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Jack Dalton

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Charles Erskine Scott Wood

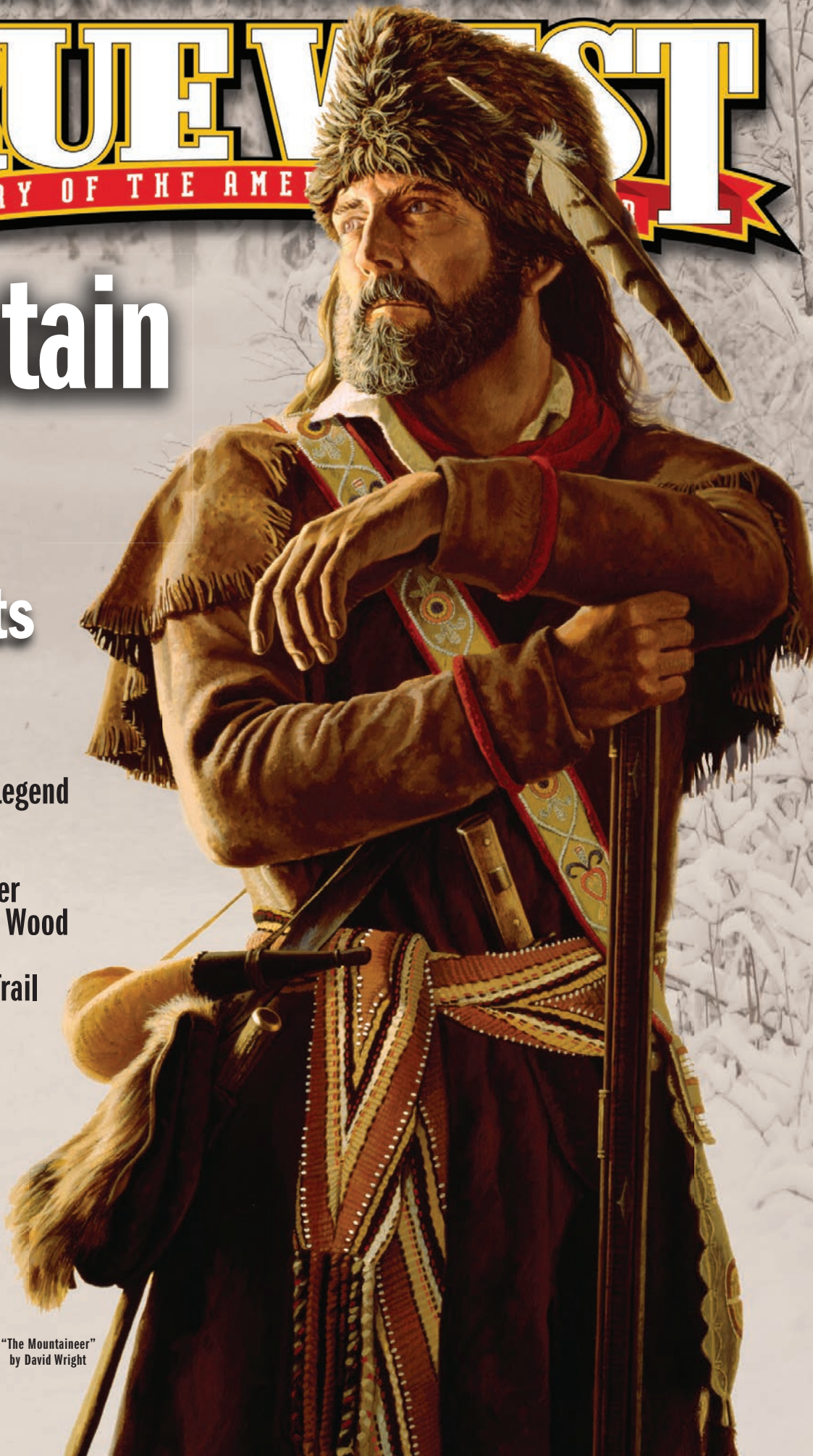
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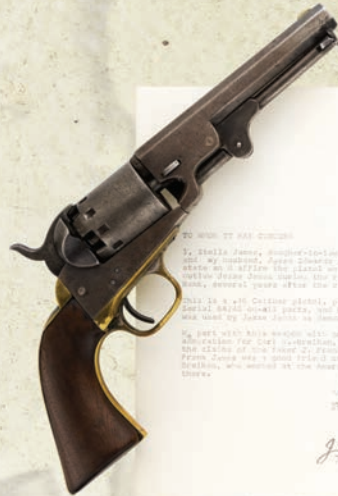
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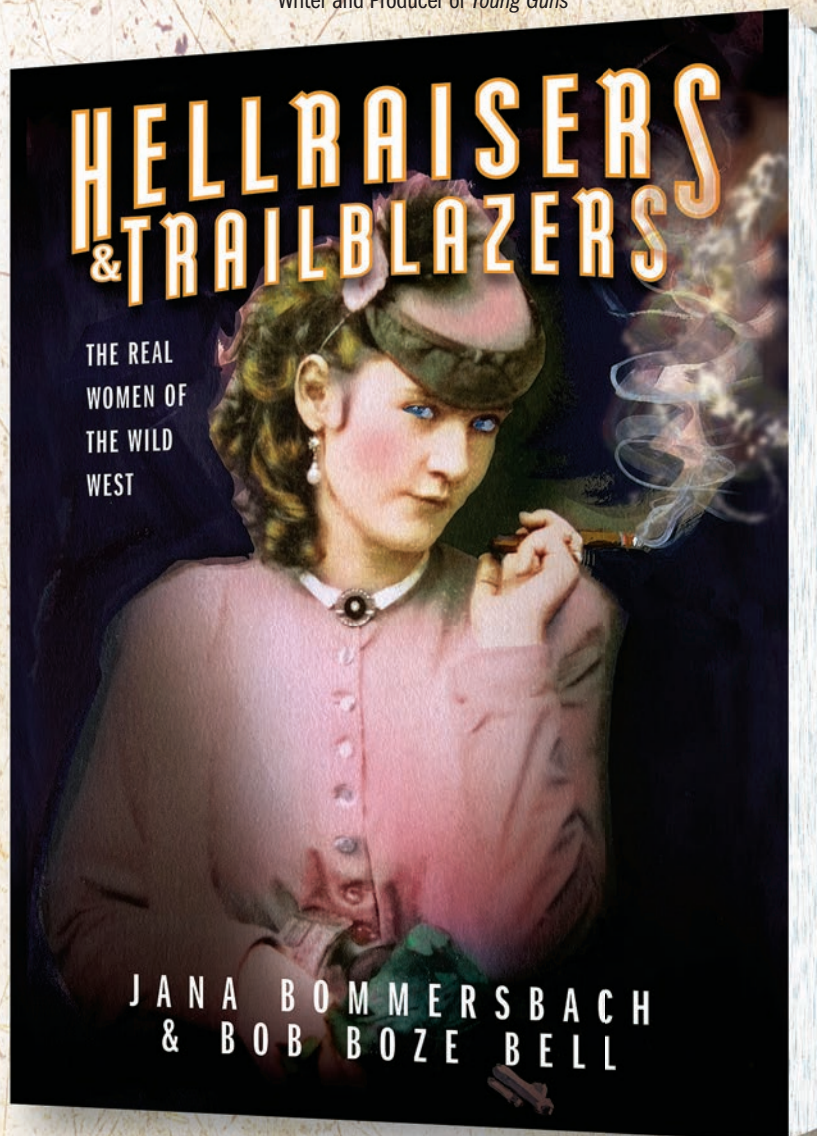
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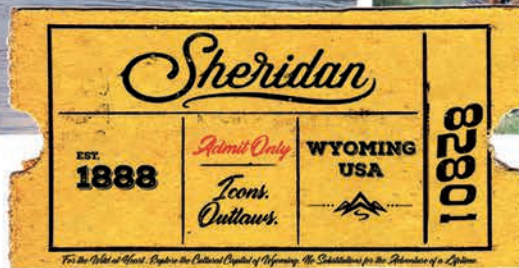


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OPENING SHOT

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SAFE CROSSING

The Little Colorado River starts high on the slopes of Mount Baldy in the White Mountains of Eastern Arizona and flows north across the Colorado Plateau and Painted Desert to its confluence with the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon. Native peoples of Northern Arizona and Eastern New Mexico, including the Navajos (above) have sustained their cultures for time immemorial on the life-giving waters of the 338-mile river.

Courtesy USC Digital Library





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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20 SURVIVING WINTER

Artist David Wright's decades of field research in all seasons reveal the beauty of the coldest season and the tenacity of the mountain men who made the wilderness their home year-round.

—By The Editors of True West

26 THE ACCIDENTAL EXPLORER

From the Alaskan Arctic to the Bearpaw Battlefield in Montana, Charles Erskine Scott Wood was a man of action and adventure.

—By Mike Coppock

32 THE LEGENDARY JACK DALTON

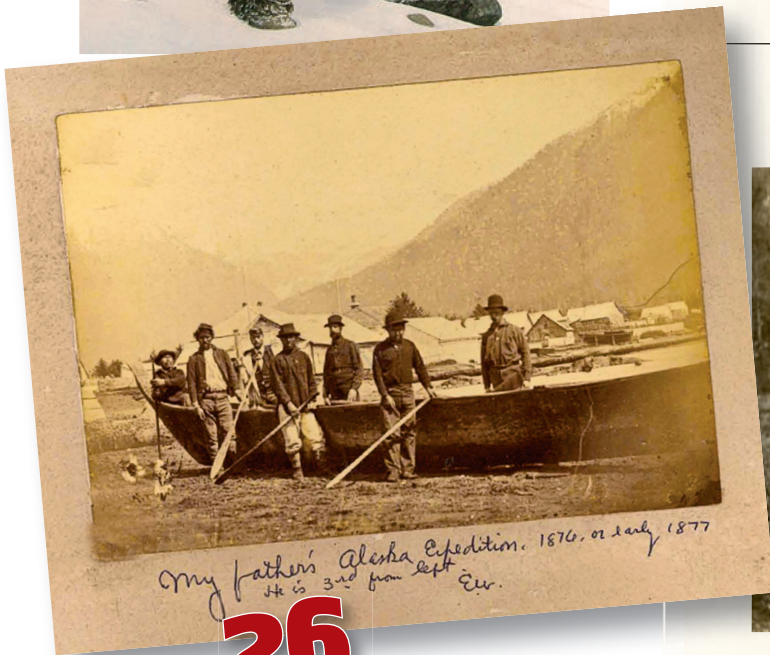
Was he Alaska's greatest backwoodsman and trailblazer?

—By Michael Engelhard

66 HALLOWED GROUND AND HONORED HEROES

Across the West, cemeteries, monuments and memorials provide a poignant reminder of the West's historic past.

—By Stuart Rosebrook and the Editors of True West



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66



Cover Design by Dan Harshberger

"The Mountaineer" by David Wright

COMPILED BY THE EDITORS OF *TRUE WEST*

Old Vaquero Sayings

"A little nonsense now and then is cherished by the wisest men."



Quotes

"Movies are like writing history with lightning."

—Woodrow Wilson

"In time you shall see Fate approach you In the shape of your own image in the mirror."

—Edgar Lee Masters, *Spoon River Anthology*

"Women, like men, should try to do the impossible. And when they fail, their failure should be a challenge to others."

—Amelia Earhart

"How did it get so late so soon?"

—Dr. Seuss



John Muir, 1902
Courtesy Library of Congress

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks."

—John Muir

"What makes the desert beautiful,' said the little prince, 'is that somewhere it hides a well...'"

—Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *The Little Prince*

"I would rather be a superb meteor, every atom of me in magnificent glow, than a sleepy and permanent planet."

—Jack London

"The task of the modern educator is not to cut down jungles, but to irrigate deserts."

—C.S. Lewis

"Light and air—what means wherewith to conjure up illusions and deceive the senses!"

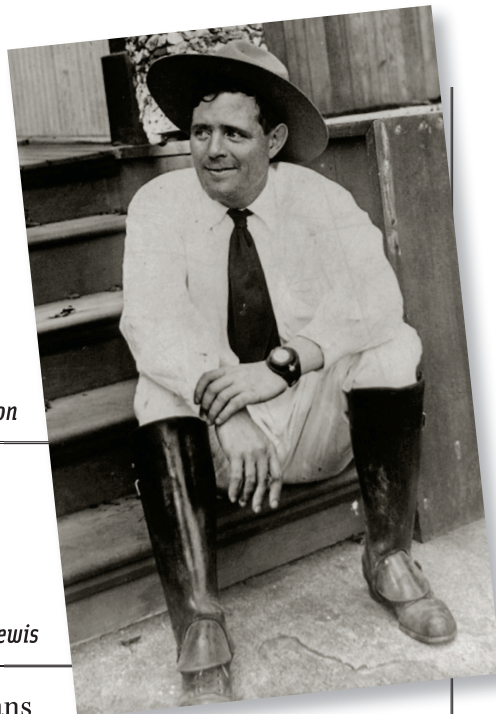
—J.C. Van Dyke, *The Desert*

"The nice thing about life,' said Miss Etta, 'is you never know when there's going to be a party.'"

—Earl Hamner Jr., *The Homecoming*

"Here beyond men's judgments all covenants were brittle."

—Cormac McCarthy, *Blood Meridian, or the Evening Redness in the West*



Jack London died prematurely at age 40 in 1916. He was the highest paid and most popular author in the world at the time.

Courtesy Library of Congress



"Yes, Jeffrey, it took brave men to settle the West. But it also took a particular kind of courage to stay right here in Darien."

Geo. Cullum

CartoonStock.com

Ride On, Brave Riders

One more era ends, another one is about to begin.

We have been bucking the odds for a very long time—69 years, to be exact. Yes, somehow, some way, this feisty, little ol' magazine has survived, dodging bullet after bullet, escaping financial ambushes (some self-made!), a nasty pandemic and even a criminal salesperson, or two! So, what do we have that others do not? I would chalk it up to a tenacious love for history, a little luck and a never-say-die attitude from the entire staff of *True West* magazine.

So, here we are on the eve of a new era, heading into next year when we will be celebrating 70 years of continuous publication. You can expect some big, fat issues on some big, fat topics. Ride on, *True West*, ride on!

If you Google the definition of “customer service,” Carole Compton Glenn’s photo should be there. I cannot tell you how many emails and letters from subscribers begin with, “Tell Carole thank you for straightening out my subscription.”



Our beloved
General Manager,
Carole Compton Glenn

Carole is retiring as General Manager of *True West* magazine after a stellar 23-year run. She was my first hire, and she always showed up and guided us through some seriously rough sledding. Thank you, Carole!



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



From Dust to Dust, From Era to Era, the Magazine That Will Not Die

The first issue of *True West* magazine (at right) rolled off the press in Austin, Texas, in April of 1953. The man who invented the magazine, Joe Small, sold it in 1974, and the magazine moved to Wisconsin.

Then, after a couple unsuccessful years, it returned to Perkins, Oklahoma, and then to nearby Stillwater, which was where it was going out of business when we bought it in September of 1999. Our first issue, top, appeared in the fall of 1999 (issue date, January 2000), and we have carried the banner ever since.

All Images Courtesy *True West* Archives

OUR READERS REMIND US OF THE VARIABLES AND VAGARIES OF HISTORIC TRUTHS, “WELL-ESTABLISHED” FACTS, HEADLINES AND HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS.

THE REVENGE OF BAT MASTERSON



Fannie Keenan, aka Dora Hand, was tragically shot by Spike Kenedy.

Photos Courtesy True West Archives

I was very interested to read Marshall Trimble’s article on Bat Masterson in the June 2022 *True West*. I was however surprised to find that Marshall Trimble unequivocally stated that Ed Masterson shot the two men responsible for his death in April 1878 and dismisses the many stories appearing after 1881 that have Bat arriving on the scene of the tragedy and avenging his brother’s death. That was, of course, the way that the Dodge newspapers of the day reported the shooting and the conclusion reached by Masterson biographer Robert DeArment in his 1979 book *Bat Masterson, The Man and the Legend*.

Subsequently, DeArment, in his second Masterson book, *Broadway Bat: Gunfighter in Gotham*, revised his earlier views on the incident. He wrote that “Bat downed them both” and that “the deaths of [Melvin] King and Wagner at Bat’s hands have been well established.” Mr. Trimble is also a respected historian, and historians can, of course, disagree, but given the scope of the article I was disappointed that the more recent evidence on the controversy was not addressed.

By the way, the lady portrayed at the foot of page 26 is not Fannie Keenan aka Dora Hand but Fannie Garrettson, who was staying in the same property as the unfortunate Keenan and was lucky to be missed by Kenedy’s bullets.

—Chris Penn, Norfolk, United Kingdom

Thank you! The vagaries and legends of history can only be updated and improved with diligent research. We greatly appreciate your corrections and updates to the Bat and Ed Masterson and Dora Hand/Fannie Keenan and Fannie Garrettson stories.



Fannie Garrettson was a saloon girl in Dodge City, Kansas, at the time Dora Hand was killed, but unfortunately her image has been mistakenly identified as her tragic dancehall associate.

A FAVORITE FIREARM MUSEUM

After reading the September 2022 issue on museums, I would like to add a very interesting, little-known gun museum to the list for your consideration: the Saunders Museum in Berryville, Arkansas. The beautiful building was built strictly for Mr. Saunders’ gun collection. It has over 400 guns, including those having belonged to Billy the Kid, Annie Oakley, Belle Starr, Buffalo Bill, Jesse James, etc. Also, Sitting Bull’s war bonnet along with his daughter’s wedding boots and a scalp belt belonging to Geronimo are among the exhibits.

—Tom Bailey, Little Rock, Arkansas

Thank you! The Saunders sounds like a real True West style museum. We hope to include it in our September 2023 museum issue.

A SIGHT FOR STRAINED EYES

Last night I was sitting in my favorite reading chair thumbing through the latest *TW* (Women of the West) and suddenly realized I could read the articles without turning on some extra bright lights. On behalf of all of us over 75, we thank you and your publishing team.

—Allen Fossenkemper, Fountain Hills, Arizona

After 70 years it is time we kept up with our readers! Look for more updates in upcoming issues.

SAINT BILLY?

I was astonished to discover [in the October 2022 issue] that Billy the Kid was the patron saint of Lincoln County. I had no idea he’d been canonized. I would have thought he’d be in hell, playing cards with the likes of Aleister Crowley and Jack the Ripper. But no, there he is on your front cover, a glowing cross behind his head like a halo. Clearly, the patron saint assertion must be literally true, else Christian readers of *True West* would object loudly, finding the painting blasphemous.

—David R. Kaftal, Fortuna, California



No blasphemy was intended in Bob Boze Bell and Daniel Harshberger’s illustration on the cover of the October 2022 issue. The Zia above the Kid’s head is not a Christian cross, but a modern interpretation of an ancient Zia Pueblo symbol of a sun design. For detailed information on the Zia and why it is on the New Mexico state flag, visit New Mexico’s Secretary of State’s website at [SOS.State.NM.US/About-New-Mexico/State-Flag/](https://sos.state.nm.us/About-New-Mexico/State-Flag/).

CORRECTIONS:

On page 77 of the October 2022 issue the Dalton Defender Days should have been listed as September 30–October 1. The annual event celebrating the Dalton Gang’s raid on Coffeyville, Kansas, is held every year on the first weekend in October.

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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 Jersey Lily courthouse where Judge Roy Bean, known as "the Law West of the Pecos," carried out his brand of justice. Discover the history by walking the Pecos Boot Trail, amongst the Home of the World's First Rodeo.

BY MARK BOARDMAN

From Disgrace to Doctor

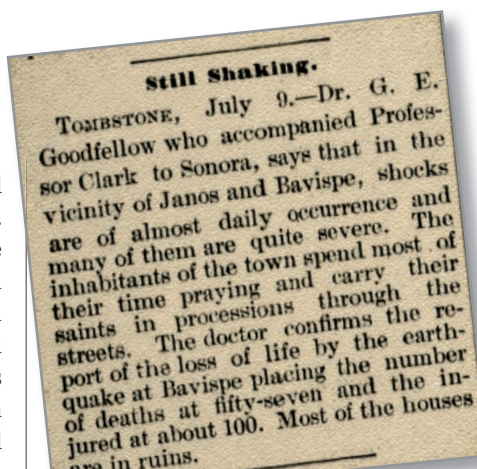
George Goodfellow was kicked out of one career before becoming an international success in another.

Of all the characters who graced the streets of Tombstone, Dr. George Goodfellow may have been the best and brightest. He was an expert on gunshot wounds, and on bulletproof fabrics. The doctor performed the first appendectomy in Arizona. He was considered very knowledgeable on rattlesnake and Gila monster bites (and the venom therein). Goodfellow studied and recorded the effects of earthquakes. And there are more than a few other credits on his vitae.

But all this came after a failure by his own hands.

Goodfellow was accepted as a plebe at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis in June 1872. He quickly won the title of school boxing champion—but he used his fighting abilities to ill effect. One of his classmates was John Conyers, the first Black accepted to Annapolis. Conyers was the subject of widespread hazing that crossed the line into racist brutality and abuse. During a marching exercise, Goodfellow and another plebe began kicking and beating Conyers. Officials basically ignored the attack, but they couldn't turn a blind eye to the next one.

A few days after the first incident, Goodfellow knocked Conyers down a flight of stairs. This incident, along with several other acts of "hazing," was leaked to local newspapers. It proved to be a national scandal. A three-man panel investigated. Goodfellow denied any involvement; Conyers said he



Tombstone doctor George Goodfellow, who was lauded for his good works as a physician and scientist during his life, was gifted the horse, El Rosillo, by Mexico's President Porfirio Diaz for tending to survivors of the May 3, 1887, Bavispe earthquake that struck Sonora, Mexico.

Photo Courtesy True West Archives/July 10, 1887 "Los Angeles Herald" news clipping courtesy Newspapers.com

couldn't identify any of his attackers. But Goodfellow was convicted and dismissed from the academy in December 1872, less than six months after his arrival.

Goodfellow's family had connections all the way up to the White House, and they tried using their influence to get George reinstated. But 1872 was an election year, and nobody—including President U.S. Grant—wanted to get involved. George Goodfellow's budding military career was done before it could blossom.

But, if nothing else, the man had many different interests. A relative was a doctor and invited George to explore that subject. The younger Goodfellow proved to be talented, and after four years of study in Ohio, he took away a medical degree. And he got a lucky break.

Goodfellow applied to be a medical officer with the 7th Cavalry in the spring of 1876. But bureaucracy slowed down the process and George missed the Little Bighorn slaughter. From there, he served for two years at Fort Whipple outside Prescott, Arizona Territory, and then did another two-year stint as a contract doctor at Fort Lowell near Tucson. But George Goodfellow wanted to be his own man. In September 1880, he moved to Tombstone and opened a private practice.

And we know the rest of the tale...

What might have happened if he'd graduated from Annapolis and become a midshipman?



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BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

Meet Mrs. Tombstone

Most places need a committee; Tombstone needed Edna.

The Town Too Tough to Die was on life support when Edna Landin came to town in 1949.

It was still just a rugged town with more past than future; still a place only remembered for Wyatt Earp and a gunfight near the O.K. Corral 68 years earlier. Its once majestic courthouse was already falling apart.

None of this suited Edna, nor her husband, Ted, who retired here from Ohio. But Ted died soon after, and Edna carried on as a one-person savior for the next 18 years, earning her the title “Mrs. Tombstone.”

Two governors could tell how tenacious she was—Ernest McFarland and Paul Fannin; two U.S. senators could attest to her laser focus—Barry Goldwater and Carl Hayden; both Udall boys knew her well—Stewart and Morris. And they all came to see the same vision Edna had.

Earlier this year, Edna Landin was inducted into the Arizona Women’s Hall of Fame as one of the latest examples of what a strong Western woman can accomplish.

The day she became president of the Tombstone Restoration Commission in 1955 was one of the best days in the town’s history. Over the next two years, she singlehandedly conducted a fundraising campaign to restore the Tombstone Courthouse—writing over 12,000 letters and raising the equivalent of \$400,000 in today’s money from donors in 34 states, Alaska Territory, England and Sweden.

After Arizona created the Arizona State Parks Association in 1956, she negotiated the transfer of the Tombstone Courthouse to the association, making the courthouse Arizona’s second state park.

And she’s credited with being largely responsible for Tombstone’s recognition



Edna Landin (inset) arrived in Tombstone, Arizona, nine years after photographer Russell Lee documented the town’s buildings for the WPA. The Tombstone Courthouse (above) became a major preservation and restoration project for Landin, and today, because of her efforts, it is one of the most significant surviving public buildings of the Territory and a centerpiece of the Tombstone Courthouse State Historic Park.

Edna Landin Portrait Courtesy True West Archives/Modern Tombstone Courthouse Photo Courtesy Cochise County Tourism

as a National Historic Landmark by the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1962 (when her buddy Stewart Udall was Secretary of the Interior).

But the real spirit of the woman is revealed in HOW she raised all that money and sold the world on Tombstone’s value. She sold memberships in a Wyatt Earp Club; she sold \$500 memorial windows in the courthouse; she sold a square foot of Tombstone real estate with a title deed; and she installed public officials and dignitaries as deputy Tombstone marshals.

That list included President Dwight Eisenhower, Winston Churchill, Louella Parsons and the captain of the *HMS Queen Mary*.

She only fell short twice, and both instances are lamentable. She couldn’t convince Desilu Studios to film the Wyatt Earp TV show in Tombstone, and she died before she could build an outdoor amphitheater to stage an annual pageant to celebrate Arizona and Tombstone history. (Still doable: hint, hint!)

Hopefully, the town will never forget her famous words: “If you restore Tombstone, you will be a town to go to. If you let Tombstone go modern, you will be a town to go through.”

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 three true crime books, a children’s book and the historical novel *Cattle Kate*.

