



MONTANA
GHOST TOWN
PRESERVATION SOCIETY

preserving history for the next generation

VOLUME 47

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2018



The massive bastion and southern wall of the fur trapper's Fort Union, that we will get a guided tour of this coming convention. In the lower right, in front of the doorway is a fur press, that the trappers used to press their furs into piles.

TERRY HALDEN photo

Montana Ghost Town Quarterly

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Founded in 1970, the Montana Ghost Town Preservation Society is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public to the benefits of preserving the historic buildings, sites, and artifacts that make up the living history of Montana.

Opinions expressed in the bylined articles are the authors' and do not necessarily represent the views of the M. G. T. P. S.

SUMMER 2018

President: Brad O'Grosky
Vice President: Sally Griffin
Secretary / Treasurer: Connie Griffin
Website Administrator: Darian Halden
Facebook Administrator: Darian Halden
Projects: Darian Halden
Membership: Connie Griffin
Newsletter Editor: Terry Halden
2018 Convention: Darian Halden
Directors: Don Black, Cindy Shearer and Gordon Tracy
Immediate Past President: Terry Halden

The Prez Sez

BRAD O'GROSKY

Greetings. Hope you're enjoying the warmer weather after a long, hard winter and visiting our many ghost towns. When you're out, remember to tell everyone about us and let your board know if there are any possible projects that we could support or projects that we could recognize. The more information that is shared, the better the chance for preservation. On the preservation topic, the Nixon Bridge north of Manhattan is still an issue of preservation which your board has supported. Presently, the Town of Manhattan is considering accepting ownership. It's a historic structure that should be preserved especially since the historic Meridian Bridge near Willow Creek is threatened for destruction. Folks, we are losing too many historic structures. Your board is pursuing donating funds for replacement windows in the historic Morris State Bank in the almost ghost town of Pony. This brick structure was built in 1901 but closed in 1932 yet it is still in fairly good condition, but it needs some preservation. We will keep you updated on its progress. This is an opportunity for MGTPS to help with preservation. Remember, we're looking for projects like this. For future consideration, the board has created a grant application that could be used by applicants for a grant from MGTPS.

On some other issues, since your board is all volunteer, we would ask that everyone send in their dues starting in September (We'll put a reminder in the Fall Newsletter) so our Treasurer doesn't have to send out a notice. This will eliminate the need for the Treasurer, who can be quickly become overburdened, to send out

additional reminders. In another effort to make board membership easier, we have started using Facetime or SKYPE for those not near Bozeman to minimize their travel.

This year's convention in Sidney should be a great success due to Darian Halden's hard and creative efforts. We hope all of you can attend and you may want to talk to others about car pooling. We are considering having the 2019 convention in Red Lodge and are looking for volunteers to help with it. Please let your board know of your interest and any ideas you may have.

Again, we want to thank the Gallatin History Museum for the use of their facilities for board meetings. They continue to add new and interesting displays, so when you're in Bozeman, stop in and visit a great museum. And when you're in the area, visit the museum in Manhattan and Three Forks. The old railroad depot in Three Forks, which will become a museum, had replacement windows installed with funds from MGTPS.

New Members

Membership Chairperson Connie reports the following **New Members** have joined our Association since the last newsletter. **Please make them welcome.**

Harvey Nyberg Lewistown, MT

Barry Sulam Bozeman, MT

Betty Doornbos Manhattan, MT

Dick & Barbara Davidson Columbus, OH

M.G.T.P.S, BOARD MEETING
JUNE 9th 2018

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm by President Brad O'Grosky. Board members attending were Don Black, Gordon Tracy, Terry Halden, Sally Griffin, and Connie Griffin.

There was a motion to accept the minutes as published in the Spring 2018 newsletter, it was seconded, the motion passed.

Connie read the Treasurer's report. From the start of the Fiscal year July 1, 2017, to June 9, 2018, we had an Income of \$8,735.00 and Expenses of \$7,221.28, for a Net Income of \$1,513.72. The Cash Balances are Petty Cash has \$60.20, Checking Account has \$5,890.32, and Savings Account has \$13,420.22.

MGTPS currently has 223 members. We have 5 new members. There are 43 members that have not paid their 2018 dues.

