



OUTLAW GAZETTE

Vol. XXVII - 2014



GREETINGS from

BILLY
the **KID**
Country



OUTLAW GAZETTE

Volume XXVII - 2014

Officers and Board of Directors:

President: Lori Ann Goodloe
1st Vice President: Chris Jones
2nd Vice President: Robyn Jones
Secretary: Steven Kretschmer
Vice-Secretary: Aileen Eastwood
Treasurer: Paul Blevins
Johnny Eastwood
Sarah Kretschmer
Linda Pardo
Danny Vest

Editor: Lori Ann Goodloe
Assistant Editor: Diane Goodloe

Copyright 2014 Billy the Kid Outlaw Gang, Inc.
P.O. Box 1281, Mesilla, New Mexico 88046

The words of the contributors of articles are their own, and not necessarily supported or verified by the BTKOG in their use or accuracy. Members of the BTKOG have a right to speak their piece.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Billy the Kid - The Legend and the Man, Part 2.....	2
Elise Gomber	
Road Trip	4
Joel Rudman	
Billy the Kid Country.....	6
Santa Fe Too is "Billy the Kid Country"	7
Bob Ross	
In Old Silver City He Went to the Bad	9
Diane Goodloe	
Doña Ana County: Not Kid Friendly	10
Lori Ann Goodloe	
Lincoln County: The Epitome of "Billy the Kid Country"	12
Lori Ann Goodloe	
In Search of Billy the Kid	14
Puerto De Luna	16
Lori Ann Goodloe	
Fort Sumner	17
Steven Kretschmer	
Portales Springs	17
Steven Kretschmer	
A Brief Historical Look at Las Vegas, New Mexico.....	18
Chris Jones	
Paulita Maxwell Family History	20
Chris Jones	
Book Review.....	21
Linda Pardo	
Pilgrimage to Tunstall Canyon.....	23
Billy the Kid Days 2014	24
"Will Mark Historic Spots of Lincoln County War and Kid's Bloody Career"	26
Billy the Kid for Kids	27
More In Search of Billy the Kid	28

Billy the Kid - The Legend and the Man, Part 2

—Elise Gomber

For Part I of this story see the 2013 Outlaw Gazette.

Billy the Kid's first killing was of Camp Grant, Arizona's local bully, Frank "Windy" Cahill. Cahill and Billy (who at this time was known as "Kid Antrim" or just "Kid") got into an argument that turned physical. Cahill began beating the boy and Billy worked a pistol free from his waistband and shot Cahill in the belly. Cahill died the next day and the Kid fled to New Mexico.

BILLY AND "THE BOYS"

Exactly what Billy did during the time immediately after his return to New Mexico is a bit uncertain. It was during this time that he began to call himself "William Henry Bonney," although his nickname, "Kid," continued to follow him the rest of his life and beyond. Billy probably joined a gang of known thieves called "The Boys," led by a dangerous thief and killer, Jessie Evans. Billy likely helped "The Boys" to rustle livestock, stealing them from large herds like those of John Chisum, and moving them into Texas, Arizona, or Mexico for resale. "The Boys" were notorious throughout southern New Mexico, eastern Arizona, and west Texas as a dangerous group – among their number was "The King of Rustlers," the famous John Kinney, who was not one to be crossed without consequences. It was likely from these men that Billy really learned the rustling trade. I say this because when he began rustling in Arizona, he did so a horse at a time, but by 1880, Billy and his own gang were stealing herds.

THE BEGINNING OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY WAR

It was in the Fall of 1877 that Billy the Kid arrived in Lincoln County. There are several differing versions of exactly how this happened, but by late October, Billy was a Lincoln County resident and quickly found work with John Henry Tunstall.

John Tunstall was a 24-year-old Englishman who had come to New Mexico with the view of getting into the ranching business. He planned to

make a great fortune, either in sheep or in cattle. When he met lawyer Alexander McSween in Santa Fe, McSween persuaded Tunstall to move to Lincoln County and attempt to take over the current political and financial monopoly run by Lawrence G. Murphy and James J. Dolan. McSween had acted as attorney for Murphy and Dolan and knew their weaknesses which, with Tunstall as a financial backer, he planned to exploit. Murphy and Dolan's business was failing and Tunstall and McSween planned to gain control of Lincoln County. Tunstall started ranching, opened a store, and a bank and McSween and John Chisum acted as Tunstall's business partners. On the surface, things appeared to be going Tunstall's way, but Murphy and Dolan were dangerous men to cross, as Tunstall would soon find out.

Tunstall was perhaps the first man ever to be kind to Billy. He treated him with respect and even gave him gifts. Billy saw Tunstall as a true friend and someone whose life he would risk his own life to defend. John Tunstall wrote voluminous letters to his family, but never mentioned Billy in a single one. We can therefore guess that the friendship was probably one-sided.

Murphy and Dolan had an axe to grind with McSween. McSween had acted as their attorney in an attempt on their part to collect on the life insurance policy of a deceased partner in their firm. When McSween pocketed the money instead of turning it over to Murphy and Dolan (who had no legal right to it, either), the pair was enraged. Seeing that they could get no recompense from McSween, they decided to go after Tunstall's money, instead. Arguing that McSween and Tunstall were business partners and that Tunstall was, therefore, liable for McSween's debts, Murphy and Dolan, with Dolan's new business partner, John H. Riley, proceeded to attach Tunstall's stock and goods far in excess of the actual amount they argued McSween owed.

The situation between the Murphy/Dolan men and the Tunstall/McSween

men escalated. Finally, on February 18, 1878, violence erupted. The sheriff of Lincoln County, William Brady, was sympathetic to Murphy and Dolan. Under his deputization, a posse of about 40 other Murphy/Dolan sympathizers followed Tunstall and four of his men (Billy, Dick Brewer, John Middleton, and Rob Widenmann) into a canyon. One of the posse shot Tunstall out of his saddle. Another blew a hole in his head. John Tunstall was dead. The Lincoln County War had begun.

BILLY THE WARRIOR

The Murphy/Dolan faction and the Tunstall/McSween faction, called the "Regulators," skirmished a number of times over the next five months, including one instance in which Billy rode full speed into a group of "The Boys" in order to rescue his friend, Charlie Bowdre, whom "The Boys" had captured.

On April 1, six of the Regulators, including Billy, opened fire on Sheriff Brady and four of his deputies. The sheriff was killed as was one of the deputies, a man named George Hindman. Although the Regulators felt they had struck a blow for their cause by killing the man who had deputized the posse that killed Tunstall, popular opinion was not with them after killing Brady, as it had been before. Billy would later be convicted of Brady's killing, although there is no way of knowing if Billy was shooting at Brady or at one of the deputies.

In an interesting glimpse into Billy's personality, it is recorded that Billy was wounded during the Brady gunfight, and was hidden beneath floor boards in the Tunstall store until things had calmed down a bit. He made his way outside to his horse and began galloping away, which immediately drew fire from Brady's cohorts, who were outside the Tunstall building. Billy continued to gallop from the hail of bullets until he was far enough away that the men could not hit him. He dismounted his horse, faced his would-be attackers, took off his hat, and made a grand bow to his "audience."

Although Billy was a key player in several gunfights, he was not the leader of the Regulators. That is, not until the final day of the final battle of the war.

A showdown had come to Lincoln County. About 40 Regulators had arranged themselves strategically around the town of Lincoln. The Murphy/Dolan men then did the same. For five days, battle raged between the two factions. The Murphy/Dolan men used their political influence to have the army brought in to fight the Regulators. McSween and some of the Regulators, including Billy, were entrenched inside the McSween home. Some of the Murphy/Dolan men lit the McSween house on fire in an attempt to drive the men out.

There was pandemonium. McSween himself refused to pick up a gun and fight (although he was all too glad to have other men do it for him), and sat with his head in his hands. The blazing house was falling apart and Billy devised a plan. He and several other men would make a break for it, deliberately drawing gun fire from the Murphy/Dolan men while McSween

and the others inside the house ran to safety across the river behind the house. It was their only chance.

Billy took command of the men and shook McSween by the shoulders, forcing him to stop moping and to try to save his own life. Billy and four other men (Jim French, Harvey Morris, Jose Chavez y Chavez, and Tom O. Folliard*) dashed out the back door into a hail of lead. One of them, Harvey Morris, was shot down immediately. The other four made a charge across the river and arrived safely on the other side.

McSween's fate was not so happy. He started to run out into his own yard, then hesitated, causing a fatal pile-up of men behind him. He screamed his surrender. A Murphy/Dolan man, Robert Beckwith, stepped forward to accept McSween's surrender. There are two differing accounts about what happened next. In one, McSween suddenly screamed "I'll never surrender!" In the other, more likely account, the Murphy/Dolan men simply reopened fire and McSween and the others fell in a heap. Billy

had risked his own life in an attempt to save McSween and the other men in the house. Billy was no coward and his loyalty to his friends knew no bounds.

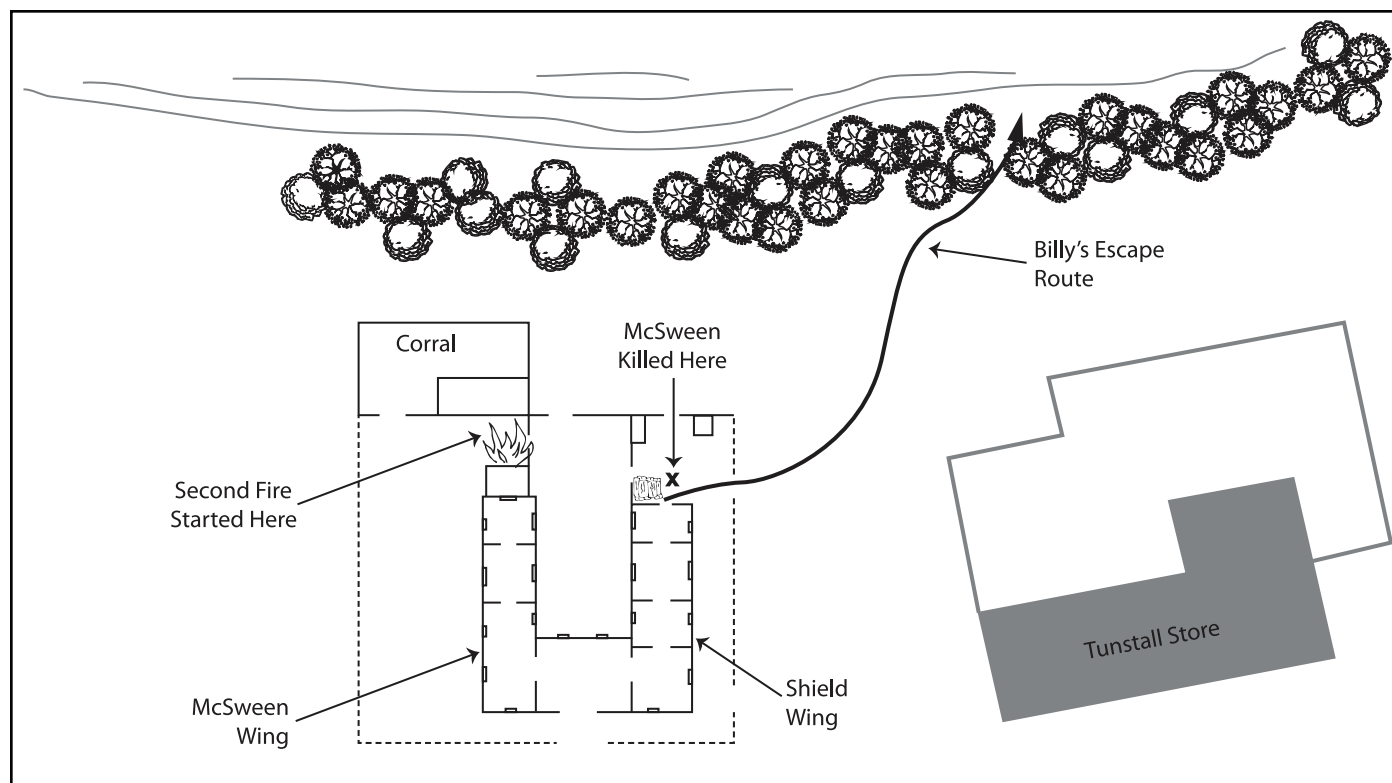
Following the war, Billy was to get into serious trouble – he would be the only man convicted of a murder during the Lincoln County War (whether or not he committed it). Although he would escape the hangman's noose, death would still come calling for Billy...

To be concluded in a future Gazette.

* A recently discovered census record states that this man's name was "Thomas O. Folliard" although historians have long thought his name to be "Thomas O'Folliard."

SOURCES:

The Illustrated Life and Times of Billy the Kid by Bob Boze Bell
History of the Lincoln County War by Maurice Garland Fulton
The Lincoln County War, A Documentary History by Frederick Nolan
The West of Billy the Kid by Frederick Nolan
Trailing Billy the Kid by Philip J. Rasch



The Burning of McSween's House and Escape of Billy the Kid—Illustration Courtesy of Lori Goodloe

Sources:

The West of Billy the Kid, Frederick Nolan
The Big Killing, July 19, 1878, *Lincoln County Heritage Trust*

ROAD TRIP

—Joel Rudman, BTKOG Member

Back in 1988, three childhood friends from Mississippi, inspired by the movie *Young Guns*, set out on a last-minute weekend journey to New Mexico. The plan was to see the land of Billy the Kid before they all went to college and their separate ways. Speaking as one of the three, we were touched by the “Pals” epitaph, saddened by the loneliness of the Tunstall grave, and forever grateful for our journey.

