buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. Four miles south of Tubac is Tumacácori National Historical Park. Visit the museum and visitor's center, watch an informational video and take the self-guided tour of the Tumacácori Mission grounds. 

Carol Markstrom, Ph.D., is a professor at West Virginia University, where she teaches and researches Apache history research on Apache history and culture. She lives part-time in Tucson and is a frequent visitor on the San Carlos Apache Reservation.

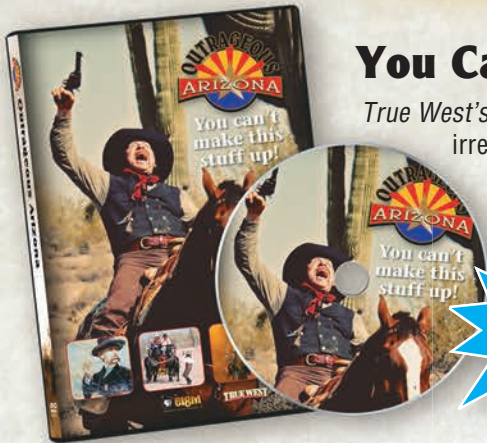
Good Eats, Sleeps and Reads

Good Grub: Santiago's Mexican Restaurant (Bisbee) • Fort Bowie Vineyards (Bowie) • El Charro Cafe (Tucson).

Good Lodging: Portal Peak Lodge, Store and Café (Portal) • Copper Queen Hotel (Bisbee) • Apache Gold Casino Resort (San Carlos Apache Reservation).

Good Reads: *Geronimo: The Man, His Time, His Place* by Angie Debo • *Geronimo's Story of his Life*, Geronimo & S.M. Barrett • *From Cochise to Geronimo: The Chiricahua Apaches, 1874-1886* by E.R. Sweeney.

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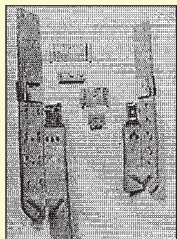
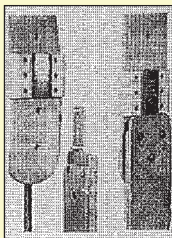
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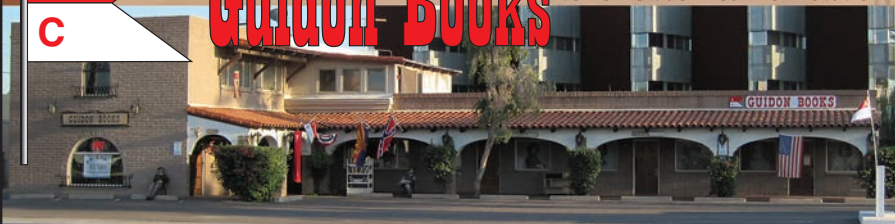
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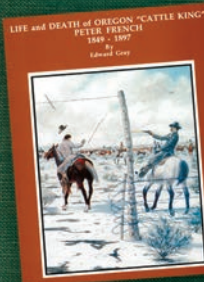
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COWGIRL UP!

Wickenburg, AZ, April 1-30: At the Desert Caballeros Western Museum, Western paintings and sculptures by women celebrate cowgirl history and heritage.
928-684-2272 • WesternMuseum.org

ART SHOWS

WESTERN SPIRIT ART SHOW & SALE

Cheyenne, WY, Closes April 19: View Western artwork by more than 100 artists at the Cheyenne Frontier Days Old West Museum.
307-778-7290 • OldWestMuseum.org

CALIFORNIA IMAGES & HISTORY

San Dimas, CA, April 24-26: Paintings and sculptures by Western artists celebrate the state of California and its rich cowboy heritage.
909-599-5374 • SanDimasArts.org

AUCTIONS

SCOTTSDALE ART AUCTION

Scottsdale, AZ, April 11: Bid on a wide collection of paintings and sculptures by Old West artists, such as Charlie Russell and Howard Terpning.
480-945-0225 • ScottsdaleArtAuction.com

PREMIER FIREARMS AUCTION

Online, April 24-26: Highly collectible weapons are up for bid by the world's leading auction house for historical firearms and military artifacts.
800-238-8022 • RockIslandAuction.com

CALIFORNIA & WESTERN ART AUCTION

Los Angeles, CA, April 28: Fine art auction featuring works by classic Western artists, such as William Wendt and Edgar Payne.
323-850-7500 • Bonhams.com

