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WAGON TRACKS

Quarterly Publication of the Santa Fe Trail Association

volume 30 ♦ number 2

February 2016



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On The Cover: Oh, Give Me a Home

acrylic on canvas, by Cally Krallman

"Oh, give me a home, where the buffalo roam, where the deer and the antelope play..." goes the state song of Kansas. Phyllis Morgan, in her book *As Far as the Eye Could Reach* (reviewed on page 27), quotes Zebulun Montgomery Pike recording in his journal on his 1806-1807 expedition before the opening of the Santa Fe Trail, "I will not attempt to describe the drove of animals we now saw on our route [in Kansas headed west of present-day Cimarron]; suffice it to say that the face of the prairie was covered with them, on each side of the river; their number exceeded imagination."

Today, the oldest publicly owned buffalo herd in Kansas lives at the Finney Game Refuge, outside of Garden City, according to Phyllis.

For the past several years, artist Cally Krallman has been the featured holiday artist at Beauchamps Gallery in Topeka, Kansas, her home town, usually featuring her traditional work of Kansas landscapes. In 2015 the gallery owner suggested she do work from New Mexico, and Cally suggested broadening the scope to areas along the Santa Fe Trail.

Several years ago she and Diane Gillenwater co-produced a music CD that featured songs about Kansas. Cally wrote the lyrics for the project, which included a song about the Santa Fe Trail. "So I had an interest in the Trail already and the prospect of a show depicting modern-day remnants of the trail really got me excited! Starting the journey in New Franklin, Missouri, eventually ending up in Santa Fe, New Mexico, then returning via the Mountain Route proved to be an exciting mission filled with fact-finding adventure. I took over 600 photos, so narrowing the selections to 32 pieces for the exhibit was a challenge." Cally says. "Through this project I have read up on stories and lore of the pioneers of the trail. I am just a novice when it comes to historical expertise, but throughout the trip I would be constantly imagining what the explorers might have seen and experienced."

Her Santa Fe Trail collection can be seen at <http://callykrallman.com/collections/83560>. She has booked a Santa Fe Trail show with her work at Primary Colors Gallery in Independence, Missouri, from April 15-May 14. The gallery is located at 109 W Lexington Ave, Independence, Missouri 64050, phone 816-254-2106, www.primarycolorsgallery.com.

About the Santa Fe Trail Association

The mission of the Santa Fe Trail Association is to protect and preserve the Santa Fe Trail and to promote awareness of the historical legacy associated with it.

Follow us online at www.santafetrail.org,
Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and YouTube



Wagon Tracks, the official publication of the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA), publishes well-researched and documented peer-reviewed articles relating to the Santa Fe Trail. Wagon Tracks is published in February, May, August, and November. Deadlines are the 10th of the month prior to publication. Queries are welcome. Complete submission guidelines are posted at www.santafetrail.org. Although the entire issue of Wagon Tracks is copyrighted in the name of the Santa Fe Trail Association, copyright to each article remains in the author's name. Articles may be edited or abridged at the editor's discretion.

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WAGON TRACKS

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Bison in winter at Maxwell Game Preserve, near McPherson, Kansas.

Photo: Debbie Wiens

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President's Corner *by Larry Justice*

Grow Our Membership



"An organization, no matter how well designed, is only as good as the people who live and work in it." – Dee Hock

Since the first day I became a member of the Santa Fe Trail Association, one fact continues – we have very good people preserving, protecting, and promoting the legacy of the Santa Fe Trail. That, also, is the reason I agreed to serve as president of the SFTA when I was approached by Sandy Slusher.

I have had the opportunity to meet people passionate about the SFT, the SFTA, and their respective chapters. I continue to have the privilege of meeting more new people, such as representatives of other trail associations, the National Park Service, the DAR, and the list goes on. These and other opportunities highlight the reasons for this *Wagon Tracks* article.

This past November, I joined SFTA Manager Joanne VanCoevern, SFTA Vice President Larry Short, and several others to attend a mapping conference in Cimarron, New Mexico. Following the conference – I might add, an excellent conference – several of our group drove to Santa Fe to meet with Aaron Mahr, Jon Cannela, and the NPS staff to learn more about the close relationship SFTA enjoys with the National Trails Intermountain Region office. As the

snow fell and piled up in Santa Fe, the final item on the agenda centered on the need for the SFTA and the other eight trail associations of the NTIR to reduce the request for funds effective with the 2017 budget. As a result, as will be revealed at the next SFTA board meeting, a reduction of ten percent will be reflected in the amount of funds requested for 2017. This reduction is significant, so how do we address and adjust to this reduction?

While serving the SFTA as chairman of the membership committee, I emphasized the emphatic need for all of us to be diligent in telling the story of the Santa Fe Trail, and inviting our family members, our friends, our acquaintances, our business relations, our church groups, our coffee break friends, etc. to join us in preserving, protecting, and promoting the legacy of the Santa Fe Trail by becoming members of the Association AND one or more of the chapters that monitor, preserve, and protect the Trail from Old Franklin, Missouri to Santa Fe, New Mexico. The best way to address the reductions is by being proactive in promoting membership. My friends, it is time for all of us to actively increase our efforts to draw in new, productive members.

I sincerely believe we can learn from those who have gone before us. The quote I use at the close of this column is a good example. In a few paragraphs I have initiated a definition of reality regarding our financial

situation. Reality means we need to tighten our belts. There may be some areas where we will incur significant challenge. But, this is a great organization. Much has been accomplished over the last 30 years. We have some great opportunities and events on the horizon. We have a significant Rendezvous coming in September. The 2017 Symposium in Olathe and 2019 Symposium in St. Louis are going to be spectacular – events you DO NOT want to miss. And, lest we forget, the 200th anniversary of the SFT will occur in 2021. And, let me give you a hint – initial work has begun, to celebrate designating Autograph Rock in the Oklahoma Panhandle as a dedicated SFT site 25 years ago.

So, as your president, along with Membership Chair Marcia Fox, and our SFTA leadership, I ask you, I implore you, I encourage you to reach out to those you know and encounter to join the Santa Fe Trail Association and a local chapter. Those new members with their membership dues, along with added contributions from members, can help offset some of the reductions we will experience in future years. Remember, The Trail Lives On because of people like you.

"The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality. The last is to say thank you. In between, the leader is a servant." – Max de Pree

Larry Justice

GEOCACHING

Thank you so much for the wonderful Santa Fe National Historic Trail Challenge Coin and the bonus items!! It was an incredible journey and I was so happy to get so many of the caches and see all the history along the trail. WOW. You all did an amazing job with this series and I learned so much!

Cindy, Albuquerque, NM

Joanne's Jottings by Joanne VanCoevern, Association Manager



Support for Bent's Old Fort NHS Curriculum Development

The Santa Fe Trail Association is providing administrative support to Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site (NHS) in their efforts to create a curriculum-based education program. The NPS describes a curriculum-based presentation as one that "connects the educational objectives of an organized group with the meanings and significance(s) inherent in the park's resources through a sequence of learning opportunities." Prior preparation, as well as follow-up experiences, provide additional learning opportunities.

Celia Dubin, candidate for a Master's Degree in Resource Interpretation at Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas, has been hired as a Park Guide at Bent's Old Fort NHS through the NPS Pathways Internship Program. The Pathways program is designed to provide students with opportunities to work in agencies and explore Federal careers.

As an intern, Ms. Dubin will be responsible for creating a curriculum-based program that will include the development of a pre-visit program, post-visit program (or an alternate kit), restructuring of tours and demonstrations, redesign of the park's education web pages, and pre- and post-tests for students and teachers to measure both scholastic achievement

and the effectiveness of the programs. Because of its availability on the internet, most portions of the curriculum will be available to any school whether they can afford to actually visit the site or not, and will be targeted to fourth-grade classes and based on Colorado State Teaching Standards for fourth-grade history. This program will serve to increase visitor understanding and appreciation of the significance of Bent's Old Fort and the Santa Fe Trail.

The Santa Fe Trail Association is happy to provide the administrative support necessary to help Ms. Dubin with this educational opportunity, as well as provide support for our partner, Bent's Old Fort NHS, in the pursuit of joint goals of promoting education about the Santa Fe Trail.

"Find Your Parks—Discover Your National Trail"

(Portion of letter from Superintendent Aaron Mahr)

The National Park Service (NPS) will celebrate its 100th birthday on August 25, 2016, and every one of us has a role in making this centennial a success. The NPS Centennial is not only about celebrating the last 100 years of the NPS; it is also about discovering the diversity and breadth of the NPS and all its programs, including national historic trails; and it is about connecting the next generation to the next century. This is more than a one-day celebration—our efforts will last through 2016 and beyond. Good news: Much of the work we are already doing at National Trails Intermountain Region (NTIR) with all of our partners on the national historic trails can be tied to the centennial goals. . . . The National Trails Intermountain Region staff encourages you to participate in the centennial campaign! This is an unprecedented opportunity to create new trail supporters and enthusiasts, and to gain exposure through a nationwide media

campaign that is reaching millions. We will be working alongside you, participating in this campaign to connect people with valuable trail stories and resources. Participate with us to create and market events along the trails that celebrate the centennial. If you already have an event planned for next year, let us know about it and consider marketing it as a centennial event! Our goal is to work with our partners to hold at least one centennial event on each of the nine trails we administer. Remember that Centennial events are intended to connect with and create the next generation of trail supporters.

*--Aaron Mahr, Superintendent
National Trails Intermountain Region*

SFTA chapters and the SFTA Board of Directors have been contacted by your SFTA Manager and President to discuss ideas and start planning activities that SFTA can promote along the length of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. We'd also like to hear from the membership about events that are already being planned along the Trail and/or ideas of events that could be incorporated into the "Find Your Parks—Discover Your National Trail" campaign. Check the next issues of *Wagon Tracks* for specific details on how SFTA will participate in the "Find Your Parks--You can learn more about the Find Your Park" campaign at www.findyourpark.com.

In addition, Superintendent Mahr provided the following suggestions:

- Watch the 60 second NPS TV commercial, 'Find Your Park' at www.ispot.tv/ad/74jc/national-park-service-find-your-park to see what all the excitement is about.
- Learn about the centennial and get updates at NextCenturyforParks.org. The NPS created this website specifically for partners.

continued on next page

Joanne's Jottings, continued

- Familiarize yourselves with the Find Your Park Campaign at www.findyourpark.com, and the Find Your Park toolkit on the Next Century for Parks website to determine how your trail site can participate in the campaign.
- Use the Find Your Park logos (available at Next Century for Parks) on your trail websites, newsletters, flyers, posters, and more. Find other graphics on this website as well.
- Create trail experiences and events to post on the Find Your Park website.

Along with the "Find Your Park—Discover Your National Trail" campaign, there will be several opportunities in the upcoming years to promote, celebrate, and commemorate the Santa Fe Trail Association and the Santa Fe National Historic Trail including: SFTA's 30th anniversary during 2016, 50 years for the National Trail System in 2018, and of course in 2021 the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Santa Fe Trail by William Becknell.

NPS will celebrate its 100th birthday on August 25, 2016. Check the next issue of *Wagon Tracks* and Facebook for how SFTA will join in and celebrate. If you have not already done so, just sign into Facebook, search for "Santa Fe Trail Association," like our page, and become our friend.

Three Trails Children's Musical Available On-Line

During the recent Three Trails Conference in Santa Fe, attendees enjoyed a performance of the Three Trails Children's Musical that was made possible through a funded task agreement between the SFTA and the NPS, National Trails Intermountain Region. The funding for that project included the development of a narrative musical program that featured the history of three National Historic Trails: the Santa Fe, the Old Spanish, and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro—all of which converged in Santa Fe. The project involved 22 elementary students from Santa Fe who performed the original musical at the Three Trails Conference on September 19, 2015. Dolores Pong, Santa Fe educator, was the composer/playwright for the Three Trails Children's Narrative/ Musical. Several volunteers assisted with the production. All of the costumes, props, musical scores, and script have been retained and stored for possible future performances of the musical. The musical can be viewed on-line at www.nps.gov/safe/learn/photosmultimedia/short-videos.htm. Scroll down to Three Trails Children's Musical. ♦

SFTA Research Awards Granted

The Santa Fe Trail Association Scholarly Research Committee has announced research awards to three grantees.

- Camilla Kattell for "A Clash of Cultures."
- Sheri Kerley for "Early Efforts to Reach Santa Fe."
- Joy Poole for "Charles Trumbull Hayden: Santa Fe Trail Merchant 1845 - 1857."

Final reports on these projects will be submitted by October 15, 2016.

Trail Travelers and Descendants Conference Schedule Announced

A Santa Fe Trail Travelers and Descendants Conference will be held in Las Vegas, New Mexico, on June 15-18. The conference is organized by the Las Vegas Citizens Committee for Historic Preservation, in cooperation with the Santa Fe Trail Association, Historical Society of New Mexico, New Mexico Genealogical Society, and Fort Union National Monument.

The conference schedule includes: Wednesday, June 15 – opening talk by Henrietta Martinez Christmas, reception, and Santa Fe Trail movie; June 16,17 – talks by descendants of Santa Fe Trail Travelers (12 each day); June 17, evening – Buffalo Dinner and period music at Fort Union National Monument; June 18 at Fort Union National Monument – raising of the colors with a black powder salute, Santa Fe Trail talks, living history, walking tours, and kids tent; and June 19 at Fort Union National Monument – continuation of Fort Union Days, talks, music, small arms demonstrations, and artillery firing.

For more information, call 505-425-8803, contact lvhistoric@gmail.com, or visit the website www.lvcchp.org, where information will be posted as available. Additional information can be found on Tumblr at www.trailtraveler.tumblr.com.

Museums Along the Santa Fe Trail

In this issue of *Wagon Tracks*, we begin a series featuring the museums along the Trail. Each article is intended to focus on one or two unique items that can be found at that museum, enticing readers to stop at the museum in their travels, or make it their destination. Enjoy the ride.

Archaeology Training Program Scheduled for June at the Last Chance Store

A simple stone structure, The Last Chance Store occupies a corner lot at 502 West Main Street in Council Grove, Kansas. It may not appear very imposing, but it is significant in the history of the American West. Situated on the north side of the Santa Fe Trail, some five blocks west of the Neosho River crossing, in the mid-nineteenth century the Last Chance Store was promoted as the last place where freighters and travelers could obtain supplies between Council Grove and Santa Fe, New Mexico, a distance of more than 600 miles. [This is not to be confused with the virtual Last Chance Store that Leo Oliva operates for the Santa Fe Trail Association.]

The Last Chance Store is the newest state historic site, having been donated by Connie and Don Essington of Council Grove to the Kansas State Historical Society in 2015. The site is combined with the management of the Kaw Mission State Historical Site. After some repairs to make the structure safe for visitors, this important SFT site will be open to visitors. The plans for visitor access are not complete at this time, but there will be some form of arrangement with the administrator at the Kaw Mission for admission to the site.

The KSHS Cultural Resources Division will conduct a Kansas Archaeology Training Program (KATP) field school from June 2-17 at the Last Chance Store site. The primary goal of the excavations will be to reveal more information



Photo: Kansas State Historical Society

about the brief mercantile period of the property during the Santa Fe Trail period. In conjunction with the KATP field school excavation at the Last Chance Store, several other opportunities will be offered, including a metal detection survey and testing at Kaw Methodist Mission State Historic Site; a Scan and Share of historical photographs and documents; a survey of historic properties in Council Grove, and a number of evening programs.

More information about the Archaeology Training Program Field School can be found at <http://www.kshs.org/p/kansas-archeology-training-program-field-school-june-2-17-2016/14622>.