Several items of correspondence were received. One was a notification that our bank, First Security Bank, has been purchased by Glacier Bancorp.

Darian and Cindy are collecting information for MGTPS website.

Newsletter: Terry is always looking for articles. Brad is going to write an article about the Morris Bank in Pony, MT for the next newsletter. *See New Project below.

OLD BUSINESS

2018 Convention in Sidney, MT. The schedule is as printed in the Spring 2018 newsletter. The guest speaker, Arch Ellwein, will speak Friday night about Mondak and on Saturday he will be at Fort Union speaking about riverboats.

The town of Manhattan is looking into purchasing the Nixon Bridge. The bridge would be covered under their insurance.

There has been no recent update for the signs for the town of Maiden.

D & O Insurance is tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2019 Convention . The prices have increased a lot in the Red Lodge area. Locations for lodging and events, near Phillipsburg, were discussed. Phillipsburg may be the

more affordable option the the 2019 Convention. There is no chairperson for the 2019 Convention yet.

With the rising costs for putting on the yearly conventions, the need to raise the amount the attendees pay was discussed. We did not decide on an amount.

Don and Brad are working on new ideas to benefit MGTPS and open communication with members. They are planning on presenting the ideas at the November Board meeting.

White Sulphur Springs was discussed as a possible location for the 2020 Convention. The ghost town of Castle is nearby. Not everyone was sure it is still accessible.

NEW PROJECT

The Morris Bank in Pony, MT needs 8 new windows on the back of the building. The building was built in 1901 and closed in 1932. Don motioned to consider a donation of \$4,000 for the replacement of windows in the Morris Bank. Terry 2nd the motion, the motion passed. Brad is getting an exact quote for the amount needed.

FURTHER BUSINESS

Brad is looking into working with Jolene Ewert-Hintz to reach more people that are interested in the preservation and restoration of ghost towns. She has an avid interest in ghost towns and a quarterly newsletter. Her facebook page has over 6,000 followers.

MGTPS is looking for a physical space for some file cabinets to store items (old newsletters, pictures, etc.) that belong to the society.

Sally brought the 1st draft of Preservation Grant Application Procedures. Some lines were revised to reflect MGTPS goals. When the form is ready, it will be on MGTPS's facebook page.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Connie Griffin

Secretary/Treasurer

The HISTORY of a TOWN CALLED PONY

by TERRY HALDEN

As the diggings in Alder Gulch filled up, late comers, and those that just wanted to try their luck in new surroundings, started exploring other creeks and streams, looking for the elusive gold. One of those prospectors was Smith McCumpsey, a small man, who, because of his stature, went by the name of 'Pony'. 'Pony' was known to have been, in 1864, with a group of ten prospectors that banded together because of marauding Indians, east of the Tobacco Root Mountains that explored the Upper Hot Springs area, three miles west of present day Norris. We know this as he gave his name to a small stream that runs into the Upper Hot Springs, named Pony, where a small amount of placer gold was discovered. 'Pony' moved on northward to North Willow Creek, where he again hit pay dirt, however winter forced him out of the area. He returned, with a partner, the following spring and in its June 19, 1868, issue, the Montana Post ran the following article: "*North Willow Creek is paying an ounce per day to the hand. A new gulch was discovered week before last on South Willow Creek which it is supposed will give good results*". 'Pony' built the first cabin near his claim and others followed suit, creating a small camp, which was naturally called Pony. In general, the placer boom only lasted half a decade, and as interest waned, miners looked for greener pastures, and even 'Pony' moved on, to be lost in the mists of history.

As placer mining was coming to a halt, prospectors began looking for the source of their wealth and in 1875 George Moreland was convinced he had found it. In the middle of a wild strawberry patch, fate dictated he sink his shovel and as a result he struck a rich lode of gold quartz. Quickly he dug a fourteen foot hole and uncovered a ten foot wide vein of gold ore. To no one's surprise, he called his mine the 'Strawberry' and within a year had located a second vein, a little further down the hillside, which intersected the main vein at an acute angle. His second mine he called the 'Crevice'.

