

Wagon Tracks

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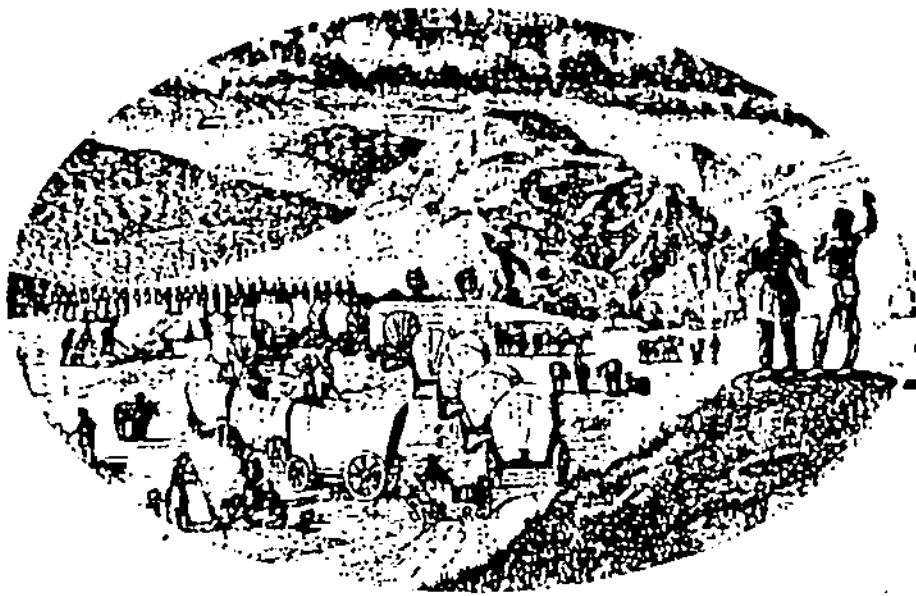


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WAGON TRACKS

SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOC. NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2

FEBRUARY 1988

NUMBER 2

NPS PUBLIC MEETINGS

by Jere Krakow

The National Park Service (NPS) completed a series of meetings during November of 1987, which sought public input for the management plan of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. The plan, mandated by legislation providing for national designation, will contain many aspects, including public involvement at several junctures during the planning process.

Michael Spratt, head of the NPS planning team, conducted the meetings across the five Trail states, assisted by several other NPS personnel. Many Santa Fe Trail Association members attended the various meetings. Of special note were Paul Bentrup and Patricia Heath, who attended several. Concerns for the Trail ranged from protection and marking it to managing and gaining access to it.

It is obvious from attendance and quality of comments at the meetings that the Trail has a tremendous following. Between 20 and 80 people attended each of the nine meetings in the Trail states. Attendees reflected a good profile of interests from landowners, members of museums and historical societies, public officials at all levels, and individuals who enjoy the legacy and resources of the Trail.

A number of similar issues arose at each meeting. Numerous individuals spoke of the need for cooperation and communication among the several states and dozens of communities along the Trail. Careful planning of events and promotions to prevent conflicts of schedule were also raised at most of the gatherings.

Many landowners expressed a willingness to permit access to see Trail sites, but they also raised questions about damages and liability. Several questions surfaced about marking the Trail along county roads, highways, on private property, or along secondary branches of the route. Other

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1988 DUES REMINDER

If you have not paid 1988 dues, this could be your last newsletter. The bylaws state that April 1 is the deadline for renewals. Please continue your membership and support SFTA projects. Without members, we are nothing.

LOGO CONTEST

The contest to design an official logo for the Santa Fe Trail Association is now open to any individual or group who wishes to enter. A \$100 prize has been donated and will be awarded for the winning design, unless the judges shall determine that no entry is satisfactory. The deadline for all entries is October 31, 1988. More than one design may be submitted by anyone.

The contest committee is comprised of Bill Pitts, chr., Patricia Heath, and Bonita Oliva. They will collect the entries and select judges. Decision of the judges shall be final. Send entries to Bill Pitts, 730 NE 8th St., Apt. 107, Oklahoma City, OK 73104.

The design should incorporate something expressive of the Trail and the association, a symbol and words that identify the SFTA, and it should be capable of easy reproduction in one color on a white background. All designs submitted become the property of the SFTA and will not be returned.



CONGRESS FUNDS NPS TRAIL PLANNING

Congress included \$100,000 to develop the comprehensive plan for the Santa Fe National Historic Trail in the general appropriation bill passed and signed by the president on December 22, 1987. Sen. Tim Wirth (D-CO) introduced the measure.

"With the funds the National Park Service can develop a comprehensive plan to preserve the trail and improve its tourism po-

1988 RENDEZVOUS AT SANTA FE TRAIL CENTER

The Santa Fe Trail Center at Larned, KS, will host "Rendezvous 1988," a three-day seminar on the history of the Trail, June 2-4. This year's conference, co-sponsored by Fort Larned National Historic Site, will focus on specific individuals connected with the Trail.

Featured speakers and topics include Marc Simmons, "Hispanics and Hispanic Influences in the Santa Fe Trade"; Leo E. Oliva, "War and Peace on the Plains: Black Kettle and Satanta React to the Invasion of Their Homelands"; Marian Meyer, "Mary Donoho: New First Lady of the Santa Fe Trail"; Mark Gardner, "Glasgow and Brother: St. Louis Merchants on the Mexican Road"; and Paula Garrard, "Alexander Majors — Freighter, Businessman, and Contributor to the Santa Fe Trail." Ms. Garrard is the great-great-great granddaughter of Alexander Majors.

A buffalo dinner at Fort Larned and guided tours to local Trail sites will also be part of the Rendezvous activities. As soon as a schedule of events and registration forms are available, the materials will be mailed to all SFTA members.

The Trail Center will host its annual Dedication Day Celebration on Sunday, June 5, following the Rendezvous. The museum will be open free of charge throughout the day with special activities scheduled. Everyone is invited to attend.

tential," stated Sen. Wirth.

The NPS planning team will begin mapping and site identification and evaluation in March. SFTA members Greg Franzwa and Bonita and Leo Oliva will accompany the team and assist with the project, and it is hoped that informed Trail enthusiasts along the entire route will volunteer assistance in locating routes and sites. ◀

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

At the series of public meetings along the Trail held recently by the National Park Service a matter brought up time and again was the need to establish local chapters of the SFTA. In a letter to me, Board Member Michael Duncan, who attended the Independence meeting, wrote: "I personally feel strongly about forming local chapters in order to promote and increase our organization and its purpose. If we don't someone else might do this. So, let's jump on the matter while it's hot."

As many of you know, our sister organization, the Oregon-California Trails Association, has promoted chapters for some time and they have served well in mobilizing interest at the local level. With the enthusiasm shown lately at many places along the Santa Fe Trail, the time may be at hand for the SFTA to consider extending formal recognition to groups that wish to form chapters for the purpose of developing Trail-related programs and projects in their areas.

I plan to place this matter high on the agenda of business to be considered at the next SFTA Board Meeting to be held in Larned on June 2. I will ask that guidelines be prepared to aid those wanting to create chapters and will suggest that "Chapter News" be added as a regular feature of WT.

Another important matter, related to this, has come to my attention. For some time, SFTA members in the Texas Panhandle have been seeking greater recognition in our organization based on the presence in their region of the Fort Smith to Santa Fe Trail pioneered by Josiah Gregg in the 1830s. In fact, I have recommended that the National Park Service in the plan under preparation designate that route as a "wing" of the Santa Fe Trail. There is a lot of interest around the Amarillo area and, if the chapter idea receives approval, the folks there may be among the first to organize.

Let me or other officers and board members hear what you think about SFTA sponsoring chapters.

All officers and board members are hereby notified that the SFTA governing board will meet at the Santa Fe Trail Center at Larned on June 2, just prior to Rendezvous 1988. All interested SFTA members are invited to sit in the board meeting and to join in all Rendez-

vous activities, June 2-4. This is our opportunity to get together for a Trail program in the year when SFTA does not have a symposium.

—Marc Simmons

NPS PUBLIC MEETINGS

(continued from page 1)

issues raised included preservation vs. use of the Trail, location of an administrative center, adequate database for decision making regarding sites and routes, and the need for public information and education about the Trail.

Important by-products of the trip and meetings included visiting several important sites, seeing excellent examples of ruts, and, most importantly, meeting many individuals with keen interest and expertise on the Trail. In addition, the NPS team met with state officials to brief them on the management planning efforts.

At the present time consolidation of response form comments is underway and another edition of a Santa Fe National Historic Trail newsletter from the NPS planning team is in the formative stages. Mapping the Trail will begin in March, along with site inventory and assessment. A draft plan is currently scheduled for completion this fall, after which another round of public meetings will be held.

An important result of the November meetings, beyond the valuable responses gathered from the public, is the interest and enthusiasm expressed along the entire length of the Santa Fe Trail. It is infectious, sincere, and expressive of the national treasure embodied in the Trail.

WILLAM A. GOFF DIES

Noted Westport historian and authority on trails in the Kansas City area Bill Goff, 79, passed away December 17, 1987. He was a long-time editor of the *Westport Historical Quarterly*, which carried many significant articles related to the Santa Fe Trail. He also contributed an important chapter to volume 7 of LeRoy Hafen's *The Mountain Men and the Fur Trade of the Far West*. It was on Reuben Smith who traveled the future Santa Fe Trail in 1810 and with two companions was arrested by Spanish authorities.

Over the years Bill shared his vast knowledge of Kansas City history with many other research-

es, including Greg Franzwa, Pauline Fowler, and Marc Simmons. He had little patience with sloppy scholarship that presented a distorted picture of the past. Getting the facts straight was always his principal aim. With the passing of Bill Goff, the history of the westward movement has lost a dedicated worker. He will be missed.

1989 SYMPOSIUM

Approximately 50 SFTA members and representatives of local historical organizations attended the first planning session for the next Symposium, to be held in Santa Fe September 28 through October 2, 1989. The meeting took place in Santa Fe on January 16. Program Coordinator Adrian Bustamante described the committees that would be needed to handle the many details associated with the event and then called for volunteers to sign up and get to work.

Marc Simmons made a brief presentation, noting that more than 400 persons are expected to participate in the Symposium. Several new features and activities are planned, including a fandango or native dance which was used to greet traders when they arrived with their wagons at the end of the Trail.

Two SFTA board members drove long distances to attend the planning session. They were Joy Poole of Farmington, NM and Mark Gardner of Trinidad, CO.

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Membership Categories

Benefactor	\$1,000
Patron	\$100/year
Institutional	\$25/year
Family	\$15/year
Individual	\$10/year

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President: Marc Simmons, Box 51, Cerrillos, NM 87010

Vice-President: Joseph W. Snell, Kansas State Historical Society, 120 West 10th St., Topeka, KS 66612

Secretary-Treasurer: Ruth Olson, Santa Fe Trail Center, RR 3, Larned, KS 67550

1989 Symposium Coordinator: Adrian Bustamante, Santa Fe Community College, P. O. Box 4187, Santa Fe, NM 87502-4187

Publicity Coordinator: Michael E. Pitel, Tano Rd., Rt. 4, Box 240, Santa Fe, NM 87501

SFTA COMMITTEES

Although a few additions remain to be made, President Simmons has announced the following committee appointments. The first person listed for each committee is chairman.