AMTRAK Stays on Current Route

According to a story filed in October by Olivier Uyttebrouck, *Albuquerque Journal* staff writer, the U.S. Department of Transportation has awarded

a \$15 million grant to upgrade a New Mexico rail line used primarily by Amtrak's Southwest Chief, including the replacement of 39 miles of track near Albuquerque.

The grant also helps settle questions about how to pay for track maintenance in New Mexico and two other states that prompted Amtrak officials last year to discuss rerouting the Southwest Chief.

"We had no desire to relocate, and we won't," Amtrak spokesman Marc Magliari said. "We're pledging to stay on this route and we're putting money behind it, as are the states and the communities, and now the (U.S. Department of Transportation)." See the full story at www.abqjournal.com/666102/news/grant-ensures-sw-chief-will-stay-on-current-route.html.

Kansas Point of Rocks Geology Solved

A Kansas University team of researchers has applied new dating technology to solve the mystery of the streak of exposed red sandstone at the base of the Santa Fe Trail landmark Point of Rocks in the Cimarron National Grassland in Morton County, Kansas.

Although the red beds were long thought to be Jurassic Period rocks, the technology has proven they are millions of years older. Testing revealed they were deposited in the Permian Period, which lasted from about 298 million to 252 million years ago.

The team took samples of the rocks, sent them to a lab to be crushed and suspended in a liquid that would allow tiny zircon crystals to be isolated by sinking to the bottom. Those microscopic zircons were then tested for lead and uranium content. Over time, uranium decays into lead, so scientists can date material by the amount of lead in the zircons.

Read the full story online at ww2.ljworld.com/news/2016/jan/02/ku-team-solves-century-old-kansas-geological-myst/



Encourage Your Student to Enter the SFTA Photo Contest

The education committee of the Santa Fe Trail Association is sponsoring a photography contest for students. The digital pictures must be related to the Santa Fe Trail. Awards will be presented at the Santa Fe Trail Rendezvous September 24, 2016, at Larned, Kansas.

There are two age-level divisions for the contest, fifth through eighth grades and ninth through twelfth grades. Photos will need to fit the following categories of the Santa Fe Trail: landscape of sites, building sites, Trail-related museums, geocache sites, and special events along the Trail; for example re-enactors, wagons, and mule or oxen teams.

Send your digital photo to Chris Day, dosdays2@gmail.com. Along with the photo, include a paragraph with your name, phone number, location and description of the site, plus a few sentences about your interaction with the site. The entrance deadline is September 1, 2016.

Save the Date
September 22-24
SFTA Rendezvous
Larned, Kansas

Thank You

We were pleasantly surprised when Sharon Haun presented to us the SFTA plaque for the Pete and Faye Gaines Memorial Heritage Preservation Award, which was a part of the recent Three Trails Conference in Santa Fe. It brought tears to my eyes as Sharon read the narrative that accompanied the plaque, as I realized that there are people “out there” who really understand and appreciate what we have been accomplishing here over the past 21 years. I do not know who to thank for nominating us for this recognition but we sincerely appreciate it, and appreciate the SFTA making the award. (And thanks to whoever created the Pete and Faye Gaines Memorial Award, to encourage others to help preserve the Santa Fe Trail and its story.)

Kenneth W. McClintock

Solution to Riddle’s Riddle?

by Steve Schmidt

In the last issue of *Wagon Tracks*, I solicited help in sorting out the loose folded maps (called Sheets) included with copies of Kenyon Riddle’s *Records and Maps of the Old Santa Fe Trail*. I heard from several people and base the following statements on the information received.

There were two editions of the book. The original edition published in 1949 contained 5 loose maps: Sheet 1 (labeled Sheets 1 & 2), Sheet 2, Sheet 3, Sheet 4, and Sheet 5, plus a small, thin cardboard scale to be used with the sheets. The second edition, labeled “Revised and Enlarged Edition” was published in 1963. In addition to the Sheets of the 1949 edition, the 1963 edition contained Sheet 3a, Sheet 4a, and Sheet 7 (as stated on page 5 of that edition). The 1963 edition did not contain the cardboard scale, and did not contain a Sheet 6.

The book itself does not have an index of the Sheets, nor does it actually refer to the Sheets. However, in each edition there is a section of the book titled “Guide and Index” which begins on page 36 of the 1949 edition and on page 32 of the 1963 edition. In that section are numbered paragraphs which refer to and correspond with circled numbers on the Sheets. To add to the riddle (pun intended), there is no paragraph 56 in the book or on the Sheets, and there is no circled number 57 on the Sheets.

Sources of this information include: my copies of both editions (thanks to Clint Chambers for the 1949 edition); copy of 1963 edition at the Santa Fe Trail Center (thanks to Linda Revello); copy of both editions at the New Mexico State Library (thanks to Joy Poole and Faith Yoman); maps in a copy of the book at Dumont Maps and Books of the West in Santa Fe (thanks to Andre Dumont), and also his recollection that the New Mexico State Historical Society was at one time selling new copies of the book obtained from the publisher and those did not contain a Sheet 6; copy of the book in possession of Pat Sheridan of Hutchinson, Kansas; and input from François-Marie Patorni, Robin Henry, and Ross Marshall.

I have scanned the maps and am working with Joanne VanCoevern to have them posted on the SFTA website, because I know there are a lot of copies of the book out there with no map sheets in them. From the SFTA Home Page, the maps will be under “Publications”, then “Maps”, then “Riddle Maps.” ♦

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**April 10 is the submission deadline for the
May issue of Wagon Tracks.**

Partnership for the National Trails System

by Ross Marshall, SFTA Representative to PNTS

Hike the Hill: By the time you read *Wagon Tracks*, this event in Washington, D.C. may already be over. Sponsored annually by PNTS, it will be held February 5-11. Since Roger Boyd's workload prevents him from going this year, I will be representing SFTA in this busy week, meeting with agencies, congressional committees, and with various congressional members and their staffs. The purpose is to inform all of them about what has been happening on all the trails, thank them for their help, and explain what our needs are. The usual PNTS Board meetings will also be held. And as Vice President (again), I will be fairly busy.

PNTS Strategic Planning: As a member of this committee, I have been meeting monthly for much of the year on conference calls and webinars to update our mission and vision statements and governance structure. This strategic planning effort, which will probably not be completed until well into 2016, will enable PNTS to respond effectively to both the needs and opportunities within the National Trails System as we work with our private-side partners like SFTA and our public-side partners such as agencies like the National Park Service. More information later.

2016 National Historic Trails (NHT) Workshop: Every other year alternating with the biennial PNTS Long Distance Trails Conferences, PNTS sponsors both the National Historic Trails and National Scenic Trails Workshops. In 2016, the NHT Workshop will be in Kansas City, highlighting the development of the 40-mile-long 3-Trails Corridor Retracement Trail involving the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California National Historic Trails. The dates have been set for June 6-9. This promises to be one of the most important and well-attended NHT workshops ever. Registration information will be out later this winter.

Volunteer hours and expenses reports: As a result of the recent very successful SFTA-wide effort to collect the Volunteers In Parks hours, expenses, and mileage for the National Park Service for the Federal fiscal year ending September 30, re-collecting that same information from the same people will not be necessary now for the famous PNTS "Gold Sheet" at the end of each calendar year, which you all have helped me do for at least the last 15 years. Working with Association Manager Joanne VanCoevern, I will use the same information, with some minor modifications, to construct the annual "Gold Sheet" that has consistently impressed Congress. The VIP totals will be used by our NPS agency in the Executive Branch of our government, and the PNTS Gold Sheet will continue to be used in the Legislative Branch. My sincere appreciation is extended to all of you for working with me these past years. But now, please extend the same effort each year for the VIP collection that the SFTA will be doing. ♦

Time to Renew Your Membership

Thank you to all who have returned their membership renewal form. We appreciate your support of the Association.

Perhaps you are one of those who overlooked the form that came among the Christmas cards and other mail you received in December. No matter why you haven't returned it, we do value your membership and want it to continue for the 2016 year. Please find the appeal letter, fill out the form, and return it to the Santa Fe Trail Association, 1349 K-156 Hwy, Larned, Kansas 67550. There are several categories for members and institutions; however, the most popular is the individual membership for \$35 or simply add \$5 and have the entire family belong. Better yet, consider purchasing a lifetime membership for \$1000 which can be paid over a three-year period.

Can't find that elusive letter? That's ok, simply download a membership form from www.santafetrail.org, or use the one on page 29 of this issue, and mail it back with your check, or enroll online through the Last Chance Store.

As you already know, membership in the Santa Fe Trail Association provides you with many benefits. One of my favorites is the subscription to *Wagon Tracks* that is included in your yearly dues. Only SFTA members get our award-winning quarterly magazine, *Wagon Tracks*. This magazine is the communication link of the association. Each issue comes filled with information about current activities taking place along the Santa Fe Trail and research articles about the Santa Fe Trail. In addition, you will find book reviews of newly published books related to the Trail, along with information from SFTA's chapters and other items of interest to Association members.

Bring a friend or relative into the Association by introducing them to *Wagon Tracks*, the SFTA e-news blast, our website (www.santafetrail.org), the SFTA Facebook page, and the geocaching opportunities all along the trail. While you are doing that, take them to a chapter meeting. Chapters form the backbone of the Association. Many of the chapters are actively marking the Trail through their area. Several have social gatherings and educational meetings with interesting speakers. If you know of someone who belongs to a chapter but not the Association, please visit with them about the benefits of supporting both.

We need the assistance of all of you to accomplish the goals that have been set through our Strategic Planning sessions for preserving and protecting the Trail, and to implement the plans for a fabulous celebration of the Trail's 200th anniversary in 2021. The future looks exciting and holds many opportunities for our association, but only if you return your renewal form and, even better, include one for a new member.

Marcia Fox, Membership Chair

Entangled Transactions: A Selected History Of General Kearny's Mill Site, 1731-1920

By Deborah Lawrence

Tinged with mystery and intrigue, the trail the Spaniards referred to as *el camino del cañon* runs along the south side of the Santa Fe River. In 1731, the governor of New Mexico granted Manuel Trujillo¹ a tract of land near Talaya Hill, east of the city of Santa Fe, which included a large portion of *el camino del cañon*. In April of that year, Alcalde Diego Arias de Quiros, his witnesses, and Trujillo went to the premises,² and Quiros proceeded to deliver legal possession of the grant to Trujillo. The requested tract was bounded by the following natural objects:

On the north, up the river from where Acequia has been taken out, which is in front of a peñasco on the margin of said river at the first arroyo; on the east, with the mountain called Talaya; on the south, a deep arroyo; and on the west, a deep arroyo which is in front of the furnace together with the upper Acequia Madre, which also serves as the boundary.³

After the survey of the property, Quiros most likely had Trujillo perform the customary ceremony connected with the land acquisition, such as scattering handfuls of earth, breaking off branches from the trees, plucking up grass, casting stones, and uttering loud exclamations of joy in testimony of his possession [described by Robert J. Torrez at www.nmgs.org/artlandgrnts.htm]. Trujillo used his land for grazing livestock and gathering firewood. Over 100 years later, part of this property was purchased by Captain William M. D. McKissack, with funds of the quartermaster's department for the site of General Stephen Watts Kearny's mill. This article is a detailed examination of selected events important to the history of the property at this old mill site. The discussion derives

from the sources provided in the accompanying bibliography.

In the spring of 1846, following the declaration of war against Mexico, President James K. Polk authorized the "Army of the West," commanded by Colonel Stephen Watts Kearny.⁴ Kearny was directed to march his army from Fort Leavenworth over the Santa Fe Trail and invade the Republic of Mexico with the goal of capturing the Mexican territories between the United States and the Pacific Ocean, which they did. In August, a few days after Kearny and his exhausted and hungry troops⁵ arrived in Santa Fe, he ordered the construction of a fort that would overlook the town. Lieutenant Jeremy Gilmer of

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the Corps of Engineers and Lieutenant William H. Emory of the Topographical Engineers prepared a map in 1846 entitled "Reconnaissance of Santa Fe and Environs," indicating the site for the fort.⁶ The fort was to be an earthwork construction five feet thick and nine feet high in an irregular hexagonal polygonal shape with one adobe blockhouse and a dry moat.

Although very little wood would be required for the fort itself, Kearny needed milled lumber for many purposes, including casement bases and barracks for a garrison in event of siege. Since there had never been a sawmill in operation in New Mexico, Kearny's troops were obligated to construct their own. On October 5, 1846, First Lieutenant George Gibson,⁷ of Murphy's Platte County

infantry volunteer company, Missouri Volunteers, wrote of the engineers doing a reconnaissance of the upper Santa Fe River with his company and William Murphy, a miller. In his entry for October 8, Gibson stated that Gilmer and Murphy had returned from the mountains and that they represented the "lake as a small affair, a hundred and fifty yards long and seventy-five wide, the head of this stream, and a canyon with precipitous and rocky sides running in the shape of a horseshoe into the heart of the mountain."⁸ The Army of the West hadn't brought millworks themselves. Richard Smith Elliott complained about Kearny's fondness for "rapid marching" and all of the work that it took to set up a camp . . . packing, loading, getting the horses ready . . .⁹ Consequently, the army travelled with only the minimum of provisions¹⁰ and sought to purchase supplies locally. However, of immediate concern to Kearny on his arrival in Santa Fe was that, with the exception of meat, very few supplies could be secured locally.

A native of Spain, Manuel Alvarez¹¹ was U.S. consul in Santa Fe from 1839 until the beginning of the U. S. occupation. He was also a Santa Fe merchant and a prominent Santa Fe trader. Several years before Kearny's troops arrived, he had brought millworks from Missouri over the Santa Fe Trail, but because of the hostility engendered by the 1841 Texan expedition,¹² he had kept the works in storage. In September of 1846, he told a member of Kearny's staff that he had the equipment: the works, irons, and wheel. In his entry for September 5, 1846, George Rutledge Gibson wrote:

A set of sawmill irons nearly complete were found today in Mr. Alvarez's store, our former enterprising and accomplished consul.

