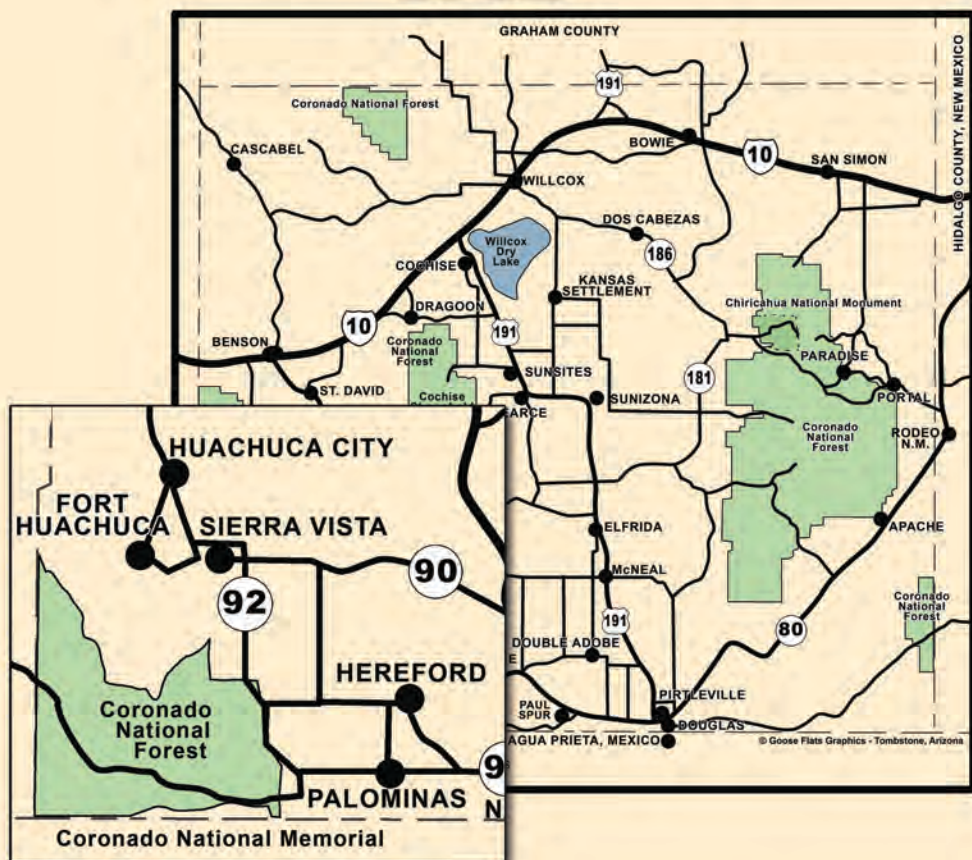


# THE COCHISE COUNTY HISTORICAL JOURNAL

A Cochise County Historical Society Publication  
Vol. 42 ~ No. 2 Fall / Winter 2012

## OUR LITTLE CORNER OF COCHISE COUNTY 1912



An Arizona Centennial Legacy Project

# CCHS

Cochise County  
Historical Society

*Founded in 1966*

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*To Preserve  
the Past for  
the Future*

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**From the Cochise County Historical Society  
President & Board of Directors**

We are pleased to feature in this issue a booklet prepared by the Sierra Vista Historical Society to show what life was like in the area around Sierra Vista in the year Arizona became a state. Entitled *Our Little Corner of Cochise County 1912*, the booklet was made available to people who attended speaker presentations sponsored by the Henry F. Hauser Museum in Sierra Vista and to persons who visited the Museum's exhibit celebrating Arizona's centennial. The essays are reprinted here because we believe they deserve a wider audience.

Also, to add to the information in the essays and to increase enjoyment of them, we have reproduced photographs, some of which appeared in the booklet, from the Museum's exhibit plus a few other sources. The Society wishes to thank the Sierra Vista Historical Society for permission to reprint the essays and Nancy Krieski, curator of the Henry F. Hauser Museum in Sierra Vista, for her assistance in acquiring and preparing the photographs for this issue.

Along with the booklet and photographs, this issue also includes two essays on education in the little corner of Cochise County, a subject not included in the booklet, as it, too, was an important aspect of life in 1912. And finally we have added a number of reviews of books that we believe will be of interest to members of the Society.

W.F. "Bill" Pakinkis  
President, Cochise County Historical Society

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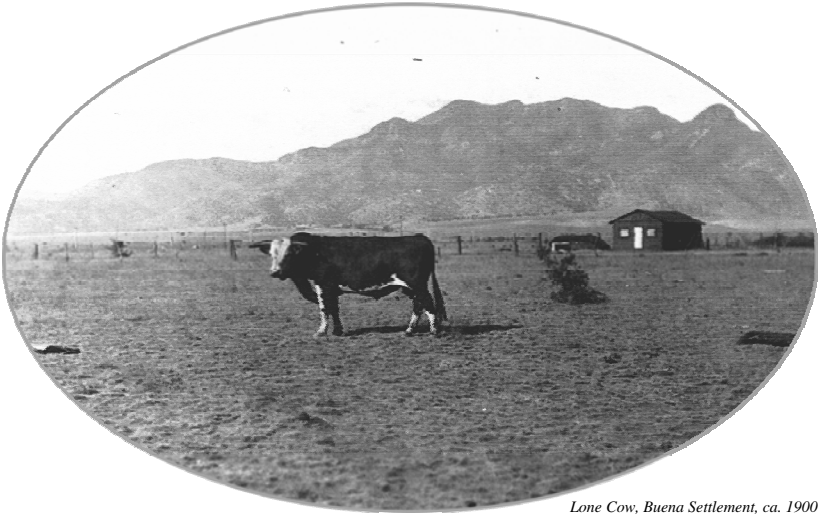
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# Cochise County Historical Journal

Vol. 42 No.2, Fall / Winter 2012

**A PROJECT OF THE SIERRA VISTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



*Lone Cow, Buena Settlement, ca. 1900  
Photo Courtesy of the Henry F. Hauser Museum*

# **Our Little Corner of Cochise County 1912**

In the year Arizona was admitted into the  
Union of the United States of America  
February 14, 1912

# Cochise County Historical Journal

## FOREWORD

This booklet was prepared by the Sierra Vista Historical Society to provide a brief insight to the area we now call Sierra Vista and the surrounding area at the time Arizona became the 48th State, which occurred one hundred years ago on February 14, 1912. The idea to make a booklet grew out of the desire to provide our residents information about this area in the early days of statehood.

What was the valley like in 1912, who were the people living here and what were they doing to make a living? Quite different from today, the area was still very much a frontier and still considered the Wild West.

Our little corner of the county stretches from the Huachuca Mountains east to the San Pedro River and from the International border north to Mustang Corners on State Road 82-- the area of primary interest to the Sierra Vista Historical Society and the Henry F. Hauser Museum. This area is within Cochise County. The county, established February 1, 1881, as part of Arizona Territory, was named after the legendary Chiricahua Apache Chief, Cochise.

Learn more about *Our Little Corner of Cochise County 1912* by visiting the Henry F. Hauser Museum located in the Ethel Berger Center at 2950 E. Tacoma Street, Sierra Vista, AZ. The Museum currently features exhibits displaying more of the Centennial days here in "Our Little Corner of Cochise County, Arizona."

Contributors have made every effort to ensure that the information in their articles is accurate. The articles have been reviewed by two descendants of pioneer families who have maintained a life-long interest in the history of southeastern Arizona. Rebecca Orozco, a Willcox native whose background is in archaeology and history, is an instructor at Cochise College. Christine



Rhodes, an Arizona native, has been Cochise County Recorder since 1973 and is active in and contributes a great deal of historical knowledge to numerous historical societies.

We are grateful for the time and interest Becky and Christine have provided. Thanks, too, to Marion Margraf, for volunteering to put this booklet together and editing it. Thanks are also due to Nancy Krieski, Curator of the Henry F. Hauser Museum, for her support of the project and booklet.

This booklet was a Centennial keepsake for visitors to the Henry F. Hauser Museum, speaker presentations, and all SVHS events. A downloadable pdf version is available at the Sierra Vista Historical Society's web site, [www.svhsaz.org](http://www.svhsaz.org) and the Henry Hauser Museum's website, [www.sierravistaaz.gov](http://www.sierravistaaz.gov).

If the history of this area captivates you as it does us, either as a casual reader or a more serious researcher, please join us at the Sierra Vista Historical Society.

