

THE COCHISE COUNTY HISTORICAL JOURNAL

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SKELETON CANYON

THE COCHISE COUNTY Historical Journal

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the Past
for
The Future**

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COVER PHOTO

Geronimo Monument on U.S.
Highway 80.

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President's Letter

Dear Readers,

After a long, hot, dry summer we are ready for autumn and trust that you are, too.

It has been a productive summer for the Cochise County Historical Society Directors. We have had a lot of e-mails and "snail" mail and lots of orders for our publications, which were listed in the Spring/Summer 2002 issue of the Journal.

We had to change the date of our Annual Meeting because the first Sunday in December was still part of the Thanksgiving weekend. The best available date was November 17, 2002. It will be held at the Douglas Golf and Social Club again. We will be sure to send all members a newsletter with the final details regarding the program, meal choices and prices. We hope this earlier date will not inconvenience any of you. Be sure to mark your calendar now so you won't forget. Hope to see you there.

Your President,

Bill Hudspeth

Editorial Letter

Dear Reader,

Each issue of the Journal is a journey in itself as we explore new ground and continue to find new material we haven't used before. This issue is no exception.

As we looked for new possibilities, Mary Magoffin unearthed an old letter received from Sunny Wratten about "My overnight trip to Skeleton Canyon." She was intrigued to find out more about Skeleton Canyon and discovered that Cochise County Historical Society had never done an article about this site. The pursuit was on as Mary made many contacts and did considerable research on the area. You will read about Sunny's father-in-law, George Medhurst Wratten, who was an interpreter for the Indians, excerpts from Irvin Bond's book, *Cochise County, Arizona, Past & Present*, Ross Sloan, the Toney and Eaton families, and Ben and Florence Snure to name a few.

We are continuing, in this issue, to bring you more articles about the museums in Cochise County. Each one of these is a "find" in itself, and we invite you to visit them to see for yourself.

Paul Huber and Roy Manley were chosen as our Guardians of History. We think you will agree with our selections. Both have contributed much to the preservation of the Douglas History and are still very involved in this area.

Mary Burnett-Graham gives us a bird's eye view of *Gun Notches*. This is an exciting book about Thomas Rynning's adventures, the Skeleton Canyon area, General Crook and Geronimo's surrender. It is a book you will want to add to your reading list.

It has been a challenge to put together this issue without the expert editorial help from the past. Our proofreaders have done a very good job but I'm sure some of those notorious little "typos" have managed to find their way into the finished product.

We are always searching for new, unexplored areas and as they say, "everyone has a story to tell," so we invite you to submit your manuscript or story. Search out those family members who have something they would like to share. You might be surprised at what you will find, then send it to us along with some pictures to include in an upcoming issue.

Norma Lavanchy
For the Editorial Committee



Looking into Skeleton Canyon

Skeleton Canyon

by Mary Magoffin

While reviewing past records of the Cochise County Historical Society, the Editorial Committee found this letter from Sunny Wratten which was sent to CCHS in 1992. Upon reading it, we realized that all through the years of publishing local history in our quarterlies and journals, we had never 'explored' Skeleton Canyon.

The following was taken from a letter written to a Mr. Skinner, which tells about her experiences while spending the night in Skeleton Canyon some ten years before, in October, 1982.

Here is the letter, which we present for your enjoyment.

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My Overnight Trip to Skeleton Canyon

By Sunny Wratten

"The round trip to the Canyon from El Paso is 490 miles. My youngest daughter Margaret and I left El Paso about noon on October 5th. She had flown in from Calgary, Canada, where she lives, the day before.

We took our time (not over 55 miles per hr) stopping anywhere there was anything of interest. We stopped at "Steins" (an old ghost town), and spent an hour or so talking with the young man who is living there and trying to make it a sort of tourist haven. It is right on I-10 going west to Tucson, etc. His name is Warren Garrison. Mailing address: Box 475, Lordsburg, NM 88045. He is in his early 30's and very interested in the local history of not only the Butterfield Trail (Steins was a stop on the old trail), but also the Indian History. Naturally I told him about my husband's father and his part in the Geronimo campaign. He was very interested and appreciative. He is doing a good job of re-building (by himself) the old buildings. Even down to making each adobe brick him self! It is surprising how much in the way of relics he has dug up from the old S.P. quarry and the dumps! He has also gathered interesting information about the old place from ranchers and old folks around the area. You might find it interesting to write to him. If you do, be sure to let him know that I wrote you about him!

After our visit with him, Margy and I drove back the two miles to Road Forks and took off South toward Douglas, Ariz. The road is a two-lane blacktop and the scenery is beautiful. I don't think we passed more than two cars the whole trip so we had ample time to stop along the road and poke around.

The road, as I said, is paved and good but we turned off at Apache (a few empty houses, and a farm school). From Apache we turned southeast on an unimproved dirt road. It got worse and worse as we crossed a low-lying plain. There were 8 miles of this road, which got worse each mile we drove! We finally ended up in a rancher's front yard. He was herding horses in a corral next

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to his house and I asked directions to the canyon as we had lost any signs showing the way. His ranch is located alongside a wide rocky arroyo and he opened a wire gate and pointed out the trail on the other side of the arroyo. I asked him if it was okay to camp in the canyon and all he would say was; "You might should camp here in my yard for the night. There isn't any water up there and you would be safer here with my dogs around."

I thanked him and told him we had brought plenty of water and would go on. He wished us luck and I could see him shaking his head in the rear-view mirror as he closed the gate behind us.

We slowly picked our way around the boulders in the arroyo and then up the side of the arroyo on a narrow trail. It was already twilight and as we started up the canyon the darkness closed in quickly. I could hardly see the trail in the semi-darkness. It was very narrow, terribly rocky and overgrown with tall grass. About a mile up the trail we came to another wire gate and a notice stating the entrance to Skeleton Canyon. We had a heck of a time getting that gate open but we finally made it and drove in, locking the gate behind us.

We slowly picked our way along the trail, which was hardly visible by this time. In fact we drove so slow that it didn't even register on the speedometer! After a bit we came to a deep, wide boulder strewn arroyo and I knew that was as far as I could go with the car. I turned the car around in a small clearing, headed back the way we had come. Just in case I would need to get to higher ground should it start to rain heavily! For out here, when it rains, dry arroyos flood quickly!

The canyon was already a surprise since I had expected it to be fairly bare with perhaps only cactus and greasewood bushes. Not so! There was tall buffalo grass, tall trees and thick stands of sunflowers!

My daughter is very good at camping so while she went about putting up our two-man hunters tent; I found some large flat rocks and set up our camp stove and started dinner. I fixed hot coffee and soup. We didn't build a fire as I use Sterno to cook with. It is much safer than a wood fire. We had a small oil lantern and a

battery lamp. By this time it was pitch-black and no moon!

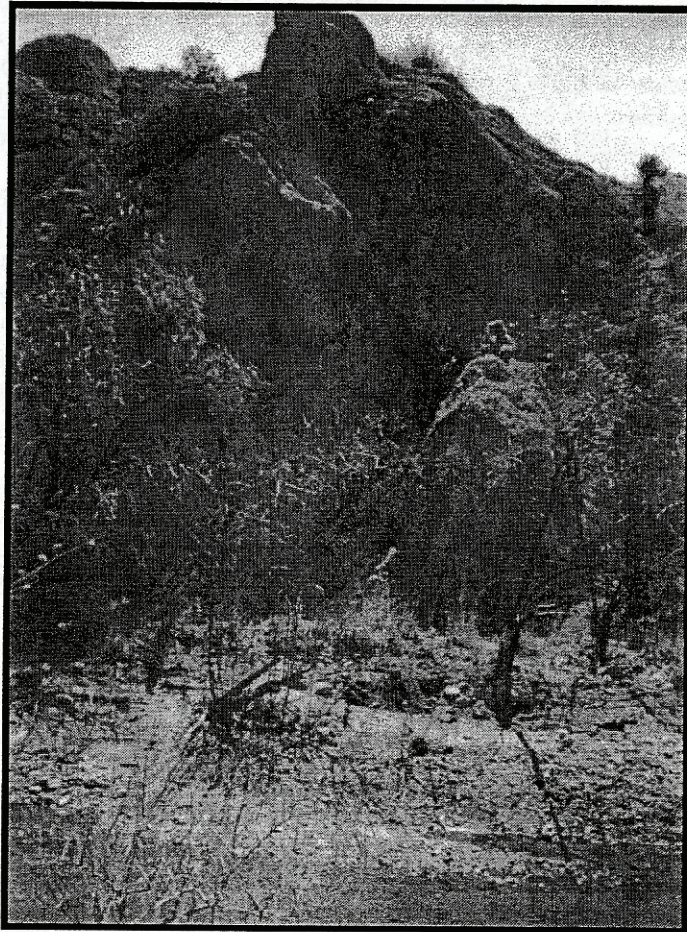
We could hear a hound dog baying in the distance and cat growls close by just outside our small-lighted area! Other than that there were only cricket and wild animal sounds. Nothing else. There was no wind and there was no moon! After dinner we cleaned and put everything back in the car. We could still hear cat growls very close so we decided to pull the tent and sleep in the car with the windows closed except for a slit at the top!

We unzipped our sleeping bags into blankets and put the seats into a laid-back position and talked for a while. Margy turned toward her window and I toward mine thinking we could now go to sleep. No way! Suddenly on my side of the canyon wall and within just a few feet of the car there appeared five small, bright lights; very much like the lights from a penlight flash light. But they didn't move nor glow. They stayed in the same position. They would stay on for a few minutes and then go out and then come back on a few moments later. This went on all night, and never did they move! We figured they were about 100 or so feet from us and slightly up the side of the canyon.

We stayed awake I guess you know. After a while we noticed a campfire up on the mesa above us and about a mile towards the South. It burned all night long and never burned down, as campfires are prone to do. That was something else that we couldn't understand. And there were no "people" noises either. Nor could we see any shadows of people around the fire. About midnight all noises stopped with not even a cricket's song.

At 1 A.M. the moon (full) suddenly popped up over the canyon crest like a yo-yo on a string. It gave a ghostly glow over our car and the open spaces between the trees. In those open spaces it was nearly as bright as day! A huge owl swooped past the car from one tree to another and then a jackrabbit pranced by, stopping exactly where we put our tent earlier. Note- the jackrabbits we saw while there, and we saw plenty of them, were the biggest I have ever seen! They reminded me of the pictures on postcards of jackrabbits with saddles on. They really were that huge! Cross my heart and hope to die!

Daylight finally came about 6:30 A.M. and I crawled out of the car and started breakfast. Steaming hot coffee and chili. The morning was briskly cool and now a light breeze had started up so we were both wearing our windbreakers!



Devil's Kitchen

First, after breakfast, we checked the tall oak tree where we had seen the owl land the night before. It was still there, a large Horned Owl, perched on a limb about thirty feet off the ground. It blinked at us and hooted a time or two and stayed perched there, not the least bit afraid of us.

Then we decided to try and investigate the campfire and the lights we had seen all night. To our surprise there was no trace of a campfire either old or new. Likewise there was no trace of anything that could have caused the lights. No foot prints, no tire tracks, no nothing! Both of us had had the same feeling all night long, as if we had been transported from the present into the twilight zone. It gave us goose bumps on our scalps. It wasn't fear either. It was ghostly. I've never had a feeling like that before and Margaret said the same thing. We both know the feeling of fear but this was entirely different. It was weird!

We took off up the trail, after locking our car, on foot. About 100 ft. ahead of us we came to a plaque that stated that this was the exact spot where Geronimo and his band had agreed to go back with General Miles and my husband's father. But of course George Medhurst Wratten was not mentioned.

We hiked on up through the canyon for about five miles more; we passed what was called the Devils Kitchen, a basalt rock formation which is simply beautiful. This is where Curley Bill and his gang of outlaws robbed and murdered many Spanish wagon trains! Or so I've read somewhere.

All we saw on our hike were our own footprints and the fresh tracks of mountain lion, black bear, coyote, timber wolf, raccoon, possum, side-winder rattle snakes, deer, rabbits and other small animals and reptiles.

I had my .38 caliber pistol on my hip but even if we had seen a large wild animal, I would only have fired to scare it away. I don't believe in killing wild animals unless absolutely necessary for my own protection.

We had the feeling of being watched and followed as we hiked but never saw anything, even though we would turn around and check behind us. But as we returned, we realized we really had

been followed, or perhaps I should say “stalked.” There were large mountain lion tracks in our footprints. We had heard snarls but never saw anything!

The canyon was filled with many kinds of tall trees. Oak, Juniper, Spruce, Timber Pine, Fir, Bristle-cone Pine, Poison Ivy, Buckbush, Western Thimbleberries, Mountain Ash, Chokeberry, Alders, Quaking Aspen, Pinyon Pine, Narrowleaf Cottonwood, Sagebrush, Rabbit brush, Tesota, Mesquite, Desert Willow, Century plants, Ocotillo, Mormon tea, Yuccas, Prickly Pear Cactus, and other types of small cacti, and many kinds of wild flowers. I had my Western plant book along so I could look up each plant or tree! Everything was green and beautiful. No wonder Geronimo and his band chose this canyon! It had everything in it that they would need to survive.

We were nearly back to the car when Margaret almost stepped on a small Queen snake! It was eating ants right in the middle of the trail. It was quite pretty, black with yellow and red stripes running the length of it. We watched it a bit. It wasn't the least bit afraid of us and went right on eating its meal.

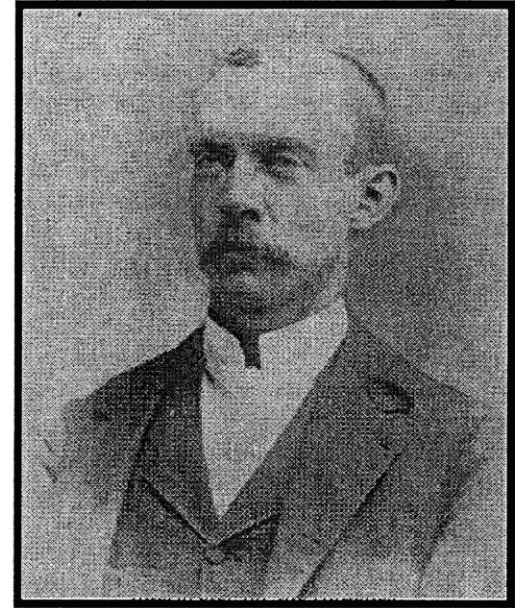
About 30 ft. from the snake, a large possum jumped out of the brush on Margaret's side of the trail. She screamed and nearly knocked me down and the possum took off on the opposite direction, as surprised as we were. After all, it was nearly noon and they are night animals. Then just a few feet from the car we came across a much larger Queen snake as it slithered across the trail.