The same year Moreland struck the 'Strawberry' lode, Albert Mason, Thomas Carmin, Alex Lefler, William Robson and Albert Dinnock located what turned out to be the most productive mine in the district, the 'Boss Tweed'; W.V. Ryan, Jessi Barker and W. H. Metcalf had found the nearby 'Clipper'; William Robson claimed the 'Keystone', next door

to the 'Strawberry', and the lesser mines such as the 'Crystal' the "Ned" and thw 'Willow Creek' were in operation. The August 27, 1875 edition of the Bozeman Avant Courier stated; "*Within a few months the Mineral Hill Mining District has been organized*".



The 'Strawberry' mine & mill ca 1894.
THOMPSON-HICKMAN COUNTY LIBRARY photo

1876 saw the first mill, which was water powered, erected by James Mallory and his brother, A. H. Mallory, who was later to go on to become more recognized in connection with the 'Drumlummon' in Marysville. After building the mill, they brought five-stamps over from a mill in Sterling and additional five-stamps from the 'Rising Sun' mill in Norwegian Gulch. Unfortunately, James was killed in a freak accident when he slipped on ice before the project was completed, but his brother completed the job and went on to build the first permanent stone residence in Pony. The town was growing fast. In 1877 it had a population of over a thousand, a post office, three hotels, three saloons, three stores, two blacksmiths, two livery stables and a sawmill. After the initial influx, as the mining industry got down to a steady schedule, with no more major discoveries, a lot of the population began drifting away to more lucrative areas and by 1880, it was down to a few hundred. The time was ripe for a massive insurgence of big money investment and know-how. Henry Elling and William W. Morris, two leading citizens of Virginia City, fit the bill.



The remains of a miner's cabin on the torturous way up Mineral Hill to the 'Strawberry' mine location. today.
TERRY HALDEN Photo

Morris first purchased the 'Keystone' from Robson for \$10,000. The potential of the district intrigued him and along with Elling they bought the 'Boss Tweed' and 'Clipper' in 1880 followed in 1882 by Morris acquiring the 'Strawberry', 'Willow Creek' and 'Ned'. The year after, Elling erected a 20 stamp mill, selling a half interest to Morris. Between these two men, they eventually owned eighteen mines, located on 245 acres, plus seven mills and the steady, long term endurance of the district was assured.

In 1889, a new company, the Pony Gold Mining Company, owned by Governor Samuel T. Hauser, along with his mining investment side-kick, Anton M. Holter, and other Helena businessmen, purchased the Morris and Elling properties for a reported quarter million dollars, with a down payment of \$50,000. With Hauser's influence, the Northern Pacific Railroad laid a spur line fifteen miles from Sappington to Pony, completed in 1890. In addition, the company erected a 500 ton concentrator, a steam/air compressor at the 'Strawberry' mine to facilitate the extraction of lead at the lower levels and numerous other topside improvements. Within two years, due to local mismanagement, too much investment and not enough production, the company went bankrupt and ownership reverted back to Morris and Elling. They took advantage of the new equipment at the facility along with the addition of the railroad, and entered a period of ten years of steady production. The population in Pony was about 500 in 1895, with a school enrollment of over a hundred students and by 1900 almost 650 souls called Pony home. The following year the town incorporated with a mayor and six elected councilmen. The Pony Sentinel, which had come into existence in 1899, under the editorship of Alva Noyes, continually extolled the advantages of Pony, calling the district "the greatest mineral zone in the world."

Sometimes advertising does work as outside interest increased and new investment money literally started pouring in, as various properties changed ownership, sometimes several times in the same year. Henry Elling had passed away in 1900, but his estate continued in the partnership with Morris until 1901, when its mining properties were sold to the Amalgamated Copper Mining Company of Butte. Although the grade of ore being mined had been steadily decreasing, with the advent of the new cyanide process, it was thought that new equipment would instill new life in the mines. They were wrong as were new owners, like the Jeanette Mining & Milling Co, the Indian Mining Co and the Mountain Milling Co who came and went through the revolving door, until in 1903, Morris re-entered the scene by leasing his old mine from the current owner and putting a dozen miners back to work. The population anticipated some semblance of stability, but it was not to last. In 1904, Morris died and the champion of Pony was no more. Other mines continued to operate and with the odd new vein being discovered, there was mention of the district in the mining press from time to time the last being the Mining Truth magazine in its issue of June 16, 1932, which stated: "*Montana Metals Company has completed the first unit of milling operations. The mill has been constructed throughout the winter months and the mine put in shape for operation. The company is operating what is known as the 'Strawberry' mine and group of claims. The property is located about two miles west of Pony, on Mineral Hill.*"