Fast-forward to 2013, where I attempted to recreate the experience for my children, the next generation of Billy the Kid historians. With help from BTKOG’s own Lori Goodloe, I was able to craft an itinerary that allowed me to hit the high points and show that same Wild West country to my own children.



Joel Rudman and “Pal”, 1988—Author’s Photo



Megan and Evan Rudman, 2013—Author’s Photo

Thanks to Winter Storm Boreas, the adventure got off to a delayed start. We had planned to get as far as Ruidoso by Day One, but due to the storm, we could only manage to reach Clovis. I must say, the condition of the roads from Sweetwater to Lubbock were reminiscent of that TV show “Ice Road Truckers”. Although Clovis was not our original destination, we were all thankful to arrive and figured we’d tackle Billy the Kid Country tomorrow.



Joel Rudman and “Pal”, 1988—Author’s Photo



Megan, Evan, and Sophie Rudman, 2013—Author’s Photo

The next day, I woke up with some dread knowing this southern boy would probably be driving ten hours in the worst possible icy road conditions. Imagine my surprise when, despite the snowy buildup on the lands around us, those New Mexico roads were clear and immaculate! We pulled into Fort Sumner and thought maybe this day would turn out OK after all.

The gravesite had not changed in almost 25 years, except for a large cactus now growing directly behind the cage, preventing anyone from posing directly behind the stone as my buddies had years ago. My children were amazed and took their photos at the site. Although I didn't recall going into the gift shop last century, the kids enjoyed the small museum this time around and the displays set up within.

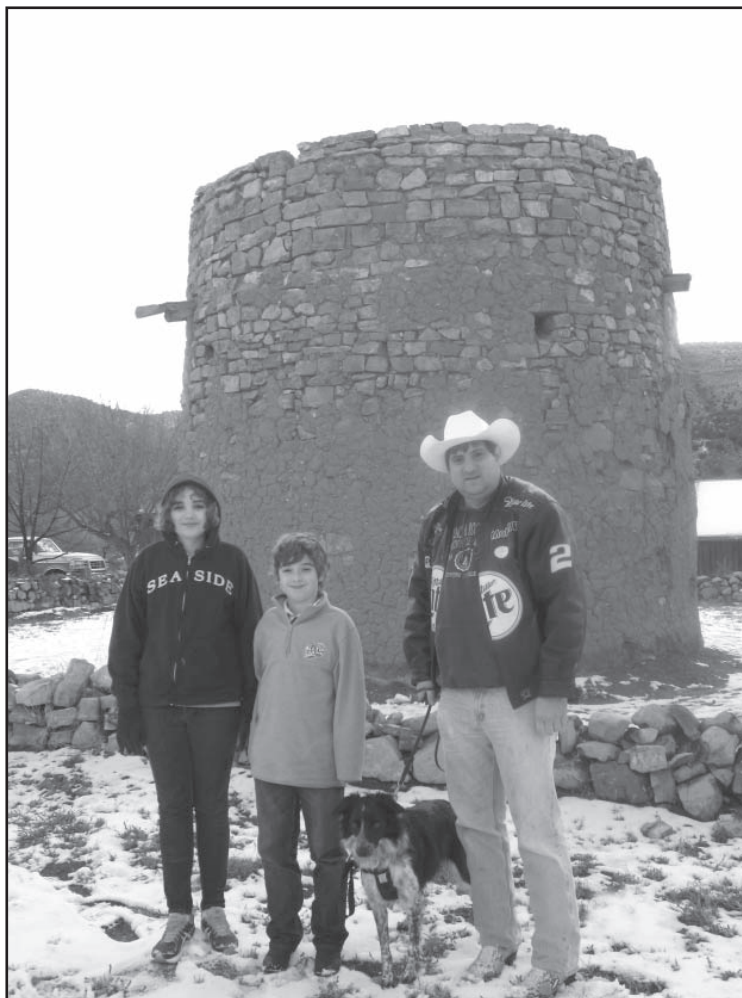
We set out from Fort Sumner to the old town of Lincoln. Our original plans called for a stopover at White Oaks, but with the inclement weather, my unfamiliarity with the area, and the fact that we had eight hours of daylight to see all we needed to see, we decided to go straight to the main event. Thanks to an old historical pamphlet I received when I initially joined the BTKOG back in the 1980s, I was able to point out things along the way to my family, such as the Old Portales Road, the area of John Chisum's ranch, and the site of Blazer's Mill. We stopped and took pictures at the appropriate markers, nicely laid out by New Mexico. Most touching was the marker for John Tunstall's murder site. I regret that, perhaps because of the snow, I missed the marker for Stinking Springs on the drive to Fort Sumner. I thought it was just outside Taiban, but unless the marker's been knocked down or moved, we flat out missed it.

Lincoln was a treat for us all. My memory from 25 years ago was pretty patchy when it came to the town, so it was almost like experiencing it for the first time. My family and I (dog included!) parked at the visitor center and walked the town. Although I forgot to bring my walking map with me, it was almost like the old brain knew where to go. Upon seeing the old Tunstall-McSween store, I took a turn off the main road and strolled behind the building. Although my wife was wondering what was up, she soon realized when she saw the two barren crosses behind the store. The site was even more remote than I remembered, with some snow on the ground and some beautiful mountains in the background behind us. I had to point out the Courthouse to the kids, which seemed to confuse them with its architecture. Being from the South, they are used to more Greek revival, Federalist looking structures. When I reminded them of the movie scene where Billy paid back Bob Olinger in spades with his \$1.80, they caught on quickly and realized the Courthouse's significance. We pretty much had the town to ourselves, covered in snow, which allowed us to imagine how things must have been back

in the day. Imagine being on the run from the law, trying not to freeze in a New Mexico winter. In some of the flatter parts of the state, like between Roswell and Fort Sumner, my kids also realized how Billy would be able to see a posse coming from ten miles away.

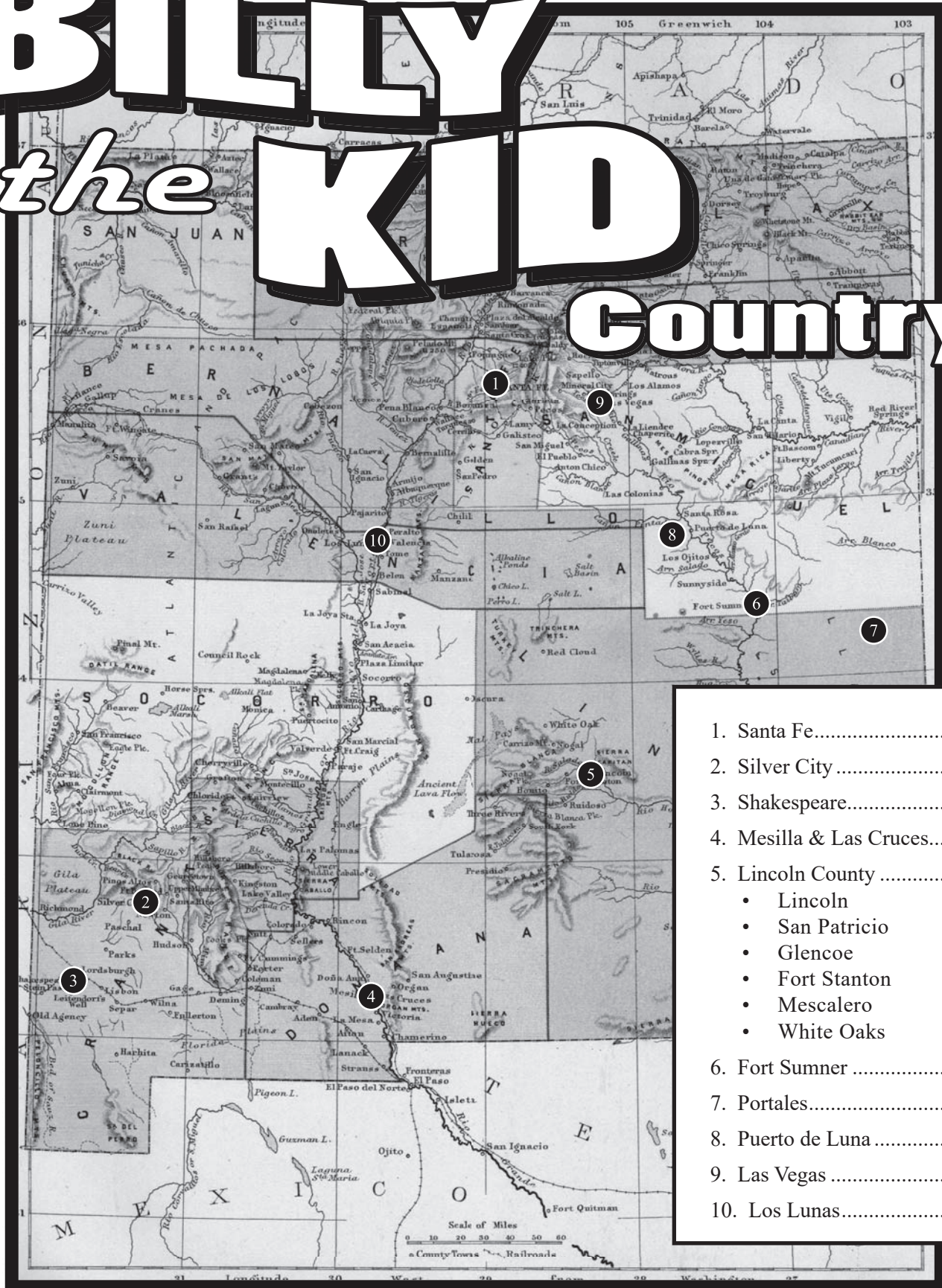
Although we had to get to Arizona by the evening, we were able to stop briefly in Las Cruces and enjoy a nice meal at La Posta before walking the old plaza and checking out the old Courthouse building there. Although this site was harder for the kids to picture, it was definitely worth checking out for its beauty and history, if nothing else.

While the post-*Young Guns* excitement has died down over the decades, New Mexico still has an important story to tell. When my kids watch the *Young Guns* films, the story of Billy still resonates now just as it did back in the day. A former BTKOG member has returned to the fold, and my family also now holds a membership. Keep up this vital and historically meaningful work, and just think of the countless families like mine this organization has inspired over the decades.



Megan, Evan , and Joel Rudman, Lincoln, NM—Author's Photo

BILLY the KID Country



1. Santa Fe.....7
2. Silver City.....9
3. Shakespeare.....24
4. Mesilla & Las Cruces.....10
5. Lincoln County12
 - Lincoln
 - San Patricio
 - Glencoe
 - Fort Stanton
 - Mescalero
 - White Oaks
6. Fort Sumner17
7. Portales.....17
8. Puerto de Luna16
9. Las Vegas18
10. Los Lunas.....20

The Territory of New Mexico - 1881

Santa Fe Too is “Billy the Kid Country”

—Bob Ross, BTKOG Member

The phrase “Billy the Kid Country” tends to bring to mind such places as Lincoln, Fort Sumner, Mesilla, and Silver City. Rarely is Santa Fe included in the range of this expression. But Santa Fe plays a surprisingly large role in the Billy the Kid saga.

Let’s start at the Santa Fe Plaza. Look for the Five and Dime store and Häagen Dazs and then walk west off the Plaza down San Francisco Street (two blocks); turn left (south) on Galisteo Street; you will soon spot the Collected Works Bookstore in the Otra Vez Building on the southwest corner of Water and Galisteo. (Note: Galisteo Street was called Bridge Street in 1881, as indicated on the old Sanborn maps.) Look for a bronze plaque on the north wall of the store facing Water Street. This plaque marks the site of the Santa Fe County Offices and Jail Complex to which Sheriff Pat Garrett brought Billy the Kid (and Billy Wilson and Dave Rudabaugh) after the famous capture at Stinking Springs. The Kid spent a full three months (from December 27, 1880 to March 28, 1881) in this jail (demolished in 1906). Of course he tried to escape. He attempted to tunnel out; and almost made it. While in the jail on Water Street the Kid wrote fully four (still existing) letters to Lew Wallace, reminding the governor of a pardon he had promised in return for testimony in the Chapman case. (These letters are penetratingly analyzed by Dr. Gale Cooper in her 2011 book, *Billy the Kid’s Writings, Words, and Wit*—quod vide.) You might want to enjoy a cup of java in the Collected Works’ Coffee Shop and savor the fact that you are within a space once occupied by a cellblock that held the legendary Kid. From this location Billy was shipped south to Old Mesilla and his murder trial.

Head back the way you came on Galisteo Street, and turn left (west) onto San Francisco. Walk a couple of blocks until you are adjacent to the Sandoval Municipal Garage on the south side of the street. Right about here once stood Herlow’s Hotel, where John Tunstall resided when in Santa Fe, and where he first met Alexander McSween. The hotel owner, Mr. Paul Herlow, introduced the men. McSween persuaded the wealthy young Englishman to invest his considerable assets in Lincoln County; and the rest, as they say, is Billy the Kid history.