I fixed us some lunch (burritos made of corn tortillas and rolled around hot refried beans and cheese), plus more steaming hot coffee. Then we packed up and started our slow bumpy way back to civilization.

We got back to El Paso about 9 P.M. that evening.”

“Sunny” Wratten

October 1982



George Medhurst Wratten

Sunny's Father-in-law

Sunny and Margaret wanted to visit Skeleton Canyon because this was where Geronimo and Naiche and their small band of outlaw Chiricahua Apaches surrendered to General Nelson Miles on September 4, 1886. This ended the Chiricahua Apache Campaign during which the Indians put up a valiant but futile struggle to hold their homeland. Terms of the surrender demanded that the Indians be exiled to Florida, where they were held as prisoners of war for 27 years.

Sunny's father-in-law, George Medhurst Wratten, was the Indian's Interpreter, and he spent the rest of his life, 26 years, helping them make the adjustment to white men's ways. He and Tom Jeffords were two “White Eyes” who understood and

empathized with the plight of the Chiricahua Apaches, and who, in turn were truly loved and respected by those Indians.

George Medhurst Wratten was born at Sonoma, California, on July 31, 1865, to English parents. The family moved to Florence, Arizona Territory, in 1879 for health reasons. The father, George Lemmon Wratten, a lawyer, found work at the San Carlos Indian Agency. Young George was accepted by the Apache youths, and learned to speak their language fluently, reputedly better than any other white man. In 1886 when Lt. Charles B. Gatewood needed an interpreter to go with him to try to contact Geronimo, he chose George Wratten. George was only 21 years of age, but he had worked as a scout for about five years, attaining the position "Chief of Scouts" when only 17 years old.

Immediately after the surrender Wratten was with the Indians at Bowie, and much to his surprise was permitted to entrain with them when they left. "Never," he said, "had this tribe needed a friend and an honest interpreter as they did at that trying time." He wouldn't desert them, and from that day forward he worked tirelessly on behalf of his Apache friends.

In a letter dated January 20, 1972, to Margaret Sparks, Research Librarian for the Arizona Historical Society, George's son, Albert, stated: "I believe my father has not been treated fairly by anyone in dealing with the so-called "Geronimo Campaign" nor in Apache history. I cannot see where any white man gave as much and has been so sadly neglected."

We must remember that at the time of Geronimo's surrender, all the Mexicans and most of the Anglos wanted nothing more than these Apaches' blood. George Wratten put his life on the line to help the Indians, so it's really not too surprising that he would be ignored by the people who were writing history.

For a comprehensive account of George Wratten's life, see "*The Apache Rock Crumbles, The Captivity of Geronimo's People*" by Woodward B. (Woody) Skinner, published 1987, Skinner Publications, Pensacola, Florida.

The Legend of Skeleton Canyon

In his book, "*Cochise County, Arizona, Past and Present*," local historian Irvin Bond gives us the legend of Skeleton Canyon:

"...we are standing on the same ground that Spanish adventurers journeyed (over) two or three hundred years ago. It was also a favorite route for outlaws going from ranches in New Mexico to such places as Galeyville and Tombstone. This route was used by smugglers coming through San Luis Pass in Sonora, Mexico, going to Tucson. (Ed. note, San Luis Pass is in New Mexico.) There was always a plentiful supply of water in the canyon. The Apache Indians kept many a traveler from ever completing his journey.

"To the east was the home of one of our early-day ranchers, Ross Sloan, who settled here in 1915. Now Florence and Ben Snure live there...

"Opening a gate to the right of the house one finds a strange and beautiful canyon. Most times there isn't a single living thing to enliven the solitude. At times the canyon is depressing in its association with the past. Highly favored by nature, Skeleton Canyon has been in the past a favorite place for bloody battles, surpassed only by Apache Pass. Nature never designed a more natural fortification. Thickets and brush afford a real hiding place for the enemy...

"...For many years the bones of cattle, horses and various other kinds of animals could be found scattered along the canyon floor. At one spot it was literally covered with human bones. Curley Bill and Old Man Clanton in August, 1881, way-laid a smuggler's train

from Mexico and killed 19 Mexicans, only a 16-year-old boy survived. He, with the help of several others, killed Old Man Clanton a few months later in Guadalupe Canyon. It is so easy to see the picture of how it all came about. Go to Devil's Kitchen and look to the north side of the narrow canyon. On a mesa, just above a lot of oak trees, is where they lay in ambush until they heard the jingle of a small bell coming down the canyon. As the mule train came below where the outlaws were stationed, they started firing rifles. When it was over, the dead bodies were left where they fell. The outlaws also killed several of the little mules. For many years afterwards, adobe (sic) dollars were found around the valley."

Mr. Bond goes on to tell about various treasures reputedly buried somewhere in the canyon. Treasure maps keep cropping up showing where to find "two sacks of gold and a pure gold life-size bust of Our Saviour and the Virgin Mary." Another map showed exactly where \$300,000 in gold, silver and diamonds was buried on the side of Davis Mountain.

Needless to say, through the years the Snures have seen many treasure hunters come and go. Here is an amusing story that was told to Irvin by Ben:

"One time he and his family had spent the day in Tucson on business. When they arrived back in Douglas, Florence and the boys stopped off to see a football game and Ben went on to check on things at the ranch. As Ben drove up the road, he could see several lights up in the canyon. He noticed that someone was camped just outside his front fence. Feeling that was a little too nerry, Ben picked up his six shooter and thought he would check them out. As he walked between two of his dog pens, he fell in a hole about six feet deep. He later said he never did receive such a shake. He climbed out and with face all bruised and skinned, dropped his

gun and went back in the house. He decided it best to clean up and go to bed. The next morning he retrieved his gun and advised the three people they could not camp so close to his house and would have to fill the hole. The visitors moved up the canyon and started blasting with dynamite. They said they were looking for a box of diamonds buried under an egg-shaped rock. This trio was around for about three weeks, and, as the ones before them, finally moved out, no doubt believing that hidden treasures were still somewhere in the long canyon."



Geronimo

Surrender Site of Geronimo

In a newspaper article from the Tombstone Epitaph, February 10, 1971, from Irvin Bond's collection, another local historian, Grace McCool, describes the spot where Geronimo surrendered to General Miles:

"Just before you reach the Snure house you can visit the exact spot where General Miles received the surrender of Geronimo. Skirt a corral on your right, go around a pond until you reach a pile of stones. A mesquite bush has grown up at the edge of this simple marker. It is located in a pretty little natural amphitheatre.

"Skeleton Canyon is in the Peloncillo Mountains. The road through it came from Chihuahua City by way of the old mission, Quiquirachi."

Angie Debo described the surrender in her book *"Geronimo, The Man, His Time, His Place"* on page 293:

"...It was now late in the afternoon of September 4 (1886). Miles made the ceremony impressive. As Geronimo told it in later years, 'We stood between his troopers and my warriors. We placed a large stone on the blanket before us. Our treaty was made by this stone, and it was to last till the stone should crumble to dust; so we made the treaty, and bound each other with an oath.' And he said, 'We raised our hands to heaven and...took an oath not to do any wrong to each other or to scheme against each other.' Lawson then built a monument on the spot—of rough stone ten feet across and six feet high. Some cowboys later tore it down and found only a bottle containing a sheet of paper with the names of the officers present. Even so, it lasted longer than the agreement did. But looking back nineteen years, Geronimo could truly say, 'I do not believe that I

have ever violated that treaty.' Few white men ever understood how seriously the Apaches took such pledges.

In a letter from Mrs. Ben (Florence) Snure dated July 24, 2002, she states:

"There are questions about the actual 'surrender' site of Geronimo. Irvin Bond and Ben took a picture (1886) of the surrender and went up in the canyon. They felt it was about where the Forest Service has put a sign. However, for years, I had heard it was up on a little rise above our big corral. There were rocks piled in a mesquite bush and an old hay rack beside it. In 1986 when (the centennial of) the surrender of the Chiricahua Apache band under Geronimo was observed, the Indians came in the evening and held the ceremony there at that site. They did not come in the morning when the Anglos were here, but by themselves in the evening. My son Rick's house overlooks the place and they saw them...This site is on private property."

Ross Sloan's son, Ralph, confirms that location. His dad had talked with many old-timers who all told him that the surrender site was where the rocks were. Ralph said that the rocks were originally in the form of a rough monument, until one day some treasure hunters decided that was the spot to dig for treasure, and proceeded to tear it down. Ross sent them packing before they could do any digging, but the monument was never replaced.

Still another theory surfaced in Dick Albert's history. Tom Noland told him that he (Tom) had piled the rocks in the mesquite bush himself, while working for Mr. Sloan as a young man. There were so many big rocks in the working lot that it made working cattle there a real chore. Tom had been told the "real" surrender site was about a half-mile south of the pile of rocks, near where the forest sign is today.

If Angie Debo's information was correction about the cowboys tearing down the first rough rock monument (and it is easy to imagine them throwing and tossing rocks in all directions), these could well be the same rocks later picked up and piled by Tom. It is entirely possible that we may never know the true "surrender" spot.

The big monument, of course, is nowhere near the surrender site at all, but on US Highway 80, ten miles west of Skeleton Canyon.

Just before the introduction of the book, *"Chasing Geronimo, The Journal of Leonard Wood, May-September, 1886,"* there is a map showing the route taken by Lawton's expedition against Geronimo. On September 2-4, the notation on the map indicates "Skeleton Ranger Station."

Bill Gillespie, Historian for the Forest Service, located considerable information and a picture of the Skeleton Ranger Station for CCHS. It was established in 1908 and used until sometime in 1920. In his *"History of the Douglas District Coronado National Forest,"* written in 1967, Sidney R. Albert tells us:

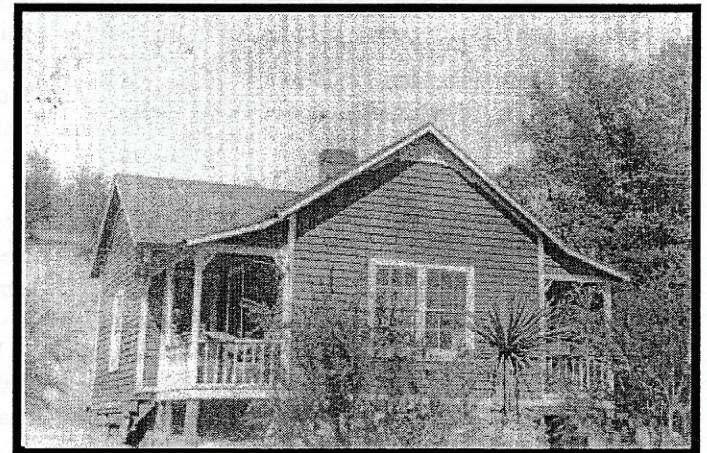
"Skeleton Ranger Station, established in 1908...was located in Skeleton Canyon in the NW¼ SE¼ NE¼ Sec. 30, T31S, R21W, NMPM. There is some reference to a station in 1907, but I believe these survey notes and map show that there could not have been a station until 1908. This station was used until some time in 1920 as a letter dated April 1, 1920, refers to the proposed move. The road up Skeleton Canyon was never very good...The main reason for the Skeleton Station was this road which was built around 1906-07. This was the main road from Douglas to the Animas Valley. I believe that the poor road was one of the factors in moving the station to Cloverdale. Also at that time, Cloverdale was a larger settlement than it is today. Skeleton Ranger Station was withdrawn on June 22, 1908, but was in the wrong location and was

revoked in 1912. (Editor's note – is this confusing, or what?) No new withdrawals were made. By 1925, all improvements except the corral and well had been removed. The pasture had been rebuilt by A.S. Field and was under a "Special Use Permit."

In the Cochise County Historical Society quarterly for winter, 1993, on page 15, Rex McDonald informed us:

"The Forest Service permit (for the Guadalupe Canyon Ranch) was nominal...the first forest ranger was a man named Everett who lived at Skeleton Canyon. The second ranger was a retired Army officer named Piggott who lived at Cloverdale."

This is confirmed by Sidney R. Albert in his *"Ranger Roster, Peloncillo and Animas R.D."* Murray Averett was at Skeleton from 1907 to 1914; Don S. Sullivan was there from 1914 to 1918; then A.W. Piggott was stationed at Skeleton and Cloverdale from October 1918 until February 1922.



Skeleton Canyon Ranger Station Before 1921

The Toney Family History

When asked about more recent history, Florence Snure provided the following information:

"We know of two men who were in Skeleton Canyon before Ross Sloan. One was named Cummings. That's all I can tell you about him. The other was William Tolliver Toney, who was born in Scotts Valley, California, on September 26, 1873. He married Ella Wilson on November 26, 1894. They had eight children. One daughter, Wilda, married Herb Mattingly, who was a mechanic in Douglas. Their son, Gary Mattingly, lives in McNeal and has the Bar Heart Enterprises. Their daughter, Pauline Haught, lives on Frontier Road.

"William T. Toney registered the T Bar T brand in Grant County, N.M., on July 5, 1893. He was living in Black Hawk, N.M., as a stock raiser in 1900. Then he registered the Slash W brand in Apache, AZ Territory, (Skeleton Canyon) August 17, 1908. He sold this brand to Ross Sloan in 1915. He also sold a Y+7 brand to him...There is a trail marked 'Pony Canyon' in our forest. We always felt it should have been 'Toney Canyon.'"