The disused original school house (on left in photo) at Pony today.
TERRY HALDEN photo

The local press, now the Pony Dispatch and Express, began running more agricultural news than mining news although various mines operated on and off right up to the W.W.II ban on mining. Today, the town is still thriving with retirement homes sprouting up everywhere, but the hills above are quiet with only the remnants of mining building evidence of all the activity that there once was the mining metropolis of Pony.



The east and west walls, all that remain, of the Elling - Morris mill, in Pony, built in 1883. It once had 20-stamps, each weighing 500 to 750 pounds, along with Frue vaners. It processed the ore from the 'Boss Tweed', 'Keystone' and 'Clipper' mines.
TERRY HALDEN photo



Two buildings, still standing in what was the original 'downtown' of Pony. On the left is the old law office and on the right is the old general store. Note the statue of a Pony on the hill side behind the building on the right.
TERRY HALDEN photos

The PONY BANK – Our latest project

The Montana State Bank, in Pony was created by William W. Morris, with capital stock of \$50,000, in 1902. Morris along with the estate of his partner Henry Elling (who had passed away in 1900) owned most of the mines and mills in the Pony area. The following year the bank moved into a large brick building that had been erected for the purpose. Morris passed away in October 1904 and was succeeded by his vice-president, Thomas Duncan, who continued the jinx by dying in 1905. He was followed in the presidency by Mary B. Elling (the wife of Henry) and Charles E. Morris as V.P. in 1905

By 1906 the bank had deposits of over \$200,000 and had close associations with the Elling State bank of Virginia City and the Union bank and Trust of Helena. The bank was a member of Montana Bankers Association, which issued warnings about fraudulent customers in the state and informed banks about pending legislation that would affect the banking industry. The officers and directors of the bank were active members of the Pony community. Charles E. Morris, along with James A. Flint, an attorney, were partners in a real estate and insurance company, whilst bank director Harry Gohn was president of the Citizens Telephone Company; Henry Schreiber owned a mercantile store, and Fred Smith was a notary, a trustee for the board of education, an insurance agent and mayor of Pony in 1911.

As times and fortunes in Pony deteriorated, the bank went into voluntary liquidation on February 1926. The board of directors, at the time, borrowed \$96,000 from the Elling Estate, so that all depositors could be paid off and then came under the jurisdiction of a liquidating agent.

The building has been pretty well empty since then, although, being it is constructed of brick, it has stood up to the time, weather and vandals, remarkably well. The current owners Fred and Joy Flint are trying to put the building back into prime condition; the main cause of concern is, as usual, the replacement of broken windows. Once windows are broken, the weather gets in and rapid interior deterioration takes place. With this in mind, your board recently voted to become involved. Mr. Flint will get an estimate of the total cost of replacing broken windows and will advise us. The final decision on monetary help will then be decided.



M.G.T.P.S. CONVENTION

Friday September 7th – Sunday September 9th 2018

HOST HOTELS: MICROTEL, * 1500, S. Central Avenue, Sidney, MT. 1-406 482-9211

Wi-Fi, Indoor Pool, Fitness Center, Continental Breakfast

WINGATE, * 1490, S. central Ave, Sydney, MT. 1-406-433-3100

Wi-Fi, Indoor Hot Tub, Fitness Center, Continental Breakfast

Guests can use the facilities of either hotel

SCHEDULE:

Friday, 4pm - 9pm at Mondak Heritage Center, 120, 3rd Avenue S.E. Sidney

Registration, self-guided tour of Museum

6:00pm Hors D'Oeuvres & light lunch provided by Claude Bidegaray Ranch

7:00pm "Westward Ho" – guest speaker Arch Ellwein

Saturday, 9:00am Bus leaves Microtel for Fort Buford

Guided tour Fort Buford and cemetery

Lunch will be provided at picnic area (or meeting room if increment weather)

Bus will then take us to Fort Union for a guided tour.

