

Wagon Tracks

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Santa Fe Trail Association

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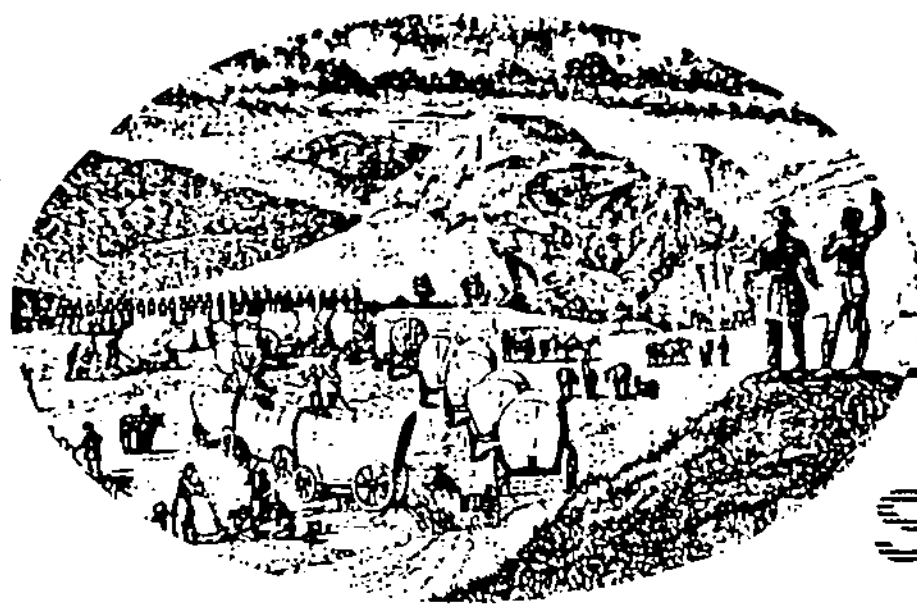


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WAGON TRACKS

SANTA FE TRAIL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1

AUGUST 1987

NUMBER 4

MARY DONOHO: NEW FIRST LADY ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

by Marian Meyer

There is a new First Lady of the Santa Fe Trail.

A recent discovery¹ places Mary Watt Donoho on the Trail and in Santa Fe thirteen years earlier than her well-known predecessor, Susan Shelby Magoffin.

The journey by 18-year-old Susan with her husband Samuel in 1846 has long been accepted by historians as the first by an American woman. In her journal, Magoffin recorded her arrival on August 31, 1846, two weeks after General Stephen Watts Kearny's occupation of Santa Fe.

"I have entered the city in a year that will always be remembered by my countrymen; and under the 'Star Spangled banner' too, the first American lady, who has come under such auspices, and some of our company seem disposed to make me the first under any circumstances that ever crossed the Plains," she wrote.²

But history has now proved her wrong. Mary Donoho lived in Santa Fe for at least four years, helped run a hotel, and gave birth to two children before Magoffin's visit. Accompanied by her husband William, an infant daughter, 150 Missouri adventurers and wagonloads of freight, Mary Donoho arrived in Santa Fe in 1833.³

Donoho established his overland trade headquarters there and they operated a hotel, perhaps the old Fonda, the inn at the end of the Trail, on the same site where La Fonda Hotel stands today.

A lengthy article which appeared in *The Daily New Mexican* on August 19, 1885, reported that Mr. J. B. Donoho of Clarksville, Texas, was making his first visit to Santa Fe since he and his family left in 1839.⁴ "This gentleman is a native of Santa Fe," noted the story, "having opened his infant peepers here on the 15th day of May 1837—nearly half a century ago."

(continued on page 6)

HUTCHINSON SYMPOSIUM Sept. 24-27—Join Us!

COUNCIL TO REPRINT RITTENHOUSE HISTORY

Jack Rittenhouse of Albuquerque, author of the invaluable *Santa Fe Trail, A Historical Bibliography* (originally published by the University of New Mexico Press in 1971), has graciously donated exclusive rights to the Santa Fe Trail Council to reprint and sell the introduction to that volume, with all proceeds going to the Council. This reprint, *Trail of Commerce and Conquest: A Brief History of the Road to Santa Fe*, will make available a concise and accurate summary of Trail history.

It is hoped that this first publication of the Council will be available in time for the Hutchinson Symposium in September and that museums and bookshops along the Trail will make it available to the wide audience it deserves for many years to come. Council President Marc Simmons has prepared a foreword for the new edition. Sales and distribution will be handled through the office of *Wagon Tracks*. The Council expresses gratitude to Rittenhouse for writing the material in the first place and for this generous contribution.

VILDA TRAVELS TRAIL

Les Vilda has traversed much of the Trail since leaving New Franklin, MO, April 21. He arrived in Trinidad, CO, July 2. Because his donkey, Joker, and he both came up lame early in the journey, Vilda has traveled in a small covered wagon pulled by his horse, Zulu. He wore out a set of wagon wheels before reaching Pawnee Rock.

Vilda attracted widespread interest along the way, with numerous newspaper articles about him and the Trail. He will depart Santa Fe in August and hopes to return as far as Hutchinson in time for the Sept. Symposium before completing the round trip back to New Franklin. ◀

REMAINS AT GLORIETA MAY BE CIVIL WAR CONFEDERATE DEAD

The skeletal remains of at least 33 individuals, believed by Museum of New Mexico archaeologists to be Confederate casualties at the Battle of Glorieta, March 28, 1862, have been unearthed near Pigeon's Ranch, site of the decisive Civil War engagement on the Santa Fe Trail. Other items recovered include buttons and clothing scraps.

Archaeologist Yvonne Oakes was called to be scene by landowner Kip Siler when he discovered remains while trenching for a foundation on June 24, just a few days after the 125th anniversary re-enactment of the battle on June 21. The number of Confederate dead at the 1862 battle was 35 or 36, and all but one were buried on the battlefield. Further investigation may reveal more about the battle that was the turning point of the Civil War in the West.

SANTA FE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL— WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

by Bob Kasperek

On May 8, 1987 the Santa Fe National Historic Trail became an official member of the National Trails System. This is a mixed blessing, for now that the Trail is "officially" recognized, it also means that the government and its bureaucracy have to get involved.

Landowners, historians and Trail buffs all know that the Trail exists. But the law now says that the *national historic trail* must be documented in an official prescribed manner. The law discourages land acquisition, and encourages states and organizations to become part of a grass-roots effort to preserve the Trail's resources, to provide public access, and to promote public enjoyment and understanding of the Trail. Congress regards the Trail and its resources to be of national significance so that its

(continued on page 10)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

All Council members, as well as many others interested in the Santa Fe Trail, should have received by now the program and registration form for the up-coming Symposium in Hutchinson, September 24-27.

This event is really the centerpiece of the Council's activity. A four-day program of lectures, panels, tours, and receptions not only provides both old hands and newcomers a fine opportunity to learn more about the Trail, it gives everyone a chance to meet persons who share their own special interests. I well remember the people in Trinidad, first-timers, who told me they had no idea a get-together like the Symposium could be so much fun.

Our Symposium for 1987 promises to be particularly memorable. With all the publicity attending the passage and presidential signing of the Santa Fe Trail bill the media spotlight has been focused on the Council and on the history of the Trail. We even hope to have a news-maker with us at Hutchinson—a National Park Service official who will make a first announcement of some of the plans made possible by the new bill.

Symposium Coordinator Barbara Peirce has worked tirelessly for months to assemble a program that will appeal to the widest possible audience. The varied agenda ranges from a panel about "Wildlife on the Trail" (specifically requested by several members last year) to an address by the distinguished scholar Dr. David J. Weber, head of the SMU History Department.

Perhaps as a measure of the success of the Council and its programs, it is worth noting that at least three places have expressed an interest in holding future Symposiums—Santa Fe, Overland Park, and Bent's Old Fort/La Junta. The site of the next Symposium in 1989 will be decided in an open Board meeting on the afternoon of September 24. All interested Council members are invited to attend Board meetings during the Symposium.

The people of Hutchinson are fully behind this year's program and all participants can expect a red-carpet welcome. It is important, however, to help out the organizers by registering early. Anyone who missed receiving a program and form for registration can get these by writing Barbara

at Hutchinson Community College, 1300 N. Plum, Hutchinson, KS 67501.

See you on the Trail . . . at the Symposium.

—Marc Simmons

BOARD MEETINGS OPEN TO COUNCIL MEMBERS

Meetings of the SFT Council Board at Hutchinson will be open to members interested in sitting in to observe consideration of the important items on the agenda. The meeting planned for Thursday, Sept. 24, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. (see tentative agenda below) includes discussion of the proposed bylaws for the Council beginning at 3:00 p.m. A Council meeting is also planned for Saturday, September 26, beginning at 8:00 p.m. If necessary, additional meetings will be scheduled.