BRIAN LEBEL'S
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Estimates: Spurs \$12,000-18,000 - Rig & Colts \$60,000-90,000.

Roy's famous gold plated "101" Colt Single Actions (pictured left) will also be offered. Estimate (pair): \$30,000-40,000

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BY STEVE FRIESEN

Camping with Charlie at The Russell

The annual auction in Great Falls, Montana, exceeded expectations as always.



Collecting \$468,000, *High, Wide and Handsome (Montana Show Rider)*, a watercolor signed by Russell and dated 1919, was the big seller at the C.M. Russell Museum's annual auction in Great Falls.



Charles Russell's large watercolor *Antelope Hunting* gathered a high bid of \$198,900. It was created a year after he attended the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. He was so inspired by the art he saw there that he quit riding the range to concentrate on his art.

The Russell, this year's premiere fundraising event at the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls, Montana, featured lectures, banquets, a show where art could be purchased, and three auctions. Held August 18-21 and focused on the work of contemporary Western artists, the event offered collectors an opportunity to acquire new art and meet its creators. In addition to the contemporary artwork, the final gala auction offered some excellent works by Charles Russell.

Horses and riders were a popular theme within the contemporary artwork sold at The Russell. The highest amount gathered by a current work of art was Jeremy Winborg's *Pitamakan: Braver than the Braves*. Depicting the female warrior Pitamakan leading a group of braves on horseback, the painting sold for \$84,000, well over twice the projected high bid. Jason Rich's *Wild Horse Ridge*

also exceeded expectations, bringing in \$64,400. It showed a group of wild horses running along a ridge with snowcapped peaks in the background. *Homeward Bound*, Joe Kronenberg's painting of a cowboy on horseback crossing a river, continued that trend by greatly exceeding its projected high bid with a take of \$42,000. Brenna Kimbro's *Beauty*, an unusual sculpture of a horse head, and Brook Wetzels's *Where the Cowgirls Ride Away*, more than tripled their projected high bids. It was a good night for horse lovers.

As might be expected, the works by Charles Russell brought the highest bids at the event. The top earner of the weekend auctions was his *High, Wide and Handsome (Montana Show Rider)*, which sold for \$468,000. *Antelope Hunting* hammered down at \$198,900, while *I Climbed Fast and Stuck My Head Out the Top Without Looking and Then*

Froze Solid Enough brought \$111,150. Even a 1914 calendar, which featured a reproduction of Russell's painting *Sagebrush Sport*, went for \$6,435, greatly exceeding its high estimate of \$1,000.

Charlie Russell once wrote, "What's the matter with packing your war bag and heading to my camp? A robe is spread, and the pipe lit for you always." The C.M. Russell Museum houses that camp (his home and studio) and one of the largest collections of his artwork in the world, making it well worth a special trip to Great Falls. The auctions at The Russell this year garnered over \$2,484,649 in income, helping fund the museum and ensuring that Charlie's pipe continues to burn.

All Images Courtesy the C.M. Russell Museum

Steve Friesen comes to "Collecting the West" with over 40 years of experience in collecting for museums, including evaluating and acquiring artifacts from the American West.

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

December 9-11, 2022

Premier Firearms Auction #87
Rock Island Auction Co. (Rock Island, IL)
RockIslandAuction.com • 309-797-1500

December 12, 2022

Antique Firearms, Armor, Militaria
& Civil War Memorabilia
Heritage Auctions (Dallas, TX)
HA.com • 307-587-5002

December 13-15, 2022

Collectible Firearms & Militaria
Morphy Auctions (Denver, PA)
MorphyAuctions.com • 717-335-3435



Made of wood, granite and quartz, Brenna Kimbro's sculpture *Beauty* was expected to bring \$8,000 but received a high bid of \$28,000.



Homeward Bound by Joe Kronenberg depicts a cowboy and his horses on the way home under dark skies after a successful hunting trip. At a final price of \$42,000, it greatly exceeded its projected high bid of \$15,500.



I Climbed Fast and Stuck My Head Out the Top Without Looking and Then Froze Solid Enough was created as a watercolor illustration for a magazine article about Arizona mining. It was never used but went for \$111,150 at The Russell.



The free life of Rocky Mountain wild horses is illustrated in Jason Rich's *Wild Horse Ridge*, which sold for \$64,400.



A group of mounted cowgirls enjoy a sunset in *Where the Cowgirls Ride Away* by Brooke Wetzel. Projected to sell for as high as \$7,500, it brought \$25,200.

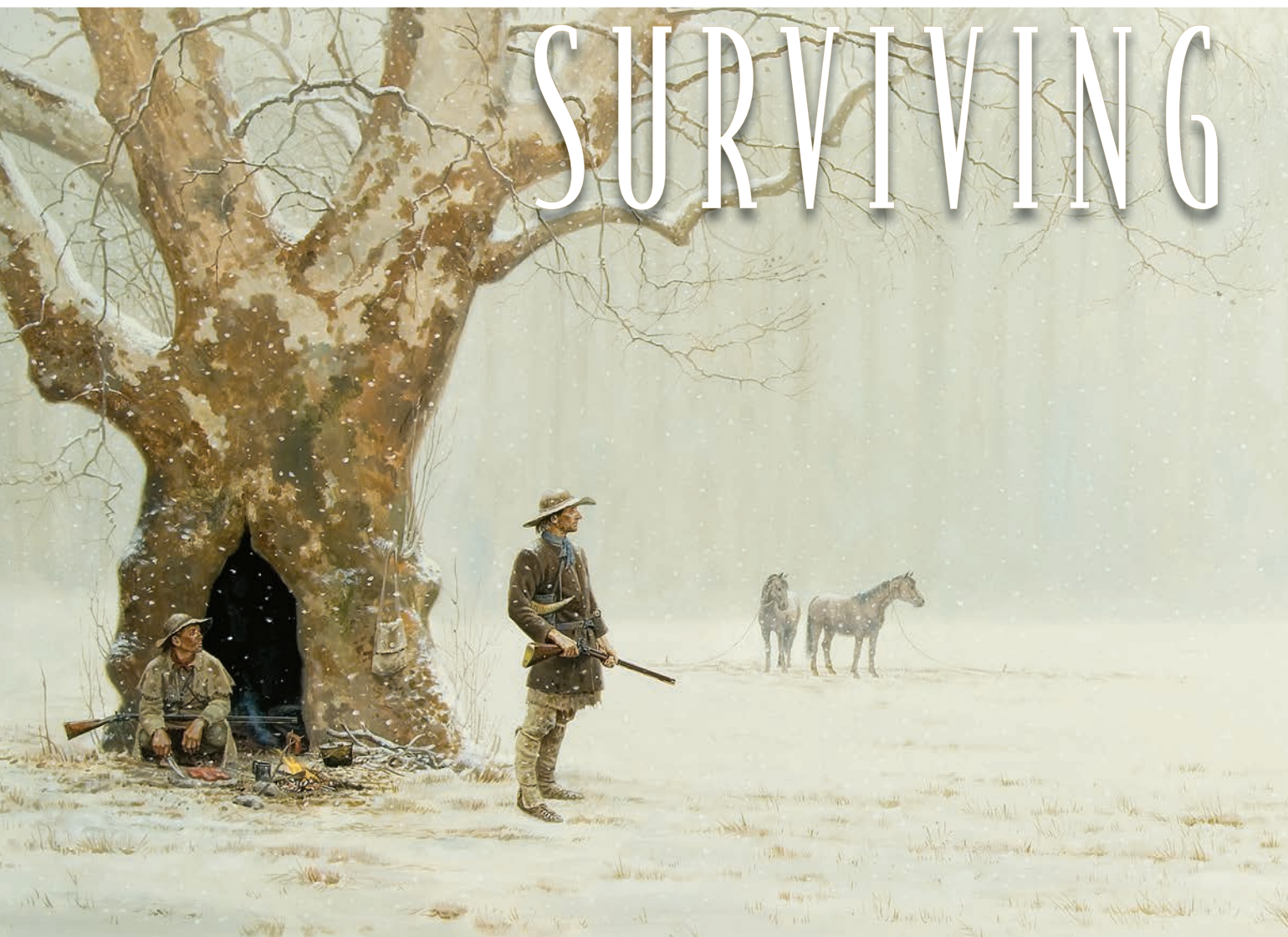


Ben Pease's whimsical visual pun and definitely a "horse of a different color," *War-Pony Express*, fetched \$10,080.



Jeremy Winborg's *Pitamakan; Braver than the Braves*, depicting a female warrior of the Blackfoot tribe, hammered down at \$84,000. The sale also included four studies done by Winborg while creating the painting.

BY THE EDITORS OF *TRUE WEST*



Artist David Wright's decades of field research in all seasons reveal the beauty of the coldest season and the tenacity of the mountain men who made the wilderness their home year-round.

David Wright loves packing into the mountains and woods like an early American pathfinder and trapper almost as much as he loves painting them. He also loves painting the Native people of the Eastern woodlands and Western mountains and plains who traversed the areas, traded, allied and fought with each other during the 1820s-1840s, America's fur trapping era.

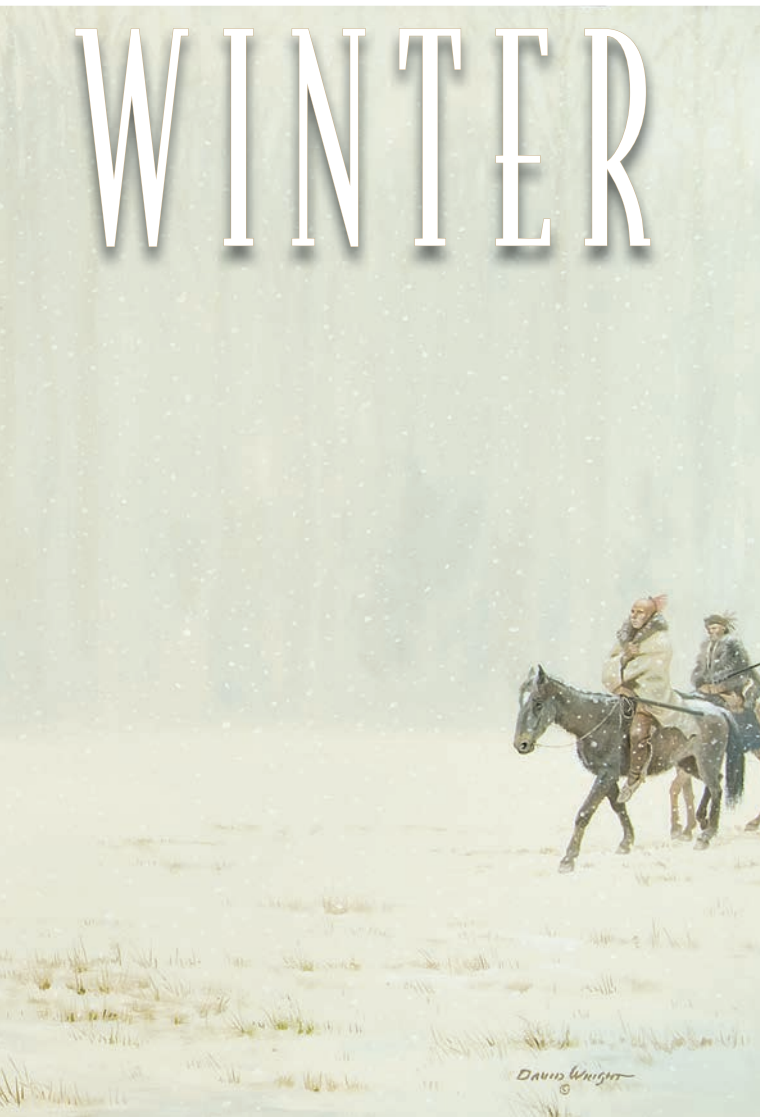
Born in Kentucky, today Wright lives in the small town of Gallatin, Tennessee. He is never too far from the woods, nature and the four seasons that inspire his artwork. When the well-honored, award-

winning artist, author and historical consultant is not painting, he is conducting meticulous research and going deep into the wilderness on horseback and foot—including during the winter—to experience life as his historical subjects did 175 years ago.

We believe Wright's artwork captures the adventurous spirit, rugged determination and survival skills of the mountain men, fur trappers and American Indians who plied the streams and trails to trap and trade even through the fiercest conditions of winter.



WINTER



UNINVITED VISITORS

Oil on panel • 48" x 23" • 2007



CROSSING THE SNOW COVERED FLATS

Oil on panel • 16" x 24" • 2009



MOVING HIS TRAPS

Acrylic on panel • 18" x 12" • 1980



MOVING THROUGH THE BEARTOOTH'S

Oil on panel • 16" x 28" • 2008



AFTER THE HUNT

Oil on panel • 9" x 12" • 2017



COLORADO CROSSING

Casein on panel • 22.5" x 29" • 1980



A SOUND IN THE STILLNESS

Oil on panel • 24" x 30" • 2006



NIGHT TRAVELER

Oil on panel • 20" x 16" • 2012



UP THE SOUTH SLOPE
Casein on panel • 26" x 36" • 1982



SILENT JOURNEY
Oil on panel • 16" x 12" • 2010



TIGHT SPOT
Acrylic on board • 24" x 36" • 2000



WINTER ON THE SOUTH SLOPE
Acrylic on panel • 24" x 36" • 1989

NATURE'S REFUGE
Oil on panel • 11" x 13" • 2013



TRAPPING GOD'S COUNTRY
Oil on panel • 36" x 24" • 2012



BY MIKE COPPOCK

THE ACCIDENTAL EXPLORER



While on his adventurous posting to remote Sitka Island, Lieutenant Wood would have seen the local people fishing and drying halibut.

Courtesy Library of Congress



Young Lt. Charles Erskine Scott Wood graduated from West Point in 1874 and was assigned to the 21st Infantry Regiment at Fort Vancouver, Washington, Department of the Columbia.

Erskine Wood Family Photo Album,
Courtesy Lewis and Clark College Special Collections

FROM THE ALASKAN ARCTIC
TO THE BEARPAW BATTLEFIELD
IN MONTANA,
CHARLES ERSKINE SCOTT WOOD
WAS A MAN OF ACTION
AND ADVENTURE.



Lt. Charles E.S. Wood's life was inexorably changed when he sailed into Sitka Harbor, Alaska Territory, in the spring of 1877 and came face-to-face with the edge of the American frontier.

Courtesy The University of Washington Digital Collections

Army lieutenant, with the man he was escorting, Chicago millionaire Charles Taylor. A noted

mountaineer, Taylor had come to climb the highest mountain in North America, then thought to be Mount Saint Elias along the Alaska coast. For this adventure, he requested an Army escort.

General Oliver O. Howard, commander of the Department of the Columbia, assigned Wood the

In the spring of 1877, Sitka, Alaska, was one of the most dangerous locations in America. The Russians had taken the town from Tlingit warriors after fierce, bloody fighting. That was in 1804. The Tlingits vowed to take back the port. Massed against the wooden stockade for generations, warriors would try to breach the walls to attempt to kill everyone inside.

Neither the Russians, nor later the Americans, had the military might to clear out the large Tlingit village that had grown up around the wall. Sitka residents lived in constant fear that one day Tlingits would enter the city, not to trade but to kill.

Sailing into this environment was Charles Erskine Scott Wood, a young, green



This rare photograph shows Lieutenant Wood, third from right, with the Native Tlingit guides and their four-ton canoe on the beach of Sitka Island. If Charles Taylor is in the photo, he is not identified.

Erskine Wood Family Photo Album, Courtesy Lewis and Clark College Special Collections

task. A big man resembling a stuffed bear, Wood had been the darling of Washington society, a favorite among the ladies. He wrote poetry. His father, a career Navy man, pulled strings to get him into West Point, hoping it would make a man of him. When that seemed to fail, the elder Wood quietly arranged for his son's transfer to the Wild West.

General Howard had no complaints about Charles Wood. He was punctual, well read and an excellent dinner conversationalist. But war clouds with tribes like the Nez Percé were gathering. Taylor's project, however ridiculous, seemed perfect for toughening up the young Wood. Alaska was lawless—no sheriffs, no marshals. The 500 U.S. troops there were scattered in six outposts and afraid to go beyond their forts. The rest of Alaska was an enormous void with trappers and prospectors constantly disappearing.

Sitka's pier was lined with "Indians, Russians, half-breeds, Jews, and solders," wrote Wood as they disembarked in a cold April rain. The two men made their way past homes that had been well maintained during the Russian era but were now becoming dilapidated with the paint fading under American rule. In the center of town, Wood and Taylor passed the green dome and spires of the Russian Orthodox Church. Beyond the church was William Phillipson's trading post. Inside, Tlingit trappers sold pelts shoulder to shoulder with American housewives buying items for home—salt, pepper and cloth. Phillipson had a trading schooner that sailed as far away as Kodiak. Taylor had written Phillipson about that schooner. He had planned to hire the craft to transport his expedition northward, but they had missed the sailing. Phillipson had waited for them, and when it seemed they were not going to



General Oliver O. Howard played a significant role in Lt. Charles E. S. Wood's post-West Point career. He was his first field commander at Fort Vancouver, assigned Wood to special duty to accompany an adventurer in exploring the highest point in North America and then recalled him to serve under his command in the 1877 Nez Percé War.

Courtesy Library of Congress

arrive, sent the ship north. It would not be back for at least a month.

During the following days, the two men searched the small port for transportation. Then one day, there was a loud disturbance in the Sitka market. Soldiers were sent to restore order. A Russian trapper was trying to sell the silver-and-white pelt of a Saint Elias Bear or Ghost Bear. The pelt was rare and expensive. But it was also taboo among the Tlingits, a bad omen. They wanted the Russian to leave the market. Worse for Wood and Taylor, the trapper said he had taken the bear near Mount Saint Elias. It caused would-be Tlingit boatmen to think twice before agreeing to take the two Americans the same direction.

Finally, the two had to go outside the stockade into the Tlingit village to look for transport. It took Taylor a week to negotiate for a four-ton canoe with two Tlingits as crew and a Russian named Sam as an interpreter. The owner was hired as the pilot. An Army corporal and two privates were assigned to the expedition, and a Canadian prospector was hired as well. Once the expedition was approved by the Tlingit women of the long house the canoe belonged to, Taylor threw a ball and invited all of Sitka. The next morning, April 24, the canoe shoved off for the north.

Their route took them around small and large islands of Alaska's Inside Passage, a waterway maze, but one that allowed them to avoid the open ocean for as long as possible. The twists and

While there are no photos of Lieutenant Wood paddling the open sea in Glacier Bay in 1877, his canoe was likely similar to this one used by Native seal hunters and photographed by Edward Curtis in 1899.

Photo by Edward Curtis, Courtesy Library of Congress



turns confused Wood, causing him to become lost and disoriented at times. After 11 days, they were forced to paddle the Pacific. Massive swells made them take shelter at a Chilkat native village. Its chief treated his guests to an endless seafood buffet. Afterwards they were handed the inner bark of a cedar, which when chewed, proved as sweet as candy.

At the village, Wood encountered his first native slaves. Captives from the interior, they ate and joked with their owners, but Wood observed they were the ones chopping wood and carrying water. The slaves could not marry without permission, and they could be sacrificed. Native slavery among American Indian tribes lasted in Alaska until the 1900s, while on the Great Plains it existed until the 1880s-90s, when intertribal warfare came to an end due to the presence of White society.

When the storm passed, the small expedition continued north, falling in with a party of Hoonahs on their way to harvest potatoes. The base of Mount Saint Elias was only five days

away, the Hoonahs told them. Now the Tlingit paddlers refused to go any farther. Taylor threatened them, and Wood tried bribing them, but to no avail. The Tlingits had learned from the Hoonahs that a Ghost Bear had been sighted in that area.

“One mountain is as good as another,” one of the paddlers told the two men.

Taylor simply deflated. He asked Wood to take him back to Sitka. They arrived as a storm struck, delaying Taylor’s sailing to Sitka for nearly a week. It also gave Wood time to think. He did not want to return. Just before Taylor sailed out, Wood gave him a note to give General Howard. In the note, Wood explained he would return to the base of Mount Saint Elias and from there explore the Alaska interior, something no American had yet done.

Almost immediately Wood set off in the same canoe Taylor had hired. He stopped at the Chilkat village they had stopped at before to hire a few goat hunters to assist him when he reached Mount Saint Elias. They were traveling by way of Mount Fairweather. Less than a week later, as the party made its way into a wooded valley at the base of Fairweather, the Tlingits ahead of Wood froze in fear. Coming into the clearing ahead was a Ghost Bear. Not as large as a brown bear, the



Lieutenant Charles E. S. Wood was sent to Alaska to guide millionaire mountaineer Charles Taylor in his attempt to ascend Mount Saint Elias. But after much effort to reach a base camp from Sitka Island to the mainland, they had to turn around because of local Tlingit guides' superstitions about the elusive "Ghost Bear!"

Photo of climbers on Mount Saint Elias Courtesy Library of Congress/Photo of Mount Saint Elias courtesy NARA, 2252773-018-007-0001

unusual creature was light blue and a silvery white. The animal crossed the clearing and then disappeared back into the forest.

The Tlingits would not move. "Nothing to do but turn back," recorded a disgusted Wood. The party went overland to a Hoonah village along a massive bay choked with ice. The natives attached wooden false siding and a false prow to their canoes for travel through the icefields. The Hoonah chief told Wood that when he was a child, the bay did not exist. The area had been solid ice. Wood became the first White American to see Glacier Bay.

While Wood was staying in the Hoonah village, an old chief begged him to come to his village. The chief's son had fallen ill. Wood went reluctantly. The Tlingits usually killed the doctor if the patient died. Finding the child feverish, Wood gave him a series of hot baths and soda

powder as the villagers looked on. The doctoring worked, and soon Wood had a long list of patients, including an elderly man Wood felt would die soon. Despite the demands of his new profession, he found time for other activities.

The village chief had given Wood one of his young wives during a dinner party. He could not refuse, wrote Wood, especially because she grasped his hand and led him away to her bed. If he had refused her, it would have been an insult to the entire village. Living out of her bed kept him in the village for weeks longer than he had planned. The elderly man he was treating did not look well at all. Wood kept feeding him dried onions stewed in sugar, some cod liver oil and lots of alcohol.

He had arranged a canoe and told his new love and the chief he was just going to paddle around the bay and return. He had cache of supplies up



The Tlingit people on Chilkat Island adopted Wood into their village when he agreed to help tend their sick children and elderly.

Courtesy NARA 111-AGD-073_43-0712M

the coast. His intention was to navigate the maze of islands of the Inside Passage back to Sitka.

Wood found Sitka in a panic. Howard had ordered U.S. troops to leave in preparation for war with the Nez Percé. No one would be left behind to protect the settlement from the Tlingits. (A British warship and its cannons eventually came to the town's rescue.)

Wood boarded his homeward bound ship, but he was not completely satisfied. He had failed to climb or even reach Mount Saint Elias. But he had become the first White American to encounter a Ghost Bear and see Glacier Bay. He gave the first account of the Tlingits to the American public.

Lieutenant Wood left Alaska on June 11, 1877, joining Gen. O.O. Howard's pursuit of Chief Joseph and the Nez Percé. On October 5, 1877, it was Wood who recorded Chief Joseph's surrender speech, "From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever."



Mike Coppock was born and raised in Western Oklahoma and after graduating from Phillips University in Enid has lived off and on in Alaska since 1985. He has taught history in an Alaska Bush community, was editor of two Alaskan newspapers, a flight specialist for the FAA and is currently historical interpreter at Denali National Park



Lieutenant Charles E. S. Wood, one of the bystanders at Chief Joseph's famous surrender speech to Gen. Nelson Miles, was responsible for transcribing the speech that includes the famous line, "My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever."

Photo of Chief Joseph by Charles Milton Bell, Courtesy The MET, NY/Lithograph of Chief Joseph's Surrender Courtesy NARA, Box_264_30-n-038-084



BY MICHAEL ENGELHARD

The Legendary Jack Dalton

**WAS HE ALASKA'S GREATEST
BACKWOODSMAN AND
TRAILBLAZER?**

A Haines woman who'd known John "Jack" Dalton as a frequent guest at her girlhood home described him as "a dapper, well dressed, ladies' man" even at 50. Others dismissed him as a scoundrel. His achievements, however, were undisputed. Skagway's paper, *The Daily Alaskan*, lauded him as "perhaps the most famous pathfinder" in the Territory. In an 1898 photo, he looks like a good man to have on your side.

Small of stature, with broad shoulders somewhat out of proportion to the rest of his body, Dalton, unrelated to the notorious Dalton brothers, yet a marksman nevertheless, normally went about armed. The Van Dyke beard and thoroughly parted hair added a pinch of respectability to a brawler's round face with high cheekbones and a flat-bridged nose. A fireman aboard a Yukon River sternwheeler deemed him preeminently fit, a square shooter in business, and agreeable, "but a bad hombre to cross



Nearly 140 years after Jack Dalton (above) arrived in Alaska Territory to seek his fortune, his name may not be as well-known as Lewis and Clark's, but for his accomplishments in trail and road building in the 49th state, he should be considered one of the greatest and most legendary backwoodsmen and pathfinders in the state's—and the West's—history.

Courtesy the Author

or run up against." Dalton thought nothing of snowshoeing 50 miles to a cache in one day, admitting to an appetite afterward. Despite his size, he cut an imposing figure in a black, wide-brimmed hat, suspenders, calf-high moose-skin moccasins, and sporting a

Colt holstered high on his hip—in a working stiff's, not a gunslinger's, way of packing heat. He cleaned up nicely, donning a suit and loosely knotted necktie.

His zest for roughing it kept him spry long after his Alaska days. The early 1920s found him prospecting for diamonds in British Guyana. He lived moderately wealthy to be 89, and his longtime physician's impression in 1929 would have made a great epitaph: when Dalton was nearing 75, he looked 55, and, if provoked, flared up like the 25-year-old firebrand he'd once been.