Walk a little ways back up San Francisco (eastward toward the Plaza) until you are in front of Tia Sophia’s Restaurant. (Please don’t miss this venerable eatery while you are in Santa Fe. It serves genuine local New-Mexican food—the real thing.) Just to the left of Tia Sophia’s (on the Cornell Building) you will see another plaque purporting to mark the site of the jail that held the Kid in Santa Fe. This plaque is in error in various ways; but, most embarrassingly, it is in the wrong location. Don’t ask me why it still remains up.

Now look across the street (northwards) and pick out Burro Alley. You can’t miss it: there is a life-size sculpture

of a firewood-laden burro standing in its entrance. Traverse the length of Burro Alley and you will come out at the intersection of Grant and Palace Avenues. Go straight across Palace and you will find yourself standing in the portico of our contemporary Santa Fe County Offices. Now walk down Grant (northwards) a little farther (two blocks) and you will see a church standing in the middle of a fork in the road formed by Grant Avenue and Griffin Street. This is the location of the First Presbyterian Church in which the Kid’s mother, Catherine McCarty, and her fiancé, William Antrim, got hitched in 1873 when they passed through Santa Fe on their way to Silver City. The Kid and his brother Joe signed as witnesses at the wedding. Henry McCarty would have been about 14 years old at this point (if he was born in 1859 as tradition has it). The building you see is not the original; but it is the same church; and its records take us clear back to those halcyon days of yesteryear.



First Presbyterian Church—Author’s Collection

Turn back (south), return to Palace Avenue, and make a left (east) turn. After a short walk (two blocks) you will enter the Plaza. On your left (the north side of the Plaza) you will see the 400-year-old Palace of the Governors. You will likely see Native Americans from all areas of the state selling their jewelry and other fine handiwork beneath its lengthy portico. This is the building in which Governor Lew Wallace had his office; it is where the Kid’s four letters from the Water Street jail were delivered. Within this building now is the New Mexico History Museum, which sports a fine exhibit on the Lincoln County War; and even displays one of the original letters the Kid sent to the Governor. Don’t miss this exhibit.

Cut across the Plaza to its southeastern corner. Look down San Francisco Street eastward and note the imposing Cathedral Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi, Santa Fe’s most salient landmark. Archbishop Lamy had this new church constructed between 1869 and 1886; so it was already there (and largely complete) when the Kid was in Santa Fe. Then



Palace of the Governors—Author's Collection

look right in front of you, at the corner of San Francisco Street and the Old Santa Fe Trail; you see there another old and important Santa Fe landmark, the La Fonda Hotel. La Fonda stands at a location that has been occupied by one hotel or inn after another (“la fonda” is Spanish for “inn”) for some 400 years, going back to the foundation of Santa Fe in 1610. In the days of Billy the Kid the Exchange Hotel occupied this corner. And it was to this location (per Frazier Hunt in his *The Tragic Days of Billy the Kid*) that Pat Garrett and his posse retired after depositing their captured outlaws in the Water Street jail. Here they ate, drank, gambled, and celebrated their success. (Garrett had just won a \$500 reward. That was big money in those days.) Go into the beautiful La Fonda and have something to eat and drink in their atmospheric barroom or lovely restaurant (La Plazuela). Do it while recalling that Garrett and his posse were here. By the way, John Tunstall preferred to dine at the Exchange when he was in Santa Fe. He slept at Herlow’s Hotel because the rooms were cheaper, but he ate at the Exchange’s better restaurant. So Tunstall was here too, many times. And it’s likely Alexander McSween also frequented the place.

We have finished our Plaza tour. This can all be done on foot. The following site can be reached from the Plaza on foot by a vigorous walker, but you might want to take a shuttle or a taxi or drive your own car down to the Santa Fe Train Depot near the intersection of Montezuma and Guadalupe Streets (410 South Guadalupe). No doubt the station building itself is not the one that was there in Kid times; but the location is the same. If you could have been at this place on Monday, December 27, 1880 around 7:30 p.m., you would have seen a train pull in and a group of armed men descend with another group of shackled men in custody. The armed men would have been Pat Garrett and his posse, and the shackled men their prisoners: Billy Wilson, Dave Rudabaugh, and William H. Bonney. The group would likely have been met by a wagon that would have transported them the relatively short distance to the Santa Fe County Jail on Water Street. If you have time, ride the Santa Fe Southern Railway (tourist) line, which departs from this depot and traverses the spur to Lamy and back. On this relaxing several-hour trip you’ll enjoy the quaint old train cars and the fine food; but you’ll also

appreciate sharing scenery with the Kid. You will observe the same natural landscapes he beheld both when arriving from Las Vegas and when departing for Old Mesilla and his trial. The Kid rode these very tracks!

We are not quite done yet. But you will definitely need a vehicle for this last one. Circling the Plaza area is a road named Paseo de Peralta. If you follow that road roughly northward (in a counterclockwise direction) you will come to a traffic light at the intersection of Paseo de Peralta and North Guadalupe Street. Make a right turn here onto North Guadalupe and search on your right for the entrance to the National Cemetery (501 N. Guadalupe). (Skip the entrance to the Rosario Cemetery that comes up first.) Hang a right into the National Cemetery and stop at the sign that reads “Funeral Processions Stop Here.” Now make a right turn and drive a short block to a beige-colored building on the left. Here (at the entrance to the cemetery offices) you will find an electronic Gravesite Locator. Type in “Murphy;” then page down to “Lawrence G.” The machine will print you a map. Follow the indicated directions to Section C, Site 499 where a tall, darkly-colored gravestone stands out prominently among rows of smaller, white-colored, military markers. Yup, the infamous Murphy is buried right here in Santa Fe! Remember he was a retired military man who mustered out at Fort Stanton in 1866. If your knowledge of the Lincoln County War is not gleaned entirely from movies, you will know that this purported leading villain of the War actually played little direct role in it. The War may be viewed as having begun with the murder of John Tunstall on February 18, 1878. But Murphy had already become quite ill in 1877, sold his interest in “The House,” and moved to Santa Fe for medical treatment. He was not even in Lincoln during the War. He died in Santa Fe of cancer on October 20, 1878. (By the way, if you want to snap a photo of Murphy’s headstone, you’ll need to get permission at the cemetery office.)

As you can see, our New Mexico Capital really is a part of Billy the Kid Country. It’s a site eminently worth visiting for Billy buffs. But it has much else to offer: abounding history, excellent museums, fine food, Southwestern architecture, vigorous nightlife, wonderful shops, picturesque scenery, and lots more. Don’t miss Santa Fe!



Major Murphy—Author's Collection

In Old Silver City He Went to the Bad

—Diane Goodloe, BTKOG Member

*I'll sing you a true song of Billy the Kid
I'll sing of some desperate deeds that he did
'Way out in New Mexico long, long ago
When a man's only chance was his own forty-four
When Billy the Kid was a very young lad
In old Silver City he went to the bad...*

From "Billy the Kid" by Marty Robbins

As a relatively new member of BTKOG I recently made my first foray into researching the life of Billy the Kid, only to be frustrated by contradicting and misleading information. What caught my attention, however, were accounts of Billy's childhood in Silver City, New Mexico. Not much is known of those years but this small town of 10,000 in Grant County, New Mexico certainly seems to claim Billy as its own. Following is a short account of Billy's life up until age 16...or 15...or 17...depending on the source. The facts given here seem to be generally agreed upon among most historians.

At the age of thirteen Billy the Kid, known then as Henry McCarty, moved to Silver City, New Mexico with his mother Catherine who was an Irish immigrant, his younger brother



Grave and Original Marker for Katherine [sic] Antrim, Mother of Billy the Kid, Silver City New Mexico 1956—Dr. Henry Tammen, Courtesy Palace of the Governors Photo Archives (NMHM/DCA), Neg. No. 093140

Joseph, and his new step-father William Antrim. Sometimes called "Kid Antrim", Billy was a slender child with blue eyes and sandy colored hair. He was said to be likable, fun-loving, and mischievous. A popular boy, Billy attended the Sixth Street Elementary School where his teachers found him to be helpful and eager to please. He liked to read "dime novels" which contained sensational tales of adventure, perhaps giving him a glimpse of his years yet to come.

The following year Henry's mother died of tuberculosis and his step-father Antrim, never very involved with his step-sons, was away much of the time. Henry and his brother were taken in by a neighbor where the boys did chores to earn their keep. Soon, however, circumstances changed and Henry moved into a boarding house. There he did odd jobs such as washing dishes and waiting tables to support himself. Eventually Henry began associating with a rough crowd. This appears to be when Billy's "life of crime" began. Accounts differ, but the Kid's first offenses seem to be minor. His first arrests were for "throwing rocks at a local Chinaman" and for stealing butter (or cheese). Later that same year he was arrested for stealing clothing and firearms. Here it is agreed that he did not actually commit the theft himself but was merely "holding" the items for an accomplice. The sheriff who arrested him was Harvey Whitehill. Henry complained that he was being mistreated in the jail so he was not confined to a cell but rather roamed the jail at will. The day following his arrest Henry made the first of his notorious escapes by climbing out through the chimney of the county jail. He reportedly got money from a family friend and fled New Mexico. Henry McCarty (later to be known as Billy the Kid) was only 16 years old.



Home of Billy the Kid, Notorious Boy Desperado, Silver City, New Mexico, 1880-1882?—Alfred S. Addis, Courtesy Palace of the Governors Photo Archives (NMHM/DCA), Neg. No. 099054

Editor's Note: For more on the Billy the Kid sites in Silver City see "Billy the Kid Days 2014" on page 24

Doña Ana County: Not Kid Friendly

—Lori Ann Goodloe, BTKOG Member

At least twice in his life Billy found himself in Doña Ana if only for a short time: first as a horse thief and once again a few years later as a prisoner.

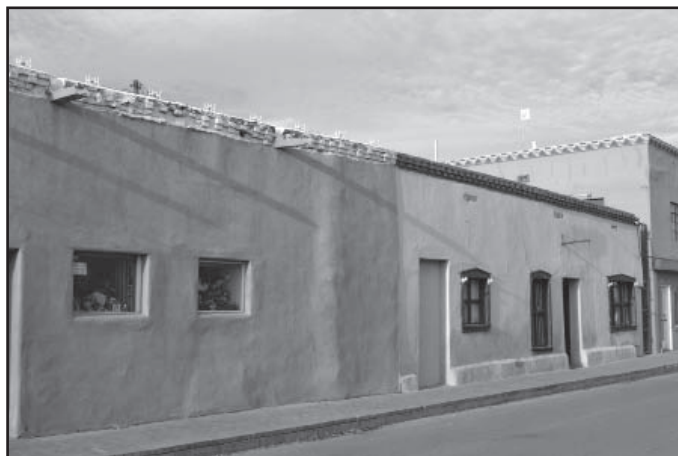
After he killed his first man in Camp Grant, Arizona—a bullying blacksmith named Frank Cahill—Billy (going by the name “Kid Antrim”) appeared in Doña Ana as one of “The Boys”. Led by Jesse Evans, the Boys were the worst kind of gang. Not only thieves, but cold-blooded murderers as well, the Boys terrorized the area and few were willing to stop them.

The man who finally did stand up to them was a newspaperman and former district attorney in Mesilla: Col. Albert Jennings Fountain. Fountain used his paper, *The Mesilla Valley Independent* to call out the Boys. Evans and his right-hand man, Frank Baker, took umbrage with Fountain and threatened to kill him on sight. Fountain refused to back down and arrest warrants were issued against several of the Boys. But since the sheriff was reluctant to confront the gang (possibly because the men numbered about thirty at any given time or perhaps because he was friendly with the Boys), he took his time only to find the Boys had left the Mesilla Valley and relocated to Lincoln County. Soon after, the Boys, along with Billy, regrouped and stole horses belonging to John Tunstall, Alexander McSween, and Dick Brewer—an act that would seal Billy’s fate forever.

In the aftermath of the Lincoln County War it’s possible Billy came through Doña Ana now and again as he dodged the law. We know for sure he returned in shackles in March of 1881 to be tried for the murders of Buckshot Roberts and Sheriff William Brady. Although the murders were committed in Lincoln County, the powers that be knew that Billy had far too many friends in Lincoln and the odds were good he would be found “not guilty”. Doña Ana County, on the other hand, was chock-full of Billy’s enemies. District Attorney William Rynerson, a close friend of Jimmy Dolan, successfully won a change of venue to Doña Ana and the presiding judge, Warren Bristol, told the jury, “If [Billy] was present—encouraging—inciting—aiding in—abetting—advising or commanding this killing of Brady he is as much guilty as though he fired the fatal shot.” Billy’s lawyer for the Brady case was Col. Fountain and, although he was no friend of Dolan, he was appointed to the case without much, if any, knowledge of Billy or the Lincoln County War. Still, in Billy’s own words, Fountain did his best but the jury came back with a verdict of “guilty”; without money they couldn’t appeal the conviction. Billy was taken back to Lincoln to await hanging; he never stood a chance in Doña Ana County.

LA MESILLA

Once dwarfing its neighbor of Las Cruces, La Mesilla was a large community and a stop on the Butterfield Overland mail route. But when the Santa Fe Railroad was routed through Las Cruces instead of Mesilla, the county seat was moved and



Former Courthouse (left) and Jail (right)—Author’s Collection

Mesilla became the quiet suburb while Las Cruces exploded. Today Mesilla still retains the charm it had over a hundred years ago. Many of the buildings that were there during Billy’s time still exist and can be found in and around the Mesilla Plaza.