Membership:

Katie Davis, CO
Sylvia Mooney, MO
Paul Bentrup, KS

Awards:

Betsy Crawford, KS
William P. Corbett, OK
Evelyn Vinogradov, CO

Markers:

Michael Duncan, KS
Joe Snell, KS
Joy Poole, NM
Stephen & Deshay Rust, MO

Publications:

Leo E. Oliva, KS
Greg Franzwa, MO
Mark L. Gardner, CO

Finance:

John Tarabino, CO, co-chair
Joy Poole, NM, co-chair
Joe Snell, KS

Program:

Adrian Bustamante, NM
Mike Pitel, NM
Dan Murphy, NM
Barbara Peirce, KS

NPS Liason:

Jere Krakow, CO
Dan Murphy, NM
Jack Arnold, KS
David Sandoval, CO
Marc Simmons, NM

Education:

Doug McChristian, NM
Timothy Zwink, OK
Linda Peters, KS
Marc Simmons, NM

Logo Contest:

Bill Pitts, OK
Bonita Oliva, KS
Patricia Heath, KS

NEW SFT PROGRAM AT TRINIDAD MUSEUM

Mark Gardner, administrator at Baca/Bloom & Pioneer Museum at Trinidad, announced a new education program for grades 1-6, including a unit on the Santa Fe Trail for grades 3-4. Other units are Hispanic Life for grades 1-2 and Cattle Days for grades 5-6.

The Trail program, available to students in groups of 10 or less, includes a tour of the museum, information about the Trail, and student participation in loading a freight wagon with facsimile goods that would have been shipped on the Trail. ◀

TRAIL FLOAT IN LAKIN CHRISTMAS PARADE

The Lakin, KS, Christmas parade theme for 1987 was "Christmas in 2010." That deterred SFTA members of the parade committee of the Kearny County Historical Society, a life member of SFTA, for only a moment.

Linda Peters came up with "Christmas on the Trail, 1846 and 2010." While she and her mother, Pat Heath, worked on banners, signs, and a rocket, Paul McVey rounded up a truck, trailer, wagon, and bows. Jill Johnson sewed bedspreads together for a wagon cover, and Linda prepared costumes and decorated tumbleweeds. Bryan and Alan Peters portrayed Mexican traders, and their mother was a pioneer woman. A neighbor boy, Jeramy Ward, whose grandfather is a Buck Skinner, was a mountain man. All were on their way to Santa Fe.

Four other children, Alisha, Amy, Mandy, and Curt Ansel, portrayed people of 2010 traveling to Earth. The float won second place in the adult division. The Santa Fe Trail is never out of date or out of season.



Kearny County Historical Society Christmas Parade Float, featuring (left to right) Mountain Man Jeramy Ward, Mexican Trader Bryan Peters, and Space Travelers Mandy and Amy Ansel.



Space Traveler Alisha Ansel, ET Curt Ansel, Pioneer Linda Peters, and Mexican Trader Alan Peters. ◀

OKLAHOMA DISCUSSION OF SFTA CHAPTERS AND AUBRY CUTOFF ROUTE

The Cimarron County Historical Society in Oklahoma has become more interested in the Santa Fe Trail and now has a Trail Committee, headed by David A. Hutchison. The January 12 regular meeting of the society at Boise City was attended by Santa Fe Trail landowners, visitors from Baca County, CO, and Morton County, KS, as well as Paul Bentrup from Deerfield, KS, who addressed the group.

Bentrup urged the three counties represented to consider the need for a local chapter of the SFTA on the Cimarron Cutoff. He pointed out that local chapters are not yet a reality but that there is growing support for them. Bentrup urged those present to "get on fire" about the Santa Fe Trail, a reference to the meeting place being the Boise City fire station.

Dave Hutchison spoke about the history of the Aubry Route and expressed hope that the National Park Service would include that branch of the Trail in the National Historic Santa Fe Trail. He was confident that it will be included if enough evidence of its importance can be presented to the NPS planning team.

In the general discussion by those present, including several Aubry Route landowners, it was decided to push for inclusion. The route, pioneered by Trail freighter Francis X. Aubry, passes through Hamilton and Stanton counties in Kansas, Baca County in Colorado, and ends at Cold Spring in Cimarron County, OK. This cutoff was used extensively by civilian and military freighters during the 1850s and the Civil War. Fort Aubry in Kansas and Camp Nichols in Oklahoma were located at the ends of the cutoff, and both were established, in part, to protect the route.

Tentative plans were made for people along the entire Aubry Route to meet at Springfield, CO, at a date to be announced, to pursue recognition. Any views on a Cimarron Cutoff Chapter and/or the inclusion of the Aubry Route in the designated "official" route of the Trail should contact one of the following: David A. Hutchison, West Star Route, Box 35, Boise City, OK 73933 (405) 426-2457; Juanita Anderson, 428 Main, Springfield, CO 81073; or Paul Bentrup, Box 11, Deerfield, KS 67838. ◀

FT LARNED BLOCKHOUSE DEDICATION ON MAY 28

Dedication of the reconstructed stone blockhouse at Fort Larned National Historic Site will be on Saturday, May 28. NPS Chief Historian Edwin C. Bearss will deliver the address. Sen. Bob Dole and the director of the NPS have been invited to participate. The blockhouse is an important addition to the site, joining the nine original stone buildings which remain.

A number of military living history groups will be present to participate in the dedication and Memorial Day weekend activities. A special tribute to the Third Infantry, of which Co. C was a long-time part of the post garrison, is planned.

The dedication program will begin at 1:30 on May 28 and include an invocation, welcome, tribute to Co. C of the Third Infantry, address by Ed Bearss, dedication, benediction, and a "Grand Review." Following the ceremonies, the Larned C of C will host a public reception in the quartermaster storehouse.

The dedication will signal the beginning of a full week of Santa Fe Trail-related activities, including three days of special interpretive programs at Fort Larned. Most of the living history groups will remain during the weekend to repopulate the post. The emphasis of the interpretive programs will be on the Santa Fe Trail and the fort's various roles. At the conclusion of special activities at Fort Larned, the Santa Fe Trail Center's "Rendezvous 1988" will be held, June 2-4, followed by the Trail Center's Dedication Day on June 5. All who can are invited to attend any portion or all of the events.

For further information on the dedication and Fort Larned NHS events, contact Jon G. James, Fort Larned NHS, RR 3, Larned, KS 67550.

TRAIL RE-ENACTMENT AT NRA RENDEZVOUS

A Santa Fe Trail Re-enactment will be part of the NRA Santa Fe Trail Rendezvous at the NRA Whittington Center near Raton, NM, June 8-12. The re-enactment, with mountain-man garb, black powder, tipis, and campfires, will be on June 11 on the Trail where it crosses the NRA Whittington Center property. Visitors are encouraged to attend. For further

information, contact either Bob Isaacs, Bourgeois, P. O. Box 1623, Lancaster, CA 93539, or Larry Osborne, 740 North First, Raton, NM 87740 (505) 445-3159.

A Southwestern Rendezvous will be held at the NRA Whittington Center, May 19-22. Those interested in this should contact J. R. Parham, Rt. 1, Box 284, Burleson, TX 76028.

COLORADO TRAIL BILL

Members of the SFTA appeared before the Education Committee of the Colorado H of R on January 25 to endorse House Bill No. 1147, An Act Concerning Recognition of the Historic Santa Fe Trail. This bill would direct the State Dept. of Highways to mark the route of the Trail through Colorado.

David Sandoval, Jere Krakow, John Tarabino, and Mark Gardner all testified as witnesses of Rep. Juan Trujillo who introduced the bill. SFTA members argued that marking the route of the Trail would enhance travelers' awareness of Colorado history and lend economic support to Southern Colorado through the increased visitation which such marking might bring.

The bill, amended to provide that the costs would be provided by donations and in-kind contributions, received unanimous support of the committee. Rep. Trujillo promised to push the bill through the House. Sandoval stated that "it is a beginning in identifying an office responsible to work with interest groups, including the SFTA."

RICE COUNTY TOURS JUNE 4 AND 11

by Carolyn Saylor

Fanatically religious, Stonewall Jackson abhorred dancing until he went away to the Mexican War and witnessed the fandango. He returned home "not minding ballroom dancing at all."

The Jackson vignette, picked up by Dr. George Stone during a visit to Virginia last summer, illustrates an exchange of culture that traversed the Santa Fe Trail. Those exchanges, especially in art, literature, and music, have intrigued the Sterling College professor. Last year, with the Trail's designation as a national historic route, he launched a comprehensive study of its impact on the 19th century and its influence on Americans in the 20th.