***Tom Shupert***  
***Sierra Vista Historical Society***  
***January 2011***



## **The San Pedro River Valley and Our Community in 1912**

At the time on February 14, 1912, when Arizona Territory was admitted to the Union as the 48th State, there was really not very much of a community in the area that is called Sierra Vista today. Because there was no official community, no census records were gathered. The best estimate is that a few hundred people were living in this area. When Arizona became a state, "Our Little Corner," or what we call Sierra Vista today, was only a few hundred persons, including the settlements of White City and Buena, the valley to the east, and the canyons of the Huachuca Mountains.

Cochise County, created February 1, 1881, was carved out of the eastern portion of Pima County with Tombstone designated the county seat. The total population of Cochise County was 34,591 according to the 1910 census.

Tombstone remained the county seat when Arizona became a state even though the silver mining boom days (1877 to 1890) were past, due to flooding of the mines. Tombstone's official population during the town's boom reached 10,000 with several thousand more uncounted. Since 1910 Tombstone's population has stabilized at around 1500.

Bisbee emerged as the major city in the county due to the copper, silver and gold mining in the

area and its population, just in the area known as Old Bisbee today, was 9,019 which made it the third largest city in Arizona. Had Warren and the other adjacent communities been included it is estimated the total population would have been closer to 20,000. This would have ranked it ahead of Tucson and Phoenix.

Because of the wealth created by the mining industry, influential people were drawn to Cochise and Yavapai counties. As a result, Bisbee and Cochise County became leaders in the efforts to obtain statehood. In fact, the debates on statehood were held in Bisbee.

Bisbee became Cochise County seat in 1929 and remains so today. The original county buildings located in old Bisbee are historic treasures and worthy of a visit. Warren (Bisbee) can boast that it has the nation's oldest continuously operating baseball field, which opened in 1909. It is interesting that the baseball stadium where the Boston Red Sox have always played, Fenway Park, was opened later, in April 1912, the same year we achieved statehood.

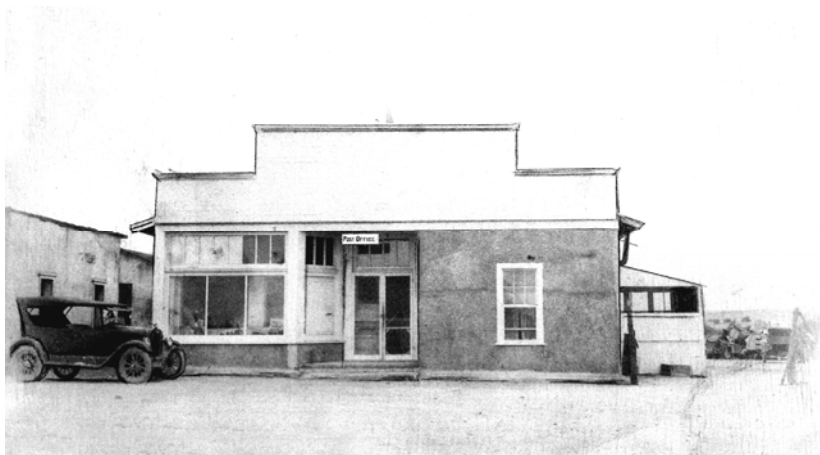
Fort Huachuca provided a small economic base and those living in White City were involved with operating saloons and brothels. Others were struggling dry land farmers and ranchers or hired help for larger ranches along the San Pedro. Some worked as laborers or operated the dairy farm on Fort Huachuca. Others were woodcutters in the canyons providing firewood and some building materials for the Fort. There were no stores in the

area; shoppers went to Bisbee or Tombstone. There were no paved streets, schools, churches, telephones, or air conditioners. In fact, there was no electricity in the area until World War II.

*Tom Shupert and David Santor*  
*Members, SVHS*



## White City



*White City, ca. 1900 (Present day Daisy Mae's Steakhouse)  
Courtesy of the Henry F. Hauser Museum, Sherbundy Rogers Collection, 2006.48.20*

Over the years, the community we now call Sierra Vista has been known by a number of other names. The first, and one of the longest lasting, was “White City.” This, however, was actually not an officially recognized name for the community. Indeed, there never was a post office or other government building bearing the name White City. Nevertheless, a significant portion of our community was identified as White City in the early 1900s and was still being referred to as White City by Cochise County’s print media right up through World War II.

A Mr. John Reilly emigrated from Ireland to the United States, arriving in New York City in 1878. That same year, Mr. Reilly signed a five-year enlistment with the U. S. Army, Company E, 2nd Cavalry. Reilly twice re-enlisted with the same cavalry unit as it moved around the United States.

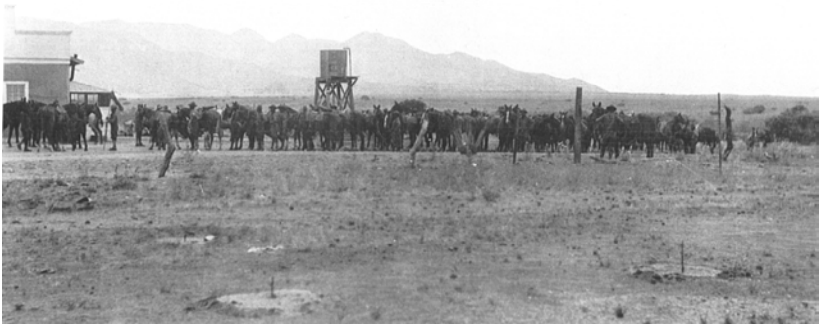
John Reilly's unit was transferred to Fort Huachuca in June of 1890 where he was honorably discharged on February 23, 1891.

Shortly after his discharge John Reilly met and married Ellen Brady. Over the next 20 years or so, the Reillys were involved in several business ventures, including cattle ranching, but primarily the saloon and brothel business. They moved onto the property currently known as Daisy Mae's Restaurant (335 N. Garden Avenue, Sierra Vista) in 1905. They had come here from the Brewery Gulch district in Bisbee, where they had also operated a saloon and brothel. They began construction of an 8-room business on this property in early 1905, completing the project that same year. Reilly opened his business as a dance hall, saloon and brothel. He named the business "The White City." The White City name would later spread to include the area's entire "red light" district. The Reillys owned and operated The White City until 1911. In March of that year, Reilly received his homestead patent for 131.5 acres of land, including the land where The White City was located. In December of 1911, the Reillys sold the entire 131.5 acres and buildings to Margaret Ziegen for \$8,000. Margaret, who later married William Carmichael, then ran the business as a general store.

The Reillys moved to California only to return two years later to lease the building from the Carmichaels and again operate it as "The White City" until January 1, 1915, when a state law prohibiting the sale of alcohol took effect. Shortly thereafter, the Reillys elected not to renew their

lease and the property reverted to the Carmichaels. In its heyday The White City was a rough and rowdy place where prostitution, whiskey, gambling and violence were the standard bill of fare.

*David Santor  
Member, SVHS*



*White City, ca. 1900  
Courtesy of the Henry F. Hauser Museum, James Rice Collection #2006.21.14.*





## Homesteading in the Area



*Courtesy of Mary Frances Clinton.*

After the establishment of both Camp Huachuca and Tombstone in 1877, prospecting and mining in the Huachuca Mountains became the dominant land activity in this area, with the first claims patented by the federal government in 1882, and continuing to about 1909. The area near the Main and North Gates of the Fort was not surveyed until 1903. Once approved, claims were filed, often by former soldiers stationed at Fort Huachuca. Time served was credited to their occupation or improvement requirements.

Other lands were being claimed as “lieu selections” by large landowners from other parts of Arizona Territory. Some of their holdings had been swallowed up by the federal creation of Forest Reserves and Indian reservations. The Aztec Land and Cattle Company, notorious in northern Arizona as the “Hashknife Outfit”, acquired one of the

earliest non-mineral parcels by swapping land on the Moqui Reservation for a property just north of John Reilly's White City in 1904.

By 1910, parcels claimed as early as 1904 (and in some cases occupied even earlier), were patented into private ownership near the North Gate of Fort Huachuca and east of the Main Gate along the north side of what would become Fry Boulevard. Oliver Fry had arrived and filed his claim in 1912, but did not acquire title until 1916. It usually took 4 years from first settlement and claim on a parcel until a patent was issued after improvements had been made, crops raised or cattle grazed, and fees paid.