AWARDS SHOW

WESTERN HERITAGE AWARDS

Oklahoma City, OK, April 18: Honors the best in literature, music, film and television that reflect the heritage and history of the American West
405-478-2250 • NationalCowboyMuseum.org

FRONTIER FARE

PIONEER VILLAGE DUTCH OVEN COOK-OFF

Gonzales, TX, April 27: Cook-off keeps you fed as you enjoy gunfight re-enactments, saloon girls, frontier camps and tours of the 1800s village.
830-672-2157 • ThePioneerVillage.com

HERITAGE FESTIVALS

TOMBSTONE ROSE TREE FESTIVAL

Tombstone, AZ, April 10-12: Celebrate the 130th blooming of the "World's Largest Rose Tree" with a



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Santa Clarita, CA, April 15-19: Classic Western movie fans can enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of "reel" cowboy life, plus live Old West entertainment from folks like gunslinger Joey Dillon (shown here).
661-250-3735 • CowboyFestival.org

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FOR APRIL 2015



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888-966-5276 • Woolaroc.org

parade, folkloric dancers and more.
520-457-3326 • Tombstone.org

GALVESTON COUNTY FAIR

Hitchcock, TX, April 10-18: At this county fair, held since 1938, enjoy the rodeo, auctions, a variety of cook-offs, concerts and youth activities.
409-986-6010 • GalvestonCountyFair.com

FIESTA SAN ANTONIO

San Antonio, TX, April 10-27: Old San Antonio and Old Mexico celebrations include fandangos, art shows and a pilgrimage to the Alamo mission.
877-273-4378 • Fiesta-SA.org

JUNIOR RANGER DAY

Deer Lodge, MT, April 18: Bring the kids to the 1862 Grant-Kohrs Ranch to experience life as a cowboy on an authentic open range ranch.
406-846-2070 • NPS.gov/grko



:: HELENA RAILROAD FAIR ::

Helena, MT, April 27: Thousands of railroad items are available to buy, sell or swap at the largest railroad hobby event in Montana and the Northern Rockies, held at the Helena Civic Center.
406-443-1578 • VisitMT.com



:: LLANO FIDDLE FEST ::

Llano, TX, April 3-5: Passionate torch bearers carry on traditions set by Texas musicians, such as Otis Light (shown here with his band), with a competition featuring the best fiddlers from Texas and beyond.

325-247-5354 • LlanoFiddleFest.com

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

Nebraska City, NE, April 24-26: The home of the first Arbor Day, in 1872, celebrates with free trees, a chili cook-off and a parade.
800-514-9113 • NebraskaCity.com

MUSIC & POETRY

DURANGO BLUEGRASS MELTDOWN

Durango, CO, April 17-19: See Bluegrass jam sessions and bands Balsam Range, Special Consensus and more play in Durango venues.
970-335-9771 • DurangoMeltdown.com



:: WILD WILD WEST FEST ::

Andrews, TX, April 25-27: Celebrates Western heritage with cowboy mounted shooting demonstrations, a BBQ cook-off and more.
432-523-2695 • WildWildWestFest.com

RODEO

BUTTE HIGH SCHOOL RODEO

Butte, MT, April 18-19: High School rodeo riders from Butte's surrounding counties compete for a chance to ride at the High School Rodeo Finals.
406-494-6700 • ButteRodeoGrounds.com



:: ARIZONA HISTORY CONVENTION ::

Tucson, AZ, April 23-26: Join *True West's* Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell for a discussion on Wyatt Earp in Hollywood, plus listen to more presentations about Arizona's cowboy history. Shown here is downtown Tucson, Arizona, in 1874.
520-628-5774 • ArizonaHistory.org



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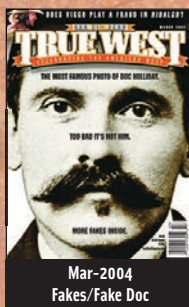
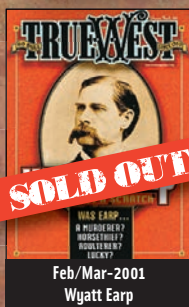
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- May: Samuel Walker
- Jun: Frontier Half-Bloods
- Jul: Billy & the Kids
- Aug: John Wayne
- Sep: Border Breed
- Oct: Halloween Issue
- Nov: Apache Scout
- Dec: Mountain Men

2001

- Jan: Topless Gunfighter
- Feb/Mar: Wyatt Earp
- Apr: Geronimo Smiling
- May/Jun: Custer
- Jul: Cowboys & Cowtowns
- Aug/Sep: Wild Bill
- Oct: Redman
- Nov/Dec: Doc Holiday

2002

- Jan: Uncommon Men
- Feb/Mar: Alamo
- Apr: The Scout
- May/Jun: Wayward Women
- Jul: Texas Rangers
- 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/Wyatt
- 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: Kendrick's 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
- Mar: Arizona 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 Phtooos
- Feb: Assn. of Pat Garrett
- Mar: Stand-up Gunfights
- Apr: Wyatt Earp Alaska

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Pickled Expedition?



