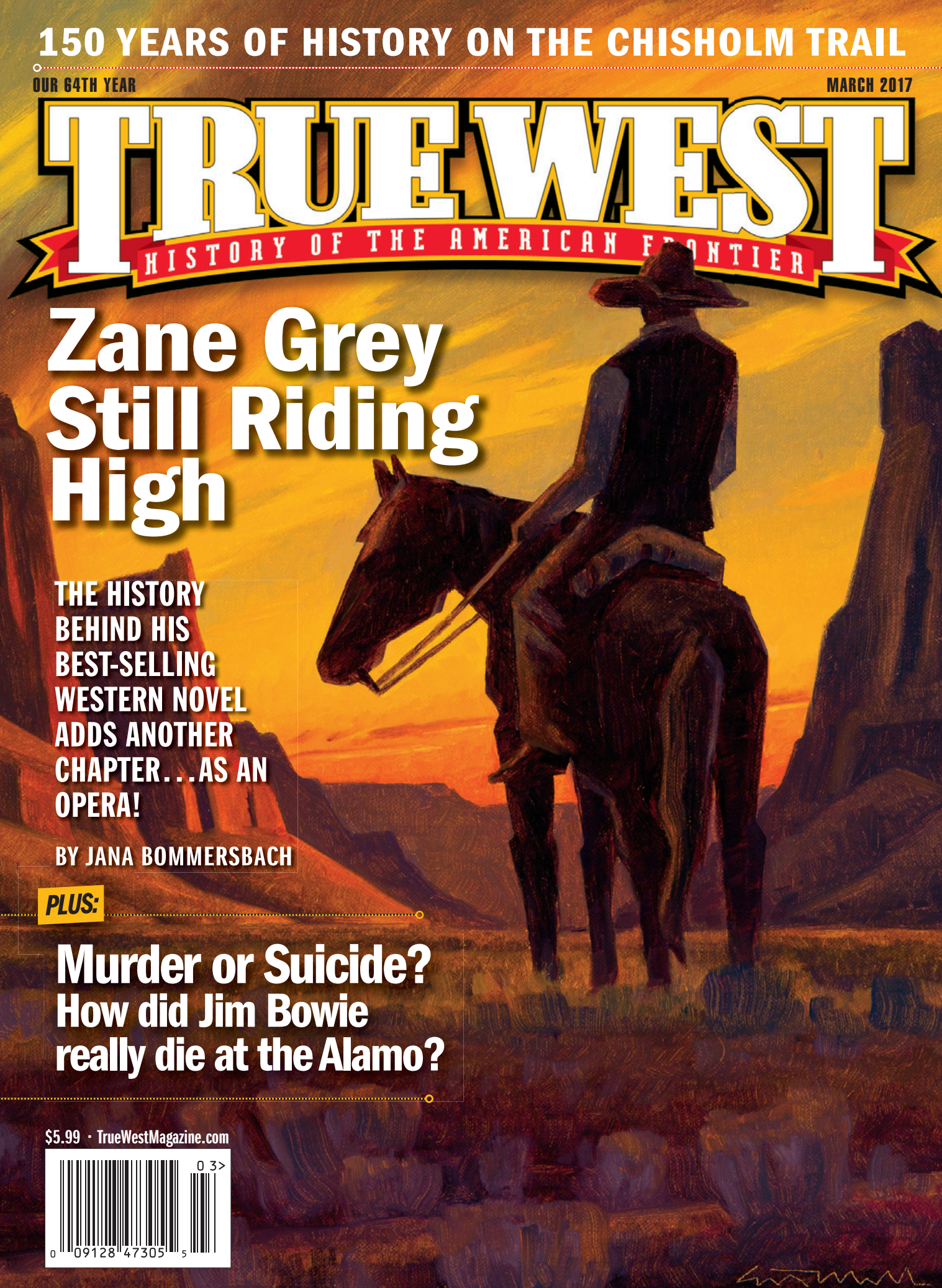
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HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER



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BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

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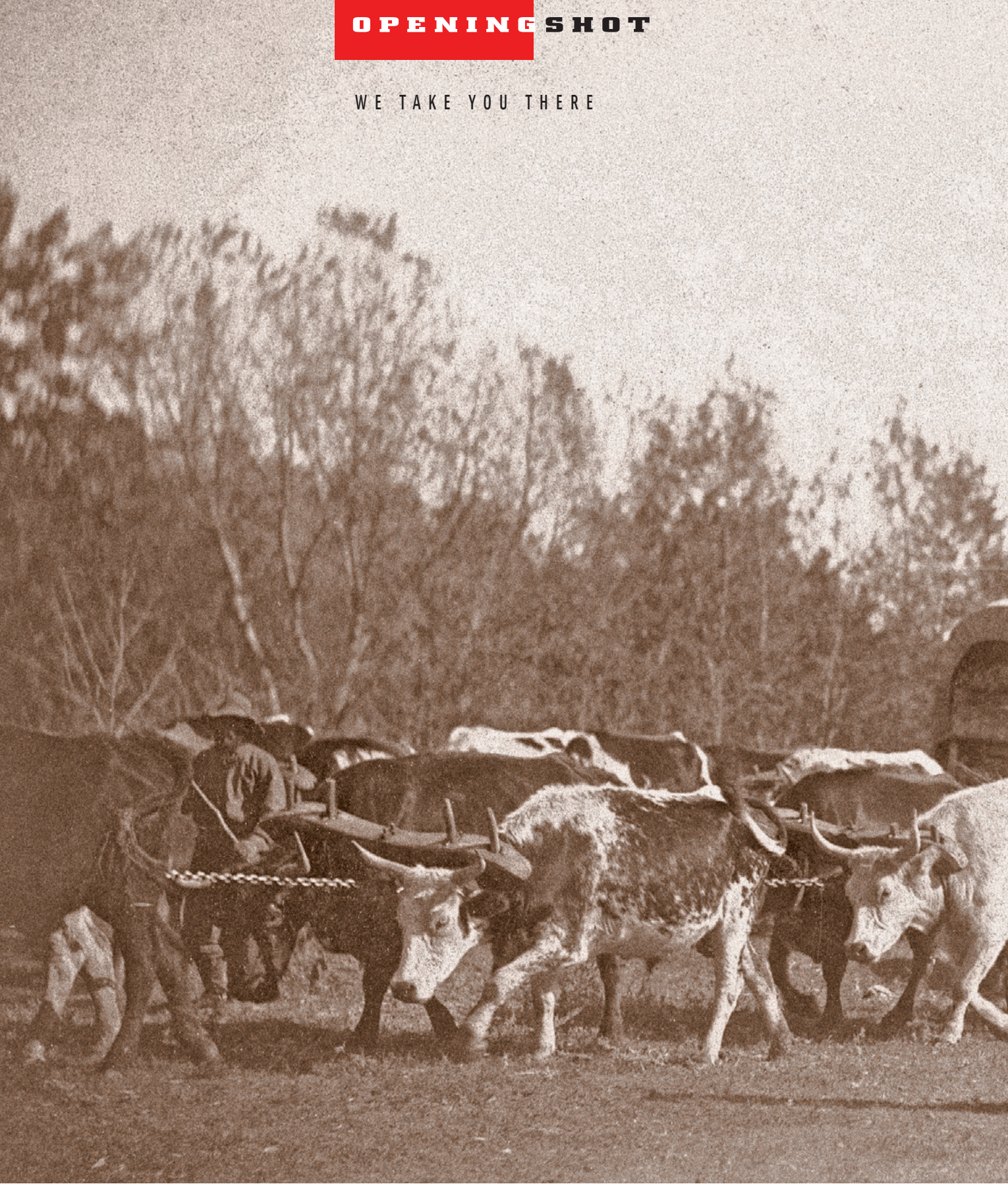
The Goodnight-Loving Trail, Chisholm Trail and Butterfield Route are all part of Pecos, Texas, history. When riding over this rough country all a cowboy needed was a good dog, a horse and a whip to drive his herd. Visit the legendary saloon inside the Orient Hotel at the West of the Pecos Museum, the grave of 'Gentleman Gunfighter' Clay Allison and the The Jersey Lily courthouse where Judge Roy Bean, known as "the Law West of the Pecos," carried out his brand of justice.

Photo By Richard Schultz




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Old West Truckers

Bullwhackers were not always the "...red-shirted, big-booted, brigand-looking ruffians..." that Brig. Gen. James F. Rusling described in his 1877 book. A woman and boy crack their nearly six-pound rawhide whips to control this freight train of oxen in the Black Hills of Dakota Territory, photographed between 1887-1892 by John C.H. Grabill.

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TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

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

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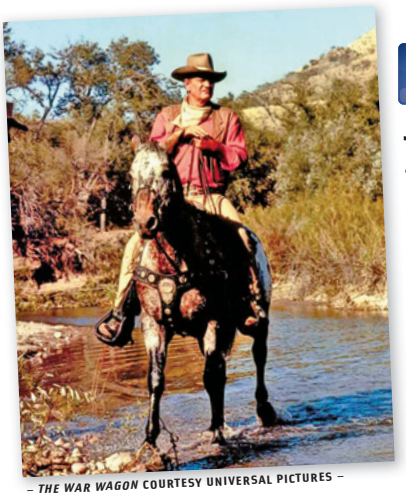
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– *THE WAR WAGON* COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES –

Join the Conversation

"John Wayne was the best actor in Westerns ever, but not so handy with a horse. Ben Johnson, no doubt, was a horseman, but most world champions are. But don't forget Buck Taylor, Tommy Lee Jones, Richard Farnsworth, Wilford Brimley, Sam Elliott, Tom Selleck, Robert Duvall–all guys who are real horsemen or can really fake it!"

- Alton Wood of Drayton Valley, Alberta, Canada



Go behind the scenes of *True West* with Bob Boze Bell to see his painting, *Jim Bowie Brandishes Bowie Knife*, and more of the executive editor's Daily Whip Outs (Search for "January 9, 2017"). *Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com*



In 1950, after 20 years of getting gored by bulls, thrown by horses and suffering injuries that included a crushed chest and a twice-broken back, Slim Pickens (left, real name Louis Lindley Jr.) was spotted at a rodeo by Director William Keighley, who offered the cowboy a screen test that began his career in movies. Find this and more historical photography on our "Western Icons" board. *Pinterest.com/TrueWestMag*

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The sage hits the stage! Zane Grey's timeless novel will be staged as an opera in Arizona this year.

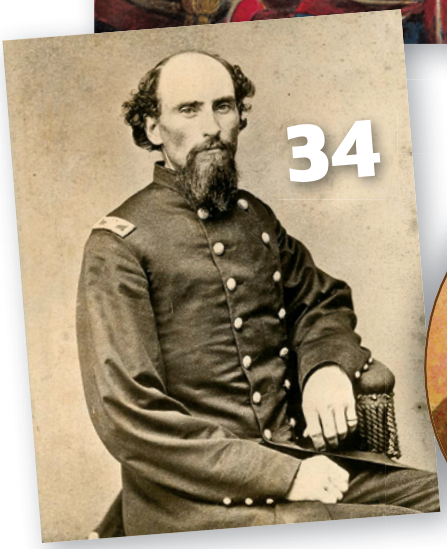
—By Jana Bommersbach



30 NO WOUNDS IN HIS BACK

Step aside, David Crockett, just how exactly did James Bowie die at the Alamo?

—By William Groneman III



34 CUSTER'S OTHER REGIMENT

Although overshadowed in history by George Custer and his 7th Cavalry, the 19th Kansas learned under his leadership how troopers could win the war without a fight.

—By Arnold Blumberg



40 BILLY'S BASTARD CHILD?

The real story behind Paulita Maxwell and her intense, hot, steamy and illicit romance with outlaw Billy the Kid.

—By Robert J. Stahl

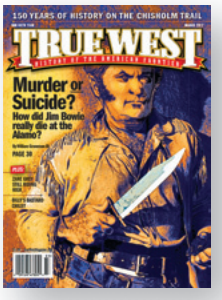
72 THE CHISHOLM TRAIL

Ride the famous trail blazed by Texas drovers in this historical cattle-trail adventure that honors the 150th anniversary of the Chisholm Trail.

—By Margaret and Gary Kraisinger



We decided to run two different covers for our March 2017 issue. One features Ed Mell's painting, *Entering the Canyon* and the other, Bob's painting *Bowie Goes Down Fighting*. Both cover designs by Dan Harshberger.





COMPILED BY ROBERT RAY

LITTLE MISS SMOOTHBORE?

In listening to the November 2016 article "Fantastic Firearms in Cody," the reference to Annie Oakley's Winchester Model 1892 (shown), with a half round/half octagon barrel in .44-40 caliber, was noted as a smoothbore. Is this a typo?

As I am a holder of five hexagon barrel Winchesters, 1873 on, I have never heard of a cartridge rifle having a "smoothbore." Perhaps the "smoothbore" refers to blanks featured in some of "Little Miss Sure Shot's" shows?

On your recommendation, I visited the Buffalo Bill Center of the West in Cody, Wyoming, last year and was thoroughly pleased that the collection contained many rifles and pistols I have owned or handled. These included the Savage Model '99 in .22 HP, the Sharps .30 caliber short RF "pepperbox" and a .44-40 Winchester 1873 found leaning against a juniper tree in the Great Basin National Park in Nevada (the serial number is just a couple hundred lower than my '73).

I enjoy "listening" to the magazine and look forward to learning about the events that made the West what it is. Despite being legally blind, I can see enough for my brain to fill in the areas I have seen or that should be there.

Millard Reed
Reno, Nevada



– COURTESY BUFFALO BILL MUSEUM, BBCW, GIFT OF DOROTHY STONE COLLINS IN MEMORY OF HER FATHER, FRED STONE, ACTOR AND FRIEND OF ANNIE OAKLEY AND FRANK BUTLER, 1.69.25; BBCW, CODY, WY, USA. MS 6 WILLIAM F. CODY COLLECTION. P.69.1166.2 –

Phil Spangenberger responds: *Annie Oakley's rifle is chambered to take the .44-40 cartridge. However, since much of the shooting she did with rifles was in an arena with an audience that surrounded her, like many trick shooters of the era, Oakley had her rifle made in smoothbore (that is a barrel made without any rifling, like a shotgun). This allowed her to use the safe #12-size shot loads rather than the heavy 200-grain lead bullet that would have been the standard .44-40's rifle load. The lead bullet load would have been dangerous to use in such a confined area. The modification also gave her quite an advantage in shooting at the thrown glass balls and her other miscellaneous targets. With or without shot loads, Oakley was still quite a remarkable shooter and won numerous live fire contests during her lifetime.*

BUFFALO BILL IS LEFT-HANDED?

On p. 14 of the February 2017 issue, the photo of Buffalo Bill Cody is reversed. Notice the cheek piece of the rifle and the cutouts, or should I say, the lack of the cutouts for installing the caps on the revolvers. The cheek piece, as shown, is for a left-handed person. According to everything I have read, Buffalo Bill was right handed.

Loren Tilton
Ogallala, Nebraska

Meghan Saar responds: *You are indeed correct that this image of Buffalo Bill is reversed. The article identifies the photo as being a tintype, which presents a mirror image. For collectibles coverage, we usually don't alter auction items and instead publish them as they are sold. Elsewhere in the magazine, when an image is identified as a tintype, we do not reverse it, unless we point out to our readers that we have done so.*

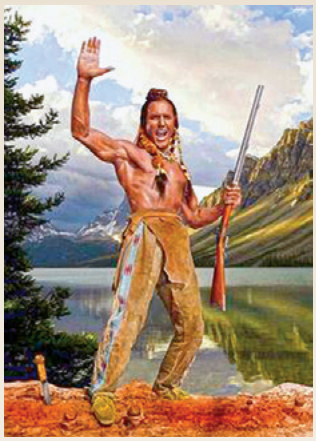
Oops!

In January 2017: The location for Tanque Verde, the Best of the West readers' choice for "Best Heritage Ranch," should be Tucson, Arizona. In February 2017: The caption on p. 43 is incorrect; Powhatan Clarke did drown, but not while rescuing a soldier. On p. 58, the author's name should be Don Rickey Jr. The still on p. 61 is from Rio Grande.



HOKA HEY (PAY ATTENTION)

Many a B-western featured white men approaching Indians with upraised hands with the greeting "How." Was this just one more Hollywood invention like the Lone Ranger's sidekick Tonto's (radio writer Fran Striker did no favor to the masked man's faithful companion given that this Spanish-based name translates as "fool") "Kemo Sabe" or did it have some basis in fact? "How" is another matter and has roots among the Plains people known popularly as the Sioux or the Lakota. It derived from the greeting *Hau* (also spelled *Haw*) that was spoken when meeting a male friend. The same word could be applied interchangeably as "yes." Adding a kinship term such as *kola* (a friend or cousin) after Hau typically completed the salutation for men. Because the Lakota language is gender specific (a fact that has native speakers chuckling when they watch *Dances With Wolves* because Kevin Costner is speaking in the feminine voice since his language coach was a woman) a man would hail a female friend with *Hau Mushkay*. Traditionally it was the male who spoke first. In turn, a woman employed *Han*, which was the feminine word for both "hello" and "yes." If another woman or women are present they reply, *Han, mis eya* that means "Yes, me, too" or simply say Han. While the generic "How" dominates in the movies, obviously the polyglot nature of the first peoples in the Americas meant a cacophony of greetings existed such as *yá át ééh* amongst the Diné or Naabeehó (Navajo). Because John Ford filmed many of his Westerns on or near the Navaho reservation in the Southwest's Four Corners area, his leading man John Wayne occasionally drawled yá át ééh as his on-screen welcome to Indians.



Ricardo Montalban flashes the Hau sign as Blackfoot Chief Ironshirt in *Across the Wide Missouri* (1951).

– COURTESY MGM –

BY BOB BOZE BELL

A Real Horse Opera

Crazy, zany connections to Monument Valley.

Monument Valley is iconic. Curiously, everyone thinks of John Ford when it comes to the Mittens and Western movies, even though Zane Grey discovered the movie location before Ford.

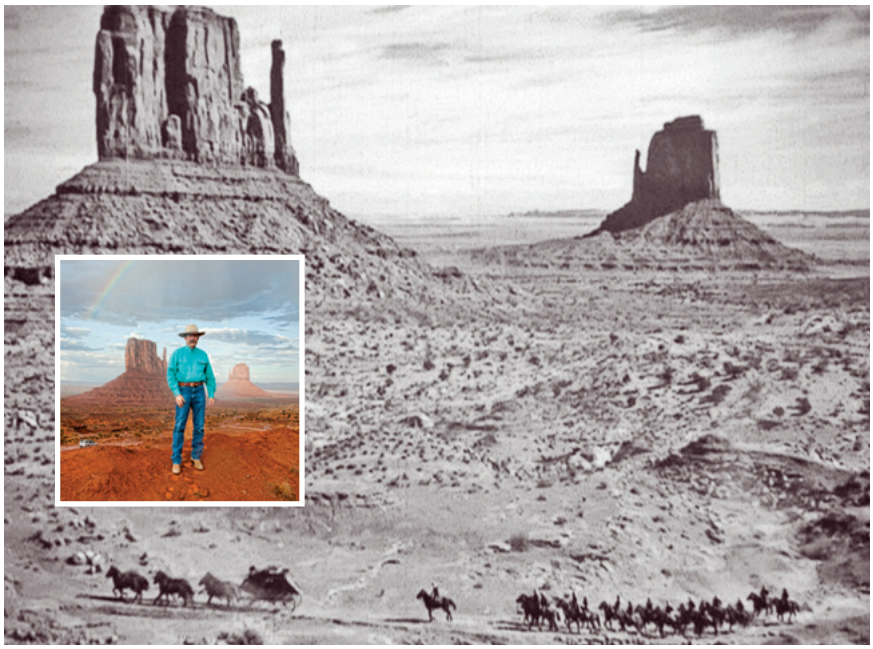
This year, Grey's most famous tome gets a dust off as a new opera takes the stage in Tucson and Phoenix. This is a big deal. Think about it: there is no opera about George Custer or Wyatt Earp. Aaron Copland did compose a stage piece centered on Billy the Kid, but as a ballet. The West has inspired operas, for instance Giacomo Puccini's opera based on the play "The Girl of the Golden West," but the theme has been largely ignored in that arena until recently, when two rebel composers decided to retrofit Grey's classic *Riders of the Purple Sage* into an opera. Jana Bommersbach documents that journey with wit and flourish (p. 22).

Last November, Grey was inducted into the Arizona Music & Entertainment Hall of Fame, along with two yahoos who hailed from Kingman. Turns out all three have connections to Monument Valley.

Those two Kingman yahoos are Andy Devine and me. Devine drove the stage in 1939's *Stagecoach*, which filmed in and around the Mittens, and I filmed a series of "*True West* Moments" for the Encore Westerns channel on the same spot in 2011.

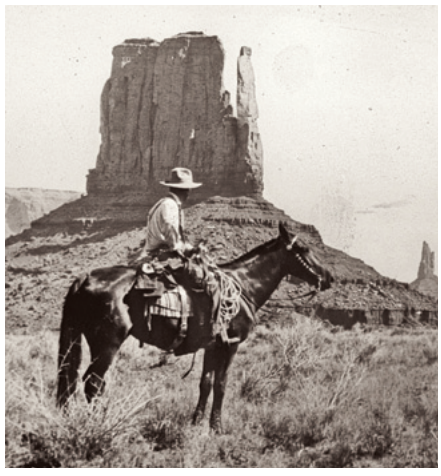
Ed Mell, whose art is showcased in the Grey-inspired opera, shared studio space with me for six years in the 1980s. He is also known for his iconic paintings of Navajoland.

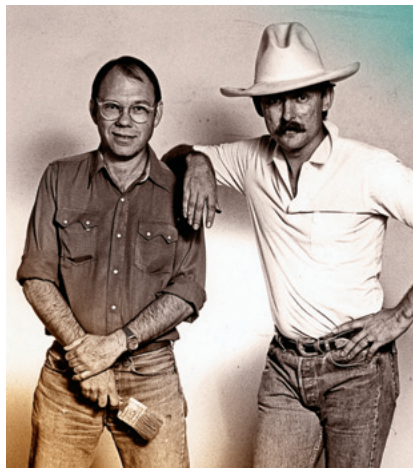
We all have a six degrees of Monument Valley connection. If you ask me, that is a real horse opera.



Crazy Connections to Monument Valley: John Ford filmed *Stagecoach* in Monument Valley (above), featuring Kingman native Andy Devine as the stage driver. I stand in front of the Mittens for one of my "*True West* Moments" in 2011 (inset), while author Zane Grey is photographed in front of West Mitten in the 1920s (below left). Ed Mell and I have toured Monument Valley together as research for our paintings. I stand next to Mell, with his paintbrush in hand, in his art studio that we shared in the 1980s (below right).

– *STAGECOACH* STILL COURTESY UNITED ARTISTS; GREY PHOTO COURTESY ZANE GREY'S WEST SOCIETY, THE HAROLD B. LEE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY AT BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY AND ZANE GREY INC.; ALL OTHER PHOTOS COURTESY BOB BOZE BELL –





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

TRUTH BE KNOWN

COMPILED BY ROBERT RAY

Quotes

"When I was younger, I could remember anything, whether it had happened or not...."

– Mark Twain, U.S. author

"I will not follow where the path may lead, but I will go where there is no path, and I will leave a trail."

– Muriel Strode, U.S. poet

"I hate quotation. Tell me what you know."

– Ralph Waldo Emerson, U.S. essayist

"We have wasted history like a bunch of drunks shooting dice back in the men's crapper of the local bar."

– Charles Bukowski, German-born U.S. author

"The historical novelist is always prey to the enjoyments of hindsight."

– Thomas Mallon, U.S. historical novelist

"History is the sum total of the things that could have been avoided."

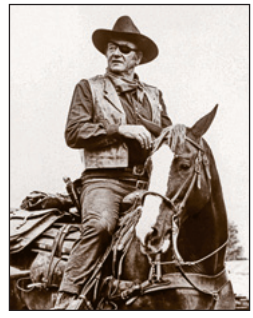
– Konrad Adenauer, first post-WWII chancellor of West Germany

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO



"Planes, automobiles, trams, they're great, but when it comes to getting the audience's heart going, they can't touch a horse."

–John Wayne, on horseback in 1969's True Grit



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– COURTESY WARNER BROS. –

"Badges? We ain't got no badges! We don't need no badges! I don't have to show you no stinking badges!"

– Alfonso Bedoya, as bandido Gold Hat, in 1948's The Treasure of the Sierra Madre

Old Vaquero Saying



"Don't promise when you are happy, don't reply when you are angry, don't decide when you are sad."


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BY MARK BOARDMAN

North to Alaska!

William Seward's 16-year effort to acquire the territory.

As early as 1852, New York Sen. William Seward saw the possibilities of the frozen land far to the northwest of the United States.



William Seward

Well, maybe not the land. But just off the coast, the seas were teeming with whales, which provided lamp oil and blubber. It was an idea for the future, when Seward—who had aspirations for a much higher office—might have the power to pull off a deal.

Seward never forgot about the land its Russian owners called Alaska.

In 1864, while U.S. secretary of state, Seward heard reports that the Russians might take offers for Alaska. Russian diplomat Eduard de Stoeckl favored the move; he thought Americans would eventually overrun the place anyway, much as they had Texas in the 1830s. The timing was still not right though, not with the U.S. fighting the Civil War.

But by early 1867, Seward and Stoeckl reached a meeting of minds and of pocketbooks. The two diplomats struck a deal that would transfer Alaska to the U.S. for $7 million (later upped to $7.2 million). President Andrew Johnson's cabinet approved a draft for the purchase on March 15; the U.S. took possession on October 18.

There was just one little catch. Cash. The House of Representatives had yet to appropriate the purchase money. Some, even within his own party, hated President Johnson for his Reconstruction policies. He was about to be impeached for firing War Secretary Edwin Stanton—so his administration was getting extra scrutiny.



William Seward concocted his land grab plan while he was the senator from New York (inset). Although prospectors found gold in Alaska as early as 1861, the great Klondike Gold Rush, where these four placer miners tried their luck, didn't kick off until 1896.

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Seward wined and dined the lawmakers, but his poor health jeopardized his efforts. He'd been severely hurt in a carriage accident in April 1865, then he was wounded days later in an assassination attempt tied to the murder of President Abraham Lincoln.

In 1867, Seward was 66 years old and struggling. He "speaks and thinks slowly, repeats himself, gets wound up and doesn't seem to have a clear idea of what he is after," his friend Charles Francis Adams Jr. said.

But Seward had tricks up his sleeve…or so it appeared. He reportedly told two friends that the Russians had bribed several prominent congressmen. He later denied it under oath, but he may have perjured himself to seal the deal. The House finally came up with the money in July 1868.

Seward visited Alaska in 1869 during a grand tour of the West. Again, he proved to be a prophet—suggesting that people would vacation there to enjoy the scenery.

The purchase was mocked by some as "Seward's Folly." Years passed before the Klondike and Alaska gold rushes brought development and riches to the region—and before the Wild West moved there in the forms of Wyatt Earp, Soapy Smith and gunman Frank Canton. Seward, who died in 1872, never saw Alaska's wildest days.

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BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

Idaho's Mormon Miracles

From an NBA team owner to a local journalist, a community bands together to save an 1890s school.

When the people of Preston, Idaho, decided to save the Oneida Stake Academy, they weren't just preserving a magnificent historic building. They were honoring a little-known time in Mormon history—a time of determination and defiance.

The academy was built in response to the 1887 Edmunds-Tucker Act that outlawed polygamy. But unlike earlier federal laws trying to stop plural marriages, this one went much further, striking at the economic and political heart of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—going so far as to outlaw the teaching of Mormon doctrine in public schools.

Fearful that their children would be fed anti-Mormon philosophies in state-run schools, the church built its own schools, creating some 30 academies from Canada to the Mexican colonies. Oneida is one of the few still standing. Built from 1890 to 1895, it has the distinction of educating two future church presidents—Ezra Taft Benson and Harold B. Lee.

The Edmunds-Tucker Act worked—in 1890, church President Wilford Woodruff outlawed polygamy and in 1896, Utah was welcomed into the union as the 45th state.

Meanwhile, the Oneida Stake Academy educated a generation. By the 1920s, it became Preston High School; then an "auxiliary building," when a brand new high school was built; then an event center that fell into disrepair. By the late 1990s, the academy was condemned. The school district set a March 2003 deadline for its demolition.

"There was a feeling there in the building; it wanted to be saved," says Necia Seamons, a journalist who became the founding member of the foundation to save the building.

But it would take $1.2 million to move the academy three blocks to the city's central Benson Park. As the demolition deadline neared, the foundation hadn't met its goal. Then "miracles" started happening; money came in, including $250,000 from Utah Jazz owner Larry Miller.



Oneida Stake Academy, shown here in the 1910s, was built in the 1890s with volunteer labor and financed by community giving—everything from donating a pig to selling a cow to cutting rocks. "Everything in the building is hand made, down to the bolts," Necia Seamons says. "Children came here from a very large area and had to board with people in the community. It was a major commitment to get an education."

– COURTESY ONEIDA STAKE ACADEMY MUSEUM AND COMMUNITY CENTER –

With the building safely relocated in 2003, the community began fundraising efforts to restore it into an all-purpose community center and museum.

Paul Judd didn't know any of this history when he moved to Preston from Liberty, Utah, in 2008. "God, why am I here?" he remembers asking. "When I saw the academy, I knew why I was here."

His avocation has been the academy's restoration, and he's pleased with its progress. "We brought in experts on stone. We've had the building earthquake proof. We replaced the metal braces to shore up the third floor ballroom," he says.

He estimates restoration is about half done. He says the community is committed to raising the funds that will allow the academy to remain a centerpiece in Preston for new generations to enjoy—and for its history to live on.

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


If you could see Nebraska through my eyes, you would see untold stories.
In a vast, rugged range.
You would see ancient geography.
And you'd find a love for spontaneous adventure.
You would see a place of raw nature.
Filled with color and texture.
You would see yourself on a different planet.
Surrounded by natural ruins.
My name is Derek, and this is Toadstool Geologic Park through my eyes.
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BY MEGHAN SAAR

A Big Bang Year

The year 2016 saw earth-shattering records for frontier weapons that included the most expensive gun and knife.

Oliver Winchester introduced a legendary brand to the world in 1866, and in 2016, the 150th anniversary year of Winchester Repeating Arms, his brand blew away world records—it became the créme de la créme in the auction world when it earned recognition as the most expensive gun ever sold.

The first Winchester rifle was the Model 1866, the Yellow Boy. But a rifle made 20 years later, the Model 1886, Serial No. 1, set the record for the highest price ever paid for a single firearm when it hammered down for $1.1 million at Rock Island Auction in Rock Island, Illinois. This American treasure had been presented to Henry W. Lawton, who led troops on a ferocious campaign that resulted in the capture of Apache leader Geronimo.

As if that, among other notable Winchester records, was not enough to make 2016 a top year for weapon collectors, the year also saw the most expensive American knife sold at auction.

At the end of his reign as U.S. President in 1909, Theodore Roosevelt set off for a 15-month African safari. While he brought with him 15 crates of Winchester rifles, ammunition and spare parts, a hunting knife presented to him for the trip became the big winner in the auction arena. His J. Russell & Co. hunting knife, featuring a gold-sculpted eagle head handle by Dreicer & Co., hammered down for $360,000 at Rock Island Auction.