The Great Northwoods to the Alaskan Frontier

Details of Dalton's early career are hazy and sometimes contradicting. Probably born in Michigan in July 1856, Jack got little formal schooling. Self-taught, he was rather well read and well spoken. Some scrape during his teenage years might have caused him to light out for Oklahoma. He cowboied for the Hadley Ranch in Baker, Oregon, before moving to Burns, where he ran a small logging outfit. In 1883 he sailed north on a sealer.

During the 1890s, livestock and stampeders disembarked at Chilkat Inlet's Pyramid Harbor for the 350-mile Dalton Trail.

Courtesy Haines-Sheldon Museum



Already an expert wrangler, hunter and cook, Dalton became fluent in Chinook, the trade jargon that entwined the Pacific Northwest. His English travel companion, Edward Glave, an associate of the African explorer Henry M. Stanley (who located Livingston in Tanzania), considered Dalton one of the two best men he ever saw handle a paddle. Spending two years total with the scout, he likened his route-finding abilities to “the talent of a gifted musician, who hears a new piece only once, and then repeats the whole without difficulty, note for note.” In 1886, these skills earned Dalton a place as roustabout and camp cook on a *New York Times*-backed expedition to climb 18,000-foot-high Mount Saint Elias astride the Yukon-Alaska border, the second highest peak in the U.S. and Canada. Struggling with fast, silt-laden rivers and through Tyndall Glacier’s crevasse field, hampered by an ill, corpulent leader, the men had to backtrack.

In 1890, Dalton joined a party to chart Southeast Alaska’s boondocks funded by *Frank Leslie’s Illustrated Newspaper*. His practical and parleying finesse cleared passage on one of several ancient paths inland called the “Grease Trails.” The coast’s Chilkats,

a Tlingit Indian band, controlled this particular access. Two other bands ruled the Chilkoot and White Pass corridors respectively. The trail network’s name referenced



The English journalist Edward James Glave was a trail mate of James Dalton, ca. 1892.

True West Archives



Dalton (front row, far right) was photographed on the deck of the Yukon River sternwheeler *James Domville* on his way to the Klondike in 1898.

Courtesy City of Vancouver Archives

Dalton started his trail in Pyramid Harbor in Chilkat Inlet in 1898.

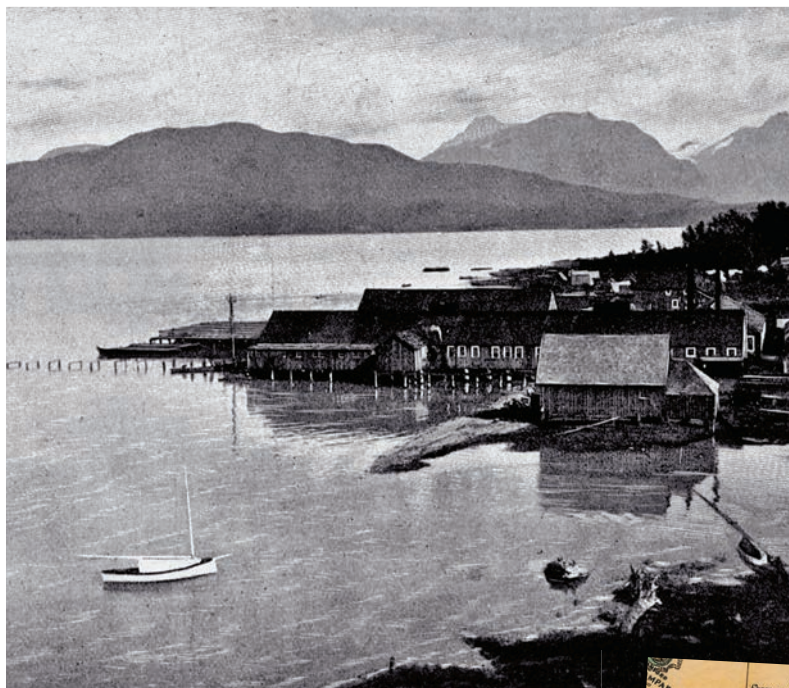
Courtesy Hathi Trust

oil rendered from tiny eulachon “candlefish,” a commodity the Chilkats bartered for furs, hides and copper nuggets from upcountry Athabaskan tribes. Decades before, Chilkats raiding the Hudson’s Bay Co.’s upper-Yukon post, Fort Selkirk, had exiled its factors for the next 80 years.

After paying a hefty toll to chief Kohklux (who’d fortified his clan house with two canons from a Russian shipwreck), the six White men sponsored by Frank

Leslie probed the headwaters of their Chilkat porters’ home river. They traversed ravines, icy creeks, crusty snowfields and the “cheerless” heading glacier before descending the pass to Kusawa Lake. There, Dalton and the expedition’s executive officer, Edward Glave, parted ways with the others to loop back to the gulf. Dalton schlepped three pairs of snowshoes, a gold pan, a bread pan and four saucepans belted around his waist, besides a rifle, revolver and ammunition. Glave, an artist and journalist—lugging one big kettle, teapot, blankets, a sack of books, camera, overcoat and one wild duck—commented on their clanging, which “might have aptly served as the heralding strains of the Salvation Army.” At one point, perhaps simply because he could, Dalton piggybacked Glave and his burden to ford a stream: Christopher with a hogleg, patron saint of bush travelers. Glave, whom fever killed in the Congo, remembered him as “a most desirable partner, having excellent judgment, cool and deliberate in time of danger, [who] possessed great tact in dealing with the Indians.”

The two secured a canoe and the services of a shaman as guide on the rowdy Alsek that split the Coastal Range.



flailing, and flopping like stranded salmon, trying to shake the things off. Somewhere on their journey, a snow bridge collapsed, and a horse plunged into a stream coursing underneath. In the lowlands, their mounts floundered up to the saddle blankets in morass, but the riders, unloading, unsaddling and pulling on lead ropes, saved them. The

It spat them out in Dry Bay soaked through and sore.

Hauling Horses and Hauling Ass

Regrouping in the spring of 1891, realizing the potential for a byway of their own, the partners adopted a freighting method unseen in the north. They pastured four “short, chunky” packhorses bought in Seattle and landed at Lynn Canal’s Pyramid Harbor, near present-day Haines, Alaska. Wanting to keep this trek to the interior low profile, they hired just two Chilkat guides and an interpreter. No horses had ever been in that country—the Indians and miners doubted their worth in such rough, steep terrain. Before Dalton introduced pack stock, Native trade parties—snowshoeing in winter—could take more than a month, with up to 100 men each carrying 100 pounds or more.

Dalton, expecting deep, soft snows at the 4,750-foot summit, cobbled together four sets of horse snowshoes from spruce-sapling loops webbed with plaited rope that resembled oversized lawn-tennis rackets. The horses at first did not value these trappings. Snorting and trembling, they reared up, savagely



A detail of Gold Region Approaches, an 1897 map, shows the Dalton Trail from Chilkat Inlet to Fort Selkirk on the upper Yukon River.

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Map Collection,
Courtesy Stanford Libraries

mosquitoes were so thick that the men sometimes couldn’t discern the horses’ outlines. At camp, Dalton hobbled the

In 1898, Fort Selkirk was a key trading post on the upper Yukon River and terminus of the Dalton Trail.

True West Archives



string, lest bugs stampede it for a hundred miles. Those nags soldiering on under 250-pound packs in subzero temperatures impressed Indians used to crawling on hands and knees up treacherous pitches with their wares while strapped into tump-lines; they soon paid Dalton for hauling goods into the Yukon River watershed. Challenge came air-borne also. Exploring Kluane Lake

in an Indian cottonwood dugout with oars and a jury-rigged sail, Dalton and Glave almost drowned, hypothermic and dashed against cliffs, when a freak storm capsized their boat. They lost irreplaceable gear, Dalton's pocket watch, a compass and sextant, rifles, ammo and cooking utensils.

Dalton spent most of 1892 and 1893 scouting a better packhorse trail from Pyramid Harbor. Felling timber, corduroying marshy spots with logs cut short, and building bridges, he smoothed out the trail that would bear his name. Roads to the claims often were poorly maintained, arduous and risky. Streams had to be crossed and recrossed dozens of times. Ice banks girdling them meant wagons teetered several feet to a trough's bottom where currents endangered men and beasts. Snowmelt on hot days swelled rivers; quicksand posed further obstacles.

Dan McGinnis, a store clerk in Haines, accused Dalton of trying to monopolize trade in the region, which on March 6, 1893, led to a showdown. McGinnis had told some Chilkats about Dalton's planned trail and post in the southwestern Yukon that would siphon off their profits. During a struggle for Dalton's revolver at Murray's cannery store, a shot wounded the clerk, who died on the way to the Juneau hospital. According to

sworn court testimony from the sole eyewitness, Dalton had confronted the seated McGinnis and called him a liar before pistol-whipping him. The fourth blow triggered a shot that tore into McGinnis's shoulder. With the final blow, Dalton's weapon again discharged, putting a fatal slug in the clerk's gut. Dalton, initially jailed in Juneau, was acquitted to the dissatisfaction of citizens who asked him to leave Alaska or face consequences. A lynch mob was swayed into granting him three days to skedaddle back onto his Yukon turf.

Three Houses and a Graveyard

That terrain, familiar by now, ranged from mosquito-riddled swamps to a "good hard road covered with reindeer moss." The trail he'd blazed by chopping bark from trees as bright beacons culminated after 1,700 feet of switchbacks gaining a pass, the only steep part. At Glacier Camp, 30 miles past the summit, a panorama of 26 ice floes greeted the weary. His trails were well suited for horses, cattle and sheep, easier yet longer than the alternate routes over the Chilkoot and White Pass trails, but Dalton's dream realized never drew comparable numbers.

Living with a common-law Native wife, the bad hombre in 1895 established

Dalton's Post near Neska-ta-heen—"three houses and a graveyard"—at an Alsek River crossing. He exchanged blankets, guns, powder, flour, knives, axes, matches, kettles and tobacco for mink, marten, bear, otter, beaver and fox pelts his wife's people trapped.

Horses proved to be hardy enough to winter at that elevation. The Natives, mar-

veling at the snorting, antlerless creatures, feared them. A surveyor Dalton hired fixed the approximate border, the grandiloquently named Dalton Trail



A party of '98ers, including a woman, crossed the Kluane River in Southeast Alaska's Coast Mountains before reaching Glacier Camp.

Courtesy Hathi Trust

International Boundary Line, beyond the summit. A North West Mounted Police detachment at Neska-ta-heen curbed smuggling and protected Klondikers. One '98er reported Dalton's Post shelves "piled high with calicoes, and gingham, shoes, hats, tin pans, plates, and cups, while from the

Jack Dalton prospected on snowshoes along the Dalton Trail in 1898.

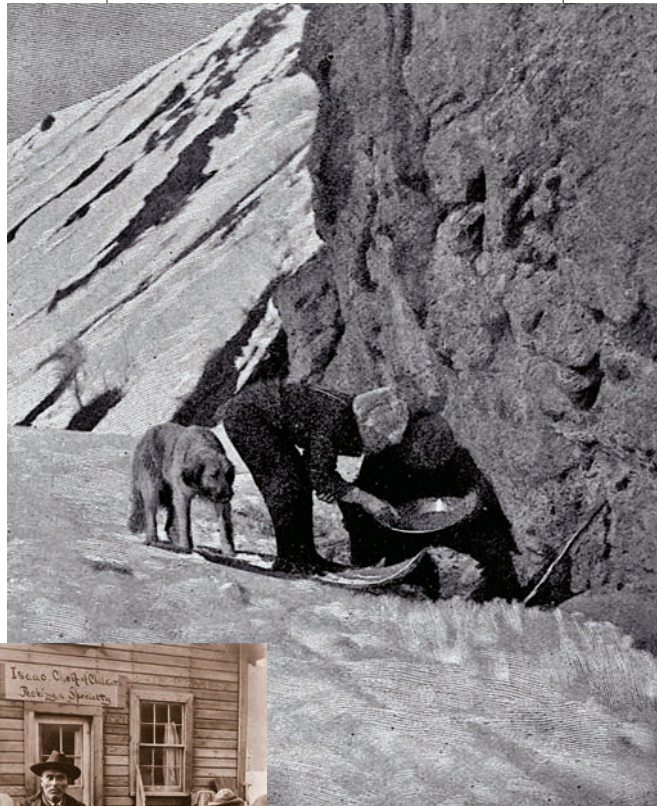
Courtesy Hathi Trust

roof-beams depended kettles, pails, steel traps, guns and snowshoes.” In 1898, with the owner gone guiding, members of Soapy Smith’s Skagway gang supposedly robbed several thousand dollars there, but their operating in Canada is unverified.

In 1894, Dalton had leased a parcel of land and a warehouse at Haines Mission to trade with local Tlingits. Working with the Studebaker Brothers Manufacturing Co., he also improved commercial freight “bobsleds” billed to withstand “rough hard usage over the almost impassable Alaska trails.” His summit trail fully functioned when Klondike fever broke out in 1897. About 2,000 beeves for feeding the miners tramped it the following summer. Even reindeer were herded up that subarctic Silk Road. A presumed food shortage in the previous winter had prompted the U.S. government to finance a relief effort. Five hundred Norwegian reindeer left Haines, though most starved to death before reaching the alpine zone’s lichens. A mere 114 trotted into Circle City nearly a year later, in January 1899.

Pioneer Grit

From that year on, with the Secretary of the Interior’s approval, Dalton charged stampeders dearly for the right to use his highway to riches on the American side—\$2.50 per head of cattle, horse, mule or burro, the daily wage of a brewer or baker, collected at a toll tent three hours from Lynn Canal. Goats, sheep and swine brought 50 cents each and walkers \$1. Merchandise



Traditional middlemen-traders, Dyea’s Tlingits specialized in freighting for the miners. Chief Isaac, left, and Don-a-wok, center, were photographed in front of their store in 1897.

Courtesy Library of Congress

was one cent a pound. The government decreed that Chilkats got to commute for free. At Rink Rapid or Fort Selkirk, endpoints of a fork in Dalton’s trail, livestock boarded scows or timber rafts, which whisked it downstream to Dawson. Pack trains numbered up to 250 horses, and oxen pulled winter sled loads. *McClure’s Magazine* advised tenderfoot “cheechakos” not set out before May 15, because of the lack of forage in the high country before then, and to each take a saddle horse and a few packhorses. A Dalton

sideline, the Pony Express Co., conveyed passengers (and once, mail) from steamers anchored in Pyramid Harbor to those plying the Yukon River below Rink Rapid, which made for a 10- to-12-day trip between Southeast Alaska’s Panhandle and Dawson. Keeping horses at both ends and personally guiding some parties, Dalton charged \$150 for the Haines-to-Rink Rapid leg or the reverse.

Spring transformed many Klondike approaches into hoof-churned sludge. “When the roads are in a mire, then the freighters earn their hire,” a drovers’ song went. They slathered pitch or bacon fat around the ears and eyes of pack animals plagued by “a hideous assortment of teasing insects.” When freighters’ bitten heads got too lumpy to fit into

Stampeders sledged up the Chilkat River at the head of the Dalton Trail in 1898.

Courtesy Hathi Trust



hats, men smeared these ointments on themselves.

Dalton jealously guarded his brainchild against trespassers. He shadowed one group wanting to skip the toll while it wandered through bogs and underbrush and lost most of its stock. His trace stayed competitive until The White Pass & Yukon Route railway was finished in 1900 but still attracted some business in the decade after.



The Dalton Trail became a key highway of commerce for Americans and Canadians traversing the Yukon River region at Dalton's Cache, Alaska Territory, and Pleasant Camp, Yukon Territory.

Courtesy Library of Congress



The Alaska-Yukon boundary was an isolated and rugged outpost of two nations in 1900.

Courtesy Library of Congress

Pack oxen like these shown on the Chilkoot Trail were also used on the Dalton Trail. The resting packers are either inland Tagish Athabaskans or Tlingits.

Courtesy Library of Congress



Highways of History

Further inviting progress, in 1905 Dalton reconnoitered a railroad right-of-way from the central Gulf of Alaska port Cordova up the Copper River. He pummeled a foreman who'd supplied Dalton's employees with liquor there and a government agent who refused to sign the payroll for men Dalton supervised.

The pugnacious pathfinder managed a hotel in Haines before leaving Alaska forever in 1919. He kept a shotgun loaded with rock salt under the bar of his saloon for unruly patrons. Perhaps owing to his reputation, many challenged him. The Chilkat chief Cutewait ("Indian Jim"), afraid of losing his edge on trade, tried to sabotage Dalton's trail venture. Taking a potshot, he nicked one of his target's fingers. Another tough threatened to open a bar next door to one of Dalton's

establishments, but the proprietor told him off with his fists.

A trailblazing gene marked one of Dalton's progeny too. Today's 414-mile, gravel umbilicus linking Fairbanks and Prudhoe Bay's Arctic oilfields was named after his second son, James W. Dalton. A University of Alaska graduate serving with the Naval Construction Battalions (CBs or "Seabees") in the Pacific Theater, James helped engineer the Distant Early Warning Line during the Cold War and worked as a consultant for the North Slope's Naval Petroleum Reserve.

While James fought Japan, the Haines Cutoff stretch of his father's trail revived as the Haines Highway, connected tidewater with Haines Junction in the Yukon, on the strategic Alaska-Canada or ALCAN Highway. The rest of the original 350-mile track to Fort Selkirk lies overgrown or has been erased by logging roads or rivers' channel-switching. Still, the Klondike's only trail built largely by one man and as a toll road, remains a token scar, a sign of pioneer grit, on North America's final frontier.



Michael Engelhard is the author of *Ice Bear: The Cultural History of an Arctic Icon*. A pathfinder himself, he guided people in Alaska and the canyon country for over 20 years.

TRUE WEST
EXCLUSIVECLASSIC
GUNFIGHTSQUICK AS
LIGHTNING
AND USED TO
KILLING MENBILLY "THE KID"
CLAIBORNE
VS
BUCKSKIN
FRANK LESLIETOMBSTONE
LIVES UP TO ITS CLAIM:
A MAN FOR BREAKFAST
EVERY MORNING

Buckskin Frank Leslie coolly gives
Billy "the Kid" Claiborne his due.

Illustrations by Bob Boze Bell

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Based on the research of Jack DeMattos and Chuck Parsons

It's 7:30 a.m. on a Tuesday, and Buckskin Frank Leslie is talking to several friends in the Oriental Saloon in Tombstone. Billy "the Kid" Claiborne saunters in and begins insulting Leslie, who is the head bartender of the saloon's tony gambling hall. Leslie's currently off duty.

After enduring several abusive remarks, Leslie takes Claiborne aside and says, "Billy don't interfere, these people are friends among themselves, and are not talking about politics at all, and don't want you about." (Some evidence suggests Leslie and his cronies had been discussing a recent close election for county sheriff between Dave Neagle, Jerome Ward and Larkin Carr. Ward won.)

Leslie rejoins his friends, but Claiborne, who is obviously drunk, returns and starts in on Leslie again, using "exceedingly abusive language," Leslie says.

A fed up Leslie takes Claiborne by his coat collar and leads him to the front door, telling him not to get mad because it's for his own good.

As they reach the sidewalk, the hot-headed cowboy pushes Leslie away. Shaking his finger at the dapper dandy, Claiborne says, "That's all right Leslie, I'll get even with you."

Shortly afterwards, Oriental bartender W.J. Mason leaves work. On Allen Street, he encounters Claiborne, who is still fuming. Having witnessed the encounter between Claiborne and Leslie, Mason tells Claiborne to cool off. As a gesture of goodwill, he invites the red-headed youngster to join him for a fish breakfast. Claiborne refuses the offer and tells Mason that instead, he is going to retrieve his Winchester and "settle the matter at once."

Minutes later, Otto Johnson sees Claiborne steaming toward the Oriental, with a holster over his left shoulder and a Winchester rifle in his right hand.

A bootblack, William Henry Bush, tries to dissuade Claiborne from his

mission, but he gets a terse reply: "No, you black son of a bitch, I will kill you."

Informed of the threat outside by Johnson, Leslie coolly picks up a pistol, walks to the side door that fronts on Fifth Street and peers out toward the corner. He sees almost a foot of rifle barrel protrude from the end of a fruit stand, which is abutting the sidewalk at Fifth and Allen.

Leslie quietly closes the door behind him and walks out on the sidewalk. He quickly steps in the street to look around the fruit stand to make sure it is Claiborne, before stepping back on the sidewalk and saying, "Billy don't shoot. I don't want you to kill me, nor do I want to have to shoot you."

Before Leslie can say anymore, Claiborne raises his rifle and fires, but the bullet misses. Leslie returns the fire and hits the left breast of Claiborne, who doubles over.

As Leslie advances on his prone adversary with his pistol at full cock, a police officer runs up and disarms Leslie, placing him under arrest. Leslie tells the officer, "I am sorry. I might have done more, but I couldn't do less."

Eyewitness George Parsons notes in his diary, "Frank didn't lose the light of his cigarette during the encounter. Wonderfully cool man."

Claiborne is taken to the nearby office of Dr. Willis, who describes the bullet wound as entering the breast on the left side and opening in the back to the spinal column. Believing the victim to be dying (he is), Willis sends Claiborne to the county hospital, but before he goes, Claiborne tells the doctor, "Leslie is a murdering son of a bitch to shoot a man in the back."

Unmoved by the claim, Willis later testifies he's confident Claiborne "received the wound in the front." A coroner's jury agrees and Leslie is set free.



Claiborne stands outside the front door of the Oriental (top), screaming at Leslie to come out and fight. Claiborne is drunk and doesn't count on Leslie coming out the side door.



Witnesses testify Claiborne fires first, but his shot is low, and the bullet thuds into the boardwalk.



Some believe Leslie may have had a suspicious motive for killing Claiborne.



Nashville Franklyn Leslie:

Leslie (aka Buckskin Frank) stands 5 feet, 7 inches tall and weighs 135 lbs. He's a ladies' man, sharpshooter, scout, head bartender and killer (he claims to have killed 14 men). Although his father's surname is Kennedy, "family troubles" cause him to adopt his mother's maiden name, Leslie.

Leslie, ready to shoot Claiborne again, tells the arresting officer who stops him, "I am sorry. I might have done more, but I couldn't do less."

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

The shooting of Billy "the Kid" Claiborne hurt business in the Oriental so much, owner Milt Joyce was forced to relieve Buckskin Frank Leslie of his duties. He generously gave Leslie a job running his cattle ranch in the Swisshelm Mountains, east of town.

A motive? Some said when Claiborne came into the Oriental, the hot-headed young cowboy flat out accused Leslie of killing his idol, Johnny Ringo, who had been found dead several months earlier some 90 miles northeast of Tombstone. Just prior to his body being found, Ringo had been on a protracted drinking spree with—none other than—Leslie. (Some said Claiborne was in on the bender.)

According to local legend, Leslie sometimes demonstrated his amazing marksmanship by shooting flies off the ceilings in Tombstone's Allen Street saloons. One local said, "He always shot from the hip and could hit a fly at thirty feet."

Recommended: Jack DeMattos and Chuck Parsons' *They Called Him Buckskin Frank: The Life and Adventures of Nashville Franklyn Leslie* (University of North Texas Press).

"He [Leslie] had a fine voice and sang well, told good stories, never complained, never tired; in short, he was the life of the party."

—Billy Breakenridge (below), from his book *HellDorado*





CLASSIC TRUE WEST FROM THE TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

Editor's Note: Film and television writer/producer Jeb J. Rosebrook (father of our editor) was a regular contributor to *True West* for many years before his passing in 2018. If you'd like to read more of Jeb's articles like "Uncle Chick, Me and the Christmas Tree" from the November/December 2009 issue, please go to TrueWestMagazine.com and subscribe for full access to nearly 70 years' worth of exciting issues of *True West*.

BY JEB J. ROSEBROOK

UNCLE CHICK, ME AND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Looking back at Charles Orme's ranch school, where
students are still taught to this day.

The aging Chevrolet Carryall van turned off the Old Black Canyon Highway at Poland Junction between Mayer and Humboldt, Arizona, and began to follow the narrow, winding, muddy road up to the snowy Bradshaw Mountains. Charles Henry Orme, a powerfully built man, nearing 53, was driving. A small passenger bounced along in the front seat beside him. The year was 1945, and I was 10 years old. It was the first Christmas I had ever been away from my family. The man I would always know as "Uncle Chick" was taking me with him on a very special trip—to bring back a Christmas tree.

I was an asthmatic and had been sent West on doctor's orders with my mother from our family home outside of Stamford, Connecticut. Late at night, as the Santa Fe Chief pulled into the Ash Fork rail station, my



The front gate with the Quarter Circle V-Bar brand has welcomed students and visitors back home for more than nine decades.

All images courtesy Orme School, Orme Family and Jeb J. Rosebrook

mother and I saw the silhouette of a tall man wearing a cowboy hat. He was "Mr. Orme" to me that night and later Uncle Chick.

With his wife "Aunt Minna," he founded the Quarter Circle V-Bar Ranch School in 1929. A small group of boys and girls came not only to

attend the school but to share in the responsibilities of the working ranch as well. When I first arrived that February, fresh from the fourth grade, there were 10 of us. We were taught by one teacher in an adobe schoolhouse.

Like my fellow students, I learned to feed chickens and helped out in the

roundups and branding. Now I was part of the real West. I did not have to visit the doctor for shots. I did not wheeze; I could breathe. I did miss my parents.

The following September, I returned as a fifth-grader. By November I learned I would not see my parents until June, as they could not come West to be with me at Christmas. An aunt in California had asked me to stay with her; she promised a visit to Republic Studios and the opportunity to meet my hero Gene Autry.