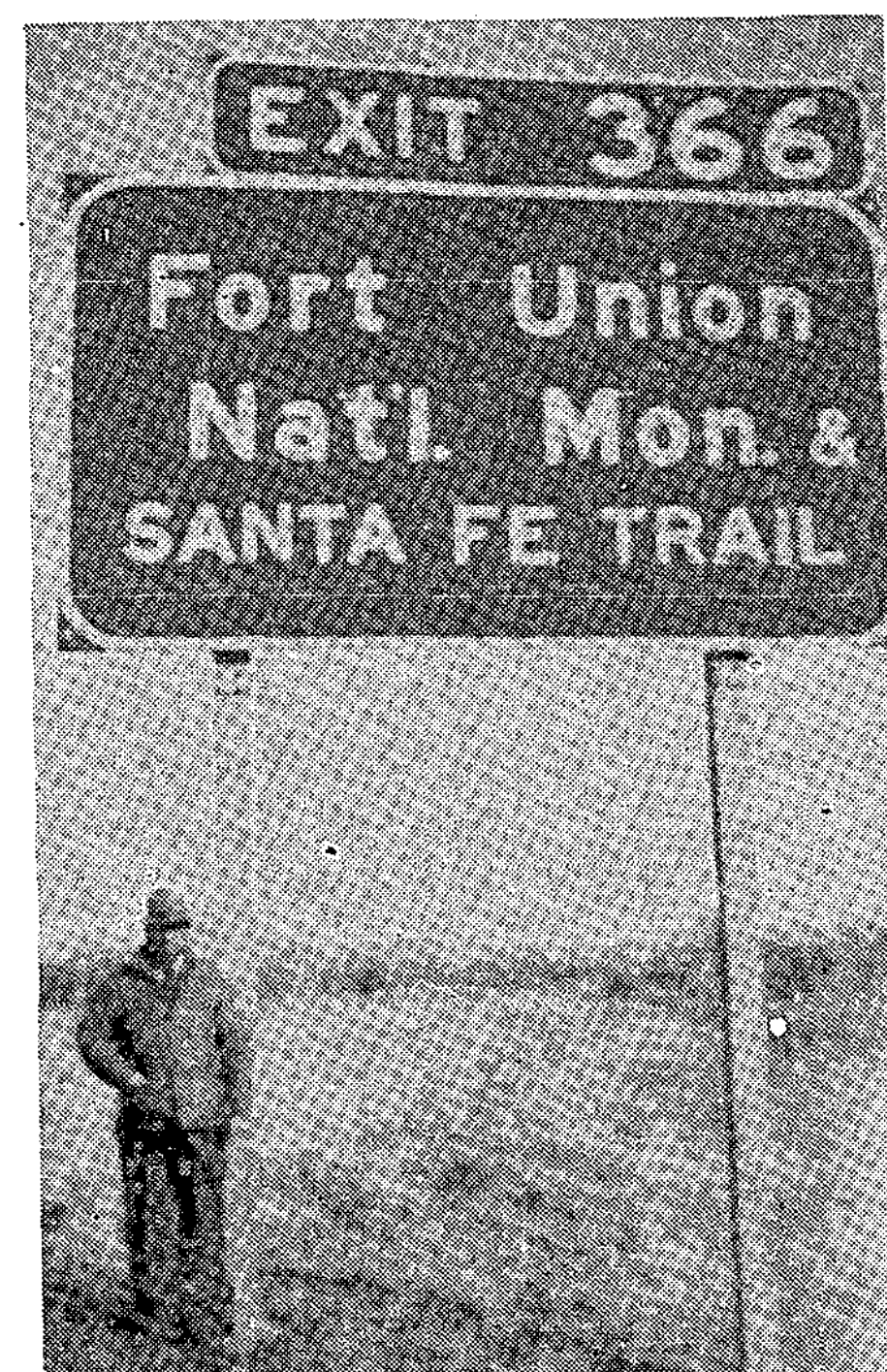
Stone will incorporate aspects

of his study when he conducts two tours in June for the Rice County Historical Society. The tours, on June 4 and 11, will cover the 30-mile Rice County segment, including Cottonwood Grove Cemetery, Stone Corral, Cow Creek Station, and Plum Buttes Massacre. With the help of a grant from the Kansas Committee for the Humanities, the tours are offered at no cost to participants and limited to 40 persons each. For further information and reservations, contact the Coronado-Quivira Museum, 105 West Lyon, Lyons, KS 67554 (316) 257-3941.

MILITARY PROGRAM AT FORT UNION, JULY 30-31

Fort Union National Monument near Watrous, NM, will present "Soldiering on the Santa Fe Trail," July 30-31. The two-day event will include encampments and interpretive activities by reenactor groups, talks by frontier military historians, programs by the site staff, lunch, and an army band concert. Historians Paul Hutton and Leo Oliva have been invited to speak.

Additional information will appear in the next issue of *WT*. For further details, contact Supt. Doug McChristian, Fort Union National Monument, Watrous, NM 87753.



Thanks to help from the New Mexico Highway Department, new signs were placed on the north and south lanes of I-25. Fort Union Supt. Doug McChristian, shown with the sign, declared that now "SFTA members will have no trouble finding us."



HOOF PRINTS —TRAIL TIDBITS—

John K. Riddle reports that much of the reference material, correspondence, photos, and maps used by his father in preparing *Records and Maps of the Old Santa Fe Trail* (see Book Notices in Nov. 1987 *WT*) was deposited at the University of Wyoming Western History Research Center. Serious students of the Trail should be aware of this collection.

SFTA board member David Sandoval has been appointed by Colorado Governor Roy Romer to a special Colorado Statue Panel to select a famous Coloradan whose likeness will be placed in the National Statuary Hall of the U. S. Capitol. At present, Colorado has only one statue there, that of health activist Florence Sabin.

Colorado Governor Roy Romer made an official visit to the southeastern corner of his state, during which he was brought up to date regarding developments at the Trail site of Boggsville.

The New Mexico State Highway Dept. is planning to install historical markers in the near future at McNees Crossing near Clayton and at Cañoncito, 15 miles east of Santa Fe.

Judith Yale of Bethany, CT, writes: "My husband and I drove the trail from south central Kansas to Santa Fe in 1985. We especially enjoyed McNees Crossing. I grew up west of Dodge City and never knew that such well-preserved tracks were so close to us. We are hoping to take our sons on the trail next summer."

Barbara Magerl has assumed the editorship of *News from the Plains*, the quarterly newsletter of the Oregon-California Trails Association, whose new address is P. O. Box 1019, Independence, MO 64051. Barbara was part of the delegation that helped lobby on behalf of the Santa Fe Trail Bill in Congress.

SFTA Ambassador Paul Bentrup of Deerfield, KS, has been fulfilling his ambassadorial duties by attending meetings along the

Trail in Kansas, Colorado, and Oklahoma. He keeps *WT* informed through BNS (Bentrup News Service) with emphasis, he says, on the first and last call letters.

The Fayette Advertiser (Howard County, MO) carried a detailed article with maps on the location of Old Franklin in its issue of December 2, 1987.

Pat Heath of Lakin, KS, will be attending an Elderhostel program on the Santa Fe Trail at the College of Santa Fe for the week of April 24-30. Look for a report from her in the next *WT*.

Grace Collier, Hays, KS, has donated the work she has compiled for a Santa Fe Trail calendar to SFTA. With her help, Leo Oliva hopes to complete the project with something that happened in Trail history for each day of the year and publish a 1989 edition with a Trail scene for each month. These will be sold to help raise funds for SFTA projects. Anyone wanting to help is welcome.

Dr. Don Blakeslee, Dept. of Anthropology, Wichita State University, has an article on John Peyton in *American Antiquity*, 52(4), 1987, pp. 784-792. Peyton and his servant, Charles, escaped from a Santa Fe jail early in 1774 with the help of the jailer's daughter, Annetta, and the three of them traveled across the plains to the Missouri River and St. Louis. Blakeslee considers Peyton's contribution to the myth of the mound builders, and states that "Peyton's excavation of the burial mound in Kansas is one of the earliest excavations of an Indian mound on record."

A session on the Santa Fe Trail will be included in the Southwestern and Rocky Mt. Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science annual meeting at Wichita, KS, March 29-April 2. The time of this session was not available, but interested persons may contact Don Blakeslee, Dept. of Anthropology, WSU, Wichita, KS 67208.

Dr. David Sandoval will speak on "Mexican Merchants on the Santa Fe Trail" at "La Gente de la Frontera" (People of the Frontier) living history group meeting at Otero Junior College in La Junta, CO, February 15, 7:00 p.m. "La Gente" will be assisting Bent's Old Fort

NHS with a variety of activities to be used in the site's interpretive programs, special events, and off-site presentations. For more information about "La Gente," call Alexandra A. Aldred at (303) 384-2596.

Gordon Knox, a veteran filmmaker from Santa Fe, hopes to raise funds to produce a documentary film on the Santa Fe Trail. He plans to have actors re-enact events along the Trail. The film has been endorsed by the National Park Service, and the Public Broadcasting Service has expressed interest in the project.

Scott Almy, exec. chef of Hotel St. Francis in Santa Fe, won third place at the Great American Mexican Food Cook-Off in Tucson in December with his recipe for Santa Fe Trail Chile.

Peyton O. Abbott of Pueblo, CO, located information and maps concerning the Trail markers placed along the Mountain Branch in Colorado by the DAR in the *Fourteenth Biennial Report of the State Engineer to the Governor of Colorado for the Years 1907 and 1908*. This is a valuable reference for anyone interested in the Trail or the DAR markers.

The Topeka Convention & Visitors Bureau is offering a Kansas Santa Fe Trail tour, August 6-12, 1988, for bicyclists and a motor-coach tour. It will cover the Trail from Baldwin City to Cimarron. Prices are not yet available. For details, contact the Bureau, 3 Townsite Plaza, 120 E. 6th St., Topeka, KS 66603 (913) 234-2644.



Roe Groom was unable to attend the Symposium and receive his award. It was presented to him near the covered wagon located where the Trail crossed the Neosho River in Council Grove.

CORONADO-QUIVIRA MUSEUM, LYONS, KS

Betty Romero & Ralph Hathaway

[Ed. note: This is the fifth in a series on museums and historic sites along the Trail. Betty Romero is museum director and Ralph Hathaway is a museum volunteer and owner of Ralph's Ruts, one of the best-preserved segments of the Trail.]

The history of several centuries is represented by artifacts on display at the Coronado-Quivira Museum, Lyons, KS. The main themes presented are sixteenth-century Quivira (Wichita) Indian culture, the arrival of Spanish gold seeker Don Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, and the transition of an ancient game and Indian trail into an important route of commerce known as the Santa Fe Trail.

The Rice County Historical Society's Museum, renamed Coronado-Quivira in 1982, originated almost by accident. During the spring of 1927 the Lyons Commercial Club staged a "mystery window night" when store windows were dressed with new spring merchandise but veiled until a certain night when the blinds were removed and the invited public allowed to inspect the offerings. The staff of the local newspaper was hard-pressed for ideas for something to display until publishers Horace and Paul Jones remembered some Indian relics both of them owned, and they prepared an Indian exhibit for their window.

That window was popular with the viewing public but, more important, it caused many farmers to notice that the specimens were much like the artifacts they had found on their lands, areas they believed were once Indian battle grounds. As these reports came in, thirty sites were visited and all proved to be permanent villages where Indians had once lived.

When the artifacts were removed from the window, the newspaper owners acquired a small showcase to hold them inside the news office. As collections increased, a display was placed in the county court house but outgrew the space available. In 1973 the Rice County Historical Society was granted use of the Carnegie Library building for a museum. Later the facilities were again outgrown and a 60 x 60 two-level annex (7200 square feet) was built. The extensive collection of artifacts and antiques has