Billy the Kid Gift Shop (Former Courthouse)

It’s believed that early in Mesilla’s history, this building housed the state capital when the town was the capital of the Arizona and New Mexico Territories. It’s also rumored that the men responsible for the Gadsden Purchase met here to work out the details. By 1880 the building was used as a courthouse and jail and it’s here that Billy the Kid was tried and sentenced to hang for the murder of Sheriff William Brady.

Former Jail

Directly adjacent to the present-day gift shop is the former jail where the Kid was held. As of this writing, the space is vacant and boarded up but on the opposite side of the building is the alley where Billy would have disembarked from the wagon and entered the jail.

La Posta

Constructed in the 1840s the La Posta Compound was used first by Sam and Roy Bean as a freight and passenger service line to Piños Altos. After the Civil War, it became an important stop on the famed Butterfield Stagecoach line. Eventually, throughout the 1870s and 1880s, it was known as the Corn Exchange Hotel—one of the finest hotels in the Southwest. As a hotel it also housed a restaurant, but the present-day restaurant was started in 1939 by Katy Griggs Camunez and is still owned and operated by her family.

There’s some sketchy evidence that Billy may have stayed at the Corn Exchange Hotel on March 16, 1876, which would have been between the time he escaped from Silver City and killed Cahill in Camp Grant. Someone with handwriting similar to Billy’s signed the register “William Bonney”. There’s no evidence that Billy had started using this alias yet since he was

known as “Antrim” in Camp Grant but little is known about his time between Silver City and Arizona. It’s entirely possible that he was there just as it’s possible that it’s a coincidence or prank. (For more information take a look at a David G. Thomas’ book entitled *La Posta: From the Founding of Mesilla, to Corn Exchange Hotel, to Billy the Kid Museum, to Famous Landmark.*)

Gadsden Purchase Museum

Still owned by the Fountain family, this museum was once the home of Col. Fountain’s son and is dedicated to the colonel, the Gadsden Purchase and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and the local area. Behind the museum is a replica of Billy the Kid’s jail cell, which was created with the actual bars that once held Billy.

Fountain Theatre

Built in 1905, by Albert Fountain, son of Col. Albert Fountain, this theater is the oldest movie house in New Mexico where both films and vaudeville performances were held and it’s still in operation today.

LAS CRUCES

When Don Juan de Oñate trekked through New Mexico, the road his party took from Mexico City to Santa Fe was named *El Camino Real* (the Royal Road) but the particular passage that included Las Cruces was referred to as *Jornada Del Muerto* or “Journey of the Dead”. And a deadly area it was. In 1787 travelers found the bodies of several caravan drivers and buried them under wooden crosses; forty-three years later Apaches massacred a party of thirty travelers and more crosses were erected in their memory. In 1846 a woman named Susan Magoffin was traveling with her husband over the Santa Fe Trail and noted the graves in her diary. It’s possible that the name *El Pueblo del Jardin de Las Cruces* (the City of the Garden of the Crosses) is where the city got its name; it’s also possible Las Cruces is simply named for the Spanish word for crossroads. However it got its name, settlers weren’t scared off by death or danger and Las Cruces quickly grew into a bustling city.

Pat Garrett

Fifteen years after killing the Kid, Garrett was made sheriff of Doña Ana County (investigating the disappearance of Col. Fountain and his son Henry) and in 1901 was appointed customs collector in El Paso by Theodore Roosevelt. When Roosevelt refused to reappoint Garrett, he retired to a ranch near Organ. It was on the trail between Organ and Las Cruces where Garrett was murdered, shot in the back of the head in 1908.

Jarvis Garrett placed a marker at the site of his father’s murder, which can be visited today if you’re willing to hike through some desert. The hearse that carried Garrett to his funeral can be viewed in the Doña Ana County Sheriff’s Department museum. And Garrett, his wife, and several children are buried in the Masonic cemetery in Las Cruces (his original gravesite can be found in the Catholic cemetery across the street).

Outlaw Rock

About fifteen miles north of Las Cruces, outside of the little town of Radium Springs, is a rock peak in the middle of nowhere known as Outlaw Rock. Legend has it Billy, Charlie Bowdre, Tom O’Folliard, and Dave Rudabagh scratched their names in the rock face. The stories about Billy using Outlaw Rock as a hideout may be apocryphal; much like with the Corn Exchange Hotel there’s no indisputable proof that Billy was really there. But there’s no proof that he wasn’t either.

One story says that after the Kid came from Arizona, he hooked up with John Kinney, the “King of the Cattle Rustlers”, who had a ranch near Fort Selden. If this is true, it’s probably where Billy learned of Outlaw Rock. A second story says that during the time after the Lincoln County War, when Billy was rustling cattle from John Chisum, he sold the re-branded cattle to nearby Fort Selden. From their vantage point up on Outlaw Rock he and his friends were able to spy on the fort and once the soldiers were gone could steal back the cattle.

Back in the day the names “Bonney”, “Kinney” and “Bowdre” along with the initials “DR” (thought to be for Dave Rudabaugh) and “OFF” (thought to be for O’Folliard—why there were two F’s is anyone’s guess) could easily be seen on the rocks. Today it’s a different story. During the BTKOG’s Billy the Kid Days in 2013 a few of us hiked up to Outlaw Rock to find the names. After a good hour of staring we were able to locate “OF” and “BON” but they’re unfortunately fading fast. Whether it was really Billy who scratched his name in the rock or not, it would have made an excellent hideout and it’s worth a visit just to sit in the little niche, look out over the old stage road, and play outlaw for an afternoon.



Outlaw Rock—Author’s Collection

SOURCES:

Historic Walking Tour of Mesilla, NM, Varse and Siemers, 1991.
Images of America: Las Cruces, Hunner, et al, 2003
La Posta: From the Founding of Mesilla, to Corn Exchange Hotel, to Billy the Kid Museum, to Famous Landmark, David G. Thomas, 2013.
Roadside History of New Mexico, Fugate, 1989
The West of Billy the Kid, Frederick Nolan, 1998.
“Outlaw Rock”, Herman Weisner, True West, March 1982.
<http://www.oldmesilla.org/>
www.summitpost.org/billy-the-kid-s-black-hill-hideout/366202

Lincoln County: The Epitome of "Billy the Kid Country"

—Lori Ann Goodloe, BTKOG Member

Looking at all the events that brought Billy to Lincoln County it's curious to see the cause and effect. If Billy hadn't been arrested in Silver City he wouldn't have escaped to Camp Grant. If he hadn't gone to Camp Grant, he wouldn't have killed Cahill. If he hadn't killed Cahill, he wouldn't have run to Mesilla. If he hadn't gone to Mesilla, he wouldn't have joined the Boys. If he hadn't joined the Boys, he wouldn't have gone to Lincoln. If he hadn't gone to Lincoln he wouldn't have met John Tunstall. And if he hadn't met John Tunstall, it's likely we would never have known the name Billy the Kid. Of all the places Billy found himself throughout his short life Lincoln County is probably the most important to his story.

LINCOLN

In its heyday Lincoln was a violent place to be. It was in Lincoln that Tunstall angered Murphy and Dolan and as a result was murdered; it was in Lincoln that the Five Day Battle occurred during which McSween's house burned to the ground and he was shot to death; it was in Lincoln that a group of Regulators, hell bent on revenge, ambushed and killed Sheriff Brady; and it was in Lincoln that Billy made his escape from the hangman's noose by killing his guards.

Today it's a quiet little town full of memories from its bloody past. Preserved well, and without the cheesiness of a tourist trap, Lincoln is a mecca for those in search of Billy the Kid. The half-mile

stretch of road that makes up the main part of town is dotted with museums and historic buildings:

1. Starting on the west side of town is George Peppin's house. Peppin became sheriff of Lincoln County after Billy and several Regulators killed Brady on April 1, 1878. Peppin was a Dolan sympathizer during the Lincoln County War and is the one who sent men to set fire to McSween's house. Along with his lawman duties, Peppin was also a stonemason and built many of the buildings in Lincoln including the courthouse, Dr. Wood's house, the Dolan house, and the San Juan Church.

2. Continuing east is the Wortley Hotel. Although the original building burnt down in 1936, the current hotel was built on its ruins. During the Five Day Battle Dolan men were stationed at the Wortley and it was here that Deputy Olinger was feeding prisoners, blissfully unaware until he heard the gunfire that across the street Billy was making his escape from the courthouse. The Wortley still operates as a hotel today.

3. Next to the Wortley are the ruins of the Aragon Store. Built sometime prior to 1878, this structure also housed the White Elephant Saloon, a stage stop, various merchants, and a post office. It unfortunately collapsed in the 1970s.

4. A few buildings down is an empty field that was once the site of the McSween home before it burned down during the Five Day Battle (the building to the west was built on part of the

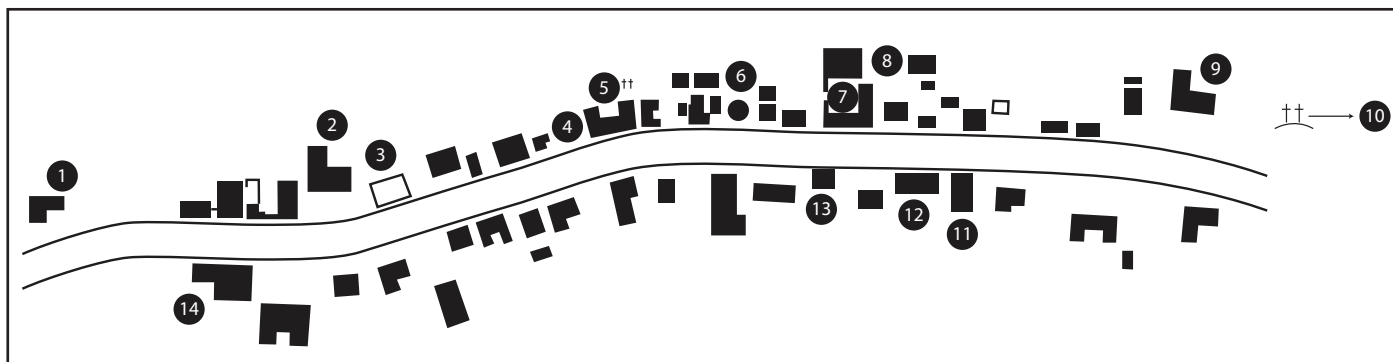
land and was once used as an office by George Barber, Susan McSween's second husband).

5. Next to the site of McSween's home is the Tunstall Store. Built in 1877 by John Tunstall it was a store that also housed a bank and a law office for McSween and John Chisum, and living quarters for Tunstall. Behind the store are two crosses marking the approximate locations of McSween and Tunstall's graves.

6. El Torrón was used as a defensive structure against raiding Apaches and in the early days it's believed that it was located in the center of a plaza. During the Five Day Battle the torrón was utilized by the Murphy-Dolan faction.

7. Three buildings down from the torrón is the Lincoln Visitors' Center. Once two separated houses joined together, it's currently a museum with artifacts from Lincoln County. Along with portraits of the key players of the Lincoln County War there are also three paintings depicting Billy and the Regulators—one in particular is a stunning mural of Billy's escape from McSween's house, a gun in each hand, as it burns down behind him.

8. Catty-corner and slightly behind the Visitors' Center is the site of Colonel Dudley's campground. Nervous townsfolk requested aide from nearby Fort Stanton during the Five Day Battle but, being on the Murphy-Dolan side of things, Dudley and his men mostly served to antagonize the McSween faction. A furious Susan McSween marched down to Dudley's



Map of Lincoln—Illustration Courtesy of Lori Goodloe

Sources:

The West of Billy the Kid, Frederick Nolan, Map of Lincoln Town, Lincoln County Heritage Trust



Billy the Kid Room in Courthouse, Lincoln, New Mexico, 1920-1925?—Photographer Unknown, Courtesy Palace of the Governors Photo Archives (NMHM/DCA), Neg. No. HP.1992.21.70

camp during the battle to voice her feelings against the men attacking her husband; Dudley had her thrown out of the camp.

9. Further down the road stands the Ellis House. Now a hotel, the Ellis House was built prior to 1861 and was one of the first homes in Lincoln. Since then it's been used as a ranch house, a store, a boarding house, and a tuberculosis sanatorium. Several McSween men were stationed here during the Five Day Battle and many more retreated here after leaving their posts at the Moñtano and Patrón houses.

10. A half-mile from the Ellis House is the Campo Santo (First Cemetery). You'll find many Kid-related people buried here including Yginio Salazar. Salazar survived a should-have-been-fatal bullet wound during the siege on the McSween home and it was he who Billy came to after his escape from Lincoln to help remove his shackles. One of the longest-living members of the McSween side, Salazar's headstone reads: Pal of Billy the Kid.

11. Now a private residence, the Juan Patrón House is another of Lincoln's older buildings. The Patrón family operated a store and saloon out of the building and since Patrón sided with McSween during the Lincoln County War, several McSween men were held up here during the Five Day Battle. Billy and Tom O'Folliard stayed in one of the

outbuildings while under house arrest before the Dudley Court of Inquiry and it was here that Governor Wallace witnessed several locals serenading Billy at night.