But, even with all of my classmates gone home for the holidays, I wanted

Uncle Chick, rancher, educator, politician, was a father figure to students at the school for decades.

to be with Aunt Minna and Uncle Chick.

On that December day I accepted Uncle Chick's invitation to join him on the search for a Christmas tree. Soon enough the narrow road gave way from mud to snow.

At a place where he could turn around, Uncle Chick parked the Carryall. We got out, looking at thickly growing pines in every direction.

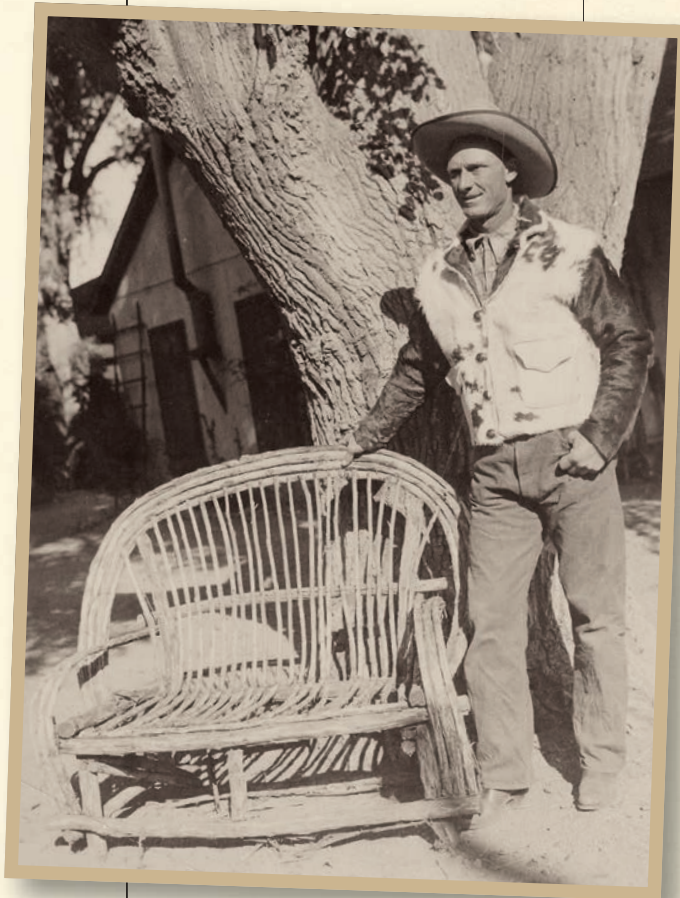
The sun had gone behind the clouds. The sky turned gray. It was very cold. Uncle Chick carried the ax, and we cut through the snow in search of a tree.

I cannot recall how far we walked. Nor did I wonder whether years before he had taken his own children into these

mountains to bring home a tree, or if perhaps this day he had wanted company of one so young, so believing in Christmas and the excitement of the tree.

What I do remember was that I was pleased he chose me to accompany him. Just the two of us, rubber boots crunching into snow, until high on a hillside he found the tree of his choice. I heard no wind, just the sound of his ax working into that pine, an echo across the Bradshaws I shall never forget.

The ride back to the ranch was freezing and windy because the back end of the Carryall was open to accommodate the full length and growth of that magnificent tree.



Christmas Day came clear and cold. Uncle Chick and Aunt Minna were joined by their daughter Kathryn, a student at Stanford, and their oldest son Charles Jr. and his bride of seven months Muriell. (Middle son Mort was away in the Pacific in the Marine Corps.) And there was me.

I spoke with my folks by telephone, received wonderful gifts from them, including a chemistry set and a Gene Autry guitar. The sound of their voices so far away made me miss them terribly.

Yet the most wonderful gift of all was the tree standing in a prominent corner of the Main House.



The Ormes promised "they would raise your children, just as they had raised their own," which included daily chores, from washing dishes (see circa 1938 photo above) to milking the cows.



Mort Orme, Ted White, Katie Orme and Charles H. Orme Jr. were four of the first students at the Orme ranch school, circa 1930.



The arrow sign with the Orme family's Quarter Circle V-Bar brand has been directing students and visitors to the ranch since 1929.

I may have been a long way from home, but I had gone into the mountains and the snow, and had been part of one man's life on the

day he went to find the family Christmas tree. On that Christmas Day, 1945, I became a part of his family as I would be for years to come.

Charles H. Orme Sr. would go on to serve 16 years representing Yavapai County as a state senator. Aunt Minna was elected into the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame in 1989. Their son, Charles Jr., served for more than 40 years as headmaster of what would become the Orme School, one of the country's leading college preparatory boarding schools. The adobe schoolhouse is still used by students.



The late **Jeb J. Rosebrook**, a writer/producer for film and television, had also written extensively for *Arizona Highways* magazine.



Katie Orme, Sue Bolander and Barbara Norwell are taking a break from chasing cattle at the Quarter Circle V-Bar in 1938.



Three cowboy-students, Jeb Rosebrook, Jolly Stevens and Mike Rawson, ready themselves for spring roundup at the Orme ranch school, circa 1946.



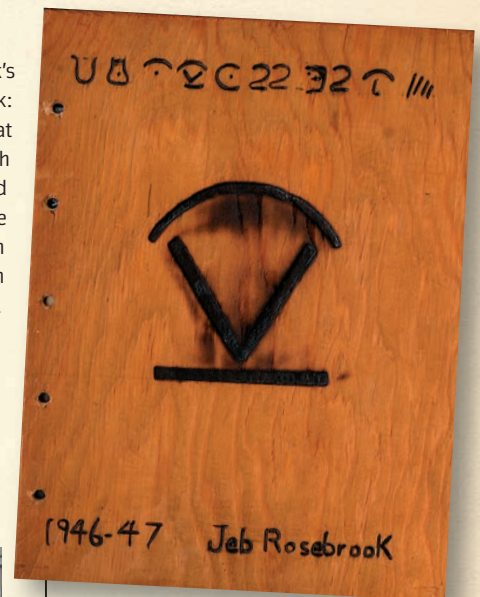
Ranch work was a part of everyday life for the students, as it was for the Orme family. Charles H. Orme Sr. and his two sons, Mort (at left) and Charles (at right), are headin' out to gather some cattle in 1929.

Branding was part of the tradition of roundup for all students at Orme, from the 1920s to the 1970s.



Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Orme Sr., the founders of the Quarter Circle V-Bar Ranch School, were known to the students fondly as Uncle Chick and Aunt Minna.

Jeb Rosebrook's 1946-47 Yearbook: Every student at the Orme ranch school received a handmade yearbook, with branded wooden covers.



Students of all ages attended classes in the one-room adobe schoolhouse with one teacher for all grades, circa 1937.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

For the first time ever, every issue of *True West* magazine is now online, including Jeb J. Rosebrook's original, unabridged article as it appeared in the November/December 2009 issue. To learn more about how you can read all of Rosebrook's articles and subscribe to *True West* Archives, go to TrueWestMagazine.com.
Our past awaits you!

BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS

On the Trail of Ashley's 100

An adventure awaits those who follow the Western routes of the mountain men.



One of the greatest legacies of William Ashley and Andrew Henry founding the American Fur Company in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1822 is the tradition of the annual mountain man rendezvous. The Mountain Man Museum in Pinedale, Wyoming, holds its annual Green River Rendezvous the second full weekend in July.

Alfred Jacob Miller's "Pipe of Peace at the Rendezvous" Courtesy the Stark Museum, Orange, Texas

It might not be the most famous advertisement in the annals of Old West history, but when you look at the names who answered the call, it surely ranks up there:

To Enterprising Young Men

The subscriber wishes to engage ONE HUNDRED MEN, to ascend the river Missouri to its source, there to be employed for one, two or three years. – For particulars, enquire Major Andrew Henry, near

the Lead Mines, in the County of Washington, (who will ascend with, and command the party) or to the subscriber at St. Louis.

*Wm. H. Ashley.
February 13*

Among those answering the ad, which appeared in the *Missouri Gazette*, *Missouri Republican* and *St. Louis Enquirer* between February 13 and March 26, 1822, were Jim Beckwourth,

Jim Bridger, David E. Jackson, Tom Fitzpatrick, Jedediah Smith and William Sublette. Even Mike Fink tagged along.

A Virginia native born in 1778, Ashley arrived at the lead mines in St. Genevieve, Missouri, in 1802 and moved to St. Louis in 1819. He became lieutenant governor in 1820, and in 1821—the year Missouri was admitted as the 24th state—he was appointed brigadier general of state militia.



Mountain men Jim Bridger, James Beckwourth and Jedediah Smith were among the trappers who traveled up the Missouri into the Rockies as employees of Ashley and Henry's American Fur Company.

True West Archives



Ashley befriended another lead miner, Pennsylvania-born Andrew Henry, who had helped incorporate Manuel Lisa's St. Louis Fur Company and had partnered with Lisa on their upriver journeys, establishing a post at the Three Forks of the Missouri River.

St. Louis (Gateway Arch National Park, Jefferson Barracks County Park, Missouri History Museum) had been founded in 1764 by fur traders Pierre Laclède and Auguste Chouteau, while nearby St. Charles (Lewis & Clark Boat House and Museum, First Missouri State Capitol Historic Site) was home to many workers in the fur trade, including Sublette.

Ashley and Henry had competition. The Missouri Fur Company, headed by Joshua Pilcher and Thomas Hempstead, had sent a party of 180 men up the river from St. Charles to the mouth of the Big Horn River in present-day Montana. Meanwhile, the French and Columbia fur companies were hard at work to launch their own expeditions.

Ashley and Henry were sweating. Supplies were late arriving, and a deal for a second keelboat fell through. That led Henry to decide to take more than 100 men on one boat and on horseback to reach the Yellowstone's mouth and have a fort erected before fall. They shoved and rode off on April 3.

"They are described to be of vigorous and masculine appearance, well armed, and prepared for a 3-year tour through this almost unknown and savage country," the *New York Spectator* opined. "This Expedition, it is added, can be truly said to be composed of the Yeomanry of Missouri, who have



The Gateway Arch Museum at Gateway Arch National Park in St. Louis provides visitors—and travelers retracing the American Fur Company's route via the Missouri River—a great introduction to America's Westward expansion in the 19th century.

Courtesy NPS.com

embarked in an enterprise which, if they are successful, will not only be very profitable to themselves, but a great national benefit; in laying the foundation for an extensive fur-trade, and proving, to the effeminate Sons who remain at home, that activity is the true source of wealth and greatness."

Ashley stayed behind to find another boat and send it when the supplies finally arrived.

On May 8, a keelboat named the *Enterprise*, commanded by Daniel S.D. Moore, headed up the river with the necessary supplies. "... Ashley sat back," Richard M. Clokey wrote in *William H. Ashley: Enterprise and Politics in the Trans-Mississippi West*, "to await reports of the expedition's initial success."

The first report, however, wasn't good.

Moore returned to St. Louis without his boat on June 3. The *Enterprise* had capsized and sunk roughly 260 miles upstream below Fort Osage, established in 1808 by William Clark (now a national historic landmark in Sibley, Missouri). The men aboard survived, but \$10,000 worth of supplies were lost.

Before the Mountain Men

This is a good time to point out that the Missouri River wasn't uncharted waters by then. Just across the Illinois state line, at the confluence of the

Missouri and Mississippi, Lewis & Clark State Historic Site near Hartford features an excellent 14,000-square-foot interpretive center and reconstructed camp at Camp River Dubois, the "point of departure" for the Corps of Discovery.

Ashley had work to do. "Creditors were still willing to back him," Clokey writes, but Ashley had to sell his four city lots to help pay for a new keelboat and more supplies. Somehow, he came up with 46 new recruits and supplies—including bacon and pilot bread, so the men would not need to rely as heavily on hunting their supper.

Ashley also made another decision. "Leaving nothing to chance," Barton H. Barbour writes in *Jedediah Smith: No Ordinary Mountain Man* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2009), "he decided to lead the expedition himself."

They joined the *Enterprise* travelers and moved on land and the muddy Missouri.

Rollin' on the River

They traveled past what's now Council Bluffs, Iowa (Historic General Dodge House, Union Pacific Railroad Museum), and to newly established Fort Atkinson at present-day Calhoun, Nebraska (Fort Atkinson State Historical Park), then through South Dakota and past the mouth of the Grand River near Mobridge



The Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Bismarck, North Dakota, provides visitors with interactive and in-depth exhibits on the Corps of Discovery's 1804-05 journey north to their winter quarters on the Missouri near the present-day capital city. The American Fur Company followed the Corps' maps and methods in establishing an American fur trading company.

Courtesy North Dakota Office of Tourism

(Klein Museum), where Ashley traded with the Arikara Indians for horses that would be needed to get the trappers up the Yellowstone.

On October 1, Ashley and the reinforcements reached Henry's Fort near the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers. They made plans for the coming enterprise, which would send trappers into Montana, Wyoming and other fur strongholds. The keelboat arrived two weeks later, and Ashley returned with furs, a plan and a vision. He was back in St. Louis in a month.

A New Era

Sure, you can find lots of great mountain-men stories, and more than 100 legendary fur trappers, scouts, entrepreneurs and mountain men. But listen to James A. Crutchfield, Western Writers of America's Owen Wister Award recipient known for his frontier nonfiction:

"Many fur trade companies existed in North America before William H. Ashley and Andrew Henry set out to 'engage one hundred men to ascend the river Missouri to its source.' Many more outfits were organized after the birth of this enterprise, which was the

predecessor of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company. However, with the likes of Jim Bridger, Milton and William Sublette, James Beckwourth, Jed Smith, Thomas Fitzpatrick and other veteran mountain men on the payroll, few of the other companies could compete with the RMF and the success of Ashley's brilliant innovation, the 'rendezvous system.'"



Johnny D. Boggs also recommends Harrison Clifford Dale's *The Explorations of William H. Ashley and Jedediah Smith, 1822-1829* (The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1941) and Robert M. Utley's *A Life Wild and Perilous: Mountain Men and the Paths to the Pacific* (Henry Holt and Company, 1997).

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Preserve Arizona is a non-profit foundation dedicated to saving historic buildings from the territorial period in Arizona. Currently, we are attempting to raise money to save the *Bucket of Blood Saloon* and three adjoining structures in the town of Holbrook. We need your help.

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A WIDE SPOT IN THE ROAD

ULYSSES S. GRANT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Ulysses S. Grant is best remembered for winning the Civil War and his not-so-great presidency. Less known is a quiet life spent near St. Louis from 1854 until 1859. After resigning from the Army, Grant settled with wife, Julia, whom he married in 1848, on her family's farm.

Turns out, he wasn't much of a farmer, and by 1860 he was clerking in his father's general store in Galena, Illinois.

Once totaling 850 acres, the farmland was sold off over the years while the home, called White Haven, remained privately owned before the NPS took over in 1989. Today, tours are available inside White Haven, and a horse stable, icehouse, chicken house and summer kitchen also have been restored.

This year also marks Grant's 200th birthday, so it's a good time to visit the 9.65-acre site roughly 10 miles southwest of downtown St. Louis in Grantwood Village, Missouri. NPS.gov



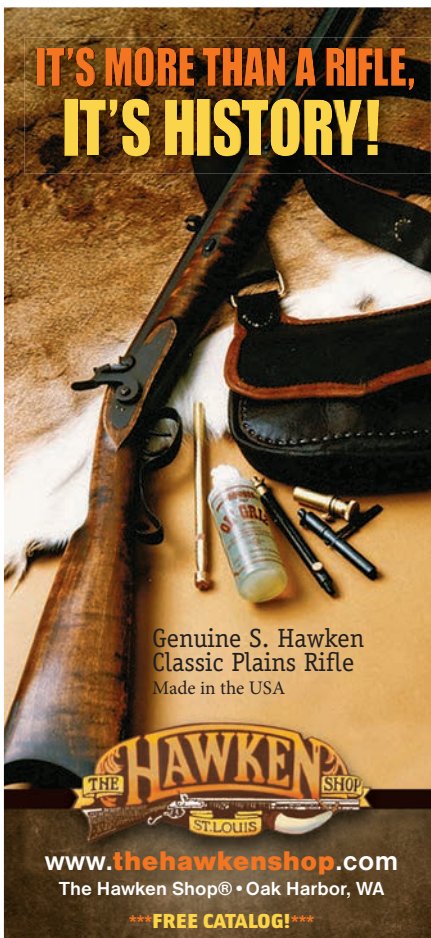
GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

GOOD GRUB: **Carl's Drive In**, Brentwood, MO; **First Ward House**, St. Joseph, MO; **Martinez Bakery**, Fort Calhoun, NE; **Hotel Albert**, Fairview, MT
GOOD LODGING: **Boone's Lick Trail Inn**, St. Charles, MO; **Magnolia Omaha**, Omaha, NE; **The Historic Farr House**, Pierre, SD; **The Blackstone Hotel**, Mandan, ND

Although Ulysses S. Grant and his wife left White Haven at the end of 1859, Grant bought the property after the Civil War, visiting occasionally until selling it a few months before his death in 1885.

Johnny D. Boggs

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 **THE MUSEUM**
AT THE GATEWAY ARCH

BY SHERRY MONAHAN

Golden Chocolate

California's famous candy companies have been making the world a sweeter place since 1849.



Frenchman Etienne Guittard came to California seeking his fortune in gold, but instead built a long-lasting bonanza in his chocolate confections.

Courtesy The Guittard Chocolate Company

One of California's contributions to our gastronomic history includes Ghirardelli, Guittard and See's chocolates. Ghirardelli and Guittard were born out of the Gold Rush era and are still beloved today. See's is a classic example of family recipes turned into a business.

Domenico Ghirardelli, later known as Domingo, was born in Rapallo, Italy, in 1817 to an exotic food importer and was introduced to the chocolate and confectionary trade at a young age and apprenticed with a local candy maker.

He arrived in America and in 1849 opened a general store in Stockton, California, where he sold supplies and confections to local miners. He opened another store on the corner of Broadway and Battery in San Francisco.

It was 1852 when Domenico opened a confectionery shop under the name of Ghirardelli & Girard at Kearny and Washington streets in San Francisco, which is now the Ghirardelli Chocolate Company. Their Broma process for processing chocolate was accidentally discovered in 1856 when a Ghirardelli

employee discovered a hanging bag of chocolate mass dripping in a warm room. The cocoa butter dripped out and left a residue that could be processed into ground chocolate that produces a more intense chocolate flavor than other techniques.

In 1867 they had a chocolate factory at 415-417 Jackson in San Francisco, where they also sold Chartres' Rio, Java and Manila coffee, ground spices, wine and liquors. They proudly advertised their cocoa was imported from Guayaquil, Ecuador. In 1869 Ghirardelli

proclaimed they were the sole chocolate manufacturer in California, and in 1871 their best chocolate cost 25 cents per pound.

Domingo finally retired in 1892 and turned the management over to his three sons. A year later they expanded and moved their manufacturing to the newly acquired Pioneer Woolen Building on San Francisco's northern waterfront, which is the present site of Ghirardelli Square. In 1903 Ghirardelli ran a riddle contest for their ground cocoa and offered prizes for the best ones. The *San Francisco Chronicle* noted, "Riddle Making is the Rage. The Newest Fun-Fad. A Merry Pastime that has 'Caught On.'"

While Ghirardelli was the well-known name connected with chocolate in San Francisco, Frenchman Etienne Guittard was emerging on the scene. Etienne went to California with the hope of striking it rich during the Gold Rush. He brought delicious chocolate from his uncle's factory to trade for mining supplies, but learned wealthy miners were willing to pay a premium for it. He realized there was a market for his chocolates, but he wanted to do it right, so he went back to France to finesse his craft. He returned to San Francisco and between 1869 and 1871 worked with other confectioners until he founded Guittard Chocolate, where he sold chocolate, coffee, tea and spices.

In 1872 Etienne and a partner named Birgham operated the Eureka Coffee, Chocolate and Spice Mill on Commercial Street. In 1874 a newspaper ad read, "French chocolate manufactured from the choicest cocoa and guaranteed superior to any imported." In 1889 his business had grown and turned into an importer of luxury items including cocoas, ground and roasted coffee, teas, spices, flavoring extracts, essential oils and even perfume.

They sourced most of their cocoa from around the Pacific, including Indonesia, Hawaii, Ecuador and Brazil, which made their chocolate unique to the West coast. Today you can get a limited-edition 62 percent chocolate that's a throwback to their original chocolate. It's made with beans sourced from the same locations they used when they opened Eureka Works, so you can enjoy a taste of their history.

The last historic chocolate company began in the early 1900s with a woman named Mary See. She and her husband ran a hotel in Canada, which is where she developed her now-famous candy recipes. After her husband passed away in 1919, her son Charles and his wife moved to Pasadena, California, and asked Mary to join them. Charles planned to start his own candy company using his mother's recipes, so they all moved into a post-Victorian bungalow. Mary made her delicious candy in the bungalow's black-and-white kitchen and only used the finest and freshest ingredients.

Charles opened the first See's Candies in Los Angeles in 1921 and was guided by his mother's values. He made her candy recipes and paid homage to his mother when he opened his first store and designed it to look like their kitchen in the bungalow where she created her candy. His vision came to life with that first shop, and he wanted it to be a place where employees were treated like family and customers were warmly greeted with a free sample.

By 1924 See's was offering over 150 varieties to choose from at eighty cents per pound, and in December 1925 they had 10 stores in Los Angeles. Only the finest and freshest ingredients were accepted in their candy kitchen, causing suppliers to coin the phrase "See's quality"—higher than "top quality." See's still uses Mary's original recipes for their peanut brittle, Victoria toffee and chocolate walnut fudge.

This recipe was included in a booklet published in 1930 titled *Tested Recipes Calling for the Use of Guittard's Ground Chocolate*.

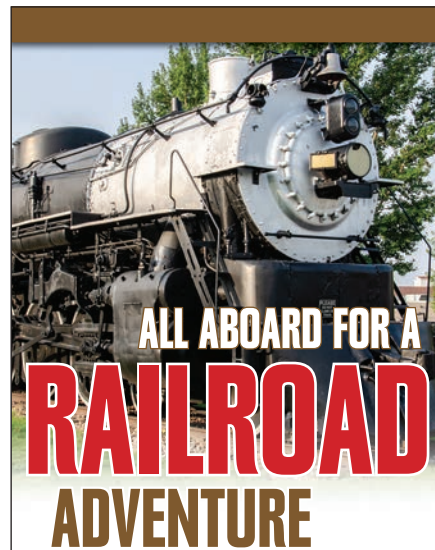
GUITTARD COCOA COOKIES

4 tablespoons shortening
1 cup sugar • ¼ cup milk
1 egg • 2 cups flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
½ cup Guittard's cocoa

Cream shortening and sugar together. Add milk and well-beaten egg. Mix well. Sift flour, baking powder, cocoa and salt together and add. Roll out ¼ inch thick on floured board. Cut with cookie cutter. Bake in hot oven 12 minutes.

Recipe courtesy of The Guittard Chocolate Company

Sherry Monahan kicked off her journey into Old West cuisine, spirits and places by authoring *Taste of Tombstone*. Visit SherryMonahan.com to learn more about her books, awards and TV appearances.



The Douglas Railroad Museum & Visitor Center is housed in the historic FE & MV Railroad Passenger Depot. The building is listed on the National Historic Register and is surrounded by seven historic railcars, including the Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad 4-8-4 Steam Locomotive #5633. Visitors to the museum are invited to go inside many of the rail cars, including a day coach, a dining



car and a sleeper, as well as a little red caboose that was opened to visitors in 2019! And ask to see the model train on display in the back room.



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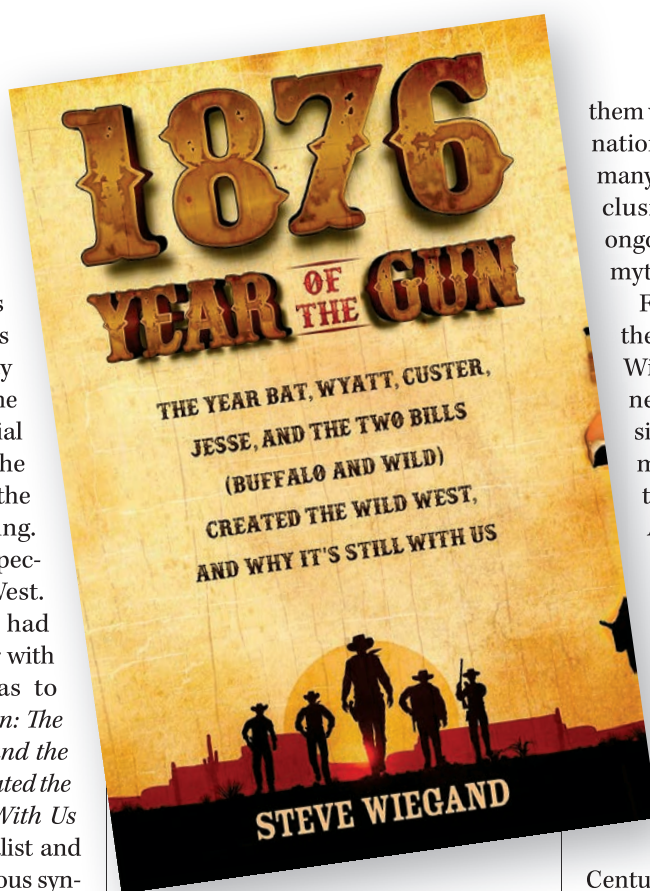
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A Legendary Year, an Epic Story

A rollicking chronicle of the West, plus a new Arizona Rangers history, new bios of Hopi potter Nampeyo and Apache Chiquito, and a new classic Western from Mark C. Jackson.