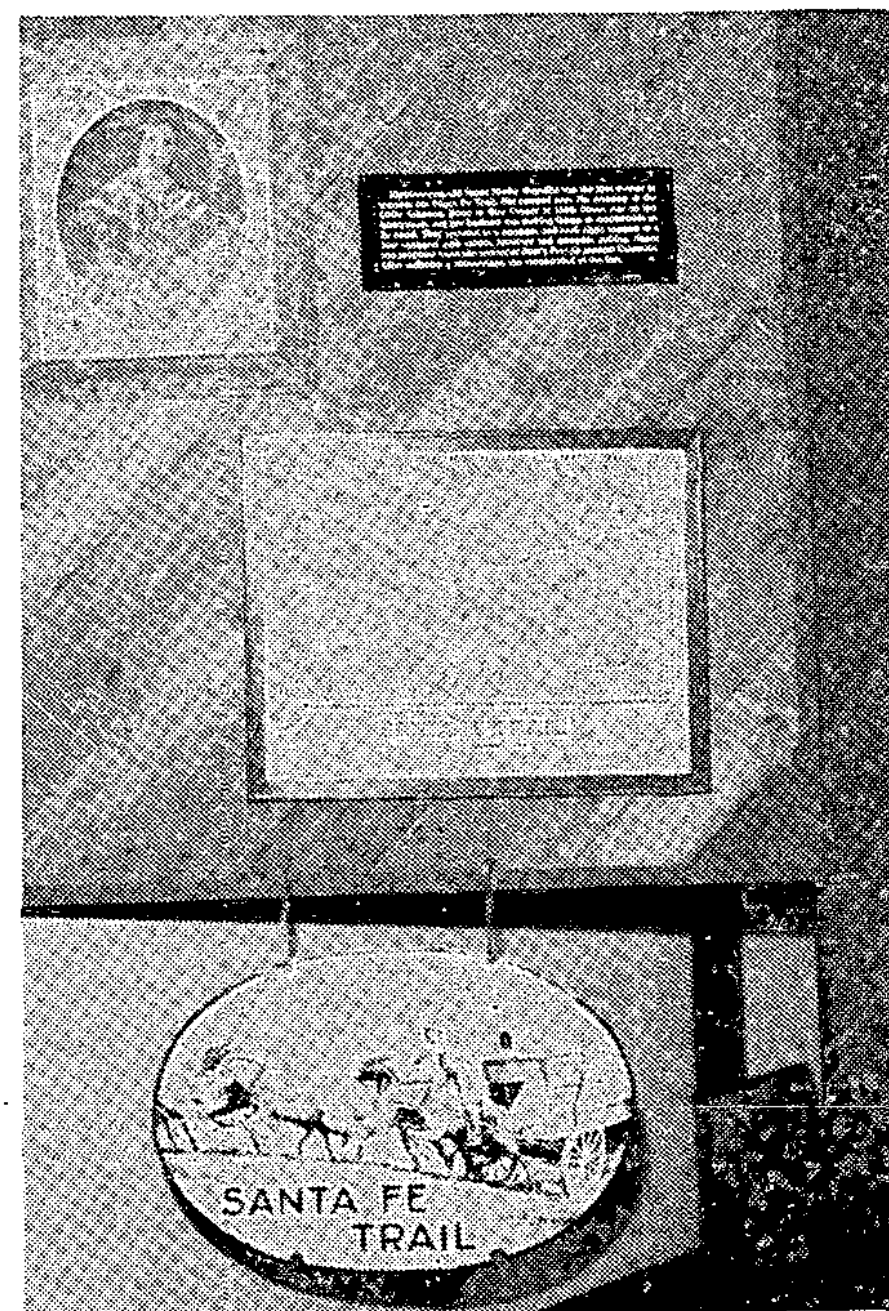
Coronado exhibit with chain mail artifacts found in Rice County in foreground.

been made possible by several generations of contributors.

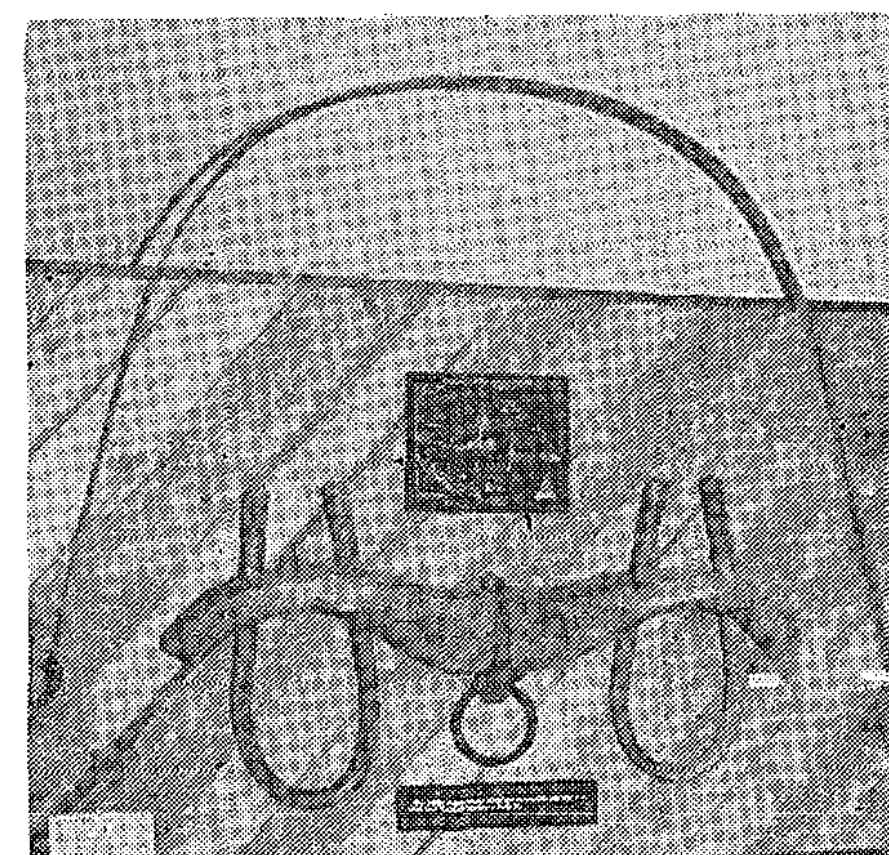
The main floor of the museum, dedicated in 1985, contains exhibits dating from prehistoric times to the coming of the first area settlers. Much of the Quiviran Culture material came from archaeological research in the Little Arkansas headwaters region in 1940, 1965, 1966, and 1967, under the direction of Dr. Waldo R. Wedel, senior scientist with the Smithsonian Institution. The most recent Quivira research, that of the serpent intaglio, was the work of the late Dr. R. Clark Mallam, archeologist at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa.

The most notable artifacts relating to the Coronado expedition are several pieces of chain mail. Coronado and his band of some 30 men, including Franciscan Father Juan de Padilla, came into the area in 1541. Their presence was verified by the Spanish chain mail and other artifacts. One large piece of chain mail, approximately seven by five by thirteen inches, is the premier exhibit. Several pieces are on display, along with a chain mail replica prepared by a former resident. Stewart Udall, in his new book *To the Inland Empire*, terms the institution "the best Coronado museum in the Southwest."

The Santa Fe Trail is represented by photographs, artist sketches, maps, and numerous artifacts picked up along the more than 30 miles of Trail that cross Rice County. Within a radius of eight



Trail exhibit showing photo of Susan Shelby Magoffin, map, and 1948 American Pioneer Trail Association marker.



Trail exhibit featuring wagon bow and ox yoke.

miles there are eight granite DAR markers and several historic landmarks. These include the Little Arkansas Crossing, site of the Stone Corral and, also, of Camp Grierson when occupied by the military in 1867; Jarvis Creek, scene of the Chaves murder in 1843; the Father Padilla cross erected in honor of the missionary who returned to Quivira and to martyrdom in 1542; Cow Creek Crossing, site of William "Buffalo Bill" Mathewson's trading post and Buffalo Bill's Well; site of the Plum Buttes Massacre, involving the wagon train of trader Franz Huning in September 1867; forty acres of undisturbed pasture containing some of the best defined remnants of the Trail to be found anywhere, known as "Ralph's Ruts"; the site of the landmark called "Plum Buttes"; and the wide notch worn by Trail travelers in

the nearby ridge, still visible today.

The museum has devoted the lower level to the pioneer period, entitled "Rice County, 1902." Prominent in this display is a mural covering one entire wall, the work of well-known Kansas artist Stan Herd of Lawrence. The mural depicts an early twentieth-century farmstead with pasture land and a wheat harvesting and threshing scene in the background. Also on display is the village store front opening into a home, workshop, doctor's office, dentist's office, and a church.

The museum has a library of many books, maps, news clippings, photographs, and genealogy available for use by anyone doing research. The facility hosts many school and organized tour groups, tourists, and drop-in visitors. An annual Christmas open house is held each year, featuring interpretive talks about Coronado and the Quivira people, live music, and hors d'oeuvres.

The C-Q Museum is located two blocks south of U. S. Highway 56, one block west of state highway K-14, in Lyons. For more information contact the Director, Coronado-Quivira Museum, 105 West Lyon, Lyons, KS 67554 (316) 257-3941.

TRAIL SERIES TO BE AT FARMINGTON, AUG-SEPT

SFTA Board Member Joy Poole, curator of the Farmington (NM) Museum, has received a grant from the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities to present a Santa Fe Trail Series at San Juan College during August and September, 1988. The series will revolve around the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition of "The Santa Fe Trail: Photographs by Joan Myers," scheduled from Aug. 14-Sept. 12.

Tentative plans call for the following presentations during that period: August 21—Homer Hastings will present two slide programs, one on "Fort Union and the National Park System" and the other on "Fort Union Sidelights"; August 23—Joy Poole will present a slide program, "Cruzando Sobre el Paso de Raton"; August 30—Marc Simmons will lecture on the history of the Trail; September 6—Joan Myers will lecture about the Trail; and September 11—VanAnn Moore will present a dramatization of Susan Shelby Magoffin, one of the first women to travel the Trail and record her journey.

Discussions will follow each program.

For further information, contact Joy Poole, Farmington Museum, 302 N. Orchard, Farmington, NM 87401.



CONVERSE OF THE PRAIRIES —BOOK NOTICES—

Sandra L. Myres, ed., *Cavalry Wife: The Diary of Eveline M. Alexander, 1866-1867*. College Station: Texas A & M University Press, 1988. Pp. 175. Illus., map, appendix, notes, bibliog., index. Paper, \$11.95.

Eveline Martin Alexander, the educated and observant wife of cavalry officer Andrew J. Alexander, accompanied her husband to the West and kept a detailed diary to share with her family. They traveled with several units of troops from Fort Smith to Fort Union, following a portion of the Santa Fe Trail along the Canadian River opened by Josiah Gregg in 1839. They would have followed it more closely, but the commander of the expedition, Col. Marshall S. Howe, Third Cavalry, refused to pay the Indian guide in silver and the Indian refused paper money. Without his guide, Howe wandered far from the intended route. They met Texas cattle herds moving north.

Eveline gave good accounts of life on the road, the people with whom she associated, and the land through which they passed, including valuable descriptions of flora and fauna. She enjoyed the venture.

From Fort Union, her husband was sent to establish Fort Stevens, CO, and Eveline provides the most extensive history of that short-lived post known to exist. She provides information about several military posts, the road through Raton Pass, and several communities, including Trinidad, Taos, and Santa Fe. Like others, she praised the good food at Kozloski's Ranch. Among the people she met were Kit Carson, Gen. William T. Sherman, Ute Chief Ouray, mountain man William Le Blanc, and Teresina Bent Scheurich, daughter of Charles Bent. Eveline reflected the prejudices of her time when discussing Indians, Mexicans, and Black troops.

Sandra Myres has done a model

job of editing, introducing, and documenting the diary and letters. *Cavalry Wife* joins a small but growing collection of writings by women about the Trail, and this one belongs in the same league as Marian Sloan Russell's reminiscences and Susan Shelby Magoffin's *Diary*.

POST OFFICE OAK —LETTERS—

Editor:

Some 25 years ago a friend gave me all the USGS Topographical Sheets of the Santa Fe Trail. I gave them all to the Museum of the Great Plains, P. O. Box 68, Lawton, OK 73502-0068. If anyone needs them as references, this is where they can be located.

Robert L. Atkins
Oklahoma Historical Society
Wiley Post Historical Building
Oklahoma City, OK 73152

If someone could provide me with a complete list of the USGS sheets containing all branches of the Trail and how these may be ordered, I will print that information in WT.

Editor

Editor:

Thank you for using my short article ["Becknell Legend," Nov. 1987]. Maybe with the authority of *Wagon Tracks*, some headway may be made into the fiction.

Maurine S. Fletcher
2105 Cottie Lane
Arlington, TX 76010

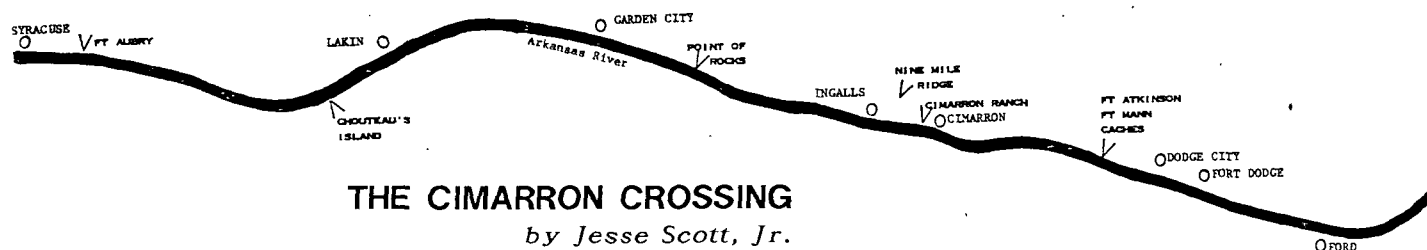
Editor:

Maurine S. Fletcher's "Becknell Legend" in the last issue of *WT* does a good job of demolishing Josiah Gregg's old claim that the Becknell party of 1821 was reduced to drinking mule blood and water from a buffalo's stomach on the Jornada. When I wrote my chapter for the National Geographic book, *Trails West*, the editors, without consulting me, added that bogus story to jazz up my account.

In fact the outlines of the tale may be true, but they applied to the Benjamin Cooper expedition of 1823 which ran out of water in the Jornada on the way to Santa Fe. Details are provided by Kenneth L. Holmes in the *New Mexico Historical Review* (April 1963), p. 148.

Marc Simmons
Box 51
Cerrillos, NM 87010

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THE CIMARRON CROSSING

by Jesse Scott, Jr.

It was not THE CIMARRON CROSSING until several decades after the first use. And it was not THE crossing because there were several. In the first-known writings, the crossing was to the Semeron (or Semiron or Semaron, and sometimes with an "e" at the end). The first-known recorded use of "Cimarone crossing" was by Francis X. Aubry, reported in the *Missouri Republican*, May 18, 1852.

One of the most widely referred to features of the Santa Fe Trail, the great highway of commerce and avenue of empire, was the Cimarron Crossing. Numerous contemporary writers mentioned it. Many gave mileages from known points, not just vague references such as a day's journey of 15 or 20 miles. There is confusion about the crossing because of its several locations.

The crossing was of the Arkansas River, beginning what was later called the Cimarron Cutoff, and the reasons were to save miles and days on the trip between Missouri and Santa Fe and to follow a route more easily adapted to wagon traffic than the mountains farther west.

The crossing was to the Cimarron River, which was followed as far as it continued on a line almost direct to Santa Fe. The Arkansas River was forded at a number of places, generally between the Caches/Fort Mann/Fort Atkinson area, just west of present Dodge City, to Chouteau's Island in present Kearny County, KS. There were, however, records of crossings made farther downstream. And the Aubry Crossing was located farther up river, but the Aubry Route only crossed the Cimarron River and did not follow it.

The earliest route of American traders to Santa Fe struck the Arkansas River near the Great Bend and continued along the north bank to the present La Junta, CO, area. From there it followed up the Timpas, across the Purgatoire, over Raton Pass, and on to Santa Fe, sometimes by way of Taos.

Pack animals were used in the early commercial ventures. Not until the 1840s was wagon travel possible over Raton Pass. The route along the Arkansas was the safest trail because water was always available (occasionally with a little digging in the dry river bed).

In 1822 William Becknell made his second trading expedition to Northern Mexico with three loaded wagons, the first known use of wheeled conveyances from "the States." *Vagones* had been in use between Chihuahua and other Mexican cities, including Santa Fe, for two centuries. Becknell's party crossed the Arkansas below Great Bend. His exact route is not recorded, but it is almost certain he followed Mulberry Creek from where it empties into the Arkansas River near Ford, KS, to near its head, and then continued on to the Cimarron River.

Several existing towns are noted to give a reference to historical sites. The site of Fort Atkinson (1850-1854) is two miles west of Dodge City. Fort Mann (1846-1848) had been located earlier less than a mile down the river. The Caches were dug (1823) in a hillside about one-half mile northwest of the later site of Fort Atkinson. Fort Dodge (1865-1882) is located four miles east of Dodge City. Cimarron Ranch and Stage Station was located about two miles west of present Cimarron, KS, near the junction of the river trail and the bottom of the Nine Mile Ridge trail. One of the most used crossings was there, and another was below the present Ingalls Feedyard, at the upper end of Nine Mile Ridge.

Farther down the Arkansas, near Ford, another crossing was mentioned by Joseph C. Brown in his field notes of the 1825 Trail survey. He stated "it would be much nearer to cross the river here and ascend the Mulberry creek . . . and then . . . to the lower spring on the Semaron; but on trial of the way travelers have discontinued it as unsafe. It is discommodious of water. . . . On this route has

been much suffering; in a dry time 'tis dangerous." From what travelers Brown obtained his information has not been ascertained.

Farther up the Arkansas, the well-known landmark of Chouteau's Island was another point of crossing. Some parties crossed to the south side of the river before reaching this area, but stayed close to the Arkansas until near Chouteau's Island. It was a good place to leave the river for several reasons. The shallow pass through the sandhills south of the Arkansas was easy on the oxen and mules drawing the heavy freight wagons. The route to the Cimarron headed almost straight south, and it was only 35 miles to the lower spring. In addition, there were several watering places on which one usually could rely.

Crossing the Arkansas was often dangerous because of high water and quicksand. It was also a place of frequent Indian attacks because the wagon trains were split, with some on either side and part in the middle of the river that was sometimes as wide as three-fourths of a mile. Many encounters with Indians occurred at or near Cimarron Ranch.

After the crossing, there began the most hazardous segment of the journey, across the "Jornada." The sixty-mile stretch to the Cimarron River was frequently without water, and the area was a crossing and hunting place for several Plains Indian tribes. Even experienced frontiersmen could become lost, as apparently happened to Jedediah Smith, who was ambushed and killed by Comanches in 1831 after he found water near the lower spring or another spring farther downstream on the Cimarron River.

The search for the Cimarron Crossing has led to many conclusions. Joseph Vernon, in his book *Along the Old Trail*, quoted "Doc" Barton, of Ingalls, as saying there were two crossings—one at Ingalls and the other three miles west at the Burns Farm (southwest

corner of present Ingalls Feedyard). Barton was one of the first ranchers in the area, 1872, and observed the crossings in use. He was right; there were two. But the following list indicates there were a number more of Cimarron Crossings.

1822—Below Great Bend: "crossed the Arkansas before reaching the Great Bend," Louise Barry, *The Beginning of the West*, p. 105.

1825—Mouth of Mulberry Creek: "ascend Mulberry creek . . ."; **3 miles west of Caches:** "3 miles southwest from . . . Gravel Rocks [near Caches]," Joseph C. Brown, "Field Notes," KS St. Hist. Soc., 1913, p. 120.

1825—4 miles west of Garden City: (from Point of Rocks to) "near an old Indian camping ground. . . Distance today 16 Miles . . . to the crossing place of the Arkansas then West 2 miles," George C. Sibley Field Notes in Kate L. Gregg, ed., *The Road to Santa Fe*, pp. 85-86.

1828—2 miles west of Cahces: "Anderson's caches . . . two miles farther reaches the ford of the river," Alphonso Wetmore Diary in A. B. Hulbert, *Southwest on the Turquoise Trail*, pp. 188-189.

1829—Chouteau's Island: "crossing of the Arkansas at Chouteau's Island," Seymore V. Connor and Jimmy M. Skaggs, *Broadcloth and Britches*, p. 82.

1831—Caches: "crossed the Arkansas on June 11; pitched camp that evening opposite the celebrated Caches," Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 203.

1837—7 miles east of Cimarron: "Anderson's Caches . . . Pond Camp west of Arkansas river. 7 mi.," "Wetmore's Gazeteer of the State of Missouri," KSHS, p. 267.

1844—Ingalls: "Caches . . . Ford of Arkansas 20 mi.," Josiah Gregg, *Commerce of the Prairies*, p. 313.

1846—5 miles east of Cimarron: map shows 9 mi. from Fort Mann and elevation chart states "Caches . . . Crossing of Arkansas" (9 mi.); **Ingalls:** table shows "Night camp on Caches . . . night and noon camp at crossing . . . 20 mi.," Frederick Wislezenus, *A Tour to Northern Mexico, 1846-1847*, pp. 10-11, 118-123.

1846—Ingalls: "camped at 'The Caches'; next day . . . about 20 miles up . . . arrived at the usual fording place of the Arkansas," Albert Speyer in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 588.

1846-49—Ingalls Feedyard: "Fort Mann . . . Crossing of the Arkansas 20 mi.," Dyer-Carlton Survey in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 815.

1848—Ingalls Feedyard: "Fourteen miles from the Caches near Mann's Fort and eight miles from the crossing of the Big Arkansas," John McCoy in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 754.

1848—Charleston: "Mann's Fort . . . Crossing of Arkansas 30 mi.," John A. Bingham in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 814.

1849—Ingalls: "Near Fort Mann . . . Crossing of Arkansas 22.00 mi.," Maj. Henry L. Kendrick in Randolph B. Marcy, *The Prairie Traveler*, pp. 261-262.

1849—Ingalls Feedyard: "from Fort Mann to 'Lower Crossing of the Arkansas' as 25.34 miles," author unknown, in Marcy, *Prairie Traveler*, pp. 260-263.

1850—Ingalls Feedyard: "Twenty-six miles east of the Cimarron Crossing [to Fort Atkinson]," Lt. Col. E. V. Sumner in Leo E. Oliva, *Soldiers on the Santa Fe Trail*, p. 95.

1851-52—Ingalls Feedyard: "Fort Atkinson . . . is Twenty-six miles below the 'crossing of the Arkansas,'" Asst. Surg. A. T. Ridgely, *Kansas Historical Quarterly* (1973), p. 346.

1852—Ingalls Feedyard: "From Cimarrone crossing to Fort Atkinson was 25 miles," Francis X. Aubry, *Missouri Republican*, in *Kansas Historical Quarterly* (1973), p. 347.

1852—Ingalls Feedyard: "the Arkansas . . . striking that river 12 miles above Chouteau's Island and 58 above the point where the Cimarrone road crossed the Arkansas," William S. Allen in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 1090.

1852—Cimarron Ranch: "Crossed the Arkansas about 18 miles from the Fort [Atkinson]," William Carr Lane in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 1115.

1852—Aubry's Crossing: "take Francis X. Aubry's new route. Fifteen miles above Chouteau's Island," 2nd Lt. William D. Whipple in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 1092.

1852—Aubry's Crossing: "The mail party . . . tried Aubry's new route," Charles L. Spencer in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 1121.

1852—Aubry's Crossing: "Aubrey was met at Aubrey's crossing of the Arkansas," Capt. William Steel in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, pp. 1122-1123.

1853—Howell: "Fort Atkinson . . . 1st crossing of S. Fe trail 5 mi.," Cimarron: "2nd crossing of S. Fe trail 10 mi.," G. Harris Heap in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 1018.

1853—Kearny County: "followed Aubry's route - continuing up the Arkansas to present Kearny County before crossing the

river," Gen. John Garland in Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 1164.

1853—Aubry's Crossing: "at Aubrey's crossing . . . with Bent himself in charge, went on to Santa Fe," "Bent's Old Fort and its Builders," Barry, *Beginning of the West*, p. 1164.

1859—Cimarron Ranch: "Fort Atkinson . . . at 17 miles pass a ford," Marcy, *Prairie Traveler*, p. 298.

1865—Cimarron Ranch: "from Fort Atkinson to Cimarron Crossing: 16.99 miles," *Kansas City Daily Journal of Commerce*, in *Kansas Historical Quarterly* (1973), p. 350.

1866—Ingalls Feedyard: "from Fort Dodge to Cimarron Crossing: 27 miles," *Kanas City Weekly Tribune*, in *Kansas Historical Quarterly* (1973), p. 199.

1867—Ingalls: "from Fort Dodge to Cimarron Crossing: 25 miles," J. West Goodwin, "Pacific Railway Business Guide," in *Kansas Historical Quarterly* (1973), p. 199.

1867—Cimarron Ranch: "a short distance west of Cimeron crossing on Nine Mile Ridge," *Junction City Union* in *Kansas Historical Quarterly* (1973), p. 362.

SYMPOSIUM VIDEO TAPES

Video tapes of the 1987 Hutchinson Symposium have arrived. The quality is poor for some sessions (sound is better than video). The prices (including tax and postage) are \$14.95 for the first program selected from the following list, \$7.95 for each additional program selected, or \$79.95 for a complete set:

(1) Marc Simmons, (2) David J. Weber, (3) Jere Krakow, (4) Peter D. Olch, (5) Wildlife—Barnard & Dary, (6) Mexican Traders—Sandoval & Le Compte, (7) Central Kansas—McCoy & Elmore, (8) Trail Discoveries—Cook & Kimball, (9) Business Meeting & Awards, (10) Saturday evening Fiesta, and (11) Scenes from Sunday Tour.

Copies of tapes of the 1986 Trinidad Symposium arrived from Joy Poole just before going to press. These appear to be of similar quality (one of the sessions viewed is out of focus). Assuming these are available for distribution, the Trinidad tapes (which may or may not contain all the sessions) are tentatively offered as a set for \$49.95.

Send orders to SFTA Video, P.O. Box 1, Woodston, KS 67675. Individuals please enclose payment with order; institutions will be billed. Allow six weeks for delivery. <

JOHN SIMPSON HOUGH MERCHANT ON THE TRAIL

by Mark L. Gardner

[Ed. note: This is the fifth in a series on merchants and the Santa Fe trade. Mark L. Gardner is site administrator for the Baca/Bloom and Pioneer Museum of the Colorado Historical Society in Trinidad and a Director of the SFTA.]

In 1850 16-year-old John Hough arrived at Westport, Missouri, intent on becoming an Indian trader. A local hotel man directed him to the wagon train of Seth M. Hays, Council Grove trader, where Hough presented himself in his best clothes. "You can't drive oxen, can you?" Hays inquired. "I can drive mules," young Hough replied, "and anyone who can do that can drive anything."¹

Hough was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Christmas Day of 1833. He had first come west in 1849 with his father, Silas Hough, bound for the gold fields of California. Unfortunately, they arrived at St. Louis during the cholera epidemic and Silas later succumbed to the disease on the western plains. Their party of gold seekers then turned back and Hough returned to Philadelphia where his mother went into shock from the news of her husband's death. She died shortly thereafter.²

Hough then began learning the wholesale dry goods business under his uncles. But Hough had plans of his own, and when it came time for his vacation, he set out on a journey much longer than he had led his uncles to believe. As he wrote years later, "I had sniffed the air of the Rocky Mountains and plains, and when I again left my home I struck a bee line for Independence."³

Hough had only a dollar in his pocket when he approached Seth Hays for a job at Westport. Hays, admiring young Hough's wit, told him to see the wagonmaster for the job of ox driver. Despite Hough's neat appearance, the wagonmaster hired him. He was informed, however, that "those togs" he was wearing would stampee the cattle. Hough quickly exchanged his clothes for a "Hickory shirt, corduroy pants, together with a western hat" and the next morning set out with the train for the trading post at Council Grove.⁴ After arriving at Council Grove, Hays asked Hough to stay at the post. He offered him \$75.00 per month and board, and



John S. Hough (1833-1919). This image was made in Denver in 1875 after Hough had been elected to the Colorado Constitutional Convention. (Courtesy of the Colorado Historical Society.)

\$100 a month once he learned the language well enough to trade with the Indians. "To the price he offered," Hough wrote, "I hardly gave a thought, as what I was after was a job as Indian trader."⁵

Council Grove was probably Hough's home off and on until 1855. Included in the 1855 list of voters from the 5th District of Kansas was a "Jonathan S. Huff." S. M. Hays was also listed in the 5th District.⁶ Sometime that year, though, Hough left Council Grove for Westport, where he engaged in merchandising.⁷ This was an eventful move, as Hough married Miss Mary A. Prowers of that city before the year was out.⁸

The 1860 Missouri census lists a 26-year-old John S. Hough and 21-year-old Mary A. Hough with two children, Susan and Ida [Oda] M. John's occupation was "Clerk of Court" and he had a personal estate of \$1000.⁹ According to one biography, he was clerk of the court of common pleas in Kansas City for four years.¹⁰

When the Civil War broke out, Hough sided with the Union and soon took over the duties of chief clerk at the Fort Leavenworth Arsenal.¹¹ In 1862 the Governor of Missouri ordered the entire militia of the state to be organized into companies, regiments, and brigades, and Hough was brought into active service. As a member of Company "E," 77th Regiment Enrolled Missouri Militia, Hough was elected a 2nd Lieutenant by

his comrades.¹² It is not known, however, whether or not he saw any action.

After the war, Hough took up the dry goods business at Council Grove, his old home.¹³ Two years later, in 1867, he purchased a stock of goods in Leavenworth City and transported the goods and his family over the Santa Fe Trail to Colorado Territory.¹⁴ Hough's brother-in-law, John Wesley Prowers, had bought some land along the Purgatoire River from Thomas Boggs and both the Hough and Prowers families settled there at what was appropriately called Boggsville. There Hough opened his store in partnership with Prowers.¹⁵

Early in 1868, Kit Carson and his family moved to Boggsville and lived in the same house as the Houghs. As Kit's health was very poor, he spent a lot of time at Hough's trading post. Hough wrote years later that it was "a sort of reunion of old time Indian Traders as we had Col. [William] Bent with us a great deal."¹⁶ It was probably during this period that Carson gave Hough one of his Indian-style leather coats, which Hough treasured for the rest of his life.¹⁷

In 1869 Hough moved his family to Trinidad "because there was a prospect of a school being started there that would teach in English."¹⁸ Trinidad was also a good place to start a mercantile firm. Situated on the Santa Fe Trail at the gateway to Raton Pass, Trinidad had a promising future as the commercial center for the region. Hough opened a store on Main Street under the name of Prowers & Hough.¹⁹

The November 3, 1870, issue of *The Trinidad Enterprise*, carried a large Prowers & Hough advertisement in which they stated that they "Are now receiving and offering to the trade of Southern Colorado the Largest and best selected Stock of Dry Goods, Groceries, Tobaccos, and Liquors [sic], In COLORADO TERRITORY." Other merchants who advertised in the same issue were H. Biernbaum & Co., M. Wise, W. R. Fisher, and Thatcher Bros. & Co.²⁰

Sometime in 1870 Hough started construction of a large two-story adobe house for his family.²¹ Unlike many of the crude buildings in town, it was "a fine residence for them days."²² It was built in the Greek Revival style with an elaborate front porch and a widow's walk on the roof. Uncle

Dick Wootton admired it so much that he built himself a house just like it near his toll gate at Raton Pass.²³

Hough and Prowers were also dealing in cattle at this time, and Hough's brother, Silas, was bringing herds up from Texas. In the spring of 1871, a herd belonging to Silas and John was moved from New Mexico to Timpas Station, where Hough put up a small stock of goods.²⁴

Despite Hough's apparent financial success in Trinidad,²⁵ he sold his house to the Baca family in 1873 and left for another booming town on the Arkansas.²⁶ West Las Animas had just sprung up around the new Kansas Pacific railhead, a few miles west of the confluence of the Purgatoire and Arkansas rivers. The firm of Prowers & Hough established themselves there as forwarding and commission merchants. One of the clerks, P. G. Scott, wrote that "we received the goods from the railroad, paid the freight, hired teams, mostly ox teams, and shipped the goods in that way to their destination."²⁷

Hough was involved in other ventures as well. He was a member of the firm of Prowers, Goodnight & Co., "the heaviest shippers of beef to New York and Chicago," and in 1875 he helped organize the Bent County Bank. Early the next year Hough was in Denver as a Bent County representative to the Colorado Constitutional Convention.²⁸ But 1876 saw Hough on the move once again. The railroad had extended its line farther west to La Junta and Hough's forwarding operation was no longer lucrative. He sold out his interests to Prowers and took a stock of goods to the mining town of Lake City in the San Juan Mountains.²⁹

Hough's new business must have prospered for he soon became interested in several silver mines in the area, including the Palmetto, the Frank Hough (named for his son), and the F. X. Aubrey. He also financed the construction of several buildings in Lake City, one of which was the First National Bank. In 1880 Hough entered the political arena as the Democratic candidate for Governor of Colorado, but he lost to Fred W. Pitkin.³⁰

Because of financial troubles and the death of his brother-in-law, John Prowers, Hough returned to Las Animas in 1885. He was one of the executors of the

Prowers estate and the guardian of three of Prowers's children. Hough remained in Bent County for 10 years, managing the estate affairs and serving as clerk of the district court.³¹

In 1896 Hough returned to Lake City and became interested in mining and business once more. He also held several political positions, including postmaster and country treasurer. At the time of his death, November 28, 1919, he held the office of county judge of Hinsdale County.³² He had come a long way from a boy ox driver.

John S. Hough, one of the forgotten merchants of the Santa Fe Trail, was one of many who helped take Colorado from a territory to a state, from a region of trails to railroads. His optimism for his own and Colorado's future can still be seen in the impressive lines of the adobe house he built in Trinidad in 1870. Now called the Baca house for Felipe Baca, Hough's former residence stands as a reminder of the entrepreneurs who made the Santa Fe Trail important and at the same time contributed to its end.

NOTES

1. John S. Hough, "Early Western Experiences," *The Colorado Magazine*, XVII (May 1940), 103.
2. *Ibid.*, 102-103.
3. *Ibid.*
4. *Ibid.*, 103-105.
5. *Ibid.*, 106. Hough does not mention Seth Hays or Council Grove by name in his reminiscence. He simply writes of the "old trader" and the "trading post." An 1876 biography of Hough and one of his obituaries states that in the early 1850s Hough was in the employ of Albert Gallatin Boone of Westport. Seth Hays was employed by Boone as an Indian trader at Council Grove. If Hough was working for Hays, he would technically be working for Boone as well. Also, Hough quotes the wagon-master as saying that the trading post was 150 miles from Westport, which is approximately where Council Grove was on the Santa Fe Trail. Further in the reminiscences, Hough stated that the "trading post" was "a short distance from . . . a Methodist Mission for boys, which generally had about fifty pupils." That was the Kaw Mission, erected at Council Grove, 1850-1851. An undated newspaper article by Hough concerning a Civil War company of Kaw Indians further confirmed his presence at Council Grove: "I had been a trader among them [the Kaws] some years before." Although it is possible that the "old trader" Hough approached for a job was Boone, it is more likely that it was Hays, especially since the trader traveled with the wagon train to the trading post and remained there. For a biography of Hays, see Katie Davis's article in the Nov. 1987 *Wagon Tracks*. The early Hough biography mentioned appeared in the Feb. 14, 1876, supplement of the *Denver Tribune*. The Hough obituary was from a typescript of clippings found in the scrapbook of Mrs. Frank B. Hough, Frank B. Hough Collection, #322, Colorado Historical Society. The newspaper article by Hough, entitled "Not Strict Army Regulations," was in the John S. Hough Collection, #323, CHS.
6. W. Heiss, ed., *The Census of the Territory of Kansas, February, 1855* (Knightstown, Indiana: Eastern Indiana Publishing Co.). Sometime in the period of the 1850s Hough claimed to have worked for William Bent at Bent's Fort. No date could be verified. See "Jim Bridger," unpublished manuscript, Hough Coll., #323, CHS.
7. *Portrait and Biographical Record of the State*



John S. Hough in his later years at his home in Lake City, wearing the buckskin coat given him by Kit Carson in 1868. This coat is now on display in the Colorado History Museum in Denver. (Courtesy of the Colorado Historical Society.)

- of *Colorado* (Chicago: Chapman Pub. Co., 1899), 1365.
8. "Death of Mrs. Mary A. Hough," undated clipping, Hough Coll., #323, CHS.
9. Eighth Census (1860), Jackson County, Missouri, p. 50.
10. *Denver Tribune*, supplement, Feb. 14, 1876.
11. John S. Hough, "Mistakes in the Army," unpublished manuscript, Hough Coll., #323, CHS.
12. Certificate from Adjutant-General's Office, Missouri, Nov. 7, 1904, Hough Coll., #323, CHS.
13. *Denver Tribune*, Feb. 14, 1876; *Portrait and Biographical Record*, 1365; and Hough obituary, Frank B. Hough Coll., #322, CHS.
14. John S. Hough, "A Trip," unpublished manuscript, Hough Coll., #323, CHS.
15. *Ibid.*; incomplete manuscripts and "Judge John Hough, Pioneer, Dies At Home in Lake City," undated clipping, Hough Coll., #323, CHS; *Portrait and Biographical Record*, 1365; and C. W. Hurd, *Boggsville* (Las Animas, CO: The Boggsville Committee, 1957), 7, 11. The store was located in the Prowers building, which is still standing.
16. John S. Hough, incomplete manuscripts, Hough Coll., #323, CHS; and Albert W. Thompson, "The Death and Last Will of Kit Carson," *The Colorado Magazine*, V (Oct. 1928), 183-184.
17. Hurd, *Boggsville*, 11. This coat is now on display in the Colorado History Museum in Denver.
18. John S. Hough, unpublished manuscript, Hough Coll., #323, CHS.
19. *Denver Tribune*, Feb. 14, 1876; *Portrait and Biographical Record*, 1365; and Morris Taylor, *Trinidad, Colorado Territory* (Trinidad: Trinidad State Junior College, 1966), 100. Hough was also in partnership with a William D. Wheeler under the name of Hough & Wheeler. The nature of their business was not found. See

- Prowers Account Book, John W. Prowers Coll., #507, CHS; and Quit Claim Deed of William L. Burns, Las Animas County Deed Record, I, 195.
20. *The Trinidad Enterprise*, Nov. 3, 1870.
 21. Declaration of Claim of John S. Hough, Las Animas County Deed Record, II, 348-349; Quit Claim Deed of Fredrick Lujan, III, 122-123.
 22. John S. Hough, unpublished manuscript, Hough Coll., #323, CHS.
 23. Ibid. 24. P. G. Scott, "Pioneer Experiences in Southern Colorado," *The Colorado Magazine*, IX (Jan. 1932), 23-24.
 25. In the 1870 census Hough had a personal estate worth \$11,000 and real estate valued at \$3,000. Ninth Census (1870), Las Animas County, Colorado Territory, 443.
 26. Quit Claim Deed of John S. Hough, Las Animas County Deed Record, IV, 481-482.
 27. Scott, "Pioneer Experiences in Southern Colorado," 25; and *History of the Arkansas Valley, Colorado* (Chicago: O. L. Baskin & Co., 1881), 846.
 28. *Denver Tribune*, Feb. 14, 1876; and Scott, "Pioneer Experiences in Southern Colorado," 25.
 29. Mary Prowers Hudnall, "Early History of Bent County," *The Colorado Magazine*, XXII (Nov. 1945), 246; and *Portrait and Biographical Record*, 1365-1366.
 30. Ibid.
 31. Ibid., 1366; Hough obituaries, Frank Hough Coll., #322, CHS; and court petition, March 28, 1885, John S. Hough Coll., #323, CHS.
 32. *Portrait and Biographical Record*, 1366; and "Judge John Hough, Pioneer, Dies At Home in Lake City," undated clipping, Hough Coll., #323, CHS.

COUNCIL TROVE —DOCUMENTS—

A. G. BOONE LETTER FROM PEACOCK'S RANCH, JUNE 1860

Mark Gardner found this letter from A. G. Boone to "Friend Mac," written from Peacock's Ranch, Walnut Creek (east of present Great Bend, KS), June 28, 1860, printed in *The Westport Border Star*, July 14, 1860.

Here we are — 15 days out — almost without an effort; found the road good beyond all expectation; was treated with marked kindness by every person on the road. Water was rather scarce for drinking and wells low, yet our little party was amply furnished and our water tanks filled from all the wells and springs. If the Northern route surpass this, then I say go it who want, but this is good enough for me, and this far I never have seen better. The whole face of the prairie has been covered with buffalo for the last two days. Our friend Geo. Peacock, the present occupant of this post, is the prince of good fellows — has everything a traveler wants, from an ear of corn to the greatest luxury. His store, as well as that of Hays & Co., of Council Grove, and M. Conn's, are equal to any in Westport, and the kindness shown us by all those gentlemen and the many good things presented us, will not soon be forgotten, and is sufficient [sic] recommendation, if nothing else, to insure travelers to come this route.

Our stock, down to chickens, all look as well, and better even than when we left.

I met the Kaws on the Buffalo hunt at Owl Creek, where Jarvis [Cha-

ves] was killed by the whites, and they supplied us liberally with buffalo meat. I am told that here we have near us, on our right and left, U.S. troops in one or two miles of us, but have not seen one. The road is clear of hostile Indians.

I am sorry to inform you that Col. St. Vrain had his mules stolen at Last [Lost?] Spring, before he overtook us, and was compelled to buy others after considerable delay. Our party now consists of Bud Evans, Charley Legget and Mr. Stewart, of Kansas City, P. H. Smith and son, Tarlton Crutchfield, Mr. Stone, Mr. Carson, Mr. Dibble, (a clever Alabama gentleman,) myself, wife, daughter, and two servants. We do not travel on Sunday, and were so kindly entertained here by our friend Mr. Peacock, who has been feasting us all day on good things, that we concluded to lay over awhile, and our party is now fishing and shooting buffalo. I write this for the benefit of my family and friends, who have anxiety about our welfare.

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TRAIL ROBBERY, 1864

Robert White contributed this story from the *Santa Fe Gazette*, June 11, 1864.

The train of Don Antonio Manuel Otero which was going to the States was robbed some three weeks ago near the Raton Mountains by a party which professed to be Texans. All the animals and money (a large amount) was carried off and the men in charge of the train paroled.

The story of the robbers being Texans is discredited. They are supposed to be men who knew the value of the train and who put on the guise of Texans to escape detection and punishment.

Gen'l Carleton has taken all the steps within his power to have the guilty parties arrested, and if they have made their way in the direction of Texas there is scarcely a possibility of their being able to escape.

This is the first robbery of the kind that has ever been committed on the road between New Mexico and the States.

HELP WANTED

Members of the National Park Service planning team will soon be in the field searching for Trail routes and sites and preparing maps of the historic road. Greg Franzwa, Bonita Oliva, and I will accompany the team, assisting in whatever ways we can and gathering information. Franzwa is gathering material for several books on the Trail and will print the maps. We need help from informed people all along the route who can

show us to Trail sites and ruts, find markers and recommend places to be marked, direct us to historic maps and aerial photographs showing the routes, introduce us to landowners on whose property evidence exists, and help in any way to assure a thorough and accurate investigation.

We know many reliable informants, but there are many more we don't know and need their help. Since some knowledgeable people may not be members of SFTA, will those who are please spread the word to them?

If you have useful information or know of someone who does, please contact me as soon as possible (by March 1 if you can). A postcard with your name and phone number will be sufficient, but feel free to state what you can do to help. We will attempt to contact you when we know our schedule for your area. If you call, please leave information on our answering machine if no one is home. Thanks.

Leo E. Oliva
RR 1, Box 31
Woodston, KS 67675
(913) 994-6253

NEW SFTA MEMBERS

This list includes new memberships received since the last issue up to February 1, when total memberships stood at 569; those received after this printing will appear in the next issue. If there is an error in this information, please send corrections to the editor. We are receiving more corrections since the membership roster went out. If you know of people who may be interested in the Association and are not on this list, please urge them to join. We thank you for your support.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Bent's Old Fort Historical Association, 35110 Hwy 194 E, La Junta, CO 81050
Coronado-Quivira Museum, 105 West Lyon, Lyons, KS 67554
Heritage Tours, P. O. Box 1, Woodston, KS 67675
No Man's Land Historical Museum/-Society, P. O. Box 278, Goodwell, OK 73939
Topeka Convention & Visitor's Bureau, 3 Townsite Plaza, 120 East 6th, Topeka, KS 66603

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

Lainie G. Armer, #3 El Llano Rd., Espanola, NM 87532
M/M William Glasgow Bowling, 7408 Washington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63130

Sandra Carlyle & Gigi Clark Good, Rt. 2, Box 126, Wheatley, AR 72392
 Tom Cosgrove, Rt. 2, Box 37, Council Grove, KS 66846
 Bob & Louise Dawson, HCR 1, Box 19, Kenton, OK 73946
 Vernon & Becky Hopson, Box 367, Goodwell, OK 73939
 Frances & David Hutchison, West Star Route, Box 35, Boise City, OK 73933
 Glen & Ruth Maples, 5211 Mountain Dr., Amarillo, TX 79108
 M/M L. L. Morgan, 513 S. Van Bur-en, Hugoton, KS 67951
 Thomas Lee & Donna Calvert Otto, Rt. 1, Box 86B, Claude, TX 79019
 Hall & Cynthia Phillips, General Delivery, Fort Garland, CO 81133
 Jim & Nancy Rizzuto, P. O. Box 215, La Junta, CO 81050
 M/M John Teeple, 9539 Perry Lane, Overland Park, KS 66212
 Marigail & Bob Thomas, RR 1, Hugoton, KS 67951
 Barbara & Thomas G. G. Williams, Jr., 4605 Oregon Tr., Amarillo, TX 79109