Photo: Jon Lawrence



Kearny's Mill as it appears today

They were brought out by him some years since to engage in milling, but the unstable condition of the public mind deterred him from the undertaking. They may be found of great benefit . . .¹³

On October 16, Gibson recorded that "a large party has been camped in the mountains, getting out timber for the fort and mill . . ."¹⁴ In a letter to Major General Thomas S. Jesup, Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, dated September 16, 1846, Captain Thomas Swords, quartermaster for the Army of the West, wrote, "By direction of General Kearny I have commenced building a sawmill preparatory to building quarters and finishing the block house and Fort now being constructed by the Engineers Department at this place."¹⁵

Kearny's Army of the West included a volunteer artillery company of German-speaking immigrants. Organized by Woldemar Fischer,¹⁶ a St. Louis merchant and former Prussian officer, these men became Company B, Missouri Light Artillery Battalion. The Fisherschens¹⁷ (Fischers's boys) were placed on the sawmill detail. Fischer's senior first lieutenant, engineer Louis Garnier, had experience in sawmill operation, and erecting the equipment was simple for him. Historian Tim Kimball suspects that the mill had a

small vertical wheel since several soldiers wrote of using the wheel spill for a shower.¹⁸

Louis Garnier put up the works and framed a building around it with the first production of lumber. Richard Smith Elliott wrote that the Mexicans were amazed at a building framed of sawn lumber, since the only sawn lumber in New Mexico before that was produced in sawpits, pits over which lumber is positioned to be sawed with a long two-handled saw by two men, one standing above the timber and the other below:

Yesterday I visited the saw mill erected on Santa Fe creek by the quartermaster's department, under the superintendence of Lt. Garnier. The structure is, in the first place, curious to us as being entirely of pine wood, and to the Mexicans, because they "never saw the like before." There was a large crowd of men, women, children, dogs, and babies at the mill to view the machinery, which was all entirely new to them, being the only thing of the kind in New Mexico. Some would ride on the carriage as the small turning wheel sent it back—and then any quantity of mixed Spanish was spoken, and cigarritos smoke in most desirable profusion. Here-tofore, in this Province, anything in

the shape of a board had been general cut out of solid timber with a small axe, or sawed by hand.¹⁹

In a letter from Santa Fe, dated October 19, 1846, Captain McKissack complained, "The sawmill is progressing slowly and I am apprehensive will not be completed this Fall but I am using every effort to complete it as soon as possible as lumber cannot be obtained at any price."²⁰ The mill was powered by water diverted from the Santa Fe River, which is described in an article in the *Santa Fe Republican*, dated October 23, 1847:

It [the mill] has a large ditch the water several feet deep, affording a pleasant place to bathe, and which was used through the summer for that purpose—scarcely a Sunday passed that large crowds of both sexes could be seen enjoying this luxury.²¹

Troops were soon put to work hauling saw logs from miles away. This was not an easy task because the ox teams needed to pull the wood wagons were weak because of the scarcity of forage. Therefore, getting the saw logs down to the mill was a constant struggle. In a letter from Santa Fe, dated November 11, 1846, Captain McKissack wrote:

Corn is very scarce, advertised for 2,000 bushel. Hay and oats are unknown. Fodder very scarce. No lumber. Had to use wagon lids for cof-fins. Hope to have the sawmill done by January. I am using every effort to finish it. I hope to have it sawing before January but no calculation can be made of work performed by volunteers who only work when they please.²²

The mill's early production went for lumber used for Fort Marcy and for bunks in the old presidial barracks. Soon after the sawmill was erected, a grist mill was also established in the same place. According to an October 1847 article in the *Santa Fe Republican*, the grist mill would "no doubt be

a great curiosity, as the country contains nothing but Tub-mills of the most simple contrivance.”²³

Other men in Company B associated with the Government mill included Fischerschen Charles Deus²⁴ and August de Marle.²⁵ Historian Tim Kimball asserts that Charles Deus was on the sawmill detail most of the first year and then reenlisted in Franz Hassendeubel’s²⁶ company as bugler. An interesting aside is that on November 21, 1846, several of the Fischerschen did not show up to work at the mill and instead “remained in the town of Santa Fe the whole of that day,” depriving Lieutenant Garnier of the number of workmen necessary to work on the mill. On November 27, these men were court martialed.²⁷ The Fischer Company left in June 1847, and the quartermaster continued to operate the mill through the end of the war.

Alexander Reynolds²⁸ was quartermaster of the post at Santa Fe from October 1849 through March 1850, chief quartermaster of the territory from April through August 1850, and quartermaster at Santa Fe from September 1850 until October 1851. Historian Robert Frazer writes that while serving in these positions, Reynolds purchased or became part owner of two sawmills, two gold mines, four ranches, two houses, and several lots in Santa Fe, and three Santa Fe hotels: the Exchange, the Independence House, and the Hillary.²⁹ These properties were acquired through questionable business dealings, as well as embezzlements from the quartermaster’s department.

According to an 1856 affidavit by James B. Wood, the proprietor of Santa Fe’s Waverly House,³⁰ Thomas S. J. Johnson was the owner of coal mines near Galisteo and the owner of two circular sawmills near Santa Fe from 1849 to 1851. One mill was at the Rock Corral, just south of the city, and worked by horse power. The other mill was on the “Big Chiquito,” a few miles east of the city,

and worked by water power. Wood testified that Johnson, who was the clerk of Alexander Reynolds, had “an agreement with Captain A. W. Reynolds, assistant quartermaster, and had a monopoly in both of his businesses.”³¹ Tim Kimball has suggested that, given the corruption of Reynolds and Johnson, it is probable that they got Kearny’s mill for next to nothing and without public bidding.³²

In 1850 Johnson purchased 32 wagons on credit from Ceran St. Vrain.³³ Reynolds gave Johnson permission to place them for safe-keeping in one of the army corrals in Santa Fe. Johnson used the wagons to haul saw logs to the mill to be cut into lumber. Although Johnson was Reynolds’ salaried clerk, making the wagons, logs, and mill government property, Johnson and Reynolds were business partners who paid themselves for the logs with army funds and then shared

On June 21, 1852, St. Vrain purchased the mill for \$500 at a court-ordered public auction.

the proceeds.

In 1851 Colonel Edwin V. Sumner³⁴ was instructed to proceed to New Mexico and assume command of the department and revise the whole system of defense. His first action was to relocate the department headquarters and the main supply depot from Santa Fe, “that sink of vice and extravagance,” to Fort Union, a location that was strategically situated near the junction of the Mountain and Cimarron Routes of the Santa Fe Trail.³⁵ Realizing the corruption of Reynolds and Johnson, Sumner quickly put them out of business. Consequently, Johnson was unable to pay his debt to St. Vrain for the wagons that he had purchased on credit. St. Vrain then sued Johnson and Reynolds and attached the mill property. According to historian Robert Frazer, the suit involved St. Vrain and

Johnson, but the army was involved because it had paid rent to Johnson.³⁶

On June 21, 1852, St. Vrain purchased the mill for \$500 at a court-ordered public auction. What is perplexing is that one month later, Sumner claimed that although the mill had been the legal property of Reynolds and Johnson, their uses of it and the manner in which they financed it were illegal, so the army had the right to repossess it. The army, however, had no need of the mill and it was in poor condition. According to Second Lieutenant John C. Moore, the assistant quartermaster at Santa Fe, “[t]he stone is broken and every time there is anything of a rain, the whole stream runs through the mill.”³⁷ Moore also stated that the property included “Mexican mill stones, the saw, the house, and the water wheel.” In a letter to Major Ebenezer S. Sibley, department quartermaster, dated July 28, 1852, Sumner said that the army would be willing to sell the mill for \$1,000.³⁸

In June 1853, the property and the mill, which had been known as “the Government mill” and then “the Reynolds and Johnson mill,” were once more put up for auction. The sale, however, was not because the army no longer wanted the mill. Inexplicably, the sale was the result of another court action, a lawsuit that again involved St. Vrain and Alexander Reynolds, in which the property including the gristmill and the sawmill was used as Reynolds’ collateral because he did not have the money to pay his part of the fees accrued to him in the suit.³⁹ At the auction, St. Vrain repurchased the property, this time for \$220.

According to legal documents, the property consisted of “one grist mill, one circular sawmill with extra gearing; the building for said sawmill is a good two story building, built for that purpose. Also two dwelling houses and one stable.”⁴⁰ Even more confounding is that two months after St. Vrain took possession of

the premises, Colonel Joseph K. F. Mansfield wrote that the army had a good sawmill with an attached miller's house:

There is a good saw mill about one and one-half miles out of the city on the Santa Fé River and attached to it a miller's house. This although new, having been erected soon after General Kearney [sic] took possession of the country, it seems difficult to sell and a soldier is constantly quartered there to keep charge of it.⁴¹

In 1856, St. Vrain sold the mill machinery to Joseph Hersch⁴² and Isaiah Smith, also the owner of a Santa Fe sawmill. They established a new mill downstream on the Santa Fe River near the source of the Acequia Madre irrigation ditch at the western end of Upper Santa Fe Canyon. In addition to the sawmill, Hersch operated a brewery, distillery, soda fountain, billiard tables, and a gristmill.⁴³ According to historian Leo Oliva, because of the investment required in flour milling during the 1850s, there were only four millers, including St. Vrain and Joseph Hersch, who filled all of the contracts for flour produced for the army in New Mexico.⁴⁴ Shortly after the sale to Hersch, St. Vrain sold the original mill site and structures to Louis Gold,⁴⁵ a local trader and the nephew of Joseph Hersch. Together with Hersch, Gold contracted to provide supplies for the army.⁴⁶

Ownership of the property subsequently passed through several hands, including Benito Borrego and his wife Maria del Carmen Martinez and her brother José Candelario Martinez.⁴⁷ Finally in 1885 or 1886, John Ayers, a former quartermaster and commander of Fort Marcy, filed for a 160-acre homestead on the property.⁴⁸ He made an agreement with William Niles of Boston to promote the Aztec Warm Springs, northeast of the mill site, as an area attraction in 1887. In 1891, he signed a contract with Edwin W. L'Engle, giving L'Engle interest

in the property if he could develop a coal claim on the premises, bring to the public's notice the mineral spring, put up a shed over the spring, and remove the lumber from his own barn in Santa Fe and with it erect two bath houses on the property. All this had to be done within one year from the date of the August 31 contract.⁴⁹ After the deal fell through, Ayers sold the property to Candelario Martinez⁵⁰ and Antonia Baca Martinez on January 14, 1894.⁵¹ According to the Santa Fe County Deeds Book, the Martinez's paid Ayers \$125 for the 160 acres, including the buildings and "appurtenances" on the premises.

At the time of the purchase of the mill site, Candelario Martinez was 49 years old. An attorney and probate judge, he and his wife had two children, a daughter and a son.⁵² In the U. S. Census of 1900, Candelario Martinez's 21-year-old son Francisco lived with his parents, and his occupation is listed as farmer. The state engineer's hydrographic survey of 1917 indicates that Francisco Martinez grew oats, alfalfa, and corn, and had an orchard within his fenced farm. The survey also suggests that three buildings existed on the property at that time, and they are labeled as houses; no stables are shown. After Candelario Martinez's death in 1914, his widow Antonia Baca Martinez continued to live on the property until March 4, 1918, after which she passed the farm ownership to James Baca and his wife, Antoinette Hanna Baca.⁵³ Some researchers⁵⁴ have stated that James Baca married Candelario Martinez's widow, perhaps mistaking the similar names, "Antoinette" and "Antonia." Further problems have resulted from Antonia Martinez's maiden name, which is "Baca."⁵⁵

Some writers have thought that it was the brother of Antonia Baca Martinez that sold the property to Randall Davey in 1920. Antonia Martinez did have a brother Santiago Baca, who was born in 1842. If he was still living in 1920, he would have been 88

years old. However, even if he was alive at the time of the land transfer, the brother was not married to an Antoinette Hanna from Edington, Kentucky. In another suggestion that was particularly amusing, one writer hypothesized that the son of Candelario Martinez changed his name from Francisco to Santiago and took his mother's maiden name, Baca. However, according to the Santa Fe County Deeds Book M-3, in 1920, artist Randall Davey purchased the land from James Baca and his wife Antoinette Hanna Baca in two portions: one in April and the other in May.⁵⁶

Obviously this initial study of the old Government mill site is anything but definitive. In fact, what is most interesting about the history of this place at the moment is the extent to which the land transfers are entangled, confused, or dead-ended. This story longs for further scholarship that would expand and further clarify the land transfers and uses.

**I am grateful to Marc Simmons, Tim Kimball, Cordelia Snow, Steve Carey, Alan "Mac" Watson, and Jon Lawrence, without whose help this article would not have been possible.*

Endnotes

1. Manuel Trujillo was the son of Agustín Trujillo (the descendant of a Pre-Pueblo Revolt family) and Micaela Marin Serrano from Santa Fe. Micaela Marin Serrano was the daughter of Captain Pedro Martin Serrano and Juana Arguello.

2. The Act of Possession does not mention the day of the month on which Quiros delivered possession or the name of the governor who made the grant. Governor Juan Domingo de Bustamonte was dismissed in 1731, after having been found guilty on a charge of illegal trade. He was succeeded by Governor Gervacio Cruzat y Gongora.

3. See J. J. Bowden's "Talaya Hill Land Grant" at <http://dev.newmexicohistory.org/filedetails.php?fileID=24719>.

4. Kearny learned of his promotion to brigadier general when he arrived in Las Vegas, New Mexico, on August 15, 1846.

5. In *Murder and Justice in Frontier New*

Mexico, Jill Mocho writes: "For more than two weeks the soldiers had been suffering from lack of food, for, after entering New Mexico, the army subsisted on one-third rations until it reached Santa Fe." (151-152).

6. First Lieutenant William H. Emory, U.S. Topographical Engineers, selected a site at the top of a hill overlooking the town for Fort Marcy. First Lieutenant Jeremy F. Gilmer, U.S. Corps of Engineers, supervised the construction of an earthworks and blockhouse on the selected site. W. H. Emory and J. F. Gilmer's "Reconnaissance of Santa Fe and the Environs," August 1846, is the second oldest known map of Santa Fe. It was produced under the orders of Kearny.

7. George Rutledge Gibson (1810-1885) was born in Christiansburg, Virginia. He studied law in Vincennes, Indiana. In 1844, he moved to Independence, Missouri, and published the *Independence Journal*. Later in 1844, he moved to Weston, Missouri, where he published the *Weston Journal*. At age 36, during the Mexican War, he joined the Platte County infantry volunteers. After the war he remained in Santa Fe and

edited its first American newspaper, *The Santa Fe Republican*. He died in Woodland, California.

8. See Gibson's *Journal of a Soldier Under Kearny and Doniphan 1846-1847*, pages 247-248.

9. See Gardner and Simmons, *The Mexican War Correspondence of Richard Smith Elliott*, 50.

10. For an excellent discussion of Kearny's attempts to acquire and transport the supplies and provisions required by his Army of the West, see Leo Oliva's "The Army's Attempts at Freighting during the Mexican War, 1846-1848," pages 17-24.

11. Manuel Álvarez (c.1794-1856) was a Spanish-born Santa Fe trader. An intimate friend of Charles Bent, Alvarez played a major role in the 1850 state government, serving as interim governor and clashing with military governor John Munroe much as he used to with Manuel Armijo. He became a naturalized U. S. citizen in 1842, and in March 1846, he was appointed the U. S. commercial agent at Santa Fe. For a biography of Alvarez, see Thomas Chávez's

Manuel Alvarez, 1794-1856.

12. The Texas-Santa Fe Expedition was a commercial and military expedition in 1841 to secure the Republic of Texas's claims to parts of New Mexico. The expedition was unofficially initiated by President Mirabeau B. Lamar in an attempt to divert to Texas a portion of the lucrative Santa Fe trade and further develop the trade links between Texas and New Mexico.

13. Gibson's *Journal of a Soldier*, 232.

14. Gibson's *Journal of a Soldier*, 254.

15. Letter from Captain Thomas Swords in Santa Fe to Major General Thomas S. Jesup, Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, dated September 16, 1846. Santa Fe: Historical Santa Fe Foundation, Randall Davey file.

16. "Woldermar" is also spelled "Waldemar" and "Woldemar." A native of Germany, Fischer received his military education as an artillery officer in the Prussian army. After immigrating to the United States, he became commander of Company B (part of Major Clark's Battery of Artillery) of General Stephen Kearny's Army of the West

Exhibits Preserve the Story of Santa Fe Trail Mural

On November 13, two NPS wayside exhibits plus other site interpretive exhibits were dedicated at 80th and Santa Fe in downtown Overland Park, Kansas. The waysides have been completed to preserve the story and value of the "A Day on the Santa Fe Trail" mural that was painted in place a couple of years ago, which subsequently peeled away and had to be removed.

The Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association (KCAHTA) was instrumental in instigating the partnership of the National Park Service, the City of Overland Park, Kansas, and Images Art Gallery to commemorate the mural.