However, there were other (and faster) ways to acquire land: land script approved by Congress for military service, or land exchanges. The Bisbee Daily Review for March 23, 1911, ran an ad for Phoenix lawyer Fen S. Hildreth advertising "public land script that will acquire title to the public lands without residence, cultivation or improvements." Another Phoenix attorney, Mary Leverich, was associated with land sales by Santa Fe Pacific Railroad Company, which acquired thousands of acres in this area around 1915 as "lieu lands," property granted for construction of the transcontinental railroad across northern Arizona.

Most of the land in this area was not suitable for cultivation, and the homestead papers reflect that clearly. Affidavits by the claimant and other witnesses had to be submitted to the government land office to show what efforts were being made to raise

crops. Many of these show complete or partial crop failures in 1912, 1913, and 1914 due to lack of summer rains.

*Ed Riggs  
Member, SVHS*



*Courtesy of Jack Moody.*



## Buena Settlement

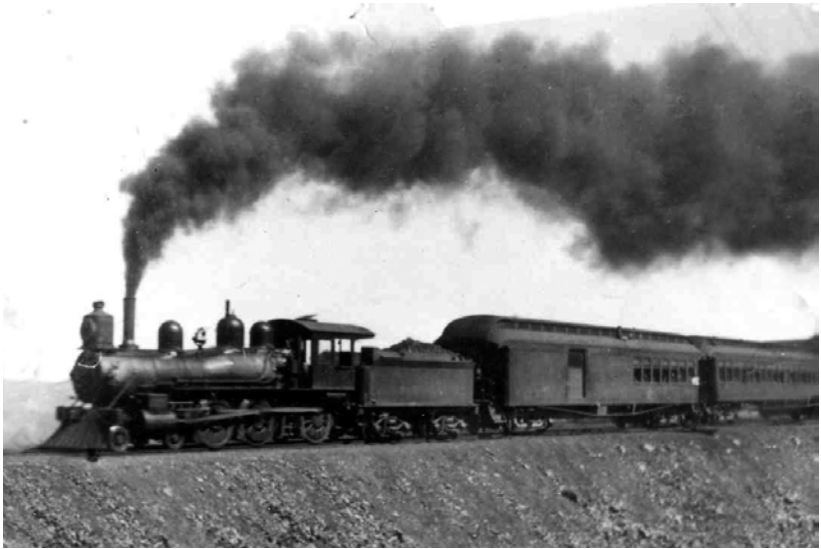


*Buena School House, ca. 1900*

*Courtesy of the Henry F. Hauser Museum, James Rice Collection #2006.21.13.*

Buena is one of the many names our community had during its very beginnings, even though it was located approximately three miles east of the Fort Huachuca main gate. The other names for the community all referred to the area directly outside the main gate. The settlement known as Buena was probably just in the formulation stages when Arizona became a state on February 14, 1912. This area was roughly where Highways 90 and 92 join together.

A number of homesteads were filed in this area between 1910 and 1914 as a result of a major update to the 1862 Homestead Act known as the Enlarged Homestead Act, which passed in 1909 and which targeted land suitable for dry land farming.



*Copper Queen Library Collection #1980.138c.  
Courtesy of the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum.*

Exactly when this area became known as Buena is unknown, although there is an official record showing the establishment of a Buena Post Office on July 7, 1913, with one of the homesteaders, John H. Downer, appointed postmaster on October 25, 1913. This post office existed until October 31, 1919, when the mail was delivered to the Garden Canyon Post Office. One reference says that John "Grampa" Downer built a small store with a post office, but no records of this store have been found. The Buena settlers built a small building alongside the El Paso & Southwestern railroad tracks as a whistle stop called the Buena Depot.

These homesteaders built a two-room school to consolidate a number of one-room schools which were operating in the region. Mr. Plimmon S. Hulbert donated four acres located on the southwest corner of his homestead for the school, which was

built by volunteers from nearby homesteads. In the mid-1940s the school was expanded to four rooms. It is interesting today to learn from alumni of Buena Elementary that it was the students of Buena who cleaned the school until 1952, when a custodian was hired. Also, the children brought their own bats, balls, marbles and tops to play with at recess.

Buena Elementary continued to serve the community until 1956, when the Carmichael School was opened. Then the building was used as an overflow for the first Buena High School and then as the Sierra Vista District Offices until 1986. Thus, the Buena Settlement provided a school building that served this community for 71 years. Not bad for a facility built on donated land by volunteer labor.

*Tom Shupert*  
*Member, SVHS*





## Hereford and Palominas



*S.P. Depot, Hereford, Arizona  
Courtesy of the Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum, Copper Queen Library Collection, Bradshaw Collection, 1980.138d*

Palominas, a community along the San Pedro River north of the Mexican border, has been called that since early ranching days. Apparently the name came from the name of the horse, Palomino, and was first given to the customs inspection station on the border. After the turn of the century there was a rush of homesteader claims, but it was difficult to survive on dry land farming and many of the homestead patents were sold to nearby ranchers. By 1912, Palominas had a new school and was a community of farm and ranching families.

Hereford, situated seven miles north of the border, was a village near the San Pedro River within the Palominas community. A smelter was built there in 1881 by William Herring, who named the site for an attorney friend in Tucson, Benjamin Hereford. The smelter soon shut down and was later destroyed by fire.

When Col. William Greene filed for a homestead in 1884, Hereford became the headquarters of his farm and the Greene Cattle Company. By building a dam and eight reservoirs on the river he was able to grow hay and beans. Greene was an extraordinary promoter who accumulated a million acres in ranch land on both sides of the border and built a multi-million dollar copper enterprise in Cananea, Mexico.

Greene's business success was very brief. In 1889 he began his first promotional venture in Cananea, the Cobre Grande Mine, but nine years later his empire had collapsed. After his death in 1911, the Greene Cattle Company and the San Rafael del Valle Land Grant, which had been acquired by Greene, were sold to the Boquillas Land and Cattle Company.

The El Paso and Southwest (EP & SW) Railroad built a stop in Hereford in 1903 and by 1912 it was a busy ranching community. Along with the general store, post office, Wells Fargo telegraph office and railroad station, there were many adobe houses, a two-room school, a cantina and dance hall. A large brick house was used as headquarters for the Greene ranch and a one-lane bridge had been built

across the San Pedro. Ranchers in Mexico drove huge herds of cattle to the Palominas customs station, and then to the loading corrals in the Hereford railway yards for shipment to market across the country.

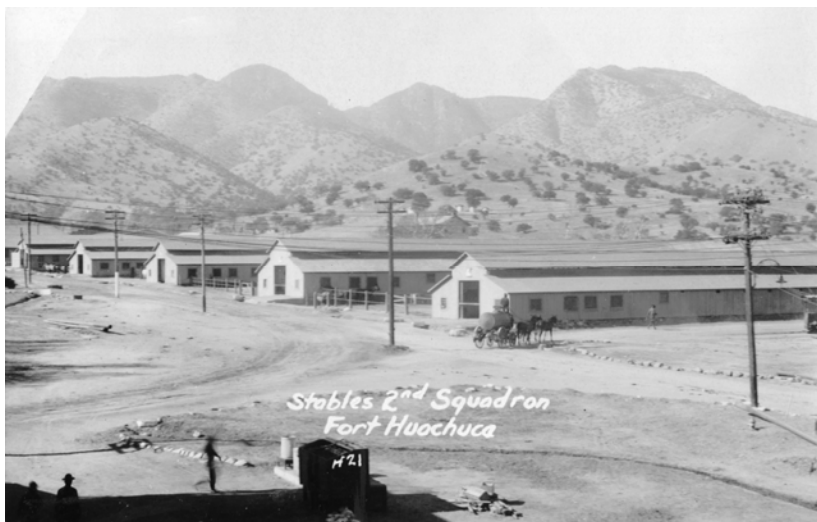
Hereford was a busy little village as long as the railroad was in operation. Along with cattle shipments, Fort Huachuca soldiers were brought to the station for transport on to the fort. However, by the 1960s the railroad business had stopped and the post office was moved to Palominas, later to Nicksville.

The buildings in Hereford have all been removed. Today it is merely a postal district and as one travels east on Hereford Road past the bridge, one can only imagine the Wild West town of a hundred years ago.

*Suzanne Arnold*  
*Member, SVHS*



## Fort Huachuca in February 1912



*Stables for the 2nd Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, ca. 1916.  
Courtesy of the Fort Huachuca Museum.*

Fort Huachuca was founded in 1877 with the mission of protecting settlers in the San Pedro Valley from raiding bands of Apache and outlaws from both sides of the border with Mexico. From 1886 to 1912 the post was relatively quiet; buildings would be added and different units would be stationed there. The rumblings of the Mexican Revolution were being felt in border towns starting in 1910, and after the revolt in Baja, California, in 1911 U.S. troops were placed on detached service near Mexican border towns, with the practice continuing for many years.