Another leader in the firearms auction arena is James D. Julia in Fairfield, Maine, which brought collectors a non-Winchester gun that ended up earning notoriety as the most expensive Confederate firearm ever sold. The .44 caliber dragoon revolver, purchased for a $220,000 bid, was made on or near Dr. Ernst Kapp's farm in Sisterdale, Texas, under the direction of Confederate soldier Alfred Kapp, a former worker at the Colt factory. With a critical shortage of arms for Southern units at the beginning of the Civil War, the men of the Sisterdale Company made six of these revolvers to arm themselves. This is the only one known to survive.

Necessity is indeed the mother of invention!





Most Expensive American Knife

Given to Theodore Roosevelt, by his friend James W. Gerard, for a 1909 African safari outfitted by the Smithsonian, this hunting knife featuring a gold-sculpted eagle head handle sold for a $360,000 bid at Rock Island Auction. Gerard also served in the Spanish-American War, a war in which Roosevelt's leadership of the Rough Riders gained him national fame that propelled him into the White House; Roosevelt is shown in the center of the photo, surrounded by his Rough Riders.



Most Expensive Single Firearm

This Model 1886 Winchester rifle, presented to Henry W. Lawton, the U.S. Army captain who helped hunt down and capture famed Apache chief Geronimo, hammered down for $1.1 million at Rock Island Auction. Other guns have sold higher as a pair, but this Winchester surpasses the single firearm record previously held by Sotheby's New York, for an 1849 Colt pocket revolver that sold for a $950,000 bid.



1883 Gatling Gun World Record

A collector successfully bid $280,000 at James D. Julia for this Colt Model 1883 U.S. Navy Gatling Gun on tripod. It saw service on the *Miantonomoh* warship in 1885.



Most Expensive Confederate Firearm

Although not significant in terms of arming the Confederacy during the American Civil War, this only-known revolver carried by a company in Sisterdale, Texas, is unique for being made by a group of soldiers in a farm shop. The Confederate pistol hammered down for $220,000 at James D. Julia.



Winchester 1876 Revolver World Record

One of approximately nine known Winchester pistols, this Winchester 1876 revolver set a world record with a $220,000 bid at Rock Island Auction. Made for Winchester by former Smith & Wesson employees William W. Wetmore and Charles S. Wells, this rarity was showcased at the centennial exhibition held in Philadelphia. The rumor goes that Winchester agreed to stop competing in the single action revolver market if Colt did the same with lever action rifles.



Winchester 1895 Rifle World Record

Winchester's Model 1895 Takedown rifle, featuring gold, damascened leopard, tiger and grizzly bear, hammered down for $320,000 at Rock Island Auction. A similar firearm, owned by celebrated Old West novelist Zane Grey, is preserved in the Cody Firearms Museum at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, which is celebrating its centennial this year.

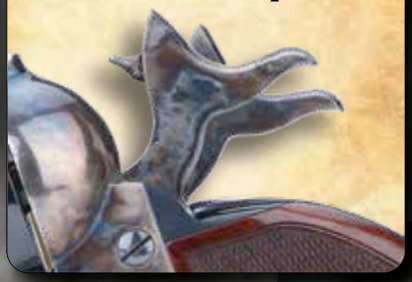
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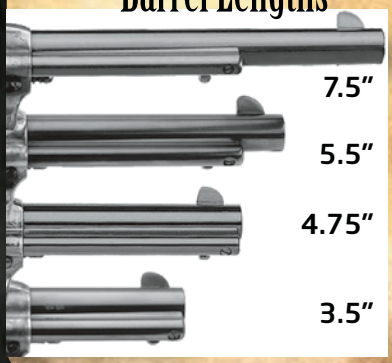
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TAYLOR'S & COMPANY
Keeping the Legend Alive

BY PHIL SPANGENBERGER

The Sideways Grip—Cool or Crazy?

This highly unorthodox way of holding and firing a handgun shows up all too often in film, but does it really have merit?

Hollywood loves the catchy, visual "piece of business," as moviemakers like to say. One thing that has caught on big-time with modern films, and in real life on the big cities' "mean streets" among gangbangers and other criminals, is the "sideways" "gangster" or "ghetto" grip. It's a way of holding and firing a handgun while grasping the gun sideways with the palm of the hand down and the barrel held sideways. When gripping in this manner, the shooter sights down the side of the barrel rather than holding the handgun properly, to sight along the top of the barrel, using the front and rear sights. To many, it evidently has a certain "cool" look about it, but that's where "being cool" ends.

In movie talk it's called "suspension of belief..."

When it comes to live fire, the sideways grip not only does nothing to aid in accuracy; rather, it impedes it. However, in Tinsel Town, visuals do not have to have any basis in reality. In movie talk it's called "suspension of belief," an important factor in selling the audience on exaggerated and unbelievable action scenes and super hero stunts. Remember, these are actors firing blanks that have no recoil, and it's the screenwriters who determine who gets shot—not the character doing the shooting. However, when "reel" antics leave the screen and become real, the savvy handgunner won't have anything to do with this sideways hold.



Another film where this sideways hold, now known as the "gangster" or "ghetto" grip, was used was the classic 1961 *One-Eyed Jacks*, staring Marlon Brando. In the scene shown here, Brando's "Rio" character uses the infamous grip to minimize his exposure from behind a support beam.

– COURTESY PARAMOUNT PICTURES –

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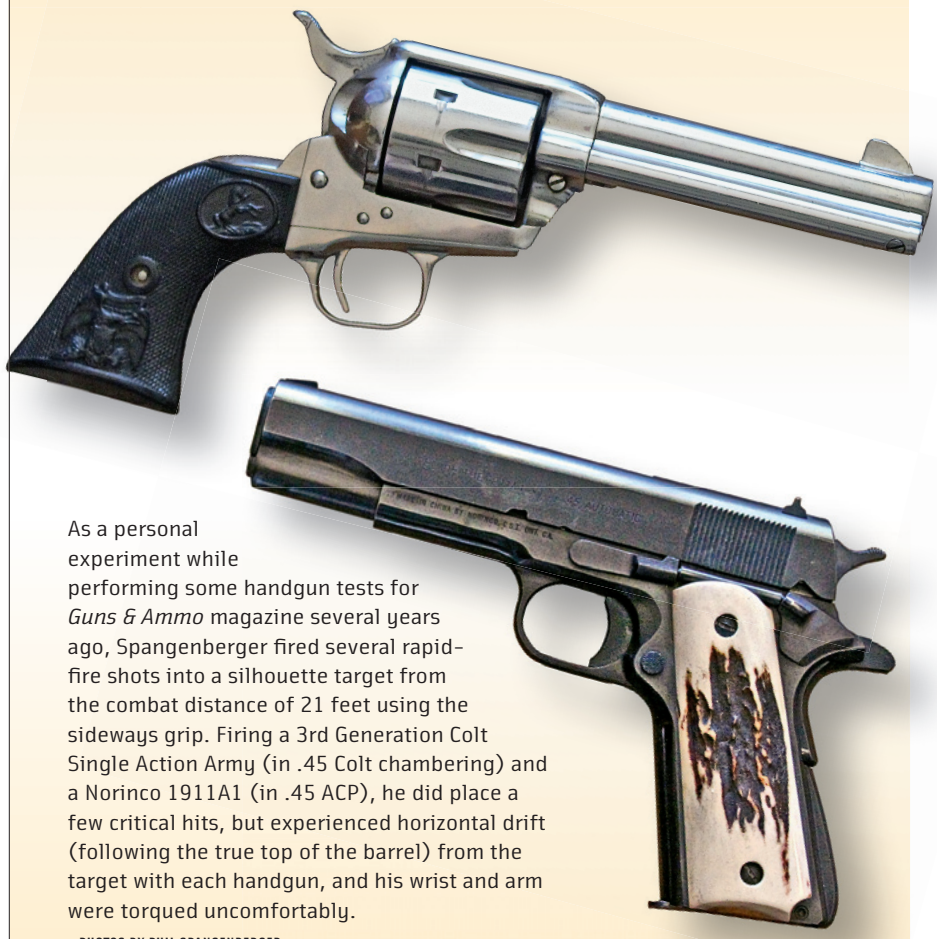


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As for filmdom, it appears that Glenn Ford first used this method while demonstrating his fast-draw skills to local townsfolk in the 1956 Western, *The Fastest Gun Alive*. In it, Ford quickly swipes his Colt across his cartridge belt sideways, using this hold and cocking the hammer against the belt as he makes his draw. Then in the 1961 classic *One Eyed Jacks*, Marlon Brando relies on the sideways grip in a saloon shootout with a "scum-sucking pig" who was roughing up a bar girl. Brando crouched behind the roof-support beam in the saloon and quickly fired several shots while holding his six-gun in this manner. Incidentally, the gun Brando fired so quickly was actually a Colt New Service double-action (DA) revolver with an ejector housing added, to give it the appearance of the 1873 Peacemaker (SA) he'd been packing, allowing the actor to fire faster in double-action mode.

Several years ago, while performing some handgun tests for *Guns & Ammo* magazine, as a personal experiment, I gave the sideways grip a tryout with a couple of handguns. Standing about 21 feet (combat course distance) from a silhouette target, my rapidly fired shots from a '73 Colt SA and a 1911 semi-auto pistol, were somewhat scattered. Despite having my aim thrown off by this grip, I was able to place a few critical hits on target—but at great discomfort to my wrist. No matter how a large-calibered handgun is fired, recoil will occur in the direction of the true top of the barrel, causing immediate



As a personal experiment while performing some handgun tests for *Guns & Ammo* magazine several years ago, Spangenberger fired several rapid-fire shots into a silhouette target from the combat distance of 21 feet using the sideways grip. Firing a 3rd Generation Colt Single Action Army (in .45 Colt chambering) and a Norinco 1911A1 (in .45 ACP), he did place a few critical hits, but experienced horizontal drift (following the true top of the barrel) from the target with each handgun, and his wrist and arm were torqued uncomfortably.

– PHOTOS BY PHIL SPANGENBERGER –



Perhaps the earliest use on film of the so-called sideways grip, although it wasn't referred to as the gangster grip until several decades later, was in the 1956 western movie, *The Fastest Gun Alive*. In it, in order to impress the local townsfolk of his speed and skill, star Glenn Ford quickly swipes his Colt across his cartridge belt, using this sideways hold, cocking the hammer against the belt as he makes his draw and fires his Colt.

– COURTESY MGM –

drift from the target. This unorthodox hold causes the wrist and forearm to be torqued uncomfortably. I could readily see that in a realistic situation, I would have put myself at a serious disadvantage by using this "cool looking," but tactically silly hold. If this were truly an effective handgun hold, it would have been adopted generations ago by professional shootists.

So, the next time you see someone using this so-called cool sideways grip in a modern film, take pity on the poor fool, good guy or baddy. If it were a real life situation, rather than a "reel life" action drama, it's likely that Mr. Shooter would get "cooled off" in a hurry.

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



– PHIL SPANGENBERGER –

HALO XL 450 RANGEFINDER

While recently enjoying a successful Texas hog hunt with my Cimarron Arms Model 71 lever gun, I tried out the new, handy pocket-sized Halo XL450 Laser Rangefinder. Lightweight, compact and delivering fast-ranging accuracy out to 450 yards, its 6X magnification offers bright, clear, accurate viewing to +/- one yard. An easy-to-read internal LCD displays the reticle, battery status, mode setting, numerical display and unit of measure, which is selectable in yards or meters. You can get a single reading or scan multiple targets without having to reactivate the laser for each target. It also compensates for slope in both mode settings and is water-resistant.

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YOU'RE INVITED!

Zane Grey's West Society 35th Annual Convention will be held in Kanab, Utah, June 19th – 22nd.

Join us in the town in the shadows of **Zion National Park** and the **Grand Canyon** where more than 100 Old West movies were filmed.

We will meet at the historic **Parry Lodge** where all the stars stayed when they were in town.

Please visit our website at ***www.ZGWS.org*** for all the details about the convention and how to join **Zane Grey's West Society.**



BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

RIDERS OF THE PURPLE

ZANE GREY'S TIMELESS NOVEL WILL BE STAGED AS AN OPERA.



SAGE



The famous purple sage of Western lore is made more dramatic by the red sandstone spires that dot Monument Valley, where Zane Grey rides below. His lyrical descriptions of this majestic site remind one of an Ed Mell painting, for example, *Red Rock Cloud Drift* (inset), which is why Arizona Opera chose to partner with the artist to present the visuals for its grand interpretation of Zane's *Riders of the Purple Sage* novel.

– ALL ZANE GREY PHOTOS COURTESY ZANE GREY'S WEST SOCIETY, THE HAROLD B. LEE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY AT BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY AND ZANE GREY INC.; ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY ED MELL –



Thank the Grand Canyon.

Long before it was a national park—before it was even a game preserve, thanks to President Teddy Roosevelt—this steep-sided canyon of grandeur inspired one of the greatest storytellers of the American West.

He was a writer who touched hundreds of millions in 20 languages, telling stories of Old West ethics and codes—in glory and shame—while painting verbal scenes so vivid, the landscape became a living character.

We imagine Zane's horse may have felt the same way as Wrangle did in the novel: "What he wanted was to be free of mules and burros and steers, to roll in dust-patches, and then to run down the wide, open, windy sage-plains, and at night browse and sleep in the cool wet grass of a spring-hole." The below photo shows the author on the set of the 1918 silent Western *Riders of the Purple Sage*, the first of five film adaptations of the novel.

– 1918 POSTER COURTESY FOX FILM CORPORATION –





Yes, Arizona's Grand Canyon deserves credit because the nearly 34-year-old Zane Grey was smitten to his soul after experiencing the canyon on his honeymoon in 1906—on his wife's dime—and on a hunting expedition in 1907. Until then, he'd been an Ohio boy, then a Pennsylvania boy, then a New York dentist with a hankering to write, but a drawer full of rejections—his first self-published books were about his historic family from days when Ohio was as far west as anyone went.

Once he experienced the spellbinding Grand Canyon—named a national park 13 years after he first saw it—he found the land and people he would bring alive in some nine million words in 58 Westerns that became 113 movies and a TV series to a worldwide audience of 250 million.

Now his most popular work—a bestselling Western novel, already five times a film—is being re-imagined by Arizona Opera to tell the 105-year-old story, *Riders of the Purple Sage*, all over again. The opera's world premiere—the first ever produced by this opera company—opens in Tucson on February 25 and 26; in Phoenix, on March 3 through 5.

How fitting that this Western opera should be a tale with issues that still ring true to this day—women's rights, fundamentalist religion, guns, the search for home. Zane would have been proud.

THE VISIONARY

His name was so perfect for a Western writer that it sounded fake, but it wasn't.

He was born Pearl Zane Gray on January 31, 1872—some think his first name was inspired by the gray pearls worn by a mourning Queen Victoria. He dropped the first name when he was mistakenly referred to as "Miss Gray," and he preferred to spell his last name as Grey.

His middle name came from his mother's family who founded Zanesville, Ohio, and carried a pioneer legacy that fascinated him enough to launch his writing career—his first self-published book was about his Great-Great Aunt Betty Zane, an American Revolution War heroine. But those were the days when he was writing while doing other things—playing baseball for the University of Pennsylvania, where he trained as a dentist; then some minor league play until he established his dental practice in New York City in 1896.

To offset the tedium of dentistry, he began writing at night. But publishers weren't impressed with his works, and he floundered for several years.

Two life events changed that. He married Lina "Dolly" Roth in 1905, and he fell under the spell of the Grand Canyon on his first travels West.

Dolly managed his career and edited his manuscripts, always the faithful wife even though he was a most unfaithful husband. The majesty of the canyon from his trips became the template for his vivid and compelling descriptions of the Western landscape that was foreign to much of America. As he'd write, "Surely, of all the gifts that have come to me from contact with the West, this one of sheer love of wilderness, beauty, color, grandeur, has been the greatest, the most significant for my work." America agreed.

His first bestseller was published in 1910—*The Heritage of the Desert*. Two years later appeared the book that defined his career, *Riders of the Purple Sage*. He wrote it in three months, beginning in the El Tovar Hotel at the Grand Canyon, after a trip to the Painted Desert.

Financial success allowed Zane to buy a mansion in Altadena, California, and

If Zane had painted his initial impression of Monument Valley, it would look like *Rain Veil* (below). "...my first sight of Monument Valley came with a dazzling flash of lightning," he wrote for the 1922 *Tales of Lonely Trails* collection, from an article originally published in the February 1915 issue of *Recreation* Magazine. "It revealed a vast valley, a strange world of colossal shafts and buttes of rocks, magnificently sculptored *[sic]*, standing isolated and aloof, dark, weird, lonely. When the sheet lightning flared across the sky showing the monuments silhouetted black against that strange horizon the effect was marvelously beautiful."



move Dolly and their three children from Pennsylvania. He also built a hunting cabin under the Mogollon Rim near Payson, Arizona, and from 1921 to 1929, spent a few weeks each year at the cabin. He only abandoned Arizona when game officials wouldn't give him hunting privileges out of season—he thought all his Arizona-based books owed him the courtesy. Sadly, his cabin was destroyed in the Dude Fire of 1990. But in 2005, the City of Payson dedicated a replica of the cabin and devoted a second building to showcase Zane's work and career, all on the grounds of the Rim Country Museum.

Although he didn't know the West until well into his adulthood, he was no armchair voyeur. He hired the best guides and camped throughout the West to soak up its landscape, its folklore, its stories. He reported on what he learned like a journalist would and described it as accurately as the thousands of photographs he took. The desert invaded his soul: "Man's bones yearn for the dust," he wrote.

Until his death on October 23, 1939, Zane was writing and publishing from one to four books every year—and after his death, his publishers continued issuing his work, until they ran out of manuscripts in 1963. He wrote about every state west of the Mississippi River except North Dakota. Few people of the day had detailed knowledge of the American West like Zane did.

He became one of the first millionaire authors. He was a major force in shaping the myths of the Old West, not only through the millions and millions of books sold worldwide—in his heyday, he was only outsold by the Bible and the Boy Scout Handbook—but also by the film and TV productions that brought his stories to new audiences. *Riders* was the book that launched that movie career.

Most agree Zane had a seismic influence on filmmaking—he demanded his books be shot in the locales in which they were set, which brought filmmakers to sites throughout the West. His biographer noted that 15 years before John Ford discovered the grandeur of Monument Valley, Zane was pushing filmmakers to shoot his movies there. Zane even established his own movie studio, but after seven films, sold it to a founder of Paramount Pictures.

In all, *Riders* was made into a film five separate times, with the hero always getting top billing. In 1918, he was played by Hollywood sensation William Farnum; in 1925, by Western megastar Tom Mix; in 1931, by George O'Brien; in 1941, by George Montgomery; and, in the 1996 television film, by Ed Harris. It was only the last film where an actress of note played the heroine—Amy Madigan.

Nearly everything Zane wrote found its way onto the screen, with 115 adaptations of his novels and short stories.

Mell's *Navajo Horses* feeding off a majestic, yet gritty, landscape recalls a poignant moment in the novel featuring frontier heroine Jane Withersteen: "And then she sighed, remembering that her father had founded this remotest border settlement of southern Utah and that he had left it to her.... Withersteen House was hers, and the great ranch, with its thousands of cattle, and the swiftest horses of the sage. To her belonged Amber Spring, the water which gave verdure and beauty to the village and made living possible on that wild purple upland waste."

– *RIDERS OF THE PURPLE SAGE* EDITION PUBLISHED BY GROSSET & DUNLAP –



Despite all his success, many critics hated his books; they thought them too romanticized and even denigrated him in obituaries—so much so that some critics finally came to his rescue to say something special *was* there. Readers weren't so harsh—libraries to this day keep copies of his books on their shelves because so many readers want to check them out.

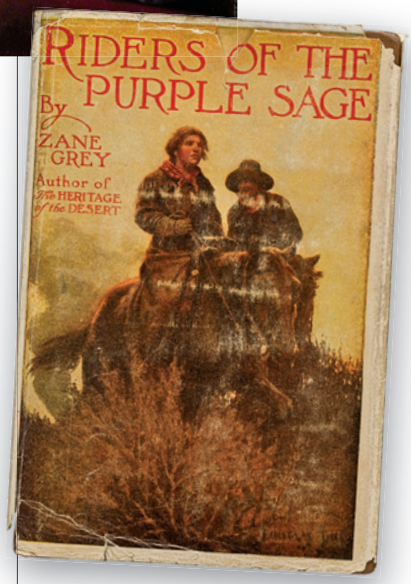
And the book checked out the most is *Riders of the Purple Sage*. It is set in 1871, the year before Zane's birth, in Utah Territory. Ulysses S. Grant is President of the United States. Utah has been a territory for 21 years. The most significant event in Utah Territory that year was the federal government's indictment of Mormon President Brigham Young for adultery due to his plural marriages.

Into that background, Zane sets his story around a strong-willed and determined Mormon heroine, Jane Withersteen, and a black-clad, bad-boy-but-good-man gunslinger hero named Lassiter. Jane inherited her father's ranch and has no interest in joining the polygamous family of a church elder determined to wed her or ruin her.

The book is strongly anti-polygamy, but Zane wasn't alone in that view. The nation was repelled by the idea of plural marriages—Mormon founder Joseph Smith's own original wife and most of his immediate family broke with Young's church over the issue, and the federal government tried since 1862 to outlaw the practice. It eventually succeeded after the Edmunds-Tucker Act of 1887 seized the church's assets. The 1890 Manifesto by Mormon President Wilford Woodruff officially ended the practice and became Utah's ticket to statehood in 1896 as the 45th state.

THE MAN BEHIND THE OPERA

Arizona composer Craig Bohmler didn't read *Riders of the Purple Sage* until late in 2011—and he might never have if not for a moment of serendipity set in motion by an Arizona summer rainstorm.



Bohmler was in Payson, resting after a successful musical-theatre run in Branson, Missouri, looking for a new project and hoping to have a nice hike.

"But the deluge thwarted my hike, so I went to a museum in Payson

Guided by John Wetherill, Zane made the trip to Rainbow Bridge in southern Utah in May 1913. The expedition traveled to the edge of the Glass Mountains, as shown below, and continued up Bald Rock Canyon and through Surprise Valley. Former U.S. President Teddy Roosevelt also made a trip to Rainbow Bridge that year. Zane traveled 70 miles on horseback over rough country to view the wonder, writing: "Only by toil, sweat, endurance and pain could any man ever look at Nonnezoshe. It seemed well to realize that the great things of life had to be earned." The author would be surprised to learn that a boat ride from Lake Powell has made this one of the world's most accessible of the largest natural arches today.



devoted to Zane Grey," he remembers. "What boy didn't grow up with Westerns, and here was a museum filled with movie posters from [Zane's] books. I came home that night and kindled Zane Grey. I found 28 titles and thought *Riders* seemed the sexiest title."

He wasn't 10 pages into the book when he thought, "Boy, this is operatic." He wasn't 30 pages into it before he knew that if the legendary Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi were still alive, he'd have taken on this book a long time ago.

"It has larger-than-life characters and big subjects," he says. "It has a love story and an amazing landscape."

That began a six-year journey to bring *Riders* to a live, operatic stage.

He called his longtime friend and frequent collaborator, Steven Mark Kohn, and announced, "I found us an opera." That's when Kohn first read the book—"I thought it a better opera than a book," he admits, but came to agree, "it has all the right bones."

As Kohn wrote the words for the opera, he found the "heart of the story is people trying to find home—everyone is seeking their place in the world," he says.

Meanwhile, Bohmler approached Arizona Opera to see if it'd be interested. The company's first question was: "How are you dealing with the horses?"

Bohmler never anticipated live animals on stage—neither did the opera company—but Arizona Opera suggested video might work. That didn't sound right. Bohmler turned to a friend, Kristin Atwell Ford, who'd just won an Emmy for a film on Arizona's Roosevelt Dam. She'd never read the book, but as Bohmler explained the story, "Ed Mell's artwork filled my vision," she remembers.

It didn't take much talking to convince the internationally acclaimed Southwestern artist, known for his panoramic abstracted landscapes, to join the team. "I've always thought set design is something an artist should do in his lifetime," Mell says. "This was the perfect opportunity, and it was right down my alley. I welcomed it with open arms."

Mell created vibrant moveable panels—some 28 feet tall—and a series of sky paintings that will be projected on a giant rear screen.



Dressed as the quintessential cowboy, Zane steps out into a Southwest desert wilderness he helped to make famous.

Zane sits astride a mule on a pleasing plain of sage, possibly in the wilds of Arizona, where he made his home near Payson. He pointed out the state's magnificence to millions of readers through novels set in Arizona, which included: *Call of the Canyon, The Rainbow Trail* and *Under the Tonto Rim*. Of the 85 books he wrote, he set 58 of them in his beloved West; his top-selling book remains *Riders of the Purple Sage*.



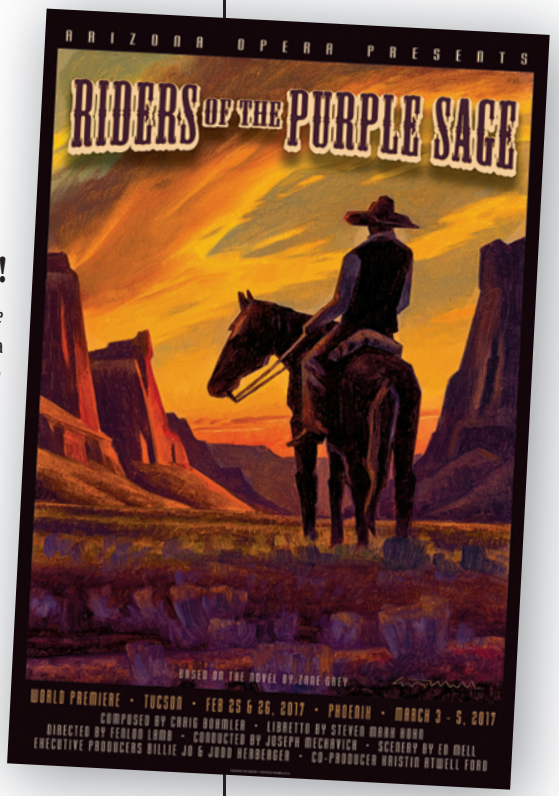
Atwell Ford, coproducer of the opera, is creating a documentary, *The Making of a Western Opera.* She's smitten by the projects: "This is a high-water mark for art in Arizona—an Arizona author of a piece over a century old, with the historic collaboration of Arizona native Ed Mell and Arizona resident Craig Bohmler, supported by Billy Jo and Judd Herberger, a legendary Arizona family."

It's also a high-water mark for bringing to life the real-world places where Zane set his novel. The creative team visited the sites in Utah and Arizona that inspired the story—the petroglyphs at Betatakin Canyon, the southern Utah ranch that the author modeled Jane Withersteen's ranch on. Seeing the locations Zane saw so long ago inspired their depiction in the opera. Purple sage and all.

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



What does 1871 sound like? Composer Craig Bohmler says he captured that telltale Western sound from the first notes of his opera, *Riders of the Purple Sage*: "We begin with that big sweeping French horn and the audience knows they're seeing a Western—they'll never doubt where they are, just like looking at an Ed Mell painting and knowing you're in the Southwest." Mell's *Kaibito Desert* (above) is a great mood setter; the "storms are coming" echo in your mind when you see it.



Win an Ed Mell Painting!

Featuring Ed Mell's painting *Entering the Canyon,* this poster announces Arizona Opera's world premiere of *Riders of the Purple Sage,* in Tucson on February 25 and 26, and in Phoenix on March 3 through 5. A drawing will be held during the final performance to see who wins Mell's framed original painting, *Chinle Mesa*. You can enter by completing the online donation form at *AZOpera.org*, by calling 602-266-7334 or by speaking with an Arizona Opera staff member at one of the performances. Good luck!

How Did James Bowie Really Die?

Did the famed Alamo defender go down as a gallant hero, fighting to the death, as illustrated here? Or should history remember him dying as a sick, feeble, angry coward?

– ILLUSTRATED BY JOSEPH MUSSO –





BY WILLIAM GRONEMAN III

NO WOUNDS IN HIS BACK

Step aside, David Crockett, just how exactly did James Bowie die at the Alamo?

The Alamo's anniversary, March 6, ignites lively debate every year among aficionados concerning the how, why and where of every aspect of that epic 1836 battle. The death of David Crockett, the Alamo's most famous combatant, draws the most attention. James Bowie, the Alamo's other alpha male, must shake his head in the Texas Valhalla. His death certainly was as sacrificially heroic as Crockett's, but no one is overly interested in his demise. Versions of Bowie's death, while not as numerous as those of Crockett's, are as varied and as historically confusing.

According to stories spread after the battle, Bowie either died as: a murder victim, a suicide, a battle casualty or a victim of sadistic torture. He may have died fighting from his sickbed; helplessly in his sickbed; or of an illness before Mexican soldiers did the job. He may

have been killed by swords, bayonets, gunfire or fire. He may have died heroically or as a coward.

One of the first reports to Sam Houston after the battle reported that "Bowie was killed while lying sick in bed." Houston and others passed on this information, interpreting it to mean he had been "murdered" while sick in bed. However, Houston changed the story two days later, writing, "Our friend Bowie, as is now understood, unable to get out of bed, shot himself, as the soldiers approached it."

An unidentified Mexican soldier expressed a different opinion in the April 5, 1836, edition of *El Mosquito Mexicano*. He stated, "...the perverse and braggart Santiago Bowie, died like a woman, almost hidden under a mattress."

Alamo survivor Susanna Dickinson Hannig weighed in on the subject 38 years later. She stated that Bowie was sick in bed, and when the Mexican soldiers entered his room, "…he killed two of them with his pistols before they pierced him through with their sabres." Nothing in Hannig's statement indicates she actually witnessed this.

Perhaps the most horrifying tale of Bowie's death came in 1882, when William P. Zuber, who popularized the Alamo's famous "line in the sand" story, told the tale of a young Mexican fifer Apolinario Saldigna. "Polin," Zuber claims, witnessed Bowie brought out alive on a cot and placed before a Mexican captain. Bowie delivered a short patriotic speech to the captain, who became so outraged that he ordered his soldiers to cut Bowie's tongue out and hurl the still-living man onto the Texian burning funeral pyre.

The celebrated Madam Candelaria, who in later years developed a sort of cottage industry around Alamo stories, told in 1888 how she had been in the act of giving the ailing Bowie a drink of water when Mexican soldiers rushed in, killed Bowie in her arms and wounded her on the chin in the process.

Four years later, her story changed when she related how Bowie had died in her arms a few minutes *before* the soldiers swarmed in. However, one of them thrust a bayonet into Bowie's lifeless head and lifted his body from her lap.

Still another story, attributed to her, appeared before her death on February 10, 1899, possibly 1898, this one more action packed. A dozen or more soldiers sprang into the room, and Bowie emptied his pistols in their faces, killing two of them. She threw herself in front of the Mexicans as they lunged at him with bayonets, receiving wounds on her arm and chin. The soldiers thrust her out of the way and butchered him before her eyes.

Alamo survivor Juana Navarro Alsbury stated in 1898 that she witnessed soldiers enter Bowie's room upstairs in "the old church," bayonet him and carry him out into the plaza below while he still lived. They tossed him up and caught him on their bayonets until a cavalry officer dashed in and lashed the soldiers with his sword until they desisted.

Enrique Esparza, a child survivor of the battle, gave his version in 1907. He stated that Bowie, though sick with fever, fought on until he was wounded and had to be carried to a cot in one of the rooms on the north side of the church. He fired his rifle and pistol at the enemy from his cot until they closed in on him. As they made their final rush, he rose up in his bed, burying his knife in the breast of one as another fired a shot, killing him. His body was then riddled with bullets.