Nearly 150 years ago, America was a nation in total flux. President Ulysses S. Grant was campaigning hard for his second term. The economy was in shambles. Immigration from Europe was at an all-time high. Urban slums were overflowing with poverty and disease. Reconstruction of the South had failed. The industrial revolution was transforming the United States. Unions were on the rise. Railroads were expanding. Settlers, miners, ranchers and speculators were flooding the West. Grant's Indian peace policy had failed, and America was at war with the Native tribes from Texas to California. *1876: Year of the Gun: The Year Bat, Wyatt, Custer, Jesse, and the Two Bills (Buffalo and Wild) Created the Wild West, and Why It's Still With Us* (Bancroft Press, \$33) is journalist and author Steve Wiegand's ambitious synthesis of this violent and transformative time in American history. He captures the reader's imagination from the first page and promises a rollicking ride back in time to an era that significantly changed the country actually and mythically as much as any before or since. As Wiegand writes in his Introduction, "sometimes the legend and the fact are inextricably intertwined. Sometimes, what squeezes out is the truth."



Readers of *1876: Year of the Gun* will enjoy Wiegand's easy-to-read, informative, journalism-style prose. The native Californian shares his own personal history of his love of the West—which many will identify with—that began in childhood with the Western heroes of television and the silver screen. The author expertly weaves the lives and legends of his book title's subjects throughout 1876 and interconnects

them with facts and national and international events of the era. And—what many will appreciate—Wiegand's conclusions provide insight into the ongoing influence of the historic and mythic West on the present day.

For many of *True West's* readers, the topics, subjects and events that Wiegand writes about will not be new to them, nor will his conclusions unravel any great unsolved mysteries of the West. But what the intrepid author's synthesis of American history in 1876 does is inspire one's interest in seeking a deeper understanding of the historic profiles, events, wars, tragedies, mythologies and legend makers at the foundation of creating what we and the world call the American West. As Wiegand notes so succinctly: "What all this should tell you is that in 21st

Century America, the Wild West is still alive, and located wherever you look hard enough for it."

What's next for Wiegand? The former California journalist and American historian now lives in Arizona, where, most would agree, "legend and fact are inextricably intertwined." Here's hoping he chooses another big topic because we are all ready to saddle up and ride along for another adventure in yesteryear.

—Stuart Rosebrook

Courtesy Roy Young



A Q & A with Western Writer Roy B. Young

What inspired you and Kurt House to write *Chasing Billy the Kid: Frank Stewart and the Untold Story of the Manhunt for William H. Bonney*?

I was recently retired from a 50-year church ministry when Kurt hired me to do research on a pistol he had purchased. It had two mysterious engraved initials on the pearl grips, "F S," and came with an old affidavit giving the pistol's provenance, starting with a man named "Frank Stewart." My assignment: research the name Frank Stewart and see what we can learn about him. As it turned out, the research became a lengthy and detailed book.

How and why has Frank Stewart been overlooked for so long?

From Pat Garrett's biography of Billy the Kid to books and articles of this day, Stewart has barely been mentioned. It is not unusual that early biographers place themselves in the forefront of a story, and most later writers on Billy the Kid simply followed Garrett's lead and put Stewart in the background. 1880s New Mexico newspapers related the truth that Stewart and Garrett were co-leaders of the posse that captured Billy and the boys at Stinking Spring. Had Stewart later killed Billy, rather than Garrett, Stewart would be the main man of the stories still being told to this day.

What triggered your initial interest in writing about law and order in the Southwest?

For Kurt, it was mainly growing up with factual stories, told to him by his father and grandfather, about Texas Rangers and the outlaws/lawmen of South Texas. For me, it was learning at age 12 that my ancestor, Frank Stilwell, killed Morgan Earp and that two days later Wyatt Earp

and Doc Holliday killed Frank. Plus, I have some 25 blood relatives who served as Texas Rangers, from the first appointed in 1823, Tumlinson, Sowell, Turner and more.

How many miles and days off road did you all spend tracking Frank Stewart?

During almost five years of intensive research and study, we set aside most everything else related to our love of Old West history (except my duties as editor of the *WWHA Journal*) and concentrated on the Stewart story, as well as pulling in everything we discovered that was new, or under-covered, on Billy the Kid and his cohorts.

How should we remember Frank Stewart/John W. Green?

Frank Stewart (alias of John Wallace Green) should be remembered as equal to Pat Garrett in capturing the Kid. One of the main tenets of this book is to rectify the historical record that virtually ignores Stewart and his dedication, tenacity and bravery as detective of the Canadian River Cattlemen's Association. We saw a "hole of inaccuracy" in the published accounts ignoring Stewart's important role. He was a hero who had never received his due; he died virtually destitute, never receiving much reward or proper recognition.

What's next for the research and writing team of Roy Young and Kurt House?

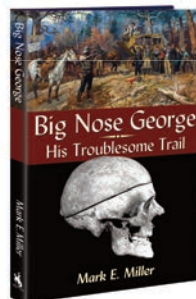
After we each complete long-standing projects: Kurt on Colt's first double-action pistol, the Model 1877, and Roy on the biography of Frank Stilwell, we are especially interested in learning more about Tom Folliard and Billie Wilson (David Anderson), friends of Billy the Kid. Also, we are planning to team up on a biography of the little-known cowboy/outlaw/lawman Gus Gildea.



Bill Betenson has researched the life and times of his great uncle Butch Cassidy. Betenson used privileged family sources, spent hours in dusty archives, and conducted interviews in South America where Butch, Sundance, and Etta lived. He offers up new information about this infamous outlaw's life and death.

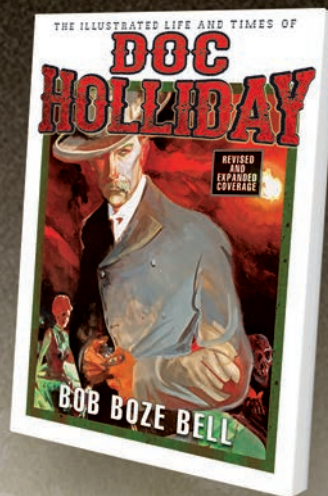
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Rangers of the Grand Canyon State

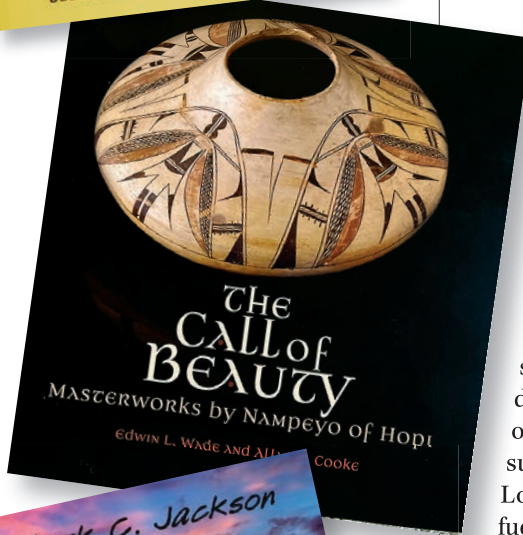
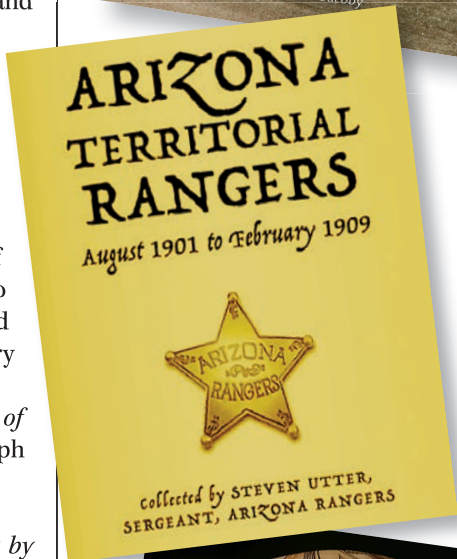
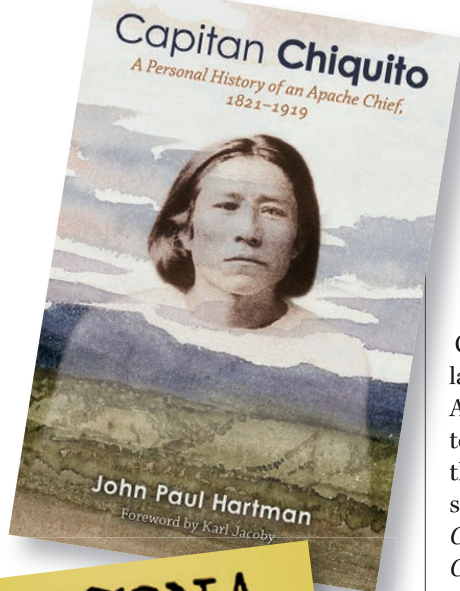
The Arizona Rangers were a short-lived law enforcement agency formed to finally bring law and order to Arizona Territory following a failed attempt at statehood. Author Steven Utter, a sergeant in the modern Arizona Rangers, has written and compiled the most expansive and important book on the subject ever published. *Arizona Territorial Rangers: August 1901 to February 1909* (Self-published, \$27.97) is an impressive 440 pages and has nearly every document, photograph, newspaper article, dispatch and other pertinent information on the Arizona Rangers available. Where Utter excels is the inclusion of many maps and photographs of Mexico where the Rangers had violent encounters. *Arizona Rangers* is one of the most significant contributions to Arizona history in many years and should be a focal point in any library of the West.

—Erik J. Wright, assistant editor of
The Tombstone Epitaph

A Classic American Artist

The Call of Beauty, Masterworks by Nampeyo of Hopi by Edwin L. Wade and Allan R. Cooke (El Otro Lado Press, in association with Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West, \$39.95) is a beautifully written and sumptuously illustrated book on this extraordinary artist, who lived circa 1860-1942. While Nampeyo's life and times have been discussed before, this book concentrates on her artistic vision, her transformation of ancient Hopi pottery traditions, her technical innovations and her worldview, making the case for Nampeyo as an important world artist—and, in essence, a modernist. Wade writes, "Nampeyo created an aesthetic, intellectual, and emotive portal into the core of Hopi experience, but also into the transcultural experience of beauty." Some of Nampeyo's finest works reside in the Allan and Judith Cooke Collection of Hopi Pottery, on view at Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West.

—James D. Balestrieri,
Clark Hulings Writer-in-Residence



An Overlooked Apache Leader

When John Paul Hartman married his wife, he also married into her Apache family which included a direct and recent lineage to chief Capitan Chiquito of the Aravaipa band. Hartman later worked for years on the San Carlos Apache Reservation before setting out to tell the story of Capitan Chiquito in this incredible new book. Deeply researched and lovingly told, *Capitan Chiquito: A Personal History of an Apache Chief, 1821-1919* (Texas A&M Press, \$35) is not only a critical addition to Apache studies, but a lesson in how to write family history. Hartman looks at his subject with an objective eye and does not cower away from ugly details, but at the same time pays homage to his wife's ancestor in a way that reveals who Capitan Chiquito was as a man and who he was to the Apache people.

—Erik J. Wright, assistant editor of
The Tombstone Epitaph

Escapades Tinged with Danger

Follow the continued adventures of Zebadiah Creed, a wilderness-hardened man with a code of honor, in *Blue Rivers of Heaven, Book Three* (Five Star, \$25.95) by Mark C. Jackson. With storytelling at its best, Zebadiah, protagonist and narrator, spins tales of his daring exploits. Well-crafted descriptive writing takes on a lyrical tone framed within the context of the 1836 era. Vivid scenes emerge for the reader depicting the sights and sounds of river and plantation life and the surrounding New Orleans area. Loyalty, betrayal and friendship fuel acts with deadly consequences. Characters find they are beholden to the choices they make impacting their lives. Readers will have to decide for themselves if Zebadiah's life comes full circle finding redemption and forgiveness or might there be more greater tales to be spun.

—Sue Ready of EverReady
Book Reviews





Photo Courtesy
Linda Wommack

COLORADO HISTORIAN SHARES FIVE FAVORITES

Linda Wommack, a contributing editor for *True West* magazine for 27 years, has written 16 books on Colorado history, her native state. She is a three-time winner of the prestigious Will Rogers Medallion Award and a two-time winner of the Wild West History Association's Six-Gun Award for best general article on the West. She is a member of Women Writing the West and serves as its DOWNING Journalism Award Chair.

❶ **Where the Old West Stayed Young** by John Rolfe Burroughs (William Morrow & Co.): This wonderful history of northwest Colorado's range wars and outlaw history includes many firsthand accounts.

❷ **Stampede to Timberline** by Muriel Sibell Wolle (Swallow Press): In the 1940s, Wolle interviewed residents of dozens of old Colorado mining areas. Their delightful stories of the old-timers are all we have left of some of these ghost towns.

❸ **Centennial** by James A. Michener (Random House): This best-selling historical novel brought a whole new audience and much needed attention to the Rocky Mountain State just in time for its centennial celebration.

❹ **Doc Holliday** by Gary Roberts (John Wiley & Sons): Roberts documents Holliday's life from his early childhood in Georgia to his final years in Colorado. His biography is the definitive history of the life of John Henry "Doc" Holliday.

❺ **Doc Holliday's Nemesis: The Story of Johnny Tyler & Tombstone's Gamblers' War** by Peter Brand (Self-Published): Brand's research has uncovered many new details of the lives of Holliday and Tyler during their time in Leadville, Colorado.

New Book! CHASING BILLY THE KID

This fully-documented book, by historians Kurt House and Roy B. Young, relates for the first time the story of Frank Stewart and the chase-and-capture of Billy the Kid, culminating at Stinking Spring, and much, much more.

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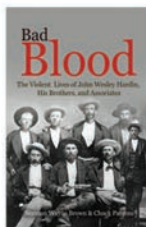
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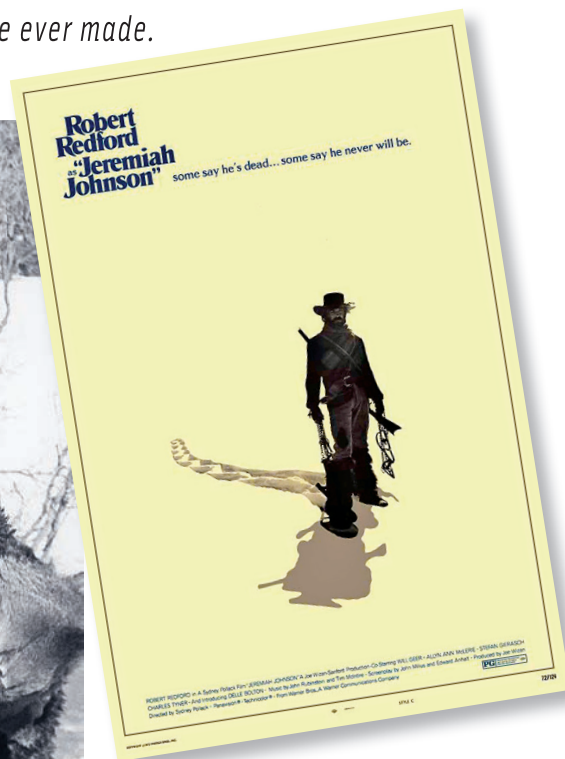
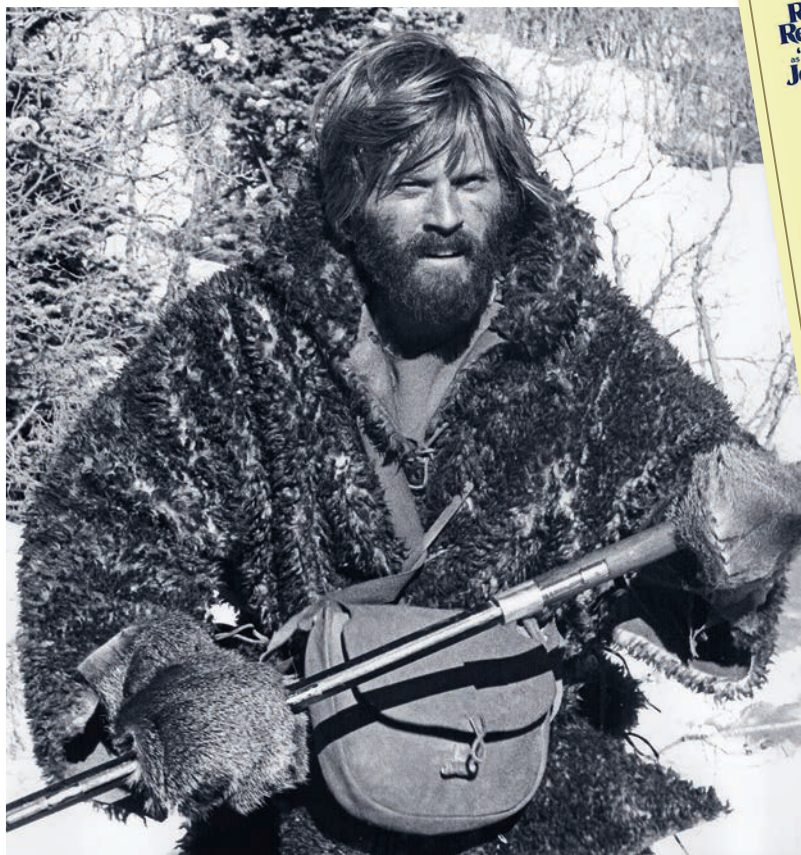
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WESTERN MOVIES

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By Henry C. Parke

Jeremiah Johnson

Half a century later, it's still the best mountain man movie ever made.



Sydney Pollack's direction of Robert Redford in *Jeremiah Johnson* is considered one of their finest collaborations and the best mountain man Western film ever produced. It was filmed entirely on location in Utah.

All Images and Poster Courtesy Warner Bros. Unless Otherwise Noted

Long before there was a grid to live off of, there were mountain men, and one of the most legendary was Jeremiah Johnson. When his Flathead wife was slain by a Crow brave, Johnson went on a vengeance spree, some claim killing and scalping as many as 300 Crows. And inspired by the Crow belief that the liver was necessary to enter the afterlife, he soon earned the sobriquet of Liver-Eating Johnson.

Originally intended for Lee Marvin, then Clint Eastwood, John Milius's script landed at Robert Redford's Wildwood Films at precisely the right moment: *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* had

proven Redford was a leading man and a convincing Westerner. And director Sydney Pollack had proven with *The Scalphunters* that he could direct powerful Westerns, on time and on budget. Although two other writers would later work on the script, nearly all of the important dialogue and scenes came from Milius's original draft.

With Warner Brothers on board, Redford was floored to learn that Pollack had agreed to shoot not in Utah, Redford's and Johnson's home, but in Spain, plus the Warner's backlot. Redford refused, and refused Lake Arrowhead, threatening to become "ill" if necessary. When the

studio insisted they couldn't make the film in Utah for the \$4 million budget, Redford guaranteed that he and Pollack would make up for any overages—a complete shock to Pollack. Happily, it came in on time and under budget.

A flawlessly directed film, with imagery and editing which leaves one, by turns, in awe, and breathless, the performances are uniformly excellent. Redford is so convincing, going from novice to master outdoorsman, that it's hard to imagine Eastwood or Marvin in the role. It has been described as the most beautiful, and saddest, of Westerns, but it is also one of the funniest. The scene in which



Indigenous American actress Delle Bolton (right) was cast as Swan, a Flathead Indian woman, who becomes Robert Redford's ill-fated wife in *Jeremiah Johnson*.

mountain man Will Geer, doubting Johnson's bragged skinning skills, chases a live grizzly into his cabin to skin, is alone worth the price of admission.

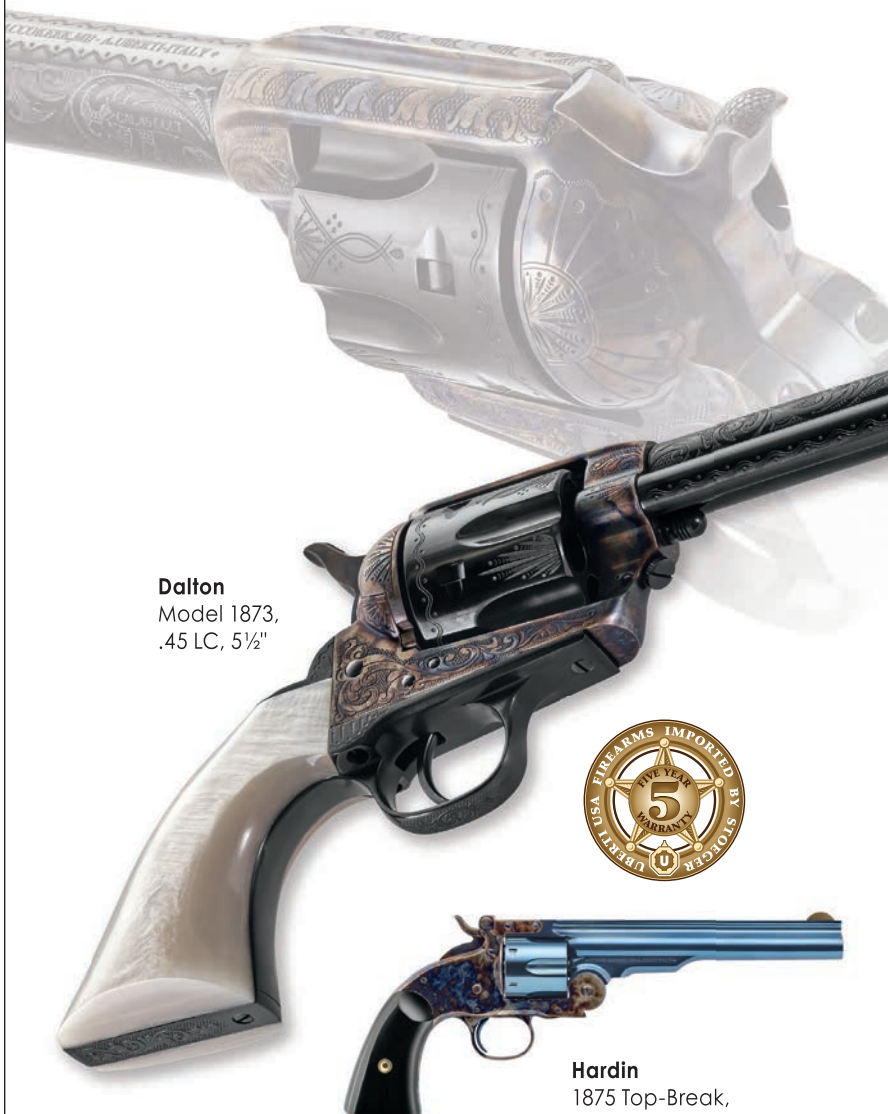
Johnson helps a woman who's gone mad from having all but one of her children slaughtered by Indians.

The boy, Caleb, is struck mute by terror, and she thrusts the boy on Johnson. Josh Albee, who at 11 was a veteran of *Gunsmoke*, and the star of the final season of *Lassie*, remembers the unusual audition, with no dialogue. "I just went in with Sydney Pollack, and I got the part, I guess, because I was pretty expressive." Josh remembers actress Allyn Ann McLerie, who played his mother, as never breaking character, even off-camera. "She was a method actress; she was always that crazy lady." That same year, she was also the school-teacher who loses all her boys to John Wayne in *The Cowboys*.

His other mother in the film, Delle Bolton, was cast as Swan, the last of 300 American Indian actresses interviewed. "She was meek; she was her part," Josh recalls. "She was very happy to be there, and she was fun." They made an unorthodox trio: Swan spoke only Flathead, Johnson spoke only English, and Caleb wouldn't speak at all. He met Redford on-set. "He'd already been a big star. It was amazing how he was just like everyday folks. We'd always be laughing."

There's no doubt of Josh's favorite memory from the set; he and Redford

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HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF



Veteran actor Will Geer was cast as wizened mountain man Bear Claw and almost stole the picture from *Jeremiah Johnson's* leading man Robert Redford.



Child actor Josh Albee made his cinematic debut at 11 years old when he costarred as the mute Caleb opposite leading man and mentor Robert Redford in *Jeremiah Johnson*.

were on horseback, and the snow was causing continuity problems. "Redford was talking to me, the snow's coming down, and then it would stop when we were halfway through [a take]. Cut! And he got very uptight. He said, 'Let's run lines,' and we went galloping up the valley. And we got pretty far up, and he just laid out this chuckle like Jeremiah

Johnson would and goes, 'I just remembered: you have no lines!'"

Along with building up the romance, the biggest improvement to Milius's script—dramatically, if not historically—was putting the killing of Johnson's pregnant wife and Caleb into a context: scouts trying to rescue some lost settlers come to Johnson for help, and he

reluctantly leads them. When they detour through the Crows' sacred burial ground, his family is slaughtered. Johnson tracks down the Crows, and in overpowering rage destroys them. But he doesn't eat their livers—the "Ballad of Liver-Eating Johnson" frequently referenced in the script became the less ferocious "Jeremiah Johnson" theme.

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And while, in a montage, he dispatches wave after wave of Crows in various settings, *they* always attack *him*: the idea that the braves wanted the honor of killing the famous Crow Killer, and he's just defending himself, is much more palatable than watching a man who is supposed to be a hero trying to wipe out a people.

"I'm just so proud that I was part of it," Josh says. "That's my one giant accomplishment in my life, only I did it at 11." Signing off, he added, "Watch your topknot!"

Watch your'n!

STREAMING REVIEW

TERROR ON THE PRAIRIE

(Streaming on Daily Wire+, DailyWire.com). When Jeb leaves wife, Hattie, their son and baby girl on their snow-covered Montana farm to look for work, who should ride up but *Justified*'s Nick Searcy and his friends.

Hattie foolishly invites them in for breakfast, but when she spots scalps on their saddles, she drives them out, and their siege on the farmhouse—which is most of the movie—begins. And soon we learn that they are attacking the farm for none of the obvious reasons. Hattie is former mixed martial arts champion-turned-actress Gina Carano, and Jeb is fellow MMA champ Cowboy Cerrone. *Terror* is extremely violent and bloody, and elegantly made, with solid performances in spite of some cliché characters and story beats, with spectacular use of locations and some original ideas.