Arizona statehood did not affect the daily operations of the Army. In the official monthly report called the "Post Return," no mention was made of the change. To the average soldier it meant nothing

as he was far from his home state or country. There is no record of any commemoration of the event.

January 1912 saw the departure of the 6th US Cavalry Regiment, which had been at the post since 1908. The replacements were Troops E, F, G, H, K, & M (with an average of 64 enlisted men and 2 officers per troop) of the 4th US Cavalry, which had been at the post during the 1880s.

By February 1912, the 4th Cavalry had settled in to the routine of garrison duty, training and patrols. In early February a detachment of eleven men and an officer from Troop E were detailed to duty at Naco, and in late February Troops E & F left post for Douglas, while Troop H went to Warren, K to San Rafael and Nogales, and M to Nogales for patrol duty and "enforcing the neutrality laws." Some troops had returned to the post by April while others remained in the field for some time.

At the end of the month of February it was reported that there were a total of 430 servicemen, with 6 officers and 131 enlisted men present and 13 officers and 280 enlisted men on detached service. This number included 12 Hospital Corpsmen, 2 Signal Corpsmen, and 6 Indian Scouts. Sixteen soldiers were added by transfer, enlistment, recruits from depot, or returned from desertion. Two officers transferred out, 3 soldiers left at the end of their service, 1 retired for disability, 5 were discharged by sentence of General Courts-Martial, and 1 retired. Nine soldiers were in confinement awaiting trial. In addition, there were 352 serviceable horses and a Veterinary Officer present.

Complementing the troops were the civilians and their families, Anglo and Mexican, who performed various duties including laundry, carpentry, and blacksmithing. Of note was Andrew D. Orr, the post blacksmith, who worked on the fort from 1901 to 1930, and raised a sizeable family here.

Others working on the post were those building the new two-story barracks and dual officers quarters, whose construction had begun or was about to begin. The El Paso & Southwestern Railroad was constructing a spur from Lewis Springs on the San Pedro River to the post, which was completed in February 1913. In the meantime, the troops used the rail line seven miles distant at Huachuca Sid-ing, near present-day Huachuca City. Fort Huachuca would continue its border protection role until 1941, when it became a training base for troops in World War II.

*Steve Gregory*  
*Museum Technician, Ft. Huachuca Museum*



Private George E. Mader with Troop 1, 5th Cavalry, 1913.  
Courtesy of the Fort Huachuca Museum.





## Transportation in the Nineteen-Teens



*Clinton Family homestead, Palominas, ca. 1910.  
Courtesy of Mary Frances Clinton.*

Horseback or wagons pulled by horses or mules was the primary mode of transportation during the early nineteen-teens. Of course, these early residents did a great deal of walking, too. There are no records of automobiles in our area until around 1915.

There were no paved streets or roads in our little corner of Cochise County. Fry Boulevard, as we know it today, was a narrow dirt track extending generally along the same route. Garden Avenue, also a dirt track, headed north along the boundary of Fort Huachuca much like it does today towards the junction of Highway 90 and SR 82 where it ended at a point known as the "Y". No traffic, congestion or stop lights during these early days.



*Bisbee Review Election Special near Hereford, ca. 1904. Copper Queen Library Collection #1980.138.6.  
Courtesy of the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum*

There were three short line railroads that served our community and the surrounding area. These railroads were major factors in the development of our little corner. Mining and ranching generated the need for better transportation. While these trains hauled primarily copper ore and cattle out of the area, they also allowed shipment of goods into the area, such as building supplies. Each of these short lines connected to the Santa Fe Railroad in Benson.

The Santa Fe Railroad, operating under a subsidiary called the New Mexico and Arizona Railroad, had a branch that ran from Benson through Con-

tention, Fairbank and Campstone (Huachuca City), then continued to Sonoita, Patagonia and Nogales. This is the train route that brought Oliver Fry and Evert Easton to our community in June, 1912.

Another short line of the New Mexico and Arizona Railroad connected Hereford, Naco and Douglas. There was a depot in Hereford which was used for passengers from our corner of Cochise County. The ruins of this depot and the roadbed can be seen just off Highway 92 along the Hereford Road.

The third short line ran from Lewis Springs through our community into Fort Huachuca. There was a whistle stop station (shack) in the community of Buena from 1913 until probably 1919. No other depots were in our community and no record of passenger service from this line has been found.

*Tom Shupert*  
*Member, SVHS*



## The San Pedro River in 1912



*Cattle at the San Pedro River at the Hereford bridge. Bradshaw Collection.  
Courtesy of the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum.*

South of the Benson area, the San Pedro River in 1912 was mostly a bleak ditch with a few scattered trees and only limited non-woody vegetation near it. The river was mostly a small, braided, perennial stream. Humans had used as fuel many of the former mesquite thickets. Scouring floods had removed most of the remaining plants near the river. The river was rapidly changing from the conditions seen by early explorers and those of today.

In the decades before the 1880s, the San Pedro in most places had hardly cut into the surrounding floodplain. Water flow was perennial south of the Benson area and mostly perennial to the north. The San Pedro's banks had a mosaic of spring fed wetlands, grasslands, and scattered woodlands of cottonwood, willow, and ash. Abundant fish were as long as 3 feet and were sold commercially. Bea-

ver dams backed up water into large pools, and many places had extensive mesquite thickets.

Large floods during the late 19th and early 20th centuries resulted in the channel rapidly cutting downward to form discontinuous narrow arroyos. The arroyos widened and joined into the single deep arroyo found today. Adjacent water-table levels dropped as water drained away through the arroyo banks. The arroyo development, the accompanying drop in water tables and in stream flow, the disappearance of suitable habitats, and human activities eliminated the once abundant large fishes.

North of Benson, until as late as 1926, portions of the river still had conditions similar to those just described, but by 1926 these portions were also undergoing the transformations described for the southern areas.

The cutting and widening of the arroyo through which the river flowed slowed after approximately 1940, and the river began to deposit sediments. These sediments provided favorable habitat for the extensive forests now present in areas with perennial water flow. If we humans allow, in coming centuries the river will fill in with sediments and revert to the conditions found by early explorers. The cycling between these former conditions and the deeply cut river of today had occurred at least six times before the arrival of Anglo-Americans and once since their arrival. The transformation between the two types of river occurred rapidly while each of the two different types persisted for long periods.

*Gerald R. Noonan Ph.D.*

## Area Ranching and Farming



*Hereford, Arizona, shipping corrals.  
Bisbee Mining & Historical Museum, Copper Queen Library Collection, Bradshaw Collection, 1981.141.22*

Most farms started out as homesteads. The homesteads along the river had ample water and good soil. The river was dammed up and used for the irrigation of various crops such as pinto beans, corn, and tomatoes. The water table was shallow, allowing for hand dug wells. This provided water for the house and livestock using a hand pump or windmill.

Dry farming was a term used when no irrigation was possible. The crop depended entirely on rainfall which came in mid to late summer. The growing season is long in southern Arizona. This type of farming was always a gamble. If the rains weren't sufficient, or intermittent with dry spells, the crop



would fail.

Mostly horse drawn equipment was used on the farm. Transportation was usually horseback, wagon or buggy. There was a railhead at Hereford to get crops to market if they weren't sold locally.

Much of the land was only suited for ranching. Homesteads weren't large enough to graze cattle; most ranches had some deeded land and some leased public lands. Some ranches combined farming and ranching. Ranchers cut the native grasses in the draws for winter feed for livestock.

Boquillas Land and Cattle Company owned the San Juan de las Boquillas y Nogales Spanish Land Grant, which ran along the San Pedro River and is now managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The San Pedro House sits on this land grant. Boquillas owned considerable acreage in Cochise County.

Ranchers were not responsible for building fences to keep their livestock on their own land. If you didn't want someone else's cattle and horses on your property, it was up to you to fence them out. However, as a practical matter, most people fenced their animals in. Because cattle had the right of way, the railroad fenced the train tracks and eventually roads would be fenced as well.

Roundups were held twice a year. Calves were branded and ear marked in the spring and the bull calves castrated. In the fall the calves were shipped along with any old or sick cows. Some of the ranches would round up together but the larger

ranches had enough labor.