Pauline Mattingly Haught, the Toney's granddaughter, graciously shared this picture of her grandparents, as well as their adventures after leaving Skeleton Canyon. William's mother was Mary Nancy Large, a Cherokee Indian and reputedly a tearing beauty. Eight children were born to William and Mary Ella: Lloyd, 1894; Gladys, 1898; Leona, 1900; Delbert, 1902; Ellis, 1904; Wilda Josephine, 1910; Opha Charlotte, 1913 and Boyd, 1916.

William sold the ranch to Ross Sloan in 1915, and moved to the "Haunted Canyon" ranch north of Globe in the Tonto

National Forest. It was given that name by the Indians because the spring gurgled and moaned and made other weird noises which spooked them, and being superstitious they assiduously avoided the area.

According to Pauline, the cabin that William built had only one door, and the community bed was built the entire length of the opposite wall, where everyone slept. A curtain did separate the boys from the girls. Pauline's daughter, Colleen Hale Harris, backpacked to the location a couple of years ago, and reported that the cabin is still standing.



*Wedding Picture
Mary Ella Wilson & William Tolliver Toney*

By the time that Wilda was six years old, her mother had died. Her father, William, sent her and her little brother and sister to live with Gladys so they could attend school. This was not a happy experience for the poor little children. William died October 1, 1953, in Yuma, Arizona. He spent eighteen years in a wheel chair following a stroke in Florence, AZ.

Wilda married Herb Mattingly in 1932 and they had four children. Pauline, who was first married to Buddy Hale, and after his death she married R.L. Haught. Evelyn Lois was married to Jim Williams who worked for Phelps Dodge Company. She passed away in 1998. Gary lives in McNeal and has the Bar Heart Enterprises. The youngest son, Ron, was killed in an electrical accident at Bisbee while working for Phelps Dodge.

The Eaton Family Story

Thanks to Peggy Noland Boss for sharing some of the story of her pioneer forebearers, who homesteaded at Skeleton Canyon. Their experiences give us an idea of the hardships endured by the "nesters."

Her maternal grandparents, James Littleton Lodderwick Eaton and Mary O'Restus Evans, were married in Gertrude, Texas, in 1893. They lived there for five years, and during that period three children were born: Ada Florine in 1894, Vesta Minnie in 1896 and Francis Lodderwick (Frank) in 1898. Around 1898 the family moved to Oklahoma where four more children were added to the family: Beulah Louise was born in 1899 (Peggy's mother); John George, 1901; Exa Lois, 1904 and Vergie Vaila in 1907.

One family story has it that while in Oklahoma the older children picked cotton, not only on their own farm, but were hired out to neighbors. At the end of the day, their father would weigh their sacks and if they hadn't picked as much as he thought they should, they would get a whipping.

Mr. Eaton developed emphysema and was told that he needed to go to a warmer, drier climate. When he heard about Arizona, he took the train to Apache to look the situation over. Before long, he sent for the rest of the family.

Ressie, his wife, bought a full fare ticket on the train for herself and half fares for the three older children. In El Paso she was informed that she needed to buy another half-fare ticket, but she was out of money, so Beulah was hidden under Ressie's seat for the rest of the journey.

Ressie and her brood arrived at Apache, Arizona Territory, on February 3, 1909, about five o'clock in the morning. The postmaster knew they were coming and kindly took them to his home for a hot breakfast. According to Peggy, the neighbors were like one big family and always helped each other.

They lived in a tent for several months while Jim built a house. Like most homesteaders, they had a big garden and kept a few goats, chickens and a hog. The first summer they were there, they raised cabbages and made lots of sauerkraut, which was stored in big wooden barrels. They also preserved the beef in brine as corned beef. Three or four times a year Jim would go to Douglas on a shopping expedition and would bring home flour, sugar, rice, coffee and other staples. He also bought coats and shoes for the family. Needless to say, the flour and sugar sacks were put to good use as dishtowels, curtains and underwear.

A Watkins man made the rounds with his assortment of products, such as liniment, flavorings, cold tablets, laxatives, etc.

Shortly after the Eaton's settled in Skeleton Canyon, a one-room adobe schoolhouse was built. Miss Withrow was the teacher. Frank, Beulah, John and Vergie Eaton attended the school. Sixteen children were on the school roster in 1914.

Another family story was that Beulah wanted to go to a dance one night, but her father said, "No." Beulah, being both redheaded and strong-willed, told him that she was going and proceeded to get ready. In the meantime, her dad turned out all

the saddle horses; except for a colt her brother was breaking. Beulah proceeded to saddle up the "bronc" and went to the dance. The upshot was that her brother, Frank, had her ride the colts after he got them well started. Eaton horses were highly regarded by the local folk.

The last child of the Eaton family, Otha Lee, was born in 1910. The two older girls married in 1911 and 1913. Beulah married Tom Noland in 1915. He was the son of Mrs. Susana Buckelew, a local ranch woman. A few days before the wedding, Mrs. Buckelew took Beulah into Douglas to buy her wedding dress, a beautiful powder blue chiffon gown with lace, frills and bows. It cost the outrageous price of \$2.00!

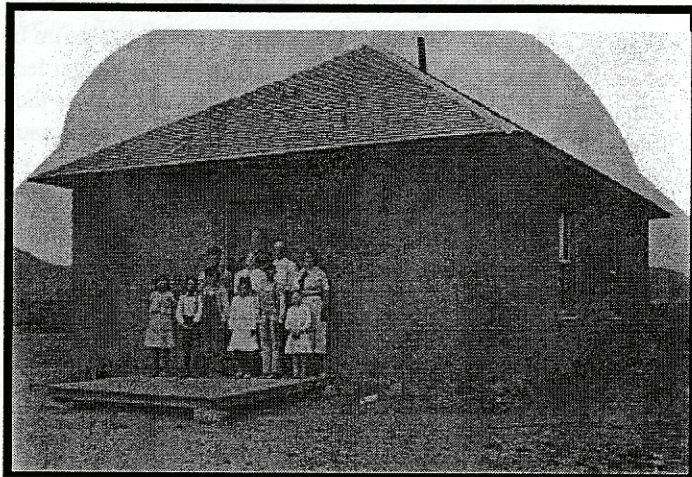


Photo courtesy of Peggy Boss

School House at Skeleton Canyon ca .1913

Front row left: Murael Barker, Claude Cox, Earl Barker, Rosalea Miller, John Eaton, Virginia Eaton

Second row left: Kenneth Burnes, Beulah Eaton, Lloyd Toney, Pearl Barker

Lady in back: Miss Withrow, teacher

The wedding reception included a whole barbequed beef with all the trimmings and an all night dance. The guests were even served breakfast before they left the next morning.

Jim and Ressie left Skeleton Canyon in 1923 and moved to Kingman, where he went to work in the mines at Oatman and Chloride. Ressie passed away in 1945 and Jim died in 1953. They are buried in the family plot in Kingman.



*Photo courtesy of Florence Snure
Ross Sloan and son, Ralph ca. 1919*

The Ross Sloan Story

No article about Skeleton Canyon would be complete if Ross Sloan was left out. Here are Irvin Bond's comments concerning that gentleman:

"Ross Sloan, who settled in the west end of Skeleton Canyon in 1915, was a man of many talents. One of his greatest was talking. Sometimes his friends referred to

to him as 'the talking man.' If he was in a group of people, he would be doing 90 percent of the talking. It was once said that Ross could out-talk any man in the county and most women. One of his greatest pastimes was to entertain writers by telling them what they wanted to know about the Skeleton Canyon area. One story was about the cowboys gathering up the skulls of the 19 men that were killed and the ranchers in the San Simon Valley using them as soap dishes. Another story was about the two cowboys riding fast out of the canyon one night scared to death after 'seeing' a circle of skeletons dancing in front of Devil's Kitchen.

"Ross would always take time out to help the tenderfoot treasure hunters who in most part never had camped out a night in their lives... In most conversations it led up to the place being haunted with a ghost wandering around at night. Ross would always tell them that he never had seen anything like that, but some mighty reliable people had told him about seeing the ghost and hearing strange noises. Ross would also tell them that the most danger came from animals that never made much noise, such as the black bear that would come right into camp if anything sweet was left open. He would let them know that there were plenty of rattlesnakes and a large lizard called the Gila monster, which liked the warmth of a human body and might come into bed with them if given the opportunity. Ross would quietly tell them that they would not bite unless a person mashed them. His advice was to keep the tent fastened down tight. Ross told about skunks. Skunks were feared because some of them had hydrophobia, or rabies. By this time, the visitors were built up to a high tension. It was easy to see that some wondered if they really wanted to go up in the canyon after all. For those brave ones who continued up into the canyon, they

found out that mountain lions, coyotes and hoot owls got active around midnight and started sounding off. Many times about one in the morning, Ross would hear an old car come chugging down the dry creek bed out past his home. Ross would never see these visitors again. Ross would tell about these episodes and get a big laugh each time. He often wondered what kind a yarn his tenderfoot friend would tell his friends when he arrived back home."

Ralph Sloan described his father as a "typical Texan, big and loud," but with a heart of gold. He was a wonderful storyteller and was greatly interested in the history of Skeleton Canyon. Walter Noble Burns used the information about Skeleton Canyon that Ross gave him in his book *"Tombstone."* Ralph maintains that Burns' story is based on the truth, even though considered to be fiction.

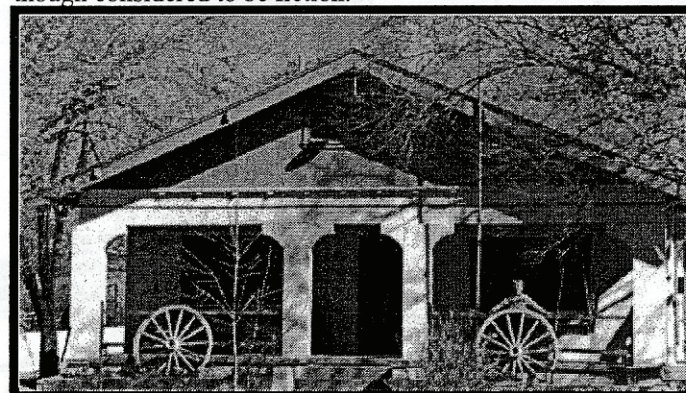
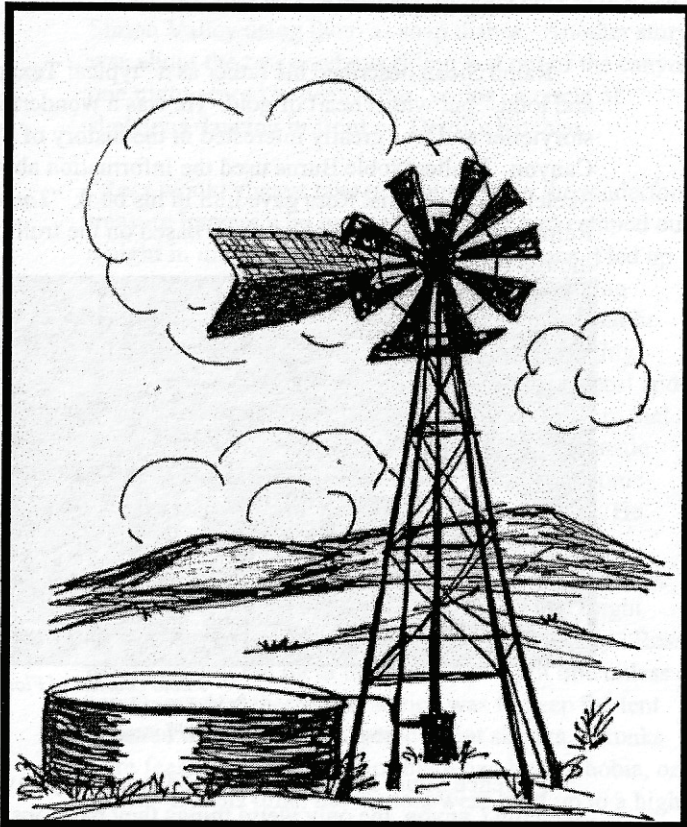


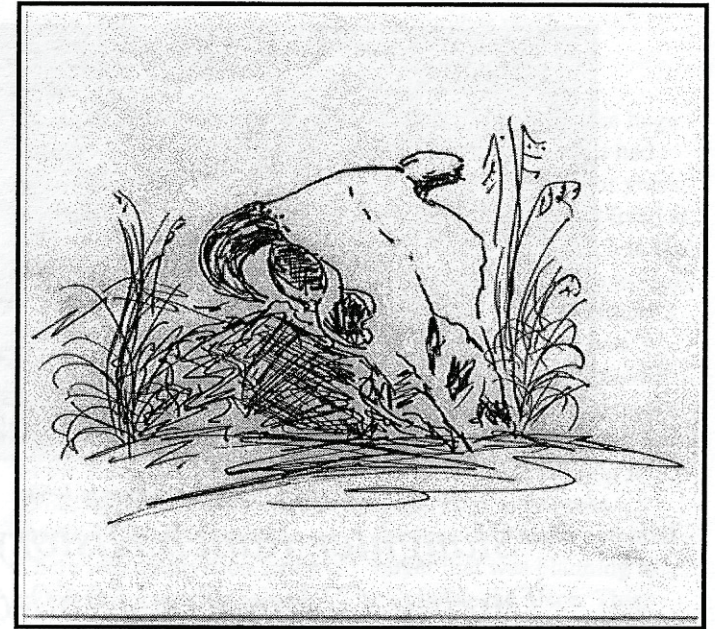
Photo courtesy of Florence Snure
The house built by Ross Sloan
Current home of Ben and Florence Snure

Florence Snure insists that in the 54 years they have lived at Skeleton Canyon, the only weird things they have observed have been live humans, mainly the "tenderfoot treasure hunters" as Ross Sloan called them.