Henry C. Parke, Western Films Editor for *True West*, is a screenwriter, and blogs at HenryWesternRoundup.blogspot.com. His book of interviews, *Indians and Cowboys*, will be published later this year.



Courtesy The Daily Wire

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BY PETER CORBETT

Bandera, Texas

Cattle-drive roots and cowboy cahoots make this Hill Country town a favorite Old West destination.



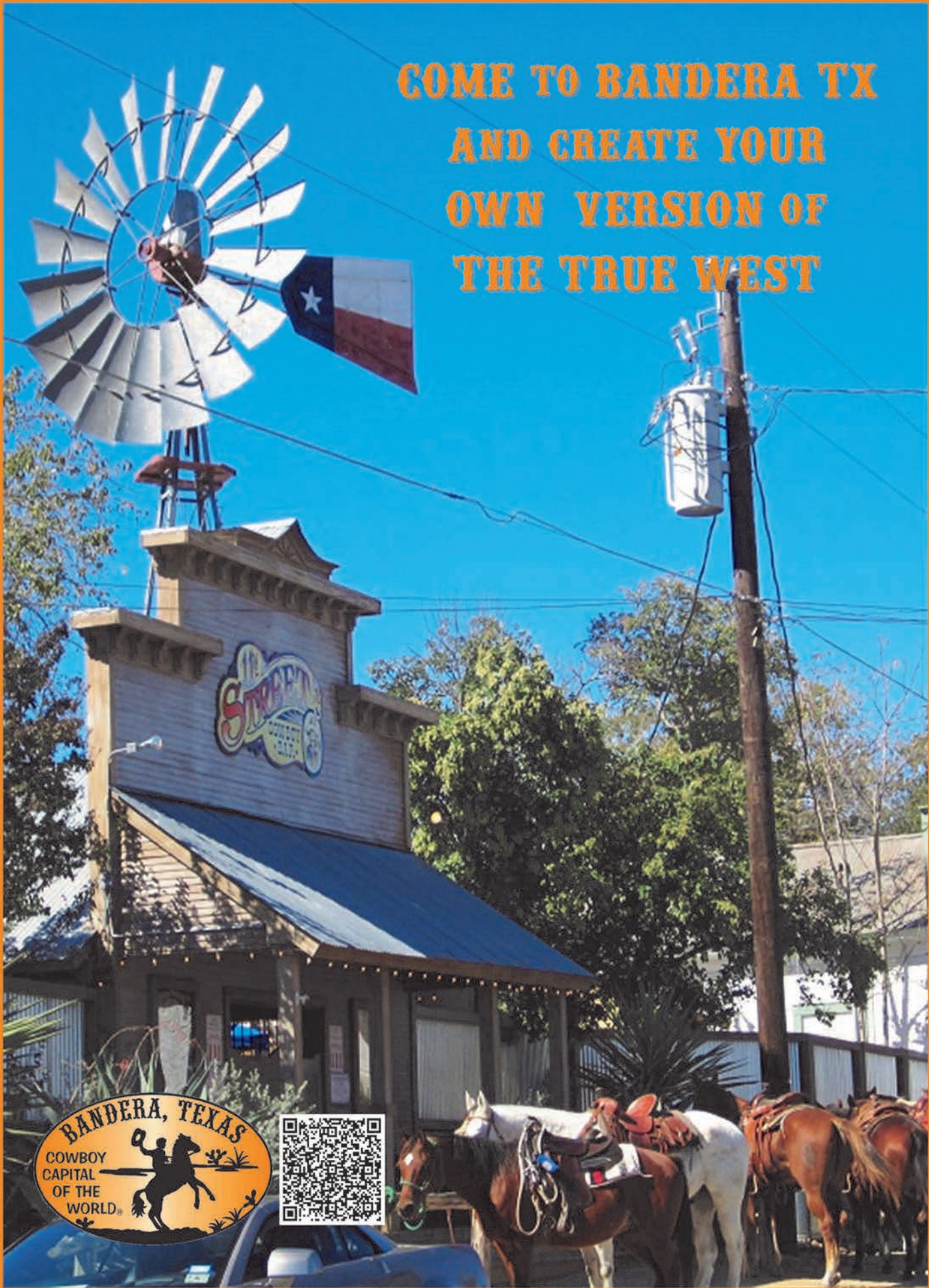
It's no wonder Bandera is a cowboy town.

This is where cowboys converged for longhorn cattle drives on the Western Trail to Dodge City and beyond from 1874-94. It's where rodeo thrives today in the town's century-old Manchester Park arena.

The historic Bandera County Courthouse is the centerpiece of the city. The three-story Italian renaissance building was built in 1890-91 and has undergone major restoration in the last two decades. Bandera, Texas, was founded as the Bandera County Seat adjacent to the Medina River in 1856. In the 1870s it quickly became a key gathering place for cattle companies driving their herds north on the Western Trail to Dodge City, Kansas.

All Images Courtesy Bandera, TX CVB Unless Otherwise Noted

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AND CREATE YOUR
OWN VERSION OF
THE TRUE WEST**





Cowboys on Main is a featured attraction in the “Cowboy Capital of the World,” 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every December. Visitors can take a horse-drawn wagon ride, have their photo taken on the back of Redneck the Longhorn and learn about chuckwagon cooking.

Small-town Bandera is big for its britches and proudly wears the title of the Cowboy Capital of the World.

“First of all, we’re from Texas. We brag a lot,” said Patricia Moore, Bandera tourism office executive director. “I’m telling you this town is bold. It is just flat bold.

“This century’s cowboys have found us in Bandera,” Moore added. “This century’s cowboys are motorcyclists” who ride into town from all over. Bandera is about an hour northwest of San Antonio.

Cowboys and cowgirls come to Bandera to enjoy the Western spirit of the town and its notable features. That

includes dude ranches, bull riding, barrel racing, junior rodeo and a Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association rodeo on Memorial Day weekend.

“Rodeo is to Bandera as baseball is to everywhere else,” according to Moore.

There’s also country music, honky-tonks, a local brewery, eateries, unique

continued on page 64

MAYAN DUDE RANCH

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Cowboy Mardi Gras is a very popular annual event in Bandera, with three days of festivities centered around the 11th Street Cowboy Bar. The 2023 festival will be February 10-12 with the parade kicking off at 11 a.m. on Saturday the 11th.

Carol Highsmith, Courtesy Library of Congress

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www.pioneerriverresort.com

WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY



Visitors to the Bandera General Store at 306 Main Street will discover Texas treasures and treats for the whole family.

FIRST STOP

Bandera Visitor Center
126 State Highway 16 South
BanderaCowboyCapital.com

HEY DUDE, NICE DUDE RANCH

Dixie Dude Ranch, open since 1937, is a 725-acre spread with Longhorn cattle, Spanish goat breeders and an abundance of equestrian trails to ride.
DixieDudeRanch.com

FRONTIER TIMES STORYTELLING

Newspaperman J. Marvin Hunter came to Bandera in 1921 and a dozen years later opened the Frontier Times Museum to preserve the cultural heritage of Bandera.
FrontierTimesMuseum.org

BIGGEST LITTLE LONE STAR BAR

Eleventh Street Cowboy Bar is home to Cowboy Mardi Gras and Wednesday Steak Night. Bring your own beef and grill it while enjoying country music under the stars.
11thStreetCowboyBar.com

LET'S GO HONKY-TONKIN'

Arkey Blue's Silver Dollar Saloon is a "cavernous honky-tonk" that's been around since the 1940s, when the basement bar was called the Fox Hole.
308 S. Main St., 830-796-8826



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A Store that is built on the foundation of what makes Texas great. From Beers, Wines and Spirits to the best Crafts from Texas artists, we have something for everyone!



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Email: info@ranchocortez.com

Follow us!





Bandera Cattle Company Gunfighters perform two shows behind the Bandera County Convention & Visitors Bureau most Saturdays, but always contact the CVB for the latest schedule.

continued from page 60

shops, artisans and a Western museum in Bandera.

The biggest whoop-de-do of the year is Cowboy Mardi Gras, with beads and boots, a parade and bands playing at the 11th Street Cowboy Bar.

Bandera is home to Arky Blue's Silver Dollar, one of the oldest and best honky-tonks in Texas. The Silver Dollar is in the basement of the Bandera General Store, a 1921 building. It was called the Fox Hole in the 1940s. Singer/songwriter Arky Juenke bought the place in 1968 and has performed in the Silver Dollar ever since. Catch him on Saturday nights.

A scene from *Race With the Devil*, a 1975 movie starring Peter Fonda, Warren Oates and Loretta Swit, was filmed in the Silver Dollar beer joint.

For local craft beer, Bandera Brewery has a lineup of creatively named beers with wry cultural references: Fat Guy in a Little Coat, Sharks with Lazer Beams and Very Shagadelic Baby, Yeah! The brewery is family- and dog-friendly.



The Old Bandera County Jail was built in 1881, and it was used for 57 years. It was designated a Texas Historic Landmark in 1965.



The First Bandera County Courthouse was built in 1868. It was designated a Texas Historic Landmark in 1979.

Wannabe cowboys can visit one of Bandera's guest ranches. The Dixie Dude Ranch has hosted city slickers for 85 years on a ranch established in 1901 by William and Zoe Whitley. It's been in the family ever since. They operate on a 725-acre spread nine miles west of Bandera.

The Mayan Dude Ranch is another family outfit. The Hicks family established the ranch in 1951. Guests can ride trails on 348 acres of Hill Country.

In town, the O.S.T. (Old Spanish Trail) Cafe is starting its second century of serving hungry guests breakfast, lunch and dinner. Leave room for a slice of pie and check out the John Wayne Room, which features photos of the Duke and other cowboys and celebrities.

Shop in Bandera at the popular Hyo Silver and the aforementioned Bandera General Store. It was a movie theater and the old Cox Dance Hall long ago. Now it carries a wide selection of

cowboy boots and hats, jewelry, antiques, souvenirs and a soda fountain.

Don't miss the Spirits of Texas shop with crafts, clothing, boots, books, furniture and intoxicating spirits, including musician Kinky Friedman's Man in Black Tequila. Ninety-five percent of the merchandise is made in Texas.

Visitors also might want to take a photo on a saddle-broke longhorn steer, take a wagon ride around town or grab a bite to eat at a chuck wagon that posts up in Bandera.

Finally, history buffs will want to explore Bandera's Frontier Times Museum, a storehouse of the town's colorful past.




Peter Corbett moved West a half century ago and settled in Arizona where he worked as a newspaper reporter and editor for 35 years, including stints in Flagstaff, Sedona, Cottonwood, Scottsdale and Phoenix.

The Biggest Little *Honky Tonk* In Texas



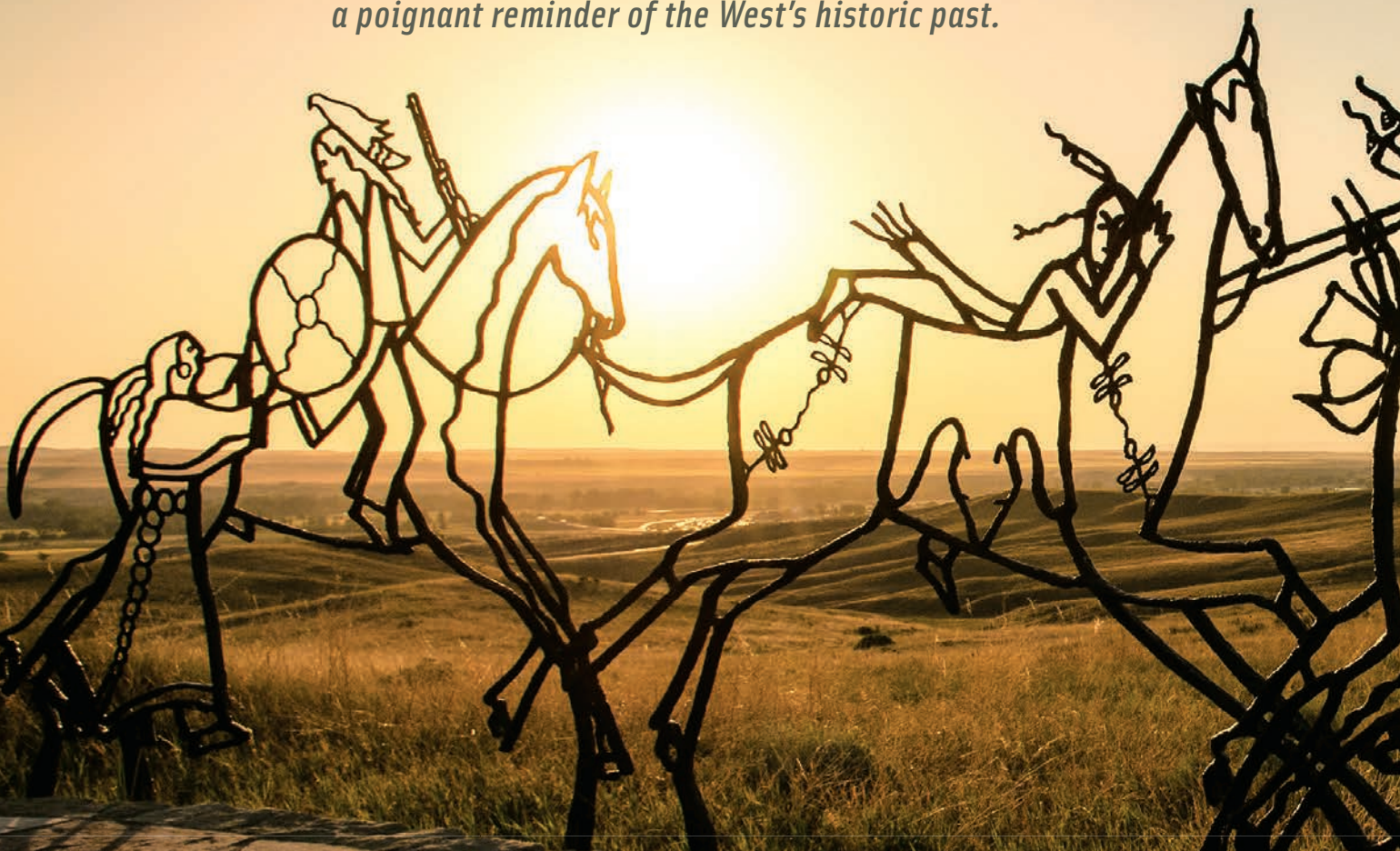
307 11TH STREET BANDERA, TX 🌟 830-796-4849

 FOLLOW US @11thStreetCowboyBar

BY STUART ROSEBROOK AND THE EDITORS OF *TRUE WEST*

HALLOWED GROUND & HONORED HEROES

Across the West, cemeteries, monuments and memorials provide a poignant reminder of the West's historic past.



Across the United States and around the world, a popular activity for centuries has been touring historic cemeteries, columbaria, monuments and memorials. In the American West, heritage travelers will discover that walking the hallowed grounds of sites as divergent as the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, Deadwood, South Dakota's Mt. Moriah Cemetery and Ogallala, Nebraska's Boot Hill Cemetery will reveal the history of the famous and not so famous, the forgotten and the oft remembered of our national and local history. Visitors who tour historic graveyards will discover a poignant reverence to our past that can only be gained from the quiet contemplation of past lives discovered in the short epitaphs of gravestones, memorials and mausoleums.

The fifth edition of the *True West Ultimate Historical Travel Guide* will now include our guide to historic cemeteries, monuments and memorials. Our lists of suggested sites are in five regions and 22 states. The listings are not comprehensive but are representative of where a traveler should start within each of the regions. Visitors interested in cemeteries, funerals and gravestones, known as taphophiles, will note the importance of respecting the rules, hours and traditions of the public and private graveyards, monuments, memorials and religious sites to be toured.



The Indian Monument at Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument was dedicated June 25, 2014, at the 138th anniversary of the battle. The site of the monument has a 360-degree view of the battlefield. It honors all the Indian tribes that fought on both sides of the conflict.

Courtesy Montana Office of Tourism and Business Development

THE PACIFIC COAST

CALIFORNIA

Columbia Historic Cemetery

22956 School House St.

Columbia • ColumbiaHistoricCemetery.com

Founded in the middle of Gold Country in 1852, the cemetery includes four cemeteries within its fences. It is still an active memorial park. A special memorial to the Chinese once buried in the cemetery was erected in 1995.

Donner Memorial State Park

12593 Donner Pass Rd.

Truckee • Parks.CA.gov

The park is situated adjacent to Interstate 80 near the location of the Donner Party's tragic winter camp of 1846-47.



Donner Memorial State Park • Truckee, CA

Courtesy Carol M. Highsmith's America Project, Library of Congress



San Francisco National Cemetery • San Francisco, CA

Courtesy Carol M. Highsmith's America Project, Library of Congress

El Campo Santo Cemetery

2410 San Diego Ave.

San Diego • OldTownSanDiego.com

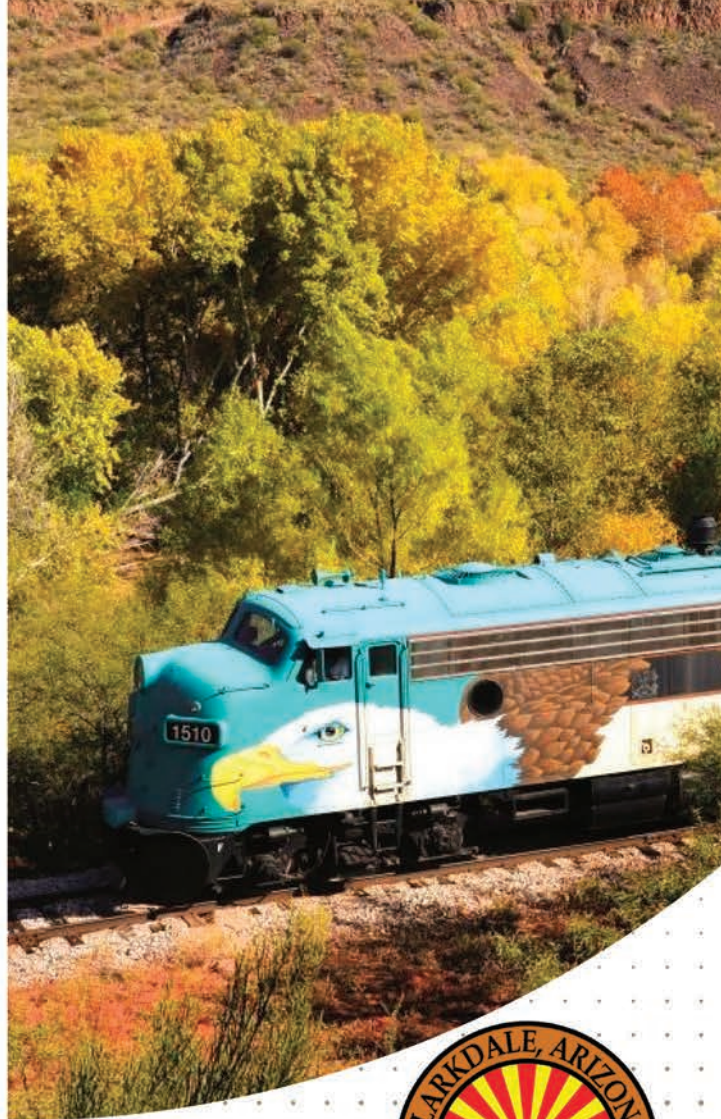
The city's second-oldest cemetery is in the Old Town District and was first used in 1849. Many believe it is a very spiritually active cemetery and is thus a popular place to celebrate Día de los Muertos.

San Francisco National Cemetery

1 Lincoln Blvd.

San Francisco • NPS.gov

The first American was laid to rest at San Francisco National Cemetery at the Presidio in 1854. The cemetery is the final resting for over 30,000 veterans, including Buffalo Soldiers, Sarah Bowman aka "The Great Western," Union spy Pauline Cushman Fryer and 35 Medal of Honor recipients.



TWO ARIZONA TRAIN TOWNS

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www.2aztraintowns.com.



IDAHO

Idaho City Pioneer Cemetery

503 Montgomery St.

Idaho City • IdahoCityHF.org

Starting in 1864, the first of 3,000 early settlers and miners of the Idaho boomtown were buried in the pioneer section of the historic cemetery, also known as Boot Hill.

Nine Mile Cemetery

From Wallace, take Nine Mile Canyon Road northeast for about a mile and turn left onto Cemetery Road.

Wallace • VisitNorthIdaho.com

Located on a steep hillside, Nine Mile is a storied final resting place for veterans and citizens of the historic mining community.

Pioneer Cemetery

460 E. Warm Springs Ave.

Boise • CityOfBoise.org

One of the oldest cemeteries in Treasure Valley, many visitors enjoy taking the guided walking tour of the burial ground founded in 1863. Many of the Gem State's most influential pioneers are interred here, including governors, mayors and law officers.


H U T C H I N S O N C O U N T Y H I S T O R I C A L M U S E U M

Billy Dixon's Long Shot . . .

When the buffalo hunters battled Cheyenne, Kiowa, Arapaho and Comanche warriors at Adobe Walls in 1874, over 3 days, they fought to a draw. The Indians led by Comanche chief Quanah Parker, retreated to a nearby bluff overlooking the Adobe Walls trading post in the Canadian river valley to regroup. Billy Dixon, experienced scout and hunter, had lost his rifle, supplies and two wagon loads of hides he had taken over several weeks while trying to cross the river when it flooded suddenly a few days before. Billy and several other hunters had taken shelter in the Rath & Wright store during the battle. Seeing the Indians gathered atop the nearby bluff, one of Billy's cohorts dared him to take a shot. Billy did just that - *and made history!* From inside the post, Dixon fired a round from a borrowed "Big Fifty" Sharps rifle that knocked a warrior off his horse 7/8ths of a mile away! The native Americans withdrew and the battle ended. This battle led to the Red River War and the dominance of the Southern Plains Indian tribes soon came to an end.

Visit the Museum to learn more.

The Museum is open:
Tuesday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday 1 pm to 4:30 pm
Free Admission, Kid-friendly
hutchinsoncountymuseum.org

Find us on 



Hutchinson County
Historical Museum
618 North Main Street
Borger, Texas 79007
806 • 273 • 0130



A Sharp's "Big Fifty," much like the one Billy Dixon used at Adobe Walls.

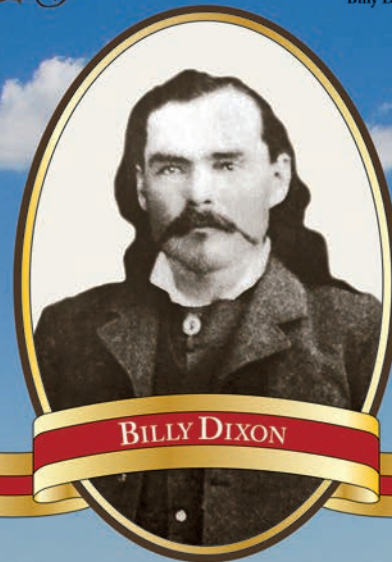


Photo of the bluff from near where Billy Dixon was standing when he made "The Long Shot."

This ad is sponsored by the Friends of the Hutchinson County Historical Museum

NEVADA

Lone Mountain Cemetery

1044 Beverly Dr.

Carson City • Carson.org

Before Lone Mountain Cemetery, the first burials were in the Pioneer Cemetery (Walsh Cemetery) beginning in 1864. Later many of those interred in the Pioneer were moved to Lone Mountain, where many of the first families of the state are buried as well as an equal number whose names have been lost to history.

Dayton Historic Cemetery

Cemetery Road

Dayton • DaytonNVHistory.org

Dating to 1851, Dayton's Historical Society maintains the Silver State's oldest cemetery. The most famous of the pioneers buried in the memorial park is miner James "Old Virginny" Finney, the namesake of nearby Virginia City.



Old Tonopah Cemetery

917 Main St.

Tonopah • TonopahNevada.com

A historic landmark, this rugged, desert cemetery is in town on Main Street next to the Clown Motel. More

than 300 were buried here from 1901-11, including the victims of the 1911 Belmont Mine fire, early pioneers, their children and Sheriff Tom Logan, who was gunned down in his nightclothes.

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Old Chief Joseph Grave • Joseph, OR

Courtesy NPS.gov

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OREGON

Nez Perce Cemetery

Nez Perce National Park
Joseph • [NPS.gov](https://www.nps.gov)

The 5.1-acre cemetery sacred to the Nez Perce people is open to the public and includes a monument to Old Chief Joseph, the father of Chief Joseph, the famed leader of his tribe. Old Joseph was reinterred in the park in 1926.

Pioneer Cemetery

400 Block East Scenic Dr.
The Dalles • [HistoricTheDalles.org](https://www.historicthedalles.org)

One of the oldest in Wasco County, along with the Fort Dalles Cemetery, the Pioneer was founded in 1860.

River View Cemetery

300 S. Taylors Ferry Rd.
Portland • [RiverViewCemetery.org](https://www.riverviewcemetery.org)

Among the famous buried at River View, which was founded in 1882, is Virgil W. Earp, who died in Goldfield, Nevada, on October 19, 1905. His daughter Janie Law was a Portland resident and she had him interred in the cemetery on October 29, 1905.

WASHINGTON

Lake View Cemetery

1554 15th Ave. E.
Seattle • [LakeViewCemeteryAssociation.com](https://www.lakeviewcemeteryassociation.com)

Founded in 1872, the private cemetery includes the final resting place of Chief Seattle's daughter Princess Angeline, the city's founders and many early prominent residents. Lake View also maintains

the adjacent historic Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery.

Vancouver Barracks National Cemetery

1455 E 4th Plain Blvd.
Vancouver • [Cem.VA.gov](https://www.cem.va.gov)

The historic memorial park is also home to two earlier cemeteries, the original Army cemetery from the 1850s and the Hudson's Bay Company Cemetery, first used in 1839.