There were many ranches in the area. Wells and windmills, springs and the San Pedro River provided water for the livestock. There was good pasture unless the rains failed. Cattle were shipped by rail from the shipping pens in Hereford.

*Betty Escapule  
Member, SVHS*



*Fighting it Out, ca. 1909. Photograph by Erwin E. Smith.  
Courtesy of the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum.*



## Life in the Canyons



*Robert and Elizabeth Todd giving Henry Magne a haircut. ca. 1910. Almeda Todd Collection.  
Courtesy of Rosemary Snapp*

Huachuca Mountain Canyons were very active places in the early 1900s. People living there were engaged in mining, farming, ranching, hauling, building and all kinds of support occupations. They came from Germany, Ireland, England, Scotland and most of the then existing states.

In Ramsey Canyon, mining companies like Henry Hamburg's Princeton Copper Mining and Smelting Co. helped create a busy community. The 1909-1912 Arizona Business Directories list the people who found opportunities there. There was general merchandise available with Anderson and Cull, and the Hartford Company. Zack Parker, Lee Hall and Anderson and Cull operated saloons. W. J. Berner was a florist. John Flannigan and Hugh

Fletcher sold clothing. Fletcher also sold groceries and ran the Hamburg-Hereford Stage Line. Fannie Fletcher and Polly Rogers had a restaurant, Miss Still a boarding house. There was the Hartford Co. Hotel and Jack Ashworth's Hotel d'Jack. Arthur Young was a notary public; L. Hamburg, the postmaster. By 1912 there would be the Berner Resort and Dance Hall.

In Brown Canyon James and Lessie Mae Haverty raised cattle, bred horses, gardened, and cut wood to supply the fort and their neighbors. In Carr Canyon, homesteaders Robert and Elizabeth Todd and their seven children distributed produce from their 20-acre garden and 1200-fruit tree orchard to Bisbee and Ft. Huachuca. Elizabeth also served as postmistress. Civil War soldier Charles R. Biederman, a neighbor, grew English walnut trees, and taught his grafting methods to University of Arizona students. He also collected and researched insects. The Magne brothers, Henry and Horace, living at the Todds' place, worked at prospecting, surveying, clerking, and mine engineering. Henry became justice of the peace in 1914.

By 1915 Hugh and Fannie Fletcher were homesteading in Carr Canyon, growing fruit and nut trees. Fannie retired from teaching to drive the school van and helped operate the couple's dude ranch. In 1936, beside the new highway, they opened the Brite Spot Restaurant and Fletcher's Round-up.

Workers for the Huachuca Water Company maintained the dams and the cast iron pipes of the

1882 water system from Carr and Miller Canyons to Tombstone. They installed a phone line connecting Miller and Tombstone.

There were small mines in all the canyons worked by lone men and some with families, searching for minerals--anything from lead to gold. Hunters came for game, especially mountain lions. Entomologists, birders, and botanists visited and collected. Roads, homes and schools were built, voting districts set up, censuses taken, and time made to gather for politicking, celebrating, and creating the traditions and stories we honor today.

*Rosemary Snapp*  
*Historian for Friends of the Huachuca Mountains*



*Charles R. Biederman's Workshop, Carr Canyon, ca. 1910.*  
*Courtesy of Rosemary Snapp*



## Mining in the Huachuca Mountains



*Exposed Reef Mine, Huachuca Mountains, ca. 1910  
Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, Collection #PC148-72806*

The bonanza of huge ore bodies of silver in Tombstone and copper in Bisbee at the turn of the century seemed to indicate that comparable riches lay in the Huachuca Mountains. Nearby strikes spurred intensive prospecting in the Huachucas, then with the Bureau of Mines name "The Hartford Mining District." A somewhat disappointing order of mining success occurred, however.

The more meager riches of the Hartford were numerous small deposits of ores of lead, zinc and copper, with an occasional glance of silver or fleck of gold. Dozens of smallscale lead and zinc mines were operated in most of the canyons of the Hart-



ford District having dependable stream water. Many were sideline, additional income sources for early family settlers. While mining for small amounts of lead and zinc may seem uneconomical today, there was much need for those metals for such things as lead plumbing and galvanized roofing in the pre-plastic nineteen-teen era.

A few mining ventures in the nineteen-teens did give the Hartford a measure of fame. Located on Coronado National Memorial land, the State of Texas Mine was a major provider of zinc, vitally needed in the U.S. war effort in both world wars. Similar help in the wars was made by nighttime miners who gathered up rocks containing "Scheelite," the ore of scarce tungsten metal. The ore-rock was found on present-day Scheelite Ridge of Fort Huachuca, and is indistinguishable from worthless rock until, under black light, it glows bright blue. Nighttime mining under cumbersome black light posed special risk of falls and snakebite. While noxious scorpions do glow and reveal themselves under black light, rattlesnakes in rocky terrain do not!

The Reef Mine atop Carr Canyon was one of the most elaborate enterprises in the Hartford. It produced some gold and tungsten but was never profitable. Remnants of its nineteen-teens workings can be seen today. A few other mines in the district were productive enough to maintain small communities of mining and support families--for a while. As the ores ran out the communities left too, with little trace. Some of the vanished communities had virtually worthless mines to begin with, and, at bot-

tom, were investment scams. Mining entrepreneurs in the nineteen-teens could easily incorporate and print up classy looking stock certificates. The real worth of their mines, if any, was another matter.

*Joe Pais*  
*Member, Huachuca Mineral and Gem Club*



## Woodcutters in the Canyons



*Photo courtesy of Nacho Valenzuela.*

The Huachuca Mountains and their valleys have been a valuable resource to our community for hundreds of years. As noted elsewhere in this pamphlet, mining and mining exploration were major activities, along with wood harvesting.

During the mid to late 1800s there were several large scale lumber mills in the canyons which provided building materials (primarily to Fort Huachuca) and railroad ties for the short line railroads being built in our little corner of Cochise County. In the late 1800s, when the railroads were operating, the need for railroad ties diminished because the railroads began importing building materials.

Woodcutting in the Huachucas to supply firewood for heating and cooking on Fort Huachuca was a major resource for many, many years. During the early 1900s some woodcutting was done for building materials and the mill on the Fort used to

process the wood.

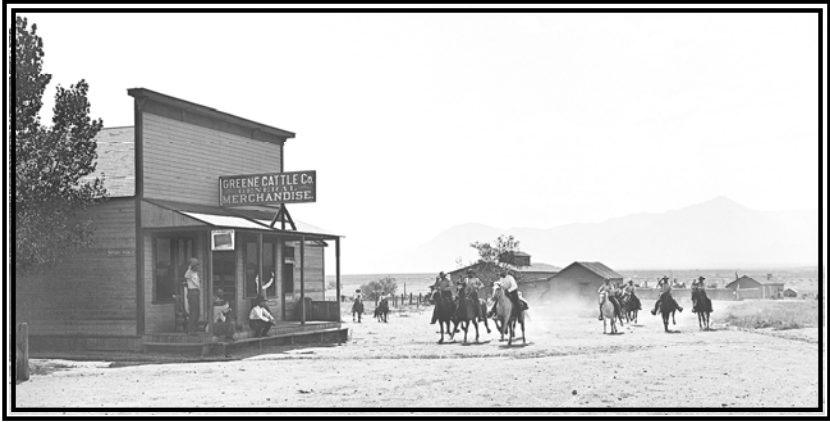
Woodcutting in Garden Canyon to Ash Canyon was done primarily by Mexican Americans living in the area. The Army at Fort Huachuca contracted with individuals who hired the woodcutters. These men could cut one to one-and-a-half cords each day, for which they were paid 50¢ a cord. Many had families who lived in the canyons where they were working and often migrated from one canyon to the next. The trees were cut into three- or four-foot long sections and loaded onto wagons. Mules or horses were used to pull these wagons onto the Fort, which was a three- to ten-mile trip, depending upon which canyon was being cut.

The families lived in framed structures covered with canvas or tin. Families lived close together and the evening meals were a communal affair. The young school-age children were bused to school at Buena Elementary. Of course, during the nineteen-teens the bus was really a car. Those living in Brown Canyon walked to the dirt road which is today Ramsey Canyon Road to catch the bus.

Two of the sons of these wood cutters are still in our community, Nacho Valenzuela and Joe Garcia, and we are very grateful to them for providing their stories, available to all as part of the oral history program at the Henry F. Hauser Museum.