JAMES BOWIE

"Our friend Bowie...shot himself, as the soldiers approached [the bed]."

–Sam Houston



Andrea Castañón Villanueva, known as Madam Candelaria, gave conflicting accounts of how James Bowie died. Some historians disagree whether she was a witness or not, although her contemporaries found her credible, including another survivor, Enrique Esparza. On February 12, 1891, the Texas legislature granted her a $12-a-month pension for being an Alamo survivor. She died eight years later, in San Antonio, Texas, supposedly at the age of 113.

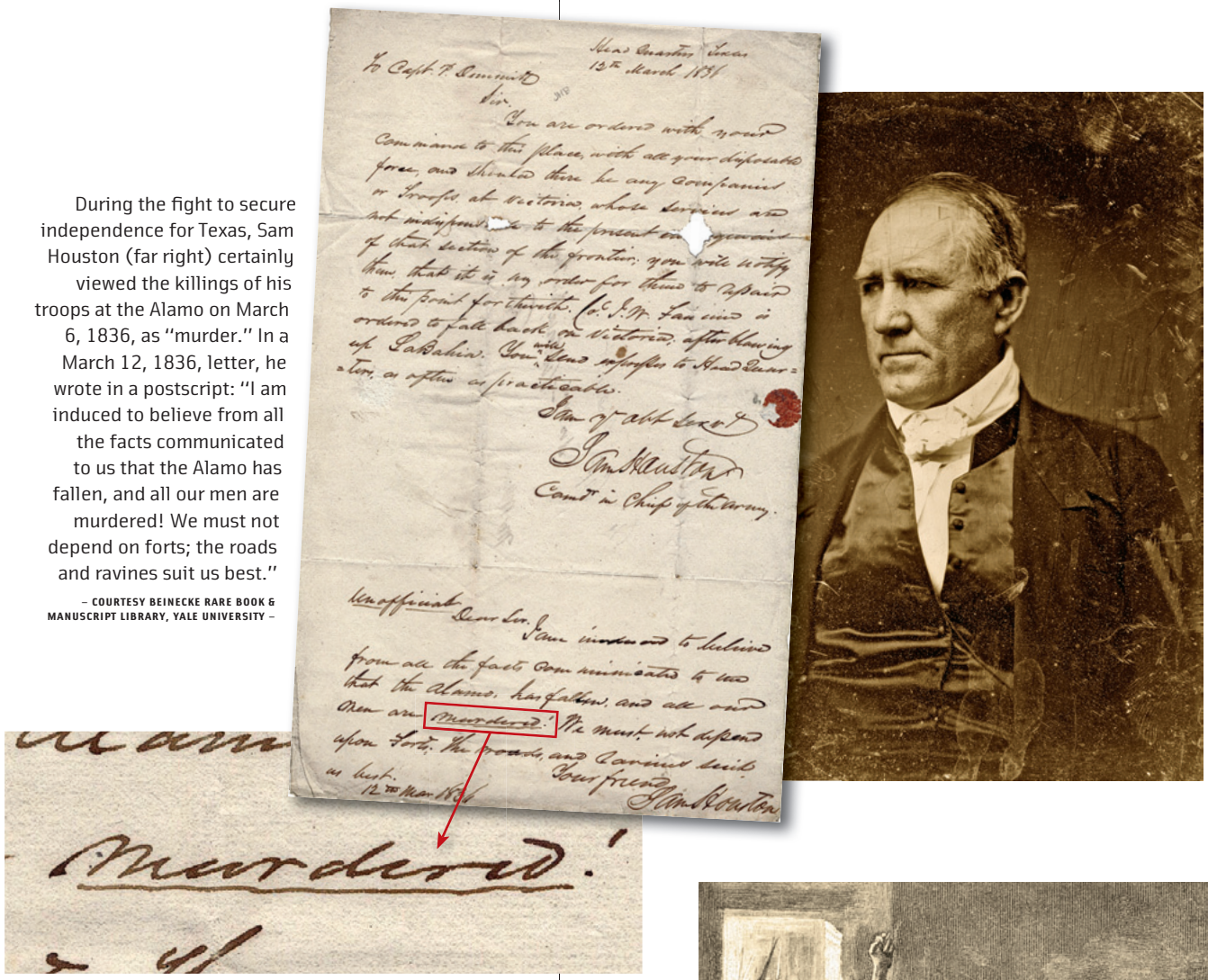
– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

As with most aspects of the Alamo battle, the exact details of Bowie's death may never be known. Perhaps the best quote regarding his death is attributed to his mother, Elve Jones Bowie. Walter Worthington Bowie wrote in 1899's *The Bowies and Their Kindred*, "…it is said when told her gallant son James had been killed by the Mexicans at the Alamo, she received the news calmly, remarking that she would 'wager no wounds were found in his back'...."

William Groneman III is the author of the 2005 biography *David Crockett: Hero of the Common Man*, among other Alamo and Texas Revolution books.

During the fight to secure independence for Texas, Sam Houston (far right) certainly viewed the killings of his troops at the Alamo on March 6, 1836, as "murder." In a March 12, 1836, letter, he wrote in a postscript: "I am induced to believe from all the facts communicated to us that the Alamo has fallen, and all our men are murdered! We must not depend on forts; the roads and ravines suit us best."

– COURTESY BEINECKE RARE BOOK & MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY, YALE UNIVERSITY –



James Bowie fighting from his sickbed looks to be a popular death scenario theory around the turn of the 20th century. The color illustration by Charles H. Stephens was published in 1898's *The Lost Gold of the Montezumas: A Story of the Alamo* by William O. Stoddard. The black-and-white illustration by Louis Betts appeared in the January 1902 *McClure's Magazine*.

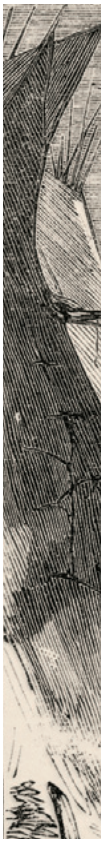
– STEPHENS ART COURTESY J.B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY; BETTS ART COURTESY PAUL ANDREW HUTTON –





BY ARNOLD BLUMBERG

Custer's Other Regiment



THE 19TH KANSAS VOLUNTEER CAVALRY LEARNED TROOPERS COULD WIN THE WAR WITHOUT A FIGHT.

The 19th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry fought the harsh elements and rough terrain, but never the American Indians.

The Sunflower State found a soldier willing to engage the Indians in Lt. Col. George A. Custer. On November 29, 1868, military leaders learned of Custer and his 7th Cavalry's victory at the Battle of Washita two days earlier.

So in early March 1869, when Custer requested volunteers to accompany the 7th Cavalry on a new expedition, the Company L unit of the 19th Kansas Volunteers believed they would finally see some action.

The Path to Glory

From the start of the year through the summer of 1868, marauding Indians had murdered 110 whites, raped 13 white women, stolen 1,000 livestock and destroyed private property in Maj. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan's Department of the Missouri. Many of the depredations were perpetrated in north-central Kansas and along the Kansas-Colorado border by the Southern Cheyennes.

On August 17, Kansas Gov. Samuel J. Crawford offered to raise state volunteers to curb the Indian violence. Sheridan accepted the offer on October 9 and requested the governor raise one volunteer regiment of cavalry to serve for six months. The federal government would pay the regiment the same pay as soldiers in the Regular Army and furnish the men with rations, equipment and weapons.

Crawford recruited a mounted unit of volunteers from the state militia and designated the new formation the 19th Kansas Cavalry. On October 21, he set up Camp Crawford, in Topeka, to organize the new recruits.

Within weeks, 1,300 men, including former Union Civil War cavalrymen, were mustered into the regiment, while supplies, equipment and horses arrived from Fort Leavenworth. The lieutenant colonel in charge of training was Horace L. Moore, 31, a veteran volunteer cavalry officer who had commanded the Union 4th Arkansas Volunteer Cavalry regiment and, in 1867, served as a major in the 18th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. Crawford, 33, a former major general for the Union Army during the Civil War, resigned his governorship in early November and assumed command of the cavalry.

On November 5, ten of the 12 companies of the regiment left camp to march to Camp Supply, on the south bank of the South Canadian River, 355 miles from Topeka. (The other two companies, D and G, marched to Fort Hays.)

The trip was supposed to take five days, so the 1,100 men carried rations for that length of time. But the journey took longer, leaving the soldiers to purchase sustenance for themselves and their mounts from inhabitants in Emporia. On November 12, when the soldiers reached Fort Beecher on the Little Arkansas River, their hopes for relief were dashed upon learning that the post did not have enough food, forage or wagons for the regiment.





Samuel J. Crawford (above) organized the 19th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry to respond to Indian depravations that escalated in 1868. The volunteers hoped to engage in combat with tribes, like the 7th Cavalry did, shown charging into Black Kettle's village at daylight on November 27 in this *Harper's Weekly* illustration published on December 19. They instead learned another way to win a war.

– ILLUSTRATION COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS; ALL OTHER PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

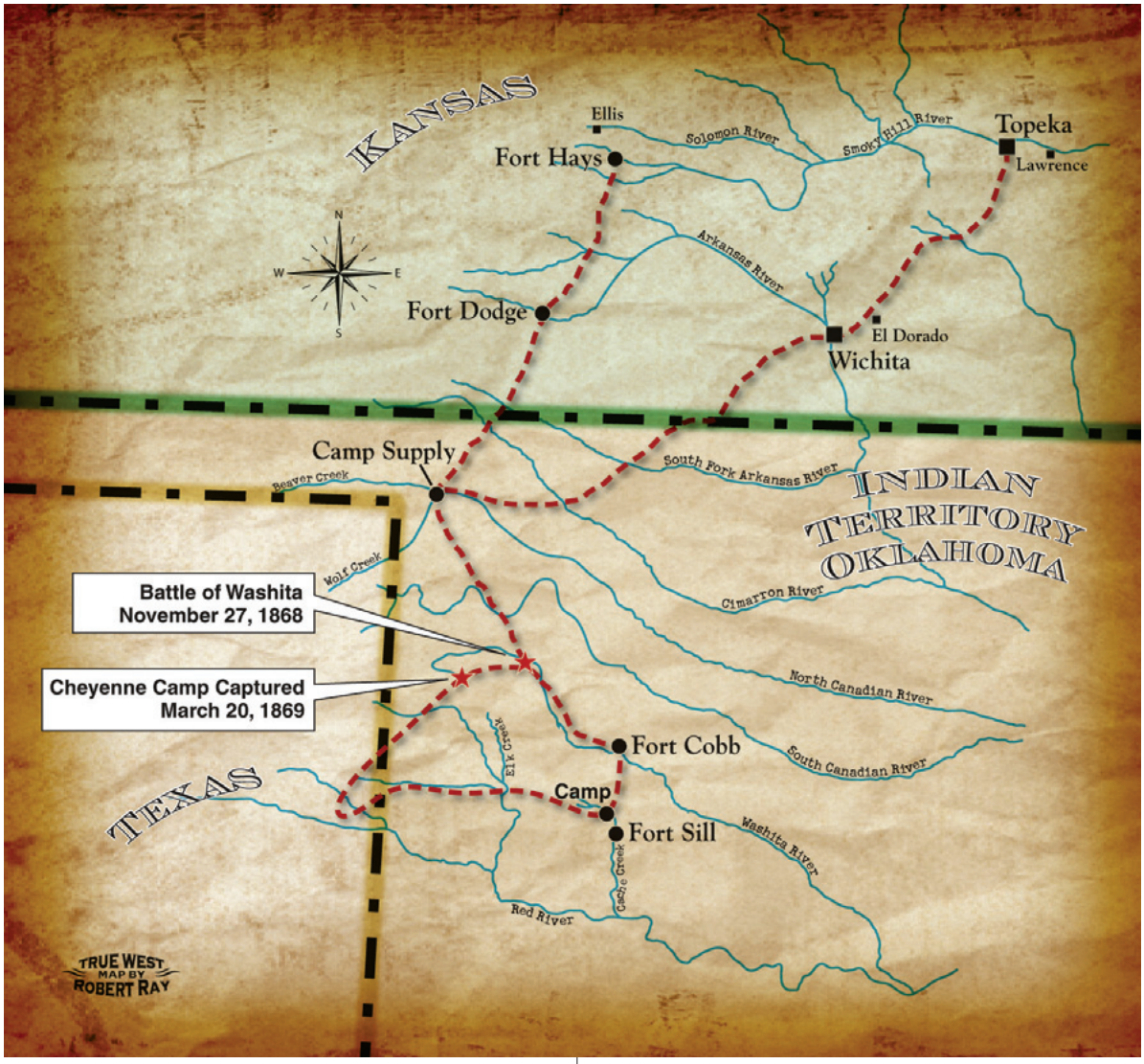
Adding to the distress of inadequate rations, the force was about to enter what was known as "that land across the river whence no traveler had returned." Not a man in Crawford's command had ever been south of the Arkansas River.

The soldiers faced a journey through 160 miles of desert. The horses ate the last of the forage on November 16. The men were supplementing their food supply with daily kills of buffalo.

The regiment entered Indian Territory on a rainy November 19 and made camp that night along Salt Fork Creek. The wind increased to hurricane force, with temperatures falling to below zero. The wind prevented fires from being lit that evening, leaving the men suffering greatly from the cold. Only at 3 a.m., when the men burned a log in a pit they dug, did they successfully find warmth from a fire.

The situation became critical on November 22. The soldiers could not find any buffalo to slaughter. Heavy snow falling restricted the men's vision to 20 yards. They made camp near Sand Creek, with their only shelter from the brutal winds being dog tents—six-foot-long, five-foot-wide affairs made of thin ducking.

That night, with 10 inches of snow on the ground, and more falling, Capt. Allison J. Pliley, commanding Company A, with 50 men, left the regiment to find Camp Supply, which was supposed to be "somewhere near the forks of Beaver creek and the North Canadian." Pliley had served as a ranker in the 15th Kansas Cavalry during the Civil War and as an Army scout during 1867 to 1868.



Camp Starvation

The rest of the troopers woke up on the morning of November 23 to find a foot of snow on the ground and more coming down. All sense of direction was lost. Troopers hunkered down, cutting down cottonwood trees for firewood, which the famished horses stripped of every twig and inch of bark.

The next day, the snow stopped and the troopers moved out in a foot and a half of the white stuff, leading their horses. After five tortuous miles, the men came to the Cimarron Hills and went into bivouac. The area abounded with Hackberry trees, providing fruit seeds that the famished men devoured. Their desperate situation was starting to become clear, and the men christened the site "Camp Starvation."

To ease the supply problem, the leaders decided to divide the column. Colonels Crawford and Moore took nearly 500 of the strongest men and horses to look for Camp Supply, while the remaining 600 or so men stayed with the wagons at Camp Starvation, in the hopes Capt. Pliley had found Camp Supply and relief was on its way.

On November 25, Crawford and Moore began the march, crossing the 200-yard-wide, three-foot-deep Cimarron River, which ran through a gorge 500 feet deep. Private James A. Hadley, Company A, who accompanied Crawford, recalled the temperature dropped to 20 degrees below zero. The next day, Thanksgiving, horses began to die of starvation.

On November 27, the men struggled through deep snow over hilly prairies and reached the North Canadian River. The next day, Crawford's column entered Camp Supply after 24 days on nine days of subsistence and seven days of forage, having traveled 355 miles from Topeka. They had lost 75 horses, but no men. Pliley had gotten there three days before, and a relief expedition was already on its way to Camp Starvation. The detachment left behind at Camp Starvation reached Camp Supply on December 1.

Custer Enters the Picture

By the time the 19th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry reached Camp Supply, Gen. Sheridan had already feared the worst, having heard no news from them. He enlisted Custer and his 7th Cavalry to join the fight.

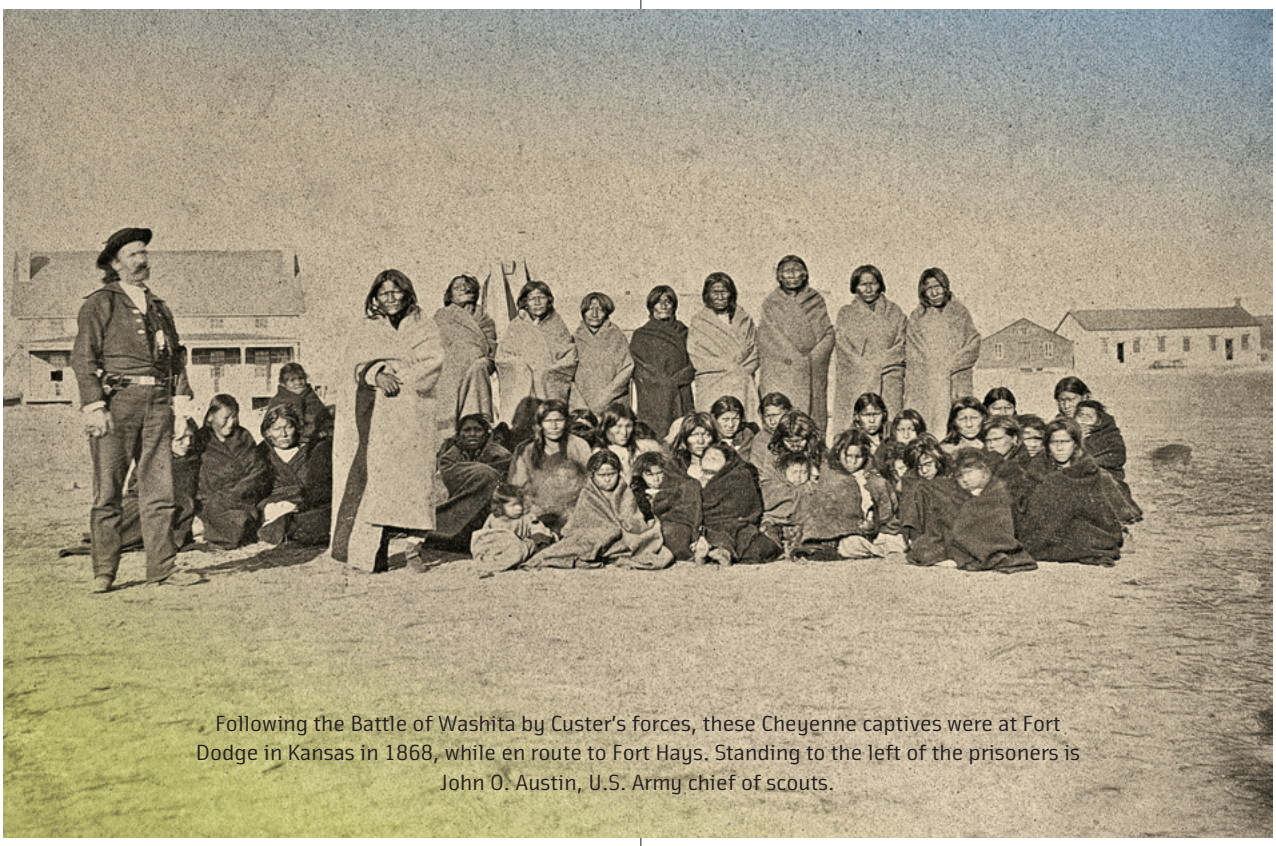
This news was a great disappointment to the boys from the Sunflower State, since they had yet to find glory in battle against the Indians. As Pvt. Hadley stated, "...they feared the enterprising Custer would strike so vigorously that the Indians would roar for peace."

Their suspicion was confirmed on November 29, when they learned of Custer's victory at the Battle of Washita two days earlier. The volunteers were now on a mission to accompany the 7th Cavalry to secure peace.

Starting on December 7, along with Sheridan, the 1,800 troopers of the 7th and 19th Cavalry regiments journeyed through a series of snow blizzards and below-zero-degree weather over the ice-covered, half-mile-wide, four-foot-deep South Canadian River to inspect the Washita battlefield. After marching through 15 inches of snow, they reached Fort Cobb, located along the Washita River, on December 18 and remained there until January 6, 1869.

Large numbers of troopers were now disabled by frostbite. The 19th Cavalry had lost 150 horses due to the weather and lack of forage.

Sheridan persuaded elements of the Arapahos, Kiowas and Comanches to enter into peace talks with the Army. That the military was threatening to hang prisoners Lone Wolf and Satanta, two principal war chiefs of the Kiowa nation, did much to facilitate negotiations. The ploy was effective. By the time the Army released the prisoners in February, most of the Kiowas had returned to their reservation.



Following the Battle of Washita by Custer's forces, these Cheyenne captives were at Fort Dodge in Kansas in 1868, while en route to Fort Hays. Standing to the left of the prisoners is John O. Austin, U.S. Army chief of scouts.

Another Shot at Glory?

In early March, Custer wanted to take his command, now at Fort Sill, to the southwest, toward the Red River, in order to seek out bands of Cheyennes. The hard campaigning, however, had reduced his 7th Cavalry by a substantial number of men—about 450—and left only 200 fit horses.

Custer requested volunteers from Lt. Col. Moore, who had taken command of the 19th Kansas after Col.



The 19th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry mustered out of Camp Supply in Kansas on April 18, 1869. The next year, William Soule photographed officers from the 3rd Infantry and 10th Cavalry with sutlers, Arapahos and white civilians in front of a typical sod house at Camp Supply.

Crawford resigned and left the regiment on February 15. Moore polled his men for volunteers who would be led by the colonel and by Company L Capt. Charles H. Finch.

Getting those volunteers was difficult, not because men did not want to go, but because so many were unfit for duty due to the past four months of hard marching and exposure to the harsh weather. The regiment's ranks were further reduced because 300 of its members were so unfit for active duty that they, under First Lt. Henry E. Stoddard, were being marched, along with invalids from the 7th Cavalry, back to a base camp on the Washita.

In the end, 450 men and officers of the 19th Kansas elected to go with Custer. On March 2, the volunteers, on foot, and the 7th Cavalry started a mud march from Fort Sill to confront the Cheyennes. Custer, impressed with the Kansas Volunteers' march discipline, wrote that the "Nineteenth put to the blush the best regular infantry."

After crossing the Red River, the column traveled through desert country. Rations had been reduced twice by then, and the men were getting hungry. On March 8, the pace of the march was quickened even though rations had been reduced once more. When the mules started to die, the men ate mule meat.

As the blue column moved, a string of exhausted men on foot was left in its wake. They had destroyed their wagons, carrying the men's gear, since the demise of the mules left the wagons unmovable.

On March 17, after a freezing night, the soldiers spotted an Indian trail that led to the northeast. Word moved down the column that a fight with hostiles would probably occur in a day or two.

The five days of rations lasted for 16 days, and on March 18, the food supply ran out. Two days later, the starving force of more than 1,000 soldiers found a village, containing 250 lodges and about 1,500 Cheyennes, near today's Wheeler County in Texas.

Fired with anticipation of a battle against Indians, the officers and men of the 19th Kansas were dumbstruck when told of Custer's order, "Don't fire on those Indians."

The men took their stations—the 19th at the head of the valley, and the 7th at the lower end—within easy shooting distance of the village, while Custer entered the camp to negotiate with the Cheyennes. He demanded that they return to their reservations and insisted they release two white female captives.

During the parley, 30 troopers—15 each from the 7th and 19th Cavalries—strolled down to where the talks were being held. Custer ordered them to arrest leaders Dull Knife, Medicine Arrow, Fat Bear and Big Head,



stating they would be hanged unless their people complied with his demands.

On March 22, the Cheyennes handed over the ladies, unharmed.

The next day, Custer marched his command back to the Washita battlefield area. The only protections the men had from the biting cold were the worn clothes on their backs and one thin blanket, 19th Kansas Pvt. David L. Spotts recalled.

With no water around in the desolate plain and the men growing weaker by hunger, Custer sent a request for aid to a supply point on the Washita and waited for the relief force. All of the 19th's men remained with Custer except the redoubtable Pliley, who marched his tired, threadbare and bootless men to the supply encampment about 40 miles distant.

On March 27, the last of the 7th and 19th Cavalries arrived at the supply base. The command had survived nearly a month on five days of rations and achieved all its objectives. The 19th Kansas transferred to Camp Supply, then embarked, on foot, on a 200-mile trek to Fort Hays. A week out from Camp Supply, on April 10, the troopers reached Fort Hays. On April 18, the members of the 19th Kansas Cavalry were mustered out of service.

Out of 50 officers and 1,300 men in the 19th regiment, four died of hunger and cold, another was killed and a fifth met his death due to a gunshot accident. During the course of the regiment's sufferable existence, only 90 members deserted.

Overshadowed by the fabled 7th Cavalry and its leader, Custer, the Kansas horse soldiers should be given their due. Although they fought no battles during their service, they did endure great physical privation, marched 2,200 miles over harsh terrain and in miserable weather, and performed every task expected of them.

Arnold Blumberg is an attorney in Baltimore, Maryland, and the author of *When Washington Burned: An Illustrated History of the War of 1812.* He is working on a book detailing the decisive American Indian campaigns waged by the frontier U.S. Army.



The government did not just inadequately provide food rations for the 19th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry. Reservation Indians often found themselves starving and at the mercy of the government. William Soule photographed one of the rations being distributed at Camp Supply in Kansas, circa late 1860s to early 1870s.

BY ROBERT J. STAHL
WITH NANCY NANCE STAHL AND MARILYN STAHL FISCHER

Billy's Bastard Child?

THE REAL STORY BEHIND PAULITA MAXWELL AND HER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE OUTLAW.

The intense, hot, steamy and illicit romance between 20-year-old Henry "Billy the Kid" McCarty and 16-year-old Paulita Maxwell has been accepted worldwide as fact. That the notorious outlaw had turned Paulita into a sexual conquest makes for an exciting story. Yet Paulita was never a love interest, much less a lover, of the Kid. Not one shred of evidence supports this story.

The Legend

Popular lore asserts Paulita and the Kid had a romance prior to the Kid's capture on December 23, 1880, and after his jail escape on April 28, 1881. The Kid died on July 14, 1881. So that their alleged love child would be born legitimate, Paulita's influential mother, Luz, and older brother, Peter, corralled Paulita into a shotgun wedding, in January 1882, to a gullible local sheepherder, José Felix Jaramillo.

In reality, the Maxwell-Jaramillo marriage involved a loving couple and a Catholic ceremony in Fort Sumner, New Mexico Territory, planned over several months. Relatives from both families traveled more than 175 miles to attend.

The Maxwells and the Jaramillo family had known each other for more than a decade and perhaps before Lucien Bonaparte Maxwell even moved the family and dozens of friends and workers to Fort Sumner in 1871.

The groom had a sheep ranch near the one owned by his older brother, Telesfor, in the Los Lunas area of Valencia County. More than a week before the wedding, Telesfor and his wife of eight years, Sofia Maxwell Jaramillo, Paulita's older sister, left for their lengthy trip to Fort Sumner, by wagon, to join in the celebration.

The Jaramillos were at least as wealthy and well-respected as the Maxwells and were immune to being forced into a marriage they did not want. The truth was that Paulita and José loved each other.

The "Shotgun" Wedding

The wedding took place 18 months *after* the Kid's death on July 15, 1881.

On January 14, 1883, Paulita, two months shy of her 19th birthday, married José, 21, during a Sunday mass officiated by Father A. Reden.

After mass, a reception followed that included just about everyone in the area. The celebration carried on until the wee hours of the next morning.

The newlyweds spent their wedding night in the Maxwell home in Fort Sumner. On January 16 or 17, the extended Maxwell and Jaramillo families left Fort Sumner with the bride and groom and traveled 125 miles to Las Vegas. Due to the tremendous amount of rain in the area along the Pecos River, the wedding party traveled along muddy roads and river banks overrun with floodwaters and suffered from chilling winds throughout the journey.

Did Paulita get married in a shotgun wedding?

The weather delayed the wedding party's arrival to the Plaza Hotel by five days. On January 25, the party arrived at the city's newest hotel, opened in spring 1882, which offered spacious rooms, modern conveniences, a restaurant and a bar. A day or so later, the wedding photos were taken at a local studio.

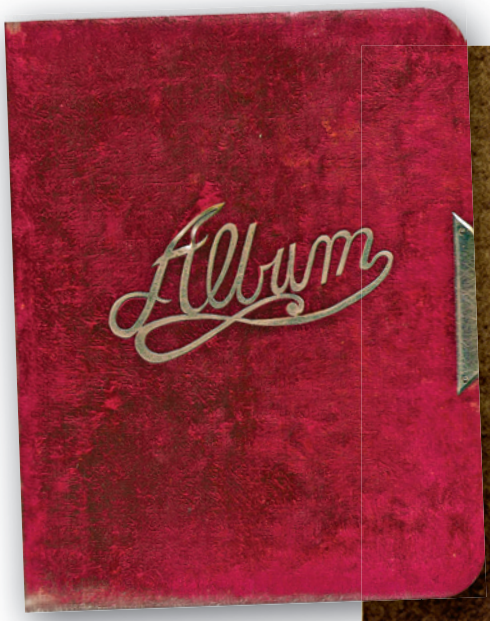
The party left mid-week by train via Santa Fe and Albuquerque, then by wagon to José's sheep ranch near Los Lunas. Upon arrival, the women helped Paulita establish her new household where she and José would live for the next 20 years or so.

Several newspaper articles, along with the Catholic Church's marriage record, substantiate the 1883—not 1882—year for Paulita and José's wedding.

Alleged Love Child

But what of Telesfor José Jaramillo, the alleged love child of Paulita and the Kid?

The child was named in honor of José's brother, Telesfor, who had died unexpectedly in July 1891. And he was not their first-born child. The first of their three children, Adelina, was born in January 1884. Luz was born in November 1890. Telesfor José was born in Fort Sumner on June 7, 1895—14 years after the Kid's death. No records or family stories reveal Paulita gave birth prior to Adelina.





Telesfor José spent his first 14 years on the family sheep ranch near Los Lunas, then 14 years living with his mother in Fort Sumner, before he moved back to Los Lunas in 1923, marrying Reina Romero. In 1934, Reina bore him one son, Luciano, who, after spending all his life in the same area, passed away in 2004, having never married and no known children. Telesfor José died of cardiac disease at age 64 on September 9, 1959.

Dwindling Love

Unfortunately for Paulita, by the mid-1890s, José was abusive toward her. She found a retreat at her brother Peter's and mother's homes in Fort Sumner, but these havens ended when Peter died in June 1898 and Luz died in July 1900.

Within a few years after the 1900 Federal Census, Paulita separated from José, rather than stay in that relationship, according to family lore. Given the era and the fact that José and Paulita were Catholic, they never divorced or had their marriage annulled. Neither remarried. She retained some of the real estate, as tax records show she paid taxes on land in Valencia County as late as 1917.

In late spring 1909, Paulita moved her children and household to the new site of Fort Sumner, about four miles from the original settlement, with its railroad depot and a boomtown population of nearly 700 resi-







The view of Paulita Maxwell known by most history aficionados is the one of her holding a book. Her personal photo album reveals more photos of Paulita from her younger days to her older years.

– ALL PHOTOS COURTESY JUDI FLANNER ARBOGAST, GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER OF JOSÉ AND PAULITA MAXWELL, FROM PAULITA'S PERSONAL SCRAPBOOK UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED; MAXWELL WITH BOOK COURTESY COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY –





Paulita Maxwell stands next to her groom, José Jaramillo, within days of their wedding (far left). On the back of the photo of José (left) is a love note written in Spanish to Paulita. The couple had three children: Adelina Jaramillo Welborn, Luz Jaramillo Flanner and Telesfor José Jaramillo.

dents. She purchased and managed the new Commercial Hotel across from the depot; her cousin, Rebecca Beaubien, owned the Pecos Valley Hotel down the street. The 1910 census has 15-year-old Telesfor José living with Paulita.