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Nick Ard, 717 Atherton, Maize, KS 67101
 Mary M. Artz, 10 S. Belfry, Council Grove, KS 66846
 Richard G. Badders, P. O. Box 103, Omaha, NE 68101-0103
 Robert Lee Beardsley, 830 Ratone, Manhattan, KS 66502
 Mrs. Charles A. Bell, 548 E. Eastwood, Marshall, MO 65340
 Diane N. Broome, Rt. 9, Box 72B, Santa Fe, NM 87505
 Bud Clingan, Rt. 2, Box 65, Parsons, KS 67357
 Leigh Conrad, 1406 East Monte Vista, Phoenix, AZ 85006
 William P. Corbett, P. O. Box 185, Tonkawa, OK 74653
 Dorothy Craft, 822 Colony Ave., Kinsley, KS 67547
 Chris Day, P. O. Box 118, Wamego, KS 66547
 William De Buys, 1511 Don Gaspar, Santa Fe, NM 87501
 John B. Draper, 2327 Calle Halcon, Santa Fe, NM 87505
 Gladys Ellis, Box U, Elkhart, KS 67950
 Lee Ellis, 3500 St. Andrews Dr., SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124
 Evelyn Heintz Emberton, P. O. Box 160, Elkhart, KS 67950
 Loyd Fansher, P. O. Box 124, Keyes, OK 73947
 Charlotte Fitzner, P. O. Box 46, Cimarron, NM 87114
 Betty Lou Glover, 7602 North Hills Place, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109
 David W. & Mary Ann Godfrey, 2228 S. Spring, Springfield, IL 62704
 Carol Good, 714 S. Grand, Lyons, KS 67554
 Toby & Daryl Hale, 210 N. Pershing, Liberal, KS 67901
 Tom Halpin, 132 Country Club Gardens, Santa Fe, NM 87501
 Eugene Harke, Rt. 1, Box 21A, Tyrone, OK 73951
 Margaret L. Haucke, 123 No. Bel-

fry, Council Grove, KS 66846
 Greg L. Heckel, RR 2, Box 7, Ulysses, KS 67880
 Marcella Heit, 424 E. 7th, Kinsley, KS 67547
 Jack T. Hughes, 1903 3rd Ave., Canyon, TX 79015
 Reba Jones, 2319 Judy, Amarillo, TX 79106
 William R. Lewis, Jr., 2305 Regis Court, Norman, OK 73071
 Ida MacGovern, 122 Cedar St., Santa Fe, NM 87501
 Ross Marshall, 6624 Craig, Merriam, KS 66202
 John W. Martin, 618 No. Main, Lindsborg, KS 67456
 Dr. Joe L. Mauderly, 4517 Banff, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111
 Denny McFarland, P. O. Box 5543, Abilene, TX 79608
 Mary O. McKee, 4056 Hwy 550, Aztec, NM 87410
 Gordon Shaw Novak, 2010 NW 1st, Amarillo, TX 79106
 Inez Olson, 15 17th Crestview, Hutchinson, KS 67502
 Alta B. Page, 5624 Amigo Way, Albuquerque, NM 87111
 Reed A. Peters, 1201 Prairie Heights # 3, Larned, KS 67550
 Joseph H. Powell, 3809 W. Lawn, Amarillo, TX 79102
 Ernest C. Rebuck, Ground Water Section, EID, P. O. Box 968, Santa Fe, NM 87505
 John Kenyon Riddle, 608 Ocean Dune Circle, Jupiter, FL 33477
 Rolla Shaller, 702 Foster Lane, Canyon, TX 79015
 Len Slesick, 3500 Lamar, Amarillo, TX 79109
 Ellen W. Steele, 354 So. Vaughn Way, Aurora, CO 80012
 Letta Wofford, Rt. 6, Box 134, Santa Fe, NM 87501
 Dave Voelkerding, #93 Duden Hills Road, Marthasville, MO 63357

TRAIL CALENDAR

Everyone is invited to send notices for this section; provide location, date(s), time(s) and activity. Remember this is a quarterly. The next issue should appear in May, so send information for June and later to arrive before May 1. Thank you.

February 15, 1988: Dr. David Sandoval will speak on "Mexican Merchants on the Santa Fe Trail" at the meeting of "La Gente de la Frontera" (People of the Frontier), Otero Junior College, La Junta, CO, 7:00 p.m. Contact Alexandra A. Aldred, (303) 384-2596.

April 30-May 1, 1988: Santa Fe Trail Tour from Council Grove to Stone Corral. Contact Elaine Simmons, Barton County Community College, Great Bend, KS 67530.

May 19-22, 1988: Southwestern Rendezvous, NRA Whittington Center, Raton, NM. Contact J. R. Parham, Rt. 1, Box 284, Burleson, TX 76028.

May 28, 1988: Dedication of reconstructed blockhouse, Fort Larned NHS, RR 3, Larned, KS 67550.

June 2, 1988: The SFTA governing board of officers and directors meeting at the Santa Fe Trail Center, RR 3, Larned, KS 67550.

June 2-4, 1988: Rendezvous 1988, Santa Fe Trail Center, RR 3, Larned, KS 67550.

June 4, 1988: Rice County Trail Tour, conducted by Dr. George Stone. Contact Coronado-Quivira Museum, 105 West Lyon, Lyons, KS 67554 (316) 257-3941.

June 4-5, 1988: Santa Fe Trail Daze, Boise City, OK.

June 5, 1988: Dedication Day, free admission to galleries and special programs, Santa Fe Trail Center, RR 3, Larned, KS 67550.

June 8-12, 1988: NRA Santa Fe Trail Rendezvous, NRA Whittington Center, Raton, NM. Contact Larry Osborne, 740 No. First, Raton, NM 87740 (505) 455-3159.

June 11, 1988: Rice County Trail Tour, conducted by Dr. George Stone. Contact Coronado-Quivira Museum, 105 West Lyon, Lyons, KS 67554 (316) 257-3941.

July 30-31, 1988: "Soldiering On the Santa Fe Trail," Fort Union National Monument, Watrous, NM 87753.

Aug. 5-14, 1988: Santa Fe Trail Tour from Fort Osage, MO, to Santa Fe, NM. Contact Leo E. Oliva, Heritage Tours, P. O. Box 1, Woodston, KS 67675.

Aug. 6-12, 1988: Kansas Santa Fe Trail Tour from Baldwin City to Cimarron. Contact Topeka Convention & Visitors Bureau, 3 Townsite Plaza, 120 E. 6th St., Topeka, KS 66603 (913) 234-2644.

Aug. 14-Sept 12, 1988: San Juan College, Farmington, NM, Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition—"The Santa Fe Trail: Photographs by Joan Myers."

Aug. 21, 1988: San Juan College, Farmington, NM, two slide shows by Homer Hastings—"Fort Union and the National Park System" and "Fort Union Sidelights."

Aug. 23, 1988: San Juan College, Farmington, NM, slide program by Joy Poole—"Cruzando Sobre el Paso de Raton."

Aug. 30, 1988: San Juan College, Farmington, NM, lecture by Dr. Marc Simmons.

Sept. 6, 1988: San Juan College, Farmington, NM, lecture by Joan Myers.

Sept. 11, 1988: San Juan College, Farmington, NM, dramatization by VanAnn Moore, portraying Susan Shelby Magoffin.

Sept. 28-Oct. 2, 1989: SFTA Symposium, Santa Fe, NM. <

LAST CHANCE STORE

The Last Chance Store offers Trail items for sale, and the profits help fund SFTA projects. Some of these items were available at the Hutchinson Symposium and still bear the name "Council" instead of "Association." Discounts for quantity orders are available on some items. All prices include tax and shipping charges. Prepayment is required on individual orders; institutions will be billed.

Books:

#B-1: Rittenhouse, *Trail of Commerce and Conquest*\$2.70

#B-2: Oliva & Oliva, *Santa Fe Trail Trivia*\$3.70

#B-3: Colorado Historical Society, *The Santa Fe Trail: New Perspectives*\$5.50

Printed T-Shirts\$10.00

#S-1: "The Santa Fe Trail Lives On!" available on gold shirt in adult sizes S, M, L, XL

#S-2: Map of the Santa Fe Trail available on tan shirt in youth sizes M & L, adult sizes S, M, L, XL

#C-1: Caps\$5.00
—gold with "Santa Fe Trail Lives On!", one size fits all

#C-2: Visors\$4.00
—gold and white with "Santa Fe Trail Lives On!", one size fits all

#A-1: Bumper stickers with "Santa Fe Trail Lives On!"\$1.25

Send orders to:

LAST CHANCE STORE
P. O. Box 1
Woodston, KS 67675

All matters relating to *Wagon Tracks* should be addressed to the editor:

Leo E. Oliva
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Woodston, KS 67675
(913) 994-6253

All inquiries regarding membership should be directed to the secretary-treasurer:

Ruth Olson
Santa Fe Trail Center
RR 3
Larned, KS 67550
(316) 285-2054

BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

Every member is to receive all issues of *WT* printed during the year of membership. If you have not received your issues, contact the editor. While they last, additional copies of back issues may be purchased for \$1.00 per copy postpaid.

FROM THE EDITOR

The ground swell for local and regional chapters within the SFTA is an encouraging sign, indicative of widespread interest in the Trail and a desire to cooperate with others to accomplish particular tasks. A similar form of federalism has worked well for other organizations. It is important, however, that regional exclusiveness be avoided, for that defeats the goals of the SFTA. So long as we all work together for the good of the Trail and avoid state and sectional jealousies, chapters can strengthen the umbrella institution and facilitate its purposes.

It may take a little time to formu-

late the machinery for incorporating chapters into the SFTA bylaws. It appears this will be done as quickly as legally possible. Meanwhile, those interested in forming chapters should proceed while the interest is intense, realizing that official recognition may not be immediate. Such recognition should not prevent any potential chapter from getting on with the purposes that brings its members together. I look forward to adding a section of chapter news.

Bonita and I hope to see many of you when we are out on the Trail this spring. If not then, perhaps at the Rendezvous at Larned in June.

Happy trails!

—Leo E. Oliva

SANTA FE TRAIL TOUR

August 5-14, 1988

There is still some room on the guided tour of the Trail from Fort Osage to Santa Fe, following the Cimarron Route and returning via the Mountain Route. Co-sponsors include the SFTA, Kansas State Historical Society, Santa Fe Trail Center, and Kansas Heritage Center. Price is \$475 for the nine-day trip. Children accompanying two adults may go for \$295. College credit, 1-3 hours undergraduate or graduate, is available through Fort Hays State University. The course is taught by and the tour is escorted by Leo E. Oliva. For further information, contact:

HERITAGE TOURS

P. O. Box 1
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