Whitman Monument Whitman Mission National Historic Site

328 Whitman Mission Rd.
Walla-Walla • [NPS.gov](https://www.nps.gov)

Walk the grounds of the beautiful park and visit the Whitman Monument, an obelisk atop a hill dedicated to the victims of the Whitman Massacre.



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307-684-0451 | OccidentalWyoming.com

 Historic Occidental

THE DESERT SOUTHWEST



Boot Hill Cemetery • Tombstone, AZ

Courtesy Cochise County Tourism

ARIZONA

Arizona Pioneer's Home Cemetery

1300 Iron Springs Rd.
Prescott • PioneersHomeAZ.gov

Founded in 1911, the storied grounds hold two of the state's most famous women: territorial historian

Sharlot Hall and infamous prostitute, businesswoman and Doc Holliday's girlfriend Mary Katherine Horony Cummings, aka Big Nose Kate. After a trip to their graves, plan a visit to tour Sharlot Hall Museum, which Hall founded in 1928.



Fort Stanton Merchant Marine Military Cemetery • Fort Stanton, NM

Courtesy Fort Stanton Merchant Marine Military Cemetery

TOMBSTONE TOURISM

Do you enjoy visiting monuments, memorials and cemeteries? The American West is blessed with hundreds of federal, state and local monuments and memorials, while our cities, counties and states have dozens of government, public, private and Native reservation cemeteries. All the memorial parks have their own rules for visitation, with American Indian cemeteries having the strictest access. Before scheduling your tour, check the website for regulations for visiting, and if need be, contact the park, monument or cemetery for hours, closures, fees and or limits to who can or cannot visit. Always contact the local tribal office for permission to visit an American Indian Nation tribal cemetery.

—SR

Tombstone Boothill Graveyard

408 Arizona Highway 80
Tombstone • TombstoneChamber.com

The boomtown's first cemetery was started in 1879. A new city cemetery began in 1884. While many of the original residents buried at Boothill have been lost to time, the graves of Tom and Frank McLaury are located where the two brothers were buried after they were killed at the O.K. Corral.

Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza

1700 W. Washington St.
Phoenix • WesleyBolinPlaza.com

Located in front of the Arizona State Capitol building, the plaza encompasses the state mall's monuments and memorials, including the Arizona Pioneer Woman Memorial, Father Kino and Arizona's War Heroes Marker.

NEW MEXICO

Fort Stanton Merchant Marine Military Cemetery

104 Kit Carson Rd.
Fort Stanton • FortStanton.org

The cemetery is adjacent to the hospital founded at the fort in 1899 to serve Merchant Marine sailors suffering from tuberculosis. Five thousand men were treated at the medical center until its closure in 1953. Fifteen-hundred men treated at the fort are buried in the cemetery.

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at the
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Native American Culture
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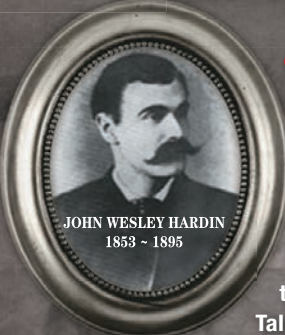
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3700 Blackhawk Plaza Cir, Danville, CA • blackhawkmuseum.org • 925-736-2277
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Concordia Cemetery

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- Veterans from the Mexican-American War through recent conflicts, as well as The World's Tallest Man." permanent residents.
- Learn about former leaders of the Mexican Revolutions who were buried at Concordia, and visit the American Victims of Gringos' Curve Massacre.
- Join the Secret Society of John Wesley Hardin - August 19, 2023 at 6 p.m. to Commemorate John Wesley Hardin's Demise; and, on October 21, 2023 for the annual Sundown Walk With the Spirits of Concordia Cemetery at 5 p.m.
- Exciting Historically-based Ghost Tours with a Paranormal Twist held Saturday nights after dark. Check Website or Facebook for dates!

915-842-8200 • ConcordiaCemetery.org • [Facebook/ConcordiaCemetery](https://www.facebook.com/ConcordiaCemetery)
3700 East Yandell • El Paso, Texas



Buffalo Soldiers Memorial, Concordia Cemetery - El Paso, TX

Courtesy Carol M. Highsmith's America Project, Library of Congress



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Old Fort Sumner Cemetery

3501 Billy the Kid Dr.
Fort Sumner • FortSumner.net

The most famous grave in the old Army cemetery is that of non-veteran William "The Kid" Bonney, and it is protected by a steel cage.

Santa Fe National Cemetery

501 North Guadalupe St.
Santa Fe • Cem.VA.gov

More than 68,000 are interred in the historic cemetery. Territorial residents buried in the memorial park include pioneer Charles Bent, Apache Wars veteran killed-in-action Lt. George N. Bascom and Apache scout and Medal of Honor recipient Rowdy.

OKLAHOMA

Tishomingo City Cemetery

705 S Murray Ave.
Tishomingo • JohnstonCountyOkChamber.com

Tishomingo City Cemetery is considered one of the oldest cemeteries in the state, with its first interment in

1832. Located in the Chickasaw National Historical Capital, it began as an Indian cemetery. The state's only father-son governors are buried there.

Greenhill Cemetery

1500 N. York St.
Muskogee • MuskogeeOnline.org

Greenhill was founded as the city cemetery in the early 1900s. The city's early residents interred in the frontier town's original burial grounds were all reinterred in Greenhill in 1904. But don't go searching for Bass Reeves' final resting place; his gravesite is still unknown.

Fort Gibson National Cemetery

1423 Cemetery Rd.
Fort Gibson • Cem.VA.gov

The original seven acres of the cemetery, which began as a military post in 1824, contains the remains of 2,000 who had been interred in three early cemeteries at the fort. Today, it serves as one of the state's national cemeteries for veterans.

TEXAS

Concordia Cemetery

3700 E. Vandell Dr.
El Paso • ConcordiaCemetery.org

El Pasoans have buried their dead in the graveyard since the first soul was interred in the 1840s. Visitors can walk the grounds and see outlaw John Wesley Hardin's grave as well as a special section dedicated to Buffalo Soldiers.

Goodnight Cemetery

Drive north from Goodnight on County Road 294 to a paved road on the right to the cemetery.
Goodnight • Cemeteries-Of-TX.com

Texas pioneer ranchers Charles and Molly Goodnight are buried in this small family cemetery.

Texas State Cemetery

909 Navasota St.
Austin • Cemetery.TSPB.Texas.gov

Founded in 1851, the Texas State Cemetery is the final resting place for many legendary Texans, including Stephen F. Austin.

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COLORADO

Columbia Cemetery

1201 9th St.
Boulder • BoulderColorado.gov

Tom Horn maybe the most famous (or infamous) of the 6,500 interred to date in the city's burial ground, which is still an active cemetery. Members of the local Masonic Lodge founded the cemetery in 1870.

Linwood Cemetery

Park near Trailhead at 12th Street and Bennett Avenue
Glenwood Springs • VisitGlenwood.com

Take a short .7-mile roundtrip hike to visit John Henry "Doc" Holliday's grave in Linwood Cemetery. The



Buffalo Bill's Grave • Lookout Mountain, CO

Courtesy Carol M. Highsmith Archive, Library of Congress

famous gambler and gunman took his last breath in The Hotel Glenwood Springs on November 8, 1888. Outlaw Harvey "Kid Curry" Logan is also buried in the mountain graveyard.

Buffalo Bill Museum & Grave

987 1/2 Lookout Mountain Rd.
Golden • BuffaloBill.org

William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody's famous grave is in Lookout Mountain Park, which provides the showman the eternal view of the Rocky Mountains and Great Plains he so loved. Over 400,000 visitors a year tour the museum, park and grave.

DALTON DEFENDER MUSEUM FUNDRAISER

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DALTON GANG PISTOL DRAW



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Recreated replica of the revolver owned by Bob Dalton from the notorious Dalton gang. Uberti recreated the revolver with the finest of detail from the one recovered from Bob's body on that ill-fated day.

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PRESERVE ARIZONA



PLEASE HELP US TO SAVE ARIZONA'S HISTORY

Preserve Arizona is a non-profit foundation dedicated to saving historic buildings from the territorial period in Arizona. Currently, we are attempting to raise money to save the *Bucket of Blood Saloon* and three adjoining structures in the town of Holbrook. We need your help.

Please donate to Preserve Arizona, either at www.PreserveArizona.org or through our Facebook page. Help save Arizona's history.



Mt. Moriah Cemetery • Butte, MT
 Courtesy Library of Congress

Mount Moriah Cemetery

2415 S. Montana St.
 Butte • Co. Silverbow, MT.US

Local Masons founded the cemetery in 1877. The burial grounds are well-known for dramatic architecture, tombs, mausoleums, gravestones and family plots. The city's two other late 19th-century graveyards should be visited as well: St Patrick Cemetery and B'Nai Israel Cemetery.

Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument

1-90 Frontage Road
 Crow Agency • NPS.gov

In the history of the United States, only three other national battlefield cemeteries are as important as Little Bighorn (Arlington, Gettysburg and Pearl Harbor), and Little Bighorn is considered a sacred place by the descendants of all the combatants of those fateful June 1876 days. Pause, reflect, walk and listen. A tour is transformative.

MONTANA

Boot Hill and Hillside Cemetery

Virginia City Historic District
 Virginia City • SouthwestMt.com

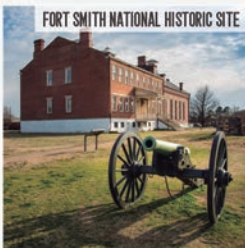
Boot Hill opened for business when the local vigilantes hanged five road agents and buried them in the

notorious mining camp's first cemetery in January 1864. Soon, more legitimate citizens decided their loved ones should not rest eternally with the outlaws and started Hillside Cemetery, with the first burial in 1865. It is one of the finest examples of historic pioneer cemeteries in the Big Sky State.

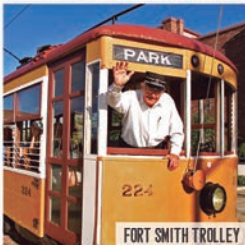
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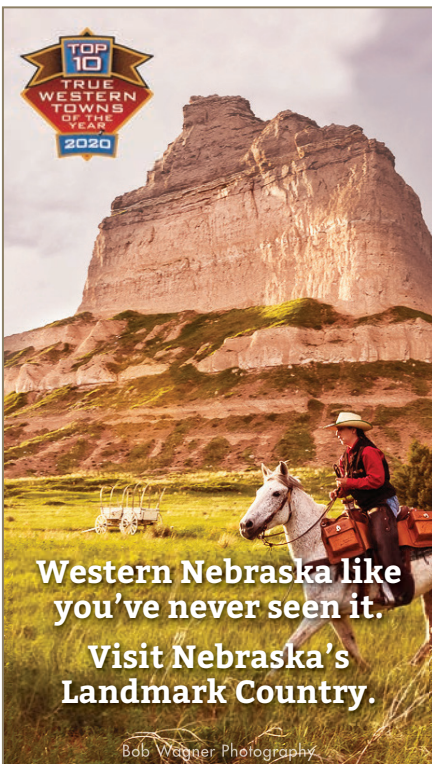
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Little Bighorn Battlefield National Historic Monument • Crow Agency, MT

Courtesy NPS.gov

UTAH

Salt Lake City Cemetery

200 N. St. E.
Salt Lake City • SLC.gov

The largest city-owned cemetery in the nation posted its first burial in 1848. Today, there are 125,000 interred with 5,000 plots remaining. Lawman Orrin Porter Rockwell and Black Mormon pioneer Jane Manning James are just two of the notables interred at the famous graveyard.

This is the Place State Park

2601 E. Sunnyside Ave.
Salt Lake City • ThisIsThePlace.org

In 1847, at least 32 early Utah Mormon pioneer adults and children were buried in a part of the city that became long forgotten until a construction project uncovered them in 1986. They were reinterred in an honored location at This is the Place State Park.

WYOMING

Fetterman Massacre Memorial

Old Highway 87
Sheridan • WyoHistory.org

Dedicated to the worst defeat of the U.S. Army in the West prior to the Battle of Little Bighorn ten years later, the memorial honors the 81 soldiers killed in a battle with the Lakota Sioux and Northern Cheyenne on December 21, 1866. Captain William J. Fetterman was the commander of the troops who were based at Fort Phil Kearney.

Historic Lakeview Cemetery

2501 Seymour Ave.
Cheyenne • CheyenneCity.org

One of the state's oldest cemeteries, Lakeview is well known for its many memorials and historically significant Cheyenne residents interred in its grounds. Inquire with the city for information on walking tours.

Old Trail Town Cemetery

1831 Demaris Dr.
Cody • OldTrailTown.org

Originally buried in the Los Angeles National Cemetery, Mexican-American War veteran and mountain man John "Liver-Eating" Johnson was reinterred in Cody, Wyoming, at the Old Trail Town Cemetery. Robert Redford who famously played the trapper acted as one of his pall bearers.



Fetterman Massacre Memorial • Sheridan, WY

Courtesy Wyoming Office of Tourism

A READING LIST FOR TAPHOPHILES

If you are a Western tombstone tourist, you may already know that Phil Varney's comprehensive book series on ghost towns in the West is a great source of information on small, out-of-the-way pioneer cemeteries. I have been reading Varney's work for decades, and I highly recommend his excellent books. But there is also a cottage industry in cemetery history books, and Arcadia's History Press is a publishing leader in the topic. In fact, I recently heard *Cemeteries of Yavapai County* author Parker Anderson speak about cemetery tourism, and his research and thoughtful commentary partly inspired this column.

—SR

Ten starter sources I recommend for eager taphophiles:

Cemeteries of the Western Sierra by Christopher Ward (Arcadia Press)

Cemeteries of Yavapai County by Parker Anderson (Arcadia Press)

Deadwood's Mount Moriah Cemetery by Mike Runge (Arcadia Press)

Final Destinations: A Travel Guide for Remarkable Cemeteries in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana by Bryan Woolley, Larry Bleiberg, Leon Unruh, Jean Simmons, Kathryn Straach, Tom Simmons and Bob Bersano (University of North Texas Press)

Ghost Towns of the West by Philip Varney (Voyageur Press)

Mad as the Mist and Snow: Exploring Oregon Through Its Cemeteries by Johan Mathiesen (Ashland Creek Press)

Memorials Matter: Emotion, Environment and Public Memory at American Historical Sites by Jennifer K. Ladino (University of Nevada Press)

Pioneer Cemeteries: Sculpture Gardens of the Old West by Annette Stott (University of Nebraska Press)

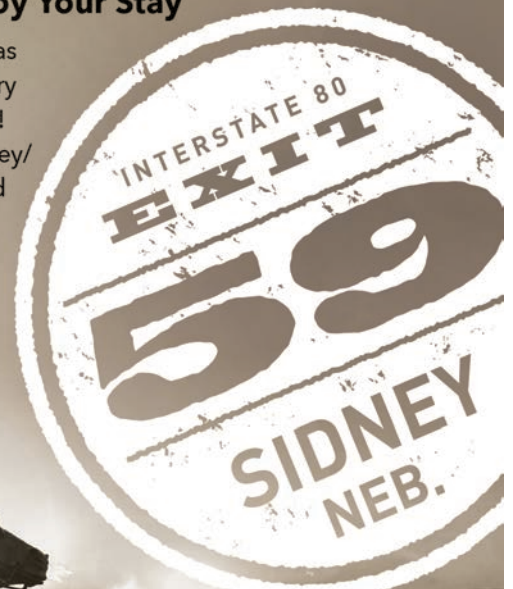
Understanding Cemetery Symbols: A Field Guide for Historic Graveyards (Messages from the Dead) by Tui Snider (CreateSpace)

What Lies Beneath: Texas Pioneer Cemeteries and Graveyards by Cynthia Leal Massey (TwoDot)

FindAGrave.com and ***Internment.net***: For tombstone tourists, researchers, genealogists and just the downright curious, both websites are very useful. *FindAGrave.com* helped me locate the lost Fallon family plot in Queens, New York, and I use it regularly as editor of *True West*.

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The Sergeant Floyd Monument • Sioux City, IA
Courtesy Carol M. Highsmith Archive, Library of Congress

IOWA

Effigy Mounds National Monument

151 Hwy. 76
Harpers Ferry • NPS.gov

Located in the northeastern Bluff Country of Iowa, the Effigy Mounds National Monument protects some of the most important prehistoric tribal grave mounds along the Upper Mississippi River. The animal effigy mounds, many in the shape of animals, date to 650 to 1200 A.D. They were constructed for ceremonial and burial uses and even to mark territory boundaries.

Sergeant Floyd Monument

2601 S. Lewis Blvd.
Sioux City • NPS.gov

A 100-foot obelisk in a 23-acre park marks the grave of Sgt. Charles Floyd Jr., the only man to die on Lewis and

Clark's Corps of Discovery expedition. The first National Historic Monument is located along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail on a bluff above the Missouri River and Interstate 29.

Woodland Cemetery

2019 Woodland Ave.
Des Moines • DSM.city

The oldest cemetery in Des Moines, Woodland was founded in 1848 and includes the adjacent St. Ambrose Cemetery. The first burial was of a one-year-old son of a local pioneer judge in 1849. Since then, over 40,000 souls have been interred in the graveyard, including many of the state's leading citizens, politicians and soldiers.

MINNESOTA

Fort Ridgely State Monument

72404 County Road 30
Fairfax • MNHS.org

The frontier outpost was founded in 1853. The monument was dedicated in 1896 to honor those who defended the

community during the Dakota War of 1862. Tour the Fort Ridgely Cemetery while on the grounds of the fort.

Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldier Memorial Cemetery

2945 Cedar Ave.
Minneapolis • FriendsOfTheCemetery.org

Started in 1853, the Pioneers and Soldier Memorial Cemetery has been an important burial ground for U.S. veterans, early state leaders and the city's citizens, many of whom were Scandinavian immigrants. Half of the 20,000 interred are estimated to be children.

Northfield Cemetery

1425 Division St. S.
Northfield • NorthfieldHistory.org

Nicholas Gustafson and Joseph Lee Haywood were both victims of the James-Younger Gang's failed attack on Northfield on September 7, 1876. They were interred in the cemetery, which has over 1,000 people buried in its eight acres.



Fort Ridgely State Park • Fairfax, MN

Courtesy Minnesota State Parks



Sitting Bull Memorial • Fort Yates, ND

Courtesy North Dakota Office of Tourism

NORTH DAKOTA

Fort Lincoln Cemetery

4480 Ft. Lincoln Rd.
Mandan • ParkRecND.gov

The first soldier was interred in the graveyard located at Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park in 1873. Wounded soldiers from the Battle of Little Bighorn who died from their injuries were buried at Fort Lincoln. After the fort's closure, all those interred were reinterred at Little Bighorn National Cemetery.

Riverside Cemetery

2102 5th St. S.
 Fargo • FargoRiverside.com

The first burial in the historic graveyard officially established in 1879 along the Red River was in 1878. Over 18,000 have been interred in the grounds of the city's oldest and largest graveyard to date.

Sitting Bull's Burial Site

Sitting Bull Ave., N.D. Hwy. 24
Fort Yates • NDTourism.com

After Sioux Chief Sitting Bull was murdered, he was buried nearby in Fort Yates. His monument stands as a testament to his courageous life. With great controversy, a group of South Dakota businessmen moved his bones to a new memorial site near the place of his birth along the Missouri River near Mobridge, South Dakota. Today, both sites are considered his gravesite.



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Wild Bill Hickok Grave • Deadwood, SD

Courtesy South Dakota Tourism

SOUTH DAKOTA

Fort Meade National Cemetery

Old Stone Road
Sturgis • CEM.VA.gov

While there are just 188 interments on its two acres, the military burial grounds are now closed to new interments. The fort was founded by surviving members of Gen. George A. Custer's 7th Cavalry as part of the military operations to keep the peace in the Dakota Territory. The cemetery was founded in 1878.

Mt. Moriah Cemetery

1 Mount Moriah Dr.
Deadwood • CityOfDeadwood.com

Situated on a bluff overlooking Deadwood, Mt. Moriah is one of the most famous historic cemeteries in the West. Amid the thousands interred in its grounds are Wild Bill Hickok, Calamity Jane and Sheriff Seth Bullock.

Wounded Knee Massacre Monument

Highway 18, Main St., Bldg. 159
Pine Ridge Agency • BIA.gov

For information on visiting the Wounded Knee Massacre Monument in Wounded Knee, contact the Pine Ridge Agency in Pine Ridge. For more information, call (605) 867-5125.

SOUTHERN PRAIRIE AND PLAINS

ARKANSAS

Fort Smith National Cemetery

522 Garland Avenue and South 6th Street
Fort Smith • NPS.gov and Cem.VA.gov

The federal cemetery for veterans is within a short walking distance of the Fort Smith National Historic Site and the Fort Smith Trolley Museum. The first interments at the military burial

ground were most likely three soldiers buried in 1819. The most famous gravesite in the still-active cemetery is that of Judge Isaac Parker, known also as the hanging judge. While in the Western gateway city, schedule time to tour the adjacent national historic site, including the Cherokees' Trail of Tears Monument and Parker's courtroom.



Fort Smith National Cemetery • Fort Smith, AR

Courtesy NPS.gov

Mount Holly Cemetery

1200 Broadway St.

Little Rock • MountHollyCemetery.org

One of the most celebrated and important cemeteries in the state of Arkansas, Mount Holly's motto is "History in the Heart of Little Rock." Founded in 1843, the well-tended graveyard with its great canopy of trees is host to many of the state's most famous residents and generations of families who called the capital city their home. Self-guided walking tours are encouraged, but paid, guided tours themed by subject matter can be arranged in advance with the cemetery office.

Pioneer (Old Batesville) Cemetery

East College Avenue & South Third Street
Batesville • CityOfBatesville.com

The Pioneer, just across the border from the state of Mississippi, is the oldest cemetery in Arkansas with gravestones dating from as early as 1820. Captain William Johnson, an officer of the War of 1812, is interred in the small, historic graveyard with 59 of the state's earliest settlers. If you are "gravin'," as they call it in Arkansas, also plan a visit to the city's well-maintained Oaklawn Cemetery, founded in 1872.

KANSAS

Abilene Cemetery

513 NW 14th St.

Abilene • AbileneKansas.org

Established in 1865, the city cemetery has over 10,000 people buried in its grounds. President Dwight D. Eisenhower's parents, David and Ida, are buried at the historic cemetery as is famed Western lawman James "Bear River" Smith and two Medal of Honor recipients. West of town on Old Highway 40, the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, working with the current land owners, have fenced off and helped restore the original Pioneer Burial Ground.



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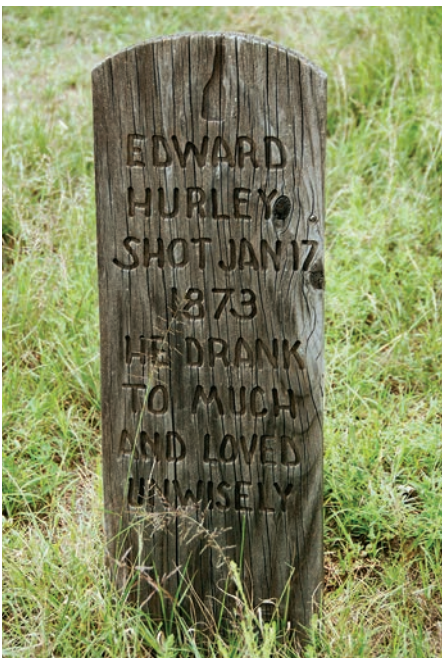


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Boot Hill Cemetery • Dodge City, KS

Courtesy Kansas Tourism

Boot Hill Museum

500 W. Wyatt Earp Blvd.
Dodge City • BootHill.org

The award-winning Boot Hill Museum in Dodge City is located on the site of the city's original Boot Hill cemetery. A tour of the museum's exhibits and recreated frontier Front Street provides a great introduction into the Wild West history of the "Queen of the Cowtowns." Although the city had the bodies reinterred from the original Boot Hill, which operated from 1871-79, the museum's Boot Hill recreates the site with grave markers of those known to have been interred there. Dancehall girl Dora Hand, who was famously killed in a gun battle October 4, 1878, lies permanently in the city's Maple Grove Cemetery.

Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery

395 Biddle Blvd.
Fort Leavenworth • Cem.VA.gov

The historic military graveyard is one of the original 14 federal cemeteries created in 1862. The earliest military burials at the post date to 1827, with the oldest marker dated 1844. When many of the Western frontier forts were closed in the late 19th century, over 2,000 soldiers' remains were moved and reinterred at the Army burial grounds. Nine Medal of Honor recipients and the cemetery and fort's namesake, Gen. Henry Leavenworth, are interred in the cemetery.

LOUISIANA

Magnolia Cemetery

422 N. 19th St.
Baton Rouge • BREC.org

The 10-acre cemetery is a National Historic Site. Its oldest burials date to the 1820s. Officially opened in 1852, the graveyard was the site of the Battle of Baton Rouge on August 5, 1862, and is the site of annual commemoration of the battle. Blacks and Whites have been interred in the cemetery from its earliest days and it is the final resting place for many of the area's noted politicians and Joanna Fox Waddill, "the Florence Nightingale of the Confederacy."

New Orleans Cemeteries

Various Locations
New Orleans • NewOrleans.com

For taphophiles, aka tombstone tourists or gravers, New Orleans is one of the most visited cities in America.

Because the city sits below sea level, all the tombs are above ground, providing one of the country's most visual histories of the dearly departed's lives. There are 13 cemeteries open to tour, and St. Louis No. 1, founded in 1789, is the oldest and should be the first one visited while on a tour of The Big Easy.