Pres. Simmons recently appointed two committees, one on bylaws and one for nominations for officers and board members. Bill Pitts (730 NE 8th St., Apt. 107, Oklahoma City, OK 73104) is chairman of the bylaws committee, which also includes Ruth Olson (KS) and Sylvia Mooney (MO). Mark Gardner (P. O. Box 472, Trinidad, CO 81082) is chairman of the nominating committee, which includes Adrian Bustamante (NM), Dan Muldoon (OK), and Leo Oliva (KS). If you have suggestions for either committee, please contact the chairman.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Sept. 24, 1:00-5:00 p.m.

1. Call to order and introduction of Board
 2. Reading and approval of minutes of last meeting
 3. Reports of officers and committees: (a) President, (b) Secretary, (c) Treasurer, (d) WT Editor, (e) Publicity Coordinator, (f) Museum Brochure Project
 4. Appointment of new committees: (a) Publications Committee, (b) Marker Committee, (c) Awards Committee, (d) others
 5. Discussion of Council logo
 6. Schedule of future Symposiums
 7. Review of dues categories
 8. Discussion of Santa Fe Trail Center becoming the official archive of the Council and designation of the Center as Council's official museum
 9. Other new business
- 3:00-5:00 p.m. (as needed) is reserved for discussion of bylaws and procedures for selecting officers <

SIMMONS GIVEN ORIGINAL SANTA FE TRAIL BILL

by Michael E. Pitel

U.S. Rep. Bill Richardson of New Mexico surprised Council Pres. Marc Simmons with the original Santa Fe Trail Bill signed by President Ronald Reagan on May 8. The impromptu ceremony took place during the Glorieta Battlefield encampment at Pigeon's Ranch on June 20.

Richardson's presentation delighted the noted Trail scholar. "This has to be authentic," Simmons bubbled excitedly afterward. "It not only has the President's signature. Look: it even has coffee stains in the upper right hand corner."

Richardson, who introduced the bill to the U.S. House, felt the gift was a fitting tribute to Simmons "for his testimony in support of the bill before Congress last Fall and for his lifelong dedication to preserving and promoting the Trail."

Richardson visited the Union and Confederate camps, where he was accorded full military honors. He also signed a petition being circulated by the Glorieta Battlefield Preservation Society, Inc., to save the trees, which predate the 1862 battle and are threatened by road construction, across the road from Pigeon's Ranch.

Wagon Tracks is the official publication of the Santa Fe Trail Council, a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado. Letters are welcome, but they become the property of WT and may be edited or abridged at the editor's discretion. All rights reserved. Inquiries can be directed to the appropriate addresses below. Annual subscriptions are obtained through membership in the Council, whose dues are fixed per calendar year. Checks should be made payable to the Santa Fe Trail Council and sent to the secretary.

Membership Categories

Benefactor	\$1,000
Life	\$500
Institutional	\$100/year
Corporate	\$100/year
Patron	\$100/year
Supporting	\$50/year
Family	\$15/year
Individual	\$10/year

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1987 Symposium Coordinator: Barbara Peirce, Hutchinson Community College, 1300 N. Plum, Hutchinson, KS 67502

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AUGUST IS TRAIL MONTH IN TRINIDAD

To celebrate the Santa Fe Trail's recent recognition as a National Historic Trail, the Colorado Historical Society's Baca House, Bloom House and Pioneer Museum in Trinidad is sponsoring a series of Trail talks and demonstrations during the month of August. The presentations will occur at the Baca/Bloom complex and be given by historians from Colorado and New Mexico. The evening programs, listed below and in the Trail Calender on the last page, are free to the public.

August 1, 7:00 p.m.: *"Santa Fe is a Hard Road to Travel": Popular Music and the Santa Fe Trail* by Mark L. Gardner, administrator at Baca/Bloom and Pioneer Museum.

August 5, 7:45 p.m.: *Personal Reflections on the Santa Fe Trail* by Marc Simmons, Council President and Trail historian and author.

August 7, 7:45 p.m.: *Fort Union: Sentinel of the Santa Fe Trail* by Dave Roberts, Chief Ranger at Fort Union National Monument.

August 12, 7:00 p.m.: *Traveling the Santa Fe Trail: The Modern-Day Adventures of Les Vilda* by Les Vilda, who walked the Trail in 1984 and is following the route with a horse-drawn wagon this year.

August 15, 7:00 p.m.: *Accoutrements of the Trail: The Gear of a Santa Fe Trader* by Fred Dixon, living history specialist. During regular visiting hours on August 15 and 16, Dixon will have a period camp in the Pioneer Museum courtyard and display reproductions of typical trade goods carried over the Trail.

August 19, 7:45 p.m.: *A Distant Thunder: War Comes to the Santa Fe Trail* by Bill Gwaltney, chief of interpretation at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site. This program focuses on the Trail and the Mexican War.

August 27, 7:30 p.m.: *Brothers on the Trail: The Letters of Edward James and William Henry Glasgow* by Mark L. Gardner.

Also during August the museum bookstore will have a large selection of Santa Fe Trail related books for sale. For more information, contact Mark L. Gardner, P. O. Box 472, Trinidad, CO 81082 (303) 846-7217. ◀

TRAIL RIDE IN '88

Sylvia Mooney, head of the Cave Spring Association and the Cave Spring Interpretive Center at Kansas City and a Council board member, has announced the formation of Santa Fe Trail Ride-88, Inc., which plans a horse and wagon trip down the Trail, May-August, 1988. Mooney explained, "we are carefully planning the route, the provisions, and the logistics to make this historic trail ride from Missouri to Santa Fe."

The nonprofit Trail Ride-88 organization is seeking grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and funds from major corporations to sponsor the trek, the purpose of which is to celebrate the National Historic Trail designation recently accorded the famous road. Mooney said, "we plan to arrange for history and trail scholars to speak and present papers at public forums. Plays and musical presentations which are historically accurate will also be pursued."

Anyone interested is invited to join in the history-making event and be a part of planning and implementing the Trail ride. For further information, contact Sylvia Mooney, Santa Fe Trail Ride-88, Inc., Box 18336, Raytown, MO 64133 (816) 358-2263 or 358-4660.

37-MILE TRAIL RIDE DREW 100 IN JUNE

by Don Cress

With the inevitable passage of the Santa Fe Trail Bill, a group of Trail enthusiasts from Council Grove and Burlingame, KS, planned a Trail ride to draw attention to some existing sites that have received little publicity. The 37-mile ride from near Burlingame to Council Grove coincided with the annual Wah-Shun-Gah Days festival in Council Grove on June 13.

The ride began at the Havana Stage Station, 4 miles west of Burlingame, at 9:00 a.m., June 11. There were 100 participants, ranging in age from one to 85. The noon break was at Log Chain Creek, and the camp was at 142 Mile Creek, a beautiful spot with a wooded area and running water, near where Chas. Withington built a toll bridge, store, blacksmith shop, and lodging for travelers in 1854. During the evening Don Shiesser of Allen, KS, told stories of actual events along the Trail in the area.

The caravan moved out at 8:00

a.m., June 12, and followed ruts 50 yards wide in some places. The noon break was in a pasture west of Agnes City Cemetery. During the hot and humid afternoon, horsebackers were helping the wagons up hills with ropes. They reached Council Grove at 5:30 p.m., where they camped and enjoyed a supper and entertainment provided by the Wah-Shun-Gah Days committee. On June 13, the trailriders were recognized in the Wah-Shun-Gah Days parade, with Carl Miller of Americus bearing the flag and Lawrence Mitchell of Osage City leading the caravan.

Plans are being made for a similar Trail ride in 1988. Anyone interested may contact Don Cress, RR 1, Box 66, Council Grove, KS 66846.

CW RE-ENACTMENT GENERATES RECORD \$\$\$

by Michael E. Pitel

The Civil War re-enactment at Pigeon's Ranch, June 20-21, generated a record \$240,000 in gross receipts for Santa Fe and San Miguel counties' tourism industries, according to historian Dr. Don E. Alberts of Albuquerque. "Last year 30 percent of our spectators were destination travelers from outlying states and from distant New Mexico communities," Alberts, president of the nonprofit Glorieta Battlefield Preservation Society, Inc., announced. "The year before that, it was 25 percent. But the 125th anniversary celebration saw that share skyrocket to 60 percent."

He estimated the Father's Day weekend event attracted about 4,000 spectators. "Last year, there were nine outlying states represented among the spectators," Alberts explained. "This year, there were 19 outlying states."

The recent re-enactment set other records as well. There were 147 re-enactors and seven cannons this year, compared with 89 re-enactors and five cannons last year. The society grossed \$1,338 this time, compared to \$760 last time. The weekend visitation at nearby Pecos National Monument jumped 34% this year, compared to 20% last year.