12. Next door to the Patrón House is the Moñtano Store, which, like many of the buildings in town, served as a store, a saloon, and a boarding house. José Moñtano and his wife Josefa sided with McSween and during the battle several of the McSween men were stationed here. Governor Lew Wallace also stayed at the Moñtano Store when he was in Lincoln arranging his meeting with Billy the Kid.

13. Continuing west is Squire Wilson's office. Wilson was the Justice of the peace in 1878 and it was in his office that the secret meeting between Wallace and the Kid took place.

14. The Old Lincoln County Courthouse was built by L. G. Murphy in 1973 as a mercantile store. "The House", as it was known, was the headquarters for the Murphy-Dolan faction during the Lincoln County War. Afterwards it contained a Masonic meeting hall, a saloon, a billiard room, the sheriff's office, the jail, living quarters, county offices, and a school. Most importantly, for us, it was where Billy the Kid made his daring escape by killing his guards Bell and Olinger. Today the courthouse serves as a museum to Billy and the Lincoln County War; outside are the markers where Deputies Bell and Olinger fell dead.

GLENCOE

Dick Brewer's ranch was situated in Glencoe and after his death Susan McSween, who now owned the property, sold it to Frank Coe in 1882. The Coe descendants still live on the ranch and the big red barn that reads COE RANCH can be seen from US70.

SAN PATRICIO

South of Lincoln is the small town of San Patricio. Billy and his friends spent a lot of time here, going to dances and hiding out. Billy in particular was well-liked and the locals were happy to have him in their little town.

Formerly named Ruidoso, the town was renamed when a Catholic Church named La Iglesia de San Patricio after Saint Patrick was built in 1875. As the oldest church in the Hondo Valley, it would have been a large part of the community in Billy's day and still stands today.



La Iglesia de San Patricio—Courtesy of Sarah Kretschmer

WHITE OAKS

At one time White Oaks was one of the larger mining towns in New Mexico and had a population of 2,000. There were saloons, an opera house, brothels, stores, a school, a town hall, and a church; it was a favorite for outlaws and rustlers.

Continued on page 16

IN SEARCH OF BILLY THE KID

When it comes to finding Billy the Kid sites our members go the distance whether it's crossing the state, crossing the country, or crossing the globe, if he set foot someplace you can bet we'll do our best to find it.



Brian Otto at the Ranch House of Susan McSween Barber in Three Rivers, NM, 2013—Courtesy of Brian Otto



Lori Goodloe, Lucas Speer, and Tara Pipes at Blazer's Mill in Mesacerlo, NM, 2000—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe



Eddie Taylor at Catherine Antrim's Grave in Silver City, NM, 1985—Courtesy of Eddie Taylor



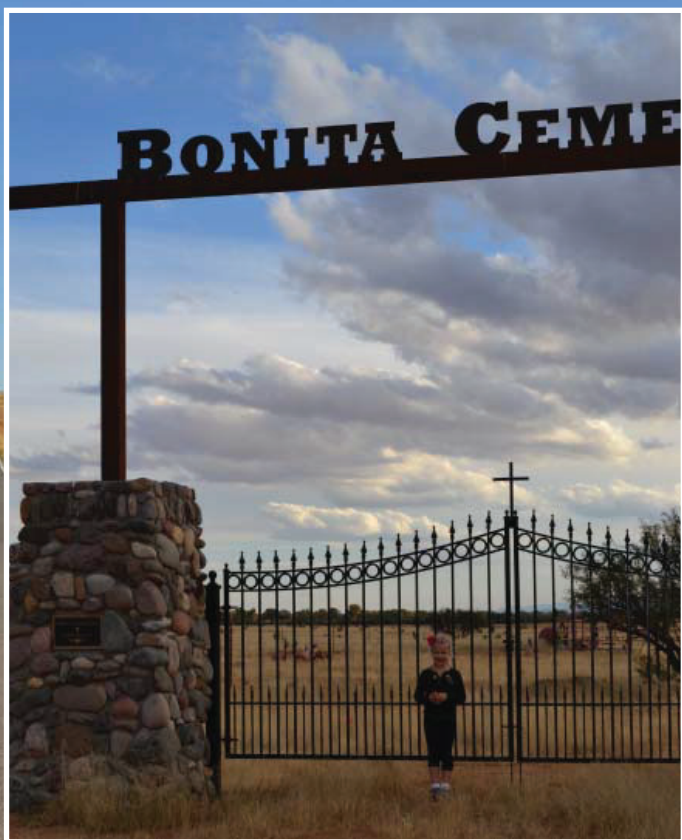
Linda Pardo at Fort Sumner, NM, 1991—Courtesy of Linda Pardo



*Sarah and Steven Kretschmer at El Torr on in Lincoln, NM, 2014—
Courtesy of Sarah Kretschmer*



*Robyn and Chris Jones at the Site of Billy's Death in Fort Sumner,
NM, 2012—Courtesy of Chris Jones*



*Above: Regann Caves at the Bonita Cemetery where Windy Cahill
is buried, Camp Grant, AZ, 2011—Courtesy of Randy Caves*



*Middle Right: Connie Ross at the Ruins of the Maxwell Mansion,
Cimarron, NM, 2011—Courtesy of Bob Ross*



*Bottom Right: Bob Ross at the Original Grave of Pat Garrett in
the Odd Fellows Cemetery, Las Cruces, NM 2010—Courtesy of Bob
Ross*

In November 1880, a posse from White Oaks set out to capture Billy the Kid. After surrounding the Kid and his gang, James Carlyle, the leader of the posse, was shot, presumably by his own men; it was another death blamed on Billy. And it was in White Oaks where Garrett was collecting taxes the day Billy made his escape from the Lincoln County Courthouse.

Susan McSween (Barber) is buried in the town cemetery along with Deputy James W. Bell. Pay your respects and have a drink at the No Scum Allowed Saloon.

MESCALERO

Between Tularosa and San Patricio, US70 cuts through the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation. It was in this area that the Regulators stopped to eat at Blazer's Mill and encountered "Buckshot" Roberts, one of the men in the posse who had murdered John Tunstall just two months before. In an epic firefight Roberts was fatally gut-shot by Charlie Bowdre and in turn Roberts wounded Bowdre, George Coe, and John Middleton, and shot the top off of Dick Brewer's head.

According to Butch Blazer (who lives on the property today) the adobe ruins which stand in the area were built after the gunfight. The only reminders left are the graves of Brewer and Roberts in the little cemetery on the Blazer property.

FORT STANTON

Fort Stanton was built in 1855 to protect the nearby settlements during the Apache Wars but by 1896 the fort was abandoned and closed. A year later the US Public Health Service took over and converted it into a tuberculosis hospital. Since then it has been used as an internment camp, a state hospital, and a low-security women's prison. In 1997 renovations began on the fort and today it can be toured as a state monument.

During the Five Day Battle in Lincoln, Colonel Dudley was called in from Fort Stanton under the guise of protecting the town. After the murder of Alexander McSween, Susan McSween sought justice against the colonel for his part in her husband's death. She hired lawyer Huston Chapman to take up her case against Dudley and when they felt he was stirring up trouble again, Dolan men, Jesse Evans and Billy Campbell, shot him to death with Billy and Tom O'Fallon as witnesses.

After being arrested for the murder of Chapman, Evans and Campbell were held at the fort. Billy was also here when in April of 1879 he testified against Dudley, Evans, and Campbell. Billy was supposed to have been tried here as well (a formality as he waited for the pardon Governor Wallace had promised in exchange for his testimony) but once Evans and Campbell escaped and Dudley was acquitted, Billy got tired of waiting for Wallace and skipped out.

SOURCES:

Best of the West, Bill O'Neal

The West of Billy the Kid, Frederick Nolan

"A Walking Tour of Lincoln Town", the Lincoln Country Historical Society

"The Gunfight at Blazer's Mill", Lucas Speer

<http://fortstanton.org/history/>

Puerto de Luna

—Lori Ann Goodloe, BTKOG Member

Generally, when Billy the Kid scholars hear about Puerto de Luna they associate it with where Billy had his last Christmas dinner. But it had a storied history long before Billy ever made his appearance on the scene.

During his travels through the southwest, searching for the legendary Seven Cities of Gold, Don Francisco Vasquez de Coronado made his way through what is now Puerto de Luna. In the spring of 1541 he built a bridge to cross the Pecos River, most likely at Agua Negra, just north of the town. At the time the Pecos Pueblo Indians would have inhabited the area, but 300 years later new settlers came to the region. Because of the Homestead Act of 1862, which granted land ownership to those who claimed, resided on, and cultivated public land, a group of families journeyed to the valley and claimed their land. Several of the families have names familiar to the Billy the Kid story; among the names of the original settlers were Luna (after whom the town may have been named), Anaya, and Jaramillo.

Other notable visitors through Puerto de Luna included General William Tecumseh Sherman and Kit Carson, who led the Navajos through during the "Long Walk" to their reservation at Bosque Redondo. Well-known author Louis L'Amour worked as a cowboy in Puerto de Luna and another author, territorial governor Miguel Otero, who wrote *The Real Billy the Kid*, visited the area often. Apolinaria and Celsa Gutiérrez were from Puerto de Luna; the former being Pat Garrett's second wife and the latter being a friend of Billy's (possibly the friend he was with and who sent him to Pete Maxwell's house for beef on the night he was killed). But the visitor we care most about, was of course Billy the Kid.

Billy stopped through Puerto de Luna often to play cards, attend dances, or to pick up supplies from the Grzelachowski store (he particularly enjoyed talking to Grzelachowski and hearing him speak one of the six languages he knew). But most notably Puerto de Luna has the distinction for being where Billy ate his final Christmas dinner. After capturing the Kid at Stinking Springs, Garrett took his prisoners to Las Vegas by way of Puerto de Luna. It was Alexander Grzelachowski who played host to the lawmen and outlaws when they arrived in town at two in the afternoon on December 25th.

No one lives in Grzelachowski's home anymore but the family still owns it and opens it up for Billy the Kid fans. Other sites worth seeing in town are the two cemeteries and the Nuestra Señora del Refugio church.

Sources:

Puerto de Luna, Daniel B. Flores, 2010

Alexander Grzelachowski, Daniel B. Flores, 2012

Fort Sumner

—Steven Kretschmer, BTKOG Member

On October 31st, 1862 Congress authorized the creation of Fort Sumner. It was constructed to house the U.S. Army troops assigned to guard the local population from Apaches, Kiowa, and Comanche Indians and eventually the Navajo and Mescalero Apaches imprisoned there on the Bosque Redondo. Named for General Edmond Vose Sumner, the fort was supposed to be self sufficient in producing food for the soldiers and Native Americans which it was for the first two years. By 1868 the Mescaleros had escaped and the Navajo were allowed to return home. The fort was abandoned by the Army in 1869 and purchased by Lucien B. Maxwell, former holder of the famed Maxwell Land Grant, in 1870.

After Lucien passed away, his son Pete assumed ownership of the fort. Ft. Sumner was a favorite hangout of Billy the Kid and his cohorts and home to Charlie and Manuela Bowdre. Popular history states that Billy the Kid was killed here on July 14th 1881 in Pete Maxwell's bedroom by Pat Garrett. Billy was buried beside his friends Tom O. Folliard and Charlie Bowdre who preceded him in death in December of 1880. By 1884 the Maxwells had disposed of their holdings at Ft. Sumner to the New England Cattle Company and the decaying structures were left to nature and scavengers seeking building materials. Nothing remains of the site except small sections of foundation. The former site of the barracks buildings flanking the parade ground to the north is now a road. The State of New Mexico which oversees the location has reconstructed a partial section of one of the banks of buildings to show how the buildings were laid out.

The remaining population began to migrate northwest to the town of Sunnyside and eventually the two towns united and Sunnyside was renamed Ft Sumner. The old post cemetery where Billy is buried still exists adjacent to a museum and is open to visitors. The old fort site is now part of the Bosque Redondo Memorial Site and is available to tour. There are signs posted with pictures explaining the history and layout of the fort.

This site is a must-see for any Billy the Kid buff. The new town of Fort Sumner offers all the modern conveniences with restaurants, motels, and gas stations as well as a second museum.



Members Steven Kretschmer, Lori Goodloe, and Robyn and Chris Jones at Billy's Grave - July 14, 2012—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe

Portales Springs

—Steven Kretschmer, BTKOG Member

Six miles to the southwest of present day Portales, New Mexico are the remnants of the Portales Springs where Billy the Kid and like-minded "entrepreneurs" from his time liked to gather. While the lakebed is now dry, barring heavy rain, and the springs no longer bubble to the surface, this remote location was once a rustler hideout bustling with activity. The Kid and other rustlers favored this location as it was off the beaten path, somewhat concealed, and provided shelter. In Billy's day there were two springs that flowed to the surface near the seven caves and a shallow lake.

It was rumored that while Pat Garrett was looking for Billy in 1881, Billy had a stolen herd of sixty head here; fifty-two of which were allegedly stolen from John Newcomb at Agua Azul. When Sherriff Garrett arrived there were only two cows, two calves, and a yearling and no Billy in sight.

The outlaws were said to have a clever communication system in which they would leave messages in the caves for each other via an established system of hieroglyphics. Billy supposedly visited his so-called castle the morning of July 14th 1881 and made his last ride to Ft. Sumner from this location. Billy had mentioned in a December 27th 1880 in the Las Vegas Gazette that he and Charlie Bowdre had owned this land (or land near the springs, it's unclear which) and he was holding on to it as he figured eventually a stage would run through and he could become legitimate by opening a stage stop. Unfortunately neither Billy nor Charlie lived long enough to realize this dream.