The exhibit includes two panels that depict the mural and brief history, plus a memorial park bench to Dr. Pete Cuppage, long-time KCAHTA Preservation Chairman, and a commemorative plaque recognizing the many donors for the murals and later the wayside exhibits. The 1906 DAR marker, which commemorates the Santa Fe Trail passing here, was turned and reset so it faces the exhibit. The flag pole, which was set near the DAR marker, but had not been used for some time, now has new paint and a new flag. The sunflower motif construction and landscaping were funded by the City of Overland



Photo: Jean Coupal-Smith

The mural is pictured here shortly after it was finished. It was created by the artists of Images Art Gallery, mentored by Charles Goslin.

Park, Kansas.

Nearly 100 people attended the dedication, including MRO members, OCTA manager, and a large group of area DAR members. Shirley Coupal spoke on how and why the Kansas DAR placed the SFT markers. ♦

during the Mexican-American War. According to Tim Kimball, fellow Fischers Kribben and Hassendeubel accompanied Fischer to the base of the palisades of what was originally named Raton Peak near Trinidad, Colorado, but later renamed "Fischer Peak" for Woldermar Fischer by Emory. Some of Abert's 1845 party did actually climb all the way to the top shortly after they left the Frémont party and began their side trip to map the Canadian.

17. Tim Kimball is a historian with a special interest in archival research on occupation-era New Mexico. My information on the Fischers in this article is from personal correspondence with him. For Kimball's article on the Fischers, see "Most Beautiful Are the Evenings: Fischer's German-American Artillery Volunteers on the Santa Fe Trail, 1846-1847."

18. First Lieutenant Richard Smith Elliott has a story about when he, Garnier, and First Sergeant F. Charles Weber walked their girlfriends to the newly constructed mill. See Gardner and Simmons. *The Mexican War Correspondence of Richard Smith Elliott*, 160, 167, 180.

19. See Gardner and Simmons. *The Mexican War Correspondence of Richard Smith Elliott*, 60.

20. Captain W. M. D. McKissack, Santa Fe, dated October 19, 1846. Santa Fe: Historical Santa Fe Foundation, Randall Davey file.

21. See Gary D. Lenderman's *The Santa Fe Republican: New Mexico Territory's First Newspaper, 1847-1849*, October 23, 1847. The ditch, the Acequia del Llano, which served as the millrace, still runs behind today's Randall Davey house at the site of the old mill. For a discussion of the Santa Fe acequias, including Acequia del Llano, see David Snow's *The Santa Fe Acequia Systems: Summary Report on Their History and Present Status, with Recommendations for Use and Protection*.

22. Captain W. M. D. McKissack, Santa Fe, dated November 11, 1846. Santa Fe: Historical Santa Fe Foundation, Randall Davey file.

23. See Gary D. Lenderman's *The Santa Fe Republican: New Mexico Territory's First Newspaper, 1847-1849*.

24. Charles Deus was born in Germany in 1823. His family came to Mt. Pleasant (Augusta), Missouri, where he farmed and operated a grist mill and a distillery. At sixteen he trained as a tanner where he worked until he was 21. In 1845, he took a job herding cattle for Charles Blummer's caravan. Later, at Bent's Fort, he shipped furs to St. Louis.

When the U.S. declared war on Mexico in 1846, he joined Company B. After he mustered out of the service in 1848, he returned to Santa Fe, and erected a grist mill and brewery. According to Tomas Jaehn, in 1860, Deus was listed as the only German brewer in the entire territory. See Jaehn's *Germans in the Southwest, 1850-1920*, page 86.

25. Fischerschen Second Lieutenant August de Marle was the last lover of Gertrudis Barceló (circa 1800 to 1852), a saloon owner and master gambler in New Mexico Territory. A communist philosophy professor and refugee from the Leipzig Rising of 1845, de Marle was gun captain of the six-pounder used at Taos Pueblo. He became a commissioner of the territorial court of claims, territorial auditor, publisher of the *New Mexican*, and a founding member of the original New Mexico Historical Society. See Mary Jane Straw Cook's *Doña Tules: Santa Fe's Courtesan and Gambler*, 23.

26. Franz Hassendeubel (1817-1863) was a second lieutenant in Captain Woldermar Fischer's artillery battery. During the occupation of Santa Fe, the section of the battery under command of Hassendeubel was called into action on February 4, 1847, to quell the Pueblo de Taos uprising.

27. Volume 43 ½, Orders and Special Orders, Army of New Mexico, 1846; Army in New Mexico, 1847; 9th Military Department from June 1847-August 1847. Record Group 94, Record of the Adjutant General. General Court Martial Index: EE326. The court-martialed Fischerschen, Privates Henry Doerr, William Elend, Adam Aulman, and John Wokenhauer were sentenced to three days on extra guard or fatigue duty, and Henry Wilkes to one day on extra guard or fatigue duty.

28. Alexander Welch Reynolds (1817-1876) was a career United States Army officer who was a captain in the Mexican-American War. He served as the Army of the West's Assistant Quartermaster beginning August 4, 1847. Reynolds was dismissed from the Army on October 8, 1855, following the disappearance of \$126,307 from his office, but he used his political connections to be re-instated three years later. He was a Confederate Army brigadier general during the American Civil War, after which he served as a staff officer in the Egyptian Army.

29. Jordan, Weymouth T., Jr., John D. Chapla, and Shan C. Sutton, "Notorious as the Noonday Sun": Capt. Alexander Welch Reynolds and the New Mexico Territory, 1849-1859," page 464. The four ranches were a 2,500 acre spread near Galisteo, the San Cristobal Ranch (also near Galisteo), Loya's

Galisteo Ranch (about 500 acres), and the Ranch of Maragua (near La Cienega, about 12 miles southwest of Santa Fe). One of the gold mines was called the "mine of Polivadero." The other mine was located about 32 miles southwest of Santa Fe.

30. In 1850, Manuel Alvarez, United States Consul, was the owner of the Waverly House, a boarding house that rented rooms to discharged soldiers. See Don Bullis, *New Mexico, A Biographical Dictionary, 1540-1980*, pages 1, 6.

31. In 1856, Thomas S. J. Johnson filed a petition requesting alleged payments not received for the amount of \$859.86 from the United States for coal and lumber that had been delivered to the army in New Mexico. See 37C/2Sess. House Rep CC No. 284, 4 Dec 1861; T S Johnson, pages 1-88.

32. Alexander Reynolds was cashiered for his corruption in 1855, but returned to service in 1858. For a discussion of both Johnson's and Reynolds' shenanigans, see Jordan, Weymouth T., Jr., John D. Chapla, and Shan C. Sutton, "Notorious as the Noonday Sun": Capt. Alexander Welch Reynolds and the New Mexico Territory, 1849-1859."

33. For information regarding the wagons that Johnson purchased on credit from Ceran St. Vrain, see Jordan, Weymouth T., Jr., John D. Chapla, and Shan C. Sutton, "Notorious as the Noonday Sun." Ceran St. Vrain (1802-1870) was a fur trader and merchant. He and his partner William Bent established the trading post of Bent's Fort in southern Colorado. Later St. Vrain settled in Mora, New Mexico.

34. Edwin Vose Sumner (1797-1863) was a career United States Army officer who became a Union Army general and the oldest field commander of any Army Corps on either side during the American Civil War. He served as the military governor of the New Mexico Territory from 1851-53.

35. Quoted in Robert Frazer's *Forts and Supplies*, 62.

36. See Robert Frazer's "Purveyors of Flour to the Army: 1849-1861," page 217.

37. Moore to Sumner, Sept. 38, 1852, Department of New Mexico, United States Army Commands, let. Rcvd. Quoted in Frazer's "Purveyors of Flour to the Army: Department of New Mexico, 1849-1861," page 217.

38. Sumner to Sibley July 28, 1852. Quoted in Robert Frazer's "Purveyors of Flour to the Army: Department of New Mexico, 1849-1861," page 217.

39. Santa Fe County Deeds, Book A, 200-02. For information regarding the suit involving Lucien B. Mawell and James H. Quinn vs. Robert Cary, St. Vrain, and Alexander Reynolds, see House Documents, Volume 4; Volume 112, page 316, no 5. Reports of the Committees of the House of Representatives can be found at <https://books.google.com>.

40. Santa Fe County Deeds, Book A, 42-43. See Robert Frazer's "Purveyors of Flour to the Army," 216.

41. See Robert Frazer's *Mansfield on the Condition of the Western Forts, 1853-54*, 42.

42. Joseph Hersch was a Prussian trader who came to New Mexico in 1847 and proceeded to purchase properties in and near Santa Fe. One of these properties was a sawmill and flour mill on the banks of the Santa Fe River.

43. For information on Joseph Hersch's Santa Fe business dealings in Santa Fe, see Robert Frazer's "Purveyors of Flour," 225-227. According to Frazer, Hersch also purchased a sawmill from St. Vrain shortly before 1856, but his only army contracts were for flour and corn. The 1882 Stoner map of Santa Fe (www.loc.gov/item/75694742) shows that from Bridge Street (now Galisteo Street) west to the Guadalupe Church, the street ran along the edge of the small bluff overlooking the river and had no buildings on the north side except for one of Joseph Hersch's sawmills, a three-story pitched roof building.

44. See Leo E. Oliva's *Fort Union and the Frontier Army in the Southwest*, 538. For a discussion of the supply of the army in the Southwest, see Robert Frazer, *Forts and Supplies: The Role of The Army in the Economy of the Southwest, 1846-1861* and Darlis Miller, *Soldiers and Settlers: Military Supply in the Southwest, 1861-1885*.

45. "Louis" is also spelled "Luis" and "Lewis." Born in Poland, Louis Gold (1820-1880) followed Joseph Hersch, who is referred to as his uncle, to Santa Fe, arriving shortly after the American occupation. He quickly established a mercantile business, "Gold's Provision House," at the corner of San Francisco Street and Burro Alley. In addition, he and Hersch provided supplies for the American army posts.

46. For a discussion of Gold's life in New Mexico, see Doyle Daves. "George and Louis: Golds of Territorial New Mexico." For a report of Gold's contracts by the quartermaster's department in Santa Fe for supplies for the army, see the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, August 16, 1875.

47. In 1882 the Martinez family and Benito Borrego sold property west of the sawmill site to the Santa Fe Water Company. In 1894, after the Court of Private Land Claims formally confirmed the various heirs of Manuel Trujillo, the Martinezes and Borregos sold Jacob Gold and Louise Purdy land within the grant, but excluded "houses, gardens, orchards and lands owned by sellers, cultivated, and watered by acequias." The area produced crops such as corn, melons, beans, chiles, squash, alfalfa, and wheat. Livestock included sheep, burros, cattle, goats, and horses.

48. John Ayers (1827-about 1895) was born in New York City and raised in Boston. At the age of 13, he boarded the trading ship *Chile*, rounded Cape Horn and spent five years trading goods on the coast of Peru. In 1849 he went to Grass Valley, California, to mine for gold. By 1861, he had enlisted in Company D, 1st Cavalry. He participated in the skirmish at Picacho Peak and eventually made his way to New Mexico. According to Chris Wilson, Ayers is also credited with instigating the creation of the plaza park in 1862 (*The Myth of Santa Fe: Creating a Modern Regional Tradition*, 58). On July 25, 1868, Ayers was appointed by Congress to be the agent to the southern Apaches. He also served as agent to the Capote and Wiminuche Utes of northwestern New Mexico and southern Colorado. See Ayers' autobiographical essay, "A Soldier's Experience in New Mexico." Source for Ayers's filing for a homestead is Dan L Thrapp's *Encyclopedia of Frontier Biography*, University of Nebraska Press, 1991.

49. Santa Fe County Deeds Book W, 348.

50. Candelario Martinez was born in Santa Fe on February 2, 1845. He was educated at St. Michael's College. At the age of 18, he joined the First Infantry of the New Mexico Volunteers. When he was 20, he received a commission as captain in reward for his meritorious service in recapturing United States mail that had been seized by Kiowa and Comanche Indians while being carried across the plains. He later practiced law and held posts as Probate Judge and Postmaster in Santa Fe. For a brief biography of Martinez, see Marc Simmons' "Glorieta not fought by New Mexicans."

51. Santa Fe County Deeds Book B-1, 394.

52. Candelario and Antonia Martinez had one son, Francisco Martinez (b 1876) and one daughter, L. E. Martinez (b 1879).

53. Antonia Baca Martinez sold three parcels to James and Antoinette Baca: on March 4, 1918 (Santa Fe County Deeds

Book 8, 247), on January 25, 1919 (Deed Book M4, 24), and on May 28, 1920 (Deed Book M4, 80). James Baca was the grandson of James Johnson, a Santa Fe Trail merchant who moved to Santa Fe in 1845 and purchased two parcels of land, including a house, and corral, on Canyon Road in the mid-1850s. Johnson had obtained the greater part of the El Zaguán tracts in 1854 and 1857. James Baca was New Mexico's adjutant general from 1917 to 1921. He married Antoinette Hanna of Edington, Kentucky.

54. See the Application for Registration N.M. State Register of Cultural Properties (1964) by E. Boyd (Santa Fe: Historic Santa Fe Foundation's Randall Davey House file) and the Historic Cultural Properties Inventory (2010), by Catherine Colby (Santa Fe: Historic Santa Fe Foundation's Randall Davey House file).

55. For examples of the confusion of the land transfer of the mill site to Randall Davey and his wife in 1920, see Santa Fe: Historic Santa Fe Foundation's El Zaguán file and Randall Davey House file, the Randall Davey Audubon website and docent manual.

56. Santa Fe County Deeds Book M-3, 373 and M-4, 79.

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High Tech Converges with Pioneer Trails History

Recently, Brian and Sharon Snyder, owners of the Owens-McCoy House in Independence, Missouri, blazed new trails in historic preservation with the use of 3-D laser scanning technology at the circa 1840/1852 house, a certified Santa Fe Trail Property. As a training exercise for Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, a 3-D laser scan of the entire exterior façade and some of the interior spaces of the delicate clay brick and lime mortar construction of the historic landmark property was performed. The team included IT Application Specialist Jack Riley, Staff Designer and University of Missouri-Kansas City engineering student Dan Nyberg, Notre Dame University student and intern Robert Simari, and Brian Snyder, owner and 34-year professional structural engineer.

The accuracy of the virtual 3-D computer model created from 360,000,000 data points is within approximately 1/16-inch. The model allows for documentation and assessment of all building elements, especially those out of reach from the ground. The data was processed to create colorized images indicating where brick walls had moved, leaned, bulged, crumbled, and settled over the last 175 years. At a local technology fair, the colorized images got the attention of *Kansas City Star* journalist Brian Burnes. This led to a front-page article in the *Star* on October 8, 2015, with animated images posted on their website, www.kansascity.com/news/local/article37955274.html

The possibilities for this technology to be used in historic preservation and in the trails communities are tremendous and include: historic building assessment, documentation, and preservation planning; documentation of site archaeological resources, historic landscapes, trail features and ruts; and establishment of virtual tours through trail sites and segments. The big picture with this new technology is that it can introduce a new generation of young people and professions to our rich trails history.

Continued on page 28

The Secret of the Gage d'Amour

By Vic Nathan Barkin

[Editor's note: Bent's Old Fort was a nexus for trade in the region of present-day southeastern Colorado from 1833-1849. During this time Plains Indians, trappers, the U.S. Army, and Santa Fe Trail travelers mingled and traded advice and tales. Most likely, some Santa Fe Trail travelers were intrigued by the ornaments that some mountain men wore around their necks, as I was when I attended the Southern Fur Trade Symposium in September. In a nod to Valentine's Day, and the camaraderie shared at Bent's Old Fort, I've chosen to publish this article about the *gage d'amour*, although there is no record of a Santa Fe Trail traveler wearing one.]