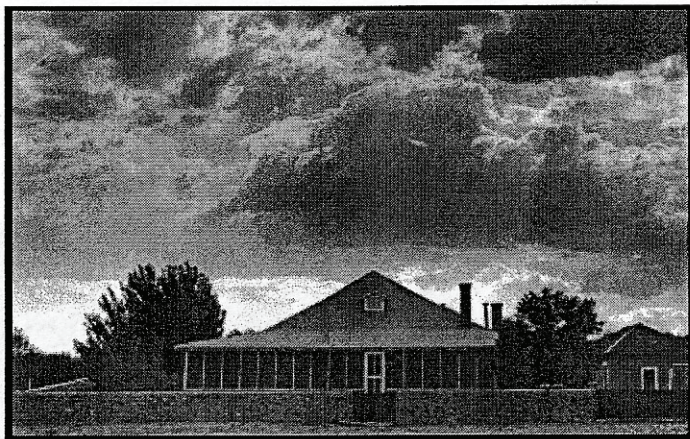
So we leave the choice of who or what to believe to the reader. Our wish has been to present as complete a history as possible of Skeleton Canyon from the end of the Geronimo campaign through the twentieth century. We hope that you enjoy this brief history we have compiled.



Art work by Anna Magoffin



Artwork by Anna Magoffin



Slaughter House when Glenns lived there in 1960s

Slaughter Ranch History During Glenn Era 1960-69

Warner, Wendy, Kelly and Cody Glenn

In 1960, the John Slaughter Ranch, east of Douglas on Geronimo Trail Road, belonging to Marion Williams was divided into 2 parcels. The Arizona State Grazing Lease and private land that was outside of the San Bernardino Land Grant was sold to Marvin, Margaret, Warner and Wendy Glenn. This area consisted of approximately 11,500 acres of deeded and leased land on

Hay Hollow Draw, Black Draw, Aston Draw (often spelled Astin), and Silver Creek. The portion of the San Bernardino Land Grant that was not in the sale was still owned by Marion Williams. There were no buildings on the part that the Glenns bought.

The Slaughter Ranch house and buildings were all on the Land Grant. Marion Williams lived in Douglas and

he had an elderly caretaker living at the ranch named John Henson. John had about 30 cows that he ran in the cienaga pasture, 2 milk cows, and a palomino cow-horse, named Blondie. He was taking care of the ranch in exchange for being able to graze his cows there.

After the Glenn's purchased the rest of the property, they honored the lease that was held by another rancher for a year. At the end of the lease, in December of 1962, the Glenn's stocked the ranch with their own cattle. There was no division fence where the properties joined, except that the cienaga where John had his cows was fenced separate. Carlos Yslava and his family lived at the San Bernardino in Mexico and he helped John take care of his cattle. Carlos also worked for the Glenn's, helping with fence work, pumping water for cattle and cattle work.

In April of 1963, Warner and Wendy Glenn moved into the Slaughter Ranch House, with their daughter, Kelly, and son, Cody. John Henson continued to live there, and

Carlos Yslava went to work for another ranch.

Wendy remembers:

We moved into the huge 4-bedroom house that had been mostly empty for years.

Warner and I had lived at his parents' J-A Ranch in the Pedregosa Mountains in Hunt Canyon. Kelly was almost 2 years old and Cody was 3 weeks old when we moved.

Mr. Williams told us we could live there until the Land Grant sold. He thought it might be 6 to 8 weeks, because they had a potential buyer that was planning to subdivide the place. This never materialized. We were glad to have a place to stay closer to the rangeland we owned. We had been building fences, installing water systems, and working cattle, driving from the other ranch, 50 miles each way.

John Henson lived there and when he wasn't out riding, he spent most of his time on the big screened front porch, or in his bedroom. He ate with us. He often rode with us when we worked cattle, and we all took turns milking his 2

milk cows. There was no shortage of milk and cream there! We helped John with his cattle work. In 1968, John's health deteriorated and he moved into town. We bought his cows and Blondie, his horse.

The house sat in the midst of a large compound with a beautiful rock wall surrounding the huge yard. There was a wide concrete screened porch on the south and east side of the house. The thick adobe walls of the house kept it cool in the summer, especially when we opened all the windows for a cross breeze. The ceilings were so high it was hard to stay warm in cold weather, so we installed a large wood burning heater in the bathroom and one in the dining room. There was a Kohler Plant for lights and a large double door Serval kerosene refrigerator in the kitchen hall. The kitchen had a large wood stove and a regular gas stove for cooking. No telephones or television, although in the 1880's, John Slaughter had a telephone from the ranch to Tombstone. We had a table that seated six

people in the kitchen and only used the dining room when we had company. The walls were adobe and plastered over. Some were wallpapered. The bathroom was the fifth bedroom that had been converted. The outbuildings were all as they are now, but needing repairs.

There were mulberry and fig trees and a couple of rose bushes, but not much lawn. Mesquite bushes grew between the house and barn, and all the way to the Mexican border below the barn was a mesquite "jungle". There was a large pond out in front of the house, fed by warm spring water. The pond had 15" bass, blue gill, crappie, and catfish in it. People from the surrounding area came often to picnic, bird watch and fish there. Hundreds of ducks and geese wintered there. There were often rattlesnakes in the yard and on the porches so we were always careful.

The field east of the barn along the border was irrigated from the overflow ditch from the pond, producing a good stand of Bermuda grass and we kept our horses there along

with Henson's milk cows.

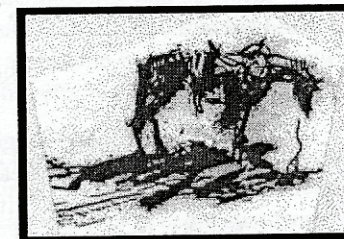
South of us about a mile, at the San Bernardino Ranch in Mexico, there lived several families. The ranch foreman was Benigno Espinosa and his wife Josefina. He was the livestock inspector in our neighboring area of Sonora. Their daughter, Aurora, was married to Carlos Yslava. They had lots of farmland under cultivation and the grain crops that they grew attracted many water birds in the winter.

Part of the time that we lived there; Jay Dusard worked for the ranch and lived with us. Some of our neighbors were Alvin and Alene Taylor, Russell and Mable Quimby, Lawrence and Gertrude McDonald, George and Pat Stephens, Ervin and Leona Taylor, Art and Barbara Thomasson, Lawrence and Eva Johnson, John and Mary Magoffin, and Dave Hunt. Several of these families had children. There were several other families that were hired help that lived on these ranches.

In the winter of 1967-68, the snowstorms and rains were

so hard and the country was so wet that John and Mary Magoffin boarded their four children with us for several weeks during the school year. They lived in Guadalupe Canyon and the water in the creek was so high they couldn't drive up the canyon to get home! We had a great time with John Jr. (Buzz), Meg, Molly and Matt.

We lived at The Slaughter Ranch for six years. When the Land Grant sold to Paul and Helen Ramsower in late 1968, we began to move. In February 1969, we established our headquarters, the Malpai Ranch, where we still live, at our shipping corrals on the Aston Draw, about five miles northwest of the Slaughter Ranch.



Slaughter Ranch Museum



John Horton Slaughter

Photo Courtesy of Slaughter Museum

Story by Harvey Finks

Sheriff John Slaughter purchased his ranch from the heirs of Ignacio Perez in the early 1880s. He called it "The San Bernardino Ranch." It was located in the wilderness of Southeastern Arizona, an area that had been controlled by the Apache Indians since prehistoric times. John Slaughter was the first non-Indian to settle in the Valley and remain. The pre-

vious ranch owner, Ignacio Perez, had purchased the land from the Mexican Government in 1822. He settled there but he didn't remain. The Apaches drove him off around 1830. The predecessor to Perez was the Spanish Government, which had built a presidio in the Valley in the 1600s and garrisoned it with soldiers. The Apaches drove them off.

Slaughter succeeded where his predecessors failed in part because he was tough, but more importantly, times had changed and the power of the Apaches had been broken. The last of the Apaches, Geronimo, surrendered on the ranch in 1886.

Slaughter's "San Bernardino Ranch" straddled the border and extended deep into Mexico. It consisted of approximately 80,000 deeded acres. However, Slaughter was virtually alone in the multi-million acre San Bernardino Valley, and so his ranch was as large as where his cattle grazed. The most important thing about the San Bernardino Ranch is that there is an inexhaustible supply of fresh, sweet water in the middle of the Sonoran Desert.

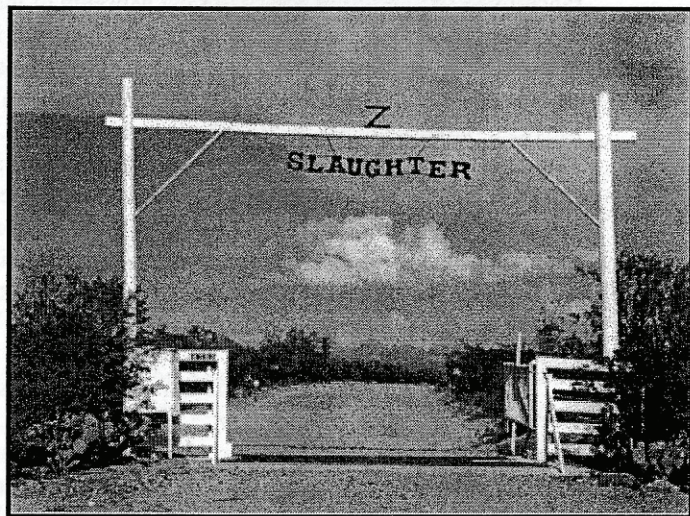
Fast forward 100 years from Slaughter's acquisition of the ranch in 1882 to the Johnson Historical Museum of the Southwest's acquisition of the ranch in 1982. Here is how it happened: In 1915, a man by the name of Floyd Johnson was an enlisted man in the United States Army, serving on the Mexican border under General "Black Jack" Pershing. The Mexican bandit leader, Pancho Villa, had brought his army up from Chihuahua and encamped with them on Slaughter's Ranch just south of the border. They ate his cattle and his corn. Slaughter watched for a while and then ordered that his horse be saddled. He mounted and rode across the border and met with Pancho Villa. Two hours later he returned, his saddle bags bulging with \$20 gold pieces.

The next day Villa marched his army 16 miles west to Agua Prieta anticipating an easy victory. Unknown to Villa, General Pershing had transported Mexican regulars in cattle cars from across the border at El Paso, Texas, to Douglas, Arizona. From there, the Mexican soldiers crossed into Agua Prieta. When

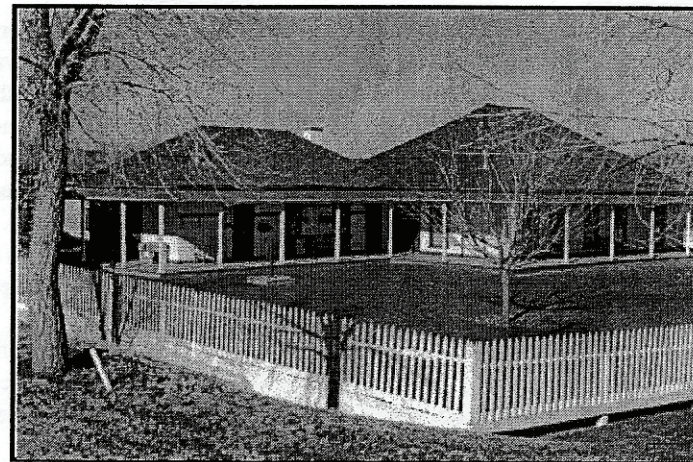
Villa's soldiers attacked, they were soundly beaten. In defeat they retreated back to Slaughter's San Bernardino Ranch. From there, most of the soldiers headed south but some 200, in their anger, headed east and attacked Columbus, New Mexico. Then they fled into Mexico. General "Black Jack" Pershing and a detachment of soldiers, including Floyd Johnson, were on their trail.

Shortly thereafter the United States entered the First World War Pershing's army, including Floyd Johnson, shipped out to France. When the War ended, Johnson returned to the United States and homesteaded in the wilderness of Colorado. Over the next 60 years, he worked primarily as a game warden.

In 1972, Floyd Johnson retired to Arizona. He never had any children. His wife had died in 1973. In 1979, he and his friend, Harvey Finks, formed a charitable corporation known as the Johnson Historical Museum of the Southwest; the purpose of which was "to acquire, restore and preserve a historic ranch, homestead, or stage station so that the youth of tomorrow might know what it was like yesterday.



Gateway to the Old West



Slaughter Ranch Museum

In 1982, almost one hundred years to the day after Slaughter purchased his San Bernardino Ranch, the Johnson Historical Museum of the Southwest purchased the "home section" of that ranch. Those 150 acres which had been declared a National Historic Landmark contained the house, pond and all of the remaining historical buildings. A three-year program of restoration, under the supervision of restoration architect, Gerald Doyle, was undertaken.

During the restoration, John Slaughter's granddaughter, Adeline Green Parks, of LaJolla, California, came to visit. As a young girl just after the turn of the century, she had been a frequent visitor to her grandparent's ranch. When we all stood in the kitchen looking into the washroom, Mrs. Parks commented that "Grandma Howell was everybody's nurse and all of her medicine bottles were lined up on the east wall of the washroom." The wall we were looking at was bare and smooth. The architect, Gerald Doyle, picked up a hammer, smashed it into the wall and pulled away, and there behind the partition were Grandma's medicine shelves!

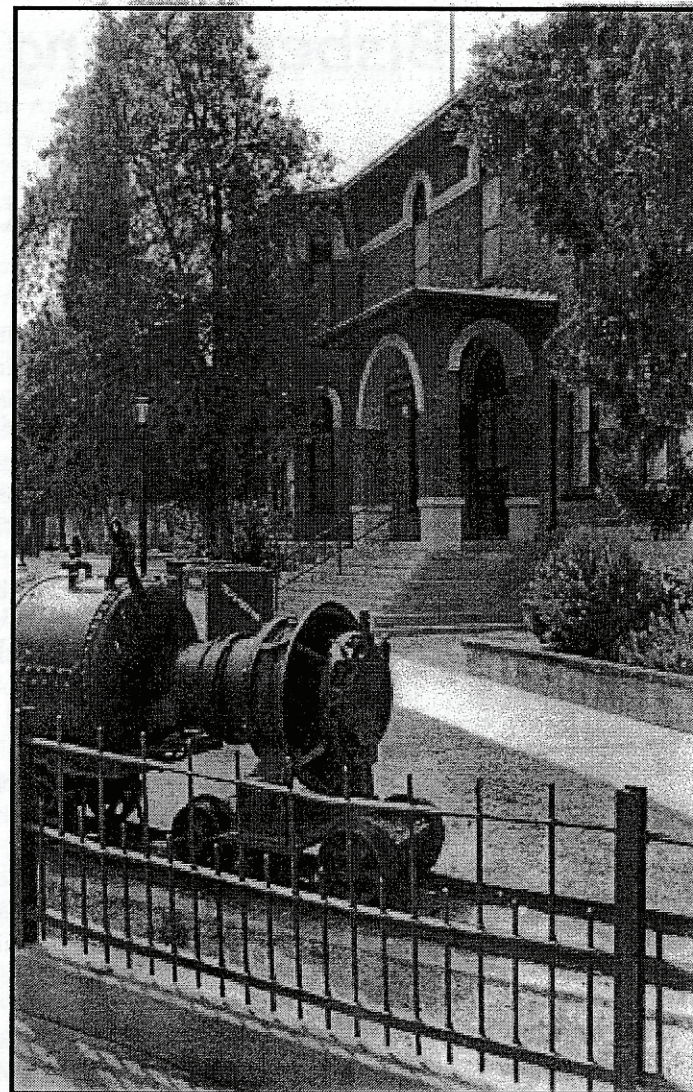
The house pond appeared to be approximately one acre in

surface, seven feet deep at the deepest, with an earthen dam. We knew that originally the base of the house pond was malpai rock. So, using bulldozers and front loaders drained the pond. When we finally got down to the malpai rock, the pond was one and a half acres in surface and 16 feet deep, and bounded on the south by a masonry dam, which had been covered over with dirt. Everything has been restored like it was in 1896.

Restoration was completed in 1986 and opened to the public as the "Slaughter Ranch Museum." Visiting hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The ranch museum was purchased and restored, and is managed without the use of any public funds. It is the only one remaining of Arizona's 19th century great cattle ranches.

Editor's note: For more reading about the Slaughter Ranch, see the Cochise County Historical Quarterly, Vol. 15, No. 4, Winter 1985 and the "Slaughter Photo Album" Vol. 19, No. 4, Winter 1989. This one has an article written by Adeline Green Parks about the stories her mother told her about the Slaughter's. For more information call 520-558-2474 or visit the web site at www.vtc.net/~sranch.



*Photo courtesy of Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum
The museum's entrance at 5 Copper Queen Plaza.*

Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum

The mission of the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum is to communicate the history of Bisbee, the Warren Mining District, Cochise County, and northern Sonora, Mexico, beginning in 1877. The museum emphasizes factors that influenced the establishment of the Bisbee community and its environs as a premier copper mining center in southeastern Arizona, particularly the influences of corporate mining, ethnic labor, transportation and technology. A social point of view rather than a technical one is traditionally taken. By emphasizing the effects of industrial history and historical ideas upon individuals and community life, visitors can recognize similarities to their own lives and reflect upon differences. Thus they have a common reference point which serves as a bridge to new historical ideas.

The museum achieves its mission through exhibition and interpretation of three dimensional objects, historical photographs and documents that it collects and cares for. It maintains an archival library designed to foster research and support exhibit design. The museum offers interpretive exhibits and educational programs designed to make history enjoyable through a broad variety of formats. (Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum Comprehensive Policy 1985.)

Currently, the museum is housed in the former General Office Building of the Copper Queen Consolidated Mining Co. (CQCMC). Constructed in 1897, the museum's building is a Nationally Registered Historic Landmark. In 1971, Phelps Dodge Corporation, successor to the

CQCMC, donated the building to the City of Bisbee with the stipulation that it be used as a museum. The Bisbee Council on the Arts & Humanities formed in 1967 under the auspices of the City, and was incorporated in 1978 as a private, nonprofit 501 ©(3) organization and serves as the governing board of the museum.

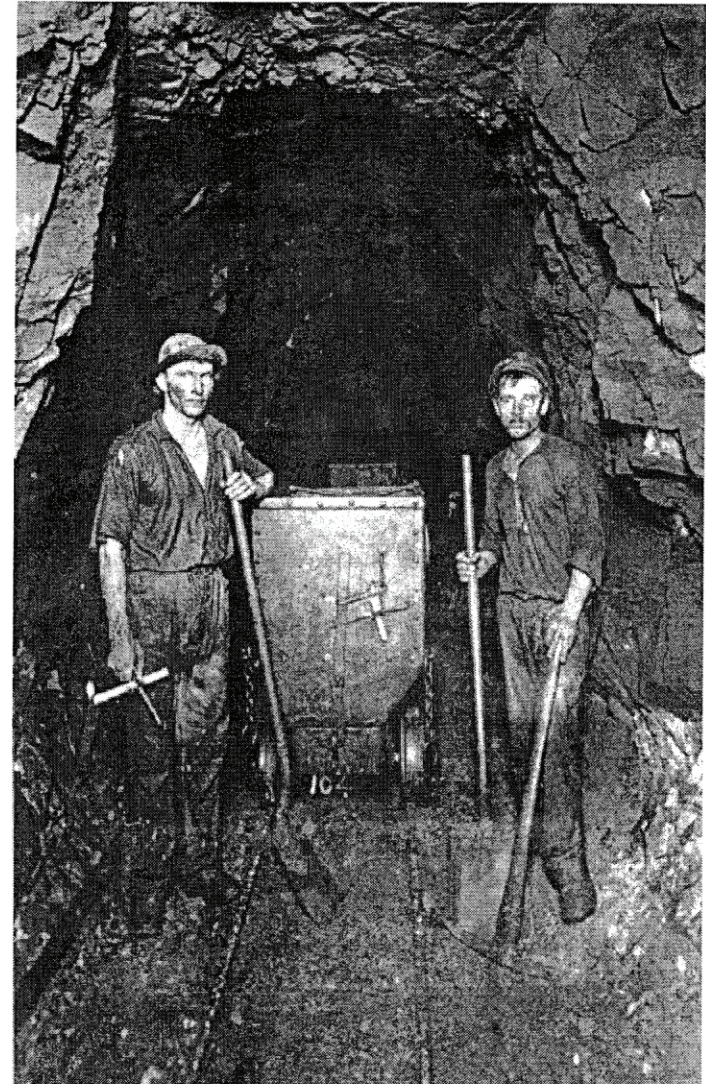
Through the 1970s, the museum was operated by an essentially volunteer staff with the dual goals of historic preservation and collection. Major renovation of the building was accomplished through volunteer labor and EDA grants. Throughout the first half of that decade, the council also served as a major sponsor of the many cultural events that characterized Bisbee's "Good Old Days." With the closure of the mines in the mid 1970s and ensuing decline in the local economy, continued sponsorship of gala events became more difficult. Toward the end of the 1970s, the council was forced to reduce its scope and re-evaluate its purpose. The council's primary focus then became the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum. The council also operates the Muheim Heritage House (a small, heritage home museum) and sponsors the Bisbee Community Choir, both managed under the auspices of a board committee.

With this reevaluation came the intent to professionalism museum management. In the late 1970s, the council hired its first professional museum director. By the mid 1980s, a mission statement, comprehensive collections policy, and library collections policy were adopted with continued efforts into the late 1980s focused on collections.

With collections cared for in accordance with contemporary museum standards and within the financial means available, the board adjusted its focus toward exhibition and interpretation. Four years preparation was devoted to the creation of the museum's permanent exhibit – "Bisbee: Urban Outpost on the Frontier." Put together by experts from around the country with funding from NEH matched by community support, "Urban Outpost" received the Award of Merit from the AASLH in

1993 and stands as an excellent example of the Board's furtherance of the museum's mission. For its ongoing work in the humanities, the museum received the Distinguished Organization Award from the Arizona Humanities Council (AHC) in November 1996.

1995 through 1998 witnessed an internal review of our governing documentation with the intent of realigning our governing policies and procedures to match the needs of our changing society and economy. Articles of Incorporation, bylaws and policies were all reviewed and amended. A second area of concern was a return to collections management to continue our efforts toward establishing first-class collections care to meet the needs of a growing collection and current museum standards. With the assistance of several grant awards, collections storage has been upgraded and a computerized collection's catalogue is now underway. Third, the museum began evaluating where our strengths and weaknesses are in promoting heritage preservation and heritage tourism in Bisbee. Aligned with input from community organizations and businesses, in the spring of 1996, the governing board adopted a resolution to begin a six-year capital improvement project. Now just beginning its 4th year, security upgrades and accessibility compliance have been completed and a series of small exhibits on Bisbee mining and minerals are on public display. On January 23, 1998, the museum signed a memorandum of understanding with the Smithsonian to become a Smithsonian Affiliate. With this affiliation, Smithsonian staff will work with museum staff in the creation of the "Digging In: Bisbee's Mineral Heritage" that tells the story of Arizona's copper miners who answered the nation's call to the age of Electricity and how their response impacted our lives and landscape. The Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum is the first – and only – small, rural museum in the United States to become a Smithsonian Affiliate, and we are very proud of this accomplishment. In 1999, the museum was nominated to participate in the Library of Congress "Local



*Photo courtesy of Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum
Two mine workers in a Bisbee tunnel about 1910.*

Legacy" program.

This brings our history to the present. Our long-range goals now are focused on three elements: increased public accessibility to the information represented in our collections, consolidation and focusing of our educational programs, and the development of a new, first-class exhibit celebrating Bisbee's mineralogical and mining heritage.

COLLECTIONS

The museum is a local history museum, representing both the history of copper mining and, in Bisbee's case, concomitant urban development in Territorial Arizona. The museum collects 3-D historical artifacts and archival materials – both manuscripts and photographs. The largest collection is represented by 25,000 historic photographs and negatives that complement the artifact collections with its wealth of interpretive images. These historic photographs, most of which date between 1880 and 1920, document the height of Bisbee's urban development as a copper mining and financial center. Our "loan-to-copy" program discussed below has had a positive impact in increasing our collection with materials dating to the 1920s through the 1940s. This collection documents all aspects of life in Bisbee and shows Bisbee's transition from underground to open-pit mining, as well as urbanization, architecture, social history (including several large studio collections), transportation and ranching. Significant events represented include the Apache Indian Wars, the 1917 Bisbee Deportation, the Mexican Revolution along the Arizona/Sonoran border, and natural disasters (floods & fires) that impacted Bisbee's development. The collection's scope includes Cochise County and northern Sonora, Mexico, as it related to Bisbee's local history and development. Ongoing is a partnership program with the Museo de la Lucha Obrera & Museo Mexicana de Cananea, Mexico (a copper mining community approximately 25 miles south of the border with a

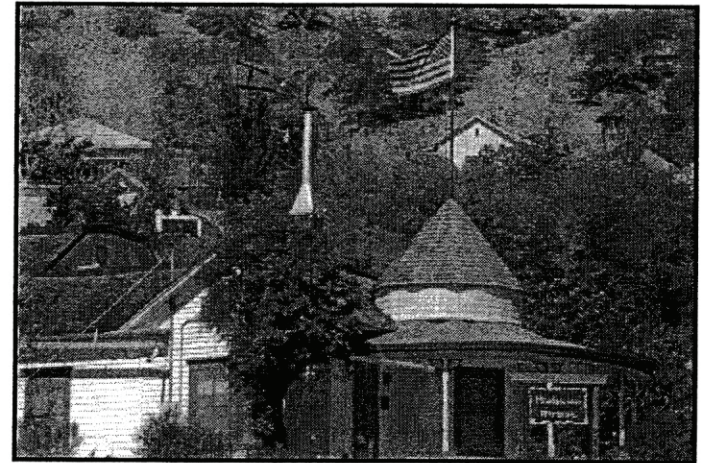
shared history), in which our staff assists in their exhibit development in exchange for accessioning negatives of their photograph collections into our own.

Another strong component of the museum's archival holdings is the manuscript collection. Included are Bisbee newspapers from 1898-1982 (on microfilm in our research library); County Great Registers and County Census for 1880, 1882, 1900, 1910; records of the City of Bisbee; City Voter registration records, Tomb stone newspapers from 1887-1901; 10 Cochise County original geological survey maps; 150 city and plat maps; historic preservation and restoration files; 100 original plans and blueprints; turn-of-the-century hospital records; and cemetery records. Archival manuscripts collections (totaling 82 linear feet) include personal papers of politicians and local businessmen, mercantile and ranching records, and mining company records and bulletins, all of which shed light on southeastern Arizona's history in relationship to the State and the nation. The museum archival collection also includes 40 linear feet of historic City court records (1912 onward). The museum maintains an oral history collection of 350 tapes. IMLS funds, if awarded, will be used to digitize this collection, as some of our tapes are 30 years old. Even with recopying the masters, the quality has been negatively impacted by age.

The 3-D artifact collection of 3,941 artifacts complements the photographic and archival collections in its visual representation of Bisbee's local history. Take, for example, Bisbee's mining industry. The collection contains historic photographs of the mines, miners and mining technology that can be combined with archival engineering reports, payroll and employee records, correspondence, business records, and first person narratives from our oral history collection to tell the story of Bisbee mining, visually supplemented by 1,106 pieces of copper mining tools and equipment, 16 pieces of underground ore-hauling machinery (displayed in the park fronting the museum), and 422 mineral specimens that were brought out

from the mines. In 1997, the museum received an outstanding collection of Bisbee minerals donated by the National Bank of Arizona. The historic significance of this collection is excellent as it is an intact collection belonging to the Shattuck family, one of the pioneer mining families of Bisbee. Our educational collection complements the accessioned collection with mining tools, lunch boxes and hard hats (donated for educational purposes) and a collection of minerals typical of those found in Bisbee mines, but not from Bisbee.

Recounting the social history of Bisbee is a 904-piece costume collection of early 20th-century clothing styles, 518 personal artifacts, 489 household objects, 18 musical instruments from local fraternal and school bands, photographic equipment (27), and toys (27). Territorial banking and the rising fortunes of southwestern commerce are documented in the archival collections and are represented by 316 pieces of office furniture and machinery. City infrastructure also is represented in the photographic collections by panoramas of Old Bisbee and neighboring communities now incorporated into the City of Bisbee, in the archival collections by the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of 1904 and 1930, fire and police department records and city planning documents, and complemented by five pieces of firefighting equipment, 60 historic street signs, and Bisbee's only traffic signal.