More importantly, Alberts declared, there seem to be signs of progress in trying to convert the privately-owned 1862 battlefield and Santa Fe Trail sites to a public historical attraction for future generations. ◀

BOGGSVILLE UPDATE

Restoration plans for the historic Boggsville site in Bent County, CO (see article in February *WT*) were discussed at a special meeting in Las Animas on June 1. Architect Jim Caufield of Albuquerque presented his historic structures report of the site.

Phil Petersen, chairman of the Boggsville Restoration Committee announced that a fund was established to procure fencing to protect the area until restoration can take place. Also, an access road will be moved off the actual historic site.

Bill Buckles, archaeologist with the Univ. of So. Colorado called Boggsville a "precious resource." A detailed archaeological study is planned for the site.

Anyone interested in learning more about the project or helping with it should contact Phil Petersen, 602 Colorado Ave., La Junta, CO 81050 (303) 384-9452.

NM DAR MARKER "FOUND"

About a year ago Charles Davis of Albuquerque discovered a Santa Fe Trail marker in the yard of a garage apartment he owns. Far from the Trail, the gray granite slab contained an inscription indicating that it was placed by the DAR in 1910. How it reached Davis's property remains a mystery, but Marc Simmons thinks it may be the one stolen from a spot about 15 miles southeast of Santa Fe some time ago.

The DAR placed 18 markers in New Mexico, and at one time three of those were missing. Two others were found, but the one placed near the village of Cañoncito remained lost. Simmons believes this may be it, and he hopes arrangements can be made to return it to that place. Davis hopes so, too, as he said "I was about to haul the blamed thing to the dump."

THREE MAGAZINES TO PROMOTE THE TRAIL

by Michael E. Pitel

Three popular consumer magazines have lined up to promote the Santa Fe Trail. They are *Life* (circulation 1.5 million), *Woman's World* (1.3 million), and *Sunset* (1.4 million).

A Joan Myers's photograph in the July 1987 issue of *Life* announces the recent designation of the route as a National Historic

Trail. It is of the mission church at San Jose, NM, that appears in the Smithsonian traveling exhibition and in her and Marc Simmons's collaborative book, *Along the Santa Fe Trail*.

Woman's World is working on a travel article about the Trail for its September 1987 issue. They requested and were sent information about the Trail by the NM Tourism Dept. and the National Park Service Southwest Regional office at Santa Fe.

Sunset regional travel editor Mary Ann Reese said *Sunset* (published in Menlo Park, CA) will feature a major travel article about the Trail sometime next spring. Reese has assigned a photographer to shoot some of the Trail events this summer and fall. She plans to attend the Hutchinson Symposium in Sept.

California has become New Mexico's second strongest travel market, and the *Sunset* article may result in a sudden interest in the Trail by California travelers. Editors and freelance writers may see the Trail as a new subject, too.



HOOF PRINTS -TRAIL TIDBITS-

The national headquarters of the Oregon-California Trails Association recently moved from Gerald, MO to a rehabbed building in one of St. Louis's historic districts. OCTA's new address is 1701 S. Eight St., St. Louis, MO 63104. Besides the beautiful *Overland Journal*, OCTA now issues a quarterly newspaper, *News from the Plains*. Remember that OCTA was the prime mover in the recent campaign to pass the Santa Fe Trail bill.

By all reports, Dedication Day, June 7 at the Santa Fe Trail Center, Larned, was a huge success.

John W. Pollock of Rt. 2, Stone Lake, WI 54876, writes: "A trail once led from Bayfield at the western end of Lake Superior to the Twin Cities area: the St. Croix Trail. This was an important mail, staging, and military route. I am trying to promote interest in locating and marking this historic trail."

Council member Paul Bentrup informs us that plans to move the Kit Carson Chapel at Fort Lyon to another site have been dropped. That's good news since the Council opposed the move.

Roe Groom, 87, of Council Grove walked portions of the Santa Fe Trail again this year, accompanying the Kansas Arthritis Foundation's 7th annual wagon train. We're sure Mr. Groom must hold some kind of Trail record.

We understand the Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site is now charging an entrance fee of \$3.00 per carload. There are few museums left that are free. Perhaps libraries will be next to start charging admission.

Vandals have done considerable damage to the Cave Spring site and park in Kansas City.

The high school in Cimarron, NM is seeking donations of Santa Fe Trail books for its library. Send any duplicates you may have to Susan Zeller, Box 604, Cimarron, NM 87714.

Caxton Printers, Box 700, Caldwell, ID 83606 recently announced publication of *The Oregon Trail, Yesterday and Today* by William E. Hill. The book attempts to answer the question, "What was the Oregon Trail really like?" Price is \$9.95 postpaid.

A new member of the Council is Virginia Lee Fisher of Arrow Rock, MO. She says that she was born and reared on the Trail 50 miles west of her present home, where her great-grandfather ferried Conestoga wagons across Tabo Creek. Incidentally, there used to be a DAR marker at Tabo Crossing, but some years ago it was moved to Lexington and placed next to the Madonna of the Trail.

The Santa Fe Trail Historical Society at Baldwin City, KS and the Midland Railway Historical Society recently purchased the Baldwin-Ottawa line. Plans were to begin running tourist trains from Baldwin City to Norwood and back, total distance of 10 miles, on July 4, with trains to run thereafter on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Group rates are available. Contact the Santa Fe Trail Hist. Soc., Box 668, Baldwin City, KS 66006.

PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS

by Charles Bennett

[Ed. note: This is the third in a series on museums and historic sites along the Trail.]

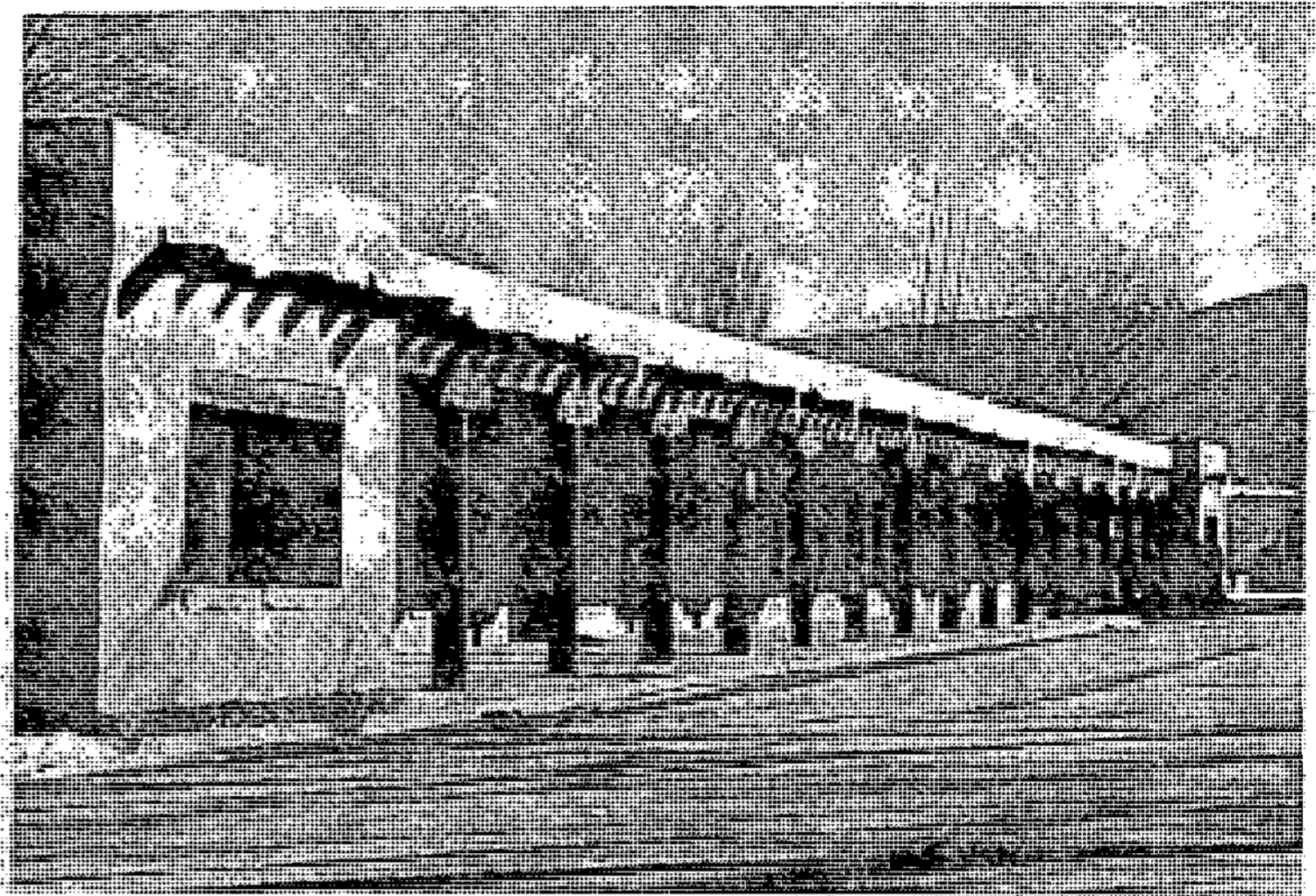
Located on the plaza in Santa Fe at the western terminus of the Santa Fe Trail and at the northern terminus of the Chihuahua Trail, the Palace of the Governors is the oldest public building in the United States. Built of adobe blocks in 1610 under the direction of Governor Pedro de Peralta, the building served as the residence and administrative headquarters of the governors and captains general of New Mexico under the regimes of Spain, Mexico, and the U.S. About 100 New Mexico governors used the building as their official residence: 60 under Spanish rule, 16 under Mexican rule, and 20 under U.S. rule.