Ask The Marshall

BY MARSHALL TRIMBLE

Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official state historian and the vice president of the Wild West History Association. His latest book is *Arizona's Outlaws and Lawmen*. 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

The 1857 Bonneville expedition against the Apache reportedly carried 700 gallons of vinegar. Why?

Sid Miller
Dripping Springs, Texas

During the age of exploration, scurvy was a common malady, and explorers and wagon train pioneers treated it with acidic substances, such as vinegar. Yet this actually proved ineffective. Limes and oranges provided the Vitamin C cure.

In *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*, Lee Van Cleef (the Bad) is missing part of a finger. What happened to it? Also, did Eli Wallach play the Ugly? I have been told Van Cleef did.

Paul W. Hughes
Vacaville, California

Lee Van Cleef, who died at age 64 in 1989 of heart failure, was missing the last joint of the middle finger of his right hand. The finger was prominently featured in the 1966 film that starred Clint Eastwood as the "Man With No Name." Rumors suggested he had lost it in a bad car wreck in 1958 or in a bar fight. The truth isn't nearly so interesting—he lost it while building a playhouse for his daughter.

Van Cleef made a career of playing a villain in Westerns.

He appeared in 1952's *High Noon*, 1954's *The Yellow Tomahawk*, 1957's *Gunfight at the O.K. Corral* and in another Sergio Leone Spaghetti Western, 1965's *For a Few Dollars More*.

Eli Wallach was "Ugly," and Van Cleef was "Bad."



In 1834, as part of an earlier Bonneville Expedition, explorer Joseph Rutherford Walker (above) discovered a pass into California's southern San Joaquin Valley. John C. Fremont utilized this trail a dozen years later and named it after Walker. Walker Pass became a primary route into the gold fields for the Forty-Niners

— TRUE WEST ARCHIVES —

What was the cost of the westward wagon trains?

Don Anderson
Phoenix, Arizona

The overland journey from Independence, Missouri, to Oregon or California meant a six-month trip across 2,000 miles of hard country. It was costly— as much as \$1,000 for a family of four.

That fee included a wagon at about \$100. Usually four or six animals had to pull the wagon. Oxen were slower, but held up better than horses or mules. They were also cheaper, costing about \$25 each compared to \$75-\$100 for a horse or mule.

You would also need food supplies, cooking equipment, water kegs and other sundry items. Most folks viewed

a trip to the West as an investment in their futures.

The book *True Grit* states Rooster Cogburn died from "night hoss." What does that mean?

Duff Hale
Midlothian, Texas

Night hoss usually referred to a sure-footed horse a cowboy preferred on night watch. You won't find the term used to describe an affliction in standard Western Americana dictionaries, like Ramon Adams's *Western Words* or Win Blevins's *Dictionary of the American West*.

What night hoss means in *True Grit* has been the subject of speculation. In the film, Cole Younger tells Mattie Ross that the Arkansas humidity was hard on Rooster Cogburn, leading to a flare up of night hoss. No further explanation is given.

I have heard that night hoss is a cowboy reference to a restless horse that keeps him awake at night, or possibly demons from alcohol that tormented a cowboy in his old age. Too bad author Charles Portis is so reclusive; otherwise he could tell us what he meant.

What did outlaws like Frank and Jesse James do with all the loot they stole?

Mack Maloney
Newbury, Massachusetts

One thing they didn't do—share the loot with the poor. They divided up the money among the gang and each member spent his share on what he wanted. The James boys lost a fair amount of money in gambling, either at the racetracks or the gambling halls. Some went toward booze. They bought new horses, weapons and clothing, especially when they were planning another holdup. Frankly, they squandered most of the cash.



— COURTESY UNITED ARTISTS —



Above is the only known photograph depicting both Frank (seated) and Jesse (standing at right) James. The man at left is unidentified.

- TRUE WEST ARCHIVES -

Did Wild Bill Hickok really have the Dead Man's Hand of aces and eights when he was killed?