The Portales Lions club currently holds a lease on this land and has fenced it off to keep out the cattle. Access could possibly be granted by contacting the Lions Club but I don't speak for them so I can't say for sure. One can get a good view from the fence line though. Several of the caves are still visible, the biggest said to have two rooms. The years have not been kind to the caves though and they are partially filled in. The location is not too difficult to find and is definitely worth a look if you are in the Portales area.



Portales Springs - 2011—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe

A Brief Historical Look at Las Vegas, New Mexico

—Chris Jones, BTKOG Member

Welcome to Las Vegas! What you said or did in Vegas may have resulted in you dying in Vegas as New Mexican historian Ralph Emerson Twitchell wrote:

Without exception, in the days of the construction of the Santa Fe railway into the Southwest, there was no town which harbored a more disreputable gang of gamblers, desperadoes, and outlaws than did Las Vegas. They controlled for a while, the local peace officers, the dance halls and the public resorts that were the scene of many shooting affrays and robberies. In the new town, in the immediate vicinity of the present Castaneda hotel, were located some of the most disreputable saloons, dance halls, and resorts ever seen in frontier days. The gambling houses never closed and the gambling fraternity did about as they pleased. It finally became necessary to organize a committee of one hundred for the safety of the better classes and visitors to the place. Several desperadoes were summarily dealt with, taken from the jail or from their resorts and hung. Notice was served upon every “undesirable” to leave forthwith and in manner the town was rid of as desperate a gang of cutthroats and “badmen” as ever congregated in one place in the Southwest.

Listed are significant historic events from 1831 to 1915. It's intended for further research of subjects of interest. I have omitted specific acts of lawlessness, violence, and lynchings as they occurred too frequently and may not be suitable for some readers.

1831

- Josiah Gregg accompanies a wagon caravan on the Santa Fe Trail; he writes about a sheep camp at the site of Las Vegas.
- Las Vegas takes shape around a rectangular plaza, typical of New Mexican towns, and located on the Gallinas River crossing of the Santa Fe Trail.

1839

- First U.S. Citizen, Levi J. Keithley, a Missourian, settles in Las Vegas and becomes first Post Master.

1846

- First New Mexican town to feel impact of the Manifest Destiny westward during the Mexican War. 1,500 U.S. Army soldiers arrive. General Manuel Armijo, the Mexican Governor of New Mexico would oppose these forces beyond Las Vegas, surrender, then depart New Mexico for Mexico City.
- U.S. Army General Stephen Watts Kearny stands on top of a Las Vegas rooftop and announces to public he is taking possession of New Mexico on behalf of the U.S.

1848

- Alexander Barclay erects a fortified trading post known as Barclay's Fort, eighteen miles northwest of Las Vegas; it's used by trail travelers and soldiers.

1851

- Fort Union established to combat violence on Santa Fe Trail by Jicarilla, Apache, and Ute Indians.
- The “American Colony” was established when English-speaking immigrants from East establish homes and businesses.
- Henry Connelly and E.F. Mitchell erect a hotel on Plaza called the Buffalo Hall. Folks such as John Chisum, Thomas B. Catron, and Lucian Maxwell frequent it.
- Dr. J.M. Whitlode, the first physician, erects a sawmill north of town.
- Flour mill, mercantile, and stock-raising enterprises start.

1861

- First woman is hanged in the West. Paula Angel, who killed

- her lover, was charged the expenses for her own execution. She is hanged on April 26, twice, as the Sheriff fails to secure her hands. She is cut down by public then re-hung correctly.
- July – Las Vegas volunteers depart for Fort Craig and intercept Confederate Force at Valverde. Forced to retreat, Confederate forces proceed on to Socorro and Albuquerque.
- Governor Henry Connelly moves his executive office from Santa Fe to Las Vegas. Establishes a temporary New Mexico capital in the Exchange Hotel.

1863

- Las Vegas provides labor with expansion of Fort Union. Laborers, farmers, ranchers, and mills prosper. Town becomes supply center to Fort Union and Fort Bascom.
- The Hermit, an Italian recluse named Giovanni Maria Agostini, arrives. Joined wagon train in Kansas and walked the Santa Fe Trail to Las Vegas. Spent 20 years visiting Indian tribes and living in caves. Visited the U.S., Mexico, Cuba, and Canada. Lived on Owl Peak in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains for four years. In 1867, departed to Mexico and was seen periodically in Mesilla and El Paso.

1865

- Over 3,000 wagons pass through Las Vegas. 5,000 pass in 1866. The Conestoga prairie schooners were bypassing Santa Fe, proceeding down the Chihuahua trail through El Paso to Mexico. Unlike the Oregon Trail the Santa Fe Trail was now more commercial and military.
- Sheep ranching became big business in Las Vegas.

1869

- First newspaper, *The Acorn* was a weekly publication in both English and Spanish; the second, *The Las Vegas Mail* started in 1871.

1870

- John Chisum was runs 80,000 head of cattle on Pecos River.
- Mineral discoveries in the mountains brings a flurry of prospectors and mining camps spring up overnight.
- Las Vegas, now a thriving trade center, has over 2,000 inhabitants: cattlemen, sheepmen, soldiers, and miners. Las Vegas becomes a cosmopolitan city as immigrants settled in

town; some of the first are German-Jewish.

- Santa Fe Trail is shrinking as the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe railroad begins laying track in Kansas.

1877

- Rumaldo Baca assumes railroad would build station in Plaza and erects a four story building with rooms for stores, offices, and meeting halls. Railroad by-passes town by one mile to east and Baca's building remains unoccupied and becomes known as Baca's folly.

1878

- Railroad reaches Raton Pass and takes eight months to reach Las Vegas.

1879

- Steel rails arrives on July 1st. New town site is already staked out. Town is called East Las Vegas.
- Railroad brings legitimate business men as well as a large assortment of frontier riffraff including thieves, gamblers, swindlers, gunmen, and vagrants from Dodge City and other Kansas cattle towns.
- New saloons, gambling halls, and other places of amusement open.
- History points to Jesse James being in town, staying at the Hot Springs from July 26-29 where he meets Billy the Kid who comes to town to see the trains.
- Doc Holliday opens his last dental practice, a gambling hall, and saloon.
- Wyatt and James Earp join Holliday in fall to work in his gambling

establishment. All three leave at the end of year.

- Robert Bob Ford, killer of Jesse James, serves briefly as a policeman.
- Dick Liddil, former member of James Gang, operates a saloon.

1880s

- The Dodge City Gang, leader was Hyman G. Neill (a.k.a. Hoodoo Brown), rules Las Vegas during its formative period. Is elected Justice of Peace, mayor, and city councilman. Organized the police force, primarily Kansas gunfighters, which includes Dave Mather, Dave Rudabaugh, John Joshua Webb, and Tom Pickett. Gang operates in lawless manner to include shooting sprees outside dancehalls. Gang commits train robberies, stagecoach robberies, and dancehall murders. Brown disappears never to be heard from again.
- The Society of Bandits of New Mexico (La Sociedad de Banditos de Nuevo Mexico). Leader is Vicente Silva. Organization forms from among a society of bandits, sworn to secrecy and motivated by greed. José Cháves y Cháves is a member.

1880

- The Hanging Windmill in the Plaza is dismantled. Was used by vigilantes as a scaffold for midnight lynching and taken down because boys were hanging their dogs as hangings were so prevalent.
- Garrett brings Billy the Kid and gang into Las Vegas for train to Santa Fe.

1890

- 200 Armed men on horseback—Las Gorras Blanca's, (the White Caps)—form to protect common lands. They conduct destructive raids on properties owned by land-grabbers.

1899

- Colonel Theodore Roosevelt arrives in town for first annual reunion of the Rough Riders. The final Las Vegas reunion was held in 1968.

1912

- New Mexico admitted to Union.
- World Heavy Weight boxing title held in Las Vegas. Jack Johnson vs. Jim Flynn.

1913

- Motion Picture production comes to Las Vegas. First airplane used in movie flies over town and lands. For most, first plane ever seen.

1915

- "Cowboy Capital" reunion and celebration. Movie stars Tom Mix and wife Virginia Forde come and decide to stay in New Mexico to make movies.

SOURCES:

Wildest of the Wild West, Howard Bryan,
My Life on the Frontier, 1864-1882,
Miguel Antonio Otero



*Stern and Nahm Building - Built 1879—
Courtesy of Lori Goodloe*



*First National Bank of Las Vegas - Built
1880—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe*



*Courthouse Building - Built 1882—Courtesy
of Lori Goodloe*

Paulita Maxwell's Family History

—Chris Jones, BTKOG Member

In 1841, Charles (Carlos) Beaubien, a Canadian-born citizen of Mexico, and Guadalupe Miranda, a native-born Mexican citizen, both of whom lived in Taos, applied to the Mexican Governor of Santa Fe, Manuel Armijo for a land grant that extended along the Santo de Cristo range all the way into Colorado. Governor Armijo approved this land grant, later known as the Beaubien-Miranda Rancho, within three days of submission; perhaps this was because Miranda was the Governor's secretary or because he wanted to approve it before any effective opposition could be mustered.

Under Mexican law, the total allowed for a land grant was 92,000 acres. Yet in 1877, when the land was officially measured, it totaled 1,714,764 acres. This fact was a continual problem even after an act by the United States Congress in 1860 declared the boundaries of this grant valid.

Paulita Maxwell's mother, Maria de La Luz Beaubien, born and raised in Taos, was the only daughter of Carlos Beaubien, half owner of this land grant. Lucien Bonaparte Maxwell (1818-1875), Paulita's father, was born in Illinois. He came out west in 1834 where he met and teamed up with Kit Carson. He and Carson signed on with John C. Freemont (a future Governor of California) in a western expedition in 1841; Kit was a scout and Lucien a hunter/trapper. In 1844 both Lucien and Kit went to Taos and built homes and at the conclusion of the Mexican/American war in 1849, Lucien and Kit had a dual wedding. Lucien married Charles Beaubien's only daughter, Luz, who was 13 years old while Kit married his third wife, Josefa Jaramillo, who was 15 years old. As a wedding present, Lucien Maxwell received 15,000 acres from Luz's father.

Both Maxwell and Kit proposed building a fort at the Rayado River but the army moved south to Ft. Union on the Mora River. Maxwell sold his land at Rayado, moved to the Cimarron River, and bought 1,000,000 acres for \$2,745 from Señor Miranda, who returned to Mexico.

After Charles Beaubien, Luz's father, passed in 1864, Lucien Maxwell acquired the rest of the original estate that he had

not inherited, totaling 1,714,765 acres, which became known as the Maxwell land grant. This is the largest land holding record for a single person in U.S. history, a figure that still stands today.

At the conclusion of the Civil War, gold was discovered at Baldy Mountain located on Maxwell's land. Maxwell leased the land and sold supplies to the miners. In 1870, he sold most of this land to a Dutch company for \$1,350 and to this day a company still exists in the Netherlands called the Maxwell Holdings Company.

Maxwell later moved to Ft. Sumner, purchasing it and the Bosque Redondo property for \$650. For the rest of his life, he enjoyed surrounding himself with camp followers, freeloaders, and outlaws. Lucien Maxwell died very rich in 1875, and is buried in Ft. Sumner. His wife Luz and only son Peter continued the business interests, amassing large herds of livestock, Luz gaining a reputation as a cattle queen, just as Mrs. McSween did in the Lincoln/White Oaks area after the death of her husband, Alexander McSween.

Paulita Maxwell was born in Mora, New Mexico Territory, in 1864. She was the fourth of six children: one boy, Peter the eldest, and five girls, Virginia, Sophia, Paulita, Emilia, and Odelia. Contrary to popular belief that she was Hispanic, Paulita was half French, a quarter Irish, and only a quarter Hispanic. Due to the wealth and expectations within her family, she was well educated and versed in proper etiquette. She and her sisters had servants and she was always chaperoned at events. William Bonney visited the Maxwell home regularly and was a friend of the family. He was often at their house for dinner when he was in town and he frequented dances and other gatherings that Paulita attended; they were often seen together at these events.

After the death of Billy in 1881, Paulita married Jose Jaramillo, the son of a wealthy Los Lunas stock raiser, in January 1883. Though tales are sketchy on how they met or how their marriage was arranged, it is known that the Luna family, the wealthy founders of Los Lunas, were related to the Jaramillos. I believe the families, in consideration of their mutual status and wealth,

prearranged the marriage. The wedding party met in Los Lunas at the Luna Mansion and then traveled to Santa Fe for the wedding. Afterwards one-third of them departed for Colorado, another third returned to Los Lunas, and the rest traveled to Ft. Sumner (the transportation being horse and wagon in January's cold winter weather over bad roads).

Jose and Paulita resided at Los Lunas where they had three children: Adeline born in 1884, Luz, born in 1887, and Jose Telesfor born in 1890. Jose Telesfor is rumored to be the son of William Bonney, but evidence shows through his WWI draft card, signed in 1917, that he stated he was only 17 years old. If he were in fact William Bonney's child, he would have been 36 or 37 years old when he was drafted. Jose and Paulita had a terrible marriage. Jose was an alcoholic and hot tempered; he eventually left Paulita for another woman. Paulita returned to Ft. Sumner where she raised her three children and never remarried. Paulita lived peacefully for the rest of her life surrounded by family and friends at Ft. Sumner. She passed away on December 17th, 1929 of nephritis, a fatal kidney disease.