Oakland Cemetery

1000 Milam St.
Shreveport • Shreveport-Bossier.org

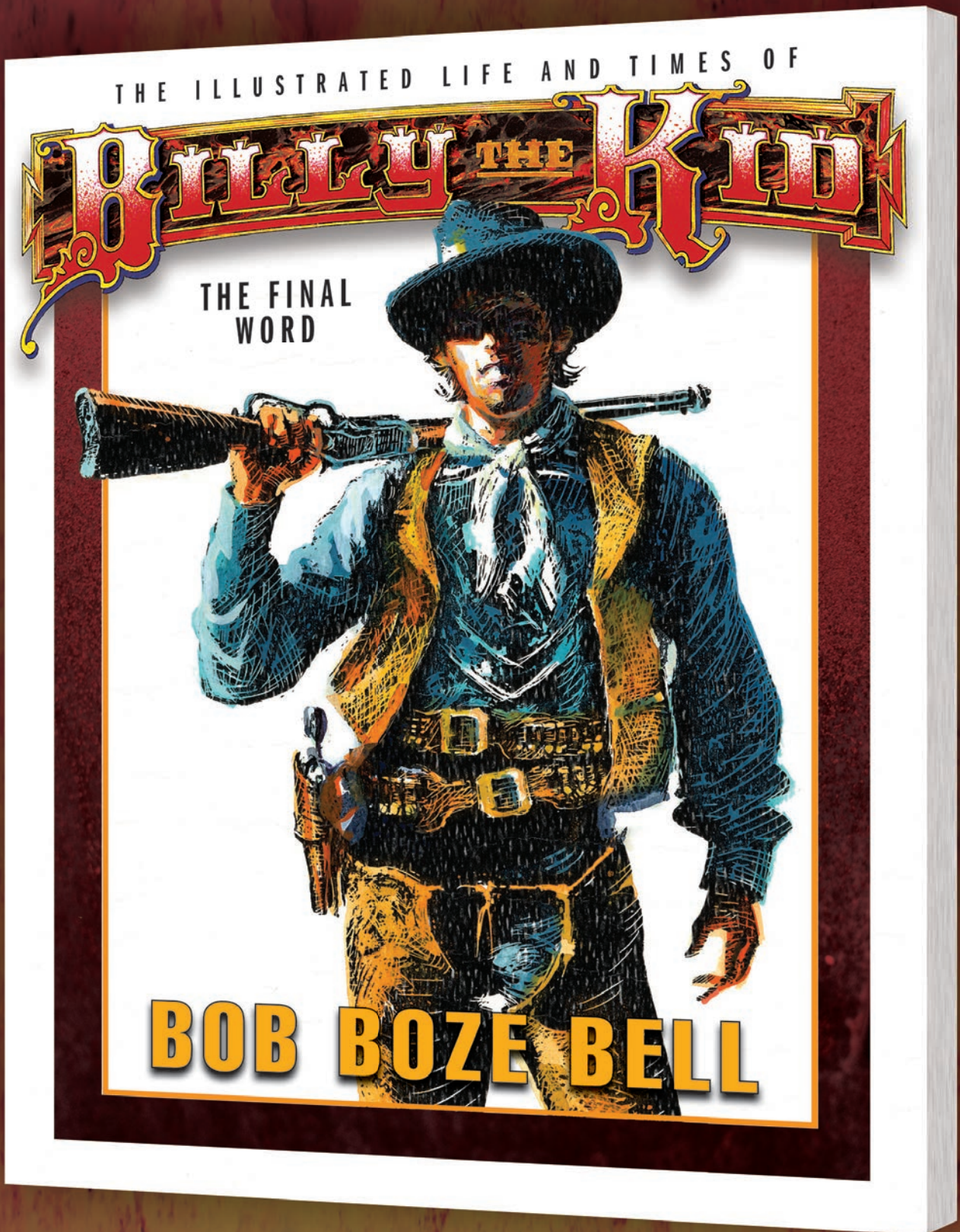
On the National Register of Historic Places, Oakland Cemetery dates to 1842. Confederate soldiers, former slaves, pioneer families, freedmen and women and a mass grave of 800 victims of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1873 all share eternity in the hallowed grounds.



Cities of the Dead Tombs • New Orleans, LA

Courtesy Carole M. Highsmith Archives, Library of Congress

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Jesse James Grave • Kearney, MO

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MISSOURI

Calvary Cemetery

5239 W. Florissant Ave.
St. Louis • ArchStL.org

A Roman Catholic cemetery, Calvary is the second oldest in the diocese and was founded in 1854. The 470-acre graveyard has over 300,000 people interred in its grounds. Four of the most famous people interred in the graveyard are Gen. William T. Sherman, Dred Scott, author Kate Chopin and playwright Tennessee Williams.

Jefferson City National Cemetery

1024 E. McCarty St.
Jefferson City • Cem.VA.gov

Interments in what would become Jefferson City National Cemetery began in 1861. For Civil War historians and researchers, the military graveyard has significant burials of soldiers from both the Union and Confederate armies, including a monument to the 39th Regiment of the Missouri Volunteer Infantry.

Mount Olivet Cemetery

201 State Route 92
Kearney • VisitKearney.org

Jesse James, his brother Frank, half-brother Archie Samuel, mother Zerelda and stepfather Reuben Samuel all are buried near each other in the historic

cemetery outside Kearney. Founded in 1868, the graveyard has nearly 2,000 men, women and children memorialized in the burial grounds. While in Kearney, schedule a tour of the Jesse James Birthplace Museum a short drive from downtown Kearney.

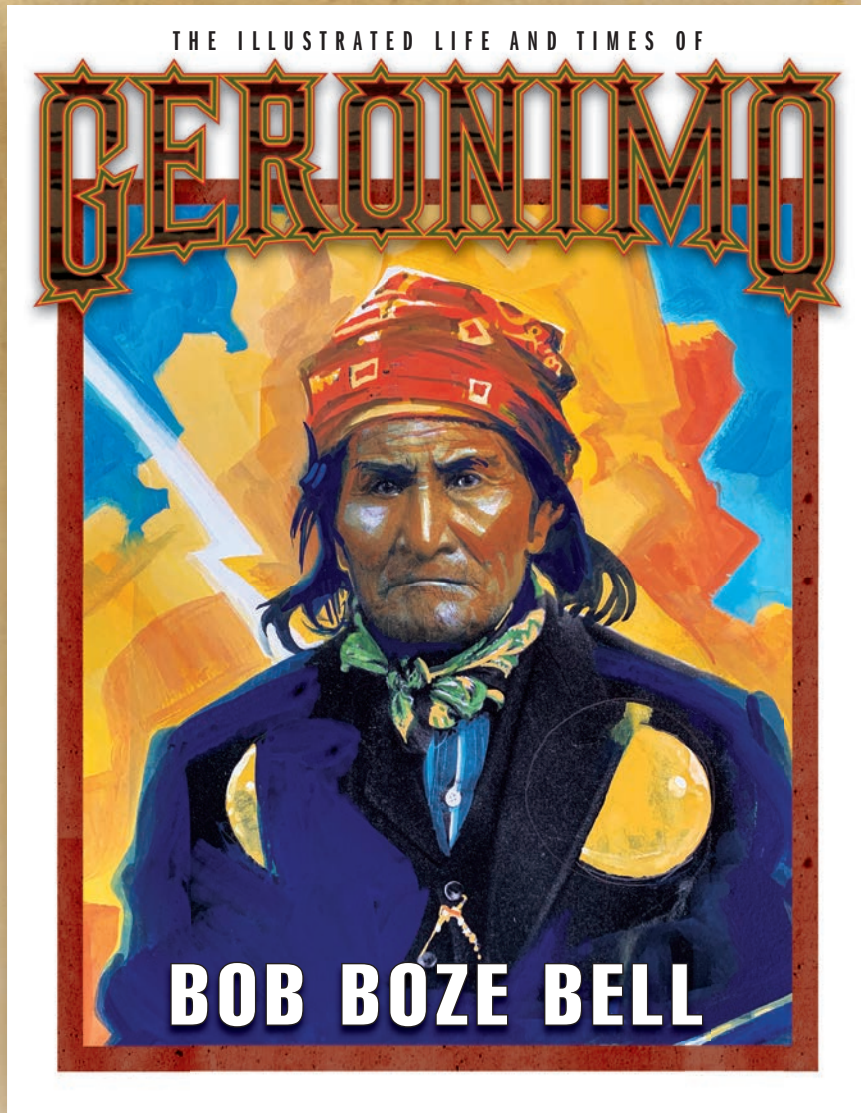


Boot Hill • Ogallala, NE

Courtesy Nebraska Tourism

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Boot Hill • Ogallala, NE

Photo by Johnny D. Boggs

NEBRASKA

Boot Hill Cemetery

119 E. 2nd St.

Ogallala • ExploreKeithCounty.com

Admission is free to visit and walk the grounds of the Western Nebraska town's famed Boot Hill. Many Texas cowboys who came up the Western Trail to Ogallala's Union Pacific railroad and lost their lives in the once roughhewn cattle town are buried in the hillside graveyard. The cemetery's landmark is Robert Summers' bronze statue *The Trail Boss*, located at the top of the hill from the parking lot.

Fort McPherson National Cemetery

12004 S. Spur 56A

Maxwell • Cem.VA.gov and NPS.gov

In 1863, the cemetery was started adjacent to the frontier fort constructed to protect settlers and travelers along the national overland trails. The 20-acre National Cemetery was created in 1873 and is the only federal graveyard in the

state. Remains of soldiers from across the Western frontier were reinterred there along with the remains of 50 from the old post burial ground. The veterans' cemetery is still active, so please be respectful if visiting historical monuments at the site, including one to the Pony Express.

Prospect Hill Cemetery

3202 Parker St.

Omaha • ProspectHill-Omaha.org

Founded in 1858, Prospect Hill is one of the oldest pioneer cemeteries in Nebraska. A Nebraska State Historical Site and a Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Site, the graveyard is popular for walking tours and has a very active volunteer base of docents. Prospect has about 15,000 interments, is home to over 100 Civil War soldiers, dozens of Omaha's earliest and most prominent citizens and is still an active cemetery.



EDITOR'S NOTE

This is not an inclusive list, far from it. I hope this inspires our readers to discover (or rediscover) the historic cemeteries, monuments and memorials in their communities, cities and regions. In my community of Yavapai County, Arizona, sites range from the Prescott National Cemetery that has been serving soldiers and veterans since the 1860s to small town cemeteries whose earliest gravesites have long been lost. Many historic cemeteries need dedicated docents and volunteers to maintain them. If you are interested, make an inquiry and become involved in keeping your local history preserved for the next generation.

If you have a favorite historic cemetery or memorial in the West that you would like to suggest we share with our readers, please send the information to stuart@twmag.com. —SR

For more information on cemeteries, memorials and monuments on federal land, check these websites:

Bureau of Land Management
BLM.com

Bureau of Reclamation
USBR.gov

Department of Interior
DOI.gov

National Cemetery Administration
Cem.VA.gov

National Forest Service
FS.USDA.gov

National Park Service
NPS.com

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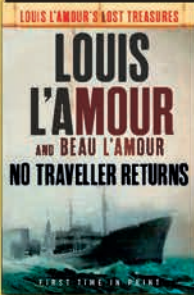


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Prescott, AZ, December 3: This event is festive and fun for the entire family. Parade begins at 1 p.m. and the lighting of the Plaza ceremonies begin at 6 p.m. 928-777-1100 • Visit-Prescott.com



Stuart Rosebrook

GUN SHOW

THE ORIGINAL FORT WORTH GUN SHOW

Fort Worth, TX, December 31, 2022-January 2, 2023: With more than 1,000 tables, this show has what you are looking for! Members of the public are invited to buy, sell or trade. 817-732-1194 • PremierGunShows.com

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

SANTA'S LIGHTED FOREST AND NORTH POLE ADVENTURE

Georgetown, CO, November 11-December 24: Enjoy hot cocoa, cookies and candy canes from Santa and his helpers aboard decorated train coaches. 888-456-6777 • GeorgetownLoopRR.com

CHRISTMAS IN DODGE CITY

Dodge City, KS, December 1-31: Christmastime in Dodge City is celebrated with holiday concerts, tree lighting ceremonies, light parades, decorating contests and several visits from ol' Saint Nick. 800-OLD-WEST • VisitDodgeCity.org

CHRISTMAS AT THE CODYS'

North Platte, NE, December 16-20: Celebrate the holidays in Buffalo Bill Cody's 1886 mansion with caroling and horse-drawn rides. 308-535-0835 • VisitNorthPlatte.com

LIGHT OF THE WORLD CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Minden, NE, November 25, 2022-January 1, 2023: Minden celebrates "106 Years of Lights" with 15,000 lights strung throughout downtown. 308-832-1811 • MindenNE.org

33RD ANNUAL WICKENBURG COWBOY CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Wickenburg, AZ, December 2-3: The public is invited to visit this Western community for its special heritage event. The Cowboy Reception is on Friday, December 2, and includes beer, wine and appetizers at the Desert Caballeros Western Museum. 928-684-5479 • WickenburgChamber.com

CHRISTMAS AT OLD FORT CONCHO

San Angelo, TX, December 2-4: This 1867 fort celebrates the different cultures of Texas with three days full of Christmas cheer, including shopping, living history and much more. 325-481-2646 • FortConcho.com

CHRISTMAS PAST AND PRESENT

Grand Island, NE, December 3-4 & 9-10: A lamplit tour of Railroad Town offers live music in a festive celebration of the spirit of Christmas. 308-385-5316 • StuhrMuseum.org

HIGH PLAINS CHRISTMAS

Gering, NE, December 3: This High Plains holiday gathering features hayrides, marshmallow roasts and bonfire cowboy coffee. 308-436-1989 • LegacyOfThePlains.org

WICKENBURG CHRISTMAS PARADE OF LIGHTS

Wickenburg, AZ, December 9: Enjoy the beauty of the holiday season amid the glittering lights of the 28th Annual Christmas Parade of Lights "Out Wickenburg Way." Floats will fill the streets of downtown Wickenburg at 6:30 p.m. 928-684-5479 • WickenburgChamber.com

CHRISTMAS LIGHT PARADE & LIGHTING OF THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE LUMINARIAS

Tombstone, AZ, December 10: With the sound of caroling in the streets, the glow of a thousand twinkling lights and the "Ho-Ho-Ho" of Santa and his sleigh, this event offers great Old West fun for the entire family. 520-457-9317 • TombstoneChamber.com

A FRONTIER ARMY CHRISTMAS AT FORT LARNED

Larned, KS, December 10: The fort's annual Christmas Past celebration will feature pictures with Santa in the North Officers' quarters, 1860s holiday food in the Barracks Mess Hall, carriage rides around the fort grounds and 19th-century crafts and games for the children. 620-285-6911 • NPS.gov

RODEO

WRANGLER NATIONAL FINALS RODEO & COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

Las Vegas, NV, December 1-10: The Wrangler NFR is the richest and most prestigious rodeo in the world and an event like no other. It's an extravaganza for fans to enjoy the roping and riding activity of today's cowboys. 702-260-8605 • NFRExperience.com

TWMag.com:

View Western events on our website.





Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian and vice president of the Wild West History Association. His latest book is *Arizona Oddities: Land of Anomalies and Tamales*; History Press, 2018. 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. Please always include your name, city and state.

Black Bart, Buffalo Robes and Outlaw Hideouts

What were buffalo hides used for?

Pat McManus
Cave Junction, Oregon

Often, they were used for coats or blankets—both by Indians and Whites. In the early 1870s, a cheap commercial process for tanning bison hides was developed in England and Germany. Hides from which the hair had been removed (called flint hides) were superb for making the soles of boots and industrial belts.

Does anyone know what happened to the gun Billy the Kid carried when he died?

Neil Winget
Lima, Ohio

Pat Garrett picked up BTK's self-cocker, .41-caliber Colt Model 1877. Unfortunately, no one bothered to record the serial number. If they had, that gun would be *the* BTK gun, but no one knows where it is now.

Where did outlaws generally reside when they weren't robbing stagecoaches, banks, swilling rotgut whiskey in saloons, etc.?

Bill Haines
Nashville, Tennessee

Some, like the James-Youngers, had family or friends who would hide them. Others, like Butch Cassidy, Harvey Logan, Elzy Lay and Sundance, went to remote places like Hole in the Wall. They went where there wasn't a warrant out for them. The smart ones avoided having their photos taken. That way they could even "hide in plain sight."



Soldiers of the U.S. Army, including Buffalo Soldiers of the 25th Infantry at Fort Keogh, Montana, wore buffalo robes to survive the harsh winters of the High Plains and Rocky Mountains.

Photo by Christian Barthelmess, Courtesy Library of Congress

What can you tell me about James O. Pattie, my great (5x) uncle on my paternal grandmother's side? I wondered if you have any information in addition to the article you wrote for *True West* (October 2021).

Colin Sarff
Newburyport, Massachusetts.

James Ohio Pattie is mentioned in most fur trapper books, but a couple of my favorites that provide comprehensive stories of his experiences in the Southwest and California are: *The Taos Trappers: The Fur Trappers in the Far Southwest, 1540-1846* by David J. Weber and *This Reckless Breed of Men: The Trappers and Fur Traders of the Southwest* by Robert Glass Cleland.

Did any robbers/outlaws get away and disappear into history?

Jeff Mock
Sandy, Utah

Yes, many were able to outrun the law and disappear. For example, in the Arizona Territory alone, between 1875 and 1903, there were 129 stage robberies. Actually, there were 134, since five involved two coaches each. Contrary to movies in which mounted men chase down a stage and rob it, only three were robbed that way. The rest were robbed by highwaymen on foot. They'd select a site where the stagecoach had to slow down, picket their horses nearby and approach the vehicle on foot with guns drawn.

More than half the stage robberies remained unsolved.



Black Bart, aka Charles Bowles, became famous for his nonviolent style of robbing stagecoaches in California.

True West Archives

Did Black Bart rob any stagecoaches in Arizona?

Tim Symonds

East Sussex, United Kingdom

Charles Boles, aka Black Bart, worked exclusively in the state of California. There, he became a legend. He robbed Wells Fargo stagecoaches at least 28 times across northern California between 1875 and 1883, including several times along the historic Siskiyou Trail between California and Oregon.

Every job followed the same pattern. Bart stepped out in front of a stage, usually in a remote area, and ordered the driver to halt. The outlaw always picked vehicles that didn't have a guard aboard, figuring it would eliminate the need for violence. He ordered the driver to throw down the box and continue down the trail. Bart made his way back to San Francisco, where he lived a quiet but extravagant life. Authorities finally tracked him down, using a handkerchief he'd dropped at a crime scene.

The remarkable thing about Bart: he always walked to and from the robbery sites. He was deathly afraid of horses, so he was on foot.

He never showed an inclination to leave California. Besides, there were a lot of long, empty spaces (and desert) in Arizona, which would have precluded a walking man from pulling stage holdups.



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What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

Dallas was a great place to grow up. I'm proud to be a Dallas sports fan, even though I haven't lived there in over a decade.

My parents were extremely supportive and allowed me to be self-directed, which I think was a big contributor to my entrepreneurial nature. They did force piano lessons on me pretty young, but I was very grateful for that—I loved playing music.

A teacher who had a big impact on me was my high school math teacher, Dr. Newcomb. His warmth and passion for teaching was unflagging, especially in a subject that many students found challenging.

Cistercian Preparatory School was an extremely unique place, although I don't think I appreciated it at the time. I think I received a peerless education—better than most college educations—and it was a small enough place for me to actually play sports, too (academics were more my strong suit...).

Texas BBQ is the best. Moist brisket is all you need to order.

Harvard is far from Texas, and it made me appreciate my “Texan-ness” more than anything else could have.

Living in New York City was filled with fun, hard work and late nights, and I'm really glad I did it in my 20s. I'm also very glad I'm not there anymore.

Starting a company was not nearly as intimidating as it should have been for me (I was naïve). I wanted to create something from scratch, and I wanted to run a business, so it felt like the natural next step. Easy, right?

My first pair of boots was a pair of red kid's ropers, although I don't really remember them.

A good pair of boots has a story to tell, is an old friend, and gives you comfortable confidence.

Selling boots is downright fun. Your job is to make people happy, make them look good and give them confidence. Serving complimentary bourbon while you're selling makes it better for everyone involved.

León, Guanajuato, is the heart of the cowboy boot universe—and a beautiful place. I love visiting our boot-making partners in Mexico, eating street tacos and watching artisans craft Tecovas to perfection.

Texas will always be my home. There's nowhere else with as much natural beauty, opportunity and diversity all in one place.



TECOVAS' FOUNDER PAUL HEDRICK

Paul Hedrick is an Austin-based entrepreneur and founder of Tecovas, a retail brand whose mission is to build the most trailblazing, genuine and welcoming brand in Western boots. Hedrick is a born-and-raised Texan who left his jobs in consumer investing and consulting to launch Tecovas after recognizing his own desire for a high-quality, approachable cowboy boot and a company built on customer service. Today, the brand has over 1 million customers and has over 20 retail stores throughout the U.S.

Details are everything. Creating a product-based brand is not the same as launching a software company with a “minimum viable product.” If you're offering quality, the details matter, and every moment—every inch of the boot, shirt, jeans, or hat—needs to be crafted.

Living in Austin has changed a lot in the last couple years, but it's still a great city. The food scene has exploded in the last decade; there's a lovely lake in the middle of town; and people are genuinely more open and friendly than other places I've lived—even for Texas.

Red Dirt Country is still my favorite music genre.

A Western hero can be anyone who represents real cowboy values. They're genuine—a handshake means something. They're trailblazing—not afraid to forge ahead, fearless. And they're welcoming—the West is an open campfire.

A good cowboy hat is more versatile than you think—and should never rest on the brim.

What history has taught me is integrity matters—and being uncompromising in one's values doesn't mean being uncompromising in one's opinion.



Discover Where History Happened in the Old West

True West magazine has inspired travelers to take the road less traveled and explore the historic sites and towns of the American West. The Third Edition of the *True West* Ultimate Historic Travel Guide has been carefully updated with recommendations on the essential museums of the Old West. Anyone who wants to discover a region from the ground up—and immerse in its local history—will be inspired to visit a Western museum and experience the dynamic, enthralling history of the American West.

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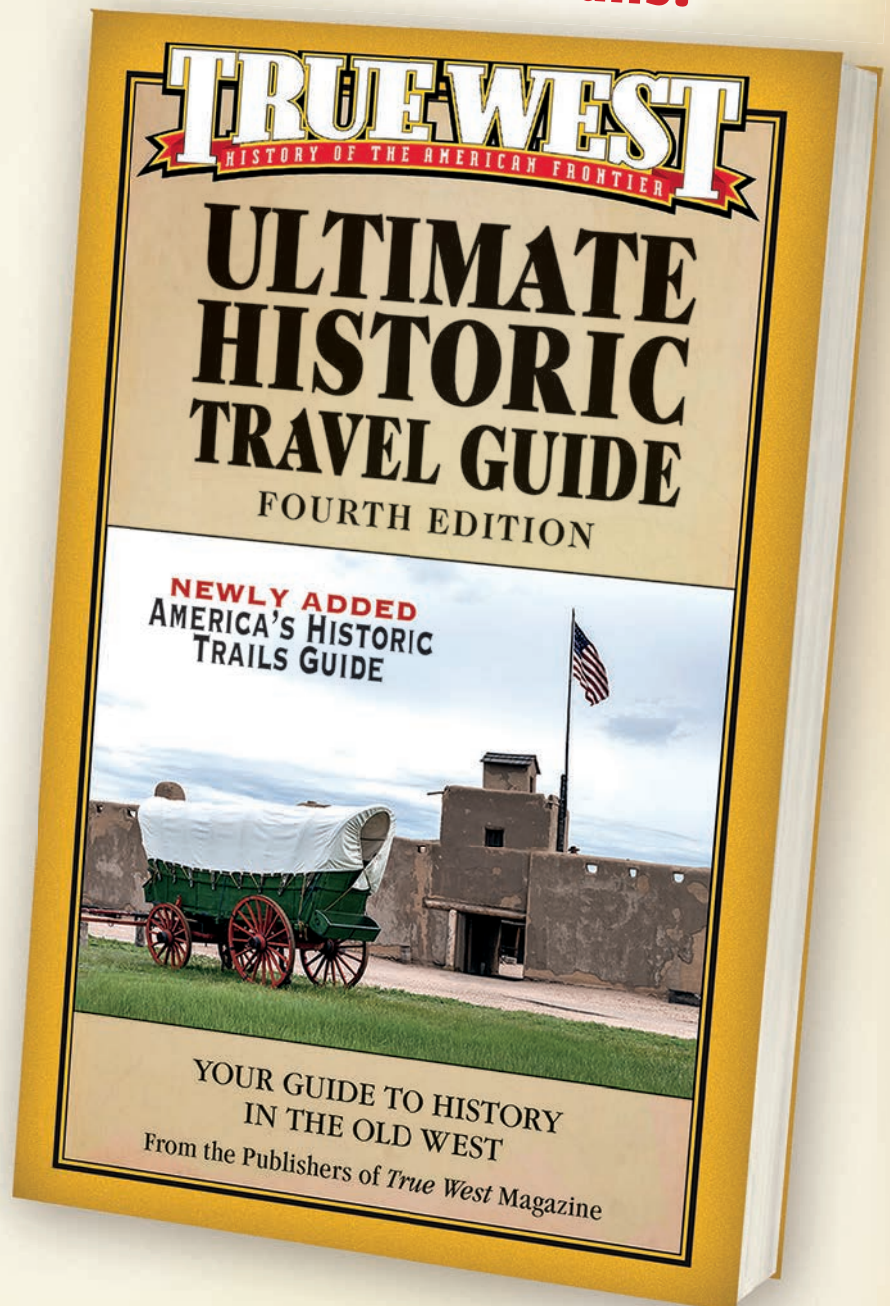
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