Paulita, 56, identified herself as a widow when the census came calling in 1920. We don't know where José was living then; we do know he was in Fort Sumner when he met his maker on March 28, 1937.

Whatever the reason the two had parted, Paulita was retired and financially secure, having sold her hotel to an oil company, which freed her son, Telesfor José, 25, to manage her estate. The census also recorded other family members who were living with Paulita: her first daughter, Adelina; Adelina's husband, Joseph Welborn; and their daughter.

Unfortunately, Fort Sumner's boomtown "bust" in the late 1920s left Paulita near penniless by decade's end. At the time of her death, she had a mere $100 worth of personal property, in addition to her venture real estate purchases.





Paulita and José raised two daughters: Adelina (left) and Luz (above). Paulita passed down her album to Luz, who gave it to her son Charles Flanner. The treasure is now owned by Judi Flanner Arbogast, daughter to Charles and great-granddaughter to Paulita.

Paulita's Denials

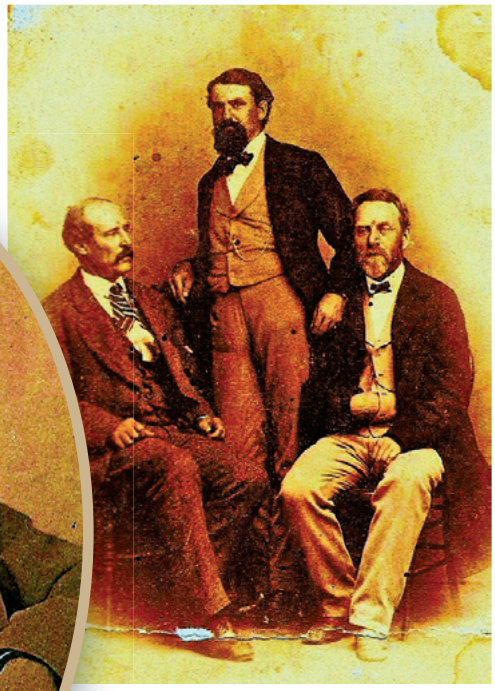
In the early and mid-1920s, author Walter Noble Burns and others tracked down and interviewed the old-timers who had roamed the New Mexico countryside at the same time as the Kid. Paulita, in her late 50s, and other Old Fort Sumner residents never mentioned she was ever pregnant with the Kid's child. Paulita stated that she and the Kid had never had a romantic relationship, although she admitted openly that she, like many others, had been infatuated with him and at one point would have married him if he had loved her.

Even after his interview, while writing his 1926 book, *The Saga of Billy the Kid*, Burns portrayed Paulita in alignment with all the unfounded rumors of a torrid love affair with the Kid. His publisher, who knew his descriptions could not be confirmed, wisely cut parts and modified others to prevent a probable defamation of character lawsuit. The publisher made the right decision.

Burns and those of his ilk do not appreciate the fact that, up to the time of her marriage, Paulita was tightly chaperoned, almost always by her Navajo household servant, Deluvina Maxwell, and by local adult women when she attended *bailes* and went into town. Even if Paulita had unlikely gotten away, why would she have romanced the Kid in the summer of 1881, after his murderous escape from the Lincoln County Courthouse jail when he had killed two deputy sheriffs, had the law gunning for him and would be hanged on the gallows if captured?

Despite Paulita's interviews, some writers and TV documentary producers have stretched an unsubstantiated and denied romantic relationship into a ludicrous scenario in which brother Peter alerts Sheriff Pat Garrett of the Kid's whereabouts in Fort Sumner and allegedly plots with him to ambush the Kid before he could elope with Paulita. Somewhere along the way, this wild, inaccurate tale became accepted as fact.





Included in Paulita's album is an unidentified photo that could be of her only son, Telesfor José (left). Some historians suspect this is actually a photo of William "Julian" Maxwell, the illegitimate son of Lucien Maxwell and an American Indian woman. Robert G. McCubbin, an Old West photograph authenticator and *True West's* publisher emeritus, agrees with the latter.

(Top) Paulita's father, Lucien, is seated on the left, next to two business associates. Paulita grew up with her husband, José, in the Fort Sumner area of New Mexico Territory when Lucien moved his family there to run a cattle ranch.



Deluvina, shown in old age, was the Navajo chaperone who accompanied Paulita Maxwell whenever she went out in public, before she tied the knot with José.

Rolling in Her Grave

After a two-day fight with pneumonia brought on by influenza, Paulita died at 65 on December 17, 1929, at her home on Sumner Avenue in Fort Sumner. Her body was buried in the Old Fort Sumner military cemetery. In 1937, her estranged husband, José, was buried next to her.

Paulita passed away frustrated because the stories of her true relationship with the Kid and the real family she raised with husband José were never accepted. Hopefully, once and for all, the tale that she was the Kid's lover and gave birth to the Kid's love child will cease, and Paulita can at last rest in peace.

Robert J. Stahl is a retired history and social studies education professor from the Teachers College at Arizona State University and an officer for the Scottsdale Corral of Westerners International. He gives thanks to his research assistants Nancy Nance Stahl and Marilyn Stahl Fischer.



This tintype is the only authenticated image of Billy the Kid.

– COURTESY WILLIAM KOCH COLLECTION –

Yes, They Were Romantic

If history does not offer evidence to support the notion that Billy the Kid and Paulita Maxwell had a relationship, it also does not offer evidence that they did not.

How do we know that Paulita was honest when she told Walter Noble Burns that she and the Kid never had a romantic relationship? Lots of women during that time tried to hide earlier amorous connections. Josie Earp sure tried to hide her relationship with Wyatt Earp. Paulita was a devout Catholic, who never divorced José Jaramillo, in spite of his abuse. Would she have admitted publicly to such a great sin—or the greater sin of having a kid out of wedlock?

Even if Paulita was never impregnated by the Kid, that does not preclude the possibility of them having a romantic relationship. Yes, historians generally agree the Kid's main interest in Fort Sumner was Celsa Gutierrez, but his reputation was such that a relationship with her would not have prevented him from playing the field.

Billy the Kid biographer Frederick Nolan discovered gossip from that time period that the two had a romantic relationship. Apolonaria Garrett heard some of it and passed it on to her husband, Pat, although he may have dismissed the gossip. Such talk does not mean the rumor was true, but it gives weight to the possibility that the two were more than just friends...at least people who knew them believed so.

—Mark Boardman

TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE

CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

To the Last Man

The Tewksburys vs The Grahams

Both sides "pickled the pearl of compromise in the vinegar of retaliation."



Pretty much an absentee stockman, James Stinson, and his Tonto Basin ranch, became a prime target for cattle thieves. His behind-the-scenes attempt to cut a deal with the Grahams only inflamed the problem and led almost directly to the feud.

– ALL IMAGES TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED; ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL –

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Based on the research of Don Dedera

JULY 22, 1884



The ball starts when one of the Tewksbury clan tells James Stinson's cow boss: "You damned, fly-blowed son-of-a-bitch, I have been bulldozed by you long enough."

The fuse to one of the West's most famous feuds is lit a month prior, when Tonto Basin cattleman James Stinson makes a secret pact with the Graham brothers to report on suspected cattle thieves, the Tewksbury clan.

The feud between the Grahams and the Tewksburys exacerbates when Stinson's agreement becomes public. A trial in Prescott, Arizona Territory, exonerates the Tewksburys.

The stage is set for a reckoning, and it comes soon enough.

On July 22, Tewksbury cowboys spread out as they approach the clearing in front of Stinson's ranch house in Pleasant Valley, an area also known as Tonto Basin. Around 10 a.m., John Tewksbury, George Blaine, Ed Rose—a friend to both families—and William Richards rein up at the front porch.

Stinson's cow boss, Marion McCann, tells the unwelcome crew, with the exception of Ed Rose, to move on.

Blaine, offended by McCann's rebuff, says, "You damned, fly-blowed son-of-a-bitch, I have been bulldozed by you long enough."

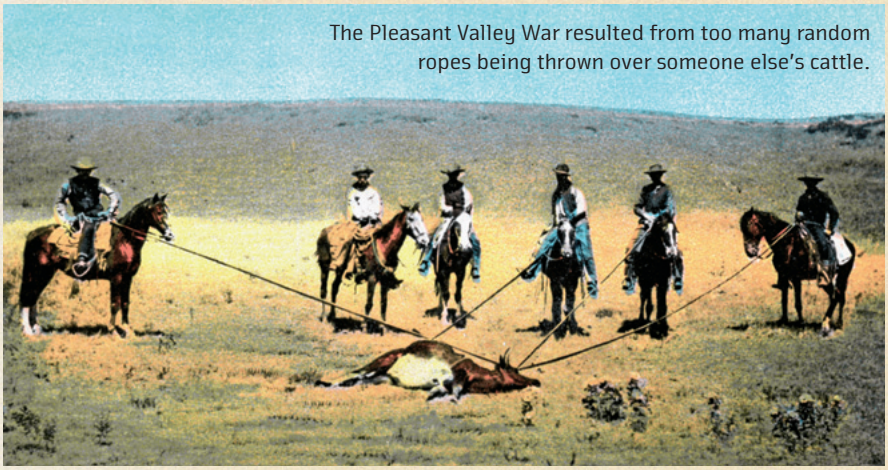
Blaine demands that McCann meet him 50 feet from the house.

With four other Stinson cowboys looking on, McCann obliges, walking confidently out toward the riders.

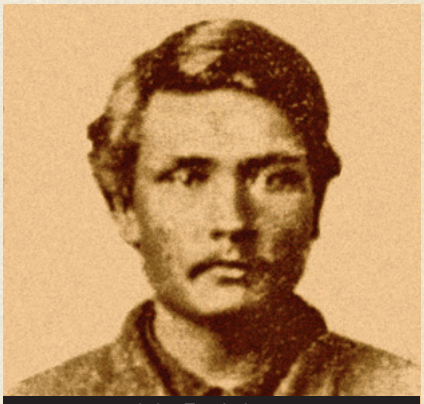
When McCann gets close enough, Blaine suddenly pulls his pistol and fires. But he misses. In the same instance, McCann draws his own revolver and fires. His shot hits Blaine in the jaw, knocking him off his horse. Luckily, he will survive his wound.

In another muzzle flash, McCann shoots Tewksbury, who jerks his own pistol and fires wildly. Tewksbury reels in the saddle, but manages to avoid being unhorsed, as he and the other riders retreat to a stone wall.

The fight is over, but the repercussions will last for a long, long time.



The Pleasant Valley War resulted from too many random ropes being thrown over someone else's cattle.



John Tewksbury

Bad Blood Personified

Bad blood has existed between the two cow outfits for some time. Eighteen months before, the Tewksbury boys killed one of James Stinson's herders and wounded another severely. A mere 10 days before the shooting on July 22, 1884, George Blaine and John Tewksbury were indicted by the Yavapai grand jury on a charge of stealing cattle, but they were acquitted by trial.



The Feud Continues: While the Blevins family, allies of the Grahams, was looking for their missing father, Tom Tucker (at left) was shot in the chest in a Tewksbury ambush on August 9, 1887, that killed two men in the Blevins party. Teenager George Wilson later claimed the Tewksburys had fired because they were on alert of a possible attack that day. The next year, on August 4, George's brother Jeff "Billy" (at right) was lynched with two others—motive and assailants unknown.



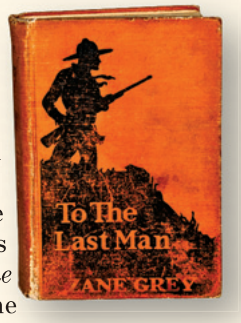
George Blaine had a reputation as a bad man in Colorado before he came to Arizona. The week before the shooting, while buying .45 caliber cartridges in Prescott, he allegedly said that he planned to "clean out some of the damn Stinson gang."

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

James Stinson left Arizona and dissolved his herd. In 1885, the Graham brothers found themselves in a tight spot, after significantly losing a great number of their herd and subsequently being caught driving cattle that were not theirs. The feud only got worse when the Tewksburys began bringing in herds of sheep the next year.

John Tewksbury hired a Basque sheepherder to take the sheep to Pleasant Valley. While working on September 2, 1887, he was murdered and robbed by Andy Cooper (a.k.a. Andy Blevins), a member of the Graham faction. Other cattlemen and sheepmen joined in the conflict, either willingly or not.

Unsolved murders of members of both factions occurred. The killings did not stop until Ed Tewksbury and John Rhodes murdered Tom Graham in Tempe in 1892, in broad daylight, in front of numerous witnesses. The jury couldn't agree to convict. Ed died in Globe in April 1904.



The history of Arizona's Pleasant Valley War has been written about from various angles and points of view, beginning with Zane Grey's fictitious account in 1921, *To the Last Man* and the expanded novel *Tonto Basin*. In 1936, after spending time in Pleasant Valley, Earle R. Forrest wrote *Arizona's Dark and Bloody Ground*. Don Dedera, former columnist for *The Arizona Republic*, spent more than 30 years researching the history. In 1987, he published his findings in *A Little War of Our Own: The Pleasant Valley War Revisited*. Leland Hanchett Jr. followed up with two books on the war: *Arizona's Graham-Tewksbury Feud* and *They Shot Billy Today: The Families of Arizona's Pleasant Valley War*.

Recommended: *A Little War of Our Own: The Pleasant Valley Feud Revisited*, by Don Dedera, published by Northland Press

BY JACK DEMATTOS

LITTLE KNOWN CHARACTERS OF THE OLD WEST

Almost Famous

The life of Michael Francis "Frank" McLean, a typical sporting man made famous as a member of the Dodge City Peace Commission.

On June 10, 1883, eight men walked into a large tent, the temporary photography studio of 26-year-old Charles A. Conkling in Dodge City, Kansas. The group portrait they posed for became known as the "Dodge City Peace Commission."

The photo marked their victory over the town, which allowed Luke Short back in to resume his gambling business. Three members—Short, Bat Masterson and Michael Francis "Frank" McLean—were all 29. Unlike Short and Masterson, Frank was not a gunfighter, but he was every bit their equal as a sporting man. Frank shared Masterson's interest in boxing and Short's passion for horse racing.

Born in April 1854 in Decatur, Indiana, Frank was the youngest of eight children. During his 20s, he drifted to Texas and then Kansas. On September 12, 1883, three months after his service as a "peace commissioner," he married Elsie Belle Polley in Lawrence. Her affair with Frank caused the divorcée to lose custody of her five children to wealthy cattleman Abner H. Polley. Elsie went on to have four daughters with Frank.

Toward the end of 1884, Frank and Short explored gaming opportunities in Fort Worth, Texas. The two bought a one-third interest in the White Elephant Saloon. Before Frank left to move his wife and daughter from Lawrence, Kansas, to their new home, the White Elephant threw him a going away party on February 19, 1885.

The *Fort Worth Daily Gazette* had some fun at the underweight gambler's expense: "...one of the proprietors of the White Elephant, departed for [Kansas] Thursday evening. His many friends and admirers in the city, knowing of the velocity of the winds in that state and knowing Mc's thinness (he having served in a museum as a skeleton for three years), combined together and purchased an elegant cane for him to cling to, which was presented at 8 p.m. on the evening of his departure.... Toasts were responded to by several guests, and the programme was varied by McLean swallowing his cane."



By 1887, Frank McLean and Luke Short had cut all ties to the White Elephant Saloon, and William H. Ward took over. He kept the drinks flowing until around 1913.

– ALL PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

The family didn't stay long in Fort Worth. Elsie got ill with typhoid fever, and they left in August so she could recuperate in Lawrence, Kansas.

Elsie recovered from her illness, and Fort Worth, Texas, became the birthplace of her second daughter with Frank, Edna, born on April 26, 1887. Soon afterward, the family moved to El Paso, where two more daughters were born. The family made their last home in Chicago, Illinois. On March 8, 1895, Elsie died at the age of 43. With four young daughters to care for, Frank married Anna Gribbin on June 2, 1896. The bride was 31, and the groom was 42.

Frank lived to see the new century. The 48 year old died on May 11, 1902, in Chicago. A sporting man to the end, he was listed as a "manager [of] club rooms" on his death certificate.

The Dodge City Peace Commission photo remains the only known likeness we have of Frank. Still, considering that the group portrait is one of the most reproduced Old West images, he may not need another photograph.

Jack DeMattos is the coauthor of *The Notorious Luke Short* and the author of six books on Western gunfighters, including *Mysterious Gunfighter: The Story of Dave Mather.*



Most likely due to their affinity as sporting men, Luke Short and Bat Masterson stand directly behind Frank McLean. The Dodge City Peace Commission photograph shows (standing, from left) William H. Harris, Short, Masterson, William F. Petillon (seated, from left) Charles E. Bassett, Wyatt Earp, McLean and Cornelius "Neil" Brown.

– COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –



The year before Frank McLean traveled with Luke Short to Fort Worth, Texas (shown here in 1880), d and bought shares in the White Elephant Saloon, he made his mark by posing in what would become one of the most famous Old West photographs.

BY CANDY MOULTON

Whistle Stop Tour

Circle Nebraska and celebrate the Cornhusker State's 150th Birthday.



In October 1866, Union Pacific Railroad President Thomas C. Durant organized a special excursion to take more than 200 dignitaries from New York City to celebrate the transcontinental railroad's progress across Nebraska Territory. He had a special gateway built at the 100th Meridian, where hired Pawnee Indians entertained his guests, one of whom was future president Rutherford B. Hayes.

– JOHN CARBUTT, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

As Nebraska gets ready to celebrate 150 years of statehood, you likely know these facts: it is the only state with a unicameral legislature; Nebraska City is the home of Arbor Day; and the Oregon, California and Mormon trails all sliced through the state leaving behind ruts that have stood the test of that century and a half.

In 1820 Stephen Long declared a big portion of what would become Nebraska as the Great American Desert, and for decades afterward most people venturing through the state did not stop for any length of time. Towns along the Missouri River like Brownville, Nebraska City and Bellevue developed first, becoming trading centers for riverboats.

Fur traders established posts used by American Indians and trappers that were in operation long after the fur trade dwindled. Pioneer travelers, for the most part, took their wagons over the landscape, burying their dead all along the route but again, just passed through. The great heartland remained virtually unsettled.

In the 1850s increasing numbers of people sought homes in the region, but this land was undeveloped—not even a territory until 1854, when Stephen A. Douglas proposed the Kansas-Nebraska Act, which would form two territories. One territory north of the demarcation line did not allow slavery (as part of the 1820 Missouri Compromise), and the other where slavery might be approved by the residents. Although the Kansas-Nebraska Act caused a new rift in the nation, ultimately it was approved and both territories were created.

Statehood 150 Years Ago

Nebraska Territory encompassed a huge area, including the land that would become the State of Nebraska on March 1, 1867, plus the region that would ultimately be split into North Dakota, South Dakota, most of Wyoming and much of Montana. The development of the region expanded in 1862 with approval of the Homestead Act.

Two of the most important transportation routes in the country pass through Nebraska: the overland trails (Oregon, California, Mormon and Pony Express) and the Union Pacific Railroad. Daniel Freeman claimed the first homestead in the nation at a site near Beatrice, which is now a part of Homestead National Monument. The opportunity to claim free land under the Homestead Act, combined with development of the railroad, led people to put down roots in the new state of Nebraska.

The state of Nebraska has given us Runza and Reuben sandwiches, Kool-aid, Henry Fonda, Roger Welsch and his "Postcards from Nebraska," plus iconic literature by John G. Neihardt, Willa Cather and Mari Sandoz.

The Nebraska State Capitol and its unique unicameral legislature is a place to begin any journey through the state, but I head quickly to north and east to the Omaha metro area for a visit to the Durham Museum at Union Station.

> In 1820 Stephen Long declared a big portion of what would become Nebraska as the Great American Desert...

In downtown Omaha, the First National Bank's Spirit of Nebraska's Wilderness and Pioneer Courage Park is a sculptural reminder of the trails west and includes a wagon train, bison herd and flock of Canada geese. This sculpture park seamlessly melds into the urban environment covering several city blocks as the more than 100 individual bronze artworks reflect the people and animals that have been a part of the Nebraska landscape.

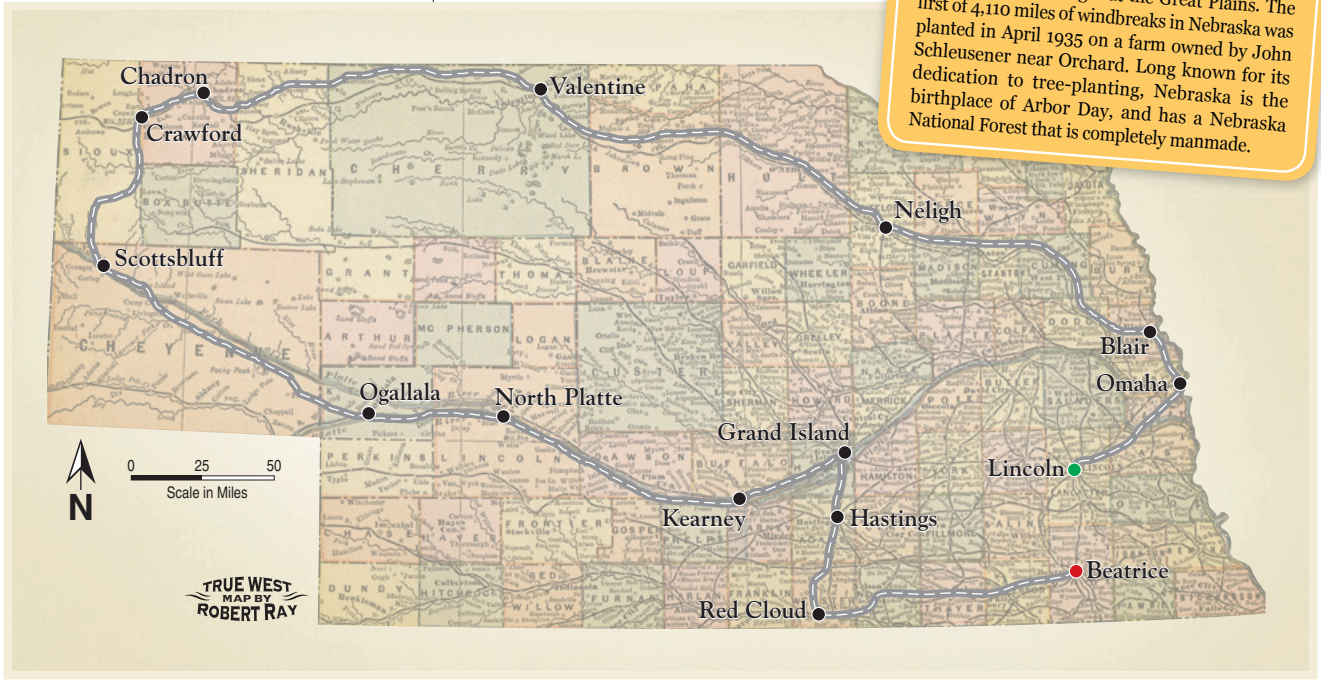


President Abraham Lincoln did not live to see his vision of a continental nation grow and prosper through two bills he signed in 1862: the Pacific Railroad Act and the Homestead Act. Both transformed Nebraska, with rail lines bringing homesteaders by the thousands to stake a claim on the fertile land once called the "Great American Desert."

– COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

HISTORICAL MARKER
Prairie States Forestry

During the Dust Bowl of the 1930s the U.S. forest Service, working with the Civilian Conservation Corps and Works Progress Administration, planted millions of seedlings, creating thousands of miles of windbreaks throughout the Great Plains. The first of 4,110 miles of windbreaks in Nebraska was planted in April 1935 on a farm owned by John Schleusener near Orchard. Long known for its dedication to tree-planting, Nebraska is the birthplace of Arbor Day, and has a Nebraska National Forest that is completely manmade.





Nebraska's third state capitol building in Lincoln was constructed from 1922 to 1932. From 1854 to 1867 the territorial government was in Omaha. The first state legislature moved it to the edge of the western settlements south of the Platte River to the village of Lancaster and renamed it Lincoln.

– COURTESY NEBRASKA TOURISM –

Overshadowed by Omaha's larger population, Florence certainly holds its own in the area of history. The hillside cemetery, where lie hundreds of Mormons who did not survive the 1846 winter camp on the western bank of the Missouri River, is a quiet reminder of sacrifice by people who had come here just seeking a better life in the West.

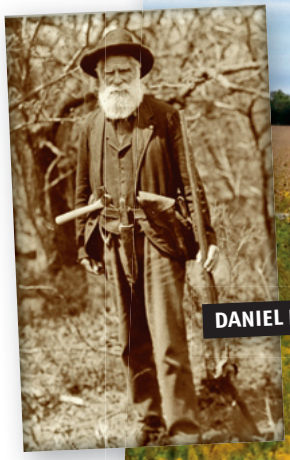
Fort Omaha, also in Florence, played an important role in early Nebraska history. Here the trial of Ponca Chief Standing Bear took place in 1879. This important court ruling established that American Indians were considered "persons," and therefore would have the same rights as white settlers. At the time Gen. George Crook commanded the fort and his house remains an attraction on the campus of Metropolitan Community College.

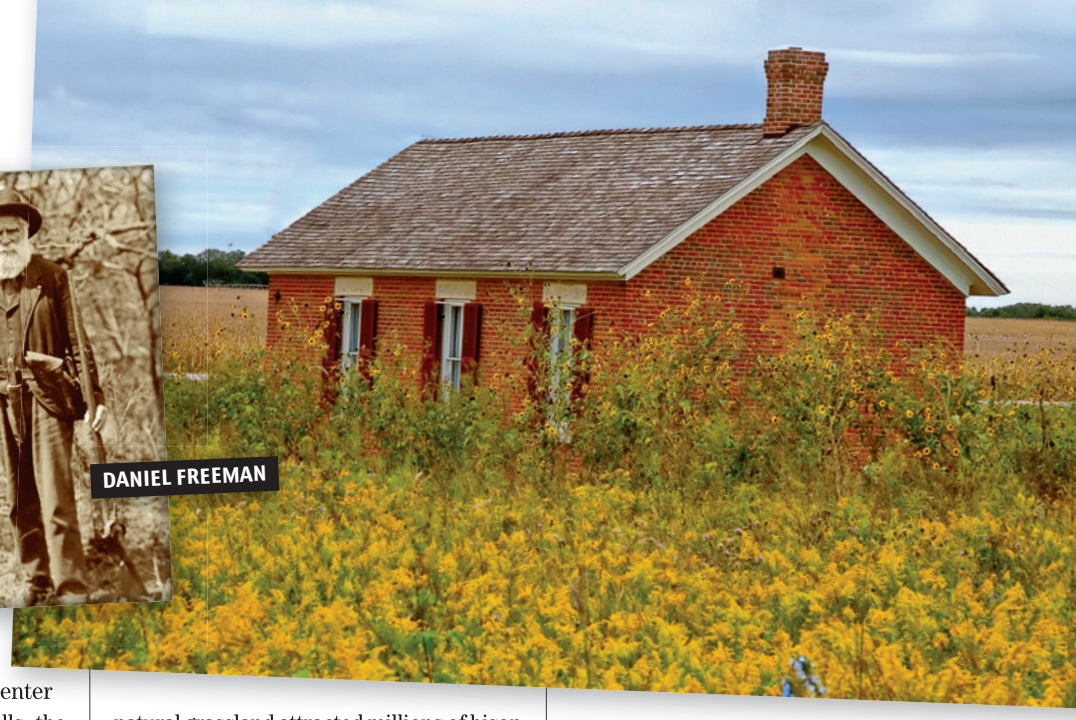
Travel north out of Omaha toward Blair and then west to the small town of Neligh, location of the Neligh Mill State Historic Site. This is one of the great examples of 19th-century flour mills. Construction on the brick mill started in 1873 and the facility still has all of the original equipment in working order. Started by town founder John D. Neligh, the mill was ultimately completed by





W. C. Gallaway and produced flour that was sent to military posts in the Department of the Platte and to Indian reservations in South Dakota, besides serving area farmers and homesteaders.


DANIEL FREEMAN



The Sandhills

Farms dominate Nebraska's landscape and fields, but the great center diamond in the state are the Sandhills, the largest region of stabilized sand dunes in the Western Hemisphere. Enter the Sandhills as you travel west and north from Neligh to Valentine, the largest city in Cherry County, a sparsely settled area immortalized in the photographs of Solomon Butcher, who gave up the hard work of homesteading to travel and photograph the early settlers. This natural grassland attracted millions of bison and today is still good grazing land for cattle.

Visit Arthur Bowring Ranch State Historical Park east of Merriman for a view of the history of ranch life in the Sandhills. This living history museum is preserved as a working cattle ranch from the early 20th century and includes barns, bunkhouses, a sod house and a visitor center housing

Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, is the site of Daniel Freeman's homestead, the first in the nation, claimed January 1, 1863, within minutes after midnight of the Homestead Act becoming law. The Freeman School (above) is one of the historic buildings visitors can tour at the park.

– PORTRAIT OF DANIEL FREEMAN COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/ PHOTO OF FREEMAN SCHOOL COURTESY NPS.GOV –

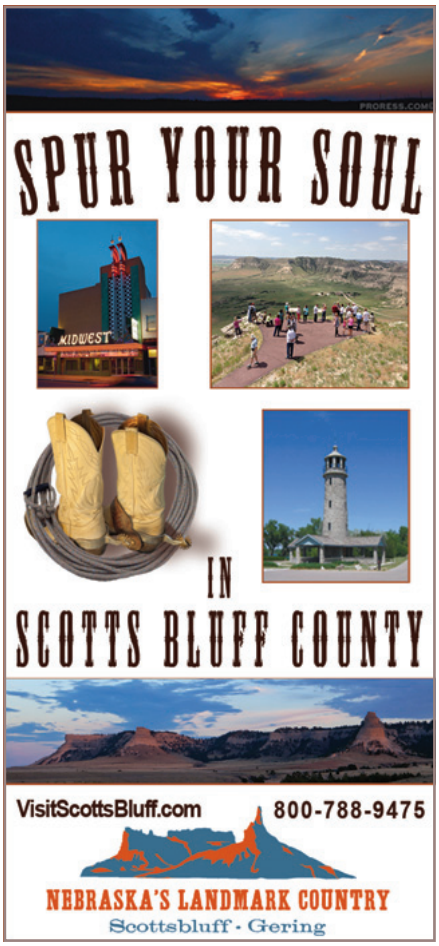


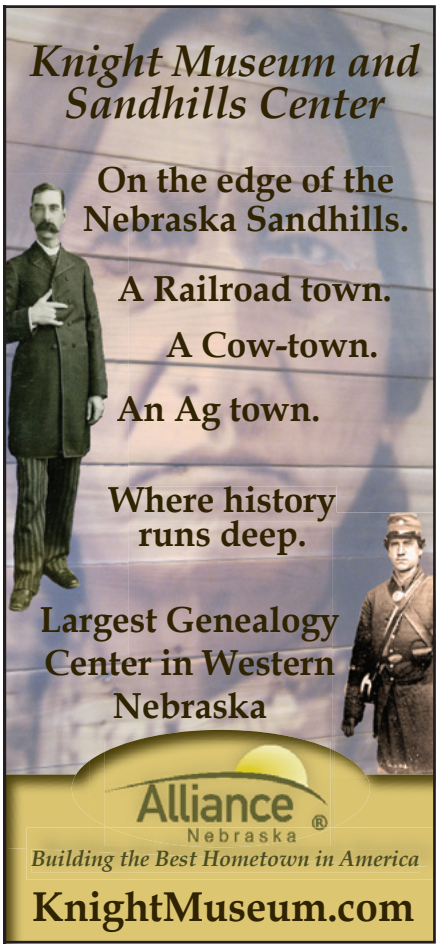
North Platte
North Platte/Lincoln County Visitors Bureau

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Fort Robinson was originally the Red Cloud Agency, named after the Oglala leader (inset) who led his people to live in peace near Crawford, Nebraska, in August 1873. For well over a century and a half, the 22,000-acre site has been in use—as a frontier military post, a World War II training center and, today, as a popular state park.

– PHOTO OF FORT ROBINSON BY CANDY MOULTON/PHOTO OF RED CLOUD BY WILLIAM R. CROSS, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

memorabilia such as antique glass, china and silver from the family of former U.S. Senator Eve Bowring.

Many people have written about this Nebraska landscape, but perhaps the best known writings are by Mari Sandoz who grew up in the Sandhills, and who authored *Old Jules* (a biographical novel about her father), *Cheyenne Autumn* and *Love Song to the Plains* (a book that is one of the earliest, and best nature books about the region). Learn more about Mari Sandoz at the Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center at Chadron State College in Chadron. While you are at it, visit the Museum of the Fur Trade, also in Chadron, arguably the best fur trade museum in the country.

Fort Robinson

From Chadron continue west to Crawford and my favorite place in Nebraska: Fort Robinson. The appeal of this place comes on many levels. It is situated in a stunning landscape at the edge of the Black Hills. It has history from the Lakota people who were here—Red Cloud had an agency, Crazy Horse was stabbed and died at the camp—to my favorite frontier/military character, Dr. Valentine T. McGillycuddy, w who cared for soldiers and for Crazy Horse and his wife, Black Shawl. This is where one part of the tragic story of the Cheyenne Outbreak took place.

Fort Rob has a military history that encompassed the 19th-century Indian Wars era and continued through World War II. It was a remount station, a K-9 training facility, and nearby was a German POW camp. Today it is a Nebraska State Historic Site where you can attend theater performances, walk the parade grounds, ride horseback and stay in 19th-century era military quarters.



A short drive from Fort Robinson State Park in Crawford, the Museum of the Fur Trade in Chadron, built on the site of fur trader James Bordeaux's trading post, has one of the finest collections of fur trade-era artifacts and guns in the world.

– COURTESY NEBRASKA TOURISM –

The Overland Trails

Driving from Fort Rob south on Highway 71 to Scottsbluff takes you through wide-open country where there is little evidence that anything modern has intruded. Anyone who wants a chance to reenergize and understand a bit about Mari Sandoz's plains, should go there.

Fur trapper Hiram Scott died in the vicinity of the large bluff in Western Nebraska that now bears his name, and Scotts Bluff became a favored camping spot for pioneers traveling on the overland trails in the 19th century. After a visit to the Scotts Bluff National Monument, travel east along U.S. Highway 26 past Chimney Rock, undoubtedly the most recognized landmark in the state of Nebraska. It was a marker for the overland travelers, and is the image used on the official state quarter.

Continue traveling east through Ash Hollow, near the location of the Battle of Blue Water Creek. The battle was General Harney's retaliation attack on a Lakota camp in 1855 in response to the killing of soldiers from Fort Laramie the prior year in what became known as the Grattan Massacre. One of the Nebraska 150th anniversary events will be a gathering of the tribes and celebration of American Indian culture at Ash Hollow.

The cattle trails that came north out of Texas, crossed Oklahoma and Kansas, and then pushed on into Nebraska had a terminus in the cowtown of Ogallala, where you can visit a replica of Front Street as well as Boot Hill Cemetery. Continue to North Platte, known for Scouts Rest Ranch, which William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody developed.

Jumping forward half a century, North Platte gained nationwide prominence during World War II for the Canteen that served as a way-point for service members taking trains toward military training camps. Although most of their visits were brief, at the North Platte Canteen soldiers had a chance to eat a homecooked meal, obtain a few supplies, and visit with local residents.

Pioneer travel is a focus of two attractions in Kearney—the Platte River Archway, which interprets the overland trails, and Fort Kearny State Historic Site, at the site of the frontier era military post that opened in 1849. In early spring thousands of sandhill cranes flock to the Platte River from North Platte to Kearney, Gibbon and Grand Island, feeding during the day in nearby fields before roosting at night along the river as they take a break on their long migration north.

Willa Cather joins Mari Sandoz in the pantheon of Nebraska writers. Cather spent her childhood in Red Cloud, which became inspiration for some of her most recognized books: *My Antonia*, *O Pioneers!* and *The Song of the Lark*. The Willa Cather Foundation hosts an annual Spring conference in Red Cloud and offers guided tours of places from Cather's life, including her childhood home. Cather wrote of the homesteaders who came to this prairie area.

Candy Moulton is the author of *Roadside History of Nebraska* and *Valentine T. McGillycuddy: Army Surgeon, Agent to the Sioux*.



North Platte's NEBRASKAland Days' annual Buffalo Bill Rodeo is held at the Wild West Arena on land the Cody family once owned. It is adjacent to Buffalo Bill State Historic Park, and the Western showman's (inset) famed Scout's Rest Ranch.

– RODEO PHOTO COURTESY NEBRASKA TOURISM/INSET PHOTO OF BILL CODY COURTESY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN COLLECTION –

Side Roads



– J. NABB, COURTESY NEBRASKA TOURISM –

Fort Robinson Pow Wow, Crawford, NE

CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

146th Anniversary Arbor Day Celebration, *Nebraska City*, *w* April 28-30; **NEBRASKALand Days**, *North Platte*, June 14-24; **Fur Trade Days**, *Chadron*, July 6-9; **Convergence on Sacred Ground**, *Ash Hollow State Historical Park*, *Lewellen*, July 21-23; **50th Annual Czech Festival**, **150 Years of Czech Heritage in Nebraska**, *Wilbur*, August 3-6

PLACES TO VISIT

Durham Museum, *Omaha*; **Fort Robinson State Park**, *Crawford*; **Museum of the Fur Trade**, *Chadron*; **Homestead National Monument**, *Beatrice*; **Fort Kearny State Historic Site**, *Kearney*; **Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center**, *Chadron*; **Sterling Morton Arbor Lodge**, *Nebraska City*; **Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer**, *Grand Island*; **Pioneer Village**, *Minden*; **Buffalo Bill State Historical Park**, *North Platte*

GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

Drover, *Omaha*; **Emporium Coffeehouse and Café**, *Scottsbluff*; **Canteen Bar & Lounge**, *North Platte*; **Red Brick Café**, *Red Cloud*

Magnolia Hotel, *Omaha*; **High Plains Homestead**, *Crawford*; **Cather Second Home B&B**, *Red Cloud*

GOOD BOOKS

Black Elk Speaks by John G. Neihardt; ***It's Not the End of the Earth, But You Can See It from Here: Tales of the Great Plains*** by Roger Welsch; ***Love Song to the Plains*** by Mari Sandoz; ***Light on the Prairie: Solomon D. Butcher, Photographer of Nebraska's Pioneer Days*** by Nancy Plain; ***Blue Water Creek and the First Sioux War, 1854-1856*** by R. Eli Paul

GOOD FILM & TV

The Homesman (The Javelina Film Company, 2014); ***Nebraska*** (Paramount Vantage, 2013); ***My Antonia*** (Gideon Productions, 1995); ***Boys Town*** (MGM, 1938); ***O Pioneers!***, (Hallmark Hall of Fame Productions, CBS, 1992)

BY SHERRY MONAHAN

To the Queen's Taste

Guests who dined at Fort Benton's Grand Union hotel got the royal treatment.



The Grand Union dining room, reportedly photographed above by Fort Benton photographer Dan Dutro around 1890, served steamboat travelers from 1882 until the end of steamboat navigation, in late 1887, after the arrival of the railroad.

– COURTESY OVERHOLSER HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER, FORT BENTON, MONTANA –

Imagine dining on lobsters, roasts, a variety of vegetables and elegant desserts in Montana Territory, in a dining room with carpeted floors, eating off china and drinking from crystal.

That's what patrons in the bustling port city of Fort Benton enjoyed. Where steamships docked and fur trading once ruled, Fort Benton was home to one of the grandest buildings the territory had ever seen. In September 1882, Stephen Spitzley leased a three-story brick hotel he called the Grand Union, partnering up with Henry and George Ringwald.

W.H. Todd managed the hotel. As the head waiter, Henry Courtney oversaw the hotel's dining room. A.A. Martin served as the chief cook and managed a staff of culinary assistants in the hotel's kitchen. Bartender Edward Smith was given a rave review by *The River Press*: "Ed. is a skilful *[sic]* manipulator of the glasses, and can mix wet goods 'to the queen's taste.'"

> "Ed...can mix wet goods 'to the queen's taste.'"

On November 2, 1882, the hotel hosted a grand opening ball. The paper called it the grandest affair ever witnessed in Benton and likely in the entire territory. For the 200-300 attendees, the party offered lobster and chicken salads, loin of beef, haunch of mutton, spring chicken, boned turkey, spiced beef, ox tongue, boned leg of veal, green apples, nuts, Charlotte Russe, ice cream and assorted cakes.

The local paper added, "It is only a short time since it was difficult to 'rustle' a sufficient number of ladies in Benton to dance one cotillion. Last night there were

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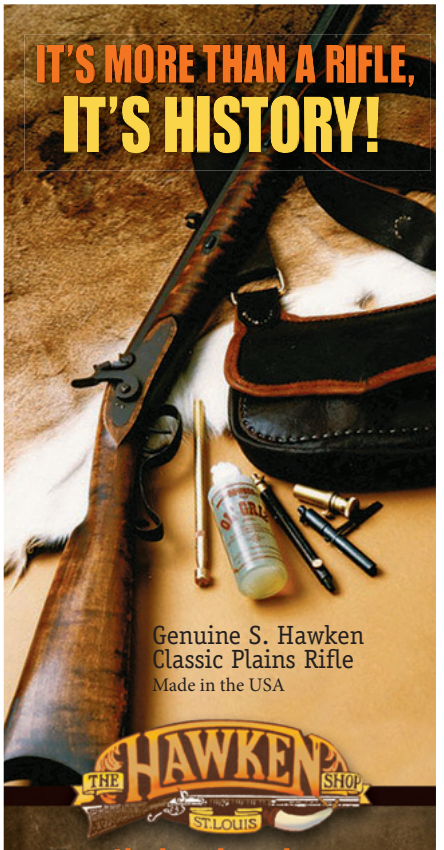


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almost, if not quite, a hundred ladies at the Grand Union hotel ball."

In 1883, the Northern Pacific transcontinental line was completed across Montana Territory, and Fort Benton was no longer a major port city. After he left the hotel in September 1883, John P. Hunsberger and Michael C. Travers ran it. In July 1884, Spitzley turned over the hotel to ex-conductors McLean and Shueman. In 1888, Jere Sullivan leased the hotel. A year later, he renovated it and recommended his hotel to tourists who were "…seeking a change of air, as can be found anywhere in the west.—A trial is solicited."

Sullivan, along with Charles Rowe, owner of the Overland hotel, ventured into the Missouri River to harvest ice in January 1889. They planned to store the ice in a joint warehouse. "Later on they will plant their claret punches, lemonades and mint juleps together," reported *The River Press*. "They are both jolly good landlords and know how to run hotels."

Sullivan retired and sold his hotel to Rowe in 1891. Rowe and the hotel's first manager, Todd, retired, according to the *Anaconda Standard*, in November 1899. The paper noted, "Rowe & Todd, the retiring proprietors, have run the old hotel for almost a decade, and their retirement is like the wiping off of old landmarks from the map of Benton."

Add a delicious Montana Territory drink to your next party, claret punch, but you can just get ice from your fridge!

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

CLARET PUNCH

¾ cup claret wine
¾ tablespoon sugar
2 tablespoons club soda
¼ teaspoon lemon juice (omit, if wine is too sour)

Combine the wine, sugar, soda and lemon juice. Stir until blended. Fill a tall bar glass with ice. Pour the wine mixture over it. Garnish with oranges, berries, pineapple or fresh fruit in season.

Recipe adapted from *Harry Johnson's New and Improved Bartenders' Manual*, 1888

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Maynard Dixon (1875-1946), *Mesas in Shadow*, 1926, oil on canvas, 30.25 x 40 in., Brigham Young University Museum of Art, gift of Herald R. Clark, 1937.
Brigham Young University Museum of Art · Utah Division of Arts & Museums · Charles Redd Center for Western Studies · George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation · Stark Museum of Art
Organized by the Brigham Young University Museum of Art and the Stark Museum of Art, and made possible in part by generous grants from the George S. and Delores Doré Eccles Foundation, the Nelda C. and H.J. Lutcher Stark Foundation, the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, and the Utah Division of Arts & Museums.

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Durango, Colorado

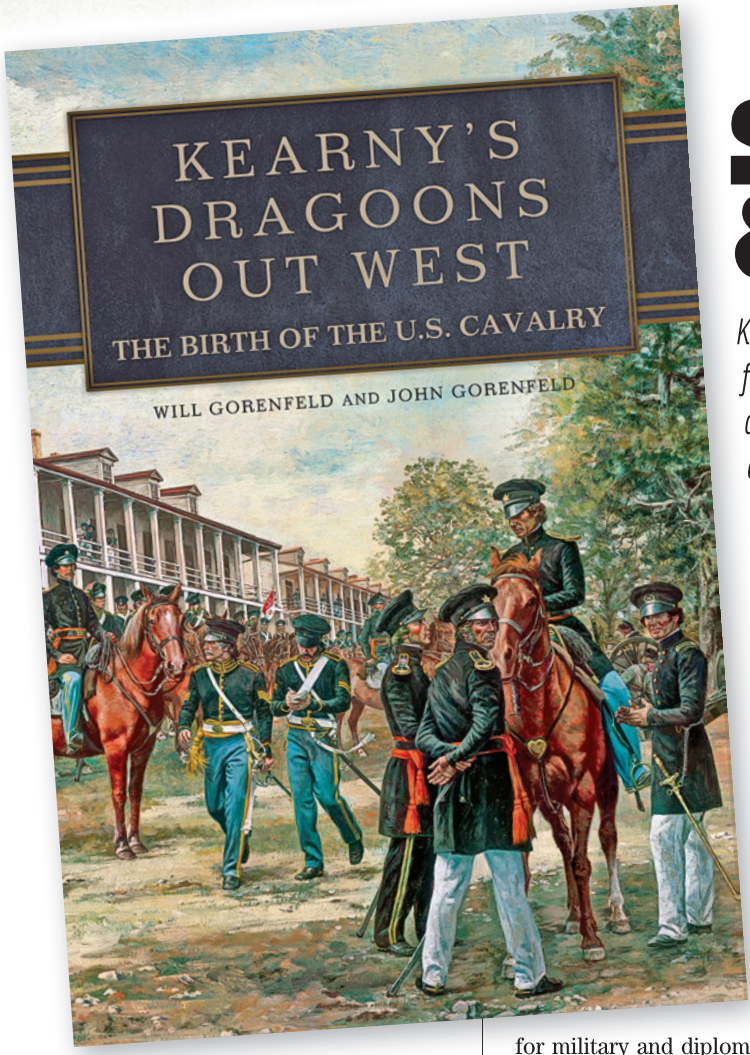
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WESTERN BOOKS

BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR: STUART ROSEBROOK

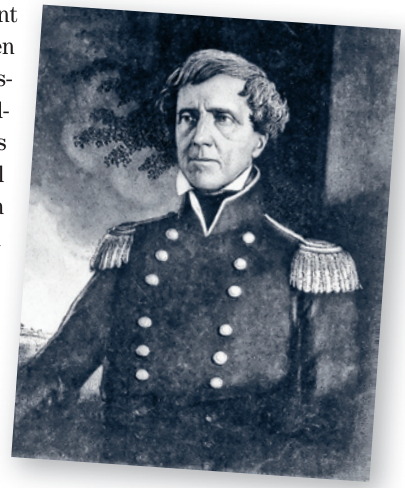


Sabers & Spurs

Kearny's cavalry, black cowboys in the West, freedom found on the Overland Trail, chaos and vigilantes in San Francisco and a journey of discovery on the frontier.

In literature, film and television, the role of the U.S. cavalry in the history of the American West has been as romanticized as any major element of Western popular culture. Similarly, historians have published countless articles, monographs and syntheses on the military history of the West, but very few have written the definitive chronicle of the cavalry's origins and the role of horse soldiers in the creation of the 1st Dragoons from 1833 to 1848. *Kearny's Dragoons Out West: The Birth of the U.S. Cavalry* (University of Oklahoma Press, $34.95) by Will Gorenfeld and John Gorenfeld is the first major history of its kind for nearly a century. The work explores the development of the U.S. Army's regiment of mounted horsemen for military and diplomatic action in the Trans-Mississippi West. The father and son duo's well-written, thoroughly annotated volume examines the political, technical, geographical and physical reasons behind Congress's authorizing the creation of the dragoon regiment soon after the Indian Removal Act of 1830 and the rise of the American ideal of "Manifest Destiny." The Gorenfelds state in the Prologue: "The sluggish trek of foot soldiers

"The sluggish trek of foot soldiers and cannon proved ill-suited to western peacekeeping tasks..."



General Stephen Watts Kearny's role in settling the West through diplomacy with the horse-mounted U.S. 1st Dragoons is a centerpiece of Will Gorenfeld and John Gorenfeld's dramatic history, *Kearny's Dragoons Out West: The Birth of the U.S. Cavalry*.

– COURTESY OF THE BANCROFT LIBRARY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY –



Topographical Engineer William Emory's role in mapping the Western route to California across New Mexico Territory (above) as a member of Kearny's column is well documented in *Kearny's Dragoons Out West: The Birth of the U.S. Cavalry*.

– FROM NOTES OF A MILITARY RECONNAISSANCE, COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS –

and cannon proved ill-suited to western peacekeeping tasks: protecting settlers from highly mobile tribesmen mounted on horseback and protecting the removed tribes from settlers."

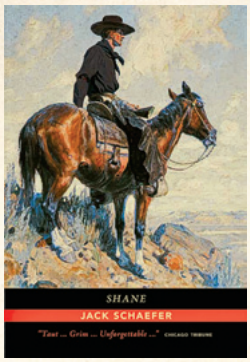
The Gorenfelds' history of the 1st Dragoons is extremely thorough and provides today's historians with a focused volume that contextually places the reader on the historic trail of the United States' rapid growth to the edge of the Mississippi River in the 1820s and early 1830s, just prior to the development of the Oregon Trail and the end of the mountain man-fur trade era in the far West. Economically and territorially the vast interior of Louisiana Territory, the growth of trade with the Mexican states of Texas, New Mexico and California, as well as the growing rivalry with Great Britain in the Northwest forced the American government to act or lose control or territory to its rivals or Native tribes.

The Gorenfelds also provide in-depth biographical details about the two most significant leaders of the 1st Dragoons—Col. Henry Dodge and Col. Stephen Watts Kearny. Dodge led the Dragoons for their first three years, earning them respect as a military unit that could be counted on to maintain the peace. Kearny, who took over command in 1833, led them until 1846, when he was made commander of The Army of the West in the Mexican-American War. While Kearny died prematurely in 1848 from yellow fever contracted as military governor of Veracruz, Mexico, his 1st Dragoons Regiment would be re-designated the 1st Cavalry Regiment in August 1861. Kearny's dedication to the fast-moving horse soldier that has captured the imagination of so many historians and authors became the foundation of the U.S. Army in the West, and he is still considered "the father of the U.S. Cavalry."

Will and John Gorenfeld's *Kearny's Dragoons Out West* has set a new standard for studying the development and role of the highly deployed cavalry in the settlement of the American West. As the Gorenfelds note in their Acknowledgement, not since Louis Pelzers's 1917 seminal work, *Marches of the First Dragoons*, has an author or authors attempted to update the historic record of the 1st Dragoons in the Western United States. The father and son duo has written the most significant history of the beginnings of the real—and iconic—military branch of the U.S. Army in the West. As the Gorenfelds so succinctly summarize in their Epilogue, "The flesh-and-blood mounted arm remained for just 108 years, but the tactic and organization developed by the 1st Dragoons lived on in all U.S. mounted units well into the twenty-first century."

—Stuart Rosebrook

ROUGH DRAFTS



In the same spirit of the University of Texas reissuing and redesigning **J. Frank Dobie**'s catalogue of books with classic pulp-fiction covers in 2016, the University of New Mexico Press re-published Western author **Jack Schaefer**'s classics, *Shane* (above), *First Blood and Other Stories*, *The Canyon, Heroes Without Glory: Some Good Men of the Old West*, *The Big Range*, *Old Ramon and The Pioneers*. The cover illustration for *Shane* is **William Herbert Dunton**'s 1906 oil on canvas *Sentinel of the Plains*. In the fall of 2017, UNM Press will reissue more of Schaefer's catalog, including *Company of Cowards*, *Mavericks*, *Monte Walsh*, *Stubby Pringle's Christmas* and *The Kean Land and Other Stories*.

Lisa Tremaine, UNM Press's art director and senior book designer, working with colleague **Catherine Leonardo**, chose what she describes as a "classic treatment [versus a pulp-fiction style] that lent more gravitas and respect to all of the Schaefer titles. Catherine decided on the color scheme and we collaborated on typography with a beautiful and elegant series design being the result." In collaboration with Jack's son, **Jon Schaefer**, the team chose cover images with "a Remington-like, classic and somewhat romanticized but raw feeling... much like Schaefer's writing style."

For more information on Schaefer's works and the release dates of each volume, visit *UNMPress.com*.

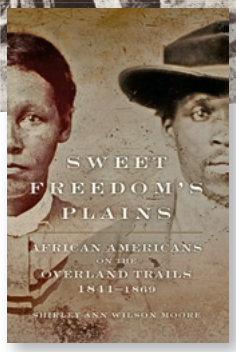
–Stuart Rosebrook



Historian Shirley Ann Wilson Moore's *Sweet Freedom's Plains: African Americans on the Overland Trails, 1841–1869* recounts the powerful draw of freedom in Western states for former slaves and their descendants, such as the Monroe Family in Coloma, California.

– COURTESY CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS, AUGUST 7, 2015 –

SEEKING FREEDOM OUT WEST



With its wonderful title, Shirley Ann Wilson Moore's *Sweet Freedom's Plains: African Americans on the Overland Trails, 1841–1869* (University of Oklahoma Press, $29.95) showcases the author's ability to discover engaging stories, research unlikely but creative sources, and turn a charming phrase to tell a great American tale. Moore's impressive research discovered unknown stories, often interviews with families who recall the challenges their resolute ancestors faced as a despised people on a tough trail. Moore brings T.H. Jefferson's story up to date, confirming that in 1846 a president's son mapped the trail to California, "where industriousness and ingenuity might trump lines of race, caste, and class" and black Americans could live as "human beings worthy of freedom, dignity, and respect."

—*Will Bagley, author of* South Pass: Gateway to a Continent

BLACK BUCKAROOS

During the growing Civil Rights movement of the 1960s such publications as Philip Durham and Everett L. Jones' groundbreaking 1965 *The Negro Cowboys* and William Leckie's *The Buffalo Soldiers*, released the following year, began to address the little studied area of blacks in the West. Now, eminent scholars Bruce A. Glasrud and Michael N. Searles add to the field with their impressive anthology *Black Cowboys in the American West: On the Range, on the Stage, behind the Badge* (University of Oklahoma

Ride the Old West with Joshua Ryder from Texas to Kansas to Montana



"Boeve is a natural storyteller, depicting the Old West with consummate skill. You hate her villain and you love her love-interest as would any character in the book. And as events unfold, you'll ride with Josh to be initially shocked but eventually delighted at the page-turning conclusion."

– Reader Review on Amazon –

Available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Rowe Publishing, Books in Motion and select bookstores.

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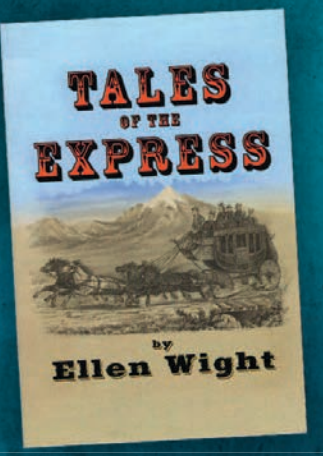


- "For a slice of American history, *Detour Trail* reminded me of *Children on the Oregon Trail*"

- "Captivating from cover to cover, *Detour Trail* is highly recommended."

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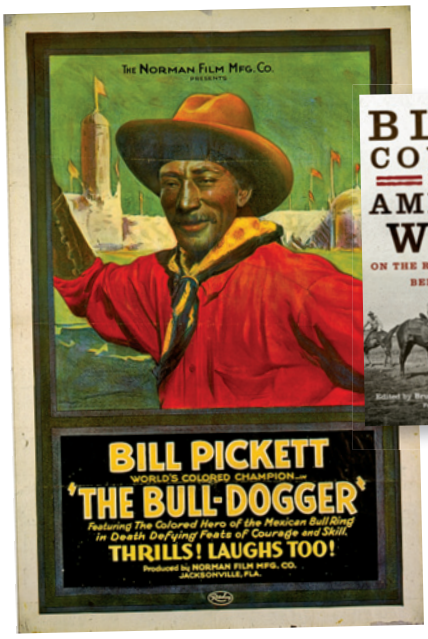
TALES OF THE EXPRESS

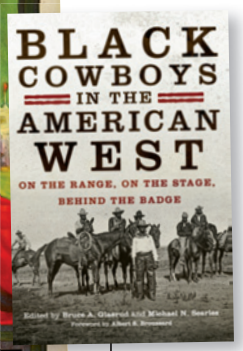
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Editors Bruce A. Glasrud and Michael N. Searles's *Black Cowboys in the American West: On the Range, On the Stage, Behind the Badge* is a compelling series of essays on the history and culture of prominent and lesser-known blacks in the West, including the life and lore of famed rodeo bulldogger and film star Bill Pickett.

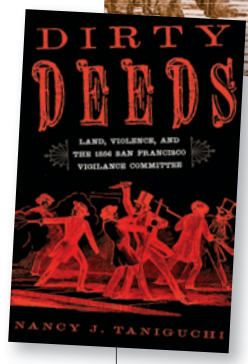
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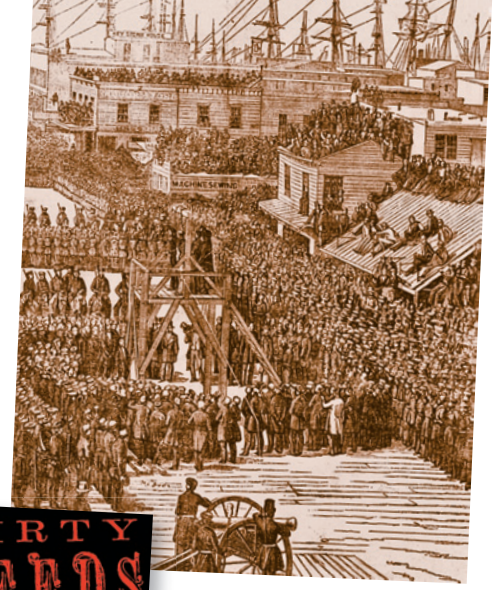
Press, $24.95) with a foreword by respected historian Albert S. Broussard. The collaboration of this noteworthy trio assures readers that the thirteen far-ranging essays published in this paperback are top-notch.

—*John P. Langellier, author of* Fighting For Uncle Sam: Buffalo Soldiers in the Frontier Army

VIGILANTE JUSTICE

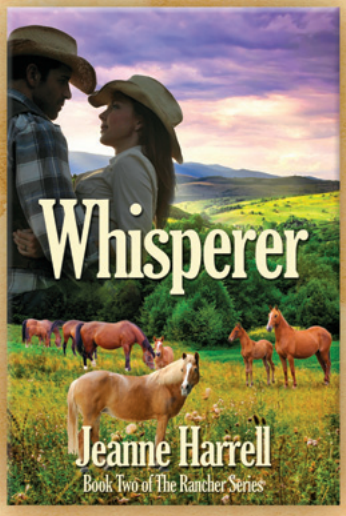
Research is a treasure hunt, and author Nancy J. Taniguchi found a big, shiny nugget for her *Dirty Deeds: Land, Violence and the San Francisco Vigilance Committee* (Oklahoma, $32.95). Taniguchi located the long-believed-lost records of the 1856 committee, the second set of vigilantes to stretch necks in the infant City by the Bay. She covers the infamous hangings of James Casey, Charles





Nancy J. Tanguchi uses long-lost primary documents in *Dirty Deeds: Land, Violence, and the 1856 San Francisco Vigilance Committee* to reach her conclusions on the corruption, greed and inquisitional violence of the Vigilance Committee, including the hanging of accused murderers Joseph Hetherington and Philander Brace on July 29, 1856 (above).

– COURTESY OF THE CALIFORNIA HISTORY ROOM, CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY, SACRAMENTO –



When horse trainer Colt Johnson strikes out on his own, he meets pretty Mandy Evans. They find love riding in the hills by Donner Lake, but will it last when their lingering pasts collide? Book Two of the Rancher Series.

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After growing up on a Nebraska farm, Richard Prosch worked as a professional writer, artist and teacher in Wyoming, South Carolina and Missouri. A 2016 Spur Award-winner for best short fiction "The Scalper," in *Western Trail Blazer*, Prosch has had work published in a variety of venues including two 2016 collections, *Tough Job in Driftwood* and *Season of Ice*. His Western crime stories capture the fleeting history and lonely frontier stories of his youth where characters aren't always what they seem, and the windburned landscapes are filled with swift, deadly danger. Prosch says the five books below reflect the Nebraska of his writing.

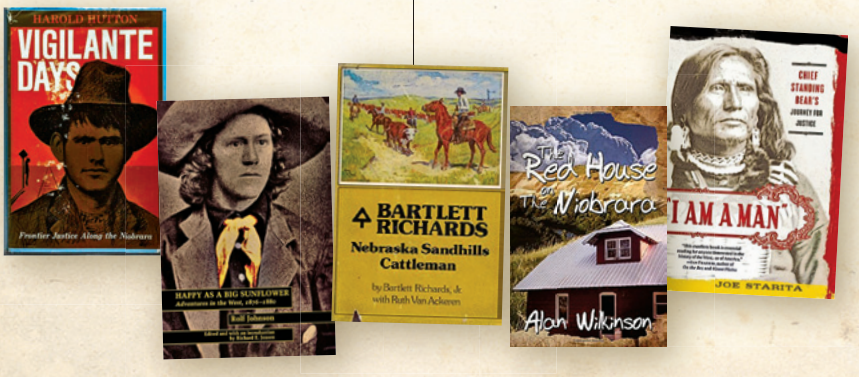
❶ ***Vigilante Days: Frontier Justice Along the Niobrara*** (Harold Hutton, Sage Books): The undisputed authority on Nebraska's historic vigilante committees, Hutton wrote at a time when participants in the rowdy business were still alive. This in-depth review was my introduction to the history in my own backyard and still serves as an inspiration for all my work.

❷ ***Happy As a Big Sunflower: Adventures in the West, 1876 - 1880*** (Rolf Johnson, edited by Richard E. Jensen, University of Nebraska Press): Johnson relates daily life in a Swedish community along the Platte River with vivid descriptions of his amusements and infatuations. I most liked his brief travelogue of trails to the Black Hills and southwest to New Mexico, filled as it is with wry, often surprising observations.

❸ ***Bartlett Richards: Nebraska Sandhills Cattleman*** (Bartlett Richards, Jr. with Ruth Van Ackeren, The Nebraska State Historical Society): Painted as a villain on the canvas of the past, cattle baron Richards gets his side of the story told 70 years after his death through letters and other firsthand accounts. The fascinating story explores aspects of government overreach, even as it puts flesh on the bones of a real human being who cared deeply for his family and state.

❹ ***The Red House on the Niobrara*** (Alan Wilkinson, Injury Time Publications): A contemporary writer experiences desolate pioneer life firsthand from a remote cabin, describing the experience with starkly poetic reports. From hailstorms to storms of grasshoppers, the boundless sky to the mysteries of the river, Wilkinson's education in the ways of the Sandhills is a joyful reminder of the living history still available to us all.

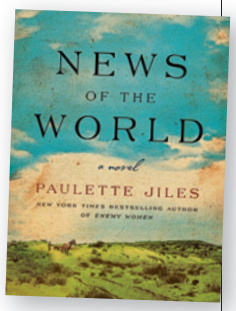
❺ ***"I Am a Man": Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice*** (Joe Starita, St. Martin's Press): Perhaps arguably encompassing both the lowest and highest points of Nebraska's American Indian history, Starita's profile of Ponca Chief Standing Bear and his eventual trial is as inspirational as the man it describes. This is a history more people need to be familiar with.



Cora and two others, plus the bizarre imprisonment of State Supreme Court Justice David Terry. And, she reveals the secret dealings behind the scenes. This tingling page-turner is not just a major contribution to California history, it helps us understand how the concepts of justice evolved in our society.

—Casey Tefertiller, author of Wyatt Earp: The Life Behind the Legend

WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE



In Paulette Jiles's *News of the World: A Novel* (William Morrow, $22.99) Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd is a former soldier who travels around the frontier towns of 1870s Texas armed with newspapers from all over the world, reading the news of the day to eager audiences. Kidd agrees to take custody of a ten-year-old girl, Johanna Leonberger, who'd been captured by the Kiowa Indians four years earlier, and deliver her to her surviving relatives near San Antonio. The girl, who has forgotten English and become fully Kiowa, has no desire to return. The unlikely pair embark on an unforgettable 400-mile journey across Texas, eluding outlaws, hostile Indian raiders and the elements. Written in Jiles's spare, beautifully crafted prose, this short novel really delivers.

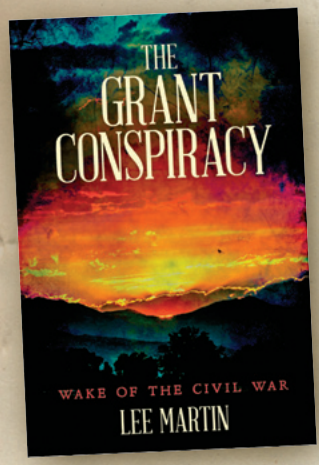
—Patrick Millikin, editor of The Highway Kind: Tales of Fast Cars, Desperate Drivers and Dark Roads



The hero of Paulette Jiles's *News of the World: A Novel*, Capt. Jefferson Kyle Kidd is sent on an epic odyssey to return a white girl—who'd been held captive by a Kiowa tribe for four years—to her family, despite her reluctance to leave her adopted Kiowa kin.

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LEE MARTIN



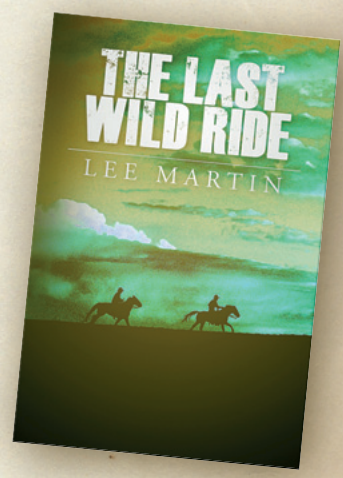
GRANT CONSPIRACY
Wake of the Civil War

A young lawyer, an angry young newspaper woman, and a black veteran stumble on an evil law firm's plot to assassinate former President Grant, not for the Civil War but for Black Friday, as Grant tours the Rockies by wagon in 1880.

"Screenwriter and author Lee Martin's latest novel, THE GRANT CONSPIRACY: WAKE OF THE CIVIL WAR*, is ready made for adaptation for the silver-screen or television with a Robert Conrad cameo a requirement for production. Martin's history tale of a planned assassination attempt against former President Ulysses S. Grant is ready for central casting and a sequel. In the meantime, order a copy of Martin's frolicking Western tale with a great cast of characters, including the war-hero—turned lawyer Matt Tyler, and femme-fatale newspaper woman Jennifer White and ex-Confederates out for revenge."*

– Stuart Rosebrook, Senior Editor, *True West* Magazine

THE LAST WILD RIDE



In 1877, Sam Jeffries, a shot up, beat up, bitter ex-lawman finds himself roped into escorting Lorena Ramsey, a fugitive widow, and her mute son on a wild ride south. Aided by old scouts and a troublesome, lecherous gambler, they fight their way down through Colorado's mesa country, across the flooded Grand River, and through the badlands of New Mexico Territory as they head for Texas. All the while, a Ramsey lynch mob led by her vengeful ex mother-in-law is hot on their trail.

"Lee Martin has done it again with a fast moving journey through western Colorado to Texas to help save a young woman and her son. As Lee describes the country they have to travel thru you feel you are right there as well. The action starts on page one and ends with the very last page. As with all of Lee Martin's books, once you start it, you can not put it down until it is finished. Thank you Lee for the chance to look back into our country's western history."

★★★★★ **AMAZON CUSTOMER'S REVIEW**

Watch for Lee Martin's 18 other Western novels on AMAZON or wherever books are sold.

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

Amazon.com

***Many are on audio with* BOOKS IN MOTION.**

BY HENRY C. PARKE

A Divided America

Underground *re-creates the struggle for freedom in the antebellum South.*



Hard to tell which side Cato (Alano Miller) is on when he menaces some of the other Macon 7 slaves with a fire torch in Season One of the excellent *Underground* series. His cautionary tale against escaping, however, has a surprising twist for his two white overseers. Season Two, premiering on March 8, follows the Macon 7 heroes on their harrowing journey to freedom.

– ALL *UNDERGROUND* PHOTOS COURTESY WGN AMERICA –

The story of the Underground Railroad, the antebellum, sub-rosa conspiracy to lead escaped slaves from Southern plantations to freedom in the North, is such an unusual, exciting and inspiring moment in our history that its telling is long overdue.

Set in 1857, WGN America's *Underground* tackles that history, focusing in Season One on seven slaves fleeing a Georgia plantation, the abolitionist couple who helps them and the plantation owners and slave hunters who want to bring them back. It returns for Season Two this March. While the producers are cagey about the upcoming shows, they admit the characters who survived Season One are expected back, joined by executive producer and music impresario John Legend, portraying abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

As with 1939's *Gone with the Wind*, the beauty and rich depth of *Underground's* visuals draw you into both the time period, and the story, immediately. Those illustrative images are overseen by Production Designer Meghan C. Rogers, whose talent is showcased in other projects, including 2016's *The Fundamentals of Caring*. "I'm an architect for film," she explains, "a visual collaborator for the overall tone."

Her biggest challenge on *Underground*? "The scope of it," she says. "It's pretty much an entire world that we're creating."

Underground's costume designer, Karyn Wagner, agrees: "Last year, we created about 7,000 costumes."

While Wagner has designed costumes for 1999's *The Green Mile*, that period film was set a few decades in the past, not a century and a half ago. "It's completely different, because there is virtually nothing existing from that era unless you go to a museum. You can look at the construction, the fabrics, see how things hung. But you're having to suppose a lot. Clothing of the lower classes doesn't exist because they wore it until it fell apart," Wagner says.

The spectacular Macon family plantation was at the heart of Season One. "For the exterior, we found a plantation in Vacherie, Louisiana," Rogers remembers. "We repainted it, landscaped it, added the pond out front, added an entire façade. All the interior sets, we built on stage—those were all created.



Rosalee initially thought she lacked the courage to escape, but her scuffle with a drunken plantation overseer emboldens her when she breaks free and grabs Noah, running with him for dear life (above).

We ended up building about 80 percent [of props]. We do a lot of antique shopping; we get a lot out of New Orleans." But the bigger items must be built. "We do a lot of wagons and boats—we do all of the transportation."

Sometimes historical research can unexpectedly affect the plot. Wagner recalls, "I [learned] that very vain women wore pregnancy corsets. I just *had* to let [series creators Misha Green and Joe Pokaski] know this went on. Suzanna Macon [Andrea Frankle] became the woman wearing the pregnancy corset. Women in this era had no legal rights. They were as much owned by their husbands as the enslaved people were. Ambitious women had nothing to do with their lives other than decorate. Suzanna uses the house slaves as a decorative element: they're serving in the dining room, and the wallpaper and the paint are the same color as their uniforms, so they fade away as so much upholstery. That was very specifically on purpose."

Historical accuracy is always a concern. "Whenever we go to location," Rogers says, "the first action is removing modernity. You never realize how many light switches are in a place, or conduit, or recessed lighting. We're constantly ripping out door hardware. We try to be as historically correct as we can. We push the envelope a little bit, stylistically, into the Victorian era, because antebellum clothes weren't particularly flattering. All the hoops become a lot to deal with—building bigger doorways and everything."

Wagner concurs: "*Underground* nods to period, but certainly it's no *Lincoln* [2012]. I've taken liberties on necklines."

Wagner needed to grab her audience's attention. Unlike *Gone with the Wind's*





BASS REEVES

Since lawmen had no jurisdiction over fugitives in Indian Territory, runaway slaves could find help and refuge there (far right), just like the real-life slave Bass Reeves did, after he fled from Texas and ultimately became a lawman himself.

– REEVES PHOTO TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

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costumes, these fashions are not seen on a big screen. "People are watching television on their cellphones," she says. "I like to say that you should know everything you need to know about a character before they open their mouth, from their costume, hair, makeup. In film, you have the leisure for that long, beautiful shot, a lot of detail. In television, you're setting up a character very quickly; it's all about silhouettes."

Season Two is well underway. "Today, they're shooting in the oldest part of Savannah [Georgia]," Wagner tells *True West*, "where the cotton exchange was, which is second-speak for the slave market."

The story line will focus on the Gullah Geechee on the islands of South Carolina. "It's a particular population of enslaved people brought from the West Coast of Africa for rice farming," Wagner says.

Rogers is happy that so much of this season will be on water. "I do like doing the boats—they're really fun," she says. "This show could go on for a long time: there's a lot to tell. We're just edging up on the Civil War. There are so many things that are about to happen in history. I could see *Underground* going five or six seasons, even more! Then there's Reconstruction after that. There's a lot to the story."

DVD REVIEW

THE CARIBOO TRAIL

(Kino Lorber; $19.95) Jim Redfern (Randolph Scott) wants to drive cattle, partner Mike Evans (Bill Williams) wants to pan for Canadian gold and both must face down town-grasping villain Frank Walsh (Victor Jory) in 1950's *The Cariboo Trail*. This is the final film for "Gabby" Hayes. Shot in the now-obsolete Cinecolor process, *The Cariboo Trail* was available only in black and white, but now its stunning Colorado vistas have been restored. The DVD includes the 8mm Castle Films version of the movie!



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

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BY BOB BOZE BELL

A Mule for Sylvia Durando

Comanche Station, *1960.*

Comanche Station opens with an 11-minute montage setup featuring hardly any dialogue. A loner, Jefferson Cody (played by Randolph Scott), is moving through the desert landscape with a pack mule. He is soon surrounded by Comanches who he hopes are after the bounty packed on the back of his mule. They aren't, and they take him to their chief.

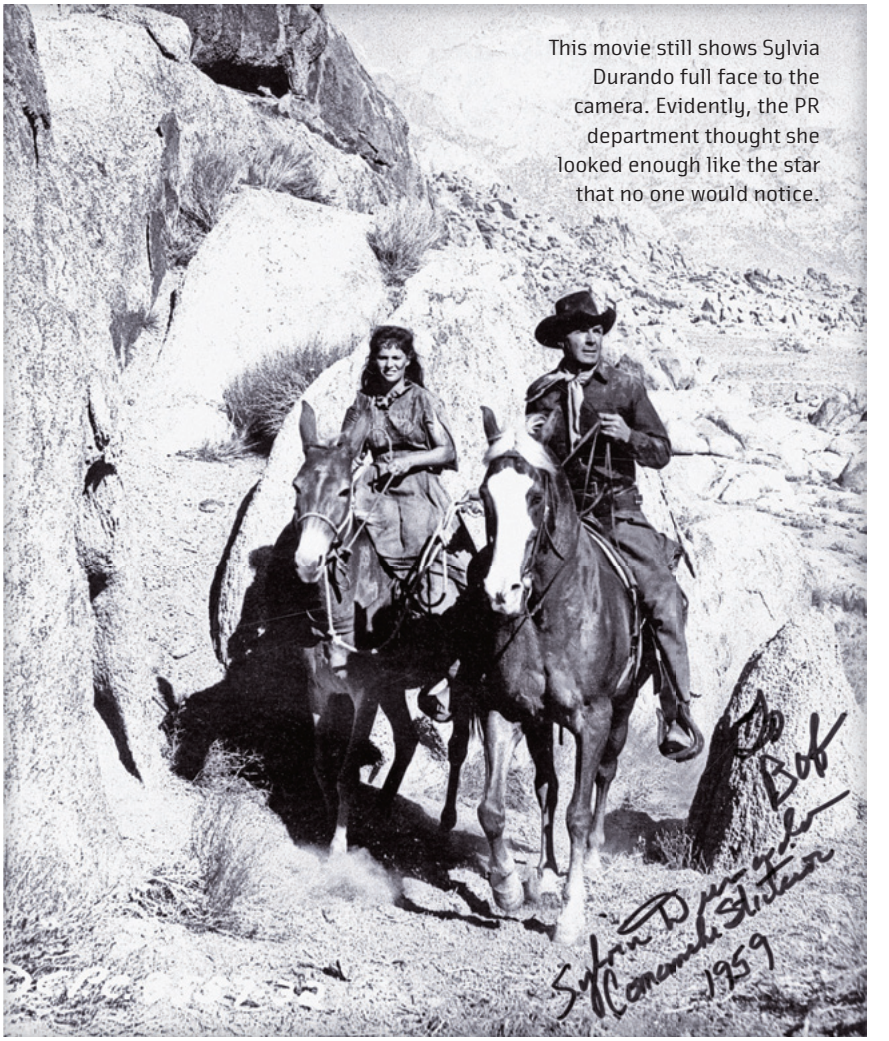
Cody throws in his Winchester, along with his mule pack. The Comanches accept, and trade him a white woman they have been holding captive. Cody puts the lady, Nancy Lowe, on the pack mule, and the two ride quickly out of the stronghold. Their flight to safety makes up the heart of the story.

Sylvia Durando doubled for the female lead, Nancy Gates. A photo of Durando shows her riding through the Alabama Hills in Lone Pine, California, in August 1959, when the movie was filmed.

Riding was certainly an experience. Durando had this to say about her gear: "The mule did not have a bit in her mouth, just a halter with a frayed rope. So I asked that a wire or light reins be attached to the halter, just in case the rope were to break or if the rope should get dropped. The wrangler fixed it up for me. I was sitting upon a pack saddle, no stirrups for my feet and only the wooden forks of the pack saddle to hang on to."

Durando began competing in horse shows at the age of eight. She spent her early years surrounded by the Silver King horses owned by Fred Thomson, a silent film cowboy who rivaled Tom Mix. Silver King was a white horse who appeared in Thomson's Westerns. After Thomson died of tetanus in 1928, at the age of 38, Durando's Grandpa L.S. Barnes, a "ruthless millionaire" who made his money in oil and mining, bought the Thomson estate, she says.

How can we tell when Durando is the one riding the mule in the film? She says, "If the lady isn't bouncing, that's me."



This movie still shows Sylvia Durando full face to the camera. Evidently, the PR department thought she looked enough like the star that no one would notice.





The rider next to Durando looks younger than Randolph Scott in this sequence. Durando confirmed, saying, "Yes, that is Hal Needham. He was the double for Randolph Scott in the long shots. He also doubled Richard Boone in *Have Gun—Will Travel,* and I worked with him for nine months on that series. Look close at his horse, and you will notice [the horse] is also a stunt double as well!"

– ALL PHOTOS COURTESY SYLVIA DURANDO UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED; *COMANCHE STATION* STILLS COURTESY COLUMBIA PICTURES –



Durando doubled for Nancy Gates, the female lead who is shown here in the scene when she was thrown down on top of the trinkets that Randolph Scott's character brought to trade with the Comanches.



Durando's mother, Gloria (left), was a horsewoman in the show world. "No brainer where I got my start," Durando says.



Durando appears on set in the Alabama Hills in 1959. *Comanche Station* was the last script written by Burt Kennedy before he became a director.





Durando also doubled Gates in the water trough scene. The actresses switched for the scene when Scott throws the lady in the trough to save her from the rain of bullets pouring into Comanche Station.



Durando is shown on location where *Comanche Station* was filmed. Photographed in October 7, 2016, she is 82 years young and still rides horses and mules. Quite a Western gal, she is.

BY LEO W. BANKS

Badlands, Bison and Rough Riders

Medora, North Dakota, is the gateway to Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

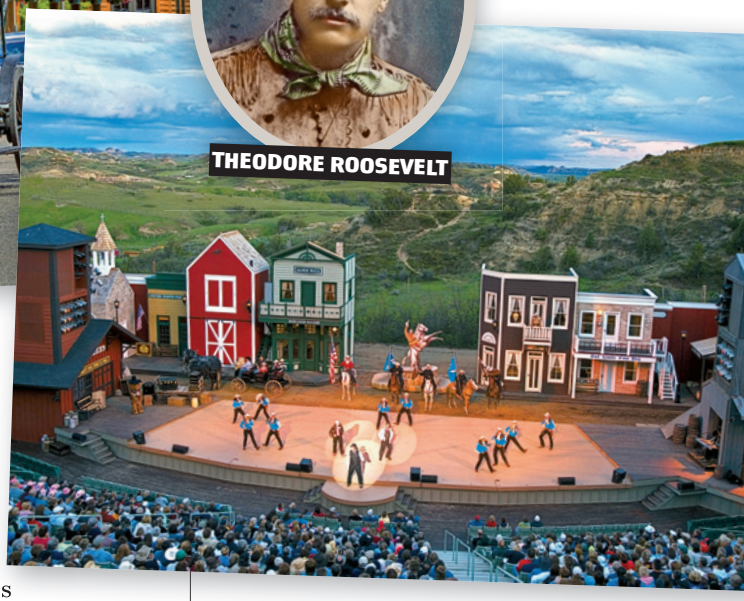


Every summer visitors to Medora (left) can enjoy horse-drawn wagon tours of the historic North Dakota town that future U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt (inset) circa 1884, first visited in 1883 on a hunting expedition. The natural beauty of the Little Missouri Badlands inspired the New Yorker to buy the nearby Maltese Cross Ranch.

– MEDORA PHOTO BY CHUCK HANEY, COURTESY NORTH DAKOTA TOURISM/ ROOSEVELT PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS–



THEODORE ROOSEVELT



The *Medora Musical* (right) is presented for three months every summer in Medora's Burnt Hills Amphitheatre in celebration of the life of Theodore Roosevelt and America.

– JOHN WEBER, COURTESY MEDORA CVB –

Teddy Roosevelt first came to Medora, North Dakota, in September of 1883 to hunt buffalo. He so loved the region that he later operated two ranches there, and included the town on a Presidential tour in 1903.

He later recalled that visit, saying the entire population of the Badlands "down to the smallest baby had turned out to greet me." He "shook hands with them all" and regretted that he couldn't spend more time with them.

The Roosevelt name still echoes at venues around town, including in the *Medora Musical*, an outdoor variety act based largely on the 26th president. Over three summer months, the patriotic, Western-style show draws as many as 125,000 people to the Burning Hills Amphitheatre.

"If you plan to go over a weekend, expect a sellout," says Natalie Beard, executive director of the Medora Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. "We're quiet until June 1 and all of a sudden it's a different place. Things start jumping."



Wind Canyon, with a trail to an overlook above the Little Missouri River, is one of the major geologic features of Theodore Roosevelt National Park's South Unit.

– LINDA WEHNER, COURTESY NPS.GOV –

The town has about 350 hotel rooms, but only 112 residents. Still, it ranks as North Dakota's most popular destination, a place of great beauty on the western edge of the Badlands.

The biggest draw is the 70,000-acre Theodore Roosevelt National Park, the entrance to which bumps against downtown. Visitors can take a 36-mile loop drive through the park, past grazing buffalo, wild horses and stunning rock formations.



THE MARQUIS' DREAM

Set on the Little Missouri River, the town began in 1883 as a stop on the Northern Pacific Railway. Its founder, the 24-year-old French nobleman, Marquis de Mores, named it after his bride, Medora von Hoffman.

Set on the Little Missouri River, the town began in 1883 as a stop on the Northern Pacific Railway.

His two-story frame chateau, now part of a state historic park, has 26 rooms furnished in the finest 1880s style. Be sure to stop at the restored von Hoffman House nearby, built by Medora's parents and recently listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Take a walking tour of Medora's charming downtown, with its board sidewalks and quaint shops. The Rough Riders Hotel, completed in 1885 and originally called the Metropolitan, was renamed in honor of Roosevelt's famed 1st Volunteer Cavalry, which stormed San Juan Hill in the Spanish-American War.

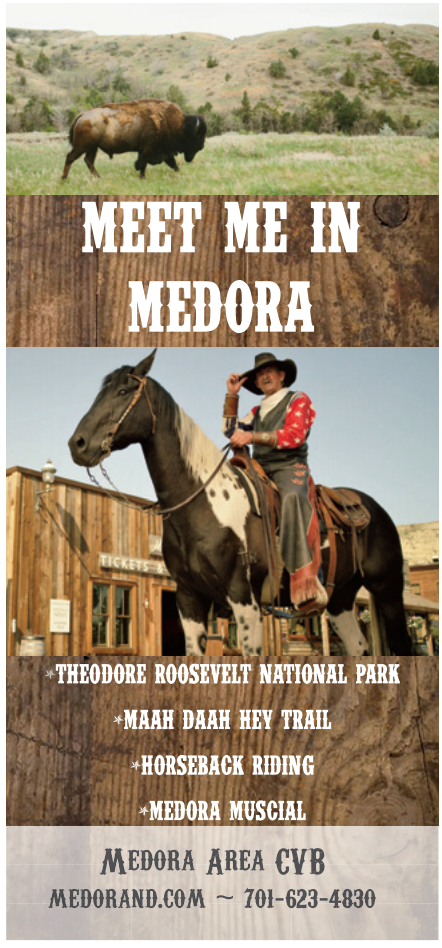
The lobby doubles as a library with a massive stone fireplace and floor-to-ceiling shelves lined with books about Roosevelt.

The North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame features a 15,000-square-foot interpretive center with exhibits that explain all aspects of the area's Western heritage. Visit the Western Heritage & Cultures exhibit on the second floor of the museum to read about its honorees, including Sitting Bull and popular Western author Louis L'Amour.

At the Billings County Courthouse Museum, see exhibits about the pioneers and a fine gun collection. Former mayor and local historian Doug Ellison recommends reading the notes that cowboy actor Tom Mix wrote to the ranch family he worked for near town.

Mix married his third wife, Olive Stokes, in Medora in 1909. "She visited from Oklahoma and Mix pursued her here, intending to marry her," says Ellison. "She came to buy horses and left town as Mrs. Tom Mix."





WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY



MEDORA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Start your trip at the Medora Area Convention & Visitors Bureau (above), 330 Pacific Ave.

MedoraND.com

MALTESE CROSS CABIN

At Theodore Roosevelt National Park, step inside TR's ponderosa pine cabin, originally located seven miles south. See his writing desk and his wicker and duck-skin trunk.

NPS.gov

MEDORA TO DEADWOOD STAGECOACH RIDES

Take a scenic half-hour stagecoach ride on the old stage line trail through the Little Missouri River bottom. The trip begins at the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center.

HistoryND.gov

HAROLD SCHAFER HERITAGE CENTER

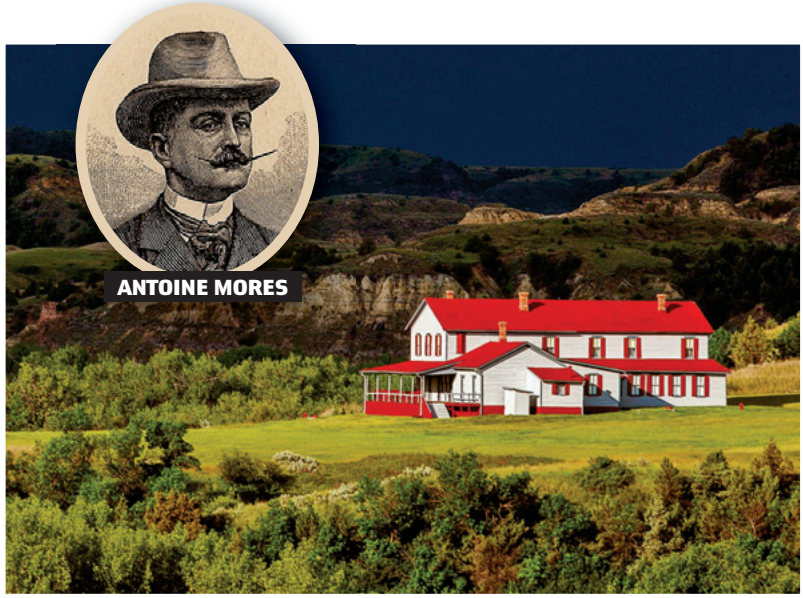
Tells about the philanthropist and businessman credited with reviving Medora as an historic town and tourist attraction. In the 1960s, he took the deteriorating Rough Riders Hotel apart board by board and rebuilt it.

Medora.com

CUSTER TRAIL AUTO TOUR

Originally blazed by Gen. Alfred Sully in his 1864 Sioux campaign, Custer twice used the trail, first in 1873 and again in 1876, on his way to Little Big Horn. The scenery is wild, as Custer wrote to his wife, Libby: "We found the Little Missouri River so crooked and the Bad Lands so impassable that in marching 50 miles today we forded the river 34 times." The Forest Service has brochures and a map.

FS.FED.us



The mansion Marquis de Mores built for his wife, Medora, is now part of a state historical park. The chateau has been restored and its 26 rooms are decorated with 1880s furnishings.

– INSET, ANTOINE MORES, TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/CHATEAU MORES COURTESY MEDORA CVB –

After touring the museum's Hall of Honor, which tells about sheriffs who've served Billings County, stop at Ellison's Western Edge bookstore, where Ellison will tell you all about Fred Willard, a little-known Black Hills gunfighter who became the first sheriff. Ellison is writing a book about Willard.

Medora has a strong Custer connection, too. On May 28, 1876, as his command marched toward legend at the Little Big Horn, they camped along Davis Creek, about 15 miles southeast of town.

Unaware of what awaited them, Frank Neely and William Williams, who served under Maj. Marcus Reno and survived the fight, took time to carve their names on a sandstone bluff. Those etchings are still visible at a site called Initial Rock.

Leo W. Banks is an award-winning writer based in Tucson. He has written several books of history for *Arizona Highways*.





Josh Duhamel

UNSCRIPTED

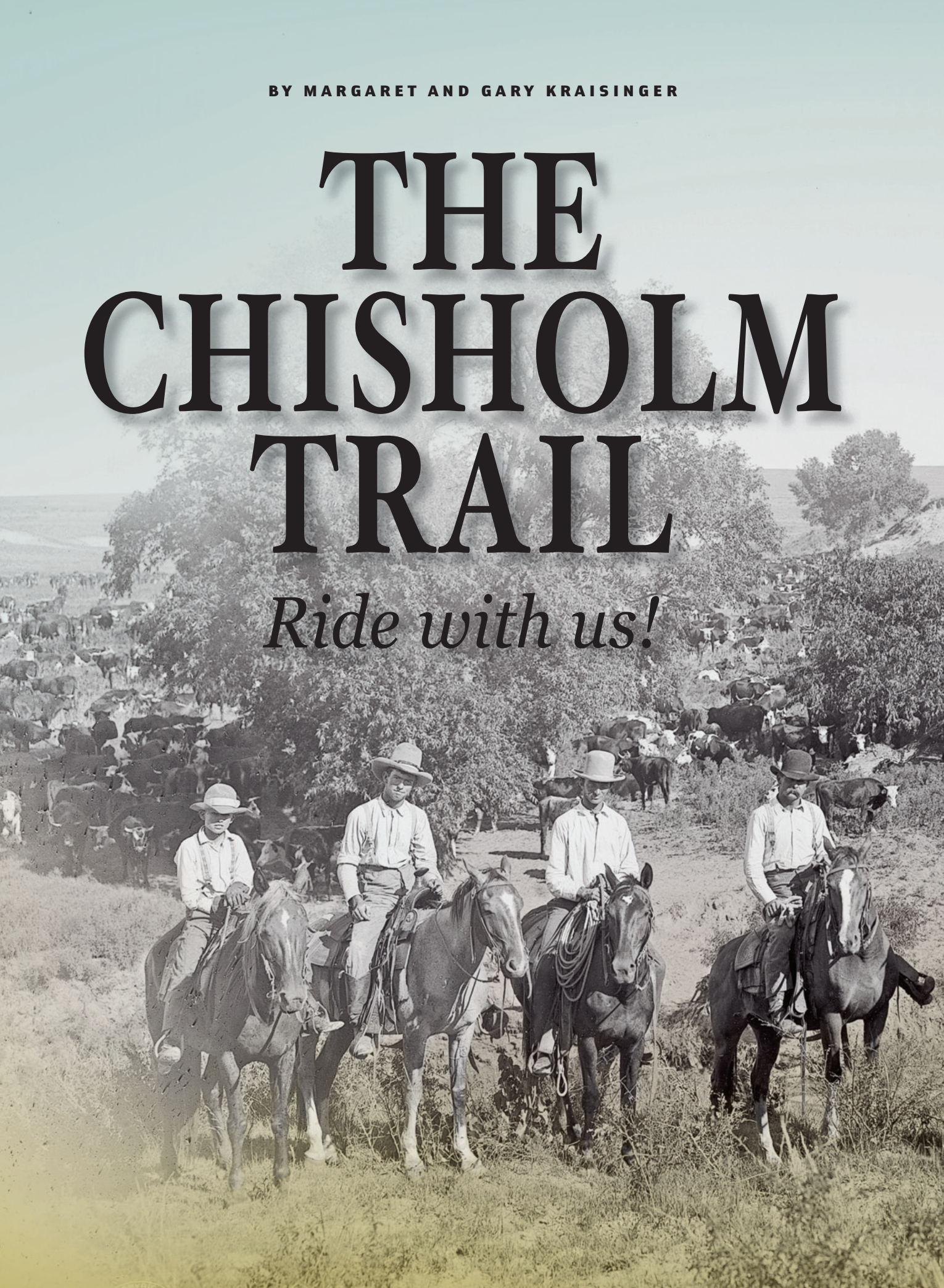
We like to think that Lewis & Clark, along with Sakakawea, enjoyed a good laugh as much as anyone could in the winter of 1804. Rich history is just one reason why North Dakota native Josh Duhamel returns home. Visit us online to discover Josh's favorites and start your own unscripted adventure.

LegendaryND.com

BY MARGARET AND GARY KRAISINGER

THE CHISHOLM TRAIL

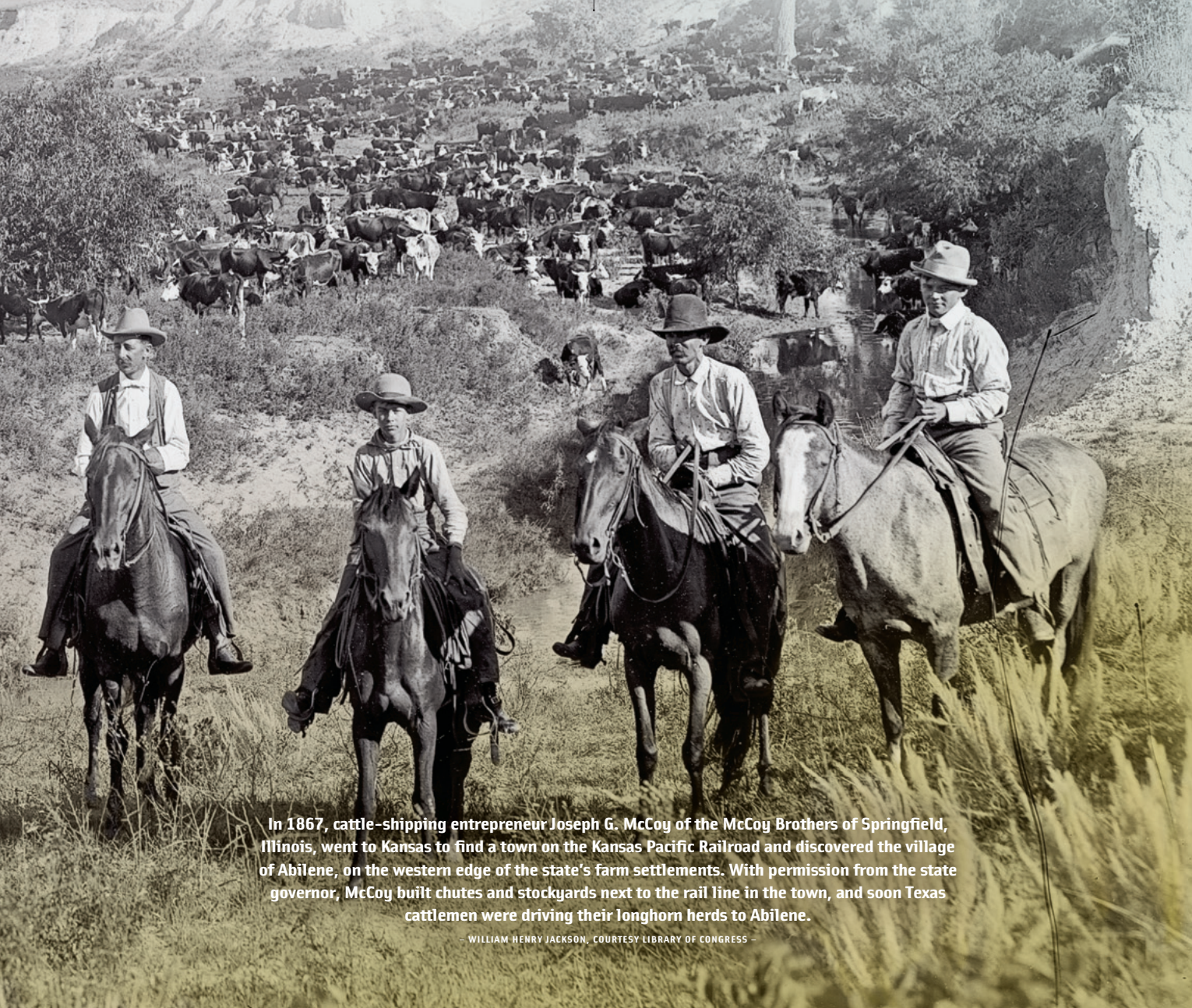
Ride with us!



150 Years of Trail History

The Texas cattle-trailing industry lasted only fifty years. From Texas statehood in 1846 until 1897, Texas drovers trailed over 12 million longhorns out of their state to mining camps, to Confederate enclaves, to railheads, to northern ranches and to Indian agencies. Of the various trails used by the drovers, the Chisholm Trail remains the most famous. Created after the Civil War to supply the northeast with badly needed beef, the trail began as drovers followed a pre-war existing cattle pathway in Texas, ventured across Indian Territory using Jesse Chisholm's wagon road, and continued north to Kansas's depots. This pathway that carried over four million longhorns to the Kansas railheads, and later to Caldwell on the border, became known as the Chisholm Trail.

Ride with us as *True West* celebrates the Chisholm Trail's 150th anniversary. We'll point you to the cattle towns where you can walk the streets that the trail cowboys walked and visit other sites of interest where you can experience a historical cattle-trail adventure.



In 1867, cattle-shipping entrepreneur Joseph G. McCoy of the McCoy Brothers of Springfield, Illinois, went to Kansas to find a town on the Kansas Pacific Railroad and discovered the village of Abilene, on the western edge of the state's farm settlements. With permission from the state governor, McCoy built chutes and stockyards next to the rail line in the town, and soon Texas cattlemen were driving their longhorn herds to Abilene.

– WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

TEXAS



Most of the Texas cattlemen who drove their herds of longhorns up from south Texas and the Gulf Coast would trail to San Antonio, possibly resupplying in the city's Military Plaza commercial district (left). For four decades the historic city was the key staging area for trail bosses before heading their herds north to Kansas.

– COURTESY NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY –



The herds driving north from the Texas's southern plains all trailed through the Texas state capital in Austin. Cattlemen could restock needed supplies in the city before crossing the Trinity Ford of the unpredictable Colorado River.

– CAROL M. HIGHSMITH, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

From the southern triangle of Texas, trail drivers trailed herds numbering 2,500 longhorns each to the terminals of Kansas. The heaviest population of longhorns lived in the southern triangle of Texas, south of San Antonio. In early spring, cowboys gathered the wild animals, bunched them into herds, branded the longhorns and prepared them for the trail to Kansas, a trip of 900 miles that, at 12 to 15 miles a day, would take two or three months.

"When we reached Waco the Brazes River was level with its banks and we had to swim the herd across. It is a wonderful sight to see a thousand steers swimming all at one time. All you could see was the tops of their horns and the ends of their noses as they went through the water."

—L.D. Taylor, 1869 trip,
The Trail Drivers of Texas

San Antonio: The Staging Area

Drovers trailed their herds over various feeder routes from the southern Texas triangle into San Antonio. There, as the herds grazed in the area, trail bosses and contractors prepared for the journey north, acquiring supplies and hiring trail hands. Through four decades, the city remained a staging area for drovers on the Shawnee, Chisholm and Western trails.

VisitSanAntonio.com

Buckhorn and Witte Museums

A San Antonio visitor can walk upon streets that the trail cowboys walked while visiting the Alamo, the 1859 Victorian-era Menger Hotel and the 1881 Buckhorn Saloon and Museum. To learn about the area's history, a visit to the Witte Museum is a must.

WitteMuseum.org

Kingsville: A Major Feeder Route

Capt. Richard King and Texas Ranger Capt. Gideon K. Lewis set up a cow camp on Santa Gertrudis Creek in 1852. Eventually the Running W-King Ranch encompassed 825,000 acres and became one of the most influential ranches in Texas. Located on a major feeder route to the Shawnee Trail, the King Ranch was among the earliest ranches to send longhorns to Missouri river towns. Through the years, King's herds supplied northern outlets, as well, via the Chisholm and Western trails.

KingsvilleTexas.com

The King Ranch

The ranch, a National Historic Landmark, offers daily tours featuring the history of the ranch and its operations. Visitors can access the ranch from State Highway 141 West in Kingsville. Also visit the King Ranch Museum in downtown Kingsville.

King-Ranch.com

Brownsville: Spanish Cattle Gateway

When Texas declared its independence from Mexico in 1836, a small squatters' settlement existed where Brownsville is today. Deriving its name from Fort Brown, which was built ten years later, the river city faces Matamoros, Mexico, on the other side of the Rio Grande. As the trail-driving industry developed, cattlemen expanded their herds by purchasing Mexican cattle and funneling them through Brownsville. Thus, some people called Texas longhorns, "Spanish cattle."

Brownsville.org

Stillman House and Museum

This Brownsville museum, named after Charles Stillman, the founder of Brownsville, is open for tours. Also visit the Historic Brownsville Museum in the old Southern Pacific Railroad Depot to learn more about the city's rich military and ranching history.

BrownsvilleHistory.org

Pleasanton: On Two Spanish Roads

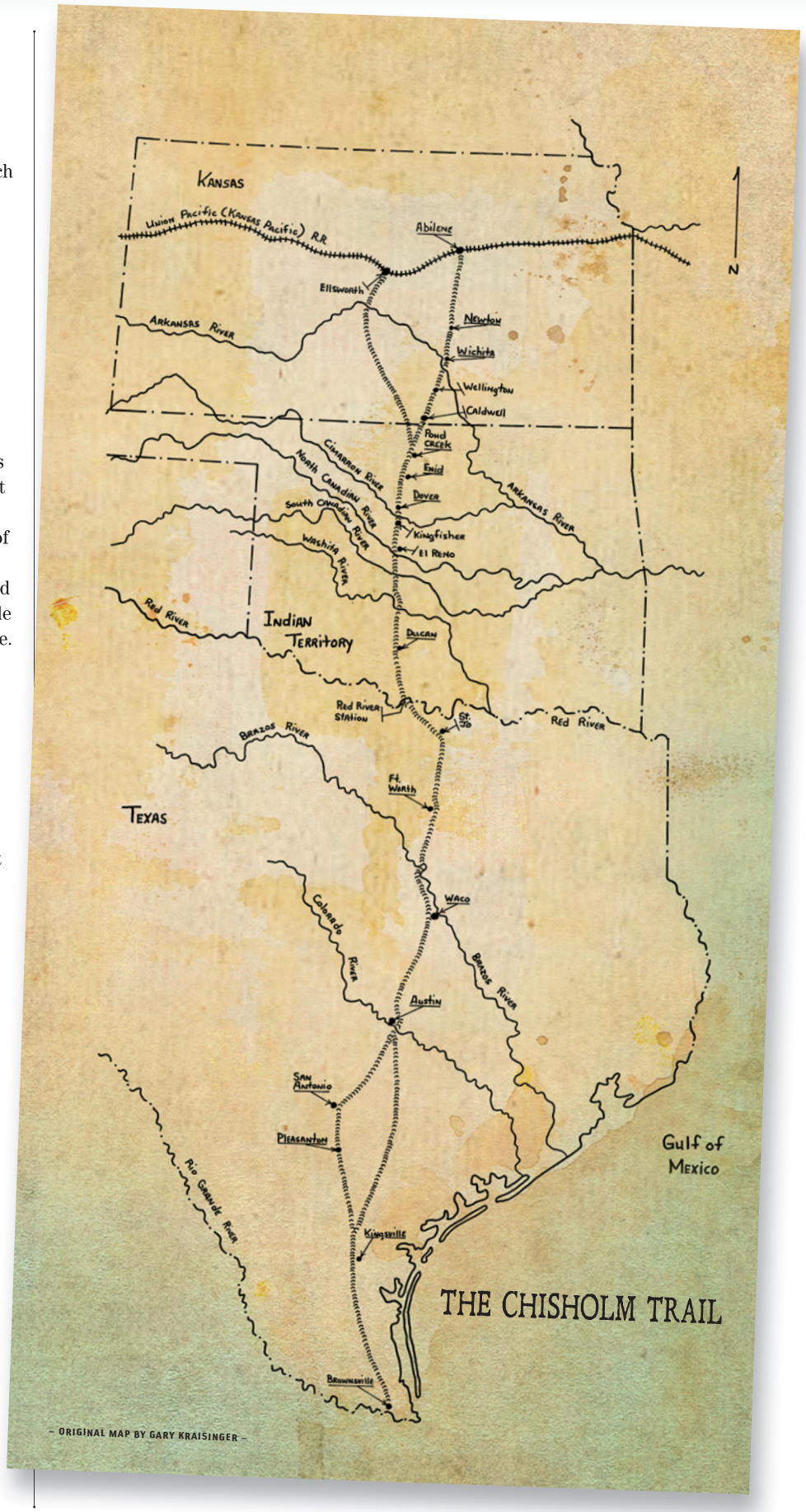
This community on the banks of the Atascosa River was originally settled near the junction of two old Spanish roads. By the Chisholm Trail days, the settlement had grown to 200 persons. Today the town calls itself the "Birthplace of the Cowboy."

DiscoverPleasantonTX.com

Longhorn Museum

Learn about the American cowboy in the area and about the longhorn cattle and mustangs that were part of the trailing industry.

PleasantonTX.org



Austin: The Capital of the New Republic

This capital city that sits on the Chisholm Trail started from the tiny settlement of Waterloo, which in 1839 was selected to be the capital of the new Republic of Texas. Renamed for "the father of Texas," Stephen F. Austin, its grand capitol building was being built in the mid-1880s while cowboys trailed their herds up the trail toward Kansas.

AustinTexas.org

The Governor's Mansion, Driskill Hotel, State Capitol and Bullock Museum

Visit the grounds and sites that were prominent during the trail-driving days including The Governor's Mansion, occupied since 1856,The Driskill Hotel, built by cattleman Jesse L. Driskill in 1886, and The Texas State Capitol Complex. Also, don't miss the Bullock Texas State History Museum's outstanding exhibits and art collection.

TheStoryofTexas.com

Waco: The Trail Splits

At Waco, the trail split. The older established Shawnee Trail toward Missouri and eastern Kansas pointed to Dallas, while the new trail of 1867 toward Abilene, Kansas, headed northwest to Fort Worth. The challenge, however, was the crossing of the Brazos River with a herd of longhorns.

Waco-Texas.com

Old Suspension Bridge

In Indian Springs Park, walk across the old bridge which during the trail days provided a way across the unruly Brazos River for cowboys, their wagons and herds.

Waco-Texas.com

Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum

While in Waco, one must see this outstanding museum with one of the best gun collections in the West.

TexasRanger.org

Fort Worth: An Army Post and Rail Town

In 1849, an army post, Camp Worth, was established along the banks of the Clear Fork of the Trinity River. During the times of the cattle drives, Fort Worth was a rough-and-tumble frontier town of soldiers, frontiersmen and cowboys. The Texas & Pacific built into Forth Worth in 1876 which led to the building of the Union Stockyards in 1887.

360FTWorth.com

Stockyards National Historic District

While in Fort Worth, one must see the most famous district in Texas. Wear your boots and cowboy hat and walk the boardwalk.The longhorns trail through daily.

FortWorthStockyards.com

Saint Jo: Head of the Elm

This oldest town in Montague County, was established in 1856 along the headwaters of the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. Thus it was originally named "Head of Elm." The settlement catered to the cowboys on the trail who were heading for the Red River Station crossing.

StJoChamber.com

Stonewall Saloon

This first permanent structure in Saint Jo was built in 1873 in order to serve trail cowboys a drink and provide rest. Now a museum, stop by for a visit and order a sarsaparilla.

StonewallSaloonMuseum.com



In Indian Springs Park on the west side of the historic 1870 Waco Suspension Bridge over the Brazos River, the city has honored the history of the Shawnee, Chisholm and Western trails with Robert Summers's *Branding the Brazos* bronze statues of a trail boss, longhorns and a vaquero.

– CAROL M. HIGHSMITH, COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

Texas Chisholm Trail 150th Anniversary Events, Celebrations, Exhibits and Attractions

For detailed information on these and additional events and exhibitions in celebration of the sesquicentennial of the Chisholm Trail in Texas, go to ***ChisholmTrail150.org.***

Events & Celebrations: Western Heritage Parade & Cattle Drive, San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo, *San Antonio*, Feb. 7; **American Chuck Wagon Association Cook Off**, *Fredericksburg*, Mar. 30-Apr. 1; **Ride the Trail**, *Saint Jo*, May 6; **65th Annual Nocona Chisholm Trail Round-Up Rodeo**, *Nocona*, June 9-10; **Chisholm Trail Days Event**, The Williamson Museum, *Georgetown*, Oct. 13-14; **Chisholm Trail Gala & Western Art Show**, *Saint Jo*, Oct. 21

Exhibits & Attractions: Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum, *Cuero*; **Echoes in the Dust: Memories from the Cattle Trails**, King Ranch Museum, *Kingsville;* **Hide & Horn on the Chisholm Trail**, Sid Richardson Museum, *Fort Worth,* Jan. 6-May 28; **Tales 'n' Trails Museum**, *Nocona*

Trails, Rails & Tales

Spirit of the Chisholm Trail



Rediscover the Chisholm Trail

The first shipment of Texas longhorns to a hungry nation took place in 1867. Now, 150 years later, Abilene, Kansas, aims to recreate history with its **Trails, Rails & Tales** event.

Celebrate the beginning of the Chisholm Trail and our nation's Western heritage.

Discover the rich, untold history of the Chisholm Trail.

Experience the life of a real cowboy on the trail with demonstrations, re-enactors from Abilene and Kansas' history, and family fun for all ages.

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Featured Exhibit

Chisholm Trail

and the Cowtown that Raised a President

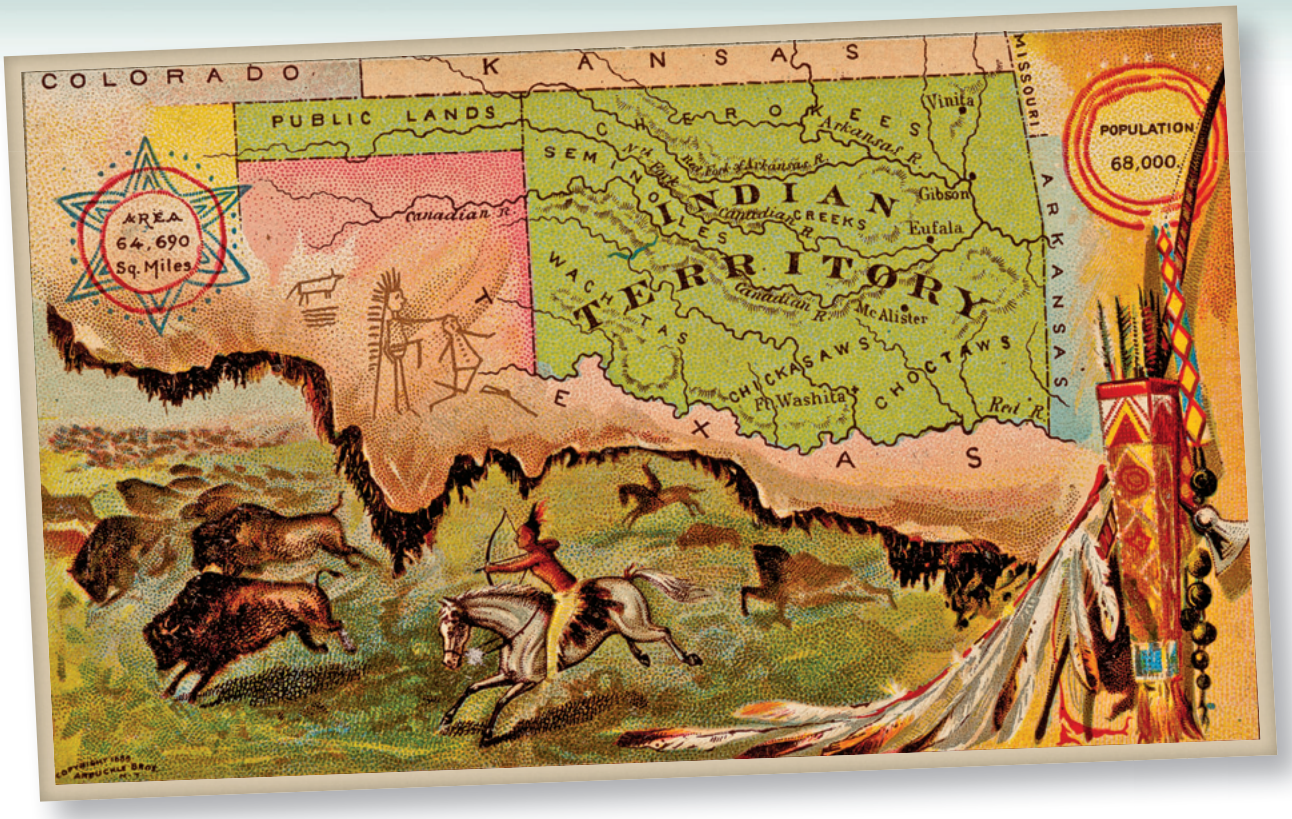


April 2017 - May 2018

"The proudest thing I can claim is that I am from Abilene."

- Dwight D. Eisenhower, June 22, 1945

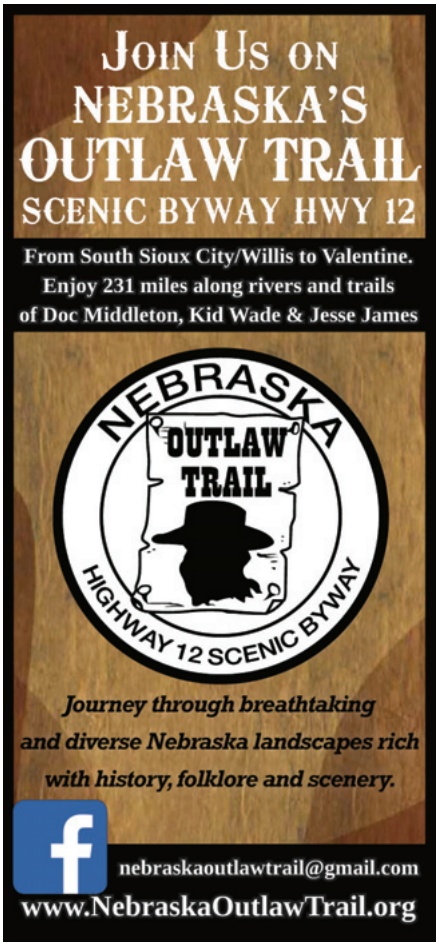
@IkeLibrary



Texas cattlemen followed the Shawnee Cattle Trail, Shawnee–Arbuckle Trail and the Fort Belknap–Fort Arbuckle Military Road across the Red River to cross the Indian Territory to the railheads in the Kansas cowtowns.

– COURTESY NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY –





OKLAHOMA

North of the Red River between Texas and Kansas lay the Indian Nations. Drovers with their herds moved from trading post to trading post across the Indian Territory. Young Texas cowboys felt uneasy after crossing the Red River out of Texas. They were now in the Indian Nations and did not know what to expect. In order for Kansas interests to stay connected with Fort Sill and Fort Reno in Indian Territory, road ranches or stations were built along a pathway between the forts and Caldwell and Arkansas City, Kansas. Passengers in stagecoaches, military personnel and cowboys from off of the nearby Chisholm Trail visited these frontier outposts for a change of horses, for refreshments and for rest and conversation. Today U.S. Highway 81 closely follows this pathway.

"As we went through the country, it kept us busy looking out for Indians and buffalo. One man was always sent ahead to keep the buffaloes out of the herd and scout for Indians, for they were very savage at the time and we never knew when they would attack us. We landed in Wichita, Kansas, some time near the middle of July without serious mishaps or the loss of very many cattle."

—F.M. Polk, 1872 trip,
The Trail Drivers of Texas

Red River Station: A Crossing

The natural crossing of the Red River had been used for decades by the local Indians before a frontier trading post was built. Its owner supplied refreshments and rest to the soldiers on the Fort Belknap-Fort Arbuckle Military Road. When cowboys with their herds started using the crossing, a small community developed. There is nothing there today.



In Kingfisher, Oklahoma, a life-sized bronze statue of trail pioneer Jesse Chisholm astride a horse, wpeace pipe extended in friendship, welcomes visitors to the historic Chisholm Trail town.

– COURTESY OKLAHOMA TOURISM –



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The army played a key role in the trail drives across Indian Territory. The Red River Station Crossing, first used on the Fort Belknap–Fort Arbuckle Trail between 1851 and 1867, was re-established as the primary crossing of the Red River in 1870, when Fort Sill was built on the western frontier of Indian Territory, and Fort Arbuckle was closed.

– COURTESY MARGARET KRAISINGER –

Chickasha

While not founded until 1892, after the Chisholm Trail days, today it's a good place to stop while following the trail north to Kansas. Shannon Springs Park, they say, was a watering spot for the cattle and cowboys on the Chisholm Trail.

VisitChickasha.com

Duncan: Supply Stop at Duncan's Store

The small frontier store and stage station on Cow Creek in the Chickasaw Nation originally served Indians and soldiers on the east-west Fort Sill-Fort Arbuckle Military Road. After drovers started north with their large Texas herds, William Duncan purchased the property, expanded the store and laid out the town of Duncan. Located 44 miles north of the Red River, Duncan's Store became an important stopping point on the Chisholm Trail.

VisitDuncan.org

Chisholm Trail Heritage Center

April 1: Cowboy Camp with historical re-enactors; April 8: Chisholm Trail 150 Celebration Gala; July 25: National Day of the Cowboy; November 17: Campfires, Cattle and Cowboys Gathering.

OnTheChisholmTrail.com

Fort Reno and the Darlington Indian Agency

In 1870, Brinton Darlington established an agency on the newly created Cheyenne and Arapaho Indian Reservation on the north side of the Canadian River. Texas drovers delivered herds to the agency to feed the Indians. In 1874, a military encampment was built near the issue pens. The camp became Fort Reno.

FortReno.org

Ghosts of Fort Reno

For history buffs, a trip to Fort Reno is a must. Visitors will learn about the military involvement in this part of Indian Territory during the



Historic Fort Reno on the south banks of the Canadian River was built in 1874 astride a branch of the Chisholm Trail to serve the needs of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indian Reservation on the north side of the river. Today, visitors to Fort Reno can enjoy several historical re-enactments throughout the year.

– COURTESY OKLAHOMA TOURISM –

CHISHOLM TRAIL CHRONOLOGY

1866: In the first season after the Civil War, Texas drovers trail 260,000 longhorns up the Shawnee Trail to Missouri and Kansas. Border ruffians and fear of Texas cattle-fever create disaster.

1867: In June, Joseph G. McCoy arrives in Abilene, Kansas, and against great odds, establishes a safe cattle-shipping terminal for Texas drovers.

1871: After the great northern cattle movement of 600,000 head, Abilene ceases to be a cowtown. Drovers look to other railheads.

1871: In July, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway extends its rails to Newton. Overnight, the settlement becomes a terminus on the Chisholm Trail.

1871-1872: Texas drovers move the trail west to Ellsworth on the Kansas Pacific or drive to Newton on the AT&SF Railway. Four hundred thousand longhorns are on the trail.

1873: In January, the AT&SF Railway extends its rails to Wichita. Wichita/Delano replaces Newton and becomes the next cowtown at the end of the Chisholm Trail.

1874: In March, the Kansas Legislature passes another Texas Fever cattle quarantine law, closing eastern Kansas rail service to Texas drovers and herds, effective after the 1875 season.

1875: Texas trail drivers head into Ellsworth, Wichita and other minor cattle towns in eastern Kansas for the last time.

1880: In 1879, Caldwell, on the Kansas-Indian Territory border, receives rails and grows overnight from a trading-post town to a major cattle town.

1881: Although Caldwell sits in quarantined eastern Kansas, its cattle pens are in the Indian Territory. Caldwell revives the Chisholm Trail. Again cowboy outfits head up the Chisholm Trail to the Kansas border.

1889: On April 22, 1889, the Unassigned Lands in Oklahoma Territory are opened up to settlers in the Land Rush. It marks the end of the Chisholm Trail.





Oklahoma Chisholm Trail 150th Anniversary Events, Celebrations, Exhibits & Attractions

For detailed information on these and additional events and exhibitions in celebration of the sesquicentennial of the Chisholm Trail in Oklahoma, go to ***ChisholmTrail150.org.***

Events & Celebrations: Chisholm Trail and Crawfish Festival, Kirkpatrick Family Farm, *Yukon*, June 2-3; **National Day of the Cowboy**, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, *Oklahoma City*, July 22; **National Day of the Cowboy**, Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, *Duncan*, July 22

Exhibits & Attractions: Up The Chisholm Trail, Grady County Museum, *Chickasha*; **The Wire that Changed the Prairie,** Grady County Museum, *Chickasha*, Sept. 30; **Chisholm Trail Special Display**, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, *Oklahoma City*, July 22-Oct. 1; **Oklahoma History Center**, *Oklahoma City*; **Ryan Main Street Murals & Brick Roads**, *Ryan*

Chisholm Trail era. We especially recommend each month's third Saturday night cemetery tour when ghosts of Fort Reno tell their stories.

FortReno.org
Call for reservations: 405-262-3987.

Kingfisher

King Fisher Stage Station, a frontier abode located on Kingfisher Creek in the Unassigned Lands of Indian Territory, catered to the Chisholm Trail cowboys.

Kingfisher.org

Chisholm Trail Museum

Located directly on the trade route of the Chisholm Trail, this museum boasts a frontier village and the Gov. Abraham J. Seay's mansion. Learn more about the Chisholm Trail at this outstanding museum.

CTOKMuseum.org

Dover

In 1872, William Lee and Albert Reynolds located the Red Fork Ranch & Stage Station trading post north of the crossing of the Cimarron River. Because in 1872 the river was known as the Red Fork of the Arkansas River, the owners named their post Red Fork. The Jesse Chisholm Wagon Road and the Abilene (Chisholm) Trail converged just south of the Cimarron River crossing.

VisitOKC.com

North Enid

Skeleton Ranch Stage Station, a frontier post on Skeleton Creek, provided refreshment and rest.

VisitEnid.org

The Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center

The center in Enid will host an official Chisholm Trail 150 Kickoff Event on April 1, 2017. Its Summer Chautauqua, scheduled for June 13-17, is themed The Great West: Cowboy & Cattle Trails.

CSRHC.org





Enterprising Illinois cattle trader Joseph G. McCoy advertised his Abilene stockyards and Drovers Cottage in Texas newspapers (inset) to attract cattlemen and their herds to the Kansas railhead.

– PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/ADVERTISEMENT COURTESY MARGARET KRAISINGER –

Sewell Stockade, Pond Creek Ranch, Grant County, OK

In the late 1860s, the Sewell Stockade was built on the crossroads of the Chisholm Trail and the Black Dog Osage Indian Trail. The spot later became known as Pond Creek Ranch.

September Chisholm Trail Cattle Drive, Pond Creek to Caldwell

A genuine longhorn drive by cowboys will commence at Pond Creek and continue to Caldwell, Kansas, camping along the way. For exact dates and details, check the official website.

ChisholmTrail150.org

KANSAS

After the Civil War, Kansas was the destination for herds of Texas longhorns. Following the disappointing 1866 season, Texas cattle drovers faced an uncertain future. The cattle-trailing industry had faltered. In June of 1867, 29-year-old Joseph G. McCoy represented the McCoy Brothers, an Illinois stock-shipping firm, and stepped off the Union Pacific Eastern Division train. Knowing the dire situation, he was determined to locate a cattle town somewhere along the last fifty miles of freshly laid tracks. He chose Abilene.

"June, I think it was, we passed the then infant town of Wichita and Newton and gained the vicinity of Abilene, Kansas.…I got back to Newton on the morning after the famous night gunfight among cowmen, officers, and gamblers."

—1871 trip, Branch Isbell, *The Trail Drivers of Texas*





The city of Wichita celebrates its historic ties to the Texas cattle trade and the Chisholm Trail at the Old Cowtown Museum, with trail drives down the main street of the living history center.