Today the Palace of the Governors is the exhibition facility of the history department of the Museum of New Mexico, the state museum system. The building is the primary historic object under the Museum's responsibility, and it is considered the architectural crown jewel of New Mexico.

Originally the building was much larger, with the grounds extending north perhaps two modern city blocks and west one block. An exhibit in the Palace museum details the changes to the building throughout its 377-year history. It includes the earliest known floor plan of the Palace, found in the records of the *Archivo General de la Nacion* by Marc Simmons. The building did not originally possess the *portal* (porch) along the front of the edifice which today serves as a sidewalk marketplace for Indian craftspeople from the nearby villages.

During the Pueblo Revolt of 1680, Spanish troops and more than a thousand Spanish settlers gathered for protection in the Palace. Governor Otermin and the soldiers defended the Palace against the Indians until the attackers cut off the water supply to the building, forcing the Spaniards to retreat to the El Paso area. The Pueblo Indians occupied the building until the reconquest of New Mexico by Diego de Vargas in 1692-93.

The Palace has been the center of the pageantry of history, expeditions of exploration, and battles with hostile Indians. When



The Palace of the Governors as it appears today.

Zebulon Pike and his men strayed into Spanish territory in 1807, he was brought to the Palace where he dined one night with Governor Joaquin del Real Alencaster. In 1821, Mexico achieved independence from Spain, and the Palace fell under the jurisdiction of Mexico. It was at this time that William Becknell was welcomed to trade in Santa Fe, officially establishing the Santa Fe Trail trade route.

New Mexico remained a part of Mexico until the coming of Stephen Watts Kearny and the Army of the West via the Santa Fe Trail in 1846, when Kearny seized New Mexico for the U.S. Reaching Santa Fe without a fight, Gen. Kearny spent the first night on the Palace floor and established his headquarters in the building.

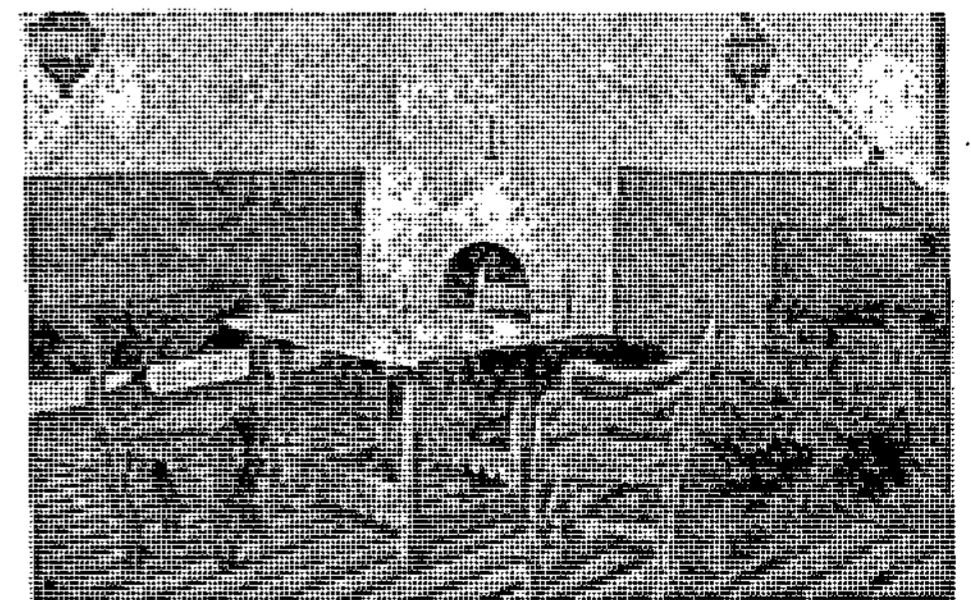
During the U.S. Civil War, the Palace was in the hands of the Confederates for about a month. Later Lew Wallace came to the Palace as a U.S. territorial governor, and there he completed the last three sections of his epic novel *Ben Hur*. The last governor to live in the Palace was George Curry, who resided there in 1907. By legislative act in 1909, the Palace became the first building to house the Museum of New Mexico.

The present occupant of the Palace, the history dept. of the Museum, maintains a continuous schedule of exhibitions in the venerable edifice, each one designed to further the understanding of the history of New Mexico and the Southwest. Besides the Palace, the history dept. has four other resource holdings.

The History Artifact Collection

of approximately 20,000 items constitutes New Mexico's official repository of historic objects. The History Research Library and Manuscript Collection contains some 15,000 books, maps, newspapers, periodicals, and manuscripts pertinent to New Mexico and the Southwest. The Palace Print Shop and Bindery, the Museum's only living history exhibit, consists of operational printing presses and associated tools and equipment. The Photographic Archive contains 350,000 images widely utilized by researchers.

The Palace is open daily, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; closed Monday in January and February. Admission is \$3.00 for adults, \$1.25 for children (6-16); under 6 free. A two-day pass is available for \$5.00 (adults), children \$2.50, permitting unlimited entry to the four Santa Fe museums in the Museum of New Mexico system: the Palace, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of International Folk Art, and the new Museum of Indian Arts and Culture. The Palace's History Library and Photo Archive are open to the public every day except weekends and holidays.



Governor Manuel Armijo Office Period Room Exhibit, Palace Museum.

MARY DONOHO

(continued from page 1)

During his 1885 visit to Santa Fe, James Donoho tried to track down some oldtimers who had known his father 48 years earlier, but the paper reported it was without success. However, it noted, "Mr. Donoho, Sr., engaged in the hotel business on the plaza, and as near as this gentleman can make out, occupied the celebrated 'old Fonda', or Exchange Hotel as it is now called. In this ancient structure was born Harriet Donoho in 1835, now dead, but who without doubt was the first white child born in New Mexico. Two years later Mr. J. B. Donoho, the visitor of today, came to gladden the pioneer's household, which makes him the first American child now living born in the territory."

Research in Clarksville, TX, where the Donohos lived out their lives, revealed that Mary, born in Tennessee in 1807,⁵ was the daughter of Dr. William and Lucy Dodson. She married William Donoho in 1831 in Boone County, Missouri,⁶ and her first child, Mary A., was born a year later. Harriet and James were born in Santa Fe and three other daughters arrived after the family left New Mexico. Three U.S. census records confirm James's birthplace.⁷

No doubt the Donohos were a part of the force of 200 foreigners in Santa Fe, mostly Americans, which prepared to defend itself during a bloody rebellion in 1837.⁸ The native citizenry arose against Governor Albino Perez, brutally murdering him and kicking his head about like a football. The uprising prompted Donoho to take his family back to Missouri later that year.⁹ Whether the family returned with him is uncertain, but he was back in Santa Fe by August 1838, when he witnessed the sale of a mule.¹⁰

According to James's story, on the return trip they took with them three Texas women who had been captured and enslaved by Indians. The narrative of one of the women, however, says Donoho took her only and that the others returned with different wagon trains.¹¹ They were Mrs. Rachel Plummer, Mrs. John Horn, and a Mrs. Harris.¹²

The women traveled to Santa Fe by tortuous routes on Indian trails, but they returned home by way of the Santa Fe Trail.¹³ This means that, in addition to Mary Donoho, three more American wo-