*"I had nearly forgotten the pipe-holder, which hangs round his neck, and is generally a gage d'amour, and a triumph of squaw workmanship, in shape of a heart, garnished with beads and porcupine-quills."*¹

So wrote George Frederick Ruxton in his autobiographical sketch *"Adventures in Mexico and the Rocky Mountains,"* after jaunting about in the general vicinity of the mountain end of the Santa Fe Trail in 1847. Ruxton's descriptions of the trappers of the Rocky Mountains are among the most detailed first-person accounts of those hardy individuals including mention of a *gage d'amour*. He was not the only one to mention such a romantic adornment, though, which is seemingly unique to time, place, and breed.

The curious thing about these *gages d'amour*, which translates from French into roughly "token of love," is that nowhere else in history does this particular item appear in this specific form, either before or after the decades of the 1830s, 40s, and 50s in the American plains or the Rocky Mountain west, or anywhere else for that matter.

Pertaining specifically to the stylish and attractive small pouch that Alfred Jacob Miller painted on numerous occasions,² the definition would be a small leather pouch, generally in the shape of a heart or upside-down teardrop, not exceeding three inches wide and four inches long, embroidered with beads and/or quills, hung from the neck with loops on the upper and lower front-center, and holding a simple white clay pipe.



William Drummond Stewart, the patron of Alfred Jacob



Photo: Ruth Friesen

The author's personal gage d'amour. Naturally dyed quills and white beads on brain-tanned buckskin, crafted by master quillworker, Shawn Webster; <http://websterquillandgunworks.com/>

Miller who was hired to record Stewart's adventures in the American West through images on paper and canvas, described a *gage d'amour* in his novel *Edward Warren*. He wrote about distinguishing an unidentified form in the darkness of his camp as a trapper. "In that light there was nothing for a stranger to recognise, but a small embroidered pipe case was suspended round the neck."³

Lewis Garrard also gave a good general description in his epic narrative *Wah-to-Yah and the Taos Trail*. "Louy Simonds, jumping up with his ever-ready gun, knocked the ashes from his pipe; and, depositing it in a small leather pouch strung from his neck, black and greasy with time and perspiration..."⁴

Captain Mayne Reid,⁵ in his 1857 novel *The War-Trail: Hunt of the Wild Horse* stated: "A small pouch or case, ornamented with porcupine quills, hung down upon his breast. This was the pipe-holder—no doubt a *gage d'amour* from some dark-eyed, dark-skinned damsel, like himself a denizen of the wilderness."⁶

These four different authors all met the Rocky Mountain trappers first-hand, and all gave reference to the same object, seemingly a common ornament among the breed, yet no physical evidence in the form of an actual artifact exists today. Historians have designated this term as a noun—a

gage d'amour—so much so, that when discussions arise amongst those familiar with them, the actors know immediately of which they speak.

From available evidence, although the term was a common one as evidenced by various authors, it didn't always denote a specific style of trapper's tobacco pouch and pipe holder as much it did the token of love it represented. One such instance is evidenced in the following description by Ruxton in his celebrated *Life in the Far West*, which puts the general term of *gage d'amour* in a bit of a different context. "For many years after he had deserted his home, La Bonte' had cherished the idea of again returning to his country. During this period he had never forgotten his old flame and many choice furs he had carefully laid by, intended as a present for Mary Brand; and many a *gage d'amour* of cunning shape and device, worked in stained quills of porcupine and bright-coloured beads—the handiwork of nimble-fingered squaws—he had packed in his possibles sack for the same destination, hoping a time would come when he might lay them at her feet."⁷

This mysterious passage would indicate that these tokens were not the pipe holders alluded to in his and other authors' passages, for why would a trapper give his sweetheart 'many' of them, but were, in fact, used to describe any small native-made adornments in this context.

The use of French terminology seems to have been much more common among the general public during this period than it is today, as evidenced by many, sometimes bastardized, Western fur trade terms such as *rendezvous*, *booshtway*, *fusee*, and *plew*. The phraseology of how these particular neck pouch/pipe holders were described, however, seems to have been a nearly universal vernacular.

The act of carrying a pipe in a neck pouch is certainly not new. In 1735 Swedish artist Gustavus Hesselius completed a portrait of Tishcohan⁸, a chief of the Lenni-Lenape (Delaware), wearing a pouch containing a clay pipe. The style, however, is much different than the trappers' *gage d'amour*, as it appears to be a muskrat or hedgehog pelt, with the feet left on.

In Matthew Field's *Prairie and Mountain Sketches*,⁹ a tobacco pouch with clay pipe was captured in an undated photograph of George W. Christy, an associate of Field's in 1843, both of whom accompanied William Drummond Stuart on



Antoine Clement by Alfred Jacob Miller (AJM) c 1859–1860. Credit: Walters Art Museum

his final Western adventure. The length, width, size, and shape are out of proportion to those painted by Miller. This may represent an evolution of those smaller pouches to something a bit more garish. More likely, the pouch is a small version of an "octopus" bag worn as a tobacco pouch on the belt by the Metis people of the Old Northwest during the period, as is shown on an engraving of the person of Joe Meek on the frontispiece of *River of the West*.¹⁰

Neither of these can be described as "small" as they were depicted by three of the four authors mentioned above. Comparing these written descriptions to what Alfred Jacob Miller painted, little room is left for interpretation that the words and the images match, and

represent a common item. Miller sketched or painted at least seven different images of trappers wearing *gages d'amour*. His painting of Antoine Clement¹¹ is the most detailed, but also Louis (twice),¹² Auguste,¹³ John the cook (The Lost Greenhorn),¹⁴ and several other unnamed trappers¹⁵ clearly show these little pouches with their white clay pipes.

Unfortunately, Miller seems to be the only artist to have painted these tokens. Part of the problem is that he had no true contemporaries in the American West, for no other artists made the trapper their subject from life in the Rocky Mountains. Catlin and Bodmer¹⁶ concentrated on the native inhabitants. Stanley, Deas, Tait, Ranney, Kurz, Kane, Bingham, Bierstadt,¹⁷ and others painted frontiersman of one type or another, but none of them wears a *gage d'amour*.

As mentioned earlier, there are no existing examples of a trapper's pipe-holding *gage d'amour*, but there are other pouches collected during the period.

The most intriguing are Cree and Iroquois neck and belt pouches¹⁸ and Iroquois heart-shaped pincushions.¹⁹ While these bear similarities, there are no examples with loops to hold a clay pipe, and there does not seem to be any direct lineage, although it is possible the influence is present.

A related style of bag, popular among Plateau groups such as the Yakima, Nez Perce, Spokane, Colville, and Umatilla, is an unusual heart-shaped bag which probably became fashionable in or around the 1930s; but again, there seems to be no direct lineage from *gage d'amour*-style featuring the pipe-holder loops, as these were "flat bags" primarily made for the tourist trade.²⁰

Pictured in *The Mountain Man's Sketchbook, Volume Two*²¹ is a sketch of a pouch captioned "Beaded heart to hold pipe, worn around the neck. Miller 1837." This is a written reference to the Miller-painted images mentioned above. A beaded heart-shaped pouch in the Museum of the Fur Trade's collection²² was used as the model, according to the Museum of the Fur Trade, but it looks more like a flat bag from later periods than the typical *gage d'amour* tobacco pouch and pipe-holder, and therefore must be discounted as being primary objective evidence.²³

So the questions remain. Where did these pouches come from? From which tribe or tribes were the women who made them? Why didn't any artists other than Miller paint them? And finally, why didn't any of Miller's early sketches show any?

All of the paintings by Miller showing a *gage d'amour* were painted in the 1850s and 60s, long after his return from the West. His early sketches and paintings done in the field, as well as those done immediately upon his return, show many of the same characters, but none of them are wearing one.²⁴

It is possible that Miller did not record this level of detail in his early work even though it was there, and that the memory of a *gage d'amour*, or possibly an example of his own, remained with him for future reference and inclusion. If it were not for other authors' descriptions of them, it might even be said that Miller invented them. So from where did they originate?

Certainly one easy answer is that there was one trapper's woman who made one to serve the obvious purpose of having a convenient place to keep his beloved pipe and tobacco close at hand. She embellished them with quills and/or beads as would have been her custom, and other trappers saw this sensible design and liked it. Soon, either this one "squaw" started a cottage industry making them for all of her beau's buddies, or trappers who liked it in turn had their women make copies for them based on the same design until it evolved into a common style.

Another possible answer lies with Miller's penchant for artistic license. Miller is known to have changed details in the dress and accoutrements of his subjects over the years in succeeding versions of the same painting. For example, no less than ten versions of "The Lost Greenhorn" were known to have been painted by Miller.²⁵ Of the three on public display, in the Buffalo Bill Center-owned version, the subject wears a *gage d'amour*, while in the Walters Art Museum and the Stark Museum of Art versions, he does not.²⁶ This begs the question how many *gages d'amour* Miller really saw? Even John the Greenhorn has one? They must have been everywhere!

The best available evidence suggests that the trapper's *gage d'amour* was an evolution of Cree, Metis, Iroquois, or even

Delaware origin, something more Eastern than Western. It can be speculated that since many of the trappers were French-Canadian, their custom of traveling with their wives and children would have extended west. Their styles traveled with them.

The *gage d'amour* became an identifying mark of the Rocky Mountain trapper, as evidenced by Stewart's written reference, but its popularity lasted only for a few decades, and then vanished. Its appeal was that it was both useful and attractive. Why then it did not retain its popularity, we will never know with certainty. Possibly the makers died out. What we do know is that the *gage d'amour* faded away without too many traces, although tobacco and tobacco pouches and pipes certainly maintained their popularity throughout the nineteenth century.

The fact remains that based on the available evidence that multiple observers—Ruxton, Stewart, Gerrard, and Reid in writing—and Alfred Jacob Miller in art, all recorded the existence of these tokens of love. They did certainly exist. They were unique to time and place and were an identifier of a particular breed and culture. The amorousness associated with them being crafted for their owners by their sweethearts, and holding their comfort ever at the ready, makes for a romantic and sentimental narrative on a life so wild and perilous.

Miller's description of Pierre, a half-breed Canadian trapper sums this up quite nicely. "...his dear darling pipe, his solace in all troubles: —an elegant writer has said, "He who doth not smoke, hath either known no great griefs, or refuseth himself the safest consolation next to that which comes from Heaven." Pierre had never read this, but when he suffered from thirst, he smoked, when the Buffalo vexed him, he smoked, when joyous he smoked, and the same in sorrow; —Pierre "went under" some years since, from an attack from his old enemies—the Buffaloes."²⁷

Endnotes

1. Ruxton, *Adventures in Mexico and the Rocky Mountains*, 243.
2. Although AJ Miller never visited the Santa Fe Trail, he did travel what is now known as the Oregon Trail in 1837, and was the only artist to capture the breed known as the Mountain Men in their 'native habitat' who ranged from Canada to Mexico.
3. Stewart, *Edward Warren*, 184.
4. Garrard, *Wah-to-Yah and the Taos Trail*, 276.
5. Thomas Mayne Reid was born April 4, 1818, in Ireland. He began to study for the ministry but soon abandoned that, and in 1840 set out for America. He arrived in New Orleans and traded and hunted with the Indians, and hunted and trapped along the Missouri and Platte Rivers. In 1846 he joined the staff of the *New York Herald* as Society Editor, and in the autumn of the same year he was writing for the *Spirit of the Times*. During the war with Mexico, he was commissioned as second lieutenant in Burnett's regiment of New York Volunteers, and sailed for Vera Cruz in December 1846.
6. Reid, *The War-trail: Or, The Hunt of the Wild Horse; a Romance of the*

Prairie, 136.

7. Ruxton, Hafen, *Life in the Far West*, 110.

8. Tishcohan was a chief of the Lenape (Delaware) tribe. His name means "he who never blackens himself," explaining the absence of paint on his body. He was one of the chiefs who were induced to sign a treaty in 1737, known as the "Walking Purchase." <http://explorepahistory.com/displayimage.php?imgId=1-2-8C9>. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15.

9. Field, *Prairie & Mountain Sketches*, photographic plate opposite p. 171. An account of the 1843 pleasure excursion to the Rockies led by Sir William Drummond Stewart, as taken from the unpublished diaries of Matthew C. Field, supplemented by his letters and articles published in the *New Orleans Picayune* and the *St. Louis Reveille*. http://s21.photobucket.com/user/montourseth/media/Neckbag_zps71eaa289.jpg.html. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15.

10. Victor, *The River of the West*, opposite the title page. A fine steel engraving of a younger Joseph L. Meek with the credits "Photo by Jos. Bucktel" and "Engraved by J.C. Buttre," www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/blm/ut/7/chap1.htm. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15.

11. www.alfredjacobmiller.com/artworks/antoine-clement/. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15.

12. www.alfredjacobmiller.com/artworks/louis-rm-trapper/. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15. <http://art.thewalters.org/detail/14146/trappers/>. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15.

13. www.alfredjacobmiller.com/artworks/trappers-auguste-and-louis/. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15.

14. www.alfredjacobmiller.com/artworks/the-lost-greenhorn/. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15.

15. <http://art.thewalters.org/detail/2250/free-trappers-in-trouble/>. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15. <http://art.thewalters.org/detail/38625/trappers-and-indians-communicating-by-signs/>. Viewed by the author on 1/16/15.

16. George Catlin and Karl Bodmer were both artists on the upper Missouri River in the early 1830s.

17. John Mix Stanley, Charles Deas, Arthur Tait, William Ranney, Rudolf Friederich Kurz, Paul Kane, George Caleb Bingham, and Albert Bierstadt were all artists who captured on canvas and paper American Western adventurers of many types during the second quarter of the nineteenth century.

18. Cree neck pouches: http://anthro.amnh.org/anthropology/databases/common/image_dup.cfm?catno=50%2E1%2F%205708&curr_page=&from_anthro=no. Viewed by the author on 12/26/15.

http://anthro.amnh.org/anthropology/databases/common/image_dup.cfm?catno=50%2E1%2F%205716. Viewed by the author on 12/26/15.

http://anthro.amnh.org/anthropology/databases/common/image_dup.cfm?catno=50%2E1%2F%205787. Viewed by the author on 12/26/15.

Iroquois belt pouch: <http://craftcouncil.org/event/floral-journey-native-north-american-beadwork>. Viewed by the author on 12/30/15.

19. Iroquois heart-shaped pincushions: <http://blogspot.com/2012/04/early-beaded-iroquois-and-wabanaki.html>. Viewed by the author on 12/30/15.

20. www.thefreelibrary.com/Plateau+ladies+heart-shaped+bags.-a0137399213. Viewed by the author on 1/1/16

21. Hanson and Wilson, 35

22. www.furtrade.org/museum-collections/ornaments-art/, Image 2 of 15 "Beaded heart bag." Viewed by the author on 1/16/15.

23. Museum of the Fur Trade, email message to the author, January 13, 2016. "The sketch is based on the photographed example. It is probably Shoshone, but there is nothing absolute. It was likely collected in the 1870s. Both sides are beaded, one white and one green."

24. Power, *A Series of Watercolour Drawings by Alfred Jacob Miller*, 11, 12, 17, 37 (frontal images of trappers).

25. Tyler, Ed., *Alfred Jacob Miller: Artist on the Oregon Trail*, 248-249

26. www.alfredjacobmiller.com/artworks/the-lost-trapper/. Viewed by the author on 12/26/15.