*Tom Shupert*  
*Member, SVHS*





*OR Boys Hit Town, Hereford, AT, 1909. Photographed by Erwin E. Smith.  
Courtesy of the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum*

**GREENE CATTLE COMPANY  
GENERAL MERCHANDISE  
1909  
“COWBOYS GOING TO TOWN”**

# **Education in Our Little Corner**

## **Buena District Schools**

*by Rosa Farrell*

[Reprinted from *The Cochise Quarterly*, 4:2&3 (June & Sept. 1974): 26-28.]

Schools in Cochise County have been in session for 100 years, and perhaps much longer than that. In 1865 Mrs. Mary Bernard Aguirre taught at Tres Alamos School. Tres Alamos was once a flourishing farming community built around the Butterfield Stage station on the San Pedro. The once impressive adobe buildings have disappeared. Treasure hunters knocked them over, and the adobe bricks, made on the spot, have crumbled back to the earth.

It is also my understanding that Mary Aguirre was the first teacher hired in the county after the Gadsden Purchase.

In 1881 Cochise County was formed from a part of Pima County. That same year the county started collecting taxes, and if you think your taxes are high you would not like it then. Each voter had to pay \$2.50 each for school and road tax; 50c per hundred assessed valuation of property; for schools an additional 10c was added for redemption of Territorial Prison bonds; and 25c for territorial purposes.

The sheriff assessed property and collected taxes and it was evidently assessed at full value.



The probate judge was the school superintendent and in 1884 the county supervisors "on motion" announced the school districts and numbers.

Between 1881 and 1913 schools in Buena District were taught at Ramsey Canyon, Charleston, Lewis Springs, Carr Canyon, Ash Canyon, and Camp Stone. Camp Stone school was taught in one room of the Al Turner's home. This building still stands. Harriette Blackmer was the teacher. To get to this site one crosses the bridge over the Barbo-comari stream, on the main road through Huachuca City, and turn left and you will soon be there. Bud Moson told of going to school at Crystal Springs.

Both the Ramsey School and Charleston Schools were in use in 1881. Ramsey Canyon School was five miles up the canyon, so kids had a long hike or longish trot on a trusty pony--to and from school. Professor McCabe taught the Ramsey Canyon School and Professor Witherspoon taught the Charleston School. Both were dynamic intrepid frontiersmen, well educated and excellent teachers.

McCabe, mindful that the country teemed with Apaches, desperados and bandits, all on the war-path, wore a six-shooter at all times, and kept a sharp look out for danger even during class. Four Charleston boys were murdered by Apaches in 1884 near the school.

He financed extras for the school by sponsoring real Western dances. A temperance man, he settled liquor inspired disputes during the dances by shackling disturbers to a huge tree in the school



*Buena School House, ca. 1900*

*Courtesy of the Henry F. Hauser Museum, James Rice Collection.*

yard. The tree can still be seen on the Wallace Haverty ranch. The dances were held weekly.

Professor Witherspoon had his classes so disrupted by students target shooting out of the windows that he built a special shelf and inaugurated a pistol checking system for students who came to school armed as a matter of course.

Buena School is located on the rim of a valley originally settled and farmed by Indians of the Moquis and Sobapuri tribes and fragments of their pottery is still about. In 1539 Fray Marcos de Niza

and Estevan, a Negro, traveled through the valley. Later the Spaniards established a presidio at the present site of Fronteras, and Southern Arizona was mapped, and San Pedro given the Indian name, the Rio Quiburi. The site of the Buena School was in Quiburi valley. There was a large Sobapuri town called Quiburi between where the Buena School now stands and Tombstone.

The vicinity of the Buena School was thoroughly explored by Jebediah Smith, Felix Aubrey, Alex and James Pattie, Bill Williams, and Kit Carson. Carson and a party of mountain men trapped beavers several winters in this vicinity.

Mexico revolted from Spain and later in 1853 Arizona passed from Mexico to the United States as a part of the Gadsden Purchase. The present Buena School District was then in Dona Ana County, New Mexico Territory.

In 1913 the Southern Pacific Railroad built a branch line from Lewis Spring to Fort Huachuca. The settlement near the gate of the fort, called Pangingo, was renamed White City. Three years of unprecedented rainfall caused this area to be declared suitable for dry farming, and was settled up with homesteaders. A railroad construction camp was located at Buena City. A new building to be used as a store and post office, but never used, was allotted to become the first school. September 11, 1913, Hurlbert Plimmons quit-claimed four acres described as the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of section township 21, range 22 to the school trustees.

The school district was organized in 1913. The first school had been a hastily built adobe room. A second room of cheap planks and battens had been added, joined to the original building by a hall, and the building was entered by wide, rickety steps. The hall was also used as a cloak room and contained a sink cluttered with tin cups. Lunches were stored on a shelf with great confusion. A few fist fights developed from time to time over who was eating whose lunch. Water was hauled in milk cans by contracting \$15.00 per month for 15 gallons each day. This provided for an average of 45 students and two teachers. Underneath the hall was a cistern built when the building expected to house a store and post office, and still had enough water for a few salamanders and noisy frogs. The two rooms were heated with wood stoves, and as the wooden room was rickety, vibration brought down the stovepipes and a shower of soot amidst the screams of singed students. The fuel was also by contract, and when the wood boxes were empty, the teachers and students were forced to rustle wood near the school or shiver.

The corner room of the high school administration is all that is left of the short lived Buena City. It has been in use since that year.

Mrs. Hattie G. Whittemore was the first teacher in Buena, and taught for three years. Ruby Fulghum, deceased County School Superintendent, taught the fall term of 1916 and 1919-18.

Information came from Mrs. Grace McCool, Buena District. Mrs. McCool has edited several books, Gunsmoke is one. Also has articles in several newspapers.



### **Palominas School 1919**

Frank Clinton (1st row - 3rd from left) Rose Clinton (standing  
behind Frank) Joe Clinton (1st row - 2nd from right)

*Photo Courtesy of Bess Shugart*

## **Hereford and Palominas Schools**

*by Suzanne Arnold*

[Reprinted by permission from the author's recently published *Hereford: The History of a Forgotten Frontier Town*, Sierra Vista: San Pedro Press, 2012, pp. 52-56, 81-82.]

Both Hereford and Palominas had their own schools which served not only to educate the children but also to function as community centers for club meetings, dances and church services. Members of the community supported the schools by serving long stretches on the school board and at times physically helping with the construction and remodeling of the facilities.

The Hereford School District was formed by the Cochise County Board of Supervisors in 1888. It was a long, narrow district that extended on both sides of the river from the border north to the Charleston school district. The Hereford school was one of the original one-teacher schools in Cochise County and was a small adobe building located northeast of the Greene headquarters, near the train depot.<sup>3</sup>

Due to the influx of homesteading families, the Palominas district was formed by the Board of Supervisors in 1908. The Palominas School was built in 1912, and the walls were constructed with molded blocks and red mortar. A permanent school was built at Hereford with the same type of construction and was likely built during the same time period. The molded blocks of both schools were precast hollow-core forms created from ground gypsum and wood fiber. They were made by the Arizona Gypsum Company in Douglas and are

found in several buildings in this area, including the restored Fairbank school house. They represent a unique regional building tradition.<sup>4</sup>

We learn much about the state of Cochise County rural schools from the writings of Elsie Toles, a Bisbee teacher who was Cochise County Superintendent of Education from 1917-1919 and later State Superintendent of Schools from 1920-1922. Unlike our current state superintendents of education who are politicians with political agendas, Ms. Toles was a committed advocate for students and teachers and had a particular concern for rural schools. As she traveled to the rural schools while county superintendent, she was appalled at the extreme poverty of the homesteaders, many of whom had sold out to ranchers by 1920 to return to their original homes.<sup>5</sup>

She wrote that many of the original schools were "erected hastily by people doing pioneer duty and in consequence reflected the limited resources." The schools were as poverty-stricken as the ranchers and homesteaders they served. Her guidelines for schools give insight into the conditions for the time. Apparently the use of lamps was uncommon and she suggested that the school entrance face north so that east and west windows would allow optimal light. The water supply at times was only a bucket of water and the restroom facility was a single dilapidated "outhouse." She energetically promoted the sanitation of the drinking supply and outbuildings.<sup>6</sup>

Ms. Toles noted that the struggle during the difficult homestead days to build and maintain the

schools was grim and somehow heroic, but that the parents were determined in typical American fashion that their children should have an education.<sup>7</sup>