When Jose Telesfor grew up, he returned to Los Lunas and married a local girl, Reine Romero. They had one son, Luciano Jaramillo. Luciano died childless in Albuquerque in 2004. During and after the life of Jose Telesfor his family denied that he was the son of Billy the Kid.



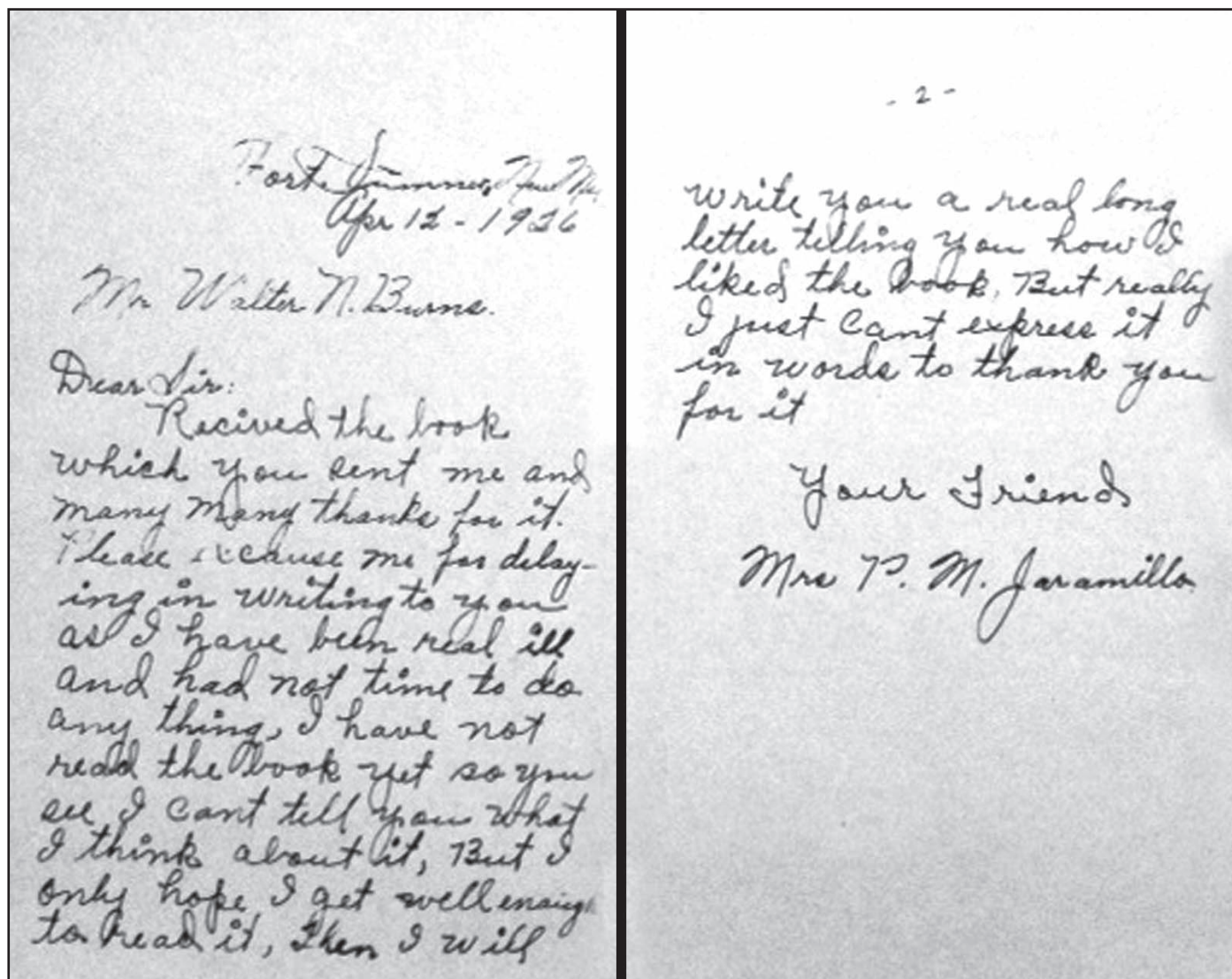
The Luna Mansion—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe

Paulita was interviewed by authors and reporters on numerous occasions but never admitted that she was intimate with William Bonney. Below is part of the interview she gave to Walter Noble Burns for his novel *The Saga of Billy the Kid*. Remember that Paulita was part of a wealthy, well-known family in the late 1800s. She was a proper lady who would never discuss openly an intimate relationship with or about anyone, including Billy the Kid. It was not a proper topic for discussion nor was it anyone's business:

"An old story that identifies me as Billy the Kid's sweetheart," says Mrs. Jaramillo with an indulgent smile, "has been going the rounds for many years. Perhaps it honors me, perhaps not; it depends on how you feel about it. But I was not Billy's the Kid's sweetheart. I liked him very much—oh, yes—but I did not love him. He was a nice boy, at least to me, courteous, gallant, always respectful. I used to meet him at dances; he was, of course, often at our home. But he and I had no thought of marriage.

"Billy the Kid, I may tell you, fascinated many women," Mrs. Jaramillo continues. "his record as a heart-breaker was quite formidable, you might say, as his record as a man-killer."

The letter below was sent from Paulita (Maxwell) Jaramillo to Walter Noble Burns after he sent her a copy of *The Saga of Billy the Kid*. It's now in the collection of Arnold Duke who acquired many of Burns' personal papers and photographs; Arnold is currently in the process of writing a book about the lost papers, which is scheduled to be published June 2015.



Paulita Letter—Courtesy of Linda Pardo from the Collection of Arnold Duke

Book Review

—Linda Pardo, BTKOG Member

Chasing the Santa Fe Ring: Power and Privilege in Territorial New Mexico
by David L. Caffey (University of New Mexico Press, 2014)

How would you approach the topic of the Santa Fe Ring (SFR) if alleged members had descendants living today—many of them in New Mexico? Would you be harsh, accusing members of all the crimes and corruption that took place during Bill Bonney's lifetime (because of your loyalty to Billy)? Would you be cautious with your accusations fearing negative criticism? Or would you find a middle road - even going as far as saying good things about the SFR? In my opinion, David Caffey, was cautious and sought the middle road.

In the preface, Caffey mentions the reluctance of historians to document matters of the Ring. He suggests, in the strictest sense, the Ring was a myth because no one acknowledges being in it (not White, Hispanic, or Indian) and it had no official structure or roster of names (was he hoping for an organizational chart?). However, in order to write this book, he assumed there indeed was a SFR and started his research being careful to portray a balanced picture of events that took place between 1865-1912, primarily in Colfax County, Lincoln County, and Santa Fe, NM (with a long arm reaching to Washington D.C.). He even manages to provide us with appendices of "Who Was in the Santa Fe Ring?" and "Profiles of Alleged Ring Participants" to include peripheral or doubtful participants.

To set the stage, we learn of the period after the Civil War and the turn of the century called the Gilded Age which started in the eastern states and moved westward. Rapid economic growth, exploitation and monopolistic practices went unchecked because Congress, for several reasons, was slow to react. As a result, the rich and powerful had opportunities to be unscrupulous in their dealings which brought about rings like the Tweed Ring (NY), Cheyenne Ring, Denver Ring, Yankton Ring (the Dakotas), and Tucson Ring—but the SFR exceeded the others in time and reputation (probably learning much from the earlier rings).

Caffey defines ring as an entity or informal confederation of men who exercised control over others to the detriment of other citizens, manipulated federal appointments, controlled voting behavior, and secured economic advantage for themselves (there were no women in the SFR although at least three spoke out against them—Mary Tibbles McPherson, Susan McSween, and Juliana Chavez of Santa Fe). The Las Cruces newspaper, *Borderer*, may have been first to use the term in 1871 and then, after the *New York Sun* used the term, it became common usage.

Land speculation was the SFR's central activity which was a very complicated matter due to Spanish/Mexican and American officials after the U.S. Mexican War. It involved private vs. community lands. It was homes and relationships vs. marketable timber, mineral lodes and commercial pastures and cattle—and when sheep became cattle with the coming of the railroad, poor people became even poorer (by 1900 four-fifths of the Spanish/Mexican land grants were in Anglo hands). Yes, the Ring built schools, churches, banks, and civil organizations but it was the trickery and manipulation that caused anger and violence.

The two names most often associated with the SFR and thought of as alleged ringleaders—Steve B. Elkins and Thomas Catron. "Smooth" Steve Elkins was more positive, dominant, focused, and polished than Catron. Catron was gruff, rumples, served as a political whip, and smart enough to learn Spanish in order to become a patron or boss to some of the Hispanics. Elkins and Catron were like brothers, both from Missouri; however, Catron was often demanding of Elkin for favors, particularly whenever Elkins was in D.C. For whatever reason, Elkins tolerated Catron's mean behaviors.

Regional wars began after the killing of Reverend Franklin Tolby in Colfax County September 1875 and three years later with John Tunstall who was murdered in Lincoln County. These conflicts caused many to suffer at the hands of the SFR while others serving them were protected, but it was an earlier event in 1867 that initiated and legitimized violence of political will. William L. Rynerson, district attorney for the Third Judicial District, shot and killed territorial chief justice John P. Slough. His case was conducted by Elkins and found to be found innocent. Periodically the author laments that the SFR was blamed for everything

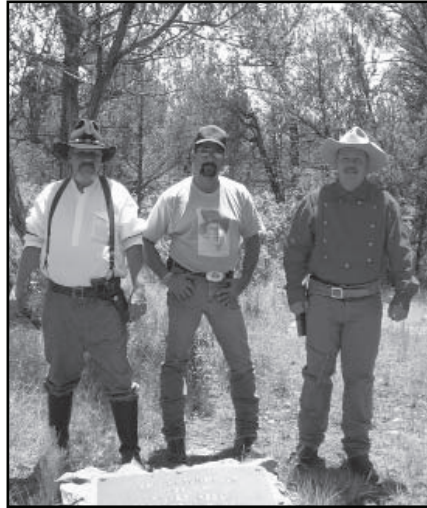
that had gone wrong or illegal in NM (isn't that what some said of Billy?), but their ruckus was enough to cause a rebellion in 1877 by Grant County citizens as a "protest against the tyranny of the Santa Fe ring" (*Daily Chieftain* of Pueblo, Colorado). A petition was sent to the Arizona legislature to annex Grant County, but regrettably for the citizens, when the proposal was sent to the House Committee on Territories, it failed.

The SFR was most active 1872-1881 after which it started a slow death. Basically it was brought down by persistent fractures in the Republican Party which diluted power to fewer who could have tighter controls. Additionally, more government offices were becoming elected vs. appointed and the growth of the city of Albuquerque weakened the SFR starting around 1884. Then President Cleveland appointed Edmund G. Ross as governor who sapped their power base although he got his share of grief (by the way, Ross created University of New Mexico, the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, and the New Mexico School of Mines). Efforts toward statehood also had an impact. Although the Ring wanted statehood for economic reasons, it brought about more scrutiny regarding their tactics. Ironically most of alleged Ring members, interested in increased value of land and greater capital investments, were dead by the time New Mexico Territory became a state in 1912 except Catron. Catron was the last man standing. Elkins died in 1911 and Catron died in 1921.

In the final chapters, Caffey states the Ring shaped our present and brought progressive changes to New Mexico. He also states other authors should clean up their acts by not mentioning the Ring as an organized body but instead name them as individuals. In addition, others should stop falsely blaming the Ring for all violent and illegal activities in New Mexico. And to my delight, he gives four paragraphs (pp. 215-216) to Elizabeth Fackler and her historical novel *Billy the Kid: The Legend of El Chivato*. I will let you guess how he sided with her interpretation and rendering of the Santa Fe Ring!

Final note: The research in this book will help the reader better understand land grants, politics and other details usually avoided by authors who are more focused on the actions of people like Billy the Kid, Pat Garrett, Pete Maxwell, Alexander McSween, and John Simpson Chisum.

PILGRIMGES TO TUNSTALL CANYON



Chris Jones, Bryan Brassell, and Lucas Spear, 2009—Courtesy of Chris Jones



Bob Ross, 2011—Courtesy of Bob Ross



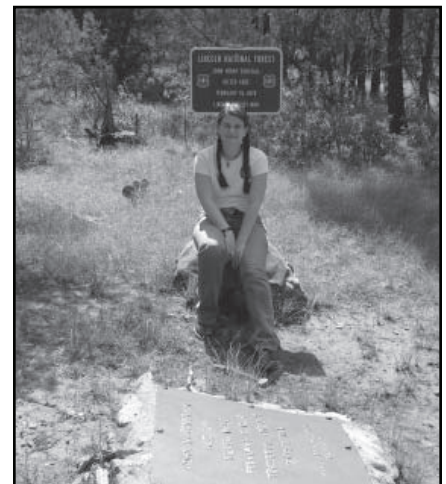
Linda Pardo, 2007—Courtesy of Linda Pardo



Steven Kretschmer, 2012—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe



Peter, Caedmon, and Hilary Tunstall-Behrens, Fred Nolan, and Tatiana and Sophie Tunstall-Behrens, 2010—Courtesy of Fred Nolan



Lori Goodloe, 2006—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe

Billy the Kid Days 2014

Silver City, New Mexico

Henry McCarty (a.k.a. Billy the Kid) called Silver City home from 1873 to 1875. It was here that he watched his mother grow sick and pass away from tuberculosis. It was here that he was first arrested for the petty crime of stealing shirts. It was here he made his first jailbreak. Unfortunately not very much remains in Silver City that dates back to the 1870s but we managed to fill Billy the Kid Days with plenty of field trips and presentations regardless.