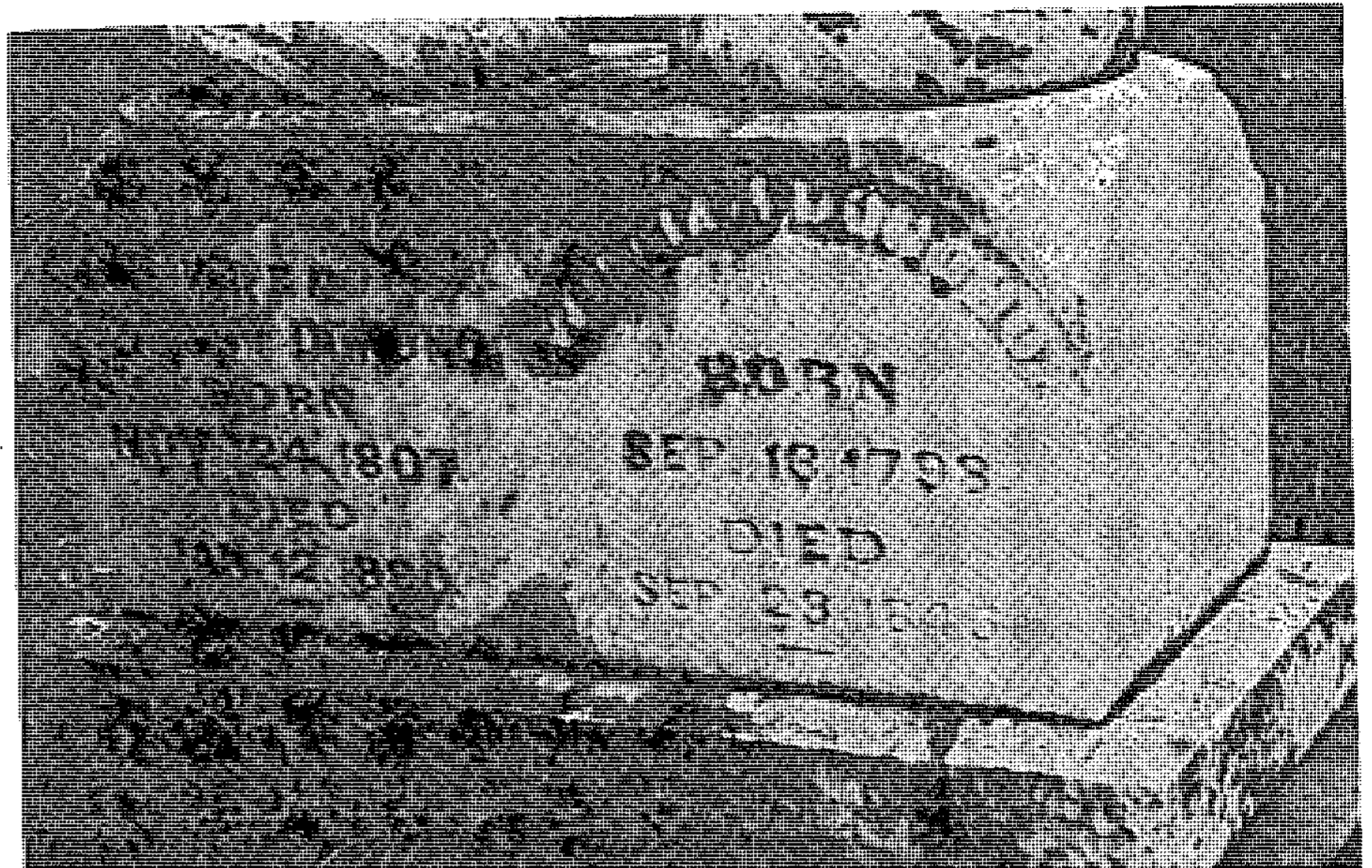


Photo by Sherry Smith

Tombstone of Mary and William Donoho, Clarksville, TX, cemetery.

men traveled the Trail before Susan Magoffin, at least on the eastward trek.

William Donoho's trail trading and Santa Fe hotel business must have been very profitable, because by January 1840 he was in Clarksville buying property. He owned 10,000 acres before his death in 1845, leaving Mary a wealthy but perhaps land-poor widow. Settling his estate took six years, and it was necessary for her to petition the court to allow her to sell some slaves, rather than the land, to pay debts.¹⁴

Mary Donoho's probate and property records at the Red River County courthouse tell a colorful tale of this independent and intrepid pioneer woman, who, after her husband's death, ran their famous hotel for 30 years. It is now gone, but a historical plaque on the Clarksville Square gives the history of the old "Donoho House" and stagecoach stand.

Mary may have learned the hotel business at the old Fonda in Santa Fe, but one element was decidedly different. There were no slave quarters in Santa Fe.

James Donoho told that it was one of his aged mother's desires to visit Santa Fe again, but "the wish was never consummated, her death occurring before the railroad was extended thus far."

By the time of Mary's death in 1880, all five of her daughters had died. Her estate went to James and three granddaughters. Her will ordered that "my body be buried . . . next to my husband Wil-

liam Donoho, and in a manner suitable to my condition and circumstances in life."¹⁵

The First Lady of the Santa Fe Trail died a woman of substance.

NOTES

1. "Seeing His Birthplace," *Daily New Mexican* (Santa Fe), August 19, 1885, 4.
2. Susan Shelby Magoffin, *Down the Santa Fe Trail and into Mexico* (reprint ed.; Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1982), 102-103.
3. "Seeing His Birthplace."
4. James's story may have erred. The Donoho family left Santa Fe following the 1837 Rebellion.
5. Obituary of Mary Donoho, *Northern Standard* (Clarksville, TX), January 16, 1880, 2.
6. Susan Ormsher, *Missouri Marriages Before 1840* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., nd), 64.
7. U.S. Census Records, Red River County, TX, 1850, 1870, 1880. In 1850 and 1870 James's birthplace was listed as Mexico. In 1880 it was New Mexico.
8. Letter, Carl Blummer to his mother, March 18, 1841, Von Brandt Collection, Museum of New Mexico Historical Library, Santa Fe.
9. Walter Prescott Webb, ed., *The Handbook of Texas* (Austin: The Texas State Historical Association, 1952), I, 513.
10. Bill of Sale, August 8, 1838, Mexican Archives of New Mexico, Reel 6, Fr. 1239, Joseph P. Halpin Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe.
11. *Rachel Plummer's Narrative of Twenty-One Months Servitude as a Prisoner among the Comanche Indians* (Austin: Jenkins publishing Co., 1977), 15.
12. Webb, *Handbook of Texas*, I, 513.
13. Carl Coke Rister, *Comanche Bondage . . . [and] Sara Ann Horn's Narrative . . .* (Glendale: Arthur H. Clark Co., 1955), 185.
14. Probate Records, Estate of William Donoho, Red River County Courthouse, Clarksville, TX, Book "B," 231.
15. Probate Records, Will of Mary Donoho, Red River County Courthouse, Clarksville, TX, Book "K," 94-95.

[Ed. note: The author is writing a book on Mary Donoho and would appreciate information on, or photographs of, the Dodson or Donoho families in Missouri. Contact Marian Meyer, 2327 Old Arroyo Chamisa, Santa Fe, NM 87505, (505) 982-5635.] ◀

RICHARD GENTRY: TRADER AND PATRIOT

by Richard R. Forry

[Ed. note: This is the third in a series on merchants and the Santa Fe trade.]

In Josiah Gregg's dramatic account of a surgical operation in 1826 along the Santa Fe Trail (on the banks of Walnut Creek in present Kansas), he commented that the procedures used "might suggest some novel reflections to the man of science."¹ Gregg did not state who performed the unusual "surgery"; however, a later account identified the "surgeon" and described the "operation": "A tradition of the trail which has survived the generations is the wonderful surgical operation Richard Gentry performed. A Missourian named Broaddus attempted the feat of drawing his rifle muzzle foremost over the end gate of a wagon. As was to be expected he received the load in his left arm, shattering the bone. The time was August. Inflammation set in. Broaddus gritted his teeth and said 'no' to amputation until he was apparently dying. Then he consented. There was no surgeon. Gentry took a hand saw, a butcher knife and an iron bolt. He filed a finer set of teeth on the back of the saw, whetted the butcher knife to razor edge and put the bolt in the fire. With the knife the arm was circled down to the bone. A few strokes of the saw cut through that. Then the hot bolt was applied until the stump was seared and the blood flow stopped. In a few weeks Broaddus was well."²

Richard Gentry was born August 21, 1788 in Madison County, Kentucky. His parents, Richard and Jane Harris Gentry, moved from Virginia to Kentucky in the latter part of the 18th century and "raised a family of sixteen sons and three daughters."³

In 1810 the 22-year-old Gentry married Ann Hawkins. During the War of 1812, Gentry, who was commissioned a captain in the Kentucky militia, served with the Kentucky Volunteers in the campaigns along the Great Lakes.⁴ In 1816 he moved his family to the St. Louis area, and by 1819 he pushed westward to Franklin in Howard County.

For a number of years some speculative business and real estate ventures absorbed Gentry's energy and financial resources. His investment in the Smithton Company proved to be profitable when the town of Columbia was



Richard Gentry.

selected the seat of Boone County. Other investments were unprofitable, however, despite the fact that Gentry's tavern served as Columbia's post office and community center.

The early years of the trade with Santa Fe offered residents of Missouri's frontier counties the opportunity to invest in a commercial venture which promised enough profit to pay off debts associated with unsuccessful business activities. While it is not known how much money Gentry invested in his three Santa Fe trading ventures (1826, 1827, 1830), on "May 8, 1827 he borrowed \$863.00 and executed a mortgage on his two lots in Columbia, his tavern and stable, also three slaves, four cows and calves, one horse named 'Ben Bright', nine feather beds, and all his household and kitchen furniture" to engage in the Santa Fe trade.⁵

By May 18, 1827 Gentry had been elected marshal of a caravan led by Ezekiel Williams. The caravan included "about 105 men; 53 wagons; and pleasure carriages" and was reported as being "the largest which has traversed this route" and "at least one mile in length" when in "line of march."⁶

In 1830 Gentry returned to Santa Fe. His July 4 letter to his wife shows that travel across the plains was not always a harrowing ordeal to be feared and endured. He did not state how many men and wagons were in the caravan, but he commented there was "no sickness among any of our immediate party." Although they "had no water fit to drink for several days," a variety of meat was available, including "antelope, deer, buffalo, and some

bear." Although the traders "saw several camps of Indians, . . . they did not molest us, in fact they were very friendly." He informed his wife that "Santa Fe is the same interesting old city, full of Spanish, and a goodly number of other nationalities." Moreover, "trading here is very good indeed, better than it has been. . . I will buy some mules, and drive them home, as I believe I can make good money out of them."⁷

In a letter to his father in Kentucky, dated November 4, 1830, Gentry described how on his return trip he single-handedly drove 40 mules from Santa Fe to Missouri. "I bought a bay mare and kept her in the same lot with the mules for a short time, then bridled and saddled the mare, opened the gate and rode her through and mules followed me all the way to Missouri. At night I picketed the mare so she could graze, and the mules stayed close by. I wrapped up in my blanket on the ground, with my faithful dog on guard; of course I kept my gun, pistols, and knife handy. I killed deer, buffalo, and wild turkeys on the way which I ate with relish, as I carried a sack of meal and a sack of salt. I had no trouble striking fire with my flint, and I found fresh water most all the way along the trail, got thirsty only twice. . . I spent . . . [one] night near Independence, and one mule disappeared; he must have been stolen, for I do not believe one mule would have left the rest. The mules were safe in the wild country, but not safe when I got back to civilization." As he had predicted to his wife, Gentry's 1830 trip to Santa Fe was profitable; he "made good money" and was "able to satisfy the mortgage on . . . [his] furniture and livestock."⁸

During the Black Hawk War, Gentry was given command of Missouri troops and organized the defense of Missouri's northern border. Following the defeat of Black Hawk, American military force was directed against the Seminole Indians in Florida. In 1837, after two years of indecisive fighting, President Martin Van Buren asked Missouri Senator Thomas H. Benton for volunteers from Missouri to fight against the Seminoles. Senator Benton obtained a commission from the War Dept. for Richard Gentry, who recruited 600 men partly because "times were hard and the volunteers were promised pay in coin."⁹ After marching to St. Louis, the

regiment embarked on a voyage which led to sickness and death.

Gentry's regiment joined Colonel Zachary Taylor's command in Florida, and on Christmas day, 1837, the Missouri troops were part of the front line of attack. The Seminoles were in an excellent defensive position, and Richard Gentry was mortally wounded in the first few moments of the engagement.¹⁰ His remains rest in the cemetery at Jefferson Barracks, MO. Whereas his early years in the West promised adventure and the possibility of material success, for Gentry the East held only death.

Gentry's widow, Ann Hawkins Gentry, was the mother of 13 children. Through the efforts of Senator Benton, who overcame President Van Buren's doubts about "the legality of appointing a lady to the position," Mrs. Gentry succeeded her husband as postmaster of Columbia in 1838, a position she held until 1865. She was the second woman "postmaster" in American history.¹¹

NOTES

1. Josiah Gregg, *Commerce of the Prairies*, ed. by M. M. Quaife (reprint, Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1967), 47.
2. Walter B. Stevens, *Missouri, The Center State: 1821-1915* (St. Louis: S. J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1915), 127.
3. Howard L. Conard, ed., *Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri* (St. Louis: The Southern History Co., 1901), 21.
4. T. B. Gentry, *Souvenir of General Richard Gentry* (Kansas City, MO: private printing, 1899), 4.
5. Richard Gentry: Typescript Collection, III, No. 36 (Joint Collection, Western Historical Manuscript Collection—Columbia and State Historical Society of Missouri Manuscripts).
6. Louise Barry, *The Beginning of the West: Annals of the Kansas Gateway to the American West, 1540-1854* (Topeka: Kansas State Historical Society, 1972), 142.
7. Richard Gentry: Typescript Collection, III, No. 36.
8. Ibid.
9. John K. Mahon, *History of the Second Seminole War: 1835-1842* (Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1967), 221.
10. Ibid.
11. Alan R. Havig, *Columbia: An Illustrated History* (Woodland Hills, CA: Windsor Publications, 1984), 23.

POST OFFICE OAK —LETTERS—

Editor:

It is highly likely that a portion of the original Santa Fe Trail passes directly under the Museum of New Mexico Laboratory of Anthropology building. If this is really the case, we would like to develop a public exhibit of it that would allow people to walk down several hundred yards of the original Trail. Obviously, this is where your organization can help. We need dialogue to clear the air and determine if this can actually

be presented to the public as a section of the original Trail. If you could make this request for information and communication an item in *WT*, I would appreciate it. Thank you.

Curtis F. Schaafsma
State Archaeologist
Museum of New Mexico
Box 2087
Santa Fe, NM 87504-2087

Editor:

I have been reading the story of the Santa Fe Trail for many years and have flown many people from Kansas Point of Rocks to Las Vegas, NM tracing the Trail and encouraging interest. I have the mint coin with Point of Rock and Wagon Mound on the other side. I know of no other.

M. L. & B. I. Carter
Box 318
Guymon, OK 73942

Editor:

I am interested in the Santa Fe Trail for a number of reasons. My father's uncle, William T. Sloan, Jr., was a wagonmaster for his cousin, George Bryant, on the Santa Fe Trail, hauling supplies for the U. S. government for eight years, including the Civil War years. During the Civil War one of their ox trains was destroyed by enemy action. I was born on my father's ranch in Cimarron County, OK, the south end of which was only five miles from the Cimarron Cutoff of the Trail. I have an ox bow and ox shoe used on the Santa Fe Trail and preserved by my father.

I am a life member of the Oklahoma Historical Society and the No Man's Land Historical Museum Association. I am funding the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit, "The Santa Fe Trail: Photographs by Joan Myers," at No Man's Land Museum, October 24–November 22, 1987.

The Sloans are related to Kit Carson. My grandfather, Archibald Robert Carson Sloan, was in the Civil War from Missouri. His mother, Jane Breckenridge Alcorn Sloan, lived in Cooper's Fort, MO for three years during the War of 1812. In 1813, during an attack on the fort by Indians, Jane, aged 13, loaded guns for her father on the parapet and looked after Kit Carson, age 3. My grandfather's grandmother's maiden name was Carson. My father, Dudley C. Sloan, was a pioneer cattle rancher and the first sheriff of Cimarron County when Oklahoma became a state in 1907. His op-

ponent in the election was Billy Dixon, hero of the Adobe Walls Indian Battle. Kit Carson fought the first Battle of Adobe Walls some ten years earlier.

Raymond D. Sloan
11719 Green Bay Dr.
Houston, TX 77024

Editor:

I am working with a group in support of the National Trails Center being planned in Independence, MO. My grandfather, Ellis Short, accompanied his father, Charles W. Short, on trade trips to Santa Fe in the 1850s-1860s. I have always been interested in the family stories; if only I had paid closer attention! Keep up the good work.

Jane Mallinson
Box 8604
Sugar Creek, MO 64054



CONVERSE OF THE PRAIRIES —BOOK NOTICES—

Ava Betz, *A Prowers County History*. Lamar, CO: Prowers County Historical Society, 1986. Pp. 422. Illus. \$20.00 (plus \$3.00 postage). Order from Big Timbers Museum, P. O. Box 362, Lamar, CO 81052.

For those researching the history of the Santa Fe Trail, county histories should be considered as prime sources of information. In the late nineteenth century hefty books were published on most of the Missouri counties—those on Jackson County (whose seat was Independence) and Saline County (containing the village of Arrow Rock) being especially useful for Trail scholars. More recently fine histories have been published by Haskell, Kearny, and other Trail counties in Kansas.

Now Ava Betz brings us in splendid detail the story of Prowers County through which the Mountain Branch of the Trail passed in southeastern Colorado. Early chapters describe the Spanish and American explorers who traveled the Arkansas River route even before the road from Missouri was opened in 1821.

A long chapter on the Santa Fe Trail will be of most interest to Council members. The author quotes from numerous original diaries and journals, and she discusses the major Trail land-

marks in the county such as the Big Timbers, Pretty Encampment (also called Pleasant Encampment) on Wild Horse Creek, and Old Fort Lyon. Included, too, are new details on the captivity of Clara Blinn taken by Cheyennes from a wagon train in 1868. Stanley Vestal has a summary of the incident in his *The Old Santa Fe Trail*.

Collectors of Trail literature will want a copy of this readable and informative volume.

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Marc Simmons, *Murder on the Santa Fe Trail: An International Incident, 1843*. El Paso: Texas Western Press, 1987. Pp. 120. \$15.00.

This is the first book-length study of the robbery and murder of a prominent New Mexican Trail merchant, Don Antonio José Chávez, in present Rice County, Kansas, in 1843. The assailants were 15 outlaws from western Missouri who had obtained a commission from the Republic of Texas to attack Mexican freighters on the Trail. The crime threatened to disrupt the overland trade and was an international incident which threw the frontier into an uproar.

Simmons's carefully researched and readable account begins with events leading up to the crime, follows the pursuit of the offenders by military troops and citizen posses, recounts the trial and execution of the two ringleaders, and shows how the incident was connected to other historical events of the time. An excellent piece, highly recommended to all Trail enthusiasts.

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The Santa Fe Trail: New Perspectives. Denver: Colorado Historical Society, 1987. Pp. 120. Map, index. \$5.95 postpaid. Order from Museum Store, Colorado Historical Society, 1300 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203.

This soft-bound book is a special issue of *Essays and Monographs in Colorado History* consisting of papers from the first Santa Fe Trail Symposium held in Trinidad, Colorado, September 12-14, 1986.

Essays include Marc Simmons's "The Poetry of the Santa Fe Trail," David Lavender's "Bent's Fort: Outpost of Manifest Destiny," and Sandra L. Myres's "Women on the Santa Fe Trail."

The collection also contains contributions by Barton H. Bar-

bour on James Ross Larkin, Janet Le Compte on the Raton and Sangre de Cristo passes, and Daniel D. Muldoon on trappers who traveled the Trail. David A. Sandoval provides a chapter entitled "Who is Riding the Burro Now? A Bibliographical Critique of Scholarship on the New Mexican Trader." David Dary surveys buried treasure legends, and Jack D. Rittenhouse offers a brief guide to Trail literature.

• • • • •

Miguel Antonio Otero, *My Life on the Frontier, 1864-1882*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1987. Pp. 352. Paper, \$12.95 (plus \$1.00 postage). Order from University of New Mexico Press, Order Dept., Albuquerque, NM 87131.

This is a reprinting of the first volume of the autobiography of Otero, who later became territorial governor of New Mexico (1897-1906). In this book the author vividly describes his first 25 years, up to his father's death in 1882.

He recalls life along the Santa Fe Trail in the 1870s and the experiences of his father's mercantile and freighting firm, Otero, Sellar & Co. His own work as a bookkeeper for the company gave him an accurate view of business and daily life in the era when railroads were replacing ox trains. The account is rich in human interest and historical detail. Highly recommended for all Trail buffs!

COUNCIL TROVE

-DOCUMENTS-

LETTER FROM FT. AUBRY

Floyd Edwards provided these excerpts (which he published in the *Syracuse (KS) Journal* May 28, 1987) from a letter written at Fort Aubry by William N. Byers, copublisher of the *Rocky Mountain News*, January 7, 1866, while a passenger on the eastbound stage.

We left Fort Bent the morning of the 5th, at 10 A.M. having made preparation for the long 240 miles without change of teams. There were six through passengers, occupying a coach drawn by four mules. A baggage wagon with a similar team, accompanied us, loaded with baggage, provisions for men and forage for animals. The noon camp was made in the dry bed of Sand Creek near the mouth. After a two hours halt we again rolled out and continued traveling until

almost midnight. The weather after dark was exceedingly cold, and the whole plain thickly covered with snow, which creaked terribly under the coach wheels. We entered the celebrated Salt Bottom at dark and did not leave it until just before camping time. It is a low wet bottom, of great extent and thickly covered with tall, coarse grass. Wherever the ground was bare of snow, it was whitened with alkaline efflorescences.

Just before day-break this morning the western bound coach came up, and there was a transfer of baggage and change of drivers, upon completing which, we set out for the post [Fort Aubry] for breakfast. It was eleven o'clock before we got there, and just twelve before we got dinner or breakfast. The day has been dark, foggy and threatening snow. We lay by for an evening start, but the night promised so dark that it was postponed until the moon rise—midnight—and now it is further put off until daylight. It is one hundred and twenty miles to the next post, Fort Dodge, and will make two full days travel if no more snow falls.

We are now 20 miles east of the Colorado and Kansas line. This post [Aubry] was established late in the fall, and the work arrested by a heavy snow storm in the first days of December. It is intended to check the frequent Indian raids upon the road, and is at present garrisoned by two companies of the 48th Wisconsin infantry—and one company of the 2nd U.S. cavalry. The men are quartered in half underground caves, dug and built in the bank of a little spring branch about three hundred yards from the Arkansas river. The only other buildings put up are of adobe, or sod covered with earth. They are quite comfortable but not very stylish in appearance. Timber is scarce, only a little cottonwood upon the islands and sand bars in the river. Lumber is brought from Leavenworth after first coming from the pineries of Wisconsin.

The snow here is six to eight inches deep, and has been a foot and a half. The weather has been excessively cold for more than a month. The river is frozen up solid all the way down, and the ice is double the thickness of the heaviest on the Platte above Denver. The severe weather and the deep snow has been terribly destructive to the traders. Trains are laying up for the winter all along the valley and also along the Aubrey and Cimarron roads to Fort Union and Santa Fe. Some trains have lost half, and others two thirds of their cattle. There is hardly a freighter whose losses will not be heavy, and to some will be quite ruinous. Many large trains are corraled in places that will prove very dangerous when moderate weather again allows the Indians to take the

war path. They are usually guarded by less than a half dozen men and massacres need be no matter of surprise. Many teamsters have been frozen more or less severely and a few fatally. All who could have returned to the states.

Antelope are very plentiful and a few deer are seen. Wild turkeys are along the larger streams and Jack rabbits in the sage brush. Wolves follow and hang about the buffalo herds in incredible numbers.

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MILEAGE ON MT. BRANCH

This table of distances from Junction City to Santa Fe via the Mountain Branch was the route of Sanderson's Southern Overland Stage Company, printed in the *Junction City Union*, August 4, 1866.

	miles	total
Junction City to Chapman's Creek	11	
Abilene	13	24
Sand Spring	3	27
Salina	22	49
Pritchard's	14	63
Fort Ellsworth	16	79
Well's Ranch, Plum Creek	18	97
Fort Zarah	23	120
Fort Larned	31	151
Rock Hollow	9	160
Big Coon Creek	15	175
Aroyo Blanco	16	191
Little Coon Creek	4	195
Fort Dodge	11	206
Cimarron Crossing	25	231
Pawnee Forts	21	252
Lone Tree	9	261
Bluffs	10	271
Chouteau Island	20	291
Fort Aubrey	16	307
Fair View	9	316
Pretty Encampment	11	327
Bluff at head of Salt Bottom	19	346
Sand Creek	10	356
Fort Lyon	19	375
Twelve mile point	23	398
Little Sand Creek	5	403
Bent's Old Fort	6	409
Big Aroyo	21	430
The Mounds	9	439
Iron Spring	10	449
Hole in Rock	14	463
Hole in Prairie	15	478
Gray's Rancho	19	497
Trinidad	4	501
Summit of Raton Pass	15	516
Red River	14	530
Vermejo Creek	23	553
Maxwell's	12	565
Ryado	10	575
Murray's	9	584
Apache Hill	8	592
Ocate Creek	6	598
Fort Union	17	615
Las Vegas	26	641
Tecojole	12	653
San Jose	15	668
Pecos	20	688
Pigeon's Rancho	5	693
Johnson's Rancho	6	699
Santa Fe	13	712

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

(continued from page 1)

preservation and use should have government guidance.

The new status was achieved by an amendment to the National Trails System Act of 1968, which requires the Sec. of Interior and, through him, the National Park Service (NPS) to see that the provisions of the act are fulfilled. The NPS Southwest Regional Office in Santa Fe will work with advisory groups, complete the planning, mark the Trail, and implement the other requirements of the act.

The law requires an official advisory council to be set up within one year to provide advice to the Sec. of Interior through the NPS on Trail matters. This includes selection of Trail routes or rights-of-way, standards for erection and maintenance of official Trail markers, and other matters. Anyone may submit names of nominees for the advisory council to the NPS.

The NPS will make its recommendations to the Sec. of Interior, who will appoint the council members. The council has to include representatives from each federal agency administering land along the Trail, each state through which the Trail passes, and private organizations and landowners which "have an established and recognized interest in the trail."

The council cannot exceed 35 members, serving 2-year terms. The Sec. of Interior will issue a charter for the advisory council, renewable at least annually for ten years, at which time the council ends.

The council will offer advice to the NPS on various Trail matters. One of the first duties will be to prepare an official map of the national historic trail. Many maps have been drawn, but there were cutoffs and minor branches that may or may not be included in the official route.

The official map will contribute to a mandatory "comprehensive plan" for the management and use of the Trail, which will also rely on consultation with the council. This plan must specify objectives and practices to follow, identify "all significant natural, historical and cultural resources to be preserved," provide details of any anticipated cooperative agreements between the Interior Dept. and other agencies or interests, and the process to be followed in

marking the Trail.

An official Trail marker will be of interest to many people. There have been markers of various designs placed by the DAR and others. The law now requires a "uniform marker, including thereon an appropriate and distinctive symbol" for the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

Other national scenic, historic, and recreational trails across America are marked with signs having the same "uniform" shape, a triangle with rounded, convex sides. Within that shape, each trail has a distinctive symbol. The Oregon National Historic Trail has a wagon wheel; the Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail has a buffalo skull. The Santa Fe National Historic Trail will have its own symbol, too. The advisory council will be involved in the selection of that design.

While there has rightfully been great rejoicing at the passage of the bill, much remains to be done. Only then will the intent of Congress be met to identify and protect the historic route, its remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment.

CALIFORNIA CLAIMS END OF THE TRAIL

The city of El Monte, California near Los Angeles claims to be the real end of the Santa Fe Trail in an application to the Department of the Interior seeking inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The matter was the subject of a recent *LA Times* news story.

According to El Monte, the Old Spanish Trail from New Mexico across Utah to California was really the western extension of the Santa Fe Trail. Since some of the city's founders came by that route from Santa Fe in the 1850s, El Monte, say local folks, deserves recognition as the official end of the Trail.

Trail scholars Jack D. Rittenhouse and Marc Simmons, when phoned by a *Times* reporter, both expressed serious reservations about the claim. There seems to be little solid evidence that the Old Spanish Trail was also referred to as the Santa Fe Trail. Should any reader know of such reference or have other information that would support the El Monte claim, please write to William J. Peters, President, Trail Chemical Corp., 9904 Gidley St., El Monte, CA 91731.

HELP WANTED

I am seeking passengers to share driving and expenses from the Santa Fe area to the Hutchinson Symposium. I will leave Santa Fe the morning of September 23 and return from Hutchinson on September 28. If interested, please call.

Mike Pitel
Office: (505) 827-0312
Home: (505) 982-2704

I am seeking authentic information on New Mexico's Colfax County War, the Santa Fe Ring, and the Great New Mexico Cover Up which probably includes the murder of my grandfather, W. R. Morley. I hope to terminate the century-old cover up eventually. Assistance, particularly from historians, will be most welcome.

Norman Cleaveland
P. O. Box 4638
Santa Fe, NM 87502

I am seeking any information on a location along the Trail about 50 miles west of Fort Dodge known as the Pawnee Forts, probably in present Finney County, KS. There are scattered references to this location in Fort Dodge military records, and it must have been a well-known landmark on the Trail.

Paul F. Bentrup
Box 11
Deerfield, KS 67838

NEW SFTC MEMBERS

This list includes memberships received since the last issue up to July 20, when total memberships stood at 400; those received after this printing will appear in the next issue. If there is an error in this information, please send corrections to the editor. Corrections are needed for the membership roster to be printed later this year. If you know of people who may be interested in the Council and are not on this list, please urge them to join. Everyone who joins in 1987 is a charter member. We thank you for your support.

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIPS

Daniel T. & Vicky M. Kipp, 121 E. Pikes Peak, #221, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

Bob & Dorothy Allen, 5008 Canoncito Pl. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120
Roger C. & Maurine S. Fletcher,

2105 Cottie Lane, Arlington, TX 76010
Shirley & Wilbur Goltermann, P. O. Box 303, Cascade, CO 80807
Gutowsky's, 1418 Stonehenge Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80521
Paul & Mary Sue Hammons, 4712 NW 76th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73132
Ceborn & Martha E. Hanson, P. O. Box 148, Cowdrey, CO 80434
Jon Hunner, 1570 Pacheco St., E-15, Santa Fe, NM 87501
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Edwin C. & Dorothy C. Lyman, 20210 Village, No. 20, Camarillo, CA 93010
Fred & Marsha Magley, H.C.I Box 43, Bird City, KS 67731
Jerry & Gwendol Martin, P. O. Box 266, Goodwell, OK 73939
Raymond E. McKinley, 3131 S. Holly Place, Denver, CO 80222
Terry Percival, 2955 McClure #302, Topeka, KS 66614
James S. & Fannie F. Pope, 227 Hyacinth Court, St. Louis, MO 63122
Marvin E. & Jacqueline R. Skinner, P. O. Box 199, Council Grove, KS 66848
Raymond D. & Beverly Sloan, 11719 Greenbay Dr., Houston, TX 77024
Jack & Darlene Sniff, Star Route, Hasty, CO 81044
Willis & Maxine Swayze, RR 1, Box 139A, Lost Springs, KS 66859
M/M Edward Swovelan, 1919 Adams, Lot 81, Topeka, KS 66607
Halsey & Mary Belle Wetmore, 309 Sunset Lane, Guymon, OK 73942

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Curtis E. Anderson, Plaza de Retiro #32, 700 Camino de la Placita, Taos, NM 87571
James F. "Fred" Atkinson, 1713 Callejon Cordelia, Santa Fe, NM 87501
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Thomas A. Drake, 413 Grant Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87501
Virginia Lee Fisher, Arrow Rock, MO 65320
Florice M. Frank, P. O. Box 421, Yreka, CA 96097

Rodger Funk, RR 1, Garden City, KS 67846
Jané Gilsinger, 356 Yellow Pine Dr., Bailey, CO 80421
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BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

Every membership is to receive
all issues of *Wagon Tracks* print-
ed during the year. If you have
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tact the editor. Additional copies
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from the editor for a cost of \$1.00
per copy postpaid.

TRAIL CALENDAR

Everyone is invited to send no-
tices for this section; provide
location, date(s), time(s) and ac-
tivity. Remember this is a quarter-
ly. The next issue should appear
in November, so send information
for December and later. Thank
you.

Aug. 1, 1987: Baca/Bloom com-
plex, Trinidad, CO, 7:00 p.m.,
"Popular Music and the Santa Fe
Trail" by Mark L. Gardner.

Aug. 5, 1987: Baca/Bloom com-
plex, Trinidad, CO, 7:45 p.m.,
"Personal Reflections on the
Santa Fe Trail" by Marc Simmons.

Aug. 7, 1987: Baca/Bloom com-
plex, Trinidad, CO, 7:45 p.m.,
"Fort Union: Sentinel of the Santa
Fe Trail" by Dave Roberts.

Aug. 7-8, 1987: Bent's Old Fort
NHS, 35110 Hwy 194 E, La Junta,
CO 81050, Bent Descendants
Celebration. For further informa-
tion, contact Craig Moore at
above address.

Aug. 12, 1987: Baca/Bloom com-
plex, Trinidad, CO, 7:00 p.m.,
"Traveling the Santa Fe Trail: The
Modern-Day Adventures of Les
Vilda."

Aug. 13-15, 1987: Mountain Man
Trade Fair, Palace of the Gover-
nors, Santa Fe. For further infor-
mation call 1-800-338-6877 or
(505) 827-6474.

Aug. 15, 1987: Baca/Bloom com-

plex, Trinidad, CO, 7:00 p.m.,
"Accoutrements of the Trail: The
Gear of a Santa Fe Trader" by
Fred Dixon.

Aug. 19, 1987: Baca/Bloom com-
plex, Trinidad, CO, 7:45 p.m., "A
Distant Thunder: War Comes to
the Santa Fe Trail" by Bill
Gwaltney.

Aug. 27, 1987: Baca/Bloom com-
plex, Trinidad, CO, 7:30 p.m.,
"Brothers on the Trail: The Let-
ters of E. J. and W. H. Glasgow"
by Mark L. Gardner.

Sept. 2-Oct. 1, 1987: Hutchinson
Public Library, Hutchinson, KS,
Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition
—"The Santa Fe Trail: Photo-
graphs by Joan Myers."

Sept. 4-7, 1987: Annual Santa-Cal-
i-Gon Celebration. Independence
Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box
147, Independence, MO 64051.

Sept. 7, 1987: Wagon Mound, New
Mexico, Bean Day Festival, with
parade at 9:30 a.m., free bar-
becue lunch, and afternoon
rodeo. For further information,
call (505) 666-2245.

Sept. 24-27, 1987: Santa Fe Trail
Symposium. Hutchinson Com-
munity College, Hutchinson, KS.

Sept. 26-27, 1987: Santa Fe Trail
Re-enactment, Arrow Rock
State Historic Site, Arrow Rock,
MO 65320.

Oct. 24-Nov. 22, 1987: No Man's
Land Museum, Goodwell, OK,
Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition
—"The Santa Fe Trail: Photo-
graphs by Joan Myers."

Nov. 8, 1987: Panhandle State
University, Goodwell, OK, public
lecture at the library auditorium
at 2:00 p.m. by Leo E. Oliva, "The
Santa Fe Trail as a Military Road."

FROM THE EDITOR

See you in Hutchinson!

—Leo E. Oliva

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