*Photo courtesy of Muheim Heritage House
The Muheim House as it appears today.*

The Muheim Heritage House

The mission of the Muheim Heritage House, a National Historic Site, is to promote, preserve and perpetuate the history of Bisbee pioneer families in the setting of a Bisbee family Victorian home that was occupied by the family of Joseph M. Muheim. Indicative of the period between 1902 through 1925 visitors can experience a relationship with the past and the present.

Joseph M. Muheim was born in Switzerland in 1867 and built the Muheim House. He immigrated to San Francisco in 1883, but in 1888 he

came to Bisbee, Arizona, where his uncles, Frank and Henry Dubacher, were owners of a saloon on Brewery Gulch. Joseph was an ambitious

young man working for his uncles. He later purchased the saloon from them. He registered to vote in 1886 as a Liquor Dealer, and in 1898 he registered as a Merchant. Along with his partners Lemuel C. Shattuck and Batiste Caretto, he founded the Miners and Merchant Bank. Later it became the Bank of Douglas, then First National Bank and finally First Interstate Bank of Arizona. In 1993, First Interstate Bank donated the building to the Bisbee Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center. It is now an antique store.

In 1905, Mr. Muheim completed the Muheim Block, the Brewery Building, and the Orpheum Theater. The Brewery building on the Gulch housed a stock market, bar/restaurant and office suites. The Pythian Castle and Philadelphia Hotel on O.K. Street are other buildings he and his associates built. The Orpheum Theater later became a garage and today it is a park used by weary townspeople and tourists. Mr. Muheim acquired extensive

mining properties and other business interests.

In 1898 Joseph Muheim married Carmelita LaForge from Quebec, Canada, and construction of the Muheim House began shortly after the wedding. The first four rooms were completed in 1902. As the family grew larger, more rooms were added with final completion in 1915 of the present ten rooms. It has a nine-foot diameter parlor skirted by an eight-foot wide semicircular porch under a cone shaped cupola. It must be remembered that every piece of material in the construction had to be carried up the hill on the backs of pack mules, burros or men.

Joseph and Carmelita Muheim had four children, Joseph, Tony, Henry and Helen who were raised and went to school in Bisbee. All are now deceased.

In 1975, Joseph Jr. and Helen donated the house to the City of Bisbee with the stipulation that the Bisbee Council on the Arts and Humanities restore and maintain it as a living museum.

The actual work of restoration was started in 1977 with money from a federal grant given to the City of Bisbee. During that year, the roof, cupola and flagpole were replaced, the foundation was stabilized and the house repaired and repainted.

In 1998, with funding from Evelyn Muheim, Joseph Jr.'s second wife, \$5,000 from the First National Bank of Arizona, proceeds from sales, raffles, the booklet, "*Bisbee Pioneer Homes*," rummage sales, memorials and other donations, the museum became a reality. An all-volunteer crew, except for the electrical and plumbing, accomplished this. The Arizona State Heritage Association helped provide for the interior restoration. Bisbee residents were generous in donating antique furniture and household items needed to make it a loving home of the Victorian era.

A large, heavy mahogany dresser, dining room set and many old pictures among other furnishings were donated by the Muheim family. The grounds of the home are well kept with trees,

grapevines and flowers typical of the era.

The Muheim Heritage House was the first house in Bisbee entered into the National Register of Historical Places on September 1, 1979. Officials came from Phoenix for the ceremony. On July 4, 1980 the museum was opened to the public.

Several rooms in the back of the house were made into an apartment for caretakers who also served as docents by giving guided tours of the museum. They received no pay but were remunerated with rent, utilities and telephone. A number of different caretakers, couples or singles have occupied the apartment and have served Bisbee well by presenting the history of the Muheim family to visitors. A volunteer committee is responsible for the policies, financial and social activities of the museum.

The Muheim House is located at 207 B Youngblood Hill, Bisbee, Arizona. It is open for visitors Friday through Tuesday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. It is closed

Wednesday and Thursday except by appointment with the exception of schools and other groups. Donations are \$2.00 with children under the age of 16 being free.

The house is available for small special events such as weddings, receptions and other intimate gatherings. The telephone number is (520) 432-7698.

Seasons Greetings
And
Best Wishes for a wonderful
and blessed
New Year 2003

This is just a reminder that the
annual dues are payable
January 1, 2003.

Don't forget to attend the Annual Meeting on
November 17, 2002. Pay your dues and dinner
reservations at the same time!

Thank you for your support.

The Henry F. Hauser Museum

The purpose of the Henry J. Hauser Museum is to collect and preserve, and to report on the history of human cultures and their interaction with the environment of the City of Sierra Vista and Surrounding area.

The Museum collects three dimensional artifacts and objects, photographs, and archival materials produced by or relevant to the societies that have inhabited the region now know as the Greater Sierra Vista Area. Primary emphasis is given to artifacts from the area within the present political boundaries of Southwest Cochise County. Included are the artifacts from various civilizations, Native American cultures, as well as those from European, American, and other cultural groups residing or passing through the area. Natural history specimens relative to the geographic area are also included in the Museum's collection.

Material accepted by the Museum becomes its property in perpetuity, and may be used

in exhibits, educational programs, or research. Collection materials are cared for in accordance with standard curatorial practice, and are studied, exhibited, and made available for research and exhibit as deemed acceptable by curatorial staff. Objects may be deaccessioned after appropriate review to see if they fit into our collection

The Museum reports on the history and environment of the Greater Sierra Vista Area, through its permanent and changing exhibits, companion programs, exploration trips, events, and publications. These interface between the Museum's collections and its audience, providing a variety of opportunities for the visitors of all ages to "step into the past" and experience, enjoy, and learn from the rich

temporal and cultural mosaic that is Sierra Vista.

Our two main exhibits concern one of the last original cowboys in the Sierra Vista area and the grandson of Cochise. The cowboy's name was James "Slim" Mayo. [I will be including a brief biography of Slim, the same information that guests of the museum can read.] In this exhibit, which is just off the main room in an alcove, are various items from Slim's life as a cowboy/mentor. This includes his rifles, saddles, chaps, bits and bridles, all the tools that a cowboy would need to perform in his profession. Slim did two tours of duty in the military: one in WWI and the other in WWII. Therefore, we have some of his military paraphernalia that was used when he was in the cavalry.

The other exhibit of interest is that of the grandson of Cochise, Ciye Nino Cochise, and it is by far our most treasured exhibit. One of the relatives of Nino contacted the Henry Hauser Museum after speaking with many other interested

institutions, such as the Smithsonian. This lady, who wishes to remain anonymous, wanted Nino's items to remain in the local area before being passed on to the Smithsonian for storage and research. This display includes items from Nino's personal life, the Apache way and the awards and recognition he received throughout his 116 years of life.

The Henry Hauser Museum is open Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Because these are difficult hours for people who work during the week, we are hoping to begin adding Saturdays to our schedule. We are located in the Ethel Berger Center, which is directly across from the Oscar Yrun Community Center, 2950 E. Tacoma, Sierra Vista, AZ, 85635.

JAMES L. "SLIM" MAYO

James L. Mayo, known as "Slim" because he didn't weigh more than 160 lbs., came to Arizona about 70 years ago, after serving in the U.S. Army at Fort Sills, Oklahoma. His army career consisted of two enlistments, first with the 18th Field Horse Drawn Artillery and later with training of troops for the 10th Mountain Mule Pack Division.

Slim worked with William Holden in the film *Arizona*, then on a ranch near Sells. During the '30s and '40s, he taught at the Little Outfit Boys Ranch and School in the Canelo Hills, 19 miles east of Patagonia.

Slim taught riding, roping, ranching, riflery and military drill. He told tales of growing up in the old west and played the guitar and harmonica at the same time. He was so beloved by his former students that they began having reunions in 1991. Many of the former Little Outfitters attributed their many successes in life to what they learned from Slim.

In 1947, Slim left the Little Outfitters, married Katherine Hollans and signed on for a government job, handling 600 head of buffalo on Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Later he became a Sierra Vista firefighter and worked on the Y-Lightning Ranch. He was also a member of the Southwest Pioneer Cowboy's Association, the Cochise County Sheriff's Posse and was a multiple nominee for the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

Slim died peacefully on May 16, 1998.

Rose Tree Inn Museum

home of the

World's Largest Rosebush



*Photos courtesy of the Rose Tree Inn Museum
The trunk of the world's largest rosebush.*

The Museum is dedicated to one of the town's pioneer families, the Macias and is operated by members of the family who have made the property their home for four generations.

The Macia family history is as old as Tombstone itself. S. C. Robertson and his bride, Alice, arrived in Tombstone on Christmas Eve of 1880. They had been married on October 19, 1880 in Leadville, Colorado and left that city three days later traveling by wagon train. They planned to start their married life in Tombstone where the rich silver mines offered hope of a prosperous future. They brought with them two wagons filled with furniture and household goods, most of which are in the museum today.

Ethel Robertson Macia was born in Tombstone in August, 1881; she was the oldest of the five Robertson children. Upon the death of her mother in 1895, Mrs. Macia became the mother of the household. Four years later her father was killed and

she became the sole support of her brothers and sisters. She went to work in the Cochise County Court House, one of the first women to be so employed and it was here that her life of dedication to her town and her state started.

Mrs. Macia lived her entire life of 83 years in Tombstone, the town she loved so dearly.

Deeply proud of her pioneer background, Mrs. Macia became one of the state's outstanding historians. She worked diligently for the Arizona Children's Home, the University of Arizona (which she attended) and the Arizona Pioneer's Historical Society. She also served on the President's Coronado Commission as well as holding various offices in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, of which she was a life-long member. She served on school boards, civic committees including the first Tombstone Helldorado in 1929 and gave without reservation of herself at all times to her town and state.

In 1904, Ethel Robertson married James Herbert Macia who had arrived in Tombstone



The giant rosebush creates an arbor-like haven.

two years earlier to work as a mining engineer with the Tombstone Consolidated Mining Company. This marriage produced three children, Iris, Jeanne and James, Jr.

In 1941 the Macia's youngest daughter Jeanne, and her husband Burton Devere, purchased the property from her parents. They, along with their five children as well as Mr. and Mrs. Macia, made the facility locally known as the "Rose Tree" their home. Thus it remained until the fall of 1964 when following the death of Mrs. Macia the family formed the museum, a

memorial to the parents, grandparents and great-grandparents who were so important in the development of Arizona in general and Tombstone in particular!

In the museum visitors will see the furniture that Cris and Alice Robertson so lovingly brought to their new home. A bedroom set shipped from New York to the Tweed Ranch in the nearby Dragoon Mountains now stands in the large bedroom off the main lobby of the Inn. On the wall of the parlor hangs the famous Seth Thomas Clock that came as part of the original furnishings to the Oriental

Saloon of which Wyatt Earp was part owner. Placed throughout the museum are the cane-bottomed chairs that were purchased by Al Schieffelin for use in the Masonic Lodge rooms when he built Schieffelin Hall.

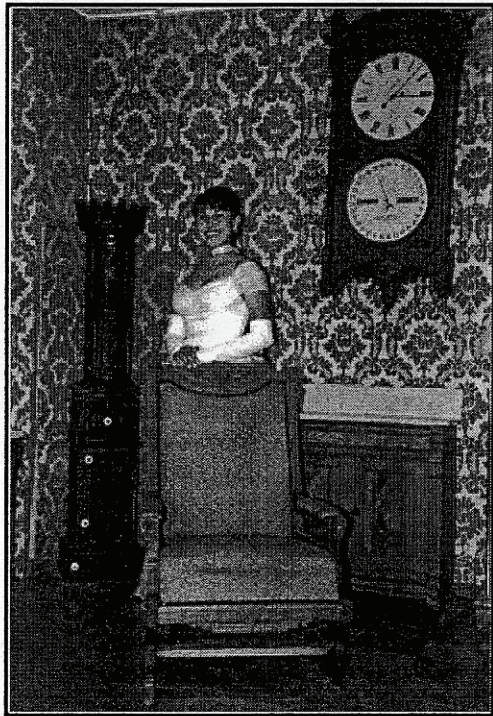
Mr. Macia, an outstanding mining man in the southwest, had a very fine collection of minerals; specimens from his collection are on display, along with some of his assaying equipment. In addition the museum contains excellent dioramas, one of the OK Corral gun fight and another of the Lucky Cuss Mine, Ed Schieffelin's big discovery.

The building was one of the first adobe structures on the town site of Tombstone and was built by the Vizina Mining Company for use as offices and as a boarding house. In the early years the building was not as large as its present size for each new owner made additions. With the closing of the Vizina Mine the property was sold and became a small hotel, named the Cochise House. Located only one block from the Court

House, it was one of the most popular stopping places for Cochise County residents in town on legal business or court matters.

The turn of the century brought new life to the town. The Tombstone Consolidated Mining Company set up business in Tombstone and the hotel not only had new owners but a new name, the Arcade. It was at this time that the Arcade changed in appearance. The outside walls were covered in tin to protect the adobe walls from the strong Arizona sun. The name remained the Arcade until 1935 when Mrs. Macia changed it to the Rose Tree Inn, honoring the large rose bush in the patio.

For many years, every author who visited Tombstone or wrote of this area found his or her way to the Inn, not only for the fine accommodations it afforded but to seek out Mrs. Macia's vast knowledge of the area's history. Here they heard some of the tales and met many of the people you read about today. Mrs. Devere continued sharing historical research and the



Maria Hoover beside the Seth Thomas clock.

family today maintains a fine historic library along with photos and files on the history of Tombstone and Cochise County.

It was during the 1930's that the lovely Rose Tree growing in the patio started attracting attention. L Robert Ripley visited the Inn and was impressed with the bush. He wrote about it in his *Believe It*

or Not column and called it the "WORLD'S LARGEST ROSE TREE." Articles about the Rose Tree appeared in newspapers and magazines and suddenly the Macias realized that the bush they had loved and enjoyed all these years was something very unusual. Today it is listed in the *Guinness Book of Records* and it has never been disputed

as the world's largest Rose Tree.