Fort Bayard

The fort was established in 1866 to protect the miners and settlers of Piños Altos, Santa Rita, and Silver City from Apaches. After Geronimo surrendered in 1886 the fort was transformed into a sanatorium for the treatment of U.S. Army soldiers suffering from tuberculosis. In 1922 Fort Bayard was transferred to the Veterans Bureau and a modern hospital was built. During World War II German prisoners were brought to the fort to care for the grounds and the cemetery and in 1965 Fort Bayard was given to the State of New Mexico. Until 2010 the fort was used as a long-term medical facility for military and civilians alike.

Currently the hospital stands empty and runs the risk of being sold or left to crumble. The Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society is working to “preserve the viability of Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark.”

Silver City Museum

Since 1967 the Silver City Museum has been housed in a restored house built in 1881 by H.B. Ailman. The collection contains objects and exhibits related to the history of Southwest New Mexico.

This most overwhelming exhibit may be that of the “Big Ditch”. Photographs line the walls illustrating the effects of the floods that ravaged Main Street in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Where Billy’s home once stood (among many other

homes and buildings) is now park in the center of town.

Shakespeare

Founded as a stage stop along the Butterfield Trail, Shakespeare is now owned privately and only open to the public a few times a year. It saw notable Old West characters such as “Russian Bill” Tattenbaum, Sandy King, members of the Clanton family, John Ringo, and Curley Bill of Tombstone fame, “Dangerous Dan” Tucker, and our own Billy the Kid who washed dishes there briefly after leaving Silver City. In 1935 the town and buildings were bought and used as a ranch by Frank and Rita Hill. The family has owned and maintained the property ever since (with help from tourists and donors) and thanks to their efforts it’s one of the most well-preserved ghost towns in the Southwest.

Memory Lane Cemetery and Masonic Cemetery

Billy’s mother, Catherine Antrim (misspelled “Katherine” on her headstone) is buried in Memory Lane Cemetery along with Mary (Richards) Casey, Billy’s school teacher, and Carlotta (Baca) Brent, one of Billy’s dancing partners from his days in San Patricio.

Harvey Whitehill, who holds the distinction of being the first sheriff to ever arrest Billy the Kid, is buried in the Masonic Cemetery south of town.

Buckhorn Saloon

This year we were lucky enough to hold our banquet in the historic Buckhorn Saloon. While we dined in the Opera House, which was reconstructed in the 1960s to look like the original, the Buckhorn is the original Piños Altos saloon where Billy would have attended dances with his mother.

A big thanks to the Palace Hotel, the Silver City Museum, Shakespeare Ghost Town, and Fort Bayard.



Fort Bayard Tour—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe



*The Stratford Hotel where Billy washed dishes, Shakespeare
—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe*



Fort Bayard Tour—Courtesy of Bob Ross



Fort Bayard—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe



Inside the Grant House in a room known as the “hanging room”, Shakespeare—Courtesy of Bob Ross

(Upper Right) Connie Ross in the hanging room, Shakespeare—Courtesy of Linda Pardo

(Lower Right) Chris Jones gives a presentation on Silver City and Pinos Altos before dinner, Buckhorn Saloon—Courtesy of Lori Goodloe



Will Mark Historic Spots of Lincoln County War And Kid's Bloody Career

Santa Fe New Mexican, Dec 19, 1929

Alamogordo, N.M., Dec. 19 (AP)

-Responding to an interest shown by tourists in spots made historic by "Billy the Kid," and the Lincoln county war of 50 years ago, the forest service has started marking historical spots and the forest roads leading to them are being posted.

The first place to be posted was the place where J. H. Tunstall, the first victim of the Lincoln county war, was killed. Interest in this particular man has been revived through research of Dr. W. A. Osborne, dean of the medical school of Melbourne university, Australia, whose interest was aroused because Tunstall, the first victim of the range war, was an Englishman.

This fall he made an extensive study of early day conflicts in Lincoln county, visited the haunts of "Billy the Kid," and talked to old timers of the section for detailed information.

The portrayal of Tunstall's death in "The Saga of Billy the Kid," likewise aroused the interest of Tunstall's relatives in England and two nephews came to New Mexico to seek his grave.

MARK TUNSTALL'S GRAVE

With the help of George Coe, an old friend of Tunstall's who lives at Glencoe on the place he homesteaded during the Lincoln county conflicts, Tunstall's relatives placed a monument at the place where he was killed and another was erected over Tunstall's grave at Lincoln.

According to Coe, Tunstall was killed Feb. 18, 1878, by a posse of deputy sheriffs. Billy the Kid, then only 17 years old, was Tunstall's ranch foreman and witnessed the killing. "He always contended," Mr.

Cie said, "that it was murder in cold blood without color of justice or law." It was Geirge Cie who brought Tunstall's body out of the canyon which is still known as Tunstall's canyon. The body was riddled with bullets and Billy the Kid swore the deputies shot while Tunstall's hands were in the air.

"Believing that Sheriff Dick Brady was responsible for the killing of Tunstall," Coe said, "Billy the Kid wanted to bet his gun against mine that he wouldn't 'get' Brady,"

KILLING OF BRADY

About 30 days later Billy the Kid and his friend waylaid Brady and two deputies. They killed Brady and George Hinman.

Coe recalled that Billy the Kid boasted that he would give none of the men implicated in the killing of Tunstall, a chance for his life, and that he meant to pay them in their own kind. Thirteen of the 20 men who were in the possee which killed Tunstall are supposed to have been killed by Billy the Kid in the conflict which followed.

With the killing of Brady the entire section was thrown into a civil war and for two years authorities tried to capture the faction led by Billy the Kid.

PARDON "NO BUENO"

According to Mr. Coe, the town of Lincoln, then the county seat of Lincoln county, was in possession of the Kid and his followers when Gov. Lew Wallace, personally offered Billy the Kid a pardon if he would lay down his arms and go back to peaceable life.

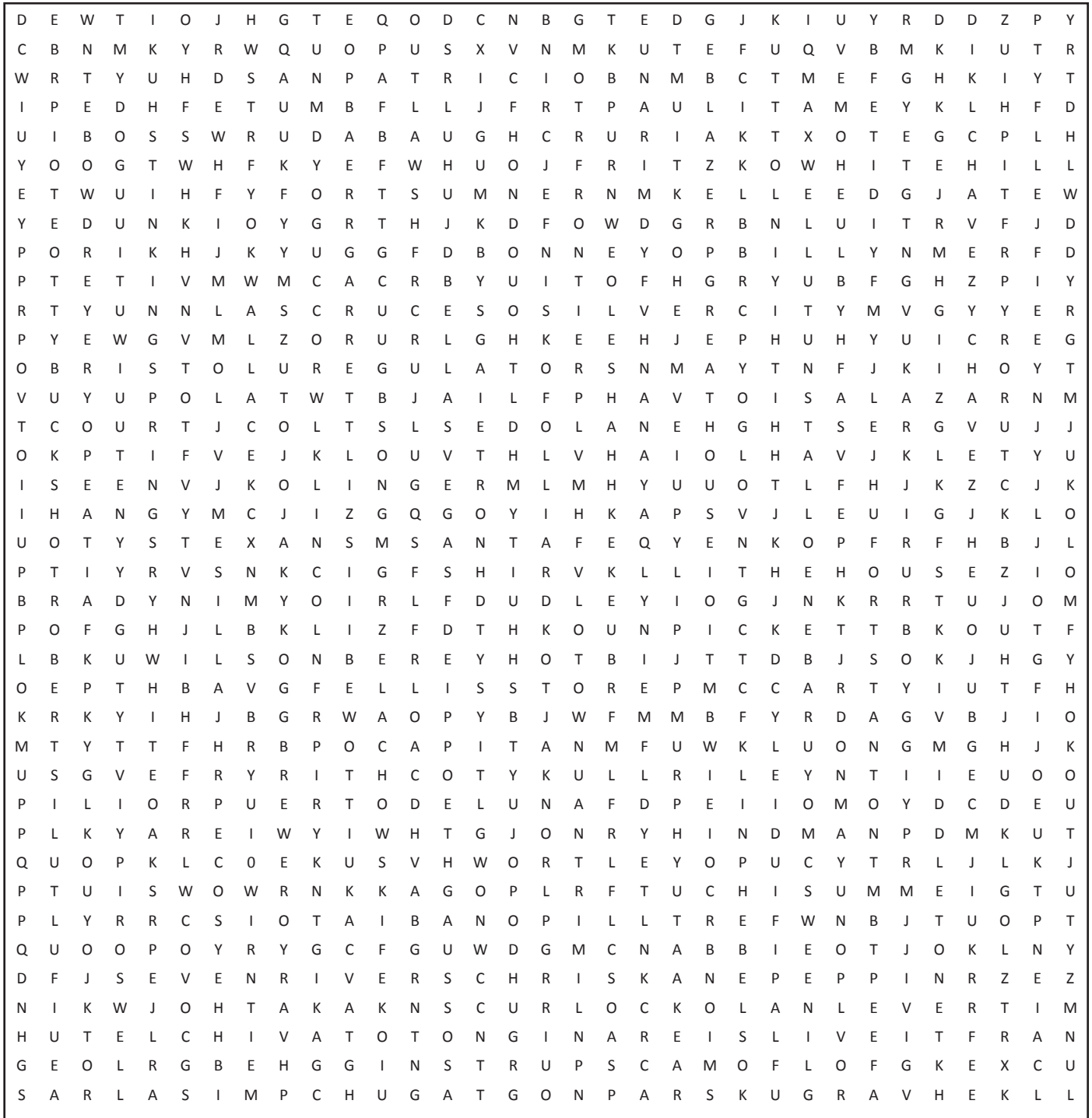
The Kid, according to story, only slapped his guns and answered, "Governor, this is the only protection I have—a pardon would not do me any good."

George Coe and his cousin Grank Coe are the only survivors of the Billy the Kid group, and both are prosperous ranchmen at Glencoe.

Editor's Note: Typos and misspellings are common with older newspaper articles but it should be noted that Brady's first name was William, not Dick, and that Billy most certainly accepted the governor's offer of a pardon.

Billy the Kid for Kids

In the word search below are 70 names, places, and things that relate to Billy the Kid and his life in New Mexico. See if you can find them all and if you need some help, the list of words is on the last page of the *Gazette*.



Word Search Created by Chris Jones

MORE IN SEARCH OF BILLY THE KID



Founder Joe Bowlin at Stinking Springs, 1991—Courtesy of Eddie Taylor



Founding Member Jean Hancock and Billy Cox at the Lincoln County Courthouse, Lincoln, NM, 1991—Courtesy of Linda Pardo



Butch Blazer and Don McAlvy at Blazer's Mill, Mescalero, NM, 2007—Courtesy of Chris Jones

Word Search Clues

ANAYA	MAXWELL
ANTRIM	MCCARTY
	MCSWEEN
BELL	MESILLA
BILLY	MIDDLETON
BOWDRE	MURPHY
BONNEY	
BOSS	OFOLLIARD
BRADY	OUTLAWS
BRISTOL	OLINGER
BUCKSHOT ROBERTS	
BLAZER	PECOS
	PAULITA
CAPITAN	PEPPIN
CHAVEZ Y CHAVEZ	PICKETT
CHISUM	POE
COE	PUERTO DE LUNA
COLTS	
COURT	REGULATORS
	RILEY
DOLAN	ROSWELL
DUDLEY	RUDABAUGH
EL CHIVATO	SALAZAR
ELLIS STORE	SAN PATRICIO
	SANTA FE
FORT STANTON	SCURLOCK
FORT SUMNER	SEVEN RIVERS
FRONTIER	SILVER CITY
	SONG
GARRETT	STINKING SPRINGS
GAUSS	
GREATHOUSE	TAIBAN
GRZELACHOWSKI	TEXAS
	THE HOUSE
HANG	TOWN
HINDMAN	
HONDO	WALLACE
	WHITEHILL
LINCOLN	WHITE OAKS
LAS CRUCES	WILSON
LAS VEGAS	WORTLEY

Thank you!

A big thank you to everyone who contributed articles and photographs for this *Outlaw Gazette* and to all of our members who support us. We couldn't do it without you.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Li'.

Lori Ann Goodloe
BTKOG President



Lincoln, New Mexico



New Mexico State Monuments

- 1 Jémez
- 2 Coronado
- 3 Bosque Redondo Memorial/Fort Sumner
- 4 Lincoln
- 5 El Camino Real International Heritage Center
- 6 Fort Selden

No 178977
nmmonuments.org

No 230867
nmmonuments.org

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

- 1 Jémez
- 2 Coronado
- 3 Bosque Redondo Memorial/Fort Sumner
- 4 **Lincoln**
- 5 El Camino Real International Heritage Center
- 6 Fort Selden

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS