

Chapter 1 : Cemetery " White Oaks New Mexico Goldrush

Morris B Parker is the author of White Oaks (avg rating, 3 ratings, 0 reviews, published).

Dick Brewer , c. The three men had wielded an economic and political hold over Lincoln County since the early s, due in part to their ownership of a beef contract with nearby Fort Stanton and a well-patronized dry goods store in Lincoln. Tunstall put Bonney in charge of nine prime horses and told him to relocate them to his ranch for safekeeping. During the encounter, one member of the posse shot Tunstall in the chest, knocking him off his horse. Baker and Morton were killed while trying to escape. Hindman , were killed. Battle of Lincoln On the night of Sunday, July 14, McSween and the Regulators"now a group of fifty or sixty men"went to Lincoln and stationed themselves in the town among several buildings. Another group led by Marin Chavez and Doc Scurlock positioned themselves on the roof of a saloon. Peppin then sent a request for assistance to Colonel Nathan Dudley , commandant of nearby Fort Stanton. In a reply to Peppin, Dudley refused to intervene but later arrived in Lincoln with troops, turning the battle in favor of the Murphy-Dolan faction. Bonney and the other men fled the building when all rooms but one were burning. Beckwith, who was then shot and killed by Bonney. All four were indicted for the murder, despite conflicting evidence that Bernstein had been killed by Constable Atanacio Martinez. Antrim, alias Kid, alias Bonny [sic]" but was unable to execute them "owing to the disturbed condition of affairs in that county, resulting from the acts of a desperate class of men". It specifically excluded persons who had been convicted of or indicted for a crime, and therefore excluded Bonney. According to eyewitnesses, the pair were innocent bystanders forced at gunpoint by Jesse Evans to witness the murder. On March 15, Governor Wallace replied, agreeing to a secret meeting to discuss the situation. Bonney met with Wallace in Lincoln on March 17, During the meeting and in subsequent correspondence, Wallace promised Bonney protection from his enemies and clemency if he would offer his testimony to a grand jury. Bonney escaped from the Lincoln County jail on June 17, The origin of the difficulty was not learned. He walked up to Grant, told him he admired his revolver, and asked to examine it. Grant handed it over. Before returning the pistol, which Bonney noticed contained only three cartridges, he positioned the cylinder so the next hammer fall would land on an empty chamber. When it failed to fire, Bonney drew his own weapon and shot Grant in the head. A reporter for the Las Vegas Optic quoted Bonney as saying the encounter "was a game of two and I got there first". Carlyle offered to exchange places with Greathouse, and Bonney accepted the offer. Carlyle later attempted to escape by jumping through a window but he was shot three times and killed. The shoot-out ended in a standoff; the posse withdrew and Bonney, Rudabaugh, and Wilson rode away. Unknown to Bonney and his companions, a posse led by Pat Garrett was waiting for them. When they arrived on December 26, they were met by crowds of curious onlookers. The following day, an armed mob gathered at the train depot before the prisoners, who were already on board the train with Garrett, departed for Santa Fe. Garrett refused to surrender the prisoner, and a tense confrontation ensued until he agreed to let the sheriff and two other men accompany the party to Santa Fe, where they would petition the governor to release Rudabaugh to them. On the evening of April 28, , while Garrett was in White Oaks collecting taxes, Deputy Bob Olinger took five other prisoners across the street for a meal, leaving James Bell, another deputy, alone with Bonney at the jail. Bonney asked to be taken outside to use the outhouse behind the courthouse; on their return to the jail, Bonney"who was walking ahead of Bell up the stairs to his cell"hid around a blind corner, slipped out of his handcuffs, and beat Bell with the loose end of the cuffs. Bonney waited at the upstairs window for Olinger to respond to the gunshot that killed Bell and called out to him, "Look up, old boy, and see what you get". When Olinger looked up, Bonney shot and killed him. The first bullet struck Bonney in the chest just above his heart, killing him. Ritch, the acting New Mexico governor, refused to pay the reward. Most of these claims were easily disproven but two have remained topics of discussion and debate. In , a central Texas man Ollie P. This was unsupported by his family until , some time after his death. The image shows Bonney wearing a vest over a sweater, a slouch cowboy hat, and a bandanna, while holding an Winchester rifle with its butt resting on the floor. For years, this was the only photograph scholars and historians agreed showed Bonney. This led historians to believe he was

left-handed, but they did not take into account that the ferrotype process produces reversed images. Horan and Paul Sann wrote that Bonney was "right-handed and carried his pistol on his right hip". If authentic it is the only known photo of Billy the Kid and the Regulators together and the only image to feature their wives and female companions. McCubbin and outlaw historian John Boessenecker concluded in that the photograph does not show Bonney. Kent Gibson, a forensic video and still image expert, offered the services of his facial recognition software, and stated that Bonney is one of the individuals in the image. A photograph curator at the Palace of the Governors archives, Daniel Kosharek, said the image is "problematic on a lot of fronts", including the small size of the figures and the lack of resemblance of the background landscape to Lincoln County or the state in general. As a result of his efforts, a stone memorial marked with the names of the three men and their death dates beneath the word "Pals" was erected in the center of the burial area. New Mexico Governor Bruce King arranged for the county sheriff to fly to California to return it to Fort Sumner, [] where it was reinstalled in May. Although both markers are behind iron fencing, a group of vandals entered the enclosure at night in June and tipped the stone over. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.

Chapter 2 : ArchiveGrid : Morris B. Parker papers,

Parker, Morris B.. Morris B. Parker's White Oaks: Life In A New Mexico Gold Camp, Tucson: University Of Arizona Press [Print. These citations may not conform precisely to your selected citation style. Please use this display as a guideline and modify as needed.

He was a fugitive from the gold fields of California, where he had arrived too late to share in the wealth. In the saloons of Socorro and San Antonio, however, he heard tales about gold to be found on the flanks of a prominent mountain across the rugged desert to the east. Pooling his meager resources with Jack Winters, a saloon companion who shared his dream of quick riches, Baxter and his newfound friend packed eastward across the tortured landscape of the Jornada del Muerto Journey of Death. It was a hot and waterless trek of nearly miles, but in a dry wash at the foot of the mountain that now bears his name, Baxter made a modest strike. It was nothing spectacular. From this meager beginning, White Oaks, "the liveliest town in the territory," blossomed in the shadow of Baxter Mountain. The town took its name from the trees surrounding the nearby spring, and within 10 years, it grew to a population of 2, souls. The stranger Before White Oaks emerged as one of the best-known mining towns on the New Mexico frontier, however, there was the stranger. One day, he drifted into the camp of Baxter and Winters, but all they ever learned about him was that he called himself Wilson. He was told he could prospect in the area on the premise that he share in any discovery. A short time later, Wilson scrambled up on the lower slopes of the mountain and sat beside a rock outcropping to eat his lunch. While idly chipping away at the rock, he exposed a vein of gold ore. It was the birth of what would become the Homestake Mine, one of the largest in the region. Later, there were those who said Wilson was not a prospector at all, but a fugitive who had escaped from jail in El Paso. As the story goes, he had scaled the mountain, not to eat lunch, but to keep an eye out for any pursuing posse. Whatever the selling price, Wilson, for a pittance, traded his interest in a mine that in years to come would yield a fortune in gold. A few weeks later, he was killed by Apaches. As word spread, prospectors flocked to the area and spread out in the dry washes and across the slopes of Baxter Mountain. A town is born In the tree-dotted valley at the foot of the mountain, the wave of newcomers spanked White Oaks into life in August Eight saloons quickly sprang up, where, as one historian proclaimed: By the early s, it was lined with false-front stores blended with buildings of brick and stone behind rows of hitching rails. Before long, it was paralleled by other streets with connecting side avenues. Wagons loaded with ore and lumber pulled by powerful teams of horses, gigs, buggies and buckboards stirred the dirt streets into clouds of dust. When it rained, they were mired in a sea of mud. The stately dwelling became a town legend. Stagecoach lines linked the community to Fort Stanton, 30 miles to the southeast, and to Socorro, 80 miles to the west. Although wild and boisterous in the beginning, White Oaks soon shed its rowdy spirit. This probably stemmed from the influx of a caliber of residents unusual for a frontier mining town. Saloons, gambling halls and other forms of recreation and stimulation they would tolerate, but they did not intend to let White Oaks become a rendezvous for murderers, cattle and horse thieves. Sonnichsen, author and longtime history professor at the University of Texas, El Paso, noted: The forces of good and evil never battled it out in the saloons and streets. Gamblers and good-time girls never cut much of a figure. It was, in truth, a pretty civilized place. In November , William Bonney, better known as Billy the Kid, and several companions rode into town driving a string of stolen horses. They failed to snare the young outlaw, but White Oaks citizens had made it clear that The Kid was unwelcome. Parker, a mining engineer who grew up in White Oaks in the s, recorded: The mixed character and culture of the residents was evident. They included good men and bad, gold-hungry adventurers and people who just came to look around. The mines expanded and flourished, and so did the town. Four churches, two banks, a sawmill, livery stables, hardware and clothing stores joined more than 50 established businesses. Enduring legends surround the large and elegant Victorian-style home, which seemed sharply out of place in frontier New Mexico. Its builder was Watson Hoyle, a supervisor and part owner of the Old Abe mine. The lavish home was constructed of brick and stone with stained-glass windows, hand-carved pine and redwood paneling. One legend has it that Hoyle built the house for his bride-to-be. When she arrived in White Oaks from her home in the East, she found the

change was more than she could tolerate. She refused to live on a raw frontier and promptly bid Hoyle adieu and returned East. Whereupon Hoyle, the legend recounts, walked to the main shaft of the Old Abe, more than 1, feet deep, and leaped to his death. Another legend offers the same chain of events except for the ending. This account maintains that when his prospective bride left, Hoyle refused to live in the house and sold it. Morris Parker, who knew Hoyle well when he lived in White Oaks, discounts the legends as romantic nonsense. In his memoirs, Parker wrote: The interior was never finished. In the s, Hoyle reportedly sold the home and moved to Denver. They were a credit to a town anywhere. Two miners were killed. Two years later, in , the explosion of a kerosene lamp ignited a costly blaze in the Old Abe, which left nine miners dead. It took two days and three nights to overcome the blaze. As Parker remembered the disaster: They worked in relays, battling heavy smoke, flames and gases. Teams of men worked without stopping, even to eat or sleep. All were friends and relatives of the unfortunate victims. Production in many of the mines fell off, while others simply shut down. Hard times replaced the glitter of gold, and residents began to drift away. Despite these setbacks, White Oaks pinned its hopes of a return to better days on the coming of the railroad. There it would link with the Southern Pacific, which was building westward. So certain were the business leaders of White Oaks that the railroad had no choice but to come pushing around Baxter Mountain, that they decided to play a high-stakes game. They sharply raised their land prices and smugly waited for the railroad to accept their terms. It was a fatal blow to White Oaks. Eddy opted to extend his railroad through the high-desert prairie, 14 miles west of White Oaks, where a new town, Carrizozo, sprang up. It soon eclipsed the community beneath Baxter Mountain. As Morris Parker wrote: Had they been less unreasonable, had they foreseen the results of their stubbornness, Carrizozo would not exist, and White Oaks would now be a center of trade and industry. Few people now jostled their way down White Oaks Avenue. Railroad towns like Carrizozo were more lively. Many residents drifted away, and scores of abandoned buildings and homes cast long shadows of decay. Up on Baxter Mountain, a stillness settled over the abandoned and boarded-up mines and piles of rusting machinery. By , Whites Oaks listed a mere residents, who had remained in hopes that the town would experience a rebirth. It was a futile dream. Today, a handful of residents and a few scattered structures remain to mark the shell of the "liveliest town in the territory. To the northwest, Baxter Mountain still looms against the sky, and the wind blowing down from its slopes whispers a requiem for White Oaks, a community of faded dreams from another age.

Chapter 3 : Books and Articles | Celebrating New Mexico Statehood

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Chapter 4 : ABQjournal: 'Liveliest Town in the Territory'

October 25, - Confederate Army Lt. Col. John R. Baylor writes Gen. H.H. Sibley to send more troops to the area because the Mexican population was in favor of the Union and "nothing but a strong force will keep them quiet."

Chapter 5 : Wine Tasting at White Oaks Vinyard – Parker House Bed and Breakfast

2nd former teacher at Scarlet Oaks accused of sex crime with student.

Chapter 6 : Library Resource Finder: Table of Contents for: Morris B. Parker's White Oaks : life in

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Chapter 8 : Morris B Parker (Author of White Oaks)

White Oaks, in fabled Lincoln County, New Mexico, was a booming mining camp in the 's and 's. And Morris Parker was there almost from the beginning, arriving in when he was eleven. He watched White Oaks develop into a real town then decline as the mines petered out.

Chapter 9 : Billy the Kid - Wikipedia

Morris B. Parker grew up in St. Louis, Missouri and spent his summers in Penn Yan, New York. His father purchased the South Homestake located in White Oaks, New Mexico in and the family moved there in the summer of