27. Marvin Ross, *The West of Alfred Jacob Miller*, 53.

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Vic Nathan Barkin has a passion for the history of the American West and Southwest, specifically the exploration, commerce, and establishment of trading posts and forts of the South Platte and Arkansas River Valleys as they pertain to the hide and robe trade of the 1830s and 40s. He is a member of the American Mountain Men and has participated in numerous interpretive events.

MUSEUMS ALONG THE SANTA FE TRAIL



Cimarron Heritage Center and "Cimmy" during the dust storm of January 12, 2014.

Cimarron Heritage Center Features Dust Bowl Exhibit

By Judy Broaddus, Director's Assistant

Cimarron Heritage Center, or CHC, in Boise City, Oklahoma, is an often forgotten jewel of the High Plains. Situated near the Cimarron Route of the Santa Fe Trail, CHC offers a wide variety of exhibits.

The museum began with the donation of the Cox house in 1991. The Cox house was built in 1949 by Bruce Goff, who was a student of Frank Lloyd Wright. Goff is said to be one of the most innovative designers of the 20th century, and the Cox House is one of several of his famous designs. Cimarron Heritage Center opened its doors in 1994 with just a few displays. In a short time the museum started building. The first add-on was the Santa Fe Trail, Cimarron Route exhibit, sponsored by the Perkins Prothro Ranch. The exhibit shows numerous photos of people and events along the trail, a grave marker, and items found at Fort Nichols. Fort Nichols was built by volunteers under the command of the famous Kit Carson as protection from Indians for the travelers on the trail.

The French Building was built next and is now the museum's main exhibit area. It holds collections of military, archeology, paleontology, ranch, and medical items, as well as local information and a research area.

In 1997, the Museum received the donation of 3.5 acres of adjoining property and began growing in earnest. CHC is now the home of an original one room school house, a Santa Fe Railway depot that includes exhibits of broom corn and a blacksmith shop, a farm building that holds our collection of antique tractors and farm machinery, and the Edgington Building that houses our car, buggy, and wagon collection. Also on the property are a homesteader's dugout, windmill,

wash house, and a well house.

Another unique feature of CHC and Boise City, Oklahoma, is that Boise City was the only city in the USA that was bombed in WWII. On July 8, 1943, a practice bombing mission from the Dalhart, Texas, base was off target, and Boise City's lights were mistaken for the bombing range. After five bombs were dropped, the town lights were extinguished and calls were made to the base to report the mistake. A plaque and a replica bomb sits on one of the craters on Boise City's courthouse square. The museum houses another replica bomb and the original articles of the mishap.

Cimarron County was also the epicenter of the Dust Bowl. History.com describes the Dust Bowl as "the name given to the Great Plains region devastated by drought in 1930s depression-ridden America." Cimarron Heritage Center has a vast collection of articles, artifacts, and information pertaining to the Dust Bowl on exhibit and for research. Currently the museum is working on a dedicated Dust Bowl house exhibit. An authentic Dust Bowl-era house has been donated and moved to the museum grounds. We are working to restore the house to its original condition. The plans are to have an original and educational exhibit showing our visitors a full experience of the dust bowl. The opening and dedication of the Dust Bowl House will be on April 14, 2016. The museum will serve a Depression dinner, with entertainment and a ribbon cutting ceremony. For more information on participating or attending the celebration, call the museum at 580-544-3479, email cimarronheritagecenter@gmail.com, or visit www.chcmuseumok.com.

Cimarron Heritage Center, located at 1300 N. Cimarron, is open all year, Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., closed at 12 p.m. for lunch, and closed for major holidays. ♦

MUSEUMS ALONG THE SANTA FE TRAIL

The Fur Press: An Essential Tool of the Fur Trade at Bent's Fort

By John Carson, Park Ranger-Interpretation

The first thing that comes into one's view when entering the main gate of today's reconstructed Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site near La Junta, Colorado, is one of the primary tools required in the 1800s fur trade. Be it called a fur, a hide, or a robe press, if you were involved in the trade, you had to have a means to bale the acquired hides and furs for transport back to the Eastern markets.¹

During the Rocky Mountain fur trade era, there were three types of fur presses in use. At small posts, or in the field, a simple lever press, made with materials at hand, would be put to use. The only manufactured item needed for this type of press would be an iron chain, bolt, or pin to be used as a pivot on the end of a wooden lever. Folded robes and furs would be placed atop cover skins, canvas, or whatever material was to be used for packaging. Two to four men would then lower the lever until the furs were compacted to the desired size. A wedge press, developed by British traders, would have been a familiar sight in the Northern Rockies. A wooden (rectangular) frame would be made by sinking heavy timbers into the ground with additional crosspieces inside the frame. After the furs were stacked in the frame, blocks

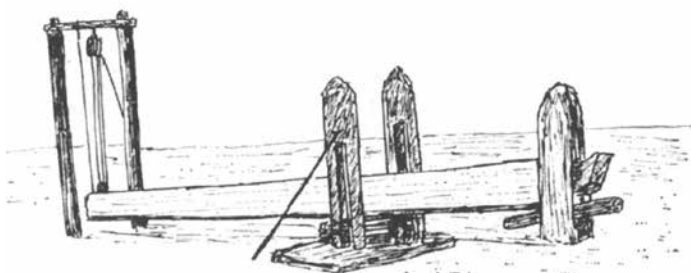


Screw Press at Bent's Fort. Note pile of furs before pressing, and after pressing. Courtesy of Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site

a large iron screw³ was used in place of a lever or series of wedges. Robes and hides would be placed in the frame, and men would walk around the press using the crosspiece or "crow bar" to compress the furs into bales. The screw press proved to be a more powerful and efficient tool for the job⁴ as the Bents prepared for the long trip along the Santa Fé Trail that would eventually end in St. Louis, where they dealt (mainly) with Pratte, Chouteau & Company until 1839 when that company was succeeded by Pierre Chouteau, Jr. and Company.⁵

There are but three (known) contemporary references to a fur press at Bent's Fort. The first account was made by Isaac Cooper (François des Montaignes), a member of John C. Fremont's third expedition who noted, in 1845, that "a press for baling robes ornaments the centre of the area or yard."⁶ Lewis Garrard, in November 1846, simply says, "In the center of the court is the 'robe press'."⁷ The next year, visitor George Frederick Ruxton observed the press actually in use, stating that "The employés – mostly St Louis Frenchmen and Canadian voyageurs – are pressing packs of buffalo skins, beating robes, or engaged in other duties of a trading post."⁸

Yet, common sense would tell us that such an integral part of the fur trade business as a press, in some form, would have had to be present at Bent's Fort prior to 1845. Without such a device, one is at a loss to explain how the Company would have been able to economically send eleven wagons of furs, robes, (and specie) east in 1841; fifteen loaded wagons in 1835; 15,000 buffalo robes, [and a] "considerable amount of furs" in 1840; eighteen wagons in 1841; or in 1842: 2,936



Above: lever press. Right: wedge press. Courtesy: Museum of the Fur Trade



of wood would be placed on top of the skins. Men on either side of the press would drive wedges between the crosspieces and wooden blocks until the furs were slowly pressed into a bale of the preferred size.²

The third kind of press, the screw press, would be found at the larger forts which exuded a sense of permanence like the Bent, St. Vrain & Company's Bent's Fort (Fort William). Built similarly, but stronger than the other styles of presses,

buffalo robes, 2,319 pounds of beaver pelts, 100 muskrat skins, 1 grizzly bear hide, 4 otter, 1 mink, (1,668 buffalo tongues), and 1 pack of deer skins.⁹

Bent, St. Vrain and Company would gather all of the robes and furs acquired during the trading season at Bent's Fort. Whether the robes were brought in by the tribes themselves or by company traders who had been sent to trade in the Indian camps, from Fort St. Vrain or Fort Adobe on the Platte and Canadian rivers respectively, the first step would be to sort and grade the skins by quality, size, and quantity.¹⁰ A first standard would be that the robe needed to be from a cow taken during the winter. Such a robe would be labeled as a "seasonable" robe and was popular in Europe and in the Eastern cities, especially as lap robes in the open carriages and sleighs. These cow robes would also be made into garments like coats, mittens, and hats. In comparison, robes taken during the summer and bull hides were of little value in the Eastern markets¹¹ due to the thin hair of the summer robe and because of the weight and thickness of the bull hide; the latter was mainly used for belting in the developing Eastern factories. Secondly, the "seasonable" and summer robes would be graded as being of first, second, or third quality. The highest quality would be assigned to those robes with the densest hair or "wool." October hides were best, according to Charles Augustus Murray, because "the hair is then young, fine, and soft."¹¹ But Theodore Davis believed that "November and December are the months during which to find the buffalo wearing the most expensive clothes."¹¹ W. M. Boggs, a Bent, St. Vrain trader, noted there were some robes superior to all others and could sell for double the price. The traders knew these as "silk robes". They had very fine hair, shined like satin, and were slightly lighter in color, according to Boggs.¹²

Understandably, a trader or clerk in charge of the baling process and worth "his salt" to the Company took pride in producing packs that were uniform in size and taut so that they would withstand any incident which may arise on the trail.¹³ After the robes were sorted and graded, the robes were divided into sets of near-equal weight, folded into the size of the bales, and weighed down for a week or more. After the robes had begun to compress in the warehouse, the work of baling began. Regardless of the type of press used, the baling processes were similar. Cordage was placed on the bottom of the press to secure the finished bale. Some traders used rawhide straps to bind their bales. Rawhide was quickly replaced by manila or hemp ropes, because it was found that the rawhide attracted worms which in turn infested the robes.¹⁴ Both manila and hemp were listed on the ledgers of Bent, St. Vrain and Company.¹⁵ Next, a bale cover would be set upon the ropes. Cheaper hides, like deer or damaged hides, might be used for such a purpose. Canvas or burlap¹⁶ might make a suitable wrap. The Hudson's Bay Fur Company was known to wrap their packs with Osanaburg linen and as that material was also ordered by Bent, St. Vrain and Company, it could have likely been used for

the same purpose.¹⁷

After all was ready, a set of ten to twelve buffalo robes¹⁸ or about 60 beaver plews would be organized to form a bale of approximately 100 pounds. According to the American Fur Company, it was inadvisable to make a bale totally comprised of "summer" hides as they were "difficult to dispose of ... at even their relative value."¹⁹ Rather, it became common practice in the fur trade to include one summer hide in each pack of "seasonable" hides; for bales of calf robes, the ratio would be 2:18. Each robe or plew would be folded with the hair on the inside to minimize insect infestation,²⁰ dirt contamination, or moisture damaging the robe on its trip east on the Santa Fé Trail. A couple of men, Frenchmen and Canadian voyageurs as Ruxton observed at Bent's Fort or Mexican laborers "doing the drudgery connected with these establishments,"²¹ as noted by Rufus B. Sage at Fort Lancaster on the South Platte, would walk around the press, using the "crow bar" to compact the bales until the trader or clerk was satisfied that the proper size of bale had been achieved.

Producing bales of robes and furs would have been one of the most essential, and demanding, jobs at Bent's Fort. It was essential because the large number of hides traded at Bent's Fort would have to be shipped east as clean as possible. Perhaps, more importantly, they had to be transported economically; the larger number of bales that could be loaded into the fewest wagons would cut the shipping costs for the company. Fewer wagons, oxen, and men needed on the trail would result in a higher profit for the Company. Though the records of Bent, St. Vrain and Company are nearly nonexistent, one can get an idea what the task of baling hides was like by examining the records of Fort Benton (Montana). In two days in April, 1855, 500 packs of robes and furs were prepared for shipment.²²

The final duty before the bales were loaded into the wagons would be to mark each pack. The 1838 outfit for Bent, St. Vrain and Company included a quantity of "marking brushes."²³ Using these brushes and black paint or "Lamp Black", each bale would be marked, generally, with a pack number, the year, the Company's name, and the bale's weight.²⁴

Once the year's bales were ready and wagons and livestock assembled, loading the wagons would begin. Whether they were the three wagons William Becknell had with him on his second trip, the "2 road waggons, 20 dearborns, 2 carts ..." in the 1824 caravan, or the Conestoga, Pittsburgh, Murphy, or other wagons used later on the Trail,²⁵ loading wagons properly was key for a successful trip. As Fort Vancouver's Chief Factor John McLoughlin warned in 1833: "particular care must be taken in handling Bales that they are not hoisted or carried about by the cords, but that a hand barrow or cradle ... be used."²⁶ Though McLoughlin is concerned here with loading bales onto ships, the same principle would need to apply to the loading of wagons.

As the lone trading post along the Santa Fé Trail (1833–1849) with a sense of permanency, Bent's Fort would be the only place on the trail to find a fur press which had that same feel of durability. Undoubtedly, small, temporary lever and/or wedge presses would have been found in the various camps up and down the trail; yet due to the expense and heavy use required, there would have been but one substantial screw press and that would be found at Bent's (Old) Fort. Not only would a screw press on the Santa Fé Trail be out of the ordinary, screw fur presses in the entire West would have been a rarity. In 1821, Missouri Fur Company clerk Michael E. Immel testified in a court case that "I know of three iron [screw] presses in [St. Louis]. Additionally, at eastern warehouses at Michilimackinac, Detroit, Sault Sainte Marie and Grand Portage,²⁷ and on the Pacific Coast's Fort Vancouver,²⁸ screw presses could be found." But these were all on waterways which were navigable by sizable boats.²⁹ The Bent, St. Vrain & Company, being the success it was, would have found a screw press "the ultimate in mechanical efficiency" in shipping the large number of robes, plews, and hides they acquired back to the Eastern markets.

As a result, in the twenty-first century, there is but one place to grasp the importance of such a necessary tool as a robe press of the nineteenth century fur trade— at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site.

Endnotes

1. Charles E. Hanson, Jr. "Robe and Fur Presses." *The Museum of the Fur Trade Quarterly* 3 no. 2 (Summer 1967), 3.
2. Hanson, "Robe and Fur Presses," 4.
3. Hanson, "Robe and Fur Presses," 4. "In the list of goods wanted by the U. S. Office of Indian Trade for its Little Manitoa post in 1814 was: "1 Iron screw complete for packing - 2½ Inches diameter - five feet long with a hole near the bottom for the Crow Bar."
4. Carl P. Russell, *Firearms, Traps and Tools of the Mountain Men* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1967), 157.
5. R. G. Robertson, *Competitive Struggle: America's Western Fur Trading Posts, 1764–1865*. (Boise, ID: Tamarack Books, Inc., 1999), 26
6. François des Montaignes (Isaac Cooper), *The Plains*, ed. Nancy Alpert Mower and Don Russell (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1972), 62.
7. Lewis H. Garrard. *Wah-to-yah and the Taos Trail*, (University of Oklahoma Press, 1955), 43.
8. George Frederick Ruxton. *Life in the Far West*, (Edinburgh: William Blackwood and Sons, 1869), 250.
9. Mark Lee Gardner, "Bent's Fort on the Arkansas: Bent's Old Fort NHS Historic Resource Study" (resource study, Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, National Park Service, 2004), 202–203.
10. Gardner, "Bent's Fort on the Arkansas," 216.
11. Gardner, "Bent's Fort on the Arkansas," 204.
12. LeRoy R. Hafen, ed. "The W. M. Boggs Manuscript About Bent's Fort, Kit Carson, the Far West and Life Among the Indians." *The*

Colorado Magazine VII no. 2 (March 1930), 66.

13. Hanson, "Robe and Fur Presses," 5.
14. Gardner, "Bent's Fort on the Arkansas," 214–215.
15. Sarah M. Olson, "Furnishing a Frontier Outpost." In *Bent's Old Fort*, 167. The State Historical Society of Colorado, (1979).
16. Hanson, "Robe and Fur Presses," 4.
17. Olson, "Furnishing a Frontier Outpost," 162.
18. For a bale of buffalo calf robes, a bale of twenty robes would be generally made. Gardner, "Bent's Fort on the Arkansas," 216.
19. Gardner, "Bent's Fort on the Arkansas," 216.
20. John Hussey, "Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Historic Structures Report, Volume II" (historic data report, Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, National Park Service, April 1976), 21. Two ways that the Hudson's Bay Company used to fight insect damage was to put tobacco or rum between the furs in the bales.
21. Rufus B. Sage, *Rocky Mountain Life* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1982), 210–212.
22. Hanson, "Robe and Fur Presses," 5.
23. Olson, p. 167. While there is evidence of the use of lead seals as a final device to discourage tampering with the packs at other fur trading posts, the archaeological survey at Bent's Old Fort uncovered no such evidence.
24. Hanson, "Robe and Fur Presses," 6.
25. For a complete and detailed study on wagons of the Santa Fe Trail see Mark Lee Gardner's *Wagons of the Santa Fe Trade: Wheeled Vehicles and The Makers, 1822–1880* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2000).
26. Hussey, "Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Historic Structures Report, Volume II," 23.
27. Russell, *Firearms, Traps and Tools of the Mountain Men*, 157.
28. Hussey, "Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Historic Structures Report, Volume II," 23.
29. Russell, *Firearms, Traps and Tools of the Mountain Men*, 159. ♦

Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site features a reconstructed 1840s adobe fur trading post on the mountain branch of the Santa Fe Trail where traders, trappers, travelers, and the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes came together in peaceful terms for trade. Today, living historians recreate the sights, sounds, and smells of the past with guided tours, demonstrations, and special events.

Bent's Fort is open year around with hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. June through August and 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. September through May. The park is closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Day. For more information, see www.nps.gov/beol/index.htm.

BOOKS



Revolt At Taos: The New Mexican and Indian Insurrection of 1847

James A. Crutchfield, *Revolt at Taos: The New Mexican and Indian Insurrection of 1847*. Yardley PA: Westholme Publishing, 2015. xviii + 229 pp. Maps, illustrations, appendices, notes, bibliography, and index. Cloth, \$29.95; available from SFTA Last Chance Store for \$30.00 postpaid.

Reviewed by Dr. Leo Oliva

The rebellion at Taos and other northern New Mexico communities that flared up after General Stephen W. Kearny's Army of the West marched over the Santa Fe Trail and occupied Santa Fe without opposition on August 18, 1846, has received little attention from most writers about the U.S.-Mexican War. This was the major war of U.S. territorial conquest, with the U.S. taking more than half of Mexico in the name of Manifest Destiny. The Santa Fe Trail was a contributing factor to the causes and consequences of that war, including the Taos revolt.

Historian James Crutchfield published his first book about this subject in 1995 under title of *Tragedy at Taos: The Revolt of 1847*. *The Revolt at Taos* is an expanded history based on further research, presenting more complete details and additional analysis of causes and consequences. New Mexico may have been ripe for conquest in 1846, but it was also ripe for revolt.

Crutchfield provides background and causes of the U.S.-Mexican War, including a chapter on the Santa Fe Trail which contains dated information that could have been corrected had he utilized the research presented in *Wagon Tracks* over the years. He summarizes the conquest by the Army of the West and how Kearny's promises of territorial government, U.S. citizenship, and protection from the Apache and Navajo appeared acceptable to New Mexicans. Everything seemed peaceful when Kearny and most of the Army of the West moved on to California or Chihuahua in the autumn of 1846, and Colonel Sterling Price led the Second Missouri Volunteers over the Santa Fe Trail to occupy New Mexico. The U.S. Army and President James K. Polk's administration were unaware of the history of resistance in New Mexico, especially at Taos.

A planned uprising in Santa Fe in December 1846 was discovered and prevented. The revolt in Taos was not detected, and began January 19, 1847, with the killing of Governor Charles Bent and five others, followed quickly with attacks at Turley's Mill where seven were killed, the murder of two

U.S. mountain men on Rio Colorado, and the killing of eight more at Mora on January 21.

Colonel Price led troops from Santa Fe toward Taos on January 23, and engaged in battle with rebels at Cañada (now Santa Cruz), killing 26 and wounding 45 while losing two killed and six wounded. Price waited for more troops to join him and met another rebel force at Embudo on January 29, killing approximately 20 and wounding some 60 while losing one killed and one wounded. Meanwhile, a small U.S. force led by Captain Israel Hendley attacked rebels at Mora on January 25, killing 15-25, wounding more, and capturing 15-17 prisoners. Captain Hendley was killed and three of his command wounded. Hendley's successor, Captain Jesse Morin, took troops with one cannon from Santa Fe to Mora and "leveled the town" (p. 91).

Price, with nearly 500 troops, reached Taos on February 3 and began an attack on the rebels at Taos Pueblo, many of whom held a strong defensive position in San Gerónimo Church. Artillery attacks continued against the church through the following day, and troops rushed in as the church was destroyed. On February 5 Taos Pueblo asked for peace and Price agreed. During the fighting at Taos, Price's command lost seven killed, including Captain John Henry K. Burgwin, and 45 were wounded, many of whom died later. The rebels lost 154 killed and an unknown number wounded. Some of the leaders of the revolt were captured.

There followed a series of trials and executions of twelve New Mexicans and five Indians involved, treating them as U.S. citizens as Kearny had promised rather than enemy combatants in war. U.S. citizens comprised the judges and a large portion of the juries, raising questions of how fair the trials could be. Young Lewis Garrard witnessed many of the trials and saw the injustice. There were a few later attacks resulting in losses on both sides and more executions. Clearly, the conquest of New Mexico was not "bloodless."

Crutchfield analyzes the causes of the revolt, the role of Padre Antonio José Martínez, and how the Polk administration erred in giving territorial status to New Mexico. The consequences of the rebellion and its aftermath have affected New Mexico to the present day. A series of appendices provide text of a few key documents and lists of casualties in all the uprisings. The endnotes and bibliography are impressive. Seven maps enhance the volume. This is a story everyone interested in the Santa Fe Trail should know. ♦



A review of Joy Poole's book, *Over the Santa Fe Trail to Mexico: The Travel Diaries and Autobiography of Dr. Rowland Willard*, published in October 2015, will appear in the May issue of *Wagon Tracks*. The book is now available at the Last Chance Store or from the University of Oklahoma Press website.

As Far As The Eye Could Reach: Accounts Of Animals Along The Santa Fe Trail 1821-1880

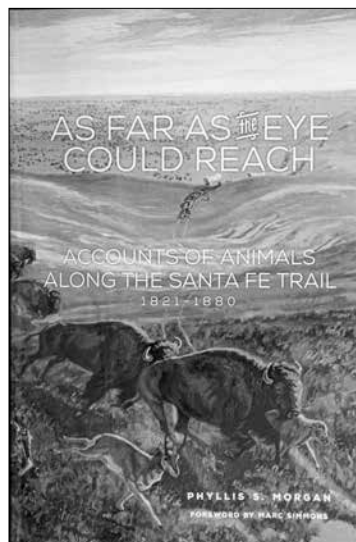
Phyllis S. Morgan, *As Far as the Eye Could Reach, Accounts of Animals along the Santa Fe Trail 1821-1880* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2015); 22 pages, title, contents, foreword, and preface, 166 pages, 13 chapters, 52 pages, notes, bibliography, and index; paper cover; with foreword by Marc Simmons and illustrations by Ronald Kil.

Reviewed by Steve Schmidt

What animal was often called (incorrectly) a goat? Coyotes were often called prairie wolves, but what physical features distinguish a wolf from a coyote? What physical feature defines the difference between a horse and a pony? How fast can a road runner run, and from its tracks can you determine which direction it was going? What is a lek? Does 'gee' mean turn right or left? What is the difference between a jenny and a hinny? What is a John and what is a Molly? Who was Ringling? How many plants and animals previously unknown to science were identified by Lewis and Clark on their exploration of the Louisiana Purchase?

The answers to these and many, many other questions can be found in Phyllis Morgan's splendid new book *As Far as the Eye Could Reach*. However, the interesting facts and figures regarding animals on the Santa Fe Trail only represent the tip of the iceberg in this fascinating discussion of both wild and domesticated animals of that period. Morgan captures the curiosity, excitement, and wonderment of trail travelers who not only experienced for the first time the wild animals of the plains, but also experienced them in awesome and unprecedented numbers and great extent of range, an experience we can only attempt to imagine today. Morgan, in discussing the various domesticated animals, reminds us that transportation, agriculture, and commerce of the time were dependent on animal power. The domesticated animals were the unsung heroes that made our country go.

By page xi, I knew this would be an exceptional book; otherwise, it would not have a foreword by Marc Simmons, arguably THE authority on Southwest history in general and the Santa Fe Trail in particular. I was right. Morgan skillfully weaves together first-hand accounts from period diaries and letters, scientific and behavioral characteristics of the animals, historical and geographic context, and the dramatic contrasts of how those animals were then and are now known and experienced. And she does this in a style that is



flowing, easy to read, easy to comprehend, well organized, and enjoyable.

Each chapter is devoted to one animal or related animals, and can easily be read in one sitting. However, once one chapter is finished, it is difficult not to continue on to the next. Being a student of the trail, I must admit that it was refreshing and relaxing to read an interesting book about the trail without having to remember

names, dates, and places from the first chapter in order to appreciate and understand the closing chapter and the important theme(s) of the book. Nevertheless, in her book the themes and continuity of the subject clearly emerge into an interconnected whole that fills a void in the history and understanding of the Santa Fe Trail era.

In contrasting the situation of the animals today with how they were experienced in the 1800s, Morgan provides, in my view, a balanced discussion of the loss of range, habitat, and numbers as being inevitable and of the desire to restore those losses. For example, in the case of prairie dogs: to some they are prairie rats and the destroyer of the land, and to others they are divine little creatures who should not be molested or restricted in their range. The effect of civilization on the animals, both wild and domestic, is documented by Morgan and is quite interesting.

Oh, and the documentation....Morgan sets a high standard. First is a section of Notes for each chapter, primarily consisting of references for first person accounts or specific facts about the animal. Morgan goes one step further to assist the reader—each page of the Notes lists the pages in the book to which those notes apply. This is an excellent and much appreciated cross referencing to aid the reader. Following the Notes is an extensive bibliography divided into bibliographical works, primary sources, the Santa Fe Trail, and the animals. The Santa Fe Trail is further divided into histories and related subjects, trail guides, photography and art, and websites. The Animals has a separate and extensive bibliography for each animal. And if that is not enough, the book contains a detailed index.

I enthusiastically recommend Morgan's well-researched, meticulously documented, and scholarly book not only to those interested in Santa Fe Trail and 1800s history of the West, but also to persons with interest in the animals of the Great Plains. Her book will certainly appeal to a wide range of interests. Get a copy for yourself and a friend. ♦



A Civil War History Of The New Mexico Volunteers & Militia

Jerry D. Thompson, *A Civil War History of the New Mexico Volunteers & Militia*. University of New Mexico Press: www.unmpress.com; 2015. ISBN 978-0-8263-5567-6, 939 pages. Cloth. \$95.00.

Reviewed by Mary Penner

To describe Jerry D. Thompson's book, *A Civil War History of the New Mexico Volunteers & Militia*, as "thorough" would be an understatement. The 939-page book, weighing an impressive eight pounds, is sweepingly comprehensive. As the country plunged into war, New Mexico Governor Henry Connelly aptly pronounced that "the enemy is Texas and the Texans." The Texas Confederates had already marched into southern New Mexico and chased out the federal army from Fort Fillmore near Mesilla. New Mexicans were alarmed by the encroaching Texans, and they responded to the governor's call for volunteers, with thousands enlisting to defend the territory. Those volunteers, the officers who led them, and the events during the war years that rattled the lives of New Mexicans are the focus of Thompson's narrative.

The author does an excellent job of relating stories that ground the experience of war in reality. He covers all aspects of the war's impact on recruits and the citizens. From equipping the ramshackle volunteers at the war's outset to the desperate attempts of their widows to claim military pensions years after the war, Thompson offers the reader the full picture of New Mexican volunteer service. His chronological narrative includes interesting side stories that are often overshadowed by the well-known battles and the Indian campaigns. For example, Thompson writes about the rumors and misinformation that flew throughout the territory. People were routinely arrested in Santa Fe on suspicions of being spies and southern sympathizers. He also summarizes some of the economic depredations wreaked by

the Texans when they departed New Mexico. In Santa Fe, Anastacio Sandoval lost over 4,500 pounds of merchandise. Joseph Mercure, another Santa Fe merchant, reported the theft of flannel shirts, other articles of clothing, and frying pans from his store.

In an effort this comprehensive, the depth of Thompson's research is apparent. The alphabetical listing of all known volunteers is over 300 pages. His citation notes and bibliography encompass another 100 pages. He references a number of sources that are new to me, and I'll definitely be conducting my own research in some of these.

For those who are familiar with New Mexico research, we know about the trap of assuming all references to a person with a certain name apply to just one person. I checked the research in the book on Francisco Abreu, who rose to the rank of colonel. While Abreu's military service appears to be portrayed correctly, some details about his personal life are incorrect. Thompson asserts that Abreu's father was Santiago Abreu, former New Mexico governor, when Santiago was actually Francisco's uncle. Also, Abreu died in Las Vegas in 1879, not in 1923 as the author reports. When writing about thousands of people, errors are bound to occur; hopefully, these errors about Abreu don't represent a pattern of mistakes.

Researchers also need to be cautious about relying on the book's index. For example, I found several references in the narrative to John Anderson Clark that are not listed in the index.

Despite these shortcomings, the book will appeal to many people, not just military history buffs and New Mexico researchers. Santa Fe Trail enthusiasts will find numerous references to well-known traders and merchants. Thompson illustrates what life was like in Santa Fe during the Confederate occupation, and he also covers the Battle of Glorieta well. The book is pricey at \$95. For some it will be an essential reference work to have in their personal libraries; others may encourage their local library to purchase it. ♦

In Memoriam

James A. "Jim" Bohart, 80, died December 27, 2015, in Wichita, Kansas. A longtime area resident of Larned he was retired from the USD 495 School and as a chamber of commerce manager. He was a member of the Santa Fe Trail Center Board, past secretary with the Kansas Fair Association, and served as a tour guide at the Santa Fe Trail Center.

Emery Murray, 77, a long-time member of the Bent's Fort Chapter of SFTA, died December 31, 2015, in Holly, Colorado. He served on the SFTA Board of Directors in 1983-84 and was the Bent's Fort Chapter treasurer for 17 years. Cards can be sent to his wife, Betty Murray, at 231 Vigil, Las Animas, Colorado 81054.

High Tech House, *continued from page 17*

The history of the Owens-McCoy House is associated with its owner and prominent Santa Fe Trail merchant Samuel C. Owens from 1834 to 1847 and owner William McCoy from 1850 to 1900, who was also a trail merchant, the first mayor of Independence, and a banker. As current owners and stewards of the property, the Snyders hope to have restoration complete and the home open as a house museum and interpretive center in time for the bicentennial of both the Santa Fe Trail and the establishment of the State of Missouri in the year 2021. For more information about the Owens-McCoy House, see www.owensmccoyhouse.com. ♦

SFTA Annual Membership January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

Name(s) _____ ☐ Life \$1000, 1 time or 3 installments
Address _____ ☐ Patron \$100/year
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ ☐ Family \$40/year
Phone _____ Email _____ ☐ Individual \$35/year
☐ Business \$50/year ☐ Institutional \$50/year ☐ Youth (18 and under) \$5/year
☐ **New member** ☐ **Renewing member**

I am a member of the following chapter _____

I'd like to make a donation to assist the SFTA with programs and events.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ _____

I'd like to donate to the Junior Wagon Master Fund.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ _____

I'd like to donate to the Marker Fund.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 Other \$ _____

To pay by credit card, go to www.santafetrail.org, and click on "Join the Organization."

The Santa Fe Trail Association is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt corporation, and all donations beyond membership dues are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Make checks payable to Santa Fe Trail Association

Mail to Ruth Olson Peters, Treasurer, Santa Fe Trail Center, 1340 K-156, Larned, KS 67550

Renew by mailing the above form or renew online at www.santafetrail.org

If you have renewed your membership, pass the form along to a friend or colleague.

Chapter Reports

Chapters are listed in order from the beginning of the Trail in Missouri westward.

Missouri River Outfitters

President Larry Short
3930 S Jackson Drive #106, Independence, MO 64057
816-835-4397 ♦ ldshort@comcast.net

MRO is off to a fast start in 2016. We will hold a joint meeting on March 26 with the Trails Head Chapter of the Oregon California Trail Association (OCTA) and the Kansas City Area Historic Trails Association (KCAHTA). At the meeting we will give a private walking tour of the newly-constructed Powder Mill Bridge that crosses I-435 at Bannister Road in South Kansas City, Missouri.

The historic site signs and historic site directional signs were installed for the Cave Spring at the Barnes Enclosure site along the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California National Historic Trails in January.

Members of MRO are actively involved in the planning of the annual PNTS workshop which will be held June 6-9, at the Stoney Creek Hotel in Independence, Missouri. As a part of the weeklong events, MoDOT will hold a formal dedication ceremony of the Powder Mill Bridge. Ross Marshall is heading up several local bus tours for attendees, who represent the various associations that support the National Historic Trails and Scenic Byways.

Planning for the Symposium 2017 event in Olathe continues to move forward, and we anticipate an outstanding three days of local tours and informative presentations related to the

Santa Fe National Historic Trail. A special dinner evening is planned at the Steamboat Arabia Museum.

Please contact MRO if you are planning a trip to the Missouri/Eastern Kansas area, and we can provide information or suggestions to make your visit to the trails even more enjoyable.

Douglas County

President Roger Boyd
PO Box 379, Baldwin City KS 66006
785-594-3172 ♦ rboyd@bakeru.edu

The Douglas County Chapter will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, March 5. The meeting will be a potluck supper beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church at 8th Street and Grove in Baldwin City, Kansas. Please bring a dish to share. Besides a brief business meeting including election of officers and board members, we will have a presentation by Dr. Leo Oliva, former history professor at Ft. Hays State University, entitled "Women of the Santa Fe Trail." Few women traveled the Santa Fe Trail, as it was a trail for transporting cargo more than for pioneer families. There are a few accounts of the trials and dangers along the trail. Dr. Oliva has researched many of those accounts and more. He will provide an insight of what it was like for women to travel the trail in the 1800s. The presentation is sponsored and funded by the Kansas Humanities Council. The meeting is open to the public.

Heart of the Flint Hills

President Sharon Haun
704 Hockaday Street, Council Grove, KS 66846
khaun@tctelco.net

The Heart of the Flint Hills Chapter reports exciting news: The ownership of the Last Chance Store has passed to the Kansas State Historical Society, and after repairs are made to make access safe, it will be open to the public on a limited basis. Great news, as access to this important SFT site has not been available for many years. And the KSHS and the Kansas Archaeological Society will be conducting a Field School at the site this June, to do archaeology digs at the site. See full story on page 7.

Cottonwood Crossing

President Steve Schmidt
1120 Cobblestone Court, McPherson KS 67460
620-245-0715 ♦ wfordok@yahoo.com

The Cottonwood Crossing Chapter has gone dormant for the winter, but planning for 2016 programs is underway.

Quivira

President Linda Colle
724 Penn Drive, McPherson KS 67460
620-241-8719 ♦ blkcolle@swbell.net

The Quivira Chapter is in the process of planning programs for 2016. The first program of the year will be on Monday, March 21, at 7 p.m. Ranger Ellen Jones from Fort Larned will present a program on Marion Sloan Russell, in honor of Women's History Month. The location is still to be determined but will most likely be in Lyons or Ellinwood, Kansas.

A second program is planned for Saturday, April 30, at Inman, Kansas. We are still finding a speaker, but the program will be held at Knackie's, 115 S. Main Street in Inman. Lunch will be at noon (\$10, reservations required), with the program following at 1 p.m. We are working with the Inman Museum for this program, so we hope to spark some interest in the Santa Fe Trail in the Inman community since the Trail runs just to the north of town.

Additional programs are still in the works. Keep checking the SFTA calendar as we add the dates.

We are happy to report the installation of the site identification signs at Ralph's Ruts and the Kern Ruts. Thanks to Carolyn Kern and her son Peter, their neighbor Steve Peter, and Carolyn's grandchildren McKenna and Garrett. The group installed the signs over the New Year's weekend.

The replacement signs for the Cow Creek/Bufalo Bill's Well site were received around Thanksgiving. As reported previously, the vandals were caught and prosecuted. The Quivira Chapter has received two installments toward restitution for the signs, which was about \$1,200. This money will go toward reimbursement to the National Park Service for the replacement sign.

Britt and Linda Colle attended the Mapping and Marking Workshop in Cimarron, New Mexico, in mid-November. The mapping information shared at the workshop was extremely helpful. In addition, we were able to explore the Santa Fe Trail and the history around the Cimarron area, which included a stay at the iconic St. James Hotel. The trip also allowed the opportunity to attend the Corazón de los Caminos Chapter meeting. We also traveled to Santa Fe and met with the End of the Trail Chapter and staff from the National Park Service.

Although we came home in a blizzard, the trip was well worth it for all the information we gained, which we can apply to the SFTA and Quivira Chapter activities.

Wet/Dry Routes

Dr. David Clapsaddle
215 Mann, Larned KS 67550
620-285-3295 ♦ adsaddle@cox.net

The winter chapter meeting was held in Kinsley, Kansas, on January 24, with a fried chicken dinner at Straits Café and the business meeting at the Municipal Building. Vice president Rosetta Graff was host for the meeting. The following officers were elected for the 2016 year: David K. Clapsaddle, president and program chair; Rosetta Graff, vice president; and Diane Dodez, secretary and treasurer. Appointed chairs were Alice Clapsaddle, membership, and Carolyn Churchill, historian. An update on the large Ash Creek Crossing monument was given. Dedication is to be at the 2016 Rendezvous, September 22-24 in Larned, Kansas.

The Faye Anderson Award, given in memory of her mother by daughter Joan Forrest of Larned, Kansas, was presented to Ranger Ellen Jones of Fort Larned National Historic Site for her work with the traveling trunks program and related historical projects. The award includes a plaque for the recipient, her name placed on a plaque with past recipients, which is housed at the Santa Fe Trail Center in Larned, and a lifetime membership in the chapter. This prestigious award is truly deserved by the awardee.

Featured speaker of the meeting was Chief Ranger George Elmore, a 40-year veteran of Fort Larned National Historic site, presenting "A Voice from the Past: Corporal Leander Herron and the Medal of Honor." Corporal Leander Herron was stationed at Fort Larned in 1868. Recently, the Fort was given an oral account of Corporal Herron and his heroic efforts to aid a wood detail of soldiers under attack by Kiowa Indians. In 1919 Corporal Herron was awarded the Medal of Honor for risking his life to aid his fellow soldiers. Those attending were treated to listening to the voice of a soldier who was actually stationed at Fort Larned and his exciting experiences.

The chapter and SFTA were saddened to hear of the passing of long-time and faithful member Jim Bohart of Larned. Along with serving on the Melgares Monument committee in 2014, Bohart was a volunteer and docent at the Santa Fe Trail Center. Our condolences to Joan and family and many friends.

Dodge City/Fort Dodge/Cimarron

President Bill Bunyan
PO Box 1656, Dodge City KS 67801
620-227-8203 ♦ dchawk38@gmail.com

The chapter, along with our sister chapter, the Kansas Chapter of the Great Western Cattle Trail Association, celebrated the Christmas season with a party at Casey's Cowtown, conveniently located on Trail Street. Trail Street was originally known as Santa Fe Trail Street. Many of our members are also members of the Great Western Chapter. Cowtown owner Mike Casey, a member of our chapter, was kind enough to pick up the tab for the appetizers before the meal.

The Kansas Chapter of the Great Western will host the na-

tional convention of the Great Western Cattle Trail Association August 4-7, 2016, the last weekend of Dodge City Days. It is hoped that the attraction of a PRCA rodeo, the longhorn steer drive, the Boothill show and dinner, among other attractions, will bring in folks from up and down the trail from Texas to Montana. Many of our Santa Fe Trail chapter members will be involved with the convention.

The Chilton Park storyboard honoring Major Robert Chilton and Indian Agent Thomas Fitzpatrick has been placed close to the Chilton monument. It is our hope that the storyboard will eventually be moved up by the walkway, which will go in this spring, so it will be more accessible to the public.

The new Point of Rocks storyboard, a joint project with the Great Western chapter, is progressing. National Park Ranger Carol Clark is developing a map of landmarks along the trail, and we will highlight eight spots on the trail with photos, along with a photo of our Point of Rocks prior to the highway development. Dr. Leo Oliva has written the text. The Great Western side will highlight the importance of the Point of Rocks to that trail. Gary Kraisinger has written that text.

Since we have created life memberships for our chapter, we have added three. Vice President Mike Strodman has paid for an individual membership of \$250, Debbie Calhoun has paid for a family membership for herself and husband Rod, and National Board of Directors and chapter member Mike Rogers has paid \$300 for a family membership for himself and wife Kelly. We appreciate their support of our chapter.

Our next meeting will be either in late February or early March, and Santa Fe Trail Association President Larry Justice will be our speaker. Our next newsletter will let you know the date. Finally, a shout-out to the Dodge City Boy Scout Troop, which cleaned out the tumbleweeds that packed the fence and Santa Fe Trail kiosk near Howell after the November tornado that caused damage to the site.

Wagon Bed Spring

President Jeff Trotman
PO Box 1005, Ulysses KS 67880
620-356-1854 ♦ swpb@pld.com

Cimarron Cutoff

President Leon Ellis
PO Box 668, Elkhart KS 67950
620-453-2286 ♦ lbe@elkhart.com

Bent's Fort

President Pat Palmer
PO Box 628, Lamar CO 81052
719-931-4323

As I sit down to write this article, my heart is heavy from the loss of our long-time member, Emery Murray. He served on the SFTA Board of Directors and served as Bent's Fort Chapter Treasurer for 17 years. He will be sorely missed. Cards can be sent to his wife, Betty Murray, at 231 Vigil, Las Animas, Colorado 81054.

The Bent's Fort Chapter finished 2015 on a strong note with 152 individual members, great speakers, activities, and treks under our boots. In October the chapter visited the Cedar Cliff Ranch and Pettigrew Stage Station. At the chapter's education

meeting in November, attendees heard three presentations, all linked to the aftermath of the Sand Creek Massacre. Then, in December, the chapter board of directors met to plan exciting activities for 2016. At the chapter's annual meeting held January 9, we heard Ken Weidner, a living historian, speaking about the art of making Indian wares, as well as sharing his knowledge of the Indian way of life that he has gained through his craft.

Some of our 2016 activities will include an overnight trek on Cimarron Route, a Taos Trail trek, and several outstanding speakers. Please watch the calendar of activities on the SFTA website for a full list of these activities and plan now to come along with us.

Corazon de los Caminos

President Dennis Schneider
828 South Euclid Ave., Cimarron, NM 87714
575-376-2527 ♦ schneidermusic@q.com

We have had an exciting year with many outstanding events, in spite of Mother Nature and other obstacles. One way or another, we got all but one of our events covered. On November 14, 2015, we had our annual fall meeting. Virtually all officers and positions were re-elected and assigned for the next term. Send your dues to Peggy Ferguson, HC63 Box 502, Raton, N. M. 87740. Our group met in Springer, New Mexico, at Elida's Cafe on January 9 for a planning session for 2016 to get our yearly calendar of events set up. We hope to have some exciting things to offer for all trail enthusiasts.

End of the Trail

President Joy Poole
125 Lupita Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505
505-820-7828 ♦ amusejoy@msn.com

An article about the End of the Trail recently appeared online in NewMexicoHomes.com. www.newmexicohomes.com/articles/santa-fe-trail-association.

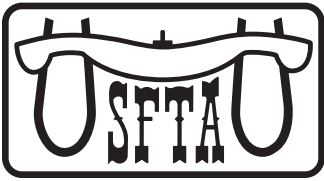
Chapter officers were elected at the January annual meeting. Elected were Joy Poole, La Alcaldesa (President) (01/18); Kermit Hill Jr., La Alcaldesa Segunda (01/17); Maria Felt, La Escribana (01/18); Alan Bradford, El Tesorero (01/17); Gail Bryant, Board Member (01/17); Michael Pitel, Board Member (01/18); Mike Najdowski (01/17); and Priscilla Gutierrez is our newsletter editor. She can be reached at pgutpgut@msn.com.

The chapter website page of the Santa Fe Trail Association website has been updated with additional information and images including End of the Trail newsletters, walking tour of downtown, and a synopsis of Fort Marcy history. Additional items are being added as time permits.

SFTA Geocache Tour Featured in Rider Magazine

The March 2016 issue of Rider Magazine features the Santa Fe Trail geocache tour in an article written by Jeff Hower. He found 58 of the 73 caches during his motor-cycle ride along the geocache tour route.

Santa Fe Trail Association
1046 Red Oaks NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122
www.santafetrail.org



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

EVENTS

March 5: Baldwin City, KS. Douglas County Chapter. Leo Oliva, "Women of the Santa Fe Trail."

March 21: Lyons, KS. Quivira Chapter. Ranger Ellen Jones, "Marion Sloan Russell."

April 7-9: Lamar, CO. SFTA Board meeting, NPS workshop

April 10: Submission deadline for May *Wagon Tracks*

April 14: Boise City, OK. Cimarron Heritage Center, Dust Bowl exhibit dedication.

April 15 - May 14: Independence, MO. Cally Krallman exhibit

April 30: Inman, KS. Quivira Chapter.

June 2-17: Council Grove, KS. Archaeology Training Program

June 6-9: Kansas City, KS. PNTS/National Historic Trails workshop

June 15-18: Las Vegas, NM. Santa Fe Trail Travelers and Their Descendants

August 4-7: Dodge City, KS. Dodge City Chapter/Great Western Trail Association Convention.

September 16-17: Council Grove, KS. Voice of the Wind People

September 22-24: Larned, KS. 2016 Rendezvous

September 28-30, 2017: Olathe, KS. Symposium "America's First Highway of International Commerce"

September 20-22, 2018: Larned, KS. 2016 Rendezvous

September 25-28, 2019: St. Louis, MO. Symposium



Members of the Quivira Chapter placed signs at Ralph's Ruts and Kern Ruts over the New Year's weekend.