The folks in the Hereford/Palominas communities must have been proud of their turn-of-the-century new schools. The two schools appear to have been constructed with a similar design. There were three rooms with two used as classrooms for grades 1-10. The outhouses were both in one building, the boys on one side, the girls on the other, with a wood shed in-between. Along with molded cement blocks and red mortar, the roofs were of metal shingles. The schools had a piano, a raised platform for a stage and a wood stove. Most of the teachers could play the piano when the students sang hymns and patriotic songs. The students carried in wood and cleaned out the ashes. The teachers furnished hot soup or cocoa for a penny a day and ranchers assisted by sending in soup bones or other contributions with the students.<sup>8</sup>

Ms. Toles was concerned about the disparity in the quality of education between town and rural schools. Teachers were scarce in the rural areas and certification required only completion of the eighth grade and the passing of an examination. When she became state superintendent, Ms. Toles created uniform teacher certification standards throughout Arizona, requiring preparation at normal (teaching) schools and continuing education for those working in the field.<sup>9</sup>

Supervision of these ill-prepared teachers fell on the shoulders of the county superintendent. When



Ms. Toles was county superintendent in 1917 she had the daunting responsibility to supervise 90 schools over six thousand square miles of the county, driving over dirt roads in her model T, changing tires and making her own repairs. One school was on a mountain road that was so steep that she had to drive in reverse the last three miles so that the gas would feed into the carburetor. At another school she drove 30 miles and borrowed a horse to ride another twelve miles to get to the school.<sup>10</sup>

Hereford school records from 1907 indicate that a teacher named Fannie Q. Fletcher had only one visit of 30 minutes by the county superintendent during the entire year. She had an enrollment of 30 students when school began in October and only 13 when it ended six-and-a-half months later in April. Her salary was \$75 a month.<sup>11</sup>

The Palominas school board didn't allow teachers to teach more than three years, resulting in a large turnover of teachers through the years. Ruby Johnson, who taught from 1913-1915, arrived at school in great style with a red coupe. Miss Minters, a young teacher who taught from 1916-1919, married student Charles Stevens. Rose Clinton Smith, the daughter of a homesteading family, attended the first grade when the school first opened, and went on to teach at both the Palominas and Hereford schools. Her reputation as an excellent teacher has survived over the years. Initially neither the San Pedro River nor the Greenbush Draw had bridges. One teacher, a Mr. Cochran, missed the curve at the Greenbush Draw in his new Model T and returned to school with a broken collarbone

and leg.<sup>12</sup>

Garces School near Carr Canyon, a school in Montezuma Canyon, and Stark School east of Hereford, all merged with the Palominas district. Hereford school district consolidated with the Palominas district when Hereford town had died away.<sup>13</sup>

Palominas School District is still in operation and has added two elementary schools. The district has maintained a solid reputation for excellence in education.

### Notes

<sup>3</sup> The establishment of the Hereford School District is found in the Cochise County Minutes of the Board of Supervisors, vol. 2, 1888, Cochise County Archives.

<sup>4</sup> The Palominas School District was formed at the Cochise County Board of Supervisors meeting on July 6th, 1909; Ruth Tripp (Leienhecker), "Palominas School," *Cochise Quarterly*, vol. 4, June and Sept. 1974, p. 48. Information on gypsum blocks was obtained through records at the BLM restored school house at Fairbank.

<sup>5</sup> Elsie Toles, "Early Rural Schools in Cochise County," *Cochise Quarterly*, vol. 4, June, Sept. 1974, p. 44.

<sup>6</sup> Elsie Toles, *Rural and Small Town Schools of Cochise County*, pp 6-12. Arizona Historical Society

<sup>7</sup> Toles, "Early Rural Schools," p. 25.

<sup>8</sup> Tripp, "Palominas School," p. 48

<sup>9</sup> Arizona *Republic* newspaper clippings-Toles, Elsie

scrapbook #2 T649e Arizona Historical Society

<sup>10</sup> Toles, "Early Rural Schools," p. 44.

<sup>11</sup> Teacher's Annual Report, Hereford School. Dist. No.3, April 19,1907.

<sup>12</sup> Tripp, "Palominas School," pp. 49-50.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.* p. 50.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### PICTORIAL HISTORIES OF COCHISE COUNTY

*by Fred Rusch*

It used to be that you had to go to museums and archives to look at images of landmarks, events and prominent citizens related to the history of Cochise County, but now, you can find a virtual bonanza of them in pictorial histories published in Arcadia Publications "Images of America" series. To date, the series has 11 books on Cochise County towns or on subjects that include people and places in the County. Each of the books follows a format of presenting in 126 pages a wide selection of photographs from local, state and private collections prefaced by brief essays on the subjects in the pictures. Presented below are descriptions of the books; they can be purchased at bookstores or from the publisher, whose website, [www.arcadiapublishing.com](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com), also provides a generous selection of pages in previews of each of the books.

#### ***AROUND BENSON by Kathy Suagee. 2009***

Using photographs from the San Pedro Valley Arts and Historical Museum and private collections, Suagee traces the growth of Benson from a railroad hub in the late 1800s to a ranching and agricultural center and later a stopping point for automobile travelers in the 1900s. Her approach is to present a chapter of images of the town during one of the stages in its history followed

by portraits and pictures of families and various people, such as cowboys and businessmen, who lived in and around the town during that stage.

***AROUND TOMBSTONE: GHOST TOWNS AND GUNFIGHTS by Jane Eppinga. 2009***

Most of Eppinga's pictorial history focuses on the landmarks and citizens of Tombstone and on the mining operations around the town. However, she does include chapters on Charleston and the Mascot Mine near Dos Cabezas; a few images of Charleston, Pearce, and Contention City; and one photo each of Gleeson and Courtland.

***BISBEE by Ethel Jackson Price. 2004***

Cochise County Historical Society (CCHS) contributor and former Board member Price focuses on images, many of which come from postcards, of major events in the history of the "other mile high city." Among these events are the 1908 fire, the affects of monsoons on the city, and the infamous deportation of IWW members in 1917.

***BOWIE by Kathy Klump and Peta-Anne Tenney. 2011***

First known as Teviston and later Bowie Station, this northern Cochise County town was officially named Bowie in 1908. The authors trace the history of the town through photos from residents and the Sulphur Springs Historical Society as it grew from a major stage and railroad shipping station to a prominent stopping point for travelers along US Highway 86, "the Sunset Highway," before

the completion of Interstate 10 in 1969. Included are chapters on early families and businesses, education and athletics, and churches and social life, plus chapters on mining, farming and ranching around the town.

***DOUGLAS by Cindy Hayostek. 2009***

Along with an excellent chapter of pictures showing the steps in the copper smelting process, which lies at the heart of Douglas' history, Hayostek includes chapters on the importance of the Mexican Revolution, aviation, the military, and agriculture in the city's history. The majority of the photographs in her pictorial history come from private collections and the CCHS.

***FORT HUACHUCA by Ethel Jackson Price.  
2004***

In her second book in the "Images of America" series, Price offers photographs from the Fort Huachuca Historical Museum that trace the history of the fort from its founding in 1877 to the 1980s.

***PEARCE AND SUNSITES by S. M. Ballard, Anna  
Nickell, and Naaman Nickell. 2011***

Ballard uses photographs from private collections and the Sulphur Springs Historical Society to trace the history of Pearce and the Common-Wealth Mine from the discovery of gold and silver in 1894 through the town's heyday, when it had a population of 1500, to the mine and

town's decline beginning in the 1920's. Living in the pleasant weather of the Southwest rather than finding gold and silver was the reason for the founding of Sunsites just down the road from Pearce. The Nickells trace the growth of this community developed by the Horizon Land Corporation from its beginning in the 1960s to the present. Selecting photos from residents, the Sunsites Community Library, and the Sulphur Springs Historical Society, the authors focus on clubs and social activities in the 1970s and 80s, and some of the problems facing the community in recent years.

***SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA MINING TOWNS by  
William Ascarza. 2011***

Since images of Tombstone, Bisbee and Pearce are presented in works in the Arcadia "Images of America" series devoted to each of these towns, Ascarza features the smaller Cochise County towns of Dos Cabezas, Gleeson, and Courtland in this collection. He also adds a chapter of photographs of the town and mine of Cananea, Mexico, because they "were influenced by their northern neighbor both economically and politically."

***SOUTHERN ARIZONA MILITARY OUTPOSTS by  
John P. Langellier . 2011***

Following an opening chapter of historical photos of Fort Bowie, Fort Huachuca, and Camp Harry J. Jones near Douglas among the military garrisons in southern Arizona, Langellier turns his attention to images of family life, field operations, and commanders of the outposts. He then

concludes with pictorial histories of the Buffalo Soldiers at Fort Huachuca and the Indian scouts deployed in the garrisons.