The history of the bush is quite fascinating as well as romantic. It was planted in the spring of 1885 by a Scottish girl who came, as a bride, to Tombstone. Arriving with her young mining engineer husband in the fall of 1884, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gee took lodging at the boarding house of the Vizina Mining Company. In charge at the time was Mrs. Amelia

Adamson and the two women struck an enduring friendship. When Mary Gee's own house was built, her family sent her a box of shrubs from her native Scotland. Several rooted shoots of the Lady Banksia Rose were in the box. One of these shoots she gave to Mrs. Adamson as a token of their friendship and together they planted it in the patio. Mrs. Gee was still living in Tombstone in 1919 when Mrs. Macia purchased the property and Mrs. Gee told the story of the planting to Mrs. Macia. It was Mr. Macia who devised the trellis system and as the years went by and the bush increased in size, more and

more room was given to it and more and more pipe and poles were added. At the present time the Lady Banksia, with its millions of white blossoms every April, spreads over 8,000 square feet of supports and is growing larger year after year.

Today the story of the Rose Tree Museum is the story of Tombstone and one family's dedication and devotion to the town they love and call home.

Editor's note: Please see Letters to the Editor for additional information on the Rose Tree Inn.

Frontier Relics Museum

Orville E. Mackens of Dos Cabezas, AZ, opened his Frontier Relics Museum in February of 1982, as a retirement hobby.

Appropriately displayed are items that he found in and about Cochise County. In addition there are some "traded for" items which bring to life the materials used in the development of Cochise County. An original Cadillac which has been driven for 17 years in the Willcox Rex Allen Days and also at the Sunsites Cochise Days parades is on display.

When you visit the museum, you will find 40 years of exploration and discovery artfully and conveniently displayed. You'll see a variety of historical items found in,

around and under Arizona's old Forts and ghost towns.

You may question the owner/operator and you will be intrigued by his vast knowledge of the area and history of the "found" artifacts.

Items dating from Maximillian through the Civil War and World War II are displayed. You'll find a brass conquistador's stirrup, belt buckles, ammunition, cavalry tack, wagon gear, uniforms, rare tokens used in place of money and even materials used by the "ladies of the evening."

"The Frontier Relics Museum is a recent attraction but its exhibits are as old as Arizona itself. If man had used it in what is now Arizona, chances are you will find it there. Hohokam, Apache, Spanish, U.S. Cavalry, stockman, merchant, miner, railroader, all have artifacts here.

"If the Cavalry had a camp in Arizona, Mickens has been there: Bowie, Grant, Crittenden, Price, Gatewood, Wallen and Buchanan. He has bugles, sabers, carbines,

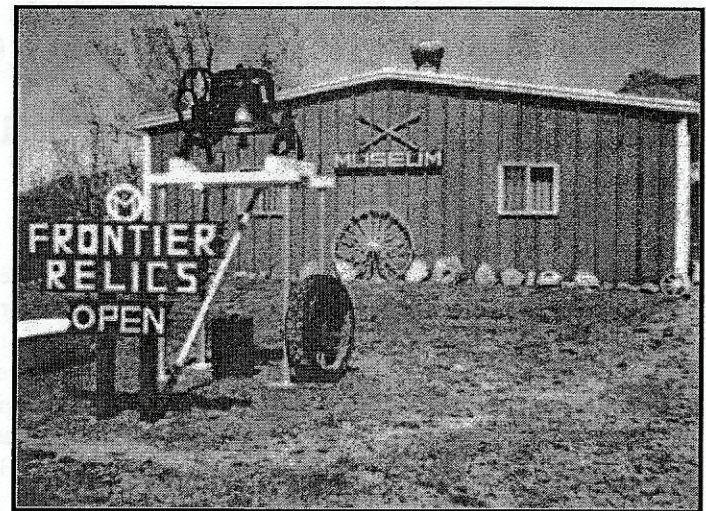


Photo courtesy of Frontier Relics Museum

canteens, uniforms, hats, all kinds of cartridges and Minnie balls."

The Bisbee Observer
May 16, 1991

"You've probably never heard of a calf blabber, a chain gang persuader or a frozen charlotte. Even if you have, you'll enjoy a stop at the Frontier Relics Museum. Providing insight into the area's turbulent history and the many cultures that have thrived here..."

Southwest Sunsets Travel Guide, February 1992

"One would have to be a vegetable not to be fascinated by the 'found' museum. For even museums of note don't contain so much in so little space."

Treasure Search
May/June 1987 Vol. 13, No. 3

"A great collection which took much time to research, label and display. A collection of reference books matches his organized artifacts."

The Arizona Daily Star
September 29, 1983

The San Pedro Valley Arts and Historical Society Museum

In 1983, farsighted members of the Benson Art League and the Benson Historical Society merged and incorporated, becoming the San Pedro Valley Arts and Historical Society.

With very little money available, but with a member of the group who was willing to loan money, they were able to make a down payment on the old building on the corner of 5th and San Pedro Streets, where the museum is now located.

The building, known as the Martinez Mercantile Building, was built in 1921 by W.D. Martinez. It is unusual in that it has a stepped parapet, a diagonal ten-foot high entry with double carved wooden doors; large fixed pane four-light storefront windows on either side of the entry and two-over-two double-hung windows. The wrap-around

porch with a corrugated metal roof serves both major facades. The interior twelve-foot high ceilings have the original pressed tin ceilings. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1994.

William D. Martinez (1867-1932) was born in Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico. He built the store in 1921 and leased it to S.B. Moss who ran a mercantile business. Martinez sold the property to Albert Steinfeld & Co. of Tucson in 1922. Mr. Steinfeld leased it, in turn, to various merchants who had groceries, mercantile and, it is rumored, a soap factory.

A.E. Ivey bought the building in the 1930s and used it as a warehouse, boarding it up for almost 50 years, until it was purchased by the Historical Society in 1983.

A great deal of credit for

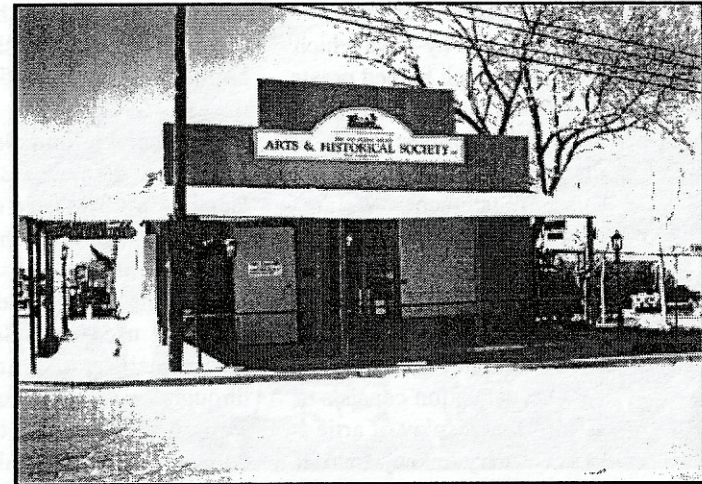


Photo courtesy of San Pedro Valley Arts and Historical Society

our existence today should be given to our benefactors, Catherine Stephens and Anna Herrman. Catherine (Kitty) has spent many hours working in the museum as a docent, and she loaned us the funds to purchase the building and the adjacent lot. Anne gave us a generous endowment which keeps our doors open without the struggle of bake sales, yard sales, etc. Perry Joseph provided us with the expertise to formulate the by-laws.

The dedicated volunteers who have been so generous with their knowledge have all contributed their particular skills, as well as spending

countless hours as docents to keep the doors open. During the early years the docents put up with a lot. There was no bathroom, no telephone and our only heat was an oil drum for a stove, where a person could only warm one side at a time. We still have dedicated volunteers, but things aren't quite as primitive.

Now, after nearly 20 years, our Museum is accredited by the Arizona Historical Society. We are a totally volunteer group with about 80 members. We change the exhibits on the walls regularly and all of our permanent collection has been catalogued and inventoried.

We operate under the original set of by-laws which Perry E. Joseph helped create when we first organized. We also have a Policies and Procedures Manual and a Mission Statement. We are governed by a Board of ten directors, plus a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer and meet regularly once a month.

Our collection consists of an informal display of artifacts. We try to keep focused on the local heritage of our collection area and have been very fortunate in obtaining many interesting items. When we first opened the door on the old boarded-up building, it was not only full of dust, but had a huge collection of artifacts.

One section of the museum represents a vintage grocery store, and most of those items were in the building, including an assortment of containers, tools, bottles, etc. There is a large oak desk which was used in the bank of Cochise in Benson in the early 1900s; a cash register used at Meisenheimer's Ford dealership in Benson in 1920 and an

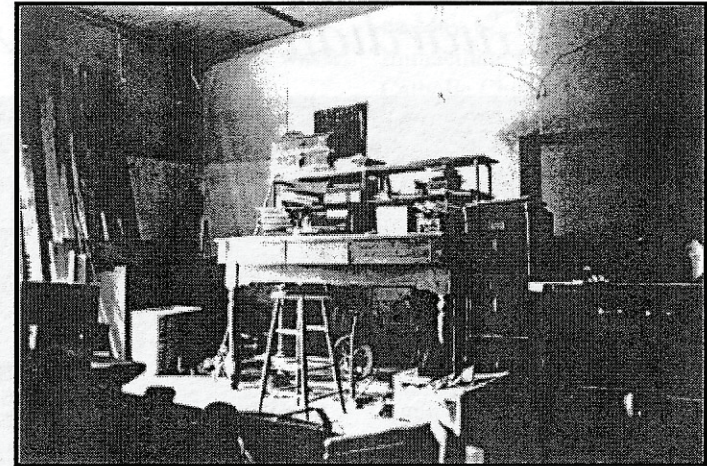
adding machine from the C.F. Moss Mercantile, which was housed in this very building in the early 1920s.

A second roll top desk came from the Lewis Brothers Garage (it was located on the corner of 4th and Huachuca Streets) from the 1930s through the 1960s. The heating stove used in the Southern Pacific mail car that came through Benson is in our museum. A very early Victrola with the thick old celluloid records, circa 1920s, receives a lot of attention.

George Cunningham has loaned us a most interesting collection of salt dips, as well as an extensive cream pitcher collection. Dr. Robert Friske and his daughter, Dr. Tammy Friske, have given us an optometrist's chair and equipment. One of our prized items is a foot-operated dentist's drill. This was used where there was no electricity available.

In the back yard there are railroad and mining tools and a steam-powered engine given to us by the Apache Powder Company.

About every two months we change the exhibits on the



Interior of the museum before refurbishment.

walls. The Annual Quilt Show is in January and February. The members Art Show is in March. Everyone in Southeastern Arizona is welcome to exhibit their work at our 4th of July Art Show, that runs through the month of July. In the autumn we have a Christmas crafts sale and other exhibits are kept pertinent to the season as far as possible.

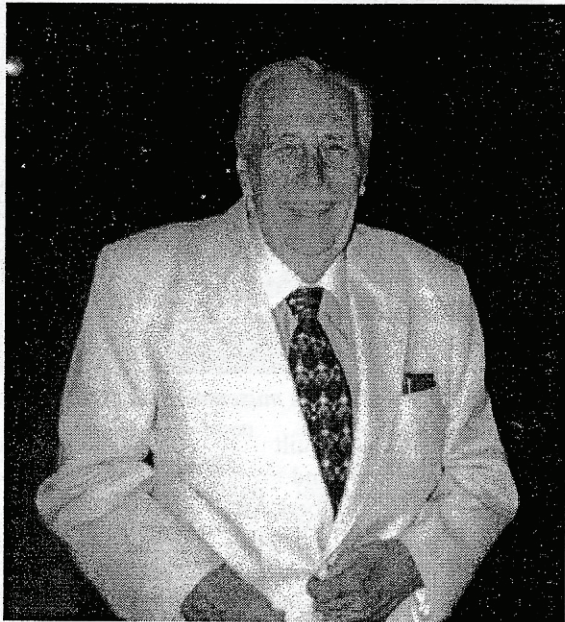
We are proud of the 100 oral histories available to the public and of the 300 plus vintage photos. Information about Benson is given in the picture history display. This display features a time line from the early arrival of the

conquistadors and Spanish missionaries through the 1950s.

Our latest acquisition is a "reference center" which contains photo albums, oral history transcriptions, scrap books and many old copies of the Journal of Arizona History and the Cochise County Historical quarterlies and journals. Everyone is welcome to refer to this material.

The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm during the winter, and from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in the summer. There is no admission fee.

Guardian of History



Paul Huber

My parents, Paul H. and Katherine Josephine Kennedy Huber, arrived in Douglas, Arizona by train in the summer of 1924. My father had a contract to teach at the Douglas High School.

In the summer of 1925, when school was out, my parents went back to Menomonie, Wisconsin where

my father was going to attend summer school.

I was born in my grandparent's home in Menomonie on July 6, 1925. Two weeks after my birth, my parents and I were on a train coming back to Douglas. My father was an educator in Douglas for 45 years under contract and substituted for the

district 11 years after retirement. My mother was a homemaker.

I grew up in Douglas, attended Douglas schools and graduated from Douglas High School in May 1942. After high school, I attended the University of Arizona for a semester before I enlisted in the U.S. Navy. During WWII, I saw action in the Pacific aboard a destroyer. My ship was hit by a kamikaze on April 14, 1945.

After my discharge from the Navy on April 16, 1945, I returned to Douglas and attended the University of Arizona during the 46-47 and 47-48 school years. I was attending the Business and Public Administration College at the U of A while we were purchasing the equipment so that my parents and I could open a commercial printing establishment. The Sun Press started operations in 1949 at 845 F Avenue in Douglas.

I had met a very nice lady, Dorothy Annette Benson, and in the summer of 1948 I asked her if she would consider going out with me. Dorothy and I were married in Douglas

on May 17, 1949 in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

Dorothy's parent's Paul Jean and Annette Rock Benson were married in Bisbee, Arizona on June 27, 1904. They made their home in Douglas. Mr. Benson worked as a carpenter for the Copper Queen Smelter and Mrs. Benson cared for their home and six children, four boys and two girls.

Dorothy was the youngest, born May 24, 1920. All of the Benson children grew up in Douglas, attended Douglas school and graduated from Douglas High School and all married Douglasites.