– COURTESY KANSAS TOURISM –

Caldwell: The Border Queen

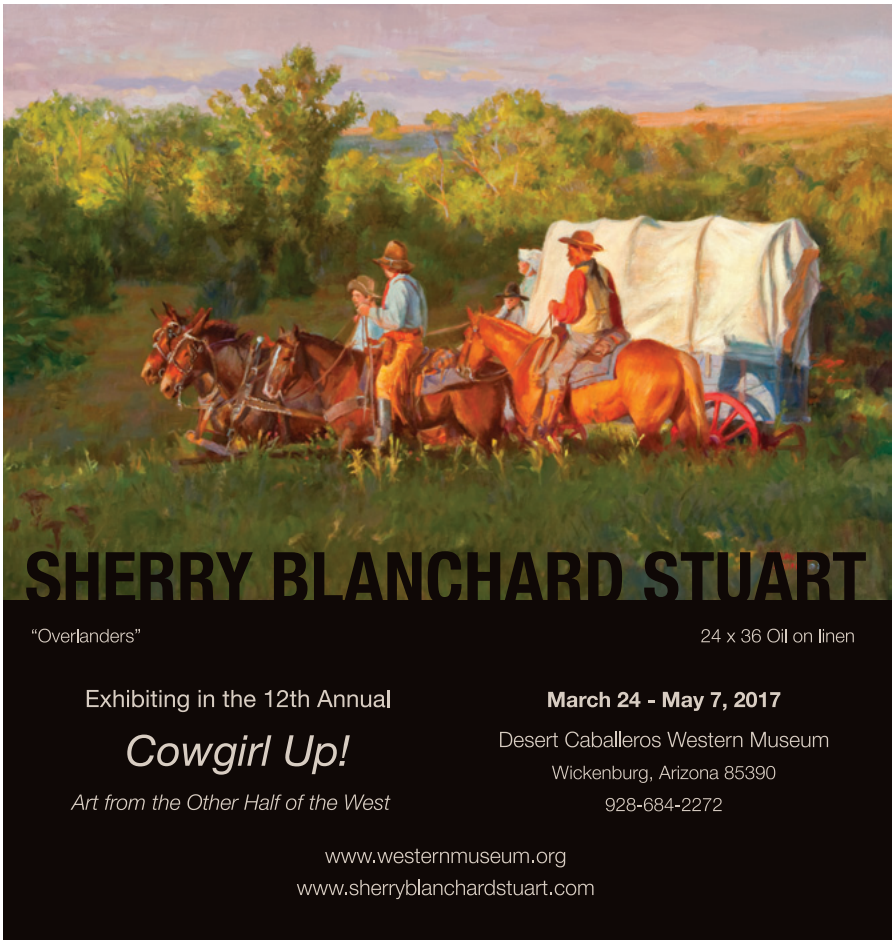
This border town that sits one mile north of the Indian Territory (Oklahoma) line, was established astride the then new Chisholm Trail in 1871. Because of the 1875 Kansas cattle quarantine, the eastern Kansas railheads were shut down, until the AT&SF Railway reached Caldwell in 1880. The Border Queen opened up the Chisholm Trail again in Indian Territory and became one of the most important railheads for cattle until the unassigned lands south of Caldwell opened up in the famous Land Run of 1889.

CaldwellKansas.com

Chisholm Trail Festival

Caldwell's three-day event from May 5-7, will feature various activities in celebration of the Chisholm Trail. Be sure to visit the Opera House shows, each of the three museums and view the 11 historic markers throughout town.

CaldwellHistoricSociety.org





Wellington

Surveyed and developed in 1871-'72 during the peak of the Chisholm Trail era, Wellington, located seven miles east of the trail, traded with the drovers and became part of the trail's history.

ChisholmTrailMuseum.us



In 1872, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway reached Newton, Kansas, and soon the Texas range bosses were driving hundreds of thousands of longhorns to the frontier town quickly becoming known as "bloody and lawless—the wickedest city in the West."

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

Ellsworth and Newton: The Wickedest and Most Violent

In 1871, cowboys abandoned Abilene and turned their herds to Ellsworth or Newton. To reach Ellsworth, drovers created a more westerly branch starting at Pond Creek Station. Visit both towns' various events to learn why each one claims to have been the most wicked and bloody cattle town in Kansas. Oh, the tales each one can tell!

ChisholmTrail150.com

Delano/Wichita: Cowtown

Delano sprang up during the Chisholm Trail days as a neighborhood on the other side of the river from respected Wichita folks. Here trail-weary cowboys could take their rest and recreation in the many saloons and brothels.

Longhorns were trailed down Douglas Street on the Wichita side of the river to the holding pens. Learn more about this historically recognized neighborhood and the cattle town with its many activities throughout the year.





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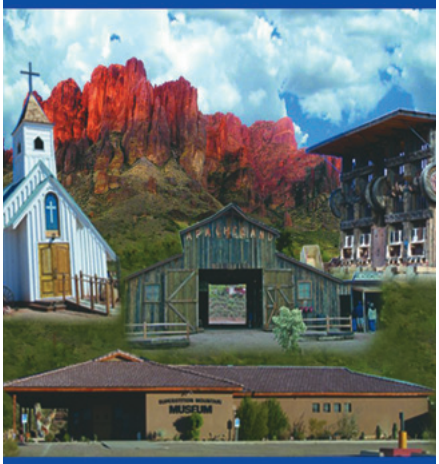


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Abilene will host Trails, Rails and Tales, a 150th anniversary celebration of the Chisholm Trail, September 1–3, 2017, including a parade of longhorns through the city to Old Abilene Town.

– COURTESY PAUL M. LORD –

Kansas Chisholm Trail 150th Anniversary Events, Celebrations, Exhibits and Attractions

For detailed information on these and additional events and exhibitions in celebration of the sesquicentennial of the Chisholm Trail in Kansas, go to ***ChisholmTrail150.org.***

Events & Celebrations: Kansas Day & Chisholm Trail Cowboys, *North Newton*, Jan. 28; **Wichita Cattle Pens on Commerce**, *Wichita*, Apr. 22; **Wellington Chisholm Trail BBQ Cook Off**, *Wellington*, Apr. 28-29; **Chisholm Trail Festival,** *Caldwell*, May 5-7; **Cowboy Art Exhibit, Wichita Art Museum**, *Wichita*, June 5-23; **Wichita River Festival**, *Wichita*, June 3-10; **Symphony in the Flint Hills Celebrates the Chisholm Trail**, *Junction City*, June 10; **Trails, Rails and Tales 2017**, *Abilene*, Sept. 1-3; **September Chisholm Trail Cattle Drive**, *Pond Creek, OK to Caldwell, KS*, Sept. 12-16

Exhibits & Attractions: Dickinson County Heritage Center, *Abilene*; **Old Abilene Town & Hitching Post Restaurant**, *Abilene*; **Chisholm Trail Traveling Exhibit**, Caldwell Opera House, *Caldwell*, Oct. 19-Dec. 12; **Caldwell's Border Queen Museum**, *Caldwell*; **Hodgden House Museum Complex**, *Ellsworth*; **Wellington Chisholm Trail Museum**, *Wellington*; **Wichita Old Cowtown Museum**, *Wichita*; **History of Jesse Chisholm Exhibit**, Mid-American All-Indian Center, *Wichita*, Oct. 1-Dec. 31

Delano Fall Fair: Celebrating the Chisholm Trail

From October 6-8, 2017, Delano will come alive with many family activities to celebrate the trail that brought the Texas cowboys into its neighborhood. Check the website for times and places for the cowboy parade, gunfights, re-enactments, food and games. "Come in period dress," they suggest.

HistoricDelano.com

Abilene: Cattle Capital of the World

Joseph McCoy described Abilene in the summer of 1867 as "a very small dead place consisting of about one dozen log huts." Over the next three months, against all odds, he created a cattle terminal that became like no other before its time. Abilene will once again become the Cattle Capital of the World throughout 2017 with many events. Kicking off the celebration year on April 1, the town will host a symposium at the Eisenhower Presidential Museum, and on Labor Day Weekend its Trails, Rails and Tales 2017 event will take place.

AbileneKansas.org

Award-winning Kansas authors **Margaret and Gary Kraisinger** have recently published their third book on Texas cattle trails, *The Shawnee-Arbuckle Trail, 1867-1870, the Predecessor to the Chisholm Trail to Abilene.*

Dodge City
Queen of the Western Trail



In March 1874, the Kansas Legislature moved the state cattle quarantine west, which prevented the state's eastern cattle towns from accepting Texas longhorns after the 1875 season. Kansas's Spanish Fever laws did not impede the Texans from driving their cattle north to market, they just changed their route to the new AT&SF railhead in Dodge City. The Lone Star cattlemen drove their longhorns up the Texas portion of the Chisholm Trail to the Red Fork Ranch and stage stop on the Cimarron River in Indian Territory, and then the drovers blazed a pathway along the Cimarron River's north bank to Dodge City, a hub of the waning buffalo hide trade. This route became a feeder route to Capt. John T. Lytle's Western Trail that he had established a year before.

The Cimarron Cut-off was not the only feeder route from the Chisholm into the Western Trail south of Dodge City. Drovers with their herds also fed into the Western Trail via a North Canadian River feeder route.

These side trails across the Indian Territory ceased to be used when the border town of Caldwell received the AT&SF in 1880. The Chisholm Trail was revived through Indian Territory, and drovers once again trailed up the old pathway to the Kansas border.

From 1880 to 1885, both the Chisholm Trail and Western Trail existed in Indian Territory, but only the Western Trail via Dodge City traversed Kansas and beyond.

—M.K. and G.K.





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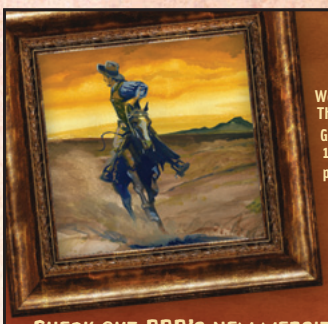
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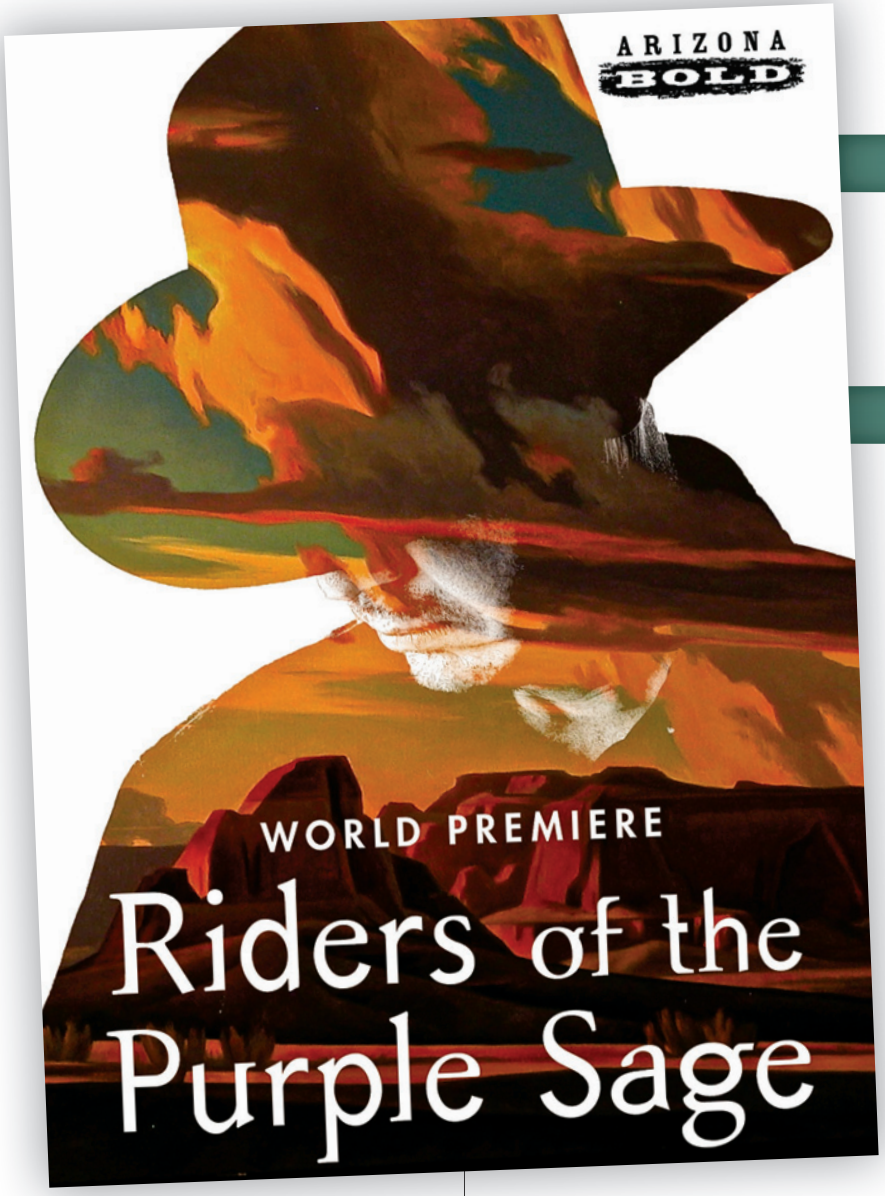


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602-266-7464 • *AZOpera.org*

RIDERS OF THE PURPLE SAGE BRUNCH BY THE ZANE GREY'S WEST SOCIETY

Tempe, AZ, March 4: Chow down with the Zane Grey's West Society and learn more about the Western author who inspired Arizona Opera's *Riders of the Purple Sage*.
925-699-0698 • *ZGWS.org*



M.S. FRANCO ART EXHIBIT

Kerrville, TX, March 1-31: This bronze bust of Comanche leader Quanah Parker is among the featured artworks by Manuel S. Franco.
830-896-2553 • *MuseumOfWesternArt.com*

ADVENTURE

SKI APACHE BIG MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE

Ruidoso, NM, March 3-4: The Mescalero tribe challenges skiers and snowboarders in a vertical race up Sierra Blanca, home of Apache god Ussen.
575-464-3600 • *SkiApache.com*

CRANE WATCH FESTIVAL

Kearney, NE, March 16-19: More than 500,000 Sandhill Cranes migrate to the Platte River Valley before resuming their northward migration.
800-652-9435 • *VisitKearney.org*

DREAMLAND CEMETERY TOUR

Canyon, TX, March 25: A black cowboy who died during a cattle drive in 1891 is among the folks you'll learn about in this cemetery history tour.
806-651-2244 • *PanhandlePlains.org*

ARIZONA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL & ARTISAN MARKETPLACE

Gold Canyon, AZ, Weekends through April 2: Old West time travelers take in Medieval arts and crafts, jousting tournaments and an outdoor circus.
520-463-2600 • *RoyalFaires.com*

ART SHOWS

MASTERS OF THE AMERICAN WEST

Los Angeles, CA, Closes March 26: Exhibits stylistically and thematically diverse Western artworks by 75 nationally recognized artists.
323-667-2000 • *TheAutry.org*

RIO GRANDE ARTS & CRAFTS FEST

Albuquerque, NM, March 10-12: Shop for leather, pottery, jewelry and woodwork in this festival offering a colorful variety of works in all mediums.
505-292-7457 • *RioGrandeFestivals.com*

WYOMING STATE WINTER FAIR & TRADE SHOW

Lander, WY, March 10-11: Celebrating its 50th anniversary, the fair and trade show offer a grand selection of arts & crafts by regional artists.
307-332-4011 • *WyomingStateWinterFair.org*

LLANO ART STUDIO TOUR

Llano, TX, March 25: Visit with 20 Western and American Indian artists as they work on a wide range of mediums in their creative workspace.
325-247-5354 • *LlanoArtStudioTour.Yolasite.com*

FRONTIER FARE FEST

NATIONAL FIERY FOODS AND BBQ SHOW

Albuquerque, NM, March 3-5: Fill your tummies from 100 booths of spicy foods and sauces, along with craft beer tastings and cooking demos.
505-796-7500 • *FieryFoodShow.com*

HERITAGE FESTIVALS

MULE DAY

Columbia, TN, March 2-April 2: Relish in a southern Tennessee tradition, honoring mule heritage with a parade, mule shows and live music.
931-381-9557 • *MuleDay.com*



COWBOY DAYS

Las Cruces, NM, March 4-5: Stir up your inner cowgirl and cowboy in this family-friendly event offering gunfight re-enactments, stagecoach and horseback rides, and frontier fare.
575-522-4100
NMFarmAndRanchMuseum.org

OKLAHOMA YOUTH EXPO

Oklahoma City, OK, March 7-17: More than 7,000 youth, from all of Oklahoma's 77 counties, show off their livestock talents.
405-235-0404 • *OKYouthExpo.com*

FRONTIER LADIES LIVING HISTORY CONFERENCE

San Angelo, TX, March 10-12: Fort Concho hosts this living history workshop offering classes in Victorian leisure, clothing and crafts.
325-481-2646 • *FortConcho.com*

TUCSON FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

Tucson, AZ, March 11-12: Join Old West authors and historians at the University of Arizona for panel discussions and book signings.
TucsonFestivalOfBooks.org

KAMLOOPS COWBOY FESTIVAL

Kamloops, BC, Canada, March 16-19: Cowboy heritage gets gritty at this BC Cowboy Heritage Society fair offering art, gear and dinner theatre.
888-763-2221 • *BCCHS.com*

RE-ENACTMENTS

FALL OF THE ALAMO

San Antonio, TX, March 4: Watch the 1836 Battle of the Alamo unfold in a bold portrayal by the Texas Army and living history interpreters.
TexasArmy.org

IMPRISONED ON THE FRONTIER

Fort McKavett, TX, March 16-19: Re-enacts the imprisonment of federal soldiers at Fort McKavett during the first winter of the Civil War, 1861-62.
325-396-2358 • *THC.Texas.gov*



BRANDING THE AMERICAN WEST

Orange, TX, Opens March 11: Explore the magically lit landscapes and characters that shaped Hollywood's mythology of the Wild West during the first half of the 20th century.
409-886-2787 • *StarkMuseum.org*

– ARTWORK SHOWN: *AT THE SAME TIME HAHN PULLED HIS GUN AND SHOT HIM THROUGH THE MIDDLE*, OIL, 1906, BY NEWELL CONVERS WYETH –

BILLY THE KID BREAKOUT SHOW

San Elizario, TX, March 19: In front of the only jail Billy the Kid broke into, you can watch the outlaw's legendary 1876 jail rescue of a pal.
915-851-0093 • *SanElizarioHistoricDistrict.org*



Western Roundup
FOR MARCH 2017



WESTERN SPIRIT ART SHOW AND SALE
Cheyenne, WY, March 4- April 16: Dawn Normali's *Bear Gone Fishing* is among the Western art on exhibit by more than 100 artists.
307-778-7290 • *OldWestMuseum.org*

RODEO

WINNEMUCCA RANCH HAND RODEO
Winnemucca, NV, March 1-5: Ranch hands compete in rodeo events, plus you can see cow dog trials, horse and bull sales, and a trade show.
775-623-2220 • *RanchRodeoNV.com*

RODEO GRAND ISLAND
Grand Island, NE, March 2-4: Trick roper Loop Rawlins fires up the arena crowd as rodeo superstars compete in tough rodeo events.
800-745-3000 • *HeartlandEventsCenter.com*

CINCH TIMED EVENT CHAMPIONSHIP
Edmond, OK, March 3-5: The best all-around timed-event hands in professional rodeo compete at the Lazy E Arena in five rodeo timed events.
800-595-7433 • *VisitEdmondOK.com*

NORTH DAKOTA WINTER SHOW PRCA RODEO
Valley City, ND March 4-11: Commemorating 80 years, this PRCA rodeo celebrates with concerts, livestock shows and an old-time tractor pull.
701-845-1401 • *NorthDakotaWinterShow.com*

WYOMING STATE WINTER FAIR BULL RIDING & HORSE SHOW
Lander, WY, March 4-5: Tough regional contenders compete in bull riding and in a horse show during the winter fair's 50th anniversary celebration.
307-332-4011 • *WyomingStateWinterFair.org*

HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO
Houston, TX, March 7-26: Drink milk punch, show off your fave boots, hear Willie Nelson, Alicia Keys and others croon and cheer on rodeo stars at the world's largest livestock show and rodeo.
832-667-1000 • *RodeoHouston.com*

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE PRCA RODEO
Kalispell, MT, March 17-18: Top rodeo contestants from around the country compete to win big in Montana's Rocky Mountain environs.
406-755-5366 • *MajesticValleyArena.com*



COWGIRL UP! EXHIBITION & SALE
Wickenburg, AZ, March 24-26: Opening gala at the Desert Caballeros Western Museum kicks off the invitational exhibit of Western art by women.
928-684-2272 • *WesternMuseum.org*

PBR BUILT FORD TOUGH SERIES
Sioux Falls, SD, March 31- April 2: See some tough and turbulent action as bull riders fight for the big money in South Dakota's largest city.
605-367-7288
DennySanfordPremierCenter.com

TWMag.com:
View Western events on our website.







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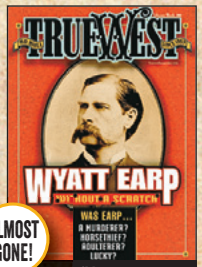
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Jan-2000
Wild Bill



Jan-2001
Topless Gunfighter



Feb/Mar-2001
Wyatt Earp



Aug/Sep-2001
Wild Bill



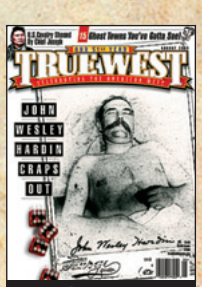
Aug/Sep-2002
Defeat of Jesse James



Jul-2003
Doc & Wyatt



Feb-Mar-2003
Guns that won the West



Aug-2004
John Wesley Hardin



Jan-2003
Historical Photos



Dec-2006
Buffalo Gals & Guys



Oct-2006
Tombstone/125th OK Corral



Jan-2007
Cowboys ae indians



Nov/Dec-2008
Mickey Free



Sep-2009
500 Yrs Before Cowboys



Nov/Dec-2010
Black Warriors of the West



Apr-2011
True Grit/Bridges & Wayne



Aug-2012
Butch and Sundance



Aug-2013
Tombstone-The Walk Down



Dec-2014
Women Who Left Their Mark



Dec-15
First Mountain Man



Apr-2016
Lonesome Dove

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

2015
- ☐ Jan: 100 Historical Am. Indian Photos
- ☐ Feb: Mountain Man-First Survivalists
- ☐ Mar: Mickey Free/Severed Heads
- ☐ Apr: Jack Stilwell-Forgotten Scout
- ☐ May: Armed to Survive
- ☐ Jun: Billy the Kid-Special Report
- ☐ Jul: 50 Historical Photos-Panco Villa
- ☐ Aug: Luke Short-Dodge City War
- ☐ Sep: Crossing America-Lewis & Clark
- ☐ Oct: Wyatt Earp in Hollywood
- ☐ Nov: 22 Guns that Won the West
- ☐ Dec: The First Mountain Man

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TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER



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

Rare Duster Photo

Why did pioneers wear dusters?

Bill Dunn
High River, Alberta, Canada

Full-length canvas or linen dusters were pretty common, starting in the mid-1800s, as protection from trail dust. This was especially true for men or women who might be wearing a suit or nice clothes for a trip into town. For protection from rain, dusters could also be oil cloth or waxed cotton.

Did the true "Gateway to the West" start in St. Louis or Independence, Missouri?

Chris Graefser
St. Peters, Missouri

That's a good question and needs a little 'splainin'.

For Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's 1804-06 expedition, the gateway was Boone's Settlement in Missouri, along the Missouri River, just west of St. Louis. The capricious river washed out the town in 1828. Soon after, Westport Landing became the new starting point.

Then Independence, Missouri, became the farthest point west on the Missouri River where cargo ships and steamboats could travel. It was the jumping-off point for the Santa Fe, California and Oregon Trails.

Kansas City, founded in 1850 on the western border at the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri Rivers, eventually outgrew Independence.



This rare image of a stage robbery in action, on August 15, 1900, shows a robber clad in a duster, with gun in hand, as the male passengers line up in front of him. Milwaukee newspaper editor Anton Veith convinced the robber to let him photograph the scene.

– ALL PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

Is the Time-Life photo of the James Gang authentic? I have found a photo that has all these men in it.

Robert Friedel
Beaufort, Missouri

Unfortunately, no. The photo that appears in Time-Life's Old West series volume *The Gunfighters* is a fake. I ran the details you provided of your photo by some of our Old West photo experts, Robert G. McCubbin and John Boessenecker, and they confirm that this is also not a photo of Jesse James and his outlaw gang. Even if the first photo was authentic, your photo would need a chain of custody linked to the James to provide clear provenance before being deemed authentic. Sorry to be the bearer of bad news.





Unfortunately, not all the photos included in Time-Life's Old West book series (1973-80) were authenticated. *The Gunfighters* volume claimed the photo at right showed Jesse James with his outlaw gang. Using this image as a guide, reader Robert Friedel was hoping his photo (detail as inset) was of the James Gang too.

– TIME-LIFE PHOTO PUBLISHED IN TIME-LIFE OLD WEST SERIES VOLUME *THE GUNFIGHTERS*; FRIEDEL PHOTO COURTESY ROBERT FRIEDEL –



Even in his 60s, when Joseph Rutherford Walker was photographed by Mathew Brady, circa 1860, the Mountain Man still had plenty of adventure left in him.

Who was Joseph Walker?

Jimmy Walker
Tullahoma, Tennessee

Joseph Rutherford Walker was one of America's greatest Mountain Men, scouts and trailblazers. Artist Alfred Jacob Miller used Walker as a model for some of his Old West paintings.

Born in Tennessee on December 13, 1798, Walker first headed down the Santa Fe Trail to New Mexico Territory when he was 22, trapping the beaver streams of the Southwest.

In 1832, he accompanied Benjamin Bonneville into Wyoming. The next year, Walker led a winter expedition over the daunting Sierra Nevada range, becoming the first to accomplish that feat and the first white person to see what became Yosemite National Park.

Around 1836, he married a Shoshone girl, who would bear him several children. They spent the winter of 1837 trapping in central Arizona Territory along the Mogollon Rim.

During the 1840s, he and Kit Carson scouted on two of John C. Frémont's historic expeditions to California.

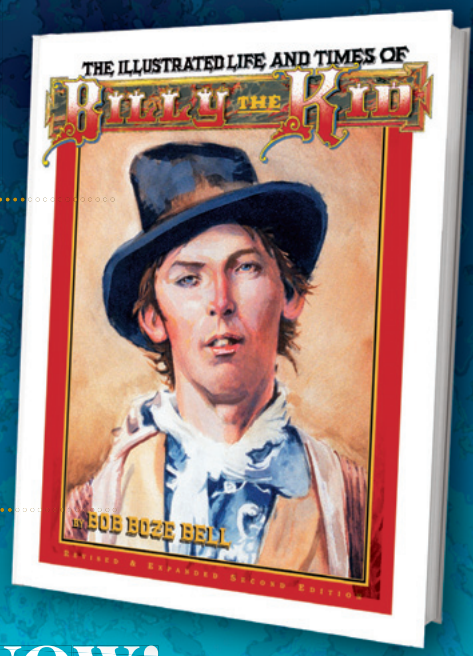
In 1862-63, in his mid-60s, Walker led his final expedition: a party of gold seekers to the rugged and remote mountains of central Arizona Territory. They found placer gold in the streambeds at the headwaters of the Hassayampa River in the Bradshaw Mountains. One tributary, Lynx Creek, became the richest streambed in Arizona history.

In 1867, Walker returned to California, where he died on October 27, 1876. For more information, I recommend you read Bil Gilbert's excellent biography, *Westering Man: The Life of Joseph Walker.*

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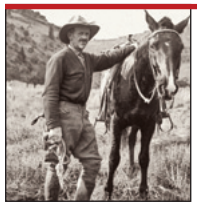
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What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME



Terry Bolinger has been guided to Zane Grey locations by Harvey Leake, the great-grandson of John Wetherill. A Kayenta trader in Arizona's Navajo Country, Wetherill (left) guided the famous author to Rainbow Bridge.



TERRY BOLINGER, PRESIDENT OF THE ZANE GREY'S WEST SOCIETY

The president and long-time member of the Zane Grey's West Society, Terry Bolinger owns and runs a design and manufacturing company in the home automation industry when he's not hiking the locations that Zane Grey wrote about (Bolinger is shown at Grey's fishing camp on the North Umpqua River in Oregon). He and his wife, who have two sons and one granddaughter, live in Erie, Colorado. Visit *ZGWS.org* to join Zane Grey's West Society and help preserve the Western writer's legacy.

The first Zane Grey book I read was *The Heritage of the Desert*, a wonderful novel with most of the action taking place at or around Lee's Ferry on the Colorado River downstream from the current Lake Powell. It set the stage for the tremendous success of *Riders of the Purple Sage*, which came two years later.

Zane Grey's writing takes me to places I want to see, and his descriptions of the landscape and locales are beyond compare. If you wonder if the places in Grey's novels are real, mostly they are. The same places make for great adventures, as some aren't easy to reach, such as the Glass Mountains or his cabin along the Rogue River in Oregon, which got added to the National Register of Historic Places last year.

Most people don't know that Grey was not only a best selling author, but also a world-class fisherman. Grey held 14 world fishing records. Most, if not all of these, have been eclipsed since then, but Grey is as well known in big game fishing circles as he is by Western fiction fans.

I got interested in Grey as a young boy growing up in Texas, when my mother brought home his books from the library. I lost interest in him during high school and college. When I got married after college, my wife, Bobbie, and I went to an antique show in Colorado and came across a dealer with several Grey books. I've been hooked ever since.

My favorite Grey book is *The Rainbow Trail*, the sequel to *Riders of the Purple Sage;* it picks up where *Riders* ends. Grey didn't go to Rainbow Bridge until 1913, a year after *Riders* was published, and *The Rainbow Trail* draws on his experiences for the locations in the novel. While *Riders* gets all the rave reviews, I feel the sequel is better than the original. I have seen two copies of *The Rainbow Trail*, inscribed by Grey: "This is my favorite book."

The last good Western I saw was *Open Range.* I'm a big Kevin Costner fan. Loved *Dances With Wolves* and *Silverado.* He also made a couple of very good baseball movies!

My favorite place in the West, well two places, are: Trappers Lake and the Rainbow Trail. I hate to mention Trappers Lake, as it doesn't have a lot of visitors, and I'd rather not share it with too many people, but it's a beautiful high country lake in northwest Colorado in the Flat Tops Wilderness area. The Rainbow Trail area in Arizona is bordered by the Colorado River and Lake Powell on the west, the San Juan River on the north and Navajo Mountain on the southeast. This area is on the Navajo reservation and is extremely wild and difficult to reach, but exceptionally beautiful high country desert.

The most influential historian I ever met was Charles Pfeiffer. He was a founding member of the Zane Grey's West Society and a professor at Columbia College in South Carolina. He had traveled all over the West, researching the Santa Fe Trail and Zane Grey, and could tell you where even obscure events took place.

***Wildfire* and *Wild Horse Mesa* fans** may want to join me and the Zane Grey's West Society at our annual convention this June, in Kanab, Utah. We'll visit sites where films based on Grey's novels were shot and room at the Parry Lodge where the stars stayed.

The *Riders* opera will be a fantastic experience. I've had the pleasure of getting to know composer Craig Bohmler and documentary maker Kristin Atwell Ford. And, to be a bit selfish, I'm extremely excited to get this exposure for my favorite author.

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