***TOMBSTONE by Jane Eppinga. 2003***

Eppinga includes numerous portraits and brief biographical sketches of the good and bad, famous and infamous citizens of Tombstone during its heyday in her pictorial history of “the town to tough to die.” She concludes with chapters on Boothill, Tombstone in the 1930’s and the first annual Helldorado Days, and movies about Tombstone. Eppinga has also published a collection of postcard images of Tombstone in Arcadia’s “Postcard History” series.

***WILLCOX by Kathy Klump and Peta-Anne Tenney. 2009***

The authors devote a number of early chapters to Willcox’s heyday as a major cattle shipping point for the ranches in the Sulphur Springs Valley, but their primary focus is on celebrating the role of townspeople, civic leaders, businesses, and organizations in the town’s history.



## **THE OK CORRAL AND MATTIE EARP REVISITED**

*The Last Gunfight: The Real Story of the Shootout at the O.K. Corral-And How It Changed the American West*, by Jeff Guinn. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2011. xiv + 393 pp. Cloth, \$27.00; Paper, \$16.99.

Jeff Guinn has written a strong coherent story, setting the events of October 26, 1881 that took place on the streets of Tombstone, into their place in the history of the American expansion into the West. His version of this complex tale brings together the conflicting stories and viewpoints presented in the past 130 years, and creates a believable, well documented account that rings true. Not everyone will agree with all of his arguments and conclusions, but they will be hard-pressed to deny them.

The story is basically told in chronological order, with detailed chapters on the background of the location, the histories of the participants coming into the Tombstone area, and the events leading directly to the street fight and its violent aftermath. Guinn presents his detailed notes, sources and bibliography, along with a excellent chapter entitled "Legends" telling us what happened to the major players after the surviving Earps left Arizona.

However, his handling of Mattie Earp bothered this reviewer. Readers are referred to E. C. (Ted) Myers recent work, *Mattie: Wyatt Earp's Secret Second Wife*, reviewed below, for the basis of this criticism. In addition, the account of the attempted Benson stage holdup of March 15, 1881

does not address the possibility that this incident, so critical in subsequent events leading to the gunfight, was an assassination attempt on Bob Paul, recently declared the winner in the Pima County Sheriff's election.

Regardless of these last comments, this book is an excellent account of the events leading to the gunfight and its aftermath. It is highly recommended.

***Mattie: Wyatt Earp's Secret Second Wife, by E.C. (Ted) Meyers. Blaine, WA: Hancock House Publishers, 2010. 286pp. Paper, \$19.95***

E. C. (Ted) Meyers has answered many questions about Mattie Earp, also known as Celia Ann Blaylock, and her relationship with Wyatt Earp. His research efforts and discovery of much new material on Mattie Earp and her relationship with Wyatt is impressive and reveals needed insights into the character of both. The book should be added to the library of any reader interested in the real events in Tombstone's history.

*Edward Riggs,  
Sierra Vista Historical Society*

### **HEREFORD REMEMBERED**

*Hereford: The History of a Forgotten Frontier Town, by Suzanne Arnold. Sierra Vista, AZ: San Pedro Press, 2012. 92pp. Paper, \$16.95.*

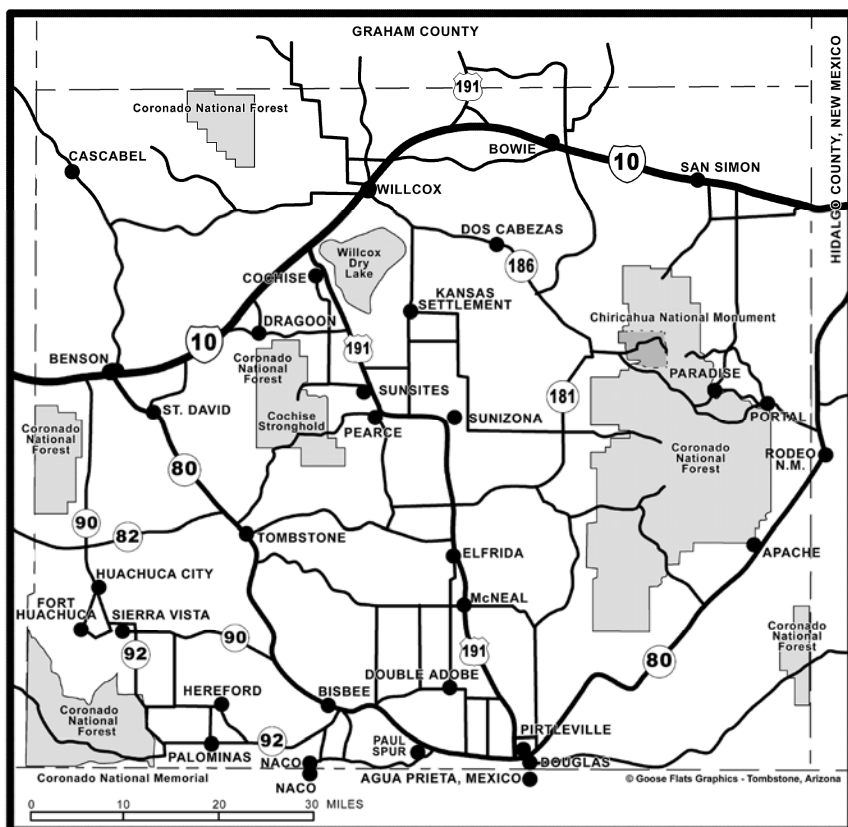
Anybody living in Cochise County or looking at a map may wonder at the subtitle of Suzanne

Arnold's history as there is presently a unincorporated community of over 7000 residents known as Hereford along highway 92 south of Sierra Vista . But the Hereford of today is not the Hereford of the past. That town was located east of the present community along the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad line from Benson to Bisbee. During the period from roughly 1900 through the 1940s it had "not only a general store, a post office, a Wells Fargo Express office and a railroad station with telegraph service but also many adobe houses, a two room school, a large adobe bunkhouse for ranch and farm employees, and a dance hall" that even booked shows from Hollywood. In her history Arnold tells the story of that Hereford, when it was a one of the major rural shipping points for cattle in the United States, along with the stories of the ranchers and homesteaders that the town served. Today there is nothing left of this early town, but thanks to Arnold it is no longer forgotten.

Copies of Arnold's book can be purchased in the Henry Hauser Museum at the Ethel Berger Center in Sierra Vista or from the author by sending her an e-mail at [sarnold30@cox.net](mailto:sarnold30@cox.net).

- - *Fred Rusch*

# NOTES



## Cochise County, Arizona

### Cochise County Historical Society Membership Information

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

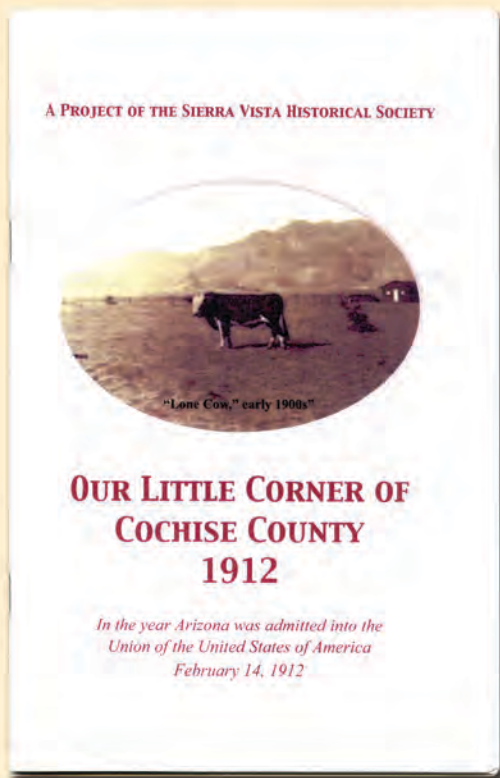
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# THE COCHISE COUNTY HISTORICAL JOURNAL



We are pleased to feature in this issue a booklet prepared by the Sierra Vista Historical Society to show what life was like in the area around Sierra Vista in the year Arizona became a state. Entitled *Our Little Corner of Cochise County 1912*, the booklet was made available to people who attended speaker presentations sponsored by the Henry F. Hauser Museum in Sierra Vista and to persons who visited the Museum's exhibit celebrating Arizona's centennial. The essays are reprinted here because we believe they deserve a wider audience.



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