I never had the pleasure of knowing Dorothy's parents. Her mother died in 1929 and her father in 1941. I did learn some of the history of Douglas in the 1900's and 1910's from talking and listening to my in-laws.

Dorothy and I had six children, Katherine Annette, Patricia Ellen, Christine Margaret, Marian Frances, Cecilia Jean and Paul Joseph. All were born in the Douglas Hospital and graduated from

Douglas High School. Today three daughters live in Arizona and two daughters and son live in California.

Dorothy graduated from Arizona State University and worked at the Phelps Dodge Corporation Western Division offices for 18 years and taught in the Douglas School system for 23 years. My wife went to her eternal reward on October 20, 1998.

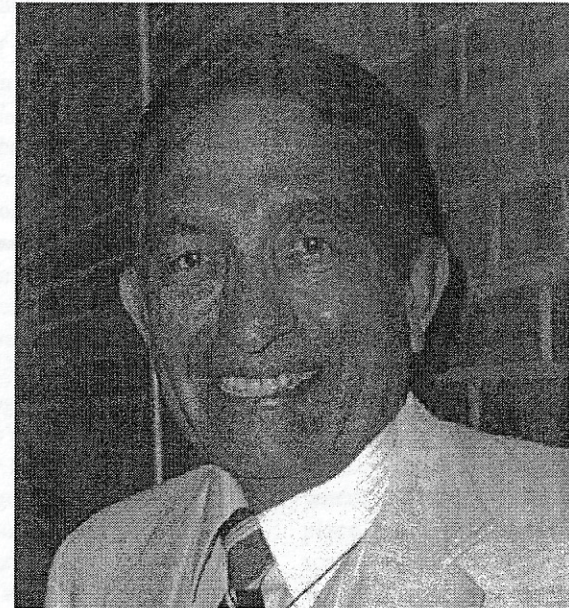
I managed the Sun Press for 22 years. During this time period, I went back to the U of A and obtained my degree in Public Administration. I later taught in the Douglas schools for 16 years. During these 38 years, I was also a City Councilman for 7½ years and mayor of Douglas for eight years.

I also was, for a time, a Counselor for a State Job Corps Program, served as President of Cochise United Recovery enterprise (an OEO program), was Vice-President of Arizona Rural Effort (multi-county OEO program), was President of Southern Arizona Government Organization, was on the Board of Directors of the

League of Arizona Cities and Towns for eight years, a member of the Governors Hospital and Survey Council, was a member of the American Legion Post 11 championship Drum & Bugle Corps, and was the Post 11 Adjutant for 16 years and I stayed in the Naval Reserve in Douglas.

After I retired, I was Judge Pro Tem of Justice Court Precinct 2 and I have been a member of the Board of Directors of the Douglas Historical Society since its inception, and served as President for three years. I have made several talks on the various aspects of the History of Douglas and have done extensive research of the cities history.

Guardian of History



Roy Manley

Roy Manley was born in Douglas in 1925. He attended the local schools, graduating from High School in 1943. Shortly after graduation he joined the Navy where he served on the Destroyer U.S.S. Smith

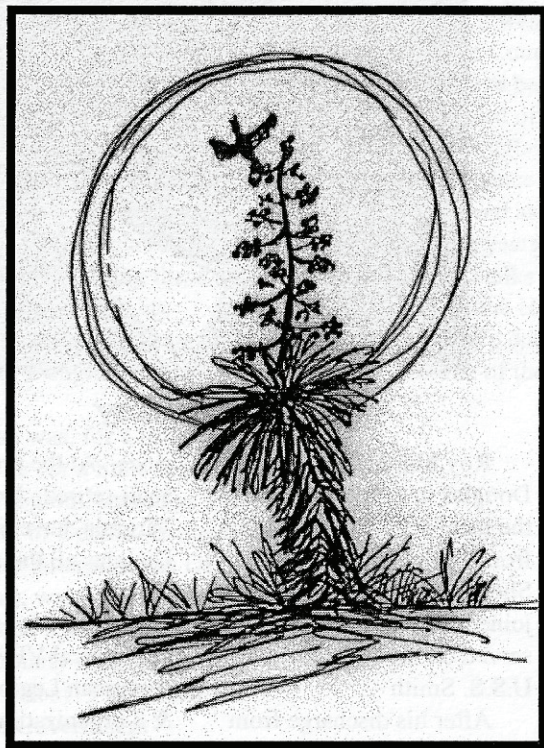
After his discharge from the service in 1946, he went to work for Devore Auto Supply and has remained there ever

since. At the present, Roy is semi-retired. He and his wife, Virginia, have lived in Douglas all their married lives.

Roy is a long time member of the local VFW, the American Legion and the 40 & 8 organizations, and also a member of both the Douglas Historical Society and the CCHS.

Roy became interested in Douglas history in 1950 when the Douglas Dispatch issued the special 50th anniversary edition. His is especially

interested in the streetcars and the early buildings. He is also interested in seeing any artifacts pertaining to the Douglas history.



Artwork by Anna Magoffin

Book Review

By Mary Burnett-Graham

If you like adventure, action and history, try *Gun Notches, The Life Story of a Cowboy-Soldier* by Captain Thomas H. Rynning as told to Al Cohn and Joe Chisholm. Thomas H. Rynning's adventures as a cowboy, soldier, officer in the Rough Riders and a Captain of the Arizona Rangers range through several states and the years of the late 1800s and early 1900s. You will recognize the names of famous as well as infamous characters of the Old West.

I will touch on the parts of the book that pertain to our local history and go along with our current Journal. Rynning tells about General Crook. He says he was a great soldier who rode a government mule and did not dress like a general. Crook did not appreciate the "bureau warriors" of Washington.

When Crook persuaded Geronimo and his braves to come to San Bernardino Ranch for peace talks, Bob

Tribolet and his hired Mexican sold them mescal and sabotaged the peace process. Rather than suffer further bureaucratic indignities, Crook asked to be relieved of his duty. General Miles replaced him.

Rynning was packing (hauling supplies) in Pueblo Viejo when Geronimo surrendered to General Miles. When Rynning returned to Skeleton Canyon he says "We built a big monument of stones there to mark the spot where the surrender took place. There were several scalps lying around the spot. We found out later that General Miles had learned some of the soldiers was carrying them in their saddle bags and he made them throw them away." (Page 69)

Rynning tells us that the Arizona Rangers force was small – never more than 25 men. Some were Texas Ranger veterans. He says, "When John Slaughter quit the Sheriff's office of Cochise County in 1890, that nervy little hombre had left so many

dead horse thieves in the hills when he brought back stolen stock that he's really pacified things a heap down in that county." (Page 201)

By 1900 the outlaws were so numerous and cattle rustling so bad that John Slaughter and other big outfits like the C.C.C. and the Erie Cattle Company had their own armies to protect their holdings.

In 1902 Rynning was appointed to relieve Captain Mossman and, at President Theodore Roosevelt and Governor Brodie's insistence, was to reorganize the Arizona Rangers. "I took the Ranger headquarters down to Douglas, a smelter-town just getting built on the line. Figured I could operate better from there, than from Bisbee up in the Mule Mountains where Mossman had kept his headquarters. And Douglas itself was the toughest proposition then on the whole American border. Needed just as much law and order driven into it as any of the open country." (Page 205)

This is a mere glimpse into a very informative, fascinating

book. If you would like to know what the terms "twisters," "waddies," "reboso," and "to fork," mean, if you'd like to learn more about the cowboys, Indians, the Mexican Revolution and the Spanish War, the outlaws and the heroes, you really should read *Gun Notches*.

We Get Letters

Dear Mary Magoffin,

In reply to your letter, I am enclosing a brochure telling you the history and some of the facts about the Rose Tree Museum and the World's Largest Rosebush.

In addition, we have now added a new room to the museum, it is called the "New Generation Room" and honors Mr. and Mrs. Macia's three children, Iris Siek, Jeanne Devere and Col. James H. Macia. This room contains Col. Macia's flight jacket from the Doolittle Raid on Tokyo during World War II, and other information about his long military career. It holds the various collections of Jeanne and Burton Devere, including Royal Dalton and rare Paul Revere Pewter and locks.

Also in the new generation room is a series of C.S. Fly's photos, most notable a nine photo collection of an 1880 round-up on the Lowery Ranch near the Whetstone Mountains.

The entire museum is filled with 1880 Tombstone items and in the bookstore we sell first and second editions of Western Americana.

Thank you for the work you are doing, we think it is great.

*Cordially,
Rose Tree Museum & Books
Dorothy Devere*

Dear Cochise County Historical Society,

Thanks for being there for me. Please send me some of your past publications. Enclosed please find a check for the publications wanted.

I was born and raised just across the lane from the very first Whitewater Store and Post Office, one-half mile north and one and a quarter miles east of Elfrida. Mrs. Amanda Jane Jones ran the business and PO there. That was before my time but we

knew our neighbors quite well. I guess Mrs. Jones was married to Mr. Crawford at that time, but she had about five kids that went by the name "Jones." We never knew Mr. Jones or Mr. Crawford but we knew the rest of them quite well.

I have always felt that family played a very important role in the early history of Cochise County. They came by way of Turquoise "Gleason" Soldiers Hole and to Whitewater long before there was an Elfrida. Mrs. Crawford and a son "Perry Jones" are buried at the McNeal Cemetery. My stepmother made the concrete headstones for their graves. The other members of the family are elsewhere.

I would sure like to see someone research that family, that little part of Cochise County History and do up a good article on it. Thanks again, I love all the work you have done in the past.

Sincerely,
J.D. Tanner

Dear Editor,

I would like to purchase some volumes of the Cochise County Historical Journal, and I would like to send a subscription to my aunt in Virginia.

My mother and Aunt Marianne were born in Douglas and delivered by Dr. Adamson. My grandfather owned a dry goods store on G Avenue in 1915 called the Boston Store. His name was Vice S. Mimica, but since most people had trouble pronouncing his name, he went by M.S. Vinnie. He came to the US in 1897 from Croatia and settled in Douglas some time after that. I was born in Douglas and graduated from DHS in 1958.

Let me know soon how I can purchase copies, the cost, and send a membership to my aunt who graduated in 1932 (Marianne Mimica). Thank you.

Marianne Davis Bray

Good Morning,

We just found your great web site. Nice job. Our families have had for a long time roots in Cochise County. We own land near Elfrida and will be moving back to Arizona within a few years. We were interested in joining the Cochise County Historical Society but could not find any information about membership on the web site. Could you e-mail us the details?

Thanks,

Rodney & Cindi Leist
Vicksburg, Mississippi (until we move home!).

Editor's Note: To view our web site, go to:

<http://www.mycochise.com> and click on "History."

Information is also there on printing a membership form and there is an index of all our publications. We thank Rodney and Cindi for bringing this to our attention.

You are cordially invited to
attend the
Cochise County Historical
Society's
Annual Meeting

Time: 12:00 p.m.

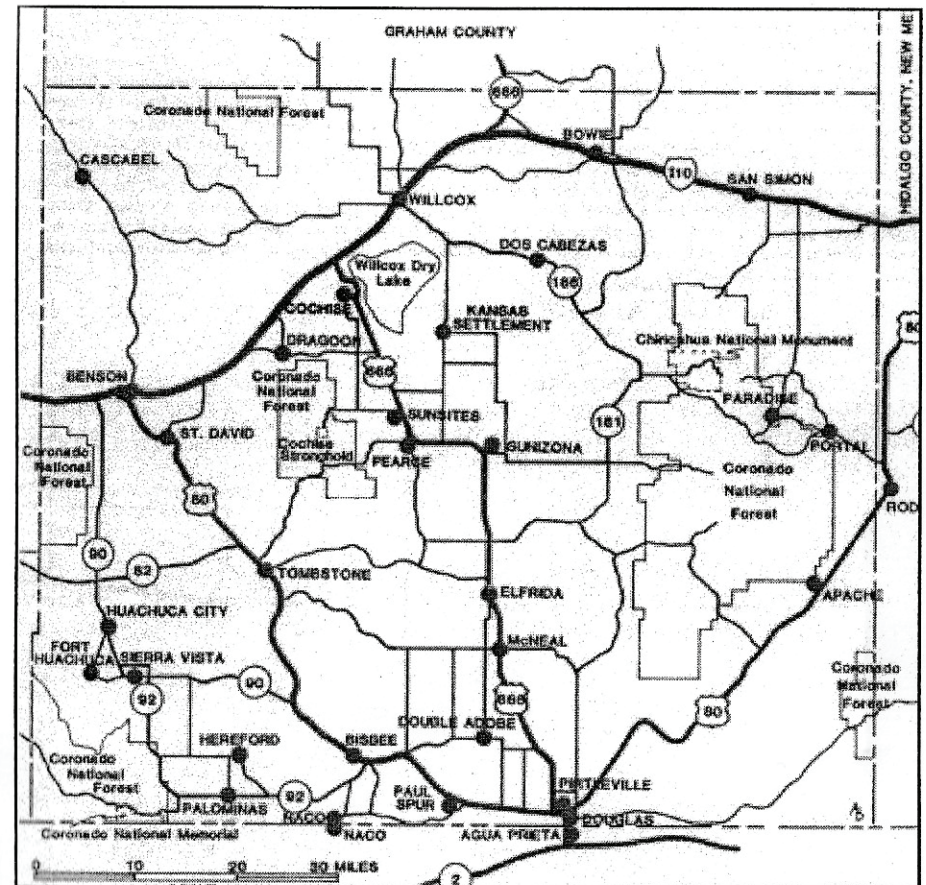
Date: Sunday, November 17, 2002

Place: Douglas Golf and Social Club
(east of the Cochise County Fairgrounds on
Leslie Canyon Road)

Looking forward to seeing you there!

You can make reservations by calling Liz Ames
at 520-364-2208
or send to PO Box 818, Douglas, AZ 85608
or e-mail us at cchsaz@earthlink.net

Further details will soon be coming in a Newsletter.



Cochise County, Arizona

Cochise County Historical Society Membership Information

Individual/family	\$20
Business	\$25
Lifetime	\$500

Mail to:
P. O. Box 818
Douglas, AZ 85608

Dues are paid effective in
January of each year and
include one copy of each
Journal published.