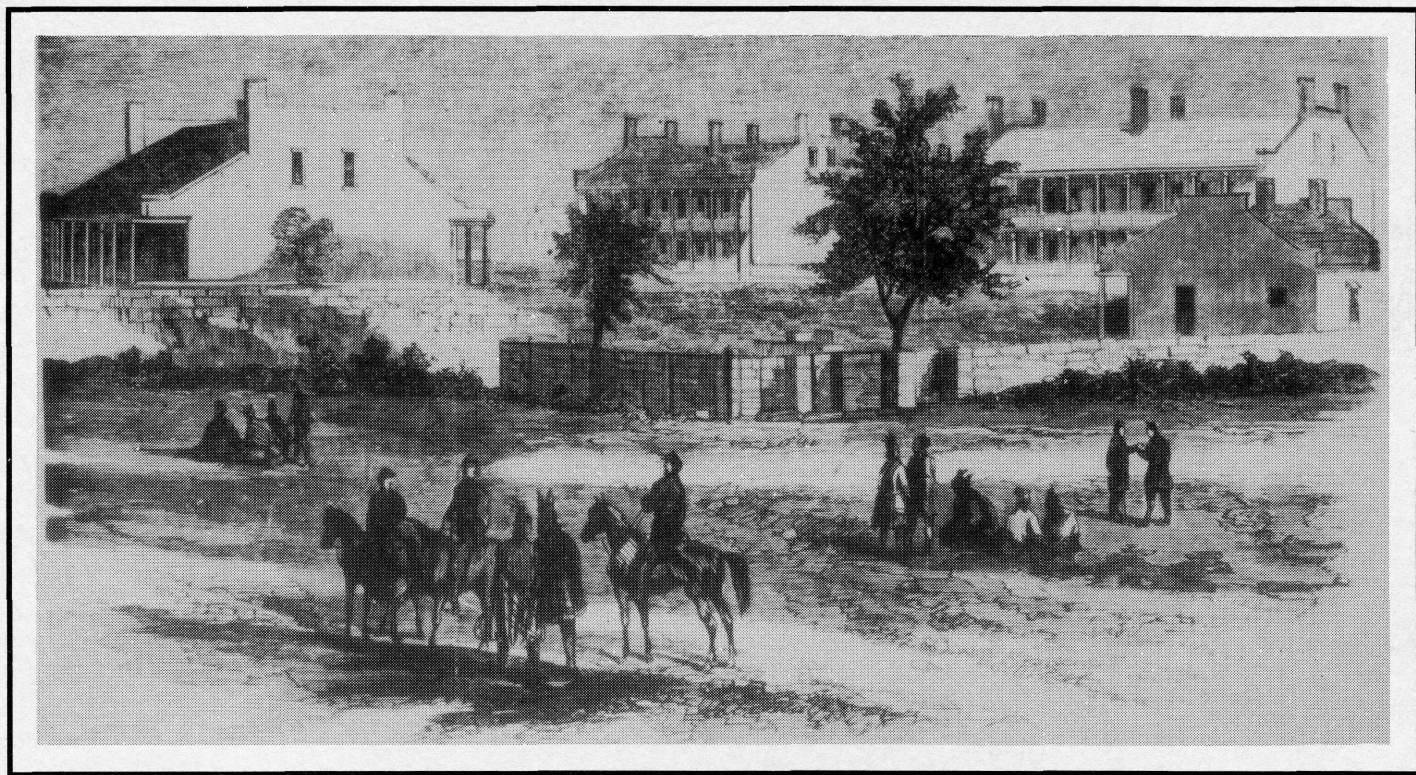


The JOURNAL



Vol. 12, No. 2, September, 1988

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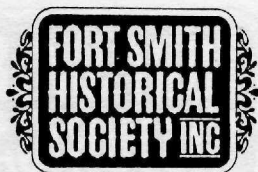
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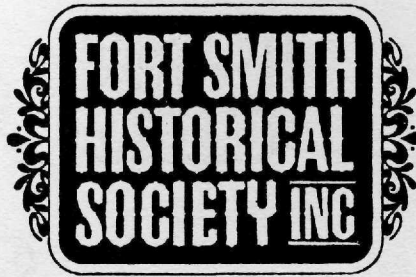
COVER: The second Fort Smith (1838-1871). Designed and begun as a defensive fort, its mission soon became one of supplying all forts further west. Courtesy National Park Service.

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Dear Readers:

"Judge Parker hanged 'em high!" Writers and story tellers have made this story legend, but even if true, it is only part of the story about the many varied uses of the area now known as the Fort Smith National Historic Site. In this issue of *The Journal*, Roger and Sylvia Coleman of the Fort Smith National Historic Site staff and Sarah Fitzjarrald, associate editor of *The Journal*, tell more of the story which is supplemented by Dimple Gilley and Laurence Phelps Forby, Jr.

Roger Coleman, archeologist, deals with need for a fort, the two forts, people who lived just outside the fort in a community known as Belle Point, and the flagstaff of the second Fort Smith.

Sylvia Coleman, curator, tells us of still another use for the site in her article *The Quartermaster, Vital Link to Survival*. This article is a portion of Mrs. Coleman's thesis submitted to the graduate college of Texas A&M University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts.

Sarah Fitzjarrald writes about the restoration of the site, its becoming a national historic site, and the founding and development of the National Park System.

For companion articles, we thank our reader, Laurence Phelps Forby, Jr., of Richland, Washington, and Dimple Gilley. Mr. Phelps contributed the story of Samuel Putnam written by Paul Davis and Phoebe Park which was first published in the *Arkansas Gazette Magazine* in 1936. Samuel Putnam settled in the Fort Smith area in 1817 — the same time period as the settlement of the Belle Point community, but a few miles down the Arkansas River from the fort.

Dimple Gilley, former teacher at Trusty School and retired principal of Carnall School, rounds out the story with her article about the school that was first built on the Putnam plantation and later became known as Trusty School.

We call special attention to *Mayors of Fort Smith* and the need for your help in this research.

A special thanks to Mary Lou Jacobsen, Don Marquette and Anna Greve who abstracted the newspapers from an extremely hard to read microfilm, and to Pat Birkett who typed the manuscript from their hand written copy.

Sincerely,

Amelia Martin, Editor

Fort Smith National Historic Site

Historical Background

Roger E. Coleman

Fort Smith National Historic Site is historically and archeologically complex. The site incorporates two historic military forts, the latter of which also contained the prison and courtroom of the United States District Court of the Western District of Arkansas. Federal occupation of the site spanned 79 years, during which Fort Smith played a major role in the implementation of federal Indian policy. For conceptual purposes, occupation of Fort Smith is commonly divided into three basic periods: first fort, second fort, and judicial (eg. Kyril 1980:4). The following discussion is necessarily brief and for the most part follows the exhaustive history of Fort Smith prepared by Edwin C. Bearss and Arrel M. Gibson (1979).



The first Fort Smith, 1817-1824. Samuel Seymour watercolor dated 1821. Note the fort is shown only partially completed.

FIRST FORT

Following the purchase of Louisiana in 1803, federal officials promoted the removal of southeastern Indians to a "permanent Indian frontier" in the new western possession. Removal began after 1809 when Osage Indians forfeited their traditional hunting lands for resettlement of the Cherokees. In a few years, thousands of Cherokees occupied lands on the White and Arkansas Rivers. The Cherokee-Osage boundary became a source of friction, however, and resulted in armed clashes. The vendetta between both nations intensified, and in 1817, Fort Smith was established to maintain peace.

The site of the new fort was Belle Point, a prominent bluff overlooking the Poteau and Arkansas Rivers. On December 24, Major William Bradford and 64 men of the Rifles Regiment, Company A, landed at Belle Point. In eight days, temporary shelters had been erected and work initiated on the permanent fortification. Work progressed slowly

and the fort was not entirely enclosed until after 1820. Upon completion, the fort was a simple log stockade with four sides of 132 feet each, with two blockhouses at opposite angles. Barracks, storehouses, shops, magazine, and a hospital were located within the walls. In February, 1822, Colonel Matthew Arbuckle and five companies of Seventh United States Infantry garrisoned the post. Quarters for the additional troops were erected outside the original fort. Increased hostilities prompted the additional troop strength. The location of the post on the eastern border of Indian territory, however, was too far removed from the arena of hostilities. Consequently, the military pulled out of Fort Smith in 1824, and established Fort Gibson some 60 miles up the Arkansas River.

Fort Smith was not forgotten. By the treaty of 1825, the Choctaw Indians agreed to resettle on lands set aside in Indian territory, and Fort Smith was designated the agency for the western Choctaw. In February, 1827, Choctaw agent William McClellan found the post buildings in ruinous condition. Four years passed, however, before the government repaired the structures. On April 26, 1831, Lieutenant Gabriel Rains and a detail of Seventh United States Infantry arrived at the post. Over the next few months, Rains labored to repair the public buildings. By August, Choctaw Indians began trickling into the area (Haskett 1966:213-228).

A sizeable civilian community had emerged on lands owned by John Rogers just east of Fort Smith and adjacent to the Choctaw boundary line. Six taverns dominated the community, the closest only a "few paces" from the Choctaw line. Enterprising merchants plied the immigrating Choctaws with cheap whiskey and the Indians became a source of sustained economic exploitation. Lieutenant Rains positioned his men on the line to keep peddlers and Choctaws separated. The situation worsened so that in March, 1833, Fort Smith was garrisoned by Captain John Stuart and a company of the Seventh Infantry. Stuart's efforts to control the contraband trade, known as the "Arkansas Whiskey War," met only with marginal success. Military patrols were scrutinized by the merchants who operated under Stuart's very nose. Whiskey smugglers could slip across the Indian Territory line almost at will. As a result, Stuart abandoned Fort Smith in June, 1834, and established Fort Coffee at a more suitable location in Indian Territory (Haskett 1966:213-288; Bearss 1968b:143-172).

SECOND FORT

As additional tribes were located in Indian Territory, fearful residents of the new state of Arkansas requested that a permanent military garrison be placed on the border. Fort Smithites launched a successful campaign to regarrison Fort Smith. In 1838, Congress authorized construction of a new fort and purchased from John Rogers a 296-acre reservation adjacent to the old fort on Belle Point.

Construction of the new fort began in 1839. The design called for a pentagonal shaped enclosure of stone with a bastion at each angle, and enclosing seven acres. Inside the walls, several buildings were to be constructed around a parade ground including two enlisted men's barracks, two officers quarters, the commandant's quarter, a hospital, quartermaster store, and other buildings. Cutbacks in funding, however, continually plagued construction. On completion, only one of two planned enlisted men's barracks was raised, and although both officers quarters were constructed, plans for the commandant's quarter were shelved while this building was at foundation level.

Even before the fort was completed, it had become apparent that armed warriors would not descend on Arkansas from Indian Territory. Because of heavy government expenditures, however, abandonment of the new work was unfeasible. Therefore, in 1845, Fort Smith was designated the supply depot for other Indian Territory forts. Without a need for defensive capabilities, portions of the fort curtain wall were never raised to the intended height of 12 feet. Furthermore, to accommodate the increased supply load, bastions 1 and 2 were converted into the commissary and quartermaster storehouses, respectively, and bastion 3 was transformed into a magazine. Without a pressing need for security, several activities and associated structures including maintenance buildings, stables, hospital, storehouse, bakehouse and laundress quarters, were located beyond the fort walls.

Fort Smith was formally garrisoned in 1846 and functioned as a supply depot until the Civil War. On April 23, 1861, State troops captured Fort Smith. Until September 1, 1863, when Federal soldiers regarrisoned the post, Fort Smith served the Confederate Army of the Trans-Mississippi West as a major supply base and defensive bastion protecting Confederate interests in Arkansas and Indian Territory. During the post war years, the army again focused efforts on the western frontier. Indian territory forts had moved westward, however, and Fort Smith could no longer function efficiently as a supply depot. In 1871, the army abandoned Fort Smith. During the same year, arrangements were made to move the United States Court of the Western District of Arkansas from Van Buren to Fort Smith, thus initiating the judicial period (Bearss and Gibson, 1979).

JUDICIAL

In 1872, the United States District Court of the Western District of Arkansas moved into Fort Smith. A valuation of property indicated that 29 buildings stood on the former military property. Nearly all of these were relegated to civilian or federal use. The former enlisted men's barracks became the federal courtroom and also housed attendant offices. A permanent gallows was constructed along the inward side of bastion 3 or the old magazine, and the courtroom basement served as a jail. When overcrowding in this damp hole, known as "hell-on-the-border", received public attention, a modern prison wing was added to the south end of the courtroom. This structure was completed in February, 1888.

The federal court presided over a vast district encompassing western Arkansas and the entire Indian Territory of present-day Oklahoma. Here tribal courts had no jurisdiction over white settlers. This legal technicality attracted the most desperate breed of outlaw, who finding refuge beyond the pale of justice, could murder and steal with little fear of retribution. To bring offenders to justice, a federal marshal and a number of deputies never more than 200 strong, combed this vast wilderness. When fugitives were apprehended, they were taken to Fort Smith for trial.

Fort Smith is best known for Federal Judge Isaac C. Parker, whom President Ulysses S. Grant appointed to the bench in 1875. During Parker's 21 years in office, over 13,000 cases came to trial and 79 offenders were hung for their crimes. Parker proved to be a tireless defender of Indian rights and through his efforts brought law and order to Indian Territory. As the non-Indian population increased, new courts emerged in Indian Territory, gradually reducing Parker's authority. On March 1, 1895, Congress enacted legislation that limited Parker's jurisdiction to several counties in western Arkansas. This legislation became effective on September 1, 1896, thus ending the judicial period at Fort Smith.

POST-HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

Beginning during the judicial period and escalating in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a series of events occurred that changed the appearance of the historic fort. By the act of February 17, 1883, Congress granted right-of-way through the former military reservation to the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad. Sometime between May, 1886 and February, 1889, a portion of the garrison wall was removed to accommodate trackage, effectively separating the quartermaster building from the rest of the fort. The Missouri Pacific Railroad soon paralleled the St. Louis and San Francisco.

A May 29, 1896, bill called for lands inside the garrison to be granted to the city of Fort Smith. Although use of the federal jail continued as late as 1914, the remainder of the military reserve was transferred to the city. On February 26, 1897, legislation was enacted to extend Parker and Rogers

Avenues, and Third and Second Streets through this property. The Old Fort Reserve Addition was surveyed in June and sold to private concerns. The fort curtain walls were dismantled between July 1, 1897, and July 1, 1898, after which streets were extended. By 1900, several large multi-storied brick buildings had been built or were under construction, and the Old Fort Reserve Addition emerged as the light industrial/warehouse district of Fort Smith. In 1920, the federal government donated the courtroom and jail to the city of Fort Smith. The building became a civic center housing a variety of city offices and community organizations. Sometime around the turn of the century, Belle Point was densely populated, and acquired the name of "Coke Hill."

Public interest in the old fort increased during the early twentieth century. In 1910, the Old Fort Museum Association occupied the commissary and used the building as a museum. In 1957, the courthouse was restored to its original condition by Public Historical Restorations, Incorporated. Local businessmen donated funds to purchase private interests on Coke Hill and sponsored the first archeological excavation at the site in 1959. In 1961, 11 acres of land containing the site of the first fort, the courtroom/jail complex, and the commissary building was donated to the National Park Service. Since creation of the Fort Smith National Historic Site, land holdings have been increased to 69.83 acres and several intrusive streets and post-historic buildings have been removed (Page 1981:46-66).

Commanders of the Post at Fort Smith

Maj. Wm. Bradford, Rifle Regiment	November 1817 to February 1822
Col. Matthew Arbuckle, 7th Infantry	February 1822 to March 1822
Maj. A.R. Wooley, 7th Infantry	March 1822 to June 1822
Col. Matthew Arbuckle, 7th Infantry	June 1822 to January 1823
Capt. Wm. Davenport, 7th Infantry	January 1823 to May 1823
Col. Matthew Arbuckle, 7th Infantry	May 1823 to April 1824
(Troops withdrawn from Post April 1824; re-occupied March 22, 1833.)	
Capt. John Stuart, 7th Infantry	March 1833 to June 1834
(Troops withdrawn June 16, 1834; re-occupied July 27, 1838.)	
Capt. B.L.E. Bonneville, 7th Infantry	July 1838 to October 1838
Capt. W.G. Belknap, 3rd Infantry	October 1838 to September 1840
Capt. W.W. Lear, 4th Infantry	September 1840 to September 1842
Capt. Wm. Hoffman, 6th Infantry	September 1842 to May 1843
Capt. J.D. Searight, 6th Infantry	May 1843 to November 1843
Capt. Wm. Hoffman, 6th Infantry	November 1843 to August 1845
Maj. B.L.E. Bonneville, 6th Infantry	August 1845 to December 1845
Capt. Wm. Hoffman, 6th Infantry	December 1845 to January 1846
Maj. B.L.E. Bonneville, 6th Infantry	January 1846 to July 1846
Capt. E.B. Alexander, A.Q.M.	July 1846 to October 1846
Lieut. J.W.B. Gardiner, 1st Dragoons	October 1846 to May 1847
Lieut. F.F. Flint, 6th Infantry	May 1847 to November 1848
Capt. C.C. Sibley, 5th Infantry	November 1848 to July 1850
(Troops withdrawn July 2, 1850; re-occupied March 1, 1851.)	
Capt. C.C. Sibley, 5th Infantry	March 1851 to June 1851
Capt. R.C. Gatlin, 7th Infantry	June 1851 to May 1852
Col. Henry Wilson, 7th Infantry	May 1852 to October 1852
Maj. Geo. Andrews, 7th Infantry	October 1852 to May 1853
Col. Henry Wilson, 7th Infantry	May 1853 to July 1853
Capt. H.I. Hunt, 2nd Artillery	July 1853 to August 1853
Capt. T. H. Holmes, 7th Infantry	August 1853 to October 1853
Lieut. Franklin Gardner, 7th Infantry	October 1853 to November 1853
Col. Henry Wilson, 7th Infantry	November 1853 to May 1855
Lieut. J.H. Potter, 7th Infantry	May 5, 1855 to May 22, 1855
Capt. S.G. French, A.Q.M.	May 1855 to December 1855
Capt. R.C. Gatlin, 7th Infantry	December 1855 to January 1856
Major Isaac Linde, 7th Infantry	January 1856 to March 1856
Capt. R.C. Gatlin, 7th Infantry	March 1856 to December 1856
Major Isaac Linde, 7th Infantry	December 1856 to June 1857
Capt. R.C. Gatlin, 7th Infantry	June 1857 to August 1857
Capt. LaFayette McLaws, 7th Infantry	August 1857 to September 1857
Capt. S.G. Simmons, 7th Infantry	September 1857 to February 1858
Lieut. E.J. Brooks, 7th Infantry	February 1858 to March 1858
Capt. D.D. Sackett, 1st Cavalry	March 1858 to June 1859
Capt. W.W. Burns, Comm'y Sut	June 1859 to July 1859
Capt. E.W. Crittenden, 1st Cavalry	July 1859 to September 1859
Capt. S.D. Sturges, 1st Cavalry	September 1859 to April 1861
(U.S. Troops withdrawn April 23, 1861; re-occupied September 1, 1863.)	

Col. W.W. Cloud, 1st Kansas Cavalry	September 1863 to December 1863
Col. John Edwards, 18th Iowa Infantry	December 1863 to March 21, 1864
Lieut. Col. A.W. Bishop, 1st Arkansas Cavalry	March 1864 to May 1864
Col. W.R. Judson, 6th Kansas Cavalry	May 1864 to June 1865
Lieut. Col. J.B. Wheeler, 12th Kansas Infantry	January 1865 to February 1865
Brig. Gen. Cyrus Bussey, U.S. Volunteers	February 1865 to September 1865
Col. M.M. Trumbull, 9th Iowa Cavalry	September 1865 to February 1866
Col. Paul Harwood, 57th U.S.C.T.	February 1866 to May 1866
Capt. R.W. Barnard, 19th U.S. Infantry	May 1866 to September 1866
Capt. S.S. Culberson, 19th U.S. Infantry	September 1866 to November 1866
Capt. W.J. Lyster, 19th U.S. Infantry	November 1866 to January 1867
Capt. J.B. Mulligan, 19th U.S. Infantry	January 1867 to February 1867
Col. D.F. Jones, 19th U.S. Infantry	February 1867 to October 1867
Lieut. Col. P. Lugenbeel, 19th U.S. Infantry	October 1867 to April 1869
Capt. John J. Upham, 6th U.S. Infantry	April 1869 to June 1869
Capt. Montgomery Bryant, 6th U.S. Infantry	June 1869 to November 1870
1st Lieut. F.W. Thibaut, 6th U.S. Infantry	November 1870 to January 1871
Capt. Montgomery Bryant, 6th U.S. Infantry	January 1871 to July 1871
1st Lieut. F.W. Thibaut, 6th U.S. Infantry	July 1871 to September 1871

United States troops were finally withdrawn September 1871, and the military reservation was relinquished to the Interior Department for disposition, under act of Congress, approved February 14th, 1871, by War Department letter of March 24th, 1871.

Garrison of the Post at Fort Smith

Company A, Rifle Regiment	November 1817 to February 1822
Companies B, C, G, H and K, Seventh Infantry	February 1822 to April 1824
Company C, Seventh Infantry	March 22, 1833 to June 16, 1834
Company F, Seventh Infantry	July 27, 1838 to January 9, 1839
Companies B and H, Third Infantry	October 24, 1838 to September 25, 1840
Company D, Third Infantry	December 28, 1839 to July, 1840
Companies F and K, Third Infantry	December 28, 1839 to September 25, 1840
Company E, Fourth Infantry	September 25, 1840 to September 19, 1842
Companies D and F, Sixth Infantry	September 17, 1842 to July 13, 1846
Company D, First Dragoons	August 10, 1846 to May 10, 1847
Detachments	May 10, 1847 to October 31, 1848
Company B, Fifth Infantry	October 31, 1848 to May 6, 1850
Company E, Fifth Infantry	October 31, 1848 to July 2, 1850
Company E, Fifth Infantry	March 14, 1851 to June 7, 1851
Company F, Seventh Infantry	May 14, 1851 to May 8, 1854
Company M. Second Artillery	July 9, 1853 to August 16, 1853
Detachment Seventh Infantry	May 8, 1854 to December 8, 1855
Companies B and F, Seventh Infantry	December 8, 1855 to August 1, 1857
Companies D and H, Seventh Infantry	August 11, 1857 to February 8, 1858
Detachment Seventh Infantry	February 8, 1858 to March 1, 1858
Companies A and B, First Cavalry	December 18, 1858 to June 10, 1859
Detachment First Cavalry	June 10, 1859 to September, 1859
Company E, Second Artillery	September 30, 1860 to October 3, 1860
Company F, Second Artillery	September 30, 1860 to October 15, 1860
Companies D and E, First Cavalry	September 19, 1860 to April 23, 1861
Volunteer Troops, various States	September 1, 1863 to May 9, 1866
Company F, Third Battalion, Nineteenth Infantry	May 9, 1866 to October, 1866
Company G, Second Battalion, Nineteenth Infantry	June, 1866 to November, 1866
Company B, Nineteenth Infantry	November 13, 1866 to May, 1867
Company F, Nineteenth Infantry	January 14, 1867 to April, 1869
Company H, Nineteenth Infantry	October 9, 1867 to April, 1869
Company A, Nineteenth Infantry	October 15, 1867 to April, 1869
Company E, Nineteenth Infantry	December 4, 1867 to April, 1869
Company G, Nineteenth Infantry	December 4, 1867 to April, 1869
Company K, Nineteenth Infantry	December 24, 1867 to April, 1869
Company I, Sixth Infantry	April 26, 1869 to January, 1870
Company K, Sixth Infantry	April 26, 1869 to January, 1870
Company D, Sixth Infantry	June 9, 1869 to July 18, 1871
Detachment Company D, Sixth Infantry	July 18, 1871 to September, 1871

The Quartermaster

Vital Link to Survival

Sylvia Coleman

The quartermaster was absolutely essential to military operations. His far reaching duties encompassed nearly all aspects of military provision including equipage for the troops (clothing, camp and garrison equipment, fuel, horses and mules, their forage, harness, etc.). The quartermaster was responsible for the construction of buildings at posts and for their disposal at the time of abandonment. He supplied the raw material and furnished the blacksmith, mason, carpenter and bricklayer with tools of their respective trades. The quartermaster also saw to the transportation of all supplies,¹ a difficult task on the remote southwestern frontier.

Food consumed by the men was the responsibility of the Subsistence Department. The officer acting as a Commissary of Subsistence made requisitions for supplies, received and accounted for all subsistence stores, arranged the storage of provisions, and reported damaged items to a Board of Survey.² But, although army regulations considered the Commissary of Subsistence a separate department, it was often combined with the position of the quartermaster so that a single man acted as both.³

Subsistence supplies were divided into subsistence stores and commissary property. The subsistence stores consisted of rations such as pork, flour, coffee, etc., and the commissary property were those items required to issue and preserve stores such as stationery, measures, tools, etc.⁴

In spite of the attempt by the Quartermaster Department to regulate supply, gaps in the network existed. As supplies came in, all military personnel, including laundresses and other civilian employees, and Indians were entitled to draw issues of rations; only officers were allowed additional rations for family members.⁵ When the quartermaster found himself unable to deliver supplies, this gap in the supply chain had to be filled by the soldiers themselves, their wives, or through the "company fund", a financial source for extra rations usually obtained from selling bread or produce grown in the post garden.⁶

During the 1840s, regulations required that the army furnish the soldiers only the necessities of life (food, clothes, and equipment for their duties). To supply items thought to be luxuries, each post was allowed a sutler. He was a civilian appointed by the Secretary of War who ran a general store.⁷ Each post was allowed only one sutler. Senior officers of a post determined what stores the sutler could keep and

what prices would be charged. The sutler was assessed a fixed rate per month for each soldier at the post. The money would then become a post fund for use in a variety of ways, including books for the post library and maintenance of the post band.⁸

DEVELOPMENT

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the United States Government had extreme difficulty developing a smoothly operating administrative program for the procurement and disbursement of military supplies. The Quartermaster Department, established in 1818, soon came into conflict with departments for purchasing, clothing, and subsistence. The fledgling organization experienced several rapid changes in leadership and was repeatedly reorganized.⁹ A lack of regularity and continuity characterized the Quartermaster Department. As a result, no two military posts resembled each other during these formative years. The rigors of the Civil War, however, pointed to the need for standardized specifications of supply. By 1864, the Quartermaster Department was issuing specifications designed to increase standardization. In the 1870s, the refinement of specifications and the imposition of regulations, service-wide, began to be seriously addressed.¹⁰ The Quartermaster Department emerged from this decade as a highly bureaucratized organization that governed almost every aspect of military life.

THE HISTORY OF FORT SMITH

On Christmas day in 1817, a small stockaded fort was established on a 50 foot high sandstone bluff at a point where the Poteau and Arkansas Rivers met. The men set about constructing quarters, opening fields, mapping, surveying, building roads, and patrolling for outbreaks among hostile Indians. At this time the main purpose of the fort was to bring peace between warring Cherokee and Osage Indians. In 1822, the fort hosted a great peace council between the warring tribes. After 11 days of deliberation, the Treaty of Fort Smith was signed. By 1824, the frontier was generally quiet and Fort Smith was no longer necessary.¹¹ General Edmund Gaines argued for continued occupation of the post "... for in case of war in the west, it would become the Depot of the Army in the Field."¹² In spite of General Gaines' stalwart defense of the post, Fort Smith was abandoned in 1824.

The government continued to use the stockade on Belle Point for a variety of uses. Over the next six years, Fort Smith housed the headquarters for the Choctaw Boundary Commission, the headquarters of the Western Choctaw Agency, a storage facility for Choctaw provisions, and housed a number of military survey and road building crews. For a brief period of time, the old fort contained an illegally operated cotton gin, tavern, and store. From 1831-1833, Fort Smith was temporarily regarrisoned to prevent unscrupulous whiskey peddlers from taking advantage of immigrating Indians who were camped in the vicinity.¹³

As the Indian population grew in Indian Country (present-day Oklahoma), fearful Arkansas settlers petitioned the government to expand and regarrison Fort Smith. In 1838, the War Department honored the request and authorized the construction of a larger fort 300 feet from the original log stockade. One year later, construction of the new fort commenced.¹⁴

By 1845, the second fort was nearing completion. An Indian attack, however, never materialized. Government officials, embarrassed by large expenditures, redesignated Fort Smith as the supply depot for the Army of the Southwest. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Fort Smith was captured by Confederates who used the facilities to supply their troops in the field. Two years later, Union troops recaptured the post and remained there until 1871. But by this time the frontier had moved so far west that Fort Smith was no longer able to function as a supply depot. The following year the Federal Court for the Western District of Arkansas moved into the former military fort and converted the only remaining barracks building into a courtroom. This final function lasted until 1896, when the United States Congress removed the territorial authority of the court.¹⁵

Today, only the exposed stone foundation remains of the first fort. Among the second fort remains are a commissary, barracks (converted to the courthouse by the district court), cistern, and three recently exposed bastion foundations. Located in downtown Fort Smith, both fort sites have been extensively disturbed. In 1961, the land containing both forts was donated to the National Park Service by the city of Fort Smith. The Fort Smith National Historic Site is presently administered by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

FORT SMITH AS QUARTERMASTER DEPOT

At the start of the nineteenth century, the American frontier began its westward push. There was little concern for the effects that the movement would have on Indians of the Trans-Mississippi West. To ease conflicts, the United States Government attempted to establish a "Permanent Indian Frontier" where all Indian tribes could remain

to live without worry of white encroachment. To outline this frontier, the army laid out a string of posts running roughly north to south among which was Fort Smith (Fig. 1). But with territorial expansion and the discovery of gold in California, western trails pierced this "Permanent Frontier," causing it to vanish by 1850.¹⁶

Maintenance of Fort Smith became a topic of concern to the War Department. On July 8, 1845, General Thomas Jesup, first Quartermaster General of the United States Army, was sent to examine "the site of Fort Smith in its relation to the line of defense of the Southwestern Frontier."¹⁷

Following his return to Washington in 1846, Jesup reported that Fort Smith, because of its location at the head of steamboat navigation on the Arkansas River, was "an important point for a depot of supplies for a force operating on that frontier as well as for the posts in advance on Red River and Fort Gibson."¹⁸ Because Fort Smith was recognized for its potential as an effective supply depot by Jesup,¹⁹ the post was soon designated Departmental Headquarters for the United States Quartermaster Department.²⁰

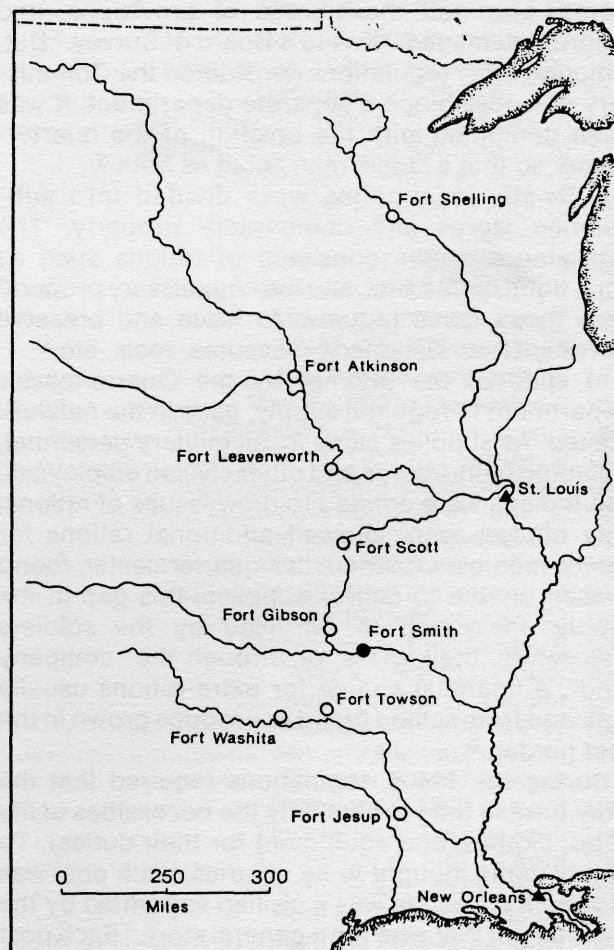
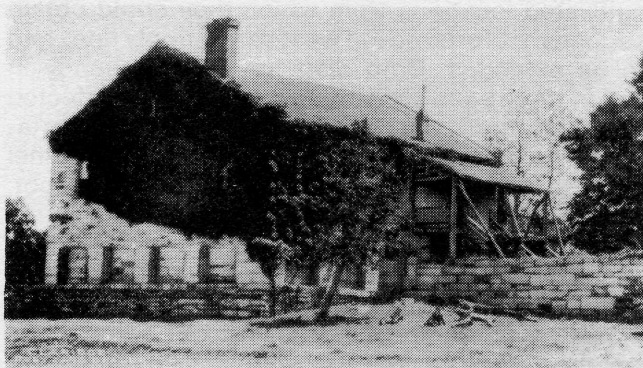


Figure 1. Fort Smith and the string of frontier posts (Ferris, 1971).

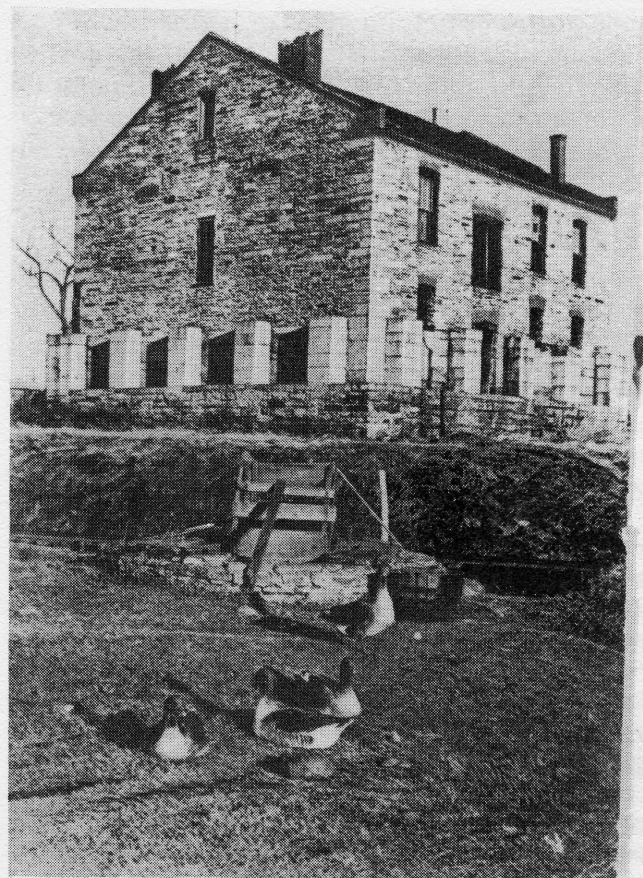
Fort Smith soon became an important link to the Southwestern frontier for military and civilian ventures alike. At the discovery of gold in California, the citizens of Fort Smith began to think of their city as "the principle place of rendezvous every spring" for western bound people.²¹ In 1849, Captain Randolph B. Marcy, with the assistance of Lieutenant John Buford from Fort Scott, led a large group to California along a route he opened from Fort Smith to New Mexico.²² If the new route proved to be better than the Santa Fe Trail, Fort Smith would "increase in importance both in a military and commercial point of view."²³ Eventually, a network of military roads projected from Fort Smith and confirmed the fort as a center point for the expanding southwest.²⁴ The strategic location of the fort resulted in technological advancements. During the 1850s, stage and mail enterprises grew, steamboats reaching the post increased, and a telegraph line installed by the Missouri River and Western Telegraph Company connected St. Louis and Fort Smith.²⁵

Because of the role of Fort Smith as Chief Depot, the quartermaster became the most important officer on the post. During the reign of Fort Smith as motherpost, three people served as quartermaster. Captain Edmund Alexander was quartermaster and commandant from 1845-1848. He was followed by Captain Alexander Montgomery from 1849-1853 and 1856-1861. The two-year period when Montgomery was temporarily reassigned was served by Captain Samuel G. French.²⁶



Old Commissary Building, Fort Smith, erected in 1840.
Courtesy National Park Service.

Being the post quartermaster was a job that most did not envy. Provisioning and sustaining dependent military posts demanded imagination and patience. Inadequate policies of the youthful department often hampered post quartermaster duties as did War Department indecisions, lack of funds, and staff reductions. Furthermore, the post quartermaster was expected to contend with an increasing workload, shortage of supplies and equipment, and unpredictable weather. Despite any technological



Quartermaster-Storehouse at Fort Smith.
Courtesy National Park Service.

advancements available to him, the quartermaster struggled to keep up with the demand for his services. Although building and maintaining barracks and fortifications (usually with troop labor), procuring fuel and forage, and the transportation of troops and supplies were the responsibilities most often delegated to a quartermaster, he also had to bear the brunt of other assignments that fell his way. The quartermaster at Fort Smith supplied and equipped military units and emigrants passing through the post; provided quarters and assistance to regimental and 2nd and 7th Military Department officials; provided rations and supplies to emigrating Indians; provided offices and quarters for the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, his staff and their families; outfitted expeditions and government surveys;²⁷ supervised construction, gathered and shipped supplies, equipment and troops to Forts Gibson, Towson, Washita, Arbuckle, Belknap, Wayne, Cobb, Camp Radzinski and Phantom Hill; acquired and maintained a large transportation fleet including forage, equipment and personnel to keep vehicles moving; and disposed of abandoned Forts Gibson and Towson. There is no doubt that these conditions had a direct impact on how effectively dependent military posts were supplied.



Wagons — Part of the Quartermaster's Equipment.
Courtesy National Park Service.

As if these duties and responsibilities were not enough, in 1855 it had been suggested that Fort Smith be designated a Commissary Depot and the post commanders could then send their requests to Fort Smith instead of the New Orleans depot. With the Commissary Depot of the 7th Military Department at Fort Smith, the quartermaster could make more efficient use of his wagon trains and there would be a considerable savings on subsistence stores purchased locally. Those items considered advantageous would be bought from local markets and a call for the remainder would be sent to the New Orleans depot.²⁸ The suggestion was approved and the post commissaries at Fort Arbuckle, Gibson and Washita sent requisitions for provisions direct to the acting Commissary of Subsistence at Fort Smith.²⁹ In a very short time, the Fort Smith quartermaster found himself overwhelmed by the huge amount of work required to carry out the duties of both Post Commissary and Depot Quartermaster. Finally, he had to ask for an employee to serve as clerk and tend to odd jobs.³⁰

During the winter of 1850-1851, the War Department made the decision to establish a new line of posts in Texas. These forts were to push back the frontier and protect emigrants passing along the Dona Ana Road from Fort Smith to New Mexico. Fort Smith was to be responsible for their supply.³¹

Basic functions at the Fort Smith depot became cumbersome and expensive. The occupation of many posts in new western areas dramatically increased the quartermaster's expenditures, especially when military buildings were located in areas where temporary structures would be built at a high expense. Changes in the location of posts along the frontier were frequent and because the temporary structures built were in constant need of repairs, they added to the problem of large expenditures. In addition, those posts in distant areas with difficult accessibility and few resources forced the purchase and transport of supplies at high prices.

Supplying the new posts drained the already strained budget of Fort Smith. To reduce costs, a

money conscious War Department insisted that the supply station be changed from Fort Smith to Fort Towson so that dependent posts in Texas could be more efficiently supplied from the Red River. This idea was not without opposition, however. Colonel Mathew Arbuckle advised General Jesup that Fort Smith was "of the utmost importance as a military depot". Because transportation on the Red River was unreliable, the posts on the north border of Texas depended on Fort Smith for subsistence.³² According to Montgomery, to make Fort Towson the supply station would be a wasteful expense of public funds and such a plan could end up causing much suffering to the dependent troops.³³ Referring to a statement once made by Colonel Arbuckle, Montgomery concluded that "it would be more convenient, far more certain, and equally as cheap to the government to supply the posts on the Brazos using the navigation of the Arkansas River."³⁴

The case for Fort Smith remaining the supply depot for the Texas posts was strong. But the opposition won — temporarily. As the attempt of the War Department to supply Texas forts by the Red River faltered, the Fort Smith quartermaster was called upon to rush supplies to those outposts.³⁵

TRANSPORTATION

Since the quartermaster's largest expenses were transportation costs, supplying the distant Texas posts increased quartermaster expenditures dramatically. Many of the western posts were not in areas where they could be readily and cheaply supplied, nor were many in well populated and well cultivated locations from which they could obtain supplies. As forts moved westward, supply lines had to be extended. Both distance and frequency in which troops and supplies had to be moved affected transportation costs. By 1850, the cost of transportation had increased 1500% since 1844.³⁶ Colonel Stanton, who was in charge of the St. Louis depot, warned Montgomery that private baggage and stores could not be hauled at public expense. Private baggage, except for the allowed amount, had to be excluded. All wagons were to be inspected during loading and all wagons moving out were to be weighed. Wagons with a six animal team were not to weigh more than 2500 pounds each.³⁷

CHANGES IN TRANSPORTATION

During succeeding years, a number of changes in transportation were instituted at Fort Smith to reduce government expenditures. From 1850-1851, mules over oxen were argued as being the best transporters of supplies to posts west of Fort Smith.³⁸ Among the quartermaster's reasons were: 1) it was twice as expensive to ship supplies to outposts by oxen than mules because it took them longer and were also likely to contract murrain (an infectious disease fatal to oxen); 2) mules could make a greater amount of trips and reduce wear and tear on the wagons; 3) oxen only ate corn on the cob,

requiring the use of an entire wagon to haul corn for each outgoing train (Mules did not require corn on the cob and each wagon could carry a single sack of corn.); 4) long trips and hard roads would take a lot out of the oxen which would have to be put back in shape before sending on another trip. In 1851, Montgomery received orders from Colonel Belknap to no longer buy oxen for transporting supplies. He had observed that the road from Fort Smith to the Brazos was strewn with carcasses of oxen. The men contracted to help haul supplies lost most of their oxen, forcing them to store their goods along the way. Belknap was of the opinion that oxen were totally unsuited for transshipment of supplies.³⁹

Montgomery also felt a need to stockpile supplies before winter at those posts isolated from all supplies except wood, grass and water. The soldiers could not obtain supplies from their immediate area and would have to carry a large amount of supplies with them. Montgomery felt that it was more practical to send supplies only twice a year because of the strong escorts required to guard the huge quantity of supplies being carried across the Red River.⁴⁰ To decrease the need of maintaining a large supply train, Montgomery had the post quartermaster at Fort Washita establish an intermediate depot at Preston, Texas (Fig. 2). Montgomery would then have contractors haul supplies from Fort Smith to Preston and a second contract arranged to transport beyond Preston.⁴¹

When heavy rains occurred, roads leading out of Fort Smith would wash out. Supply trains had to detour on bad roads that caused wagon repairs and horse and mule shodding costs to increase outrageously.⁴²

Eventually the Arkansas River became the primary route by which supplies were transported. But the Arkansas was "a river which knew only one master, the whims of nature. It could be a raging flood one week... and the next week it could drop to a maddening trickle of water."⁴³ The Arkansas River was extremely important. Delivery of supplies

almost came to a halt when the river dropped — when navigable, people relaxed. Editor Wheeler of the *Fort Smith Herald* reported on February 7, 1851, that "the river is again in fine boating order and we rejoice that it is so, it is not only the 'right arm' of trade and business, but it is less than 'both arms' of conjugal felicity." The river was known to rise as high as 20 feet or drop as low as three feet (*Fort Smith Herald*, May 10, May 31, June 7, 1856).

But Washington was not concerned with the problems caused by the river. General Jesup wrote to the Fort Smith quartermaster that he relied on him "to have the troops supplied, notwithstanding the difficulties of the navigation of the Red and Arkansas Rivers, with everything depending upon us, whether the articles be such as we supply, or merely transport."⁴⁵

When droughts occurred, steam navigation on the Arkansas was next to impossible. Steamboats carrying valued cargo for the depot either became stranded enroute or could not leave port to reach Fort Smith. Although low water was a continual problem, the year 1855 was the roughest experienced at the Fort Smith depot. The hot and dry summer caused the Arkansas River to drop sharply, creating a severe shortage of supplies at the depot.

The quartermaster turned to the local merchants when unable to meet the orders from stock on hand.⁴⁶ When local sources were exhausted, it became extremely difficult to buy requisitioned items. Interrupted steamboat travel also prevented the local merchants from locating a supply source for their goods. When stores could not be bought locally, the post quartermaster was forced to send his wagons, if available, to the grounded vessels to pick up the supplies and haul them to Fort Smith. This process was extremely time consuming and expensive.

When steamers attempted to ride the low water, they would often collide with floating debris and become stranded. The steamer *New World* was stuck 10 miles below Pine Bluff, Arkansas, for six months.⁴⁷ Unable to get the vessel out of the river, the Fort Smith quartermaster, then Captain French, knew that a way had to be found to get the stores from the steamer to Fort Smith for transshipment. But all of the wagons were busy getting goods for merchants and, besides being rare, land transport was expensive. The cost would be \$5/100 weight to haul pork from Richland to Fort Smith. Quartermaster French did not care for the idea of spending \$30,000 for a service that could be done for relatively nothing by a steamer if it could make its way up the river. Steamers servicing Fort Smith carried over 60 tons of cargo.⁴⁸ One steamer carried on board 542 barrels of pork, 1125 barrels of flour, about 600 barrels of small rations, and a large amount of quartermaster property.⁴⁹ As a solution, Quartermaster French decided to purchase a keelboat that could navigate the Arkansas at low water and that could carry a 30 to 40 ton load of freight.⁵⁰

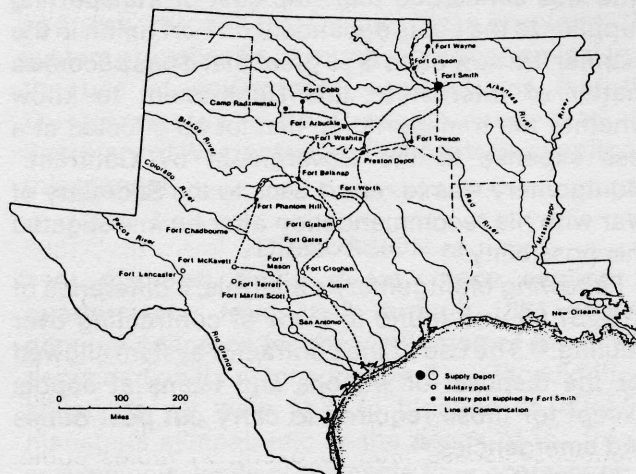


Figure 2. Fort Smith and dependent posts.⁴²

Keelboats, heavily loaded, drew only 10 inches of water and took about 30 days to pole up the Arkansas River to Fort Smith from where the steamer *New World* had stalled. Except for a few bales of clothing, these stores were the first to reach Fort Smith by water in 16 months. In support of the use of keelboats, French informed Jesup that it would have cost more to haul 42 tons by wagon than the price of the boats and their operation.⁵¹ Because of the keelboats, Captain French did not see any future problems in supplying the dependent forts because of low water.⁵²

LACK OF FUNDS

The shortage of money was a chronic problem. On June 1, 1856, General Jesup was informed of how badly money was needed to run the Quartermaster Depot at Fort Smith. When money arrived, it was usually only enough to cover expenses for several weeks. In the months that followed, bills accumulated. On November 10, the Quartermaster Department at Fort Smith was in debt \$15,015.59.⁵³

Every effort was made to lower expenses. General Jesup wrote to the Fort Smith quartermaster and directed him to reduce the number of men hired "to the lowest practicable limit consistent with the wants of the post."⁵⁴ The General felt that the quartermaster work force was "needlessly large and altogether out of proportion to the duties the quartermaster was required to perform."⁵⁵ Jesup instructed that no agents be hired and that civilian laborers be dismissed. Troop labor was to be used whenever possible. Jesup also called for full reports from his chief subordinates in the field and sent officers to inquire into and correct possible abuses or extravagancies.⁵⁶

Although the orders were followed, Quartermaster Montgomery wrote back stating he "had ever been as economical as was consistent with the best interests of the Post" when it came to hiring workmen. He felt that certain projects, such as repairing the public buildings, were essential to the protection of public property and the health of the post. The Fort Smith quartermaster continued that if the Quartermaster General were to check, he would find that unskilled labor was hired to police the military reservation and to assist the Quartermaster Department with handling, forage and subsistence stores, a practice common with forts guarding the New Orleans frontier.⁵⁷

SUPPLIES

Commanders of the dependent posts, often unaware of the rigors of supply acquisition, expected the Fort Smith quartermaster to fulfill their every request. When Fort Cobb did not receive several requisitioned items (saddle blankets, wagon covers,

harness, thread, etc.), Montgomery was sent a formal complaint. Montgomery wrote back explaining that the items were ordered from the depots at St. Louis and New Orleans and that he was unauthorized to buy locally. Finally after receiving additional complaints from Fort Cobb, Montgomery wrote again explaining that troops at Fort Cobb were supplied "with all articles indispensibly necessary."⁵⁸ Montgomery sent a copy of the letter to Quartermaster General Johnston pointing out how much "the Service suffers from the 'Circumlocution' system now obtaining in regard to the Posts dependent upon this Depot." To reduce confusion and red tape, Montgomery suggested that the posts dependent on Fort Smith send their supply estimates directly to Washington and not through Department Headquarters at Fort Smith.⁵⁹

In August, 1857, Montgomery made up a list of quartermaster stores needed by dependent posts. The estimate of what would be required was based on meeting "all probable ordinary demands" to be made on the Fort Smith depot during the next eight months. He also took into consideration what effects: 1) the number of men on the frontier; 2) the annual rise and fall of the Arkansas River; and 3) a drought would have on the want list.⁶⁰

CONTRACTING

When dependent posts called for transportation of supplies, and means were not available at Fort Smith, the quartermaster had to contract with local teamsters. Often commanders of dependent posts retained the supply trains for their own use. When attempts were made to retrieve the trains, the commanders appeared unwilling to let them go.⁶¹ In the meantime, other forts would be contacted for surplus wagons and teams. On December 13, 1858, Captain Cabell arrived at Fort Smith with 393 mules, 14 horses, and 2 wagons from Fort Leavenworth.⁶² Montgomery was notified by the Secretary of War who was concerned that "the cost of transporting supplies to the posts dependent on Fort Smith in the manner it is now done is so great that it has become a matter of interest to this Department to know whether the transportation cannot be effected at a less expense to the Government by Contract." Montgomery was to report back to the Secretary of War with his recommendation after he investigated this possibility.⁶³

Following Montgomery's analysis, a difference of \$26,257.65 was found in favor of contracting over hauling.⁶⁴ The use of the contractor system allowed for the disposal of wagons and teams at depots except for those required to carry out post duties and emergencies.⁶⁵

The shift to contracting meant fewer purchases for draft animals to haul wagons but had no effect on

the number of animals used in the movement of troops. In addition, forage expenditures increased because more military horses had to be purchased as a result of careless handling.⁶⁶

The Fort Smith quartermaster heard that there was improper maintenance of animals at Fort Arbuckle. Captain Cabell, who had assumed post quartermaster, had only been issuing one half of the prescribed forage to the teams. He felt more would have been a waste.⁶⁷ According to the Fort Smith quartermaster, there was an excuse to limit forage rations when out in an area where corn was hard to come by, but inexcusable at Fort Washita and Fort Arbuckle.⁶⁸ Montgomery knew through experience that "Full work demands full forage, at whatever period of the year." This type of practice was the Quartermaster Department's heaviest expense. Hard work and starvation caused the loss of hundreds of animals. Those unfit were condemned and sold, then new animals had to be bought. It was cheaper to care for them.⁶⁹

The Fort Smith depot soon received a message that "the number of animals of the Quartermaster Department be reduced to the lowest possible limit consistent with efficiency." Washington approved the quartermaster to advertise for proposals to haul all military supplies to the dependent posts, and that he was to make a contract with the lowest bidder.⁷⁰

The contracting system was so successful for the military that during the 1850s, freighting became a big business employing numerous men, animals, and equipment. Contractors' wagons hauled more than five times the amount of military supplies than the government wagons.⁷¹ Problems existed with contractors, however, and were frequent. Barrels of food would not be properly inspected and were often delivered in a spoiled condition. At Fort Atkinson, a delivery was made where flour was caked on the outside and sour from exposure on each of 1200 barrels, and the pork was nearly unfit for use with most of 600 barrels being poorly built and rusty throughout. Despite these problems, the system proved to be so much more economical than the use of government wagon trains that the Quartermaster General recommended to the Secretary of War that all frontier posts be supplied in this manner.

DISCUSSION

At the Fort Smith depot, those serving as quartermaster from 1848 through 1861 showed genuine concerns for the well being of those who depended on them for supplies. Each faced difficult situations yet were able to function as effective managers sympathetic to the needs of the troops and animals, while at the same time conforming to the strict guidelines handed down by superiors.

Each quartermaster at Fort Smith was exposed to unique situations. Their department, therefore, had to be run according to a plan of logic and prediction as opposed to a system of chance and hope. Montgomery served the longest term of the three quartermasters mentioned in this report and is a good example of what was expected of a quartermaster. Montgomery made sincere efforts to reduce costs often without choice; predicted the needs of posts based on their location, size, and the time of year; tried to improve his method of transporting to avoid delays and suffering of the troops; and was persistent to keep up with any other task assigned to him in addition to his routine duties.

Every year Quartermaster General Jesup argued the need for railroads in the west and the benefits that could be gained in greater efficiency and economy of army operations. But it was not until the secession of southern states that a decision was made to permit the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad.

To improve the system of supply, the War Department experimented with instituting an extensive farming program at frontier posts. A budget conscious congress believed that farming would have advantages over the system of contracting by making posts self sufficient.⁷² But farming did not always prove to be more economical or reliable than contracting.

Many attempts were made to reduce the high costs of transportation, especially in the arid regions of the southwest. So desperate was the Quartermaster Department in Washington that an experiment with camels was tried but ended in failure.⁷³

The army provisioned by the Quartermaster Department was not a large one. In 1850, the men totaled 10,763. By 1860, the number had increased to only 16,006.⁷⁴ As demonstrated through experiences of the Fort Smith quartermasters, inefficiencies existed and were the result of many factors. When considering the money constraints, the distance and remoteness of some forts, the method of transport, the variety of duties assigned to the quartermasters, and the small number of men running the Quartermaster Department (totaled to 37 by 1860),⁷⁵ one can conclude from the historical accounts of Fort Smith and from Risch (1962) that a poor supply system existed primarily because of a thinly distributed army on an expanding frontier, and a rapid and continual growth of quartermaster duties. According to Prucha,⁷⁶ the reports written by Inspector General Croghan "should dispel any romantic conception of the frontier fortresses as tight little castles, always in a state of perfect police and repair. It took a constant struggle just to keep the places livable."

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67. Cabell. June 29, 1859, letter to Montgomery. Rec. Grp. 98.
68. Montgomery. August 9, 1859, letter to Jesup. Rec. Grp. 98.
69. Montgomery. August 9, 1859, letter to Jesup. Rec. Grp. 98.
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The Flagstaff of the Second Fort Smith

Roger E. Coleman

The flagstaff of the second Fort Smith was an historic landmark and center of focus for the garrison and townspeople alike. The lofty 100-foot high structure rose above the fort walls and supported a 20x36-foot garrison flag that could be seen for miles in any direction. Today, through the efforts of the community of Fort Smith and the National Park Service, a replica of the flagstaff once again graces Fort Smith and surrounding areas. Historical and archeological data were consulted to ensure that the reconstructed flagstaff is accurate in terms of location and appearance.

The National Park Service recognized the Fort Smith flagstaff as a potentially significant historic resource as early as 1965 when historian James N. Haskett made recommendations for the management of this structure. Haskett proposed that an archeological investigation should be conducted to locate the "foundation" of the flagstaff and envisioned its eventual reconstruction to enhance the historic scene of the second fort area. But the location of the former flagstaff, beneath the pavement of Second Street, prevented investigation of the site for almost two decades. However, implementation of the *Fort Smith National Historic Site General Management Plan* that specifies eventual acquisition and removal of intrusive streets, placed Second Street under ownership of the National Park Service.

In the spring of 1983, in conjunction with the removal of Second Street, the location of the historic flagstaff was identified by University of Arkansas Archeologist Clyde D. Dollar. Dollar, a former Fort Smith resident, had researched and excavated the site of the first Fort Smith, the second fort commissary building, and officers' quarters. One of his last contributions was marking the site of the flagstaff. Measuring from known features with the aid of original maps, Dollar pinpointed the flagstaff site and discovered evidence of the structure below street pavement. Unfortunately, the archeologist died a short time later and further investigation of the flagstaff was suspended. In the interim the park staff determined that the flagstaff should be reconstructed as originally proposed and serve as a memorial to the late Clyde D. Dollar. At the request of park superintendent JoAnn Kyril, the writer excavated the flagstaff base in July and August, 1983. This archeological investigation supplemented meager historical data by documenting surviving construction details of the flagstaff.

NINETEENTH CENTURY FLAGSTAFFS IN PERSPECTIVE

Throughout the American West, nineteenth century military flagstaffs exhibited a similarity in appearance. Flagstaffs over 100 feet tall were composed of two sections joined together by shrouds, or lines. Two crosstrees spread shrouds apart, creating tension to support the joint, much like the mast of a tall ship replete with rigging. Guidelines and subterranean support systems often anchored the superstructure. In spite of these general similarities in flagstaff construction, variation is prevalent.

A lack of uniformity and continuity characterized all early military construction, including flagstaffs. In 1864, the Office of the Quartermaster General began issuing standard construction plans and specifications. Apparently, specifications for building flagstaffs were not instituted until 1879 when instructions on the "manner of stepping" (supporting flagstaffs) were printed. Only a few years later, prefabricated flagstaffs issued by the St. Louis Quartermaster Depot replaced the locally made variety.

During the pre-standardization era, construction at military posts was left largely to the project engineer who adapted the flagstaff to local site conditions, resources and available materials. Archeological investigations have identified at least two other methods of stepping flagstaffs. Thus, irregularity in the construction of nineteenth century flagstaffs before 1879 is to be expected. Observable similarities are probably a result of period technology — crosstrees and shrouds were the best method of joining two pole sections. Therefore, to accurately determine the appearance of the Fort Smith flagstaff, an assessment of historical and archeological data is required.

THE FORT SMITH FLAGSTAFF

Illustrations and military records shed some light on the history and appearance of the second fort flagstaff. It may be assumed that the flagstaff was constructed by 1846 when troops formally garrisoned the second Fort Smith. An 1848 illustration depicts the Stars and Stripes flying from a prominent flagstaff within the fort walls. Exposed to the elements, the structure was soon in need of repair. Only three years after troops garrisoned the post,

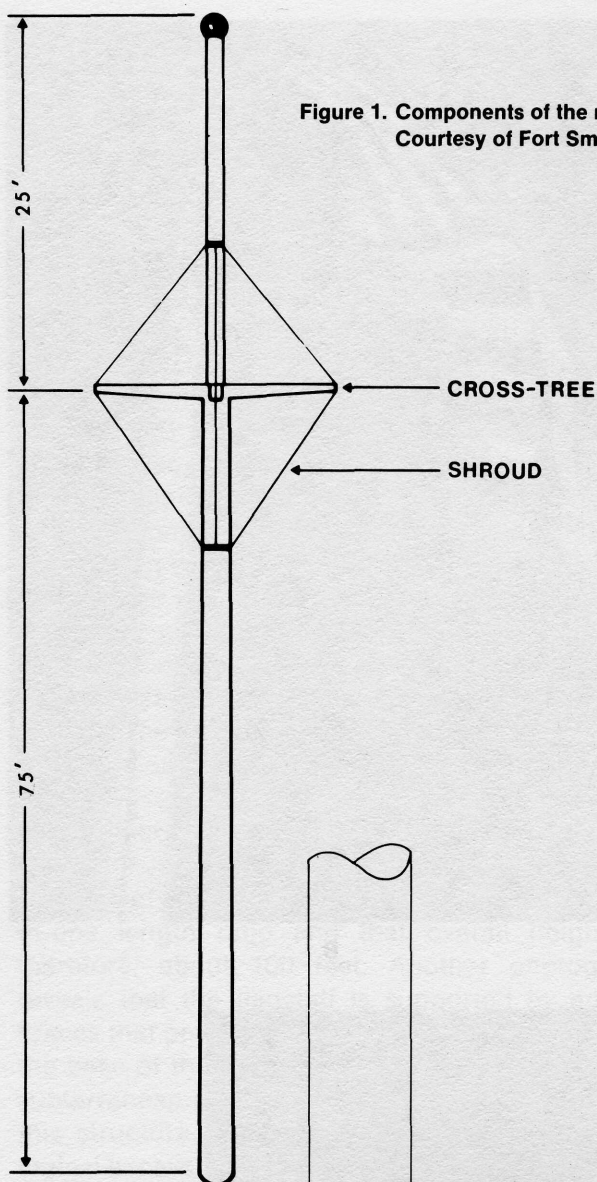
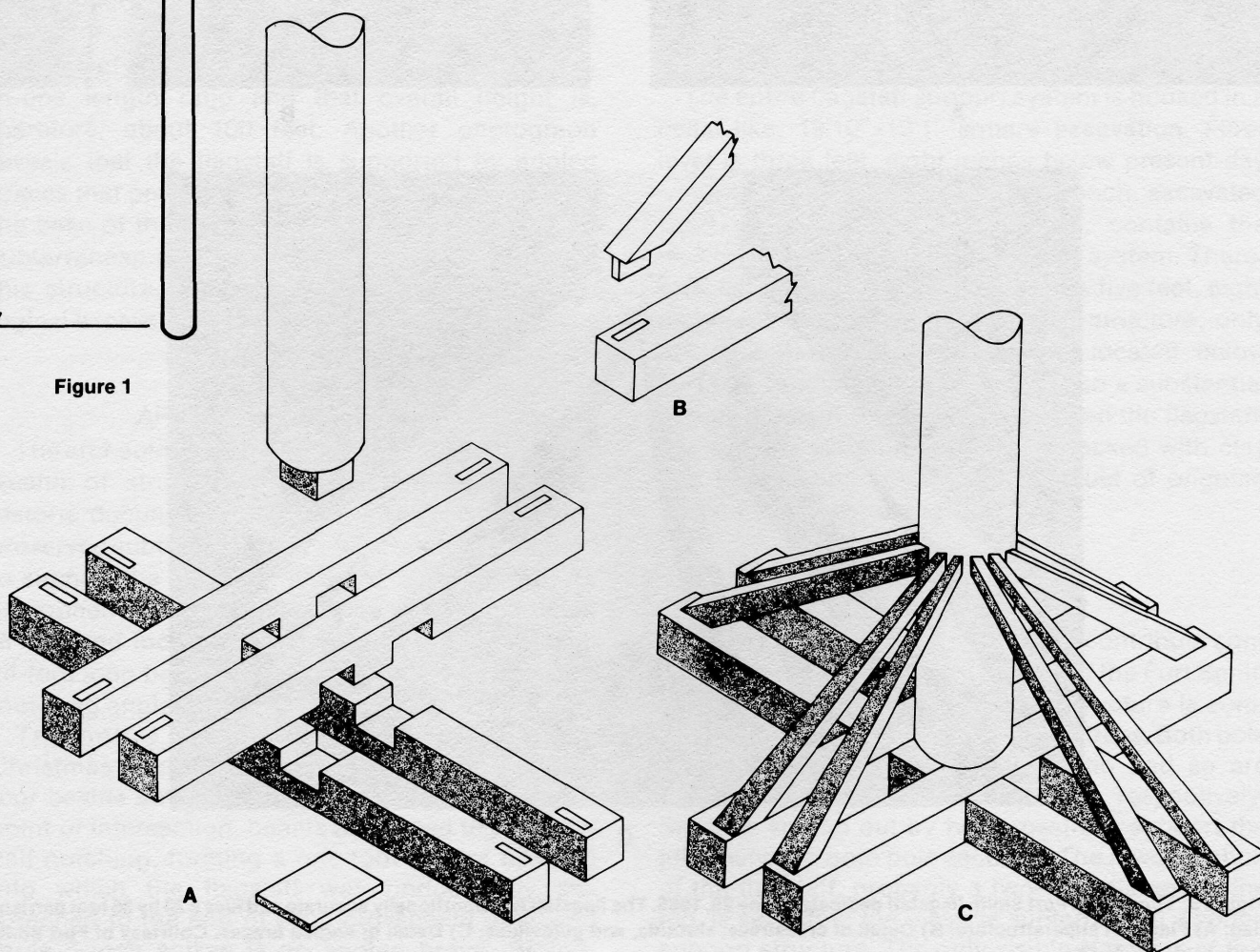


Figure 1. Components of the nineteenth century flagstaff.
Courtesy of Fort Smith National Historic Site.

Figure 2. Manner of stepping the historic Fort Smith flagstaff:
A. Crossbeam and flagstaff detail.
B. Method of joining angled braces to the crossbeam.
C. Crossbeam and flagstaff detail with angled braces in place.
Courtesy of Fort Smith National Historic Site.

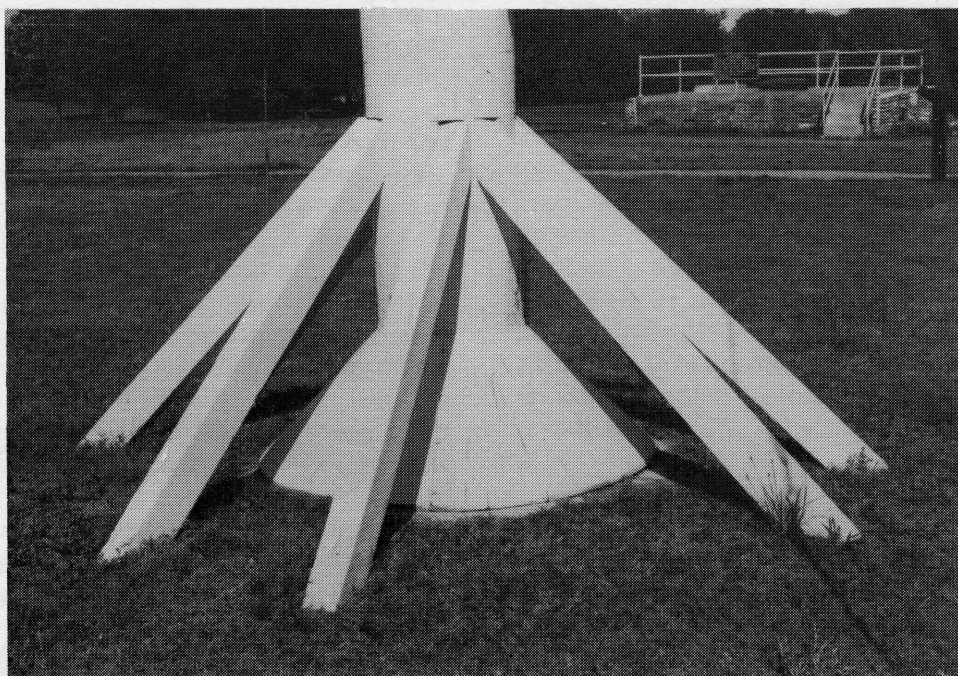




A



B



C

Figure 3. The replica Fort Smith flagstaff dedicated June 29, 1985. The flagstaff is proportionally accurate and flies a 20 by 36 foot garrison flag: A) Flagstaff superstructure; B) Detail of crosstrees, shrouds, and guidelines; C) Detail of angled braces. Courtesy of Fort Smith National Historic Site.

"the staff needed fixing." In 1850, Captain Alexander Montgomery requested "shrouds to brace a flagstaff," and in 1854, post quartermaster Samuel G. French reported the flagstaff "much decayed, having been thrice struck by lightning." Sketches and photographs confirm the existence of the flagstaff in 1861, 1865 and ca. 1867. An 1870 military map is the last reference to the flagstaff. Presumably, it was removed sometime after November 10, 1871, when the District Court of the Western District of Arkansas occupied the fort. An 1878 photograph of the former military parade ground does not reveal the flagstaff. Apparently the flagstaff remained standing through the 25-year life of the second Fort Smith as a military post.

Illustrations and photographs provide detailed information on the construction of the flagstaff. In appearance, it is similar to the other period flagstaffs and is composed of two sections joined by crosstrees. Crosstrees spread out four shrouds that brace both pole sections. Captain Alexander Montgomery provides the only clue regarding size of the structure when he described a flagstaff "measuring some seventy feet to the crosstrees." Based on Montgomery's estimate and an historic photograph, historian James N. Haskett estimates that both sections of the Fort Smith flagstaff exhibit a three-to-one length ratio and that overall height is, therefore, about 100 feet. Another photograph reveals that the flagstaff is supported by angled braces that protrude from the ground and attach to the base of the pole, indicating the existence of a subterranean support structure. Specific details of this structure, however, are provided by archeological excavation.

ARCHEOLOGICAL DATA

The archeological investigation of 1983 provides a wealth of structural evidence that supplements historic documentation. Excavation reveals a well preserved subterranean wooden structure designed to support the towering 100-foot high flagstaff. All components of the support system are constructed of oak and include four massive 1x1-foot square, 18-foot long beams and eight 4x6-inch-square, 10-foot-long angled braces.

The entire support structure resembles a Christmas tree stand. The base is composed of the four beams arranged in two sets that cross. At the point of intersection, beams are joined together by half notching, forming a one-foot square opening into which the flagstaff was undoubtedly set. Attached to the end of each crossbeam by two to three 5-inch spikes is an angled brace. Braces,

totaling eight in number, are set at 45-degree angles and once projected from the ground and attached to the flagstaff base approximately three feet above extant ground surface. Existing angled braces, however, do not utilize mortices chiselled into the ends of each beam. The mortices are designed for a two-by-seven-by-four-and-one-half-inch deep tenon that would have originally fastened the angled brace to the beam. Thus, an historic repair episode is evident. Two additional angled braces, both having been fastened to the beams with spikes, were found discarded in the feature fill, and shoring-up an integral brace. These may indicate yet a second historic repair episode.

Unfortunately for reconstruction purposes, the flagstaff was not found. It was pulled out at some time in the past as indicated by a large post-hole stain, three-feet-eight-inches in diameter, over the crossed beams. An axe-cut flake of wood from a peeled pine log was recovered from the post-hole fill and may have been removed from the flagstaff base. Projected diameter of the wood flake is two feet, a likely circumference for the lower 75-foot-high flagstaff section. A log of this diameter must have been socketed in mortice-tenon fashion to fit into the one-foot square opening between the crossed beams.

The entire flagstaff support system is housed in a cellar-like, 19'10"x19'1" square excavation. Floor level is three feet, eight inches below present-day ground surface. A cross-shaped trench, excavated two feet below the feature floor, contains the massive crossbeams of the support system. Therefore, total depth of the excavation is five feet, eight inches. With a 100-foot-high superstructure, only 5.6 percent of the flagstaff was located below surface, explaining the need for such a substantial support system. To further strengthen the flagstaff, the support structure was firmly packed with clay and brick rubble, probably a product of ongoing second fort construction.

RECONSTRUCTION

Historical and archeological data contribute considerable detail for reconstruction of the Fort Smith flagstaff. The 100-foot high superstructure is composed of two sections joined at crosstrees. Both pole sections exhibit a three-to-one ratio and so are approximately 75 and 25 feet long, respectively. Shrouds spread out by two crosstrees support the joint between both pole sections. The lower section of the flagstaff, probably a two-foot diameter pine log, is set within the massive subterranean wooden support structure. The only visible elements of this

support system are eight angled oak braces. These are 4x6" square and attach to the flagstaff about three feet above ground surface. Plans for the replica flagstaff incorporated these historically accurate design elements.

Modern construction plans, however, depart from historical accuracy on three counts. First, to preserve the original flagstaff base, the reconstruction was erected 15 feet west of the historic location. Second, four guidelines were added for additional support. Although it is unknown whether the Fort Smith flagstaff ever had guidelines, many other period flagstaffs do exhibit this means of support. Third, subsurface design elements are not constructed like their historic counterparts. As both history and archeology indicate, the wooden support structure was prone to decay and constantly needed repair. To eliminate this documented problem, reconstruction plans combined modern technology with historical data to design a maintenance-free

method of "stepping" the flagstaff that did not detract from the appearance of the superstructure. The subsurface portion of the replica flagstaff is inserted in an iron sleeve set in a concrete base. Although the eight angled wooden braces are not integral with the modern support system, they still protrude from the ground and appear to support the flagstaff.

The Fort Smith flagstaff was reconstructed in the spring of 1985 and dedicated in a June 29th ceremony at Fort Smith National Historic Site. Historical and archeological data were incorporated at the planning stage to provide an historically accurate reconstruction (Figure 3). The replica flagstaff conforms to historic dimensions and incorporates shrouds, cross-trees and angled braces in the construction. Like its historic counterpart, the flagstaff flies a 20x36-foot, 37-star garrison flag and helps recreate the era of the second Fort Smith.

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Preservation of Fort Smith Historic Site and History of the National Park Service

Sarah Fitzjarrald

The idea of preserving any part of the military fort known as Fort Smith began in 1910 when a group of women leased the old commissary building to establish a museum. They formed an organization and filed articles of corporation which were approved by the Sebastian County Circuit Court. The women named in the corporation document were Mrs. George Lyman, Mrs. Herschel Hunt, Mrs. Kate Rector Thibaut, Mrs. Fannie Lou Nance and Mrs. Charles Boyd. They chose the name, "Old Commissary Museum Association, Inc."

As far as the rest of the fort was concerned, things remained dormant until the early 1950s when an idea was born to "do something" about the Federal Court Building (used by Judge Isaac C. Parker during his tenure), the gallows and the land included in the fort reservation.

It is not exactly clear who or how many people conceived the idea of a National Historic Site, but what *is* clear is that Fort Smith was very fortunate in that era of its history to have had citizens like Paul Latture, president of the Chamber of Commerce; R.K. Rodgers; Judge Paul Wolfe; and many others who were always looking to the betterment of the city.

Having a place designated as a National Historic Site, or even accepted into the National Park Service, is a tedious and sometimes long, drawn-out process. Even though the Park Service is a part of the federal bureaucracy, and a friendly Congressman can be of help, it is no pork barrel project. A historic site must have national historical significance.

The late Congressman James W. Trimble was contacted and the project was set in motion.

In 1956, two groups of citizens began work on the project. The first decided to restore Judge Parker's courtroom and the gallows. They formed a corporation, calling themselves the "Public Historical Restorations, Inc." Their first members were Cecil Atchison, Fort Smith Mayor H.R. Hestand, Circuit Court Judge Paul Wolfe, Hugh Brewer, Charles Mankin, Mrs. Jim Clendening (Judge Parker's granddaughter), Fadjo Cravens, Jr., Clyde Dollar, Jr., and R.K. Rodgers.

The AFL-CIO building trade unions (including plumbers, painters and electricians) of Fort Smith

volunteered their services and work was begun on September 9, 1956, to be completed by May, 1957.

There were mixed feelings among the citizens of Fort Smith about the restoration project because of the unwarranted adverse publicity which had surrounded Judge Parker during his term of office and lasting long after his demise. Some felt that any reminder of that era should be relegated to the (hopefully) decaying pages of history and in time, forgotten.

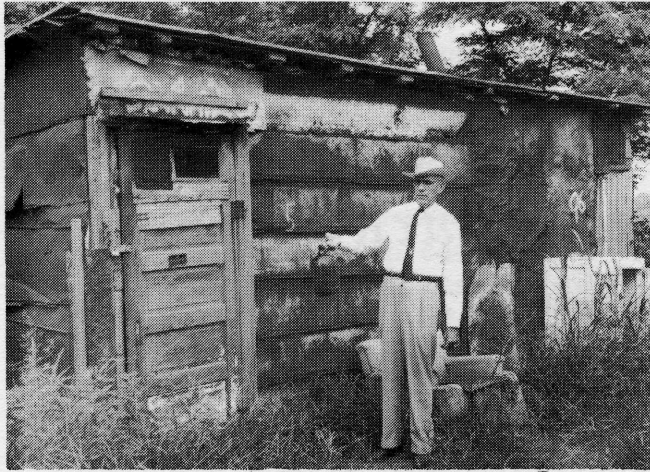
Nevertheless, the historic site was on "go" and the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce set up a special committee in the same year, 1956. Its purpose was to clear Coke Hill of the squatters.

Many years previously, indigent citizens had moved onto the beautiful Belle Point site adjacent to the federal courthouse and the gallows. It had become a veritable slum area and had been known for years as "Coke Hill" because of the widespread peddling of cocaine there.

There was no plumbing, no electricity, and no gas for heating because of the lack of money. There was one store in the area which had a water faucet where the dwellers went to fill their pails to take back home. "Home" consisted mostly of piano-crate houses, scrap lumber huts or sheds made of cardboard or any other material available which looked as if it could offer shelter. (See accompanying photograph.)

We seldom think of cocaine's being peddled in the 1950s. However, the drug has been around for a long time. And it was legal in the United States for many years. We are all familiar with the story of John Pemberton, a chemist in Georgia, who introduced cocaine into patent medicine and later converted it into one of America's first soft drinks (and still one of our most popular). These and other cocaine-laced soft drinks were highly advertised to cure sick headache, neuralgia, hysteria, and a few other ailments. In 1903, cocaine was removed from soft drinks.

In 1906, the Pure Food and Drug Act was passed, requiring the ingredients of patent medicines and soft drinks to be listed. Then in 1914, the Harrison Act was passed which required the registration of every person dealing in opium or coca leaves.



**R.K. Rodgers in front of a house on Coke Hill.
Courtesy National Park Service.**

Our country's interest in cocaine faded and the epidemic of its use came to an end — at least for a time. It was not too widespread until the late 1960s, but it was always there. If anybody ever made very much money peddling cocaine on Coke Hill, it was certainly not obvious.

The chairman of the special committee set up to clear Coke Hill was R.K. Rodgers, who also sat on the board of the Public Historical Restorations, Inc. He was assisted by Paul Latture, president of the Chamber of Commerce.

On April 12, 1957, advice of the National Park Service was sought and two men from the Richmond, Virginia, office visited Fort Smith to inspect its historical attractions and give counsel on the development of Belle Point, considering the acquiring of the legal titles to the land and moving the squatters.

In October, 1958, Frank B. Sarles, Jr., of the National Park Service, suggested that a search be made to ascertain if any ruins of the 1817 fort remained.

One positive aspect of the questionable titles to the land was that no industrial structures had been placed on the fort property.

Excavation work began in January, 1959, by Lt. Clyde Dollar, Jr., using prisoners of the city jail as laborers.

Dollar, a Fort Smith citizen, was stationed at Fort Chaffee and had the necessary experience to conduct a scientific archeological exploration as a result of educational and field work under the tutelage of Dr. Charles McGimsey, III, curator of the University of Arkansas Museum. The commanding general of Fort Chaffee recognized the importance of the project and made Lt. Dollar available for the work.

The first trench crossed a man-laid section of heavy rock some two feet below the surface. The carefully fitted stones were arranged at a width and depth which could have only been used as a support for a heavy weight, and excavation along the length of the section exposed a long line of work corresponding to the known length of one of the sides of the old stockade. Carefully pursuing his plan of exploration, Lt. Dollar directed the prisoners, who with their guards developed a great enthusiasm for the project, and by the "process of elimination, and continued discoveries, unfolded a pattern of sub-surface rock work that by its physical nature and known historical records, could only be accounted for as the foundation of the walls of the old fort." There was some interior rock flooring of the rooms within the walls, and two block houses. Before having to leave for an overseas assignment, Lt. Dollar was able to report, with the concurrence of Dr. McGimsey, that his mission of making an exploratory excavation of the site had been completed, and upon his recommendations, re-filling operations were made to preserve the exposed ruins.

In the meantime, work had progressed on the restoration of the federal courthouse and gallows. The Restorations group had opened for business. They charged a nominal fee for visitors and sold copies of the book *Hell On The Border*, as well as souvenirs.

R.K. Rodgers and his committee asked for and received the assistance of the Sebastian County Bar Association in clearing titles to the land at Belle Point. Co-chairmen of the bar association were Byron Dobbs and Hugh Bland.

The cost of moving the squatters and re-locating them was estimated to be \$27,000. The city of Fort Smith agreed to pay one-third of the cost, Sebastian County agreed to another third, and the Chamber of Commerce, through public subscription, raised the remaining funds.

The committee made payment for re-location of up to \$800 per family, depending on the size of the family. The Fort Smith Realtors volunteered their services in finding suitable properties near public schools. The squatters were placed in much better houses and the rent was not as high as they had paid on Coke Hill. The last family was moved out in 1957.

Finally, on March 9, 1960, Carl P. Schreiber, Regional Chief of the National Park Service, came to Fort Smith and met with Judge Paul Wolfe and R.K. Rodgers to discuss the proposal they were sponsoring. With them, he visited the 1817 fort site, the Parker courthouse, jail, gallows and commissary.

The next day, he took pictures of the area involved, studied the layout, intrusions and possible developments.

On March 11th, he met with Judge Wolfe and City Engineer Roy Williamson to discuss available maps, boundary line locations and approximate location of the 1817 fort site. He concluded his picture taking and gathered information on land ownership.

The ladies who succeeded the founders of the Old Commissary Museum Association and kept it alive relinquished their lease to the old commissary building and moved the museum to a new location. Now known as the Old Fort Museum, it moved once again and is situated in a building on Rogers Avenue, just east of the National Historic Site.

On September 13, 1961, the old fort site, including the courthouse, the commissary, the gallows and Belle Point, encompassing seven and one-half acres (one-tenth of the total present site area), was designated as a National Historic Site.

Little more than a month later, on October 29th, President John F. Kennedy paid a visit to Fort Smith, and title to the land containing the new National Historic Site was presented to him officially by Mayor Robert Brooksher. (See accompanying photograph below.)



**President John F. Kennedy when he visited Fort Smith in 1961.
Courtesy National Park Service.**

However, the Public Historical Restorations, Inc. continued to take care of business in the courthouse.

It was not until 1963 when Thomas F. Norris, Jr., Superintendent of the Fort Smith National Park Service, wrote a letter to the Eastern National Park & Monument Association, in Philadelphia, listing stock inventory of PHR. It consisted of 1285 copies of *Hell On The Border*, wood gavel, post cards, letter openers, Indian headbands and ash trays. Total evaluation of the inventory was approximately \$1,000, including \$835.25 for the books.

Norris noted that the annual gross sales in 1962, the previous year, was \$625.00. But PHR had kept the door open and defrayed the costs of operating the historical building.

Then on August 14, 1963, the National Park Service staff assumed day-to-day operations of the Fort Smith National Historic Site.

The rest is history. Of the original Public Historical Restorations organization, there is one surviving member, Fado Cravens, Jr. The majority of the others who worked diligently on the Coke Hill project are also gone — Paul Latture, R.K. Rodgers, Hugh Bland, Byron Dobbs, to mention only a few.

Since the National Park Service took over in 1963, there have been visitors from all of the fifty States of the Union, as well as many foreign countries, including West Germany, Switzerland, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Holland and Scotland.

Total number of visitors to the National Historic Site since August, 1963, has been an incredible 2,226,123 through 1987.

Ironically, the book *Hell On The Border* is full of flaws as far as historical research is concerned, and does not give Judge Parker the credit due him for the great man that he was. (See April, 1988, issue of *The Journal*.) But it was the best sales item the Restorations group had in stock.

Now we have in our midst a lasting tribute, not only to Judge Parker and the staff of the National Park Service, but also to those fellow citizens who had the vision and energy to prevent a valuable and esthetic historic site from falling into decay and disrepair.

Esthetic values are great — and the tourism revenue is a welcome asset to our community.

Superintendents at the Fort Smith National Historic Site since it was established by the National Park Service are:

Thomas F. Norris, Jr.
Charles Peterson
E. Field Benton
JoAnn Kyril
James Tuck (currently serving)

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

The story of the National Park Service* reads like a true American saga with all elements in place — detractors, champions, heroes. As one might expect, it began in the West when President Ulysses S. Grant signed the first bill into effect establishing a national park.

The year was 1872 and the park was Yellowstone. While Californians are quick to remind us that Yosemite is older, it was a State park and did not reach national status until 1900, along with General Grant National Park (later included in Kings Canyon, Mt. Ranier and Sequoia National Parks).

The area now known as Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, was the first land in the United States to be set aside as a "federal reserve." The year was 1834. It became a national park in 1921, but technically we may claim that it is the oldest one in the country.

Arkansas boasts of five National Parks — Pea Ridge, Arkansas Post, Fort Smith, the aforementioned Hot Springs, and Buffalo River. Another first for Arkansas is that the Buffalo River is the first river to become a part of the National Park Service.

It is difficult to realize that conditions were actually as primitive as they were in the early days of the park system. There were no roads (as we know roads), only ruts and trails, and it was impossible to police the park area. People looked upon Yellowstone as "free" government land offering grazing for livestock, timber for the cutting, or for any other private undertaking.

In 1888, the Secretary of the Interior turned to the Secretary of War for help, and that summer the U.S. Cavalry began a span of army control lasting 30 to 40 years.

In 1900, after Yosemite became a National Park, San Francisco proposed to build a dam in the Hetch Hetchy Valley on the Tuolumne River. The controversy raged for almost 15 years and involved five Secretaries of the Interior, three of whom opposed the "sorry" project and two who did not. John Muir and the Sierra Club (which he founded in 1892) opposed it.

The Hetch Hetchy Dam Bill finally passed in Congress in 1913. But it was, and is, the only dam ever to be built in a national park.

One of the most significant pieces of park legislation ever passed by Congress was the Antiquities Act in 1906. It allowed for the establishment of National Monuments, a term which includes caves, forts, battlefields, glaciers, birthplaces of famous men, and dunes.

It seems remarkable to those of us who view conservation as a rather new (and too-late) trend in

America that a "Conference on Conservation" was called in 1908. President Theodore Roosevelt, great outdoorsman that he was, called it, and his opening remark was, "It seems to me time for the country to take account of its natural resources, and to inquire how long they are likely to last."

Gifford Pinchot, Roosevelt's Chief Forester and trusted adviser in conservation matters, was a "utilitarian" who believed in the *balanced* use of public lands (parks) and was a powerful influence in the conservation movement in America.

Pinchot was opposed, however, by J. Horace McFarland, president of the American Civic Association, who held the belief that public lands should be "absolutely inviolate and that the scenic value of all public lands should be jealously guarded." The battle lines were drawn.

Congress never contemplated that there would be a properly organized system of parks. But in 1912, President William Howard Taft sent them a message which began, "I earnestly recommend the establishment of a Bureau of National Parks."

By 1914, there were thirteen national parks which were still being administered by the Department of the Interior under ground rules, loosely defined, by the civilian and military superintendents acting under the supervision of the various Secretaries of the Interior, who generally had little time for the parks.

But that year of 1914 introduced one of the truly great heroes of the National Park Service. Stephen Tyng Mather was a member of the family who founded the "20 Mule Team Borax" company, and by that time he had made a fortune with it.

Mather had recently visited Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks and found conditions deplorable. "Trails were almost impassable; cattle grazed inside the parks; and enterprising lumbermen had acquired some of the choicest sequoia groves on the intriguing premise that because the ground around them was soggy in the spring from melting snow, they qualified for cutting under the Swamp Land Act."

He wrote an angry letter of protest to Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane, a personal friend with whom he had attended the University of California.

The reply was prompt: "Dear Steve — If you don't like the way the national parks are being run, come on down to Washington and run them yourself."

Mather was little inclined to give up his freedom for a job in the "numbing procedures of the federal bureaucracy." But after considerable persuasion, he went to Washington and conferred with Lane. There he met Horace Albright, a young lawyer of twenty-four who was Lane's personal aide.

* We are indebted to William C. Everhart and his book, *The National Park Service*, for this part of our story.

Albright, a Californian, had come to Washington for a year's experience and his time was up. But with Mather's enthusiasm, and in spite of his fiancée's waiting back home, Albright agreed to remain. With his expertise in cutting through red tape and Mather's bounding love for the parks and public lands, it was an alliance to which conservationists may even yet regard as one "made in heaven."

In January, 1915, Stephen T. Mather was sworn in as assistant to the Secretary of the Interior. He began an association with Albright and the national parks that was to last for the rest of his life.

By that time there were 31 national parks and monuments. And during that summer, Mather, along with Albright, took a group of prominent men on a camping expedition into California's Sierra Nevada. The guests were politicians, publishers, writers and conservationists, such men as Henry Fairfield Osborne, president of the American Museum of Natural History; Emerson Hough, who wrote *The Covered Wagon*; Frederick H. Gillet of Massachusetts, later Speaker of the House; and Gilbert Grosvenor, editor of *National Geographic*.

Mather knew how to entertain, and at his own expense he made lavish arrangements. There was a sleeping bag for each "pioneer" and an air mattress for each. Fresh fruits and vegetables were made available daily, and he employed a Chinese cook, Tie Sing.

At the end of each day, the men would return to camp for a gourmet dinner — freshly baked bread and rolls, freshly caught trout, and everything needed to please the palate — served on a white linen tablecloth. Saddlesore and weary, the men enjoyed their meals under the stately sequoias and returned to "civilization" with an incurable park fever.

Various bills had been introduced into Congress since 1900 for a National Park Service. But when Mather and Albright took the men on their camping trip in 1915, there was still no progress in Washington.

But in 1916 another bill was introduced and Congress could no longer ignore the rising tide of interest and necessity. *The Saturday Evening Post*, among other publications, joined the campaign and many organizations helped with publicity, namely, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and others.

After traveling more than 30,000 miles the previous year, Mather took yet another group of men on a camping expedition in 1916. Finally, in August of that year while Mather was still in the field, the bill passed. President Woodrow Wilson signed it.

The Act provided for salaries: Director, \$4500; assistant director, \$2500; chief clerk, \$2000; draftsman, \$1800; messenger, \$600; and other employees Mather desired so long as expenditures did not exceed \$19,500 for the year.

There was continued growth in the parks after that even though roads were narrow and steep and access was most difficult.

By 1917 there was little more than ceremonial respect for historic sites, however, excluding perhaps the concern of "doughty antiquarians and the unflagging interest of the Daughters of the Confederacy."

In 1919, only three years after the National Park Service Bill had been signed by President Wilson, there were 54 parks and monuments — 21 parks and 33 national monuments) with a budget of \$9,000,000.

Legislation was introduced into Congress in 1920 to construct a series of dams, canals and reservoirs in Yellowstone that would flood vast stretches of the park for the purpose of supplying Idaho potato farmers with more water. The Bureau of Reclamation had approved the project.

The bill passed the Senate and was on the unanimous-consent calendar of the House. Secretary Lane had endorsed the legislation but he resigned, and the succeeding Secretary of the Interior blocked the legislation and established a precedent in favor of the parks.

The parks continued to prosper and in 1928, after only 13 years in the National Park Service, Stephen T. Mather suffered a stroke and died. His contribution in that brief span of time was momentous. Later his epitaph in Congress was read, "There will never come an end to the good he has done."

Horace Albright succeeded Mather as administrator. And it was he who could get really excited about historic places. The responsibility for memorials, historical monuments and other sites had been scattered among various government agencies. And quite naturally, Albright envisioned all of them under one umbrella, that of the National Park Service.

There were many in the Park Service who felt that our heritage was made up of our deeds as well as our land and that it was as important to preserve historic places as it was to set aside places of natural beauty. It made practical sense to include all parks, historical or scenic, in one bureau — the National Park Service.

The 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth provided an opportunity for Albright to act. The year was 1930.

The Wakefield Memorial Association, a private organization headed by the great-great-grandniece of Washington, acquired 100 acres of the original Wakefield plantation. Unable to raise the necessary funds for the reconstruction of the house in which Washington was born, in time for the Anniversary, the ladies went to the Park Service for help.

Albright judged the climate was favorable and converted the appeal into a legislative proposal as a tribute to the Father of our country. So in 1930 Congress established the George Washington Birthplace Monument, pledging funds to rebuild the house. It marked the entry of the National Park Service into the field of historic preservation.

In 1933 Franklin Roosevelt took office, and by executive order nearly 50 historic sites were transferred to the Park Service. One stroke of the President's pen almost doubled the number of areas in the national park system. Eleven national military parks, 10 battlefield sites, 11 national cemeteries and 10 national monuments were included.

As we are aware, it was the time of the Great Depression, and on Roosevelt's first day in office he scrawled out the organizational plan of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Within three months 1000 camps were in operation with more than 300,000 young men at work, mostly in national forests and parks. The work of the CCC was of inestimable value.

In 1935 the Historic Sites Act was passed in Congress and designated the National Park Service as the responsible agency in the field of historic preservation.

And in 1936 the Park, Parkway and Recreation Study Act marked the beginning of a plan to provide for the recreational needs of the entire country.

The attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 (and subsequent World War II) brought to a sudden end almost 25 years of unbroken growth of our national parks. Fifteen years later (after the Korean War 1950-1953), one conservationist said, "If we cannot protect the parks and decently care for visitors, let us close the national parks."

In 1954 the parks were absorbing some 54 million visitors per year with a level of staff and run-down facilities designed for the 17 million visitors in 1940.

So in 1956 an epic enterprise began which was designed to bring every park up to standard by 1966. Called "Mission 66," the total expenditure projected was 800 million dollars. It was a modest estimate since the cost would exceed one billion dollars. President Dwight Eisenhower pledged the unqualified support of his administration.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act and the Wilderness Act in 1964, the Historic Preservation Act in 1966, and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in 1968 added substantially to the responsibilities of the National Park Service.

Also, the National Preservation Act in 1966 provided the National Register of Historic Places a listing of all historical sites and buildings nominated

by the individual states. The National Register is maintained by the Park Service.

Obviously, the national park system is made up of more functions than maintaining large parks in the West. It contains more than twice as many historical parks than parks of the scenic variety, and employs many more historians and archeologists than it does naturalists. All wearers of the green uniform are rangers, but they are not all looking for forest fires or renegade bears. And courteous as they are, it must get tiresome for them to hear the frequently repeated question, "But what does a historian do in the National Park Service?"

Americans enjoy the innate love of three things — the land with its scenic beauty, our historic culture, and the family vacation. What began in 1872 with one park had increased (as previously mentioned) to 54 parks and monuments less than a half century later. And in that year of 1919 there were 2.6 million visitors to the parks and monuments. What is really most surprising, however, is that only five years after that Henry Ford turned out the 10 millionth car in his line of "black tin lizzies," but there were only 12 miles of paved roads in all of the national parks!

The wheels kept turning and in 1928, only four years later, Yosemite alone counted 130,000 cars.

Through the years, there have been benefactors as well as heroes. The Rockefeller and Mellon families donated hundreds of thousands of acres to the Park System.

Along with Stephen Mather and Horace Albright, there have been many heroes through the years in the National Park Service. We like to think the majority of them are found putting on the green uniform and daily going about their job which might seem at times to the rest of us as another grind. Nevertheless, their work constitutes a service of high esteem to their country and fellow countrymen alike.

In 1987 the National Park Service had grown to 348 units. Of those, 312 units reported over 287,245,000 visitors.

The attendance record is a rousing tribute to the National Park Service and to the men and women who had the foresight to protect and preserve our national heritage.

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Acknowledgements

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Also thanks to Gail Underwood, Fort Smith Public Library; and Danny Sessums, Old Fort Museum.

The Belle Point Community

Roger E. Coleman

In 1821, scarcely four years after the establishment of Fort Smith and 17 years before the town bearing the same name was officially platted, seven to eight civilian families settled in the vicinity of the post. Known as the "Belle Point community,"¹ this collection of citizens sought the safety and economic opportunity that a military garrison provided. The tiny hamlet prospered and became the predecessor of modern Fort Smith. Today, the origin, location, and demise of the Belle Point community are a matter of record.

The historic landscape of Fort Smith is well documented. The site of the 1817 military post was Belle Point, a prominent bluff overlooking the Poteau and Arkansas Rivers. Originally, Belle Point was "a rocky bluff" 50 feet high and rising from the river "by a gentle and gradual swell."² The point was

nearly surrounded on three sides by extensive river bottoms.³ To the east, however, a nine-foot high, 500-yard long "rising piece of ground" dominated the area.⁴ Behind this rise, a low, poorly drained flat continued uninterrupted for over a mile to the east until rolling uplands were encountered.⁵ A deep ravine drained this area, coursed immediately south of Belle Point, and emptied into the Poteau River above the first Fort Smith.⁶ An early sketch prepared by First Lieutenant S.G. Simmons depicts this topographic situation. (Fig. 1.)

From fall to winter, 1821, seven to eight civilian families squatted on land adjacent to the post — probably the ridge east of Belle Point. Historically, the nine-foot-high ridge was perhaps the only suitable habitation site in the immediate vicinity of the fort on Belle Point. The interlopers planted corn,

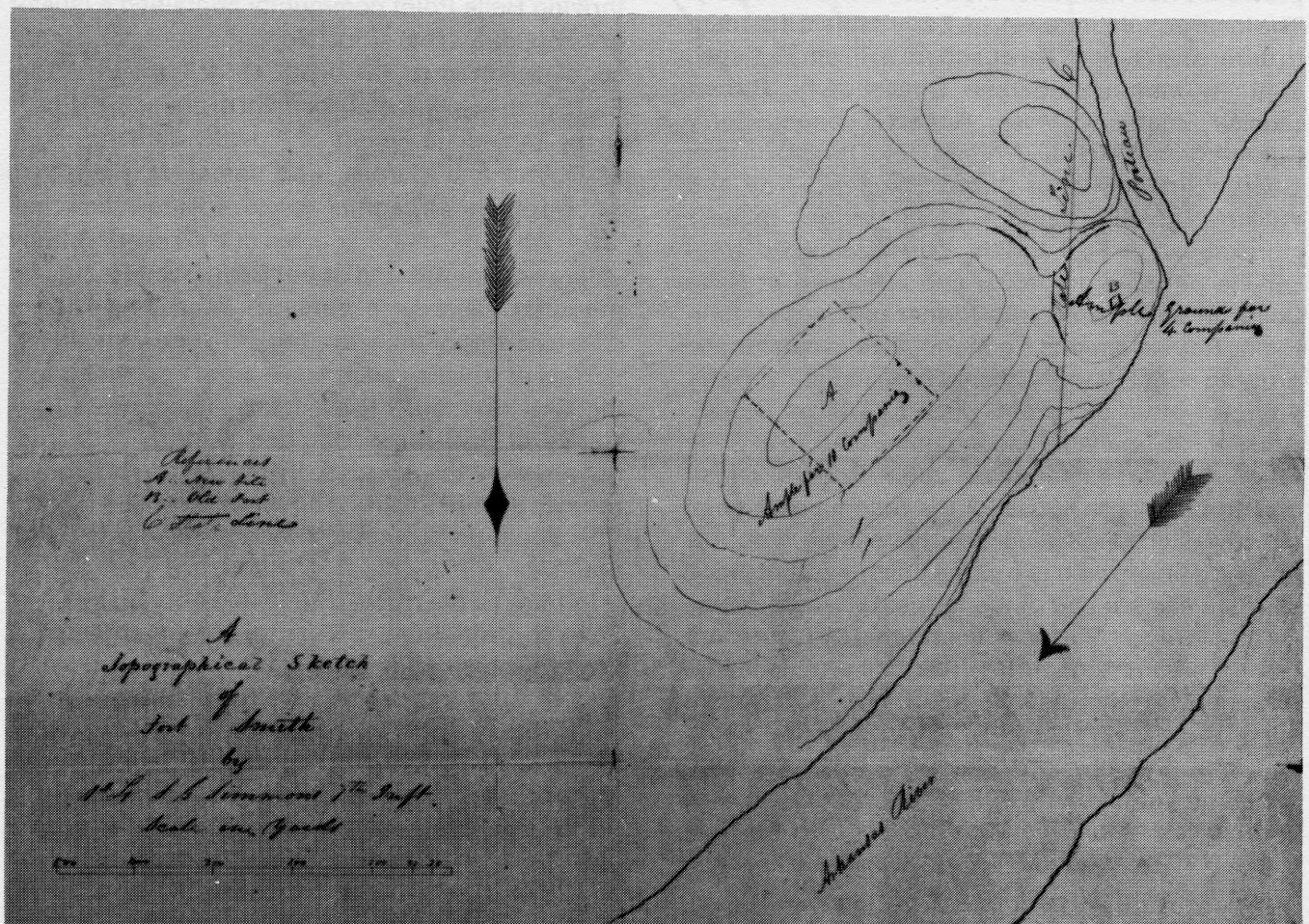


Figure 1: A topographical sketch of Belle Point and the proposed site of the second Fort Smith by First Lieutenant S.C. Simmons. Courtesy of Fort Smith National Historic Site.

raised a number of cattle, and soon discovered the economic benefits of peddling liquor to the garrison. In 1823, three deaths and several illnesses among the soldiers were attributed to "bad whiskey" obtained from the nearby inhabitants.⁷ Commanding Officer Matthew Arbuckle tried unsuccessfully to evict the squatters that he characterized as "a description of people not to be desired near a military post."⁸ For Arbuckle, the problem was curtailed a year later when the garrison withdrew from Fort Smith to establish Fort Gibson some 60 miles upriver. The Belle Point community, evidently sustained by commercial opportunities in the neighboring Indian Territory, remained.

Succeeding years brought new economic opportunities to the Belle Point inhabitants. By the treaty of 1825, the Choctaw Indians agreed to resettle on lands set aside in Indian Territory. The boundary of Choctaw land was surveyed 100 yards east of Fort Smith and the former military post became the agency for the western Choctaws.⁹ Emigrating Choctaws, who received their annuity at Fort Smith, provided a new market for the Belle Point community. The local population swelled. Early settlers attracted to the area included Clark Landers, William Tichenal, Matthew Moore, Anderson Quesenberry, Robert Sinclair, Matthew Moss, Robert Gibson, Curry Barnett, James McDavid, Alfred Ray, David Williams, George Birnie, Charles Birnie, Stagner DuVall, and William DuVall.¹⁰ John Rogers, former military storekeeper at Fort Smith, was discharged from service on June 15, 1821, and remained at Belle Point. In partnership with former post sutler John Nicks, Rogers opened a general store to cater to the growing population.¹¹ Commerce in Indian Territory attracted other merchants such as William DuVall, who in 1825 opened a second general store at Belle Point. In the same year, John Rogers began construction of "a house for the accommodation of the travelling public," said to have been a double room log house with two stone chimneys that stood near the eastern end of the former Missouri Pacific Railroad Bridge.¹² A map constructed by Lieutenant Gabriel Rains¹³ confirms this general location. (Figure 2.) Meanwhile, in 1827, the Government Land Office (1827) surveyed land east of Fort Smith and the Choctaw boundary. In 1830, property containing most of the Belle Point community was granted to Hugh Tygert for his labor on the Erie Canal.¹⁴ Two years later, Tygert and his wife, Fannie, sold the property to John Rogers.¹⁵

Fort Smithites conducted a thriving business selling liquor to Indians. By 1832, the Choctaw Indians had become a source of exploitation. The

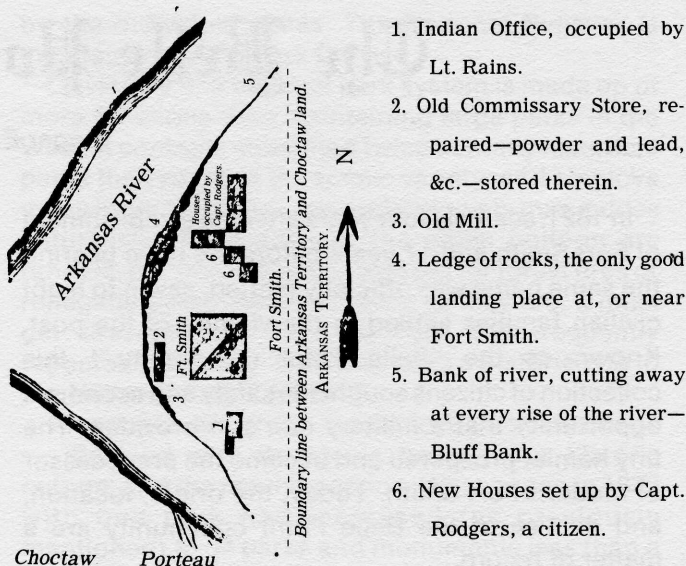


Figure 2: An 1832 sketch of Belle Point by Lieutenant Gabriel J. Rains (Rains 1832). Note the presence of "new houses set up by Capt. Rogers". That probably includes Rogers' hotel. (Note Rogers is spelled Rodgers and Poteau is spelled Porteau.)

thriving Belle Point community contained a cluster of 12 buildings that stood along the boundary line,¹⁶ six of which were saloons.¹⁷ Only 150 yards from Fort Smith was the establishment of Jonas Bigelow.¹⁸ In the immediate vicinity of Bigelow were the shops of DuVall and Carnes, and James M. Randolph among others, all flagrant violators of the intercourse law.¹⁹ All of the merchants but one stocked whiskey in large quantities. Indians at Belle Point frequently procured whiskey in amounts exceeding "half a dozen barrels or more at a time." In one instance, 60 barrels of whiskey were taken from Fort Smith into the Creek nation.²⁰ Intoxicated Indians were constantly at Fort Smith carrying "bottles of spirits" obtained at the taverns. Three times, befuddled redmen set fire to public buildings on Belle Point.²¹ This situation prompted the regarrisoning of Fort Smith.

In 1832, Captain John Stuart and a company of the Seventh United States Infantry arrived at the post. Over the next two years, Stuart labored unsuccessfully to curb the contraband trade. Efforts by the military to control the sale of whiskey, known as the "Arkansas Whiskey War,"²² met with little success. Military patrols were scrutinized by the Belle Point merchants who operated under Stuart's very nose and could slip across the Indian Territory line almost at will. As a result, Stuart abandoned Fort Smith in June, 1834, and established Fort Coffee at a more suitable location in Indian Territory.²³ But the abandonment of Belle Point was short lived.

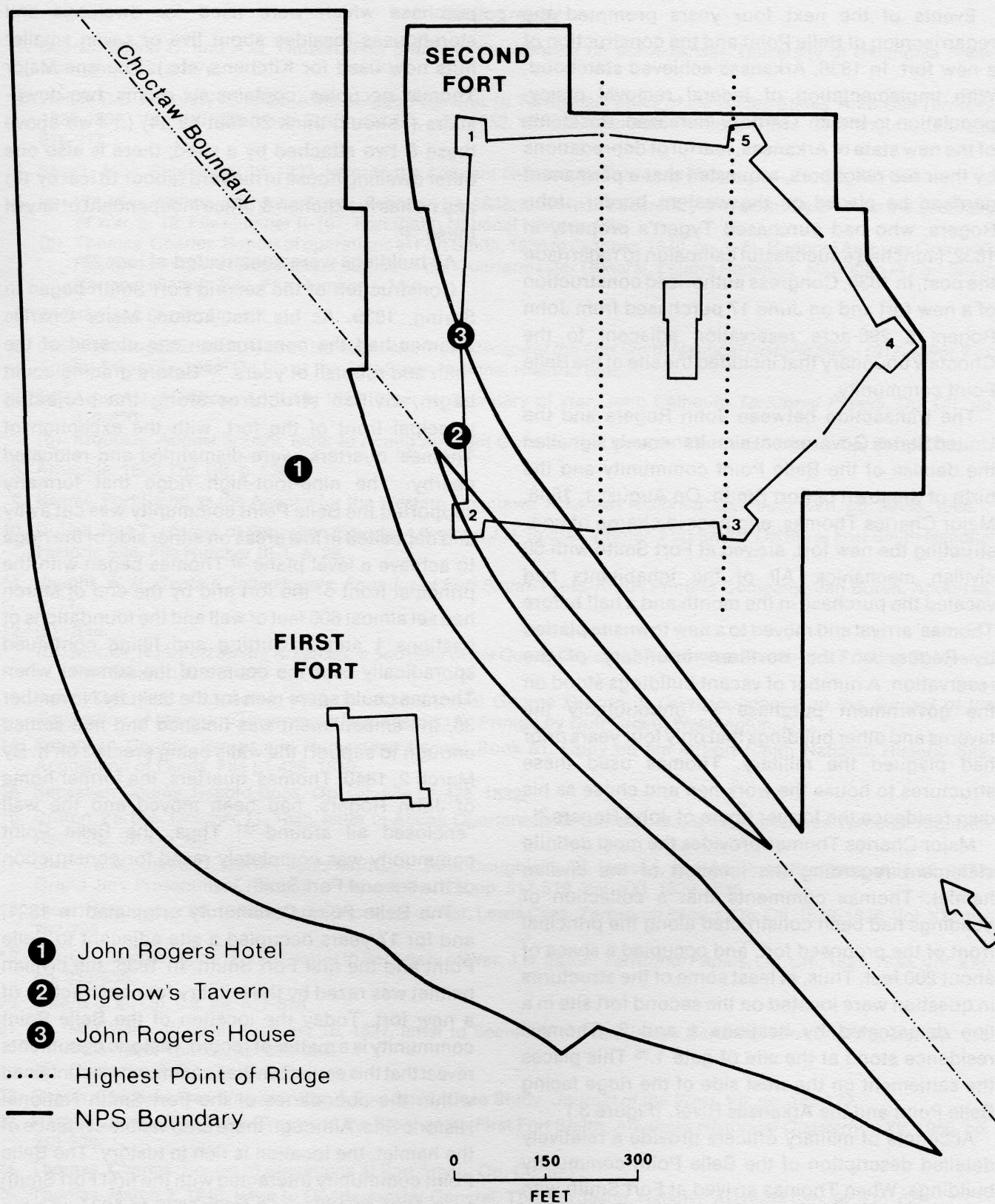


Figure 3: Buildings of the Belle Point community. Historic documentation reveals the location of three of the twelve civilian structures on the government purchase. Others were located along the principal front of the second fort between bastions 1 and 2.

Events of the next four years prompted the regarrisoning of Belle Point and the construction of a new fort. In 1836, Arkansas achieved statehood. With implementation of federal removal policy, population in Indian Territory increased. Residents of the new state of Arkansas, fearful of depredations by their red neighbors, requested that a permanent garrison be placed on the western border. John Rogers, who had purchased Tygert's property in 1832, launched a successful campaign to regarrison the post. In 1838, Congress authorized construction of a new fort and on June 17 purchased from John Rogers a 296-acre reservation adjacent to the Choctaw boundary that included the site of the Belle Point community.

The transaction between John Rogers and the United States Government simultaneously signalled the demise of the Belle Point community and the birth of the town of Fort Smith. On August 1, 1838, Major Charles Thomas, engineer in charge of constructing the new fort, arrived at Fort Smith with 60 civilian mechanics. All of the inhabitants had vacated the purchase in the month and a half before Thomas' arrival and moved to a new townsite platted by Rogers on the northern boundary of the reservation. A number of vacant buildings stood on the government purchase — undoubtedly the taverns and other buildings that only four years prior had plagued the military. Thomas used these structures to house the workmen and chose as his own residence the former home of John Rogers.²⁴

Major Charles Thomas provides the most definite statement regarding the location of the civilian hamlet. Thomas comments that a collection of buildings had been constructed along the principal front of the proposed fort, and occupied a space of about 200 feet. Thus, at least some of the structures in question were located on the second fort site in a line demarcated by bastions 1 and 2. Thomas' residence stood at the site of gate 1.²⁵ This places the settlement on the west side of the ridge facing Belle Point and the Arkansas River. (Figure 3.)

Accounts of military officers provide a relatively detailed description of the Belle Point community buildings. When Thomas arrived at Fort Smith with his mechanics, as many as 12 structures stood on the government purchase. These were thought by Captain Benjamin L.E. Bonneville, sufficient quarters for 150 men.²⁶

Lieutenant Forbes Britton commented that there were: "not less than five principal houses on the

purchase which were used for dwellings and storehouses (besides about five or seven smaller huts now used for Kitchens, etc.). The one Major Thomas occupies, contains six rooms, two down-stairs (I should think 20 feet by 24) (,) Two above these & two attached by a shed; there is also one other dwelling house in his yard (about 18 feet by 18) and he has his kitchen & office independent of any of these."²⁷

All buildings were constructed of logs.²⁸

Construction of the second Fort Smith began in Spring, 1839. As his first action, Major Charles Thomas had the construction site cleared of the "filth and rubbish of years."²⁹ Before grading could begin, civilian structures along the projected principal front of the fort, with the exception of Thomas' quarters, were dismantled and relocated nearby. The nine-foot-high ridge that formerly supported the Belle Point community was cut away and deposited in low areas on either side of the ridge to achieve a level plane.³⁰ Thomas began with the principal front of the fort and by the end of March had set almost 600 feet of wall and the foundations of bastions 1 and 2. Cutting and filling continued sporadically over the course of the summer when Thomas could spare men for the task. By November 30, the embankment was finished and had settled enough to support the walls being erected on it. By March 2, 1840, Thomas' quarters, the former home of John Rogers, had been moved and the wall "enclosed all around."³¹ Thus, the Belle Point community was completely razed for construction of the second Fort Smith.

The Belle Point Community originated in 1821, and for 17 years occupied a site adjacent to Belle Point and the first Fort Smith. In 1838, the civilian hamlet was razed by the military for construction of a new fort. Today the location of the Belle Point community is a matter of record. Historic documents reveal that this earliest civilian community is contained within the boundaries of the Fort Smith National Historic Site. Although there is no visible evidence of the hamlet, the location is rich in history. The Belle Point community interacted with the first Fort Smith from 1821 to 1824, and from 1832 to 1834 was the object of the Arkansas Whiskey War. Spurred by commercial opportunities in neighboring Indian Territory, the tiny civilian gathering became a center of Indian trade and predecessor of modern Fort Smith.

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Samuel Putnam*

West Arkansas Pioneer

Phoebe Park and Paul Davis

(Editor's Note: from *Arkansas Gazette Magazine*, 1936.)

Samuel Putnam, one of the pioneers of northwest Arkansas, was a nephew of Gen. Israel Putnam of Revolutionary War fame. And, like his famous uncle, he too was a soldier, serving as a private in Van Buren's company, the Twenty-ninth Infantry, in the War of 1812.

At the close of the war, like many other soldiers, he took land for his services. He was granted the southeast quarter of section 24, township S north, range 12 west of the Fifth principal meridian, in Sebastian County. This property is now known as the S.E. Langdon holdings and is located at Fort Smith on North Sixth Street between the Waldron Road and the Arkansas River.

Arkansas and the old Indian Territory were attracting much attention then because of the discussions on the proposal to move the Indians out of this state. Forts were being built for the protection of settlers.

Mr. Putnam came to Arkansas in 1817. The time is established by the date of the birth of his children born in Arkansas. Apparently he was induced to come to the state by the building of the first post at Fort Smith in 1817. It was only a wooden stockade formed by a group of wooden houses and surrounded by a high fence. Maj. William Bradford, the first commander, brought to the post the Seventh Infantry. Two keel boats and barges were used to transport the men and supplies. Mr. Putnam is believed to have come by boat.

In the bend of the Arkansas River near Fort Smith where Mr. Putnam lived, there were a number of veterans of the War of 1812 who lived close enough to be called neighbors in those days, although they would be considered as living some distance apart today. Among them were William DuVall, the Indian agent; Col. Samuel Morton Rutherford; Maj. Elias Rector, who accompanied Colonel Rutherford to Florida and by his tact helped him bring the Seminole Indians to the Indian Territory after the government had failed in the attempt; and John Rogers, the founder of Fort Smith.

As Mr. Putnam prospered, he extended his possessions. The government records show that he made a cash entry on April 16, 1836, for the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter and the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 35, township 9 north, range 9 west of the Fifth principal meridian, containing 80 acres; and on the same day he made another entry for the northeast quarter of section 2 township 8 north, range 23 west containing 160 acres. Patents for these tracts were recorded on August 20, 1838, at Fayetteville, where the Land Office was then located. Much of this land is now owned by Harry E. Kelley. It embraces the site of the old Electric Park at Fort Smith.

Mr. Putnam cleared much of his land and built a large double house of logs in what is now the Sub Rosa addition of Fort Smith. The house, in later years known as the Smith home, was destroyed by fire a few years ago, together with the family Bible and many valuable family records and heirlooms.

The Putnam plantation of 300 acres was a social and hunting rendezvous for many civil and military notables in the early days of western Arkansas.

Many of the outstanding names listed in the early history of that part of the state were identified with this place. A schoolhouse was erected for the children of the community. It was a small building made of logs, on the location of what is now the Henry Fort property on the Mussett Road. The seats were made of split logs, with pegs driven into the convex side for legs. It was known as the Nowland Springs School, being named for a spring nearby. It was a subscription school, and Putnam sent to Massachusetts for the young woman teacher. The Van Buren Road from the ferry on the Arkansas River came in Sixth Street and turned to pass the school. In the sixties, the log school was replaced by a frame building, which stood until the Trusty School on Sixth Street was built. Four generations of the Putnam family began their schooling here.

*This story, published in *The Arkansas Gazette Magazine*, April 12, 1936, was sent to the Fort Smith Historical Society by Laurence Phelps Forby, Jr., 604 Smith Avenue, Richland, Washington 99352, a great-great-grandson of Samuel Putnam. Loma Lee (Winters) Cleavenger of Fort Smith is also a descendent of Samuel Putnam. Mrs. Cleavenger compiled a history of the Putnam family which was published in the *Arkansas Pioneers and Allied Families*, Vol. I in 1976.

Mr. Putnam was a Presbyterian and an active church member. Since there was no church nearby, services frequently were held at his home. "Uncle Ben" Pierson, a widely known pioneer minister, preached at the Putnam home many times.

There was a race track not far away, where many races were run for the amusement of the old settlers. Mr. Putnam kept blooded horses on his farm. Buffalo calves, which were great fighters, were placed in his stockyard to protect the domestic animals from the wild beasts. Panthers and wolves were annoying; deer were plentiful, too.

Samuel Putnam was born in Massachusetts. He married Miss Mary Whitman, daughter of Dr. Joseph Whitman of Boston, in 1807. To them were born the following children: Caroline, who married an Oliphant; Mary, who became a Mrs. Vincent and then a Mrs. Shields; Jane, who married a Thayer, then a Barrington, and then an Adams; Elizabeth, who became Mrs. Carbon Howell and then Mrs. Allan McDonald; Jemima Angeline, who married John M. Spaulding; Nathan, who married Mrs. Emily Meeks; Dorothy or Dolly, who married George Mickle; Lucy who married William Hudspeth; Susan, who married Edmond Richardson; Samuel and Joseph. Dolly and Lucy were twins, and it is said that one was a blonde and the other a brunette. Samuel Putnam died in 1847, the year after the death of his wife.

The information presented herewith was obtained from government records, letters, deeds and from Mr. Putnam's granddaughter, Mrs. D.L. Winters of Fort Smith, who has an excellent memory. Mrs. Winters is the mother of Winston L. Winters of Fort Smith and Washington, D.C., Mrs. W.E. Sublett of Fort Smith and Curtis Winters of Wichita, Kansas. In addition to Mrs. Winters, the only grandchildren known to be living are Thomas Bradley Richardson of Cameron, Oklahoma; Morris Richardson of Salem, Oregon; Mrs. Elizabeth Milton of Ozark; Mrs. Sarah Guthrie of New Orleans; and Jerry McDonald of Charleston, Arkansas.

After the death of Samuel Putnam, his property passed into the hands of John Putnam¹, the oldest son. Much of the land is now owned by persons outside of the family, but Richard Putnam, a great grandson, has kept his portion and is still living on the old family place. Roy Putnam, a brother who retained this interest, remained on a part of the old plantation until a few years ago, when he moved to Van Buren.

Edmond Morris Richardson was born at Atlanta, Ga., and came to Arkansas in the thirties. His brother had married and settled near Muldrow when Edmond came out to see him and located at Fort Smith, near the Putnam home. In 1840 he married Susan Putnam at the residence of her father. He located at Charleston.

During the excitement of the gold rush in 1849, Richardson went to California and returned after two years to Charleston. He was one of the pioneer settlers of that place. Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas says:

"The town of Charleston embraces a mile square (township 7, range 29) which was entered by a number of citizens (from 1843). E.M. Richardson entered his land in 1845 and 1846. The first building was a double hewn log cabin built about 1848 by C.R. Kelleam on the site of Sherman and Dancy's wagon shop. A brick store was put up nearby about 1849, and a gin mill also. Dr. Wright was an early physician. Mr. Kelleam failed, and E.M. Richardson bought the store about 1857, and soon after built a two-story frame (store)."

The Richardson home was erected long before the Civil War. It was a large log house, weatherboarded with lumber brought from Waldron. It is still standing, although the back now faces the highway. History relates that nearly all of the houses in Charleston, with the exception of those of Kelleam and Richardson, were burned by the Federals during the war. Across the road from the Richardson home was that of a J.P. Falconer, who, with Mrs. Richardson and Col. J.M. Pettigrew, laid out the town of Charleston. The Union church was on one corner of the Richardson land and a school on another in a beautiful grove. Besides his plantation, Richardson had a mercantile establishment and a gin. He was a charter member of the Masonic lodge and the meetings were held in the Richardson hall.

The children of Edmond Morris² Richardson and Susan Putnam were James Nicholas, Sarah Ann (Mrs. Spencer), Henry Edmond, David Shields, William Pleasant, Thomas Bradley, Alfred Putnam, Lucy Howell (Mrs. D.L. Winters), Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. Wallace Milton), and Elbert Morris.

Edmond Richardson was one of the tragic figures in western Arkansas. Either of the two plans he had in mind was to lead to violent death and the loss of his personal fortune. He had wanted to return to California and in the middle fifties had put his property on the market. It was at this time that Captain Fancher of Carroll County was organizing a party of Arkansans to make the trek to California.

1. John's name was not included in the list of Samuel Putnam's children shown above.

2. Oma Lee Cleavenger, a granddaughter of E.M. and Susan Richardson, says the family has always pronounced this name as Maurice.

It is surmised that Richardson was interested in this venture, but could not go because he had not found a buyer for his property. Captain Fancher's party was killed in the famous Mountain Meadows massacre.

Untimely death would not be denied, however, for a few years later Richardson was murdered for his strong Southern sentiments. On the night of January 14, 1863, he was killed by members of the Hart-Hays gang of "bushwhackers" who terrorized the vicinities of Fort Smith and Charleston. He was aroused from his bed, and answering a knock at the door, was shot without warning, his wife and children looking on. Mr. Richardson was preparing then to join the Confederate army. He had returned only the night before from Hempstead County, where he had made plans to leave his wife and children with a Mrs. Spencer while he was away.

His murder occurred on the same night of those of several other leaders in that community. After leaving his home, the "bushwhackers" went to the home of Col. Thomas Aldridge, grandfather of Judge Hadden Humphrey of Little Rock, and called him to the door, telling him they had just killed Richardson and had come to kill him. One of the men leveled a gun at the colonel's head. Through some queer turn of fate, Colonel Aldridge was able to persuade the men not to kill him. They ransacked the house, however, and took all the firearms. As they left they said they planned to go to the home of Colonel Derosa Carroll. Colonel Aldridge hurried to the home of Colonel Carroll to warn him, but was too late. When he got there he found that the "bushwhackers" had already called him out and killed him.

There were only a few soldiers at Fort Smith at this time and many of them were sick. The news of the killings was brought to the garrison by John P. Smith, brother of the widely known steamboat captain, Eugene Smith, and a cousin of Mrs. Harry Mesler of Little Rock and of Mrs. Frank Litton of Fort Smith. He was only a boy of 15 and had been visiting at the home of Colonel Aldridge. John was forced to wait until the next night to travel, for fear of being captured; he had to detour near Lavaca because of high water and did not reach the fort until midnight.

The soldiers who were able went in pursuit of the slayers, many of them wearing cotton trousers, although it was in the dead of winter. Early the next morning a company of Confederate cavalry, under the command of Col. A.S. Reiff, who was accompanied by Colonels Monroe and Crump, hastened after the bushwhackers and caught them at Smedley's mill in Scott County. Colonel Reiff was

the father of Ollie Reiff of Little Rock and Mrs. John D. Arbuckle of Fort Smith. In a description of the closing chapter of the tragedy, Colonel Reiff wrote:

"I was ordered to guard the prisoners to the place of execution. I formed a battalion on horseback in a hollow square and rode forward, where I could see and hear what was said and done. Two plain pine coffins were in open view. A two-horse wagon was taken apart. A coffin was placed on the fore wheels and the other on the back wheels. Hart rode on one coffin and Hays on the other to the place of execution. They were hanged within 20 feet of each other in the yard of the old United States courthouse, on a limb of a tree. Charles Carroll climbed the tree and tied the rope that hanged Hart. The wheels of the wagon rolled from under Hart, and his career was ended. Carroll Armstrong tied the rope that swung Hays into eternity."

Richardson was buried in Park's cemetery at Charleston.

It seems that the Richardsons had more than their share of privations and hardships during the Civil War. Mrs. Richardson remained in the home with her father-in-law, William M. Richardson. At one time the Federals hung William Richardson over a door, then took him down and rolled him on the floor in an effort to make him tell where he had hidden the family's guns and money. Not getting the desired information, the soldiers then took him outside and hanged him to a tree. When they went on down the road, for a skirmish with Southern troops, Mrs. Edmond Richardson ran out and held her father-in-law's body up to keep the weight off the rope, while her son, Bradley, climbed the tree and cut the rope. Although bruised, Richardson lived. He died at the age of 72.

On another occasion, Federal troops burned the feet of Mrs. Richardson in an effort to make her tell where her money and guns were hidden. She succeeded in convincing them she had no money, but they found her firearms and took them. About 1864, Federal soldiers carried away about 350 bales of cotton stored in the Richardson gin, then set fire to the building and destroyed it and the cottonseed it contained. They gave Mrs. Richardson a receipt for the cotton, asserting they would send her 50 cents a pound for it. She never heard any more from them. The cotton was taken to Fort Smith and used in the breastworks on North Fifteenth Street near the present location of the Junior High School.

Food became scarce during the latter part of the war, and Mrs. Richardson and other women walked from Charleston to Fort Smith to get something to eat. Mrs. Richardson died at the age of 76 in 1895.

Trusty School

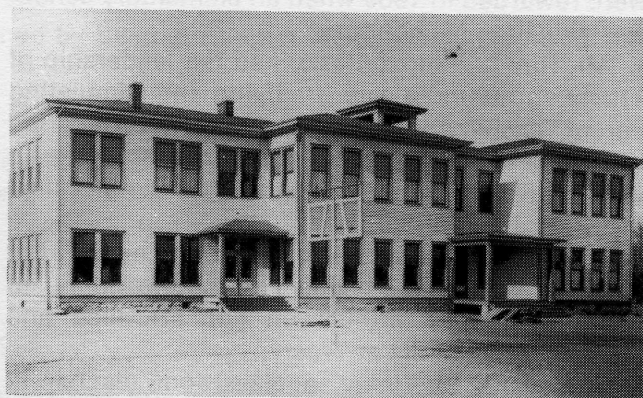
Dimple Gilley¹

Trusty School was named in honor of Thomas A. Trusty² who "removed to Arkansas, locating in Sebastian county, in 1889. For several years thereafter he was principal of the Washburn High School and in 1896 he established his home in the city of Fort Smith. For a time he was principal of the Trusty public school, the founding of which institution forms an interesting chapter in the education annals of Sebastian county and a fine tribute to the public spirit and self sacrifice of Mr. Trusty and those who so loyally supported him in the movement to establish this school.

"The Trusty school was originally known as the Nolan³ Springs school, which was located about a mile and a half north of Fort Smith, near the Arkansas river.⁴ About the latter part of the year 1900 a petition was presented to the Fort Smith school board to annex about one-half of the Nolan Springs school district to the Fort Smith public schools. This plan, had it been carried out, would have impoverished the remainder of the Nolan Springs district so that an adequate school could not have been maintained in that section. At this juncture Mr. Trusty inaugurated a determined movement to preserve the district for school purposes, calling the entire district to a mass meeting and illustrating to the citizens that if they allowed the district to be cut in two, the portion left out would be so impoverished that it could never hope to have adequate school facilities. He succeeded in stimulating the people to such an extent that a private subscription of thirty-five hundred dollars was raised among the residents of the district, many of them cheerfully subscribing to the limit of their financial ability. With this fund, a four-room school building, known as the Trusty School, was built on that part of the district that was to have been annexed to the Fort Smith city schools under the plan previously mentioned. Subsequently when the case came up in the county court the county judge annulled the annexation petition and allowed the building of the Trusty School, as described. Some two years later a large section of country lying between Fort Smith and the river was annexed to the city proper with the result that the entire district was then enabled to take advantage of the city public school system, the Trusty School becoming a part of the city schools. At the time of its erection, four rooms were considered too much for the then school population of the district but since

that time the school has been enlarged to ten rooms and it has continued in a growing and flourishing condition."⁵

Trusty School has had several homes. Its next location was at Spradling and North 6th Street. "It has expanded to a two-story frame school with ten rooms and grades one through eight. A porch was later converted to a cafeteria which was completed in 1901."



Trusty School Building at Spradling and North Sixth Streets.
Courtesy of Julia Yadon.

In 1905 Mr. Trusty resigned the principalship of Trusty School and later became eminently successful as a business man, first in life insurance and later in real estate.

"Following in his footsteps, Mrs. Dora Kimmons exemplified her ability by not only teaching youngsters but their teachers as well. Fort Smith educators did not forget her forty-year service record when a new junior high school was erected in 1964.

"After Mrs. Kimmons' departure from Trusty in 1912, Mr. C.E. Beard became its new principal.

"Although many improvements had been made, Mr. Beard's educational inheritance was quite a contrast to modern procedures. Drinking water was from a deep well on the yard where there was a pump house and hand pump. The janitor would fill four large metal cans (one for each hall) so the children might have water from dippers. Of course, there were outside rest rooms and a small cottage on the grounds where the janitor lived. The school was heated by a large coal stove in each room. The school was surrounded by an iron fence (which was the style of that time) and had a cast iron bell on top to summon the pupils to class.

"During this administration from 1912 to 1950 a third Trusty was established at 3300 Harris Avenue (1928). More students could be accommodated by having only six grades, and Parker School, which was completed in 1922, had helped the overcrowded condition. (Mr. Beard also assumed that principalship.) However, in 1947 again expansion was necessary, and two classes were held outside the building. Miss Delta Peters had one class in the recreational building of Heartsill-Ragon Courts. Mrs. Lola Shermer had the other in Midland Heights Methodist Church.

"Three years later Mr. Beard retired from public school affiliations but, like his predecessors, Mr. Beard's colorful and deliberate aims for education were rewarded in 1969 when an elementary school was named in his honor.

"Mr. Ray L. Simpson assumed the leadership of Trusty and found a very gratifying and stimulating Parent Teacher Association and faculty. He departed to complete a higher degree and returned after a year's leave. Mr. Simpson's short absence was filled by Mr. W.J. Smith.

"Mr. Bob McDaniel, who served as principal after Mr. Simpson, stated that 'this atmosphere of cooperation and enthusiasm has prevailed and become a way of life at Trusty.'

"Mrs. Ruth McKinley, a classroom teacher at Trusty, was appointed principal in 1964. Achieving a balance between modern educational innovations and humanizing an organism for complex living has been the theme during this era."⁶

Trusty School is still at home at 3300 Harris Avenue. Mr. Don Weaver is now principal and has a staff of twenty-one people, including faculty, special education aides and other assistants, not to mention three cafeteria employees and the custodian.



**Trusty School today at 3300 Harris Avenue.
Photo by Dr. Art Martin.**

It is a giant step from the humble beginning of Trusty School. No outside water well, no cans of water in the school halls, no coal stoves for heating.

Not even in Mr. Thomas A. Trusty's wildest dreams (nor any other educator of his time) could he have predicted the educational advantages to which our students have become accustomed.

Trusty School is a fitting tribute to a great man.

The following is a complete list of Principals of Trusty Elementary School:

1896-1905	Thomas A. Trusty ⁷
1907-1912	Mrs. Dora L. Kimmons
1912-1913	J.L. Highsaw & C.E. Beard
1913-1950	C.E. Beard
1950-1954	Ray L. Simpson
1954-1955	William J. Smith
1955-1956	Ray L. Simpson
1956-1964	Robert McDaniel
1964-1974	Mrs. Ruth McKinley
1974-1980	Relf Efurd, Jr.
1980-1981	Mrs. Ruth McKinley
1981-1988	Don Weaver

Footnotes

1. (Editor's Note) Dimple Gilley, an educator for 41 years, retired in 1985. Thirty-five of these years were spent in the Fort Smith school system where she taught in Spradling, DuVal, Trusty and Carnall schools. She was principal of Carnall School from 1974 until her retirement. Gilley received her bachelor's degree in education from Arkansas Tech University and a master's degree in elementary education from the University of Arkansas. She also did postgraduate work in elementary education at Henderson Teacher's College, now the University of Central Arkansas. Among many honors she has received for professional achievement and contribution to education was a PTA life membership award from Trusty School. The Optimist Club named her 1967 Teacher of the Year and she received the Classroom Teachers Association Golden Apple Award in 1977.

2. Thomas A. Trusty was an educator and business man whose influence is still visible in Sebastian County. Among the things he did for the county was found Trusty School and promote the good-roads system. He was a member of the school board and was credited with being instrumental in passage of the 12-mill tax for schools.

He was born at Owensboro, Daviess County, Kentucky, July 19, 1867, the son of William and Martha (Davis) Trusty. After completing public schools at Owensboro, he attended the Southwestern Male & Female College at South Carrolton, Kentucky, where he graduated in 1888. He came to Washburn, Arkansas, in 1889, where he was principal of the high school until 1896 when he came to Fort Smith and taught until 1905 at the school which today is known as the Trusty School in his honor.

In 1905 Mr. Trusty entered the insurance business with affiliations in both Fort Smith and Little Rock. Later he also formed a partnership with Fred A. Reutzel for the purpose of engaging in the general real estate business in Fort Smith. He left Fort Smith in 1916 for Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he continued in real estate and insurance. Sometime later he moved to Oklahoma City.

On October 12, 1895, Mr. Trusty married Miss Nancy "Nannie" Bell of Washburn. She was born and reared in Sebastian County and was the daughter of William Bell. The six children of this union were: Eugene (married Margaret Stoll); Lola Bell (married Gerald Lockwood); Nellie Jane (married Burness Steed); and William, Harry C. and Earl who died in infancy.

Mr. Trusty was a Democrat, a Mason, a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Thomas A. Trusty died on August 16, 1946, in Oklahoma City and is buried in Forrest Park Cemetery, Fort Smith, beside his first wife who died May 4, 1919. At the time of his death, he was survived by his wife, Gertrude Anthony Trusty, to whom he was married in 1921; two daughters, Miss Lola Trusty and Miss Nell Trusty, both of whom were teachers in the Tulsa schools; a son, Eugene Trusty, New York City; a granddaughter and great-grandson; a sister, Miss Carrie Trusty, Abbott, Arkansas.

3. Various spellings: Nolan, Nowlan, Newlan.
4. The location of this school building was on land owned by Samuel Putnam. See accompanying article entitled "Samuel Putnam, West Arkansas Pioneer."
5. Historical Review of Arkansas, Fay Hempstead, Vol. 2.
6. The History of Trusty Elementary School, Carolyn Luce and Janet Whitson, teachers at Trusty in 1969, May 1, 1969. The Bibliography for this history was as follows:
 - Beard, C.E., principal of Trusty Elementary School from 1912 to 1950.
 - Lauderdale, Henry, former pupil at Trusty.
 - Lennington, Mrs., daughter of the janitor who lived on the grounds of the second Trusty location.
 - McKinley, Ruth, principal of Trusty in 1969.
 - Shermer, Lola, second grade teacher at Trusty in 1969.
7. 1905 date from Historical Review of Arkansas, Fay Hempstead, Vol. 2. School records do not show exact date of Mr. Trusty's resignation, but do show Dora Kimmons became principal of Trusty School in 1907.

Trusty Elementary School's Gapscanners Party with Ragon Seniors

A gap of a few hundred yards separate Trusty Elementary School from the Ragon Nutrition Center on Fort Smith's north side. But there is no gap at all between the school's sixth grade economics class and the center's participants. A year-long friendship between the two groups culminated June 7 with a songfest and balloon party at the center, courtesy of the students.

The blossoming relationship between young and old began when teacher June Haley's class began a study of the aging population's economic impact on the community. The class visited several area housing projects and senior centers, including Ragon, and invited guest speakers to the school to learn more

about programs and services available to seniors.

The class also formed a company called "The Gapscanners" and invested money in its own refrigerator magnet business. The Gapscanners raised about \$50.00, half of which paid for helium-filled balloons for the party.

"This is something the children wanted to do," Haley said. "We came here at Christmas time and the children were surprised with gifts of candy and fruit, so they wanted to do something nice for the people here."

The class performed several songs, then distributed the balloons to the participants. Haley said the class will buy computer disks with the remainder of its profits.

(From *The Western Arkansas Post*. Published by Area Agency on Aging of Western Arkansas, Inc.)

Mayors of Fort Smith, Arkansas

ATTENTION READERS!!

The city of Fort Smith and the Fort Smith Historical Society are searching for photographs and biographies of the mayors of Fort Smith. We need your help!

The following list of mayors is as accurate as we can make it from records available. If you have information about any of these men or are willing to help research on this project, please contact Amelia Martin, Fort Smith Historical Society, c/o Fort Smith Public Library, 61 South 8th Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901.

Joseph H. Heard	1843-1845	Mont H. Sandels	1876-1877
Smith Elkins	1845	James Brizzolara	1878-1882
George S. Birnie	1846-1848	J. Henry Carnall	1883-1885
(W.J. Weaver, Recorder)	1849	Mat Gray	1886
Dr. Nicholas Spring	1850	S.A. Williams	1887-1888
Marshall Grimes	1851	Daniel Baker	1889-1890
Mitchell Sparks	1852	C.M. Cooke	1891-1892
R.P. Pulliam	May 2, 1853	J.A. Hoffman	1893-1896
John F. Wheeler	April 15, 1854	Tom Ben Garrett	1897-1902
W.H. Rogers	January to May 27, 1855	Henry Kuper, Jr.	1903-1906
R.M. Johnson	May 27, 1855-1856	Fagon Bourland	1907-1908
John Beckel	1857	W.J. Johnston	1909 -1911
Joseph J. Walton	1858	Fagan Bourland	1911-1913
Francis S./H. Wolf	1859	Henry C. Read	1913-1917
R.M. Johnson	1860	J.H. Wright	1917
J.K. McKenzie	1861	Arch Monro	1917-1921
(Resigned November 4, succeeded by John King — pro tem — who was succeeded November 8 by Joseph Bennett.)		Fagan Bourland	1921-1923
Joseph Bennett	1862-1863	D.L. Ford	1923-1925
Resigned in May, succeeded by R.M. Johnson.)		J.H. Parker	1925-1929
R.M. Johnson	1864	Fagan Bourland	1929-1933
Francis S./H. Wolf	1865	J.K. Jordon	1933-1941
(Succeeded October 20 by W.H. Spangler who served until May, 1866.)		Chester Holland	1941-1945
John Stryker	January, 1866-1868	Jack Pace	1945-1952
E.J. Brooks	February, 1869-1872	H.R. Hestand	1952-1957
I.W. Fuller	November, 1872-1873	Jack Pace	1957-1961
J.R. Kannady	November, 1873-1874	Bob Brooksher	1961-July, 1964
E.J. Brooks	1874	James Yarbrough	August, 1964-1967
R.M. Johnson	1875	Jack Freeze	1967-1983
		William D. Vines	1984 to present

In Loving Memory

ROBERT S. BOYD

Robert S. Boyd, 56, died April 5, 1988. He was the great-great grandson of the city of Fort Smith's founder, Capt. John Rogers, and recently donated more than 1,800 documents about the city's history to the Old Fort Museum. Boyd was vice-president of AFCO Metals, Inc., and a member of First Presbyterian Church. He was a graduate of the University of Arkansas and Stamford University, where he completed a master's degree in business. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; and a sister, Sharla J. Hill of Dallas.

WILLIAM D. BARKSDALE

William Donoho Barksdale, 84, former executive editor of the *Southwest American* and *Fort Smith Times Record*, died May 12, 1988, in a Fort Smith hospital. He began his news career in Fort Smith as a reporter in 1928 and worked his way up through the ranks as copy editor, news editor, managing editor, and executive editor of both the former evening and morning newspapers, now combined as the *Southwest Times Record*. He is survived by his wife, Eloise; two sons, William of Memphis and Don of Fort Smith; one brother, Butler of Sibley, Mississippi; and two grandchildren.

J. LLOYD TALLEY

J. Lloyd Talley, 83, who with J.B. Thomas was responsible for putting the old-fashioned drug store at the Old Fort Museum, died May 12, 1988, in a Fort Smith hospital. He was a retired drug salesman with Parke-Davis Company, a member of First Christian Church, Belle Point Lodge No. 20, and Western Arkansas Scottish Rite Bodies. He is survived by his wife, Ethel; a daughter, Sue Talley Jelliffe of Mill Valley, California; two sisters, Laviece Black of San Antonio and Charlotte Kiber of Houston; and one granddaughter.

LUCY FULLER

Lucy E. Fuller, 90, died June 22, 1988, in her home. She was a member of the Salvation Army for over 70 years; and in an interview a few years ago, she recalled memories of her work with the Salvation Army in Fort Smith, particularly about her work with the homeless and jobless during the great depression. There were memories of working with the city to provide jobs and the food line to serve food to the hungry. During the Christmas season, she rang bells for the Army annual collections until she was 83. She was also a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars. She is survived by two sons, Marteen W. Fuller of Meritt Island, Florida, and Pierre Eugene Fuller of Milltown; 11 grandchildren and several great and great-great-grandchildren.

H.K. WESTMORELAND

H.K. Westmoreland, 76, died June 22, 1988, in a Fort Smith hospital. He was an attorney with the U.S. Court of Appeals, a member of the First Presbyterian Church, the Arkansas Bar Association, and the 8th Circuit and 10th Circuit Court of Appeals. He is survived by his wife, Frances Elizabeth; one daughter, Linda Kay Estes of Bella Vista; one son, Bob Westmoreland of Fort Smith; one sister, Nanah Gordon of Fort Smith; one brother, David Westmoreland of Fort Smith; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

GOLDEEN MYERS GOOCH

Goldeen Myers Gooch, a retired teacher who had taught in the Fort Smith and Van Buren school systems for forty years, died April 1, 1988, in her home. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Fort Smith and the Retired Teachers Association. She was on the 1953 National Teacher of the Year Honor Roll. She is survived by her husband, Curtis C.; a stepson, John B. of Fort Smith; and a sister, Kathleen Smedley of Fort Smith.

WILLA ROWELL

Willa Rowell, Fort Smith public school teacher for 38½ years and retired funeral director and owner of Rowell Mortuary, died Wednesday, April 6, 1988, in a Fort Smith hospital. She was an active member of Mallalieu United Methodist Church, served on the board of regents of the Fort Smith Public Library, and the board of Methodist Village. She was also a member of Phyllis Wheatly Federated Club and Queen Esther Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star. She is survived by a sister, Marinda Madison of Kansas City, Missouri; and a niece, Margaret Ann Webb of Chesterfield, Missouri.

MARIE STUMPF

Marie Stumpf, 83, retired teacher who taught 21 years at Immaculate Conception Catholic School, died Tuesday, May 24, 1988, in Omaha, Nebraska. She is survived by a son, James J. of Omaha; two sisters, Mrs. Joe Schwartz of Fort Smith and Mrs. Art Nider of Denver, Colorado; two brothers, Herman and Bill Kramer, both of Fort Smith; and three grandchildren.

BERTHA TILLES

Bertha Tilles, 98, Fort Smith, died Sunday, July 17, 1988. She was a homemaker and member of United Hebrew Congregation of Fort Smith. She is survived by two daughters, Lone Ney of Fort Smith and Sydney Sternberg of Tulsa; one son, Irvin Sternberg of Mill Valley, California; five grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

DR. MODENA SULLIVAN

Dr. Modena Sullivan, 77, retired optometrist, died April 18, 1988, in a Fort Smith hospital. She was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church, president of the St. Margaret's Guild, life member of Arkansas Optometrist Association, member of Business and Professional Women's Club and the recipient of the Woman of the Year Award 1980-1981. She is survived by a niece, Betty Jean Carpenter of Winchester, TN; and two nephews, Bill Sullivan of Florida and Osco Clever of Tullahoma, TN.

DAWN KLEIN

Beverly Dawn Helbling Klein, 26, of Fort Smith, died April 18, 1988. She was a homemaker, a member of Christ the King Catholic Church, Fort Smith Historical Society and Varina Jefferson Davis Chapter of United Daughters of the Confederacy, and a 1979 graduate of Northside High School. She was involved in Fort Smith genealogy research and prepared a family history article for future publication in *The Journal*. She is survived by her husband, Steven Joseph; a daughter, Susan Elizabeth of the home; her father, Dusty Helbling of Poteau; her mother, JoAnn Ruth Helbling of the home; a brother, James Houston Helbling; and paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wegman Helbling of Fort Smith.

FRANK WARD

Frank Ward, 81, retired Northside High School teacher, died July 10, 1988, in his home. He attended Eastside Baptist Church. His survivors are his wife, Grace; a sister, Josephine Gary of Monahans, Texas; and a brother, Rufus of Tucson, Arizona.

IRENE HUNT

Irene M. Hunt, 87, of Fort Smith, died Sunday, June 12, 1888, in a Fort Smith hospital. She was a homemaker, the widow of T. Leland Hunt, a member of Goddard United Methodist Church, Fortnightly Study Club and Chapter J of PEO, Embroiderer's Guild, Sparks Women's Board and Methodist Nursing Home Board and past member of Girls Club and YWCA boards. A supporter of the Fort Smith Historical Society, she helped in the research for the history of the YWCA (see *The Journal*, Volume 11, Number 2, September 1987, pages 27 and 39).

She is survived by two daughters, Linda Lee Cravens of Fort Smith and Sara Jane Hauert of Tucson, Arizona; a sister, Opal Rosen of Tacoma, Washington; six grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Goddard United Methodist Church, Fort Smith Public Library, or the T.L. and Irene Hunt Nursing Scholarship Fund at Westark Community College.

Book Notes

All review copies of books are placed in the Arkansas Room of the Fort Smith Public Library and designated a gift from the author or contributor and the Fort Smith Historical Society.

FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS, DEATH RECORDS INDEX, BOOKS I & II, NOVEMBER 1881, JUNE 1909

Indexed by Wanda Joy Karrant and Wilma Jean Hoyle of the Fort Smith Public Library. Hard cover. Price: \$22.50 postpaid. Order from the Fort Smith Public Library, 61 South 8th Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

BEHOLD, OUR WORKS WERE GOOD:

A HANDBOOK OF ARKANSAS WOMEN'S HISTORY

Edited by Dr. Elizabeth Jacoway and published by the Arkansas Women's History Institute in association with August House, Little Rock, Arkansas. 98 pages. Price: \$15.00 postpaid. Order from Arkansas Women's History Institute, P.O. Box 7704, Little Rock, AR 72217.

Being a woman in Arkansas has not always been easy, nor has it always been pleasant.

But the women of Arkansas' past have given those of today a heritage to be proud of, a high standard to live up to, and an example of strength and courage to live by. The essence of that heritage is captured and shared in *Behold, Our Works Were Good*, a handbook of women's history edited by Dr. Elizabeth Jacoway.

The handbook, although designed for use in accompaniment with an exhibit of the same name in the high school or college classroom, is well worth reading for its own sake.

The essays included within bring a very human approach to the past goings-on in our state. The stories of women, of their plights and struggles and accomplishment, of their amazing courage and strong character, is told with sensitivity yet objectivity. Facts are well documented, and interpretations made carefully.

The book is divided into four well-written sections. Contributing authors Janet Allured, Dr. Mary Sudman Donovan and Meg Kilgore overcame the obstacles of scant and scattered resources on the subject to present a focused picture of what life was like for our mothers and grandmothers and great-great-grandmothers.

Dr. Jacoway's arrangement of the material carries the reader (or the student, as the case may be) logically and easily from a reflection of the importance of women's history, to an overview of the lives of women — both individually and collectively — throughout the state's varied history, to a singular narrative as beautifully told by a woman about her memories of growing to maturity in northwest Arkansas to Kilgore, her granddaughter.

The most endearing quality of this work is its humanizing aspect.

Reviewed by J.J. Thompson, *Arkansas Gazette* staff.

THE CUMULATIVE INDEX TO VOLUMES I THRU IX OF THE JOURNAL OF THE FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

230 pages, perfect bound. Price: \$20.00 plus \$1.50 postage and handling. Order from the Fort Smith Historical Society, c/o Fort Smith Public Library, 61 South 8th Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901.

News and Opportunities

FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1988-1989 OFFICERS

President Mary Lou Jacobsen
Vice President Del Conger
Recording Secretary Virginia Bruce
Membership Secretary Jo Tillery
Treasurer Donald Peer

New board members elected to serve three year terms beginning April, 1988, are:

Virginia Bruce	Ken Johnson
Jo Tillery	Don Marquette
Judge W.R. "Bud" Harper	Gene Johnston

Board member elected to fill unexpired term of Gilmer Dixon: Wallace Floyd.

ARKANSAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The 46th Anniversary meeting of the Arkansas Historical Association will be held April 16-18, 1989, in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Theme of the meeting will be "The Arkansas Family: Tradition and Change."

For further information, please call or write the Association at 12 Ozark Hall, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. Telephone 501-575-5884.

FORT SMITH SYMPHONY SEASON TICKETS

Season tickets for the Fort Smith Symphony Association's 1988-1989 program season are now on sale at the Symphony office in Brunswick Place, P.O. Box 3151, Fort Smith, AR 72913. Phone 501-783-2724.

Programs for the year feature:

September 25, 1988 — "A Night in Vienna" with BBC conductor Kenneth Alwyn conducting the "shimmering strings" of the 40-piece Mantovani orchestra.

October 8, 1988 — The Fort Smith Chorale, directed by William Cromer, will appear with the symphony orchestra.

February 11, 1989 — Angela Lu, harpist, will perform a program of classics with the orchestra. Lu is a native of China and one of only a few concert harpists performing in the world today.

March 18, 1989 — Spring concert will feature the winner of the annual Young Artist Competition in a Young at Heart concert.

May 6, 1989 — Shirley Jones, who starred on television's long-running "Partridge Family" and has appeared in many Broadway hits and musical movies, will close the season with a concert of vocal music. The orchestra will open this special concert with a performance of Williams' "Music from Star Wars."

FORT SMITH CHIEF OF POLICE

Don Taylor, former Arkansas State Police investigator, was chosen on April 19, 1988, to be Chief of Police in Fort Smith. Maj. Ralph Hampton, former head of the Detective Division, has been named assistant chief; and Maj. Alvin Bradley succeeds Maj. Hampton as head of the Detective Division.

BIRD SANCTUARY COVERS CITY LIMITS

Seventeen new signs declaring that Fort Smith is a bird sanctuary have been installed on main thoroughfares into Fort Smith. All of Fort Smith was declared a sanctuary by city ordinance No. 2726 in April, 1969.

FORT SMITH TROLLEY MUSEUM



*Fort Smith Trolley
Restoration Association Incorporated*

Progress continues to be made at the Fort Smith Trolley Museum and on July 16 and 17, the first rail bending was begun to complete the initial track project. This curved track connects the car barn to the alley track that stops beside the Old Fort Museum. A 276 foot section of track has already been laid by the Old Fort Museum. Address of the Trolley Museum is 100 South 4th Street.

TRUE PICTURE OF FORT SMITH

Inaccurate references to Fort Smith on page 85 of the geographic reference for major cities made by the Economic Research Institute of Newport, California, prompted a letter from Richard Sugg, Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce, to Dr. David Thomsen, Ph.D., Director of that institute. The following facts about Fort Smith have been abstracted from Mr. Sugg's letter:

Fort Smith, with a metro area population of well over 200,000 people, is known as the Industrial Capital of Arkansas and is the home of some 200 industries including some nationally and internationally known firms such as Whirlpool; Planters Peanuts; the Ball Corporation; Rheem-Rudd; General Electric (Trane); Gerber Baby Foods; Norton Alcoa; Baldor Electric; MacSteel of Arkansas-Quanex Division, Owens, Illinois; and Hiram Walker, which has moved its national headquarters to Fort Smith.

The city is serviced by the Kansas City Southern, Union Pacific and Arkansas Missouri railroads as well as a number of truck lines and barge service on the Arkansas River.

Fort Smith has the lowest commercial and industrial gas rate to be found in the entire United

States with a 21 year reserve, and electric costs are among the ten lowest in the country.

Fort Smith is the home of Westark Community College which, with an enrollment in excess of 4,000 students, is the largest two year college in the state of Arkansas and based on enrollment, is the fifth largest college or university in the entire state of Arkansas.

The Fort Smith newspaper, *Southwest Times Record*, has a daily circulation of over 42,000 and a Sunday circulation in excess of 47,000 copies.

Fort Smith has three television stations: KFSM, Channel 5, CBS; KHBS, Channel 40, ABC; and KPOM, Channel 24, NBC.

Fort Smith has one of the finest public school systems to be found anywhere in the United States, and over the past several years the teachers in our public school system received more awards each year for economic education teaching than all other states in the nation put together.

In 1987, in a listing of cost of living in 252 major cities, only 27 had an overall lower cost than Fort Smith.

Fort Smith has 23 daily incoming and outgoing flights to Dallas, Memphis and St. Louis.

Major agricultural products of Sebastian County are poultry, beef and dairy products.

The F.B.I. lists Fort Smith as one of the 50 safest cities to live in, and only six MSA's in the nation have a lower index of crime.

To attest to the quality of life in Fort Smith, when Rheem moved here in 1969, they transferred in 77 families. Twenty years later, 75 of these families are still located in Fort Smith.

FORT SMITH PUBLIC LIBRARY AWARDED GRANTS

The Fort Smith Public Library has been awarded a \$30,000 grant for purchase of a computerized card catalog-circulation system, based on microcomputer technology. It will be the first public library in Arkansas to have such a system and will serve as a demonstration or model for other public libraries in Arkansas.

Another grant for \$5,000 has also been awarded the library to purchase reading materials for limited and non-English speaking people. Larry Larson, library director, said there are about 5,000 Asians — Vietnamese, Cambodians, Laotians and Thais — living in Fort Smith and many are limited in reading and speaking English.

GIRLS SOFTBALL COMPLEX DEDICATED TO CECIL WELLER

In ceremonies at Ben Geren Park on May 9, 1988, a plaque was unveiled dedicating the girls' softball complex to Fort Smith civic leader Cecil Weller who died in December, 1986. Weller was a member of the Fort Smith School Board, Girls Shelter board, and a worker with the Salvation Army and Rotary Club. He was a career executive with the Boy Scouts of America.

REV. NORMAN HAROLD MCGILL HALL

Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church at 4503 Young Street has named its fellowship hall in memory of the church's late pastor, the Rev. Norman Harold McGill. Ceremonies dedicating a plaque and naming the hall were held Sunday, July 3, 1988.

REFLECTIONS OF FORT SMITH REPRINTED

By popular demand, *Reflections of Fort Smith*, a pictorial study of Fort Smith's historic homes, has been reprinted and is now available in the gift shop of the Clayton House and the Old Fort Museum. Written by Julia E. Yadon, Sue R. Cross and Randall R. Viguier, *Reflections of Fort Smith* was published in 1976.

WESTARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE SIXTY YEARS OLD

The 34 students in the charter class selected their studies from 12 scheduled courses when the doors of Fort Smith Junior College opened in the fall of 1928 in borrowed rooms at Fort Smith High School, then located at what is now Darby Junior High.

In contrast, today, as this college, now known as Westark Community College, celebrates its 60th anniversary, 4,000 students select studies from more than 250 credit courses each semester. In addition to these students, 5,000 area residents enroll in the hundreds of non-credit community and continuing education courses each year.

COOK, GOLDTRAP AND KREHBIEL RECIPIENTS OF WESTARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE AWARDS

Curtis Goldtrap, Sr., a member of the college board from 1952 until 1956, was awarded the first Outstanding Volunteer Service Award for his 31 years of continuous service to the college. Goldtrap became a member of the Westark board in 1957 and has been affiliated with the school as an advisory committee member, a board member, and as director of the Westark Foundation Board.

Two new additions to the Hall of Honor in the new Westark Library were also named. Elmer Cook, former college president, and Luella Krehbiel, former English and literature instructor, will be the third and fourth honorees to the hall. The first two honorees were Lucille Speakman, a former instructor and current board member, and T.L. Hunt, a board member and fundraiser for the college.

Cook was born in 1892 and held degrees from Baylor and Columbia universities. He was with the Fort Smith Junior College from its first day of operation and served the institution continuously for 30 years. He was dean of the college from 1952 until his retirement in 1958. His career as an educator spanned 46 years. During his eight years as president, enrollment at the college increased seven fold.

Krehbiel came to the college in its second year, 1929. She taught English and literature for 29 years before retiring in 1958. She held a master's degree from the University of Kansas.

Both Cook and Krehbiel are deceased.

Seven members of the first graduating class, 1928, were also honored. They were Nellie Mae Barrow Baird, Leona Marsh Harrington, Nellie Joyce Hecker, Mary Louise Trough Scurlock, Virginia Hawkins Young, Kenneth Brown and Ronald Leininger.

* * * * *

SCHOLARSHIP HONORS JIMMIE DELLE CALDWELL

Mrs. Blanche Caldwell has endowed a scholarship at Westark Community College with \$10,000 as a living memorial in honor of her daughter, Jimmie Delle, who died in 1987.

"Jimmie Delle loved her college and never forgot what it meant to her career and her life." Mrs. Caldwell said.

After attending Fort Smith Junior College in the 1940s, Jimmie Delle worked at Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for 40 years. She was well known for volunteer work with her church and many community organizations.

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VERNA SOIFER CREATIVE WRITING COLLECTION

Westark Community College has established the "Verna Soifer Creative Writing Collection" in the Westark Library in honor of the late Verna Soifer, a former columnist for the *Southwest Times Record*. The collection was made possible with the donation of \$500 from Floyd H. Davis of Fort Smith, longtime neighbor and friend of Mrs. Soifer, and Davis' daughter, Dorothy Stuck of Hot Springs.

* * * * *

JUSTAMITE CLUB VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Recipients of the 1988 annual Justamite Volunteer awards are Chester Baker, Mrs. H.P. Batson and James Vanardsdale. The Justamite Club, formed in 1926, honors people who have done outstanding work in the community. President Evelyn Kendrick presented the awards in a ceremony held at Howard Elementary School.

* * * * *

SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATORS FRONTIER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

1988 recipients of the Frontier Achievement Awards presented by the Fort Smith Social Studies Educators are Violet Isaacks, Carl Corley and Ruth Matthews.

Isaacks, local and honorary state regent of Daughters of the American Revolution, is chairwoman of the Fort Smith Civic Center Commission and is currently leading a drive to expand the U.S. National Cemetery in Fort Smith. She has served on the commission for the 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution and assisted in the United States bicentennial celebration in 1976.

She was instrumental in establishing the genealogy room at the Fort Smith Public Library, volunteering hundreds of hours, and has taught genealogy

classes at the library and Westark Community College. As a founding member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, Isaacks is a life member who has served on the society's board and contributed to its publication, *The Journal*, with research and articles. She has also been involved in the restoration of the Clayton House in the Belle Grove Historical District and other historical sites in the city.

Corley, president of Carco International and the Old Fort Museum Association, has contributed financially to the museum and has played an active part in revitalization efforts for downtown Fort Smith through his participation on Coalition for Downtown Development. He is one of the owners restoring the 200 Garrison property.

Matthews, manager of Old Town, a restored 15-unit apartment and business development in the downtown historic district, is trustee and assistant treasurer for the Darby Ranger Foundation, treasurer and member of the board of directors of the Fort Smith Heritage Foundation. A life member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, she is also a member of the Fort Smith Art Center, Old Fort Museum Association, Arkansas Historic Preservation Alliance, Arkansas Historical Association, South Sebastian County Historical Society, and Business and Professional Women's Club.

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HONORS STUDENTS RECOGNITION DINNER AND TEACHER AWARDS

Guests of honor at the 26th annual Honor Students Dinner hosted by the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce were over 100 highly motivated seniors from Northside, Southside, Metro Christian and Fort Smith Christian schools. These students are to be highly commended for the superior level of scholastic achievement that they have attained through dedicated personal effort and hard work.

Students who had maintained a straight A average during high school were: Brian Curtis, Shanna Palmer, Jill Brown and John Power, Southside High School; Merritt Crowe, Leigh Pryor and Sam Mackintosh, Northside High School; and Tami Brown, Metro Christian School.

The Chamber of Commerce annual Education Achievement awards were presented to Debbie Marley, a math instructor at Southside High School; Ralph Williams, principal of Fairview Elementary School; and Tom Oliver, a journalism teacher at Southside High School.

* * * * *

Brian Curtis, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Curtis, Jr. of Fort Smith, will attend Rhodes College this fall on one of the institution's most prestigious scholarships. The Southside High School graduate won a Hyde Scholarship worth \$54,500 over a four year period. Valedictorian of his Southside High School graduating class, he is a National Merit Scholarship winner and was one of two Arkansas students to be chosen

a 1988 Presidential Scholar. The 139 high school students nationwide who were chosen to be Presidential Scholars were feted in Washington, D.C., June 13 during a round of ceremonies and seminars that included a visit to the White House to receive their Presidential Scholar Medallions. Each student also received a \$1,000 award from a private foundation.

* * * * *

NSHS MATH TEAM FIRST IN STATE

Northside High School's math team was the first Fort Smith public school team to place first in the state on the annual American High School Mathematics Examination.

Northside's Jason Campbell, Steven Thomas and Sam Mackintosh were named the highest scoring team in the state from among schools submitting 80 or more qualified entries in the 1988 examinations.

Thomas and Mackintosh are seniors. Campbell is a sophomore.

Mackintosh, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Mackintosh, is a straight A student and a National Merit Scholarship winner. He will attend Hendrix College in Conway.

* * * * *

GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS

1988 recipients of the Fort Smith Classroom Teacher's Association Golden Apple Awards are Ernestine Howard, Rizetta Davis, Doris Kraus Williams, Rozanne McCormick and Becky Jernigan Kremers.

Williams was nominated by teachers for her role as the primary caregiver for their young children. A graduate of Baylor University with a degree in home economics, Williams has cared for children, mostly those of teachers, in her home for eleven years. She is active in her own children's scouting activities, has made uniforms for pep clubs and been the "maker of materials" used in her husband's classroom at Woods Elementary School where he (Paul) teaches, her nominator pointed out.

McCormick was nominated for her "tireless efforts in the classroom and the CTA." She has 21 years teaching experience, 13 of those at Barling Elementary School where she now teaches both fourth and fifth grades. She also is a member of Phi Delta Kappa.

Howard, who has been a teacher at Orr Elementary School for 14 years, has been an educator for 28 years. Since her first assignment in a two-room school in Bonanza, she "made everything from curtains to crate box furniture for her classroom" and received national recognition for teaching of economics in the classroom. She has her master's degree in elementary education from the University of Arkansas. She is a member of Arkansas Education Association, Parent-Teachers Association, Alpha Delta Kappa and Association of Childhood Education International.

Davis worked for 15 years as a teacher at the former Lincoln High School. She moved to Darby Junior High, where she teaches social studies, when

Lincoln closed in 1966. A native of Perry County, she received her bachelor's degree from what is now University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and her master's degree from U of A at Fayetteville. She and her husband, Fred, Jr., have three children. Two are teachers and one is in communications.

Kremers, the 1988 Christa McAuliffe Award recipient, has been very active in the classroom as well as the Classroom Teachers Association where she is now serving a second term as president. A graduate of Hendrix College, she has taught eleven years at Sutton Elementary School. As president of the CTA, she was instrumental in establishing the annual educational fair at Central Mall. She has also been recognized as the Jaycees 1988 young educator of the year for her outstanding economics education program.

Larry Kennedy also was presented with a plaque for his service as president of the CTA from 1984-86.

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SERVICE TO MANKIND AWARD

For his community leadership through Whirlpool, Westark Community College and various other community affiliations, "Sandy" Sanders, manager of community and government relations at Whirlpool Corp., was chosen to receive the 1988 Downtown Sertoma Club's "Service to Mankind" award on March 18, 1988.

* * * * *

COLLEY RECEIVES NATIONAL DAR AWARD

Chad Colley of Barling was honored in Washington, D.C. on April 9, 1988, by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution which presented him the Outstanding Veteran-Patient Award. He gained the national title for his "ability to overcome his handicap and continue to contribute to humanity."

Wounds during the Vietnam War required the amputation of his left arm and both legs at a military hospital in Vietnam.

Through Veteran Administration rehabilitation, Colley learned to use an arm prosthesis. He is mobile with the use of a one-arm wheelchair and drives a specially adapted vehicle. He gives a lot of credit for his rehabilitation to his wife, who is a professional physical therapist.

He is the owner of Colley Home Center, Inc. and is past national commander of the Disabled American Veterans and was responsible for the National DAV donating \$1 million to the reconstruction of the Statue of Liberty. He has traveled extensively speaking on behalf of the needs, rights and abilities of all handicapped people.

For recreation, Colley is a champion sit-skier, having mastered some of the most challenging slopes in America and Europe.

Colley, nominated by the Fort Smith Chapter DAR, was chosen for the national award after being selected on the local, state and district levels.

In 1978, he received the Medal of Honor from the Fort Smith Chapter DAR, which is the highest medal awarded by the group.

Genealogy

Arkansas History Commission Telephone Numbers

General Office/Archives Section	682-6900
Research Room	682-6897
Microfilming Section	682-6898
Records Management	682-6903
Conservation Lab	682-6905

CLARK COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The Clark County (Arkansas) Historical Association has resumed publication of *The Clark County Historical Journal*. The editors and contributors are to be congratulated for their work. The issue published in 1988 is 196 pages of interesting and informative articles on old Clark County, civil war documents and family histories. It also includes inquiries, a list of topics of past issues, place index and name index.

\$7.00 membership dues entitle a member to one copy of all publications of the association during the year (January 1-December 31). Mailing address: Treasurer, CCHA, P.O. Box 516, Arkadelphia, AR 71923.

DID YOU KNOW?

Until 1922, married females automatically became citizens when their husbands did. Therefore, no naturalization papers will be found on file for them.

In Scotland, Women's Lib is nothing new. Women keep their maiden name legally and that is the way it appears on all documents.

(Copied from *Ancestors Unlimited*, Southwest Nebraska Genealogical Society, McCook, NE.)

KIN HUNTERS

We have received a copy of *Kin Hunters*, a genealogical publication published quarterly which covers primarily Logan, Todd, Simpson, Butler, Warren and Mecklenberg Counties, Kentucky, with items of interest for surrounding counties published as space permits. The August 1987 issue includes information

taken from the Logan County Deed Book which is not indexed and seldom checked by most researchers, Logan County cemetery records and Logan County Post Offices, plus queries and reviews of books of genealogical records and family history books. Complete volume will be indexed in last issue at end of year. Price (4 issues plus index): \$14.00 or \$4.00 per issue. Queries are free for subscribers and \$2.00 each for non-subscribers. *Kin Hunters*, c/o Montgomery Vanderpool, P.O. Box 151, Russellville, KY 42276-0151.

NOTICE OF FAMILY PUBLICATIONS

We have not seen copies of these publications, so cannot review them for you. Please contact editor of publications for more information:

The Chew Family, published quarterly, \$15.00. Free unlimited query. Frances Brengle, editor. 6619 Pheasant Road, Baltimore, MD 21220.

Brengle Branches, covers all branches of Brengle/Bringle/Pringle surnames and allied lineages. Charles Brengle, editor. 6619 Pheasant Road, Baltimore, MD 21220.

Ely Heritage, published quarterly. \$15.00. Unlimited free queries. Theresa Ryan, editor. 501 North Paradise Road, Aberdeen, MD 21001.

THE SQUIRE SIMMONS FAMILY, 1746-1986

By Dorothy Geneva Simmons Skelton. Combines history from Colonial Virginia to contemporary America with genealogy. Printed by Bailey Printing, Inc., Charlottesville, Virginia. 985 pages, 8½x11, hard cover, expandable binder. Illustrated. Every name index. Price \$68.00 postpaid. Order from Dorothy G.S. Skelton, Lotos Lakes, Brightwood, VA 22715. Telephone 703-547-2140.

JOURNAL OF CONFEDERATE HISTORY

Published quarterly, \$12.00 per year. *Journal of Confederate History*, Box 2071 Lakeway Station, Paris, Tennessee 38242.

Inquiries

PRAIRIE GROVE CAMPAIGN: I am writing a book on the Prairie Grove Campaign 1862 and am searching for letters, diaries or other original documents that pertain to Arkansas military units which participated in this campaign. Michel E. Banasik, 12 South Spanish Trail, St. Peters, MO 63376.

MORELEDGE-GRANT: Need information regarding Clarence Grant Moreledge, also known as Clarence Moreledge Grant, photographer, believed to have operated the Southern Photograph Company in Fort Smith about 1895-1900. John E. Carter, Curator of Photographs, Nebraska State Historical Society, 1500 R Street, Box 82554, Lincoln, NE 68501. Phone 402-471-3270.

PUTNAM-RICHARDSON: Need information on Samuel Putnam and Edmond Morris Richardson families of Fort Smith and Charleston, Arkansas. Samuel

Putnam settled in Fort Smith in 1817. Laurence Phelps Forby, Jr., 604 Smith Avenue, Richland, WA 99352.

SMOOT-CROSS: Would like to contact descendants of Mrs. George W. Cross, daughter of Richard M. Smoot. She and her husband lived (in 1906) at 215 Lexington Avenue, Fort Smith. Terry Alford, Ph.D., Professor of History, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003.

JARRETT: Do you know of a Jarrett newsletter, or can you help get one started? Helen Jarrett Stanford, 63850 Chapel Hill Road, Belmont, Ohio 43718. (Editor's note: With this inquiry, Ms. Stanford sent 19 pages of family records, well researched material. If interested, write directly to her. This material sent by Ms. Stanford will be placed in the family history files of the Fort Smith Public Library.)

1888 Newspapers

FORT SMITH ELEVATOR

June 15, 1888 - December 21, 1888

Excerpted from microfilm at the Fort Smith Public Library by Mary Lou Jacobsen, Anna Greve and Don Marquette. Typed by Pat Birkett.

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June 15, 1888

SEBASTIAN COUNTY AS SEEN BY A CAPITAL CONTEMPORARY "ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT"

Sebastian County has sent this report of resources, which shows that from 6,000 to 7,000 immigrants have located in that county this past year. This is one of the most complete reports yet received by Secretary Remmel. Church property in Fort Smith is valued at \$110,000 and the city has a special fund in land and money of \$500,000. Improved lands in Sebastian County sell for five to forty dollars per acre; unimproved, one dollar and twenty cents to ten dollars per acre. The county has splendid transportation facilities — railroads radiating in every direction and the Arkansas River to fall back on in case the railroads should become exorbitant in their freight charges. There certainly is a bright future for the border city and county, and the entire state will rejoice at the upbuilding and development of this magnificent county.

— • —

The butchers of Fort Smith are preparing to hold a barbecue and picnic at the Schuetzen Park on June 21st. In addition to meat barbecued in the old fashioned way they will have a full supply of other edibles gotten up in the best shape, and the night will wind up the affair with a dance. They will have a jolly time if the weather permits.

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June 22, 1888

For the benefit of Fort Smith property owners who live outside of the city we mention that the time for paying the sewer tax expired on the 14 inst. Those who neglected to pay before that time are liable to action for the legal penalties and costs incident to such delinquencies.

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DEATH OF MRS. SURRATT

Mrs. Isabel A. Surratt died at her home in this city, corner Byrne and Sullivan Streets, Tuesday night at 11:55 p.m. Her age was 30 years. She was the wife of Capt. Henry Surratt, and had many friends and acquaintances. Her funeral took place from her late residence Wednesday evening at 3 p.m. In addition to her husband, she leaves a large family of children, several of them quite small.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

June 29, 1888

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC TICKET

For President

Grover Cleveland of New York

For Vice President

Allen G. Thurman of Ohio

— • —

THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION

After a desperate struggle of a week, the republican convention succeeded in nominating Benjamin H. Harrison, of Indiana, for president and Levi P. Morton, of New York, for vice president. The nomination of Harrison was brought about by a combination of the Blaine forces against John Sherman. Harrison's prestige lies in the fact that his grandfather was elected President of the United States in 1840. During the war he was a soldier in the federal army, entering service as a Captain of a company, and retiring with the rank of brigadier-general. Since the war he has figured more or less prominently in politics, more on account of being the grandson of William Henry Harrison than anything else. In 1876 he was elected by the Indiana legislature to the United States Senate. While there he did nothing to greatly distinguish himself. He was simply a party man, voting on all party questions with the promptness of the regular machine politician. While in the senate he voted against the measure restraining Chinese emigration, and this matter will probably lose him the entire vote of the Pacific slope.

The nomination for vice president is weaker, if anything, than that of the president. Morton has been a member of congress, was once minister to France, and represented the United States in the international fishing exhibition in Berlin. He was nominated principally because of his wealth. Taken altogether the ticket is a weak one and will surely be beaten.

— • —

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC

The Baptist Sunday school will give a grand picnic at the Hackett Grove north of the old cemetery on July 5th and we are authorized to invite all Sunday schools, Masonic, Odd Fellows, Knights of Honor, Knights of Labor and all other lodges in the county to visit us and take part. And all such lodges as are disposed to come in a body in uniform are cordially invited to take part in a procession. We desire to welcome everybody and make it a day to remember. Speeches will be made by prominent speakers...

Committee of Arrangements

P.S. Lodges intending to visit us as a body and take part in the procession will please notify J.T. Upchurch, chairman committee.

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A BOOMING TOWN

One year ago Monday, the 17th last - Capt. Manuel Fellows felled the first tree in Huntington, which was then a wilderness with scarcely any human habitation. Today we are a little city of 1500 people, moving onward and upward with a stride unparalleled by the history of any Arkansas town whose age is no greater. Another year will mark a change scarcely to be credited when street railways, electric light plants, gas and water works will flourish as did the monarchs of the forest one year ago. Many and wonderful will be the changes another year will bring forth.

— • —

KILLED BY HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW

Capt. W.A. Ford of Doaksville, Choctaw nation, was killed on Friday last seven miles from Doaksville by his brother-in-law, Will Luther. Ford was sitting in Luther's house talking with Mrs. Luther, when her husband came home and with very little ceremony proceeded to shoot him to death. Both are white men but citizens of the nation by marriage, their wives being sisters. Ford was under indictment in the Federal court here for the recent killing of H.E. Peeler, and Luther was a witness in the case. The evidence indicated that Ford had acted in self-defense, hence was allowed a bond, which he readily filed. He spent some days here last month. Luther has not been arrested at this writing but probably will be very soon.

— • —

Although the recent heavy rains have interfered to some extent with proper working on the crops, farmers report no serious injury so far.

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August Reichert is now in his building on 5th Street near Garrison Avenue where he is better prepared than ever to serve his patrons with galvanized iron cornice, tin roofing, etc.

— • —

Take Schaaps "Shake No More" for chills and fever.

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SLUGGING MATCH

The glove contest that took place at the Turf Saloon Saturday night between Jack Boe and Jas. Derby was largely attended by lovers of the manly art. The contest is spoken of by those present as highly exciting. Slugging was lively until the ninth round, when Boe was disabled by spraining his wrist and Derby was declared the winner.

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THE FIRST COTTON BLOOM

Last Friday the *Elevator* was the recipient of the first cotton bloom of the season. It came from the farm of Capt. Jim Bourland, old Poteau bottoms, about a mile above this city. It blossomed on Wednesday, the 20th. Mr. J.T. Yates brought it in.

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The commissioner of the general land office has completed an official tabulated statement showing that the total amount of lands actually returned to the public domain and opened to entry and settlement since March 4, 1884, when Grover Cleveland was inaugurated president, is 80,690,720 acres. This land was illegally held by corporations, syndicates, alien companies, and cattle kings. The total area of the states of New York and Pennsylvania is 80,406,400 acres so that this recovered land exceeds the two greatest states in the Union, with their 11,000,000 population.

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July 6, 1888

DEATH OF MR. J. STARR DUNHAM

Mr. J. Starr Dunham died at his home in Van Buren on the night of the 27th inst. aged 30 years and 6 days. Starr had a bright genial disposition and had many friends in the city. He was the only son of Col. J.S. Dunham, and at the time of his death was manager of the Van Buren Press, during the absence of his father at Washington City. We regret to announce his demise.

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THE FOURTH

A GRAND CELEBRATION AT THE PARK AND DAZZLING PARADE

The one hundred and twelfth anniversary of the independence of the United States was celebrated here in grand style under the auspices of the German Club assisted by the fire department. The parade through the streets of the City was a feature of the occasion. Chief of Police Weyman and Mr. Vaelter led the van, the Fort Smith band coming next, this being followed by the fire companies with hook and ladder wagon and hose reels handsomely decorated. These were followed by carriages, one containing Mayor Williams and Mr. Geo. Sengle, the latter having been selected to read the Declaration of Independence, and the crack shots of the gun club, F.W. Boas, Con. Triesch, Toney Euper and Joe Gramlich, the procession being brought up by the German Club on foot.

Thousands of people visited the park during the day, music and dancing, being in order. Refreshments of all kinds were to be had. At night there was a grand display of fireworks witnessed by at least 2,000 people. Dancing was kept up until a late hour. Nothing occurred during the entire day to mar the pleasures of those present, and the general verdict is that the celebration was a success in every respect, for which those in charge deserve much credit.

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Misses Ida and Carrie Ayers returned Sunday from College in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

— • —

Teachers in the Fort Smith District wishing an examination for certificate will find me for the next ten days in the law office of Martin and McDonough.

W.L. Edminton, Acting Co. Examiner

— • —

UP-TOWN GROCERY HOUSE

John H. Maledon, proprietor

Fresh family Groceries and Country Produce at all times.

Flour and Meats a specialty.

Flour in all quantities from the cheapest grinds to Royal Patent.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

July 13, 1888

Charleston Vindicator: The first diploma that was ever issued by the Charleston High School was placed in the hands of John D. Arbuckle last Friday evening.

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The Alma Democrat announces the death of the spotted child of Ike and Dixie Hallowell, which attracted so much attention in various parts of the country last season.

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We are authorized to announce Hon. John H. Rogers as a candidate for re-election to Congress from the Fourth Congressional District of Arkansas subject to the action of the Democratic Congressional Convention.

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PHILLIPS AND WHITSON

HOW THE MARSHAL AND HIS BRAVE
YOUNG POSSE WERE MURDERED.

A DESPERADO WHO HAS HIS COFFIN AND
BURIAL ROBES READY.

Deputy Marshals Cabell and Barling returned on Monday from the scene of the murder of Deputy Marshal John Phillips and his posse, William Whitson, which occurred on the 30th of last month, twenty-five miles from Eufaula. They brought with them the effects of the dead officer and the following prisoners: Oscar Rally, larceny; Sharpin Grayson, One Deer Read and William Sollie, introducing and selling whiskey in the Indian Country. From Major Cabell we obtained the following particulars of the tragedy in which Phillips and Whitson lost their lives.

A green corn dance was being held about fifteen miles from the camp of Phillips and the officer and his posse went after night in the hope of capturing Dan Thompson and Peter Greenleaf, who had escaped from him, not knowing of the presence thereof of Saint Lopka and the Barnetts, though he had writs in his possession for the arrest of Wesley Barnett, Cudge Barnett, Thomas Barnett and one cousin all charged with introducing and selling whiskey in the Indian Country. They were all there, however, and were soon aware of the Marshal's presence. Phillips tied his horse to a tree a short distance off the road and took a stand about one hundred and fifty yards from the dance, close to where a path intersected the road leading from a spring. Whitson took a stand on the opposite side of the road, a few steps nearer the dance ground. About 9 o'clock two men came down a trail going in the direction of the spring, and turned up the road leading to the house of John Tiger, about 200 yards distant. Phillips halted them after they passed him and asked who they were. They stopped and asked

him the same question. These two men were Saint Lopka and Wesley Barnett. About this time Watie Barnett came down the path in Phillips' rear, and without a word shot Phillips in the back of the head, killing him almost instantly. Whitson then opened fire on Watie Barnett, which was returned by Watie, Saint Lopka and Wesley Barnett, though Whitson seems to have directed his fire altogether at Watie, whom he killed and was himself shot down, falling where he stood. Watie Barnett fell near Phillips and before he died threw the empty cartridge hulls from his pistol and reloaded five chambers. After the fight was over the horse of Phillips snorted or made some noise that attracted the attention of the outlaws, and Wesley Barnett fired in the direction killing the animal.

— • —

THE BRIDGE MATTER

MEETING OF THE CITIZENS

TO DISCUSS MR. GOULD'S PROPOSITION

On the night of the 5th a large number of citizens, many of whom had subscribed to the fund to be donated to the Missouri Pacific Railroad on condition of the erection of a bridge across the Arkansas at this point, met at the Grand Opera House. Col. Duval presided at the meeting, and Mr. Geo. Sengel acted as secretary. Col. Wm. A. Cravens made a report of what had been done by the Citizens Committee last summer, and then submitted the following proposition from Henry Wood, representing the Missouri Railroad Company:

The citizens to give us the proceeds of the amount now paid to the Citizens Committee which was in deposit for condemnation or in purchase of land and right of way — a list of which is annexed — provided we begin within six months from the 1st of July the construction of the Gurdon Line and bridge over the Arkansas River and to convey to us the city lots south of Garrison Avenue, Lots 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 and 12, block 500, and fractional block 510. We to build a first class depot at once, and release the Citizen's Committee from any further liability on bonds, and give bond that we will repay the \$25,000 or the amount indicated above unless we begin construction of the Gurdon Line and bridge within one year from the 1st of July, 1888.

John Smith, Treasurer of the Committee, read the report setting forth the status of the subscriptions to date. The reading of the report was followed by a free discussion of the whole matter, including the terms of the original proposition by the company.

There was great diversity of opinion among those present, as to the proper manner in which to meet the proposition. Some looked on it as little less than an insult, while others, more reasonable, were willing to grant the company the benefit of what doubts arose as to the genuineness of the excuses they offered for their dilatory action. Mr. Geo. Sengel offered the following resolution:

We hereby agree to donate the amount as formally subscribed to the railroad provided the railroad company will also give us a bond for \$100,000 that the railroad company will commence the railroad,

wagon and foot bridge within the next six months and complete the same within one year from date thereafter.

This resolution occasioned much discussion, which was closed by an adjournment subject to the call of the Committee.

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July 20, 1888

The *Clarksville Herald Journal* has begun the publication of a daily edition.

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Waldron offers \$10,000 and ground for a depot for the extension of the Mansfield branch of the Frisco.

— • —

Mrs. Aron of Independence County celebrated her 102nd birthday last week. The direct descendants of the venerable lady number 496.

— • —

There will be a national conference of colored voters at Indianapolis, Indiana on the 25th of July. This conference has been called by some of the most prominent colored men in the United States. The object is to discuss the relationship of the colored voter to the two great parties and set on foot a monument by which he may become a more independent factor than at present.

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The fact that Judge Rogers can remain at Washington and carry his district without any special effort is proof that the people are pretty well satisfied with his work as representative.

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July 27, 1888

"REUNION OF EX-CONF. VETERANS"

Mr. Charles Sengel of this city is in receipt of a letter from Gen. W.L. Cabell requesting him to give notice of the grand reunion of ex-confederate soldiers to be held on the 16th, 17th and 18th days of August. Ample preparations will be made to accommodate all who may attend, and an invitation is extended to all soldiers from other states than Texas, both ex-Confederates and ex-Federal, to be present. Old Tige expressed a wish that as many as possible of the old Arkansas veterans will be on hand.

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August 3, 1888

Mr. Geo W. Austin, editor of the *Altus Advance*, was in this city Saturday looking up the interests of his paper.

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The body of the man found in the river near Hayes Ferry last week has been identified as that of John Evans who was drowned while working on a raft of logs near Fort Coffee, some distance above Fort Smith.

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August 10, 1888

THE GENTLER SEX

A woman has arrived at Long Beach with 128 dresses.

The women of Rhode Island pay taxes on \$70,000.00.

Sarah W. Trabwe of Illinois invented a bailing press for hay.

Sarah E. Towcey, of New York, is the inventor of a grape seed extractor.

Concord, Mass. boasts a female livery stable keeper who supplies carriages for weddings, funerals, and excursions. She also lets out barges for river parties.

The great object in the life of a Moorish lady is to get fat. The more flesh she gets the better she is placed, as the Algerians as a rule value beauty by weight.

— • —

The contract for the Ft. Smith, Paris and Dardanelle line has been let for the Gurdon Branch of the Missouri Pacific. This means the building of the bridge over the Arkansas River here at an early date.

— • —

SHERIDAN DEAD

Gen. Phillip Henry Sheridan, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Army, died on Sunday night last at Nonquitt, Mass. A heart trouble of long standing being the immediate cause of his death. Gen. Sheridan was born at Sommerset, Ohio March 6, 1831 and graduated at West Point in 1853, since which time he has served almost constantly, filling nearly every rank from Lieutenant up. His war record is well known to every intelligent newspaper reader in the Union, and prior to the war his military career was of the most exemplary character. In his death our country loses one of its brightest military lights, and the American Army a worthy Commander. He will be buried tomorrow on Arlington Heights.

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August 17, 1888

STATE NEWS

The Helena street railway is now in operation.

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The twenty-seventh anniversary of the battle of Oak Hills was celebrated last Friday at Little Rock.

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"Old Dick", the oldest horse in the Little Rock Fire Department, died last week. His head and neck will be prepared by a taxidermist for preservation.

— • —

U.S. COURT PROCEEDINGS

Mrs. Alvirado Tucker, George Hulans, and Spencer Cowl were tried Wednesday on a charge of conspiracy, the jury convicting them from the box, and all were sent to prison to await sentence. Mrs. Tucker was on bond up to the time of her convictions. Mrs. Tucker, it will be remembered, purchased half a dozen fine saw blades which she endeavored to have smuggled into the jail to her husband, who was confined on a charge of larceny, and was assisted in the attempt by Hulans and Cowl.

— • —

Leo Dixon, the man implicated in the murder of Deputy Marshal Frank Dalton, has been very ill in jail for some days and his recovery doubtful.

Robert L. Murray, of Colbert, was on Wednesday commissioned a Deputy United States Marshal. Bob has much experience and will make a good officer.

Col. Ben T. Duval and wife are at Saratoga, where they will remain until about the 1st of Sept.

Robert L. Owens, United States Indian Agent, spent two days in the city this week.

Harry Keck, who has been very ill at his room in this city for several weeks, was able to go to Eureka Springs Tuesday where we hope he will soon regain his wanted vigor.

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August 24, 1888

Wm. S. Williams, son of I. Pink Williams of Johnson County, has been appointed by Congressman Rodgers as cadet to the Naval Academy at Annapolis.

Gov. McKinney, of the Choctaw Nation, is recovering from a serious illness.

GONE OVER THE ROAD

On Saturday last, Deputy Marshal John Carroll delivered the following convicts at the Arkansas penitentiary: Bill Tucker, larceny, eleven years; Fred Seigentealas, Wm. Brown, John Springer, larceny, three years each; George Hulme, conspiracy, one year; Mrs. Alvirado Tucker, conspiracy, one year; Wm. Louis, assault, one year; James Lucky, Lige Landon, Josh Barnett, John Mackey, Henry Jacobs, John Gee, Lee Isaacs, larceny, one year each.

The City Council, at its last meeting, revealed the ordinance imposing a tax on real estate agents.

Mr. William Gunter last Wednesday brought to the *Elevator's* office a potato weighing two pounds and five ounces. We challenge even the far-farmed prairies of Kansas and Iowa to beat it.

Wednesday Mr. Joe Teel brought to the *Elevator* office the first new cotton of the season. It was grown on the W.W. Wheeler place in the Cherokee Nation about three miles above Fort Smith, and was ginned Tuesday. Mr. Teel reports the crop good and prospects generally very flattering.

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August 31, 1888

STATE NEWS

An effort is being made to establish another bank at Pine Bluff with a capital of \$100,000.

The *Columbia Banner* is authority for the statement that in Magnolia there are now 25 widows,

9 widowers, 1 old bachelor, 65 marriageable young ladies and 43 marriageable young men.

A locomotive and one or two cars were thrown from the track of the narrow gauge road between Hot Springs and Malvern last week. The train was derailed for several hours but no serious damage was done.

The people of Arkansas will be called upon Monday to vote upon a proposition to hold a convention to frame a new constitution. This is in accordance with an act passed at the last session of the legislature. The question to consider is do we need a new constitution at present? Doubtless there are points in our present organic law which admits of change, but are these points of sufficient importance to warrant an entire change of the instrument?

THE NEW HOTEL MAIN

Now Under the Management of A. Walker, Jr. & Co.

A local business transaction occurred here last week that is of more importance to the city than a casual observer would suppose, it being a deal by which A. Walker, Jr. & Co., who has been conducting the McKibben Hotel, became proprietors of the Hotel Main, which is acknowledged to be one of the finest and best arranged hotel buildings in the state, except the Crescent at Eureka Springs. The growing popularity of Mr. Walker as a hotel manager rendered the McKibben too small to accommodate his increasing custom, which necessitated the securing of a more commodious building by the company, hence transaction of which we now write. It is a pleasure to note that this magnificent hotel building, erected at a cost of over \$100,000 by Dr. J.H.T. Main, has at last fallen into the hands of men who know how to keep hotel right, and are enabled by experience to bring it up to that standard it properly deserves.

The people of Dardanelle, Paris, and all points along the line of the Fort Smith, Paris and Dardanelle railroad are in ecstasies over the fact that work has been commenced on the road and that everything bids fair for its early completion. This road will open up one of the fairest portions of Arkansas, and give to its people a boom they never dreamed of.

Mr. Zack Wells, Editor of the *Van Buren Graphic*, was in the city Wed.

Hon. B.B. Chism, democratic candidate for Secretary of State, was in the city Saturday.

Charley Fry and Charley Starr were among the visitors from the Cherokee Nation the first of the week.

Mr. E.E. Goddard, well known in this city as an oil prospector and well driver, left Saturday for Little Rock, where he will remain several months.

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September 7, 1888

STATE NEWS

The Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Industrial University have elected Prof. R.H. Murfee President of that institution, a position he has filled since last winter.

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Arkansas has eleven counties named for Presidents of the United States; nine for Governors of the state; seven for streams and localities; one Indian and forty-seven for distinguished men — *Brinkley Argus*.

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Mr. Tom Foster of Paris, Texas, brother of Mr. Josiah Foster of this city, is here visiting. He expresses great astonishment at the wonderful improvement in Fort Smith during the past three or four years.

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Rev. W.H. Bradley, who has filled the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church of this city for several months past, left Monday for the East where he will continue his collegiate course.

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September 14, 1888

The theory is held by Professor Mendeleof of Russia, that petroleum is produced by water, which penetrates the earth's crust and comes in contact with growing carbides of metals, especially of iron.

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The speed of passenger trains has shown steady improvement from year to year. In the month of June in our Continental year, 1876, a train ran from New York to San Francisco, a distance of 3,317 miles in 84 hours and 27 min. actual time, that is averaging about 40 miles per hour.

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S.W. Adams has retired from the *Clarksville Herald Journal* to take a position on one of the Pine Bluff papers.

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September 21, 1888

Arrangements are being made to hold a reunion of those who wore the blue and those who wore the grey, on the Prairie Grove battleground in Benton County, at an early day.

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It is reported that several attempts have been made recently to assassinate Gov. Guy of the Chickasaw Nation, and the governor is kept constantly on the lookout.

— • —

Mr. Wm. F. Bradley of Dallas, Texas and Miss Nora Scott of this city were married at the residence of Rev. Lawrence Smythe on the 11th inst. Mr. Bradley has become favorably known to many of our citizens through his frequent visits to this city. The bride is a sister of Mrs. B.T. DuVal. She was reared in Fort

Smith and has a large circle of acquaintances. The *Elevator* extends good wishes to all.

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September 28, 1888

About one-third of the counties of the state went "dry" at the last election.

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While attending the fair at Fort Smith, call at Klein & Fink's, the old reliable watchmakers and jewelers and examine their new goods. Everything they sell is warranted as represented.

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October 5, 1888

A charter for the Kansas City, Fort Smith and Southern Railway was filed in the office of Secretary of State last week.

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October 12, 1888

James Oldham, 60 years of age, fell into a well last week and broke one of his legs. As his fall was 40 feet it is feared his injury will prove fatal.

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October 19, 1888

Senator J.K. Jones has returned to Arkansas and is putting in some sledge hammer blows for the democracy.

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October 26, 1888

FOR FOREIGN EXHIBITION

Major S.H. Nowlin, State Statistician of the U.S. Agriculture Department at Washington for Arkansas, has received instructions to collect a full line of cereals and grasses habitat of the state, for exhibition at Paris, France's World's Exhibition, 1889.

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The family of Mr. M.W. Burke arrived last Saturday from Corinth, Miss. and will make Fort Smith their future home. Mr. Burke has taken an interest in the Ketchum Iron Co. and is in charge of that flourishing establishment.

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November 2, 1888

BAER MEMORIAL TEMPLE

On Monday evening last, the ceremony of laying the cornerstone of the Baer Memorial Masonic Temple, corner of 6th and Sycamore Streets, took place under the auspices of the Masonic Fraternity of this city in the presence of a large number of citizens. The following were deposited in the stone:

Act of the Arkansas Legislature for 1887; proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 1887; list of the officers and members of Jacques De Molay Commandry; historical account of the building of the temple; report of Fort Smith School District for 1887; hand book of Fort Smith with portraits of many prominent citizens, etc.; cards of the three banks of the city and the architect of the Temple, Mr. Byrum; Fort Smith daily and weekly *Journal* and weekly *Elevator*.

The building will be three stories and will cost, when completed, \$17,000. The heirs of the late B. Baer donated \$10,000; Dr. J.H.T. Main \$1,000; Logan H. Roots \$500; First National Bank \$500; and \$2,000 was subscribed by the members of Belle Point Lodge, this city.

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November 9, 1888

Work was commenced on the Little Rock end of the Memphis, Little Rock and Indian Territory Railroad last week.

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Articles were filed Monday at the office of the Secretary of State for the incorporaton of the Bank of Fayetteville.

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C.G. McDaniel of Prairie County, last week killed a bear that weighed 1,700 pounds and yielded 40 gallons of oil.

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Saturday morning at 3 o'clock quite a perceptible earthquake shock was felt at Memphis. People asleep in the upper stories of buildings were considerably alarmed — its duration lasted only a few seconds.

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The home of Mr. & Mrs. Speer was gladdened by the appearance of a daughter on the 1st inst.

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Col. Wm. M. Fishback returned home Sunday from his campaigning tour in the eastern part of the state.

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Col. J.P. Falconer came up from Charleston Saturday night in charge of the party guarding J.D. Bolling, the slayer of Capt. Park.

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November 16, 1888

Hon J.J. Warren, editor of the *Van Buren Graphic*, died last week.

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A brakeman on the Valley Route by the name of Lopp, was knocked from the cars by a bridge near Russellville Saturday and killed.

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NEW SALOON

The William Taylor saloon at No. 807 Garrison Ave. has recently been refitted and under the management of Mr. Jack Hayes and is becoming quite a popular resort. Jack has put in a stock of fine liquors, cigars, etc. and extends an invitation to all his friends to give him a call.

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November 23, 1888

Mrs. Jane Brodie, wife of John Brodie, died last week, aged 44 years.

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The *Citizen* says that specimens of ore, taken from the farm of J.C. Eooley, in Scott County, yield at the rate of \$18.50 gold, \$8 silver and \$6.50 lead per ton. The assay was made in St. Louis.

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Mr. Franklin Blair got in Monday from Kansas and the Indian Territory. Miss Bertha Fishback entertained a large number of friends Wednesday evening.

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Mrs. Whitlow and family of Fayetteville are in the city visiting Mr. & Mrs. C.A. Birnie.

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Mr. & Mrs. C.W. Prince celebrated the 25th anniversary of their wedding last evening by entertaining a large number of invited guests in their home.

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November 30, 1888

Loyd Sackville West departed for Europe last Friday.

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Mr. W.G. Stamps and Miss Lottie Goldsmith were married on the 25th inst. near Kully Cloha.

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December 7, 1888

It has been suggested that Capt. John S. Hammer would not ungracefully fit the U.S. Marshal's office of the Western District of Arkansas. It is not known, however, that he will be a candidate for the position.

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Judge J.B. Ogden of Van Buren slipped and fell in his yard one day last week and fractured one of his legs badly.

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December 14, 1888

A son of Jesse James is an office boy for a son of Gov. Crittenden in Kansas City.

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Hon. L.P. Featherstone, late candidate for Congress from First District, states that he will contest the election of W.H. Cate.

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The families of Messrs. Williamson of the firm of Williamson, Doyle & Co. are recent arrivals from Holly Springs, Miss. They will occupy a portion of Col. John Carroll's large three-story building on Fitzgerald Street.

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December 21, 1888

Judge Rogers, of this (the Fourth) district, is making an attempt to remove the red tape that binds up and hampers the emoluments of the U.S. Marshals and their deputies. His move is a righteous one and will meet the approbation of the people, without regard to party.

— • —

Mr. James Fleming, formerly of this city but now of Pierce City, Mo., was in the city during the week visiting old friends.

Contents of Past Issues

Limited quantities of past issues of **The Journal** are available at \$5.00 per copy at the Fort Smith Public Library.
Copies may be ordered by mail from: **The Fort Smith Historical Society, 61 South 8th Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901.**
For mail orders: Order by Volume and Issue Number, include your complete mailing address and \$5.00 plus 75¢ mailing charges per copy.

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Sequicentennial News
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