*John Wendland
Parsippany, New Jersey*



Nobody knows what hand Wild Bill Hickok was holding. The late Joe Rosa, Hickok's biographer, said, "The bottom line is nobody seems to know what particular poker game they were playing at the No. 10 Saloon in Deadwood [Dakota Territory] that day." I doubt if anyone thought the details were important at the time. During the chaos after the shooting, the cards were scattered. The aces and eights story did not surface until Frank J. Wiltach published it in his 1926 book, *Wild Bill Hickok: The Prince of Pistoleers*. I don't think we will ever know what hand Hickok was holding.

Who was the first white woman to scale Pikes Peak?

*Frank Polzin
Colorado Springs, Colorado*

Julia Holmes is given the credit for that 1858 feat. Born in 1838 in Nova Scotia in Canada, Holmes migrated with her family to Lawrence, Kansas, and assisted in abolition efforts. With a group of gold miners, she reached the summit of Pikes Peak on August 5, 1858. In a letter to her mother, she wrote, "Nearly every one tried to discourage me from attempting it, but I believed that I should succeed; and now, here I am, and I feel that I would not have missed this glorious sight for anything at all."



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What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

Riding a bull requires practice, practice practice! Hard to hit a 90 mph fast ball 'til you have swung a million times.

What most don't know about me is I was the catcher for my high school baseball team in Oklahoma. I went to college at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford on a full ride for rodeo. I was also supposed to play baseball, but I broke my arm a week before the first practice.

Some of my best rides came when I was scared to death. Safest place in bull riding is on top.

When it comes to Old West history, I am amazed at how many things are still done on the ranch that no machine can do.

I organized a "Western Days" event because I wanted to share the Western way of life with the world by offering a place where everyone can be a cowboy for a week.

I proposed to my wife while being interviewed at the PBR World Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada. I set it up with Flint Rasmussen, who was doing the interview. He got my girlfriend, Sara, on stage, then asked, "Cord, you wanna ask Sara anything?" As we stood in front of 1,000 people, I grabbed her hand, confessed my love for her and then took a knee, with a ring box opened up.

On *The Amazing Race*, I wore the same cowboy hat I got married in. I got married on Saturday, and I left to race around the world the next day. I was gonna take an old hat, but Sara told me I should wear the new one.

Being one team away from winning a million dollars felt ahhh, tough. My brother, Jet, and I raced 40,000 miles around the globe and ended up a couple minutes late. But after I got to go all the way around the world and see it all, and I stood on that finish line, the million dollars never crossed my mind.

I have no idea what happened to the sailboat I won on the show. They delivered them both while I was gone. I traded Jet my sailboat, and he sold it before I got to see it.

A cowboy can feel at home on the other side of the world. I don't know how they all found out, but the whole world knows of cowboys. I got up and put my hat on in Shanghai, China, just like I do in Tupelo, Oklahoma.

I rode my first calf in a rodeo at age five in Gainesville, Texas. Growing up in rodeo taught me determination.



Join Cord McCoy (left) at his first "Western Days" event, held from April 16-19, 2015, at Sycamore Springs Ranch, 45 miles east of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Visit SycamoreSpringsRanch.net to learn more about the celebration.



CORD MCCOY, *THE AMAZING RACE* COWBOY AND RODEO STAR

Cord McCoy is a former professional rodeo cowboy and bull rider known around the world. He was a member of Team USA at the 2007 PBR World Cup in Australia. In 2010, Cord appeared with his brother, Jet, on CBS's *The Amazing Race*. The brothers nearly won. They competed on the show two more times, and CBS fans named Cord and Jet "Best Dynamic Duo." Cord retired from PBR in 2013. He and wife Sara (above) raise ranch horses, commercial cattle and bucking bulls at their ranch in Tupelo, Oklahoma.

After almost dying when my skull was crushed by a saddle bronc in 2004, I returned to rodeo because I thought, "If I was gonna go out, I wanted to go out doing something I loved."

I retired from professional bull riding in 2013, but I still watch every bull like I may have to get on him sometime.

What people don't understand about ranch life is that there is no clocking out, cattle don't know holidays and the worst day to be outside is when they need you the most.

Trail life today is similar to frontier days in that you can get a good taste of traveling in the old days—just saddle up.

The West is a relationship that keeps growing. The farther I go, the more I come back.

Wish I had a dollar for every time someone said, "Wish y'all won that race."





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