A visit to the ghost town of Mondak (Guide: Arch Ellwein)

Return to Microtel by 4:00pm for free time

at Mondak Heritage Center

5:00pm Cocktails in No Host bar

6:00pm Buffet Catered Dinner

7:30pm Annual General Meeting

8:00pm Entertainment: Chinook Rancher, & Nashville Recording Star; KEN OVERCAST

Sunday, 9:00am. From Microtel / Wingate parking lot

Convoy to the ghost town of Newlon, & on to

Makoshika State Park near GLENDIVE

Lunch, on your own in Glendive

*Shuttle service from hotels to Mondak Heritage Center available.

When making reservations, mention MGTPS and get a double room for the reduced rate of \$44.00/night. Suites are available at slightly extra cost.

To: M.G.T.P.S., P.O. Box 1861, BOZEMAN, MT, 59771

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAILDDRESS: _____

I (WE) WILL BE ATTENDING (\$75.00, per person) Check attached: _____

(Please make check payable to M.G.T.P.S. Convention)

From the Montana Inspector of Mines report, 1890

Causes of Failure in Mining

In very many of our mines the surface ore was a hydrated oxide of iron containing free gold. A stamp mill with amalgamating tables would save a part of the gold. But these ores of oxide of iron containing free gold or 'free milling ores' were once sulphuret of iron which has been changed to oxide of iron by the action of water and air. Hence, just as soon as the water level in a mine is reached, the oxides of iron change to sulphurets of iron and the stamping mill with amalgamating tables will no longer save the gold.

The reasons for failure are;

1. Mining requires more science, skill and experience than any other business. And yet men who had no science or experience in mining came to Montana, bought a prospect, erected a mill, dug out some ore and pounded out a part of the gold. But the bullion could not meet the expenses and it soon appeared they did not know a mine from a badger's hole, knew nothing about taking out ore and even less about running a quartz mill.
2. Men who furnished the money often gave such instructions to their superintendents as to embarrass their operations and make them a total failure. They usually urge the erection of a mill or furnace before they have discovered enough ore to run it and have tested the ore's qualities as to determine which kind of mill or furnace is needed for working it.
3. They send out a mill which is not at all the kind needed for the mine being mined.
4. They order shafts sunk and tunnels run where there is no ore.
5. They have a propensity to change their superintendents every year, especially when the dividends are not satisfactory. In this way they get bad managers, and even if they get good ones, their instructions often prevent the success they most desire

In short the failures in mining in Montana were the result of causes which would have produced failures in any department of business

AS I SEE IT

from the Ramrod's chair

I trust you are all going to the upcoming convention in Sidney, because Darian has put together a stupendous program for us to enjoy. First of all the Mondak Heritage Center is really looking forward to meeting you and you will enjoy visiting their museum and absorbing some of their local history. Claude and Tammi Bidegaray, local ranchers, are donating local beef for the buffet that will be provided and afterward local historian Arch Ellwein will give a talk, 'Westward Ho', the life of the wagon trains that came to Montana from Minnesota in the 1860's. You can be sure Mr. Ellwein will be dressed for the part.

On Saturday we will take a bus trip to Fort's Buford and Union. The former a U.S. Army supply fort, the latter a fur trapper's fort. Mr. Ellwein will be our guest on the trip and after our visit to the forts he will relate the history of nearby ghost town Mondak (the town that Booze built) which we will also visit. A packed lunch will be served at Fort Buford and if the weather is incremental, we have been promised we can eat in the fort's auditorium.

Back in Sidney, after dinner at the Mondak Center the evening entertainment will be Ken Overcast. Those that are familiar with Montana Western (not Country) singers may have a CD by this entertainer in their collection, as he has made several CDs recording his own brand of music. He is also a full-time rancher in the Chinook area. Sunday, in convoy, we visit the ghost town of Newlon south of Sidney and end up visiting the 'badlands' State Park of Makoshika, just east of Glendive, a town where you will be able get a lunch of your choice before heading home. I urge you to take advantage of the low motel rate that Darian has negotiated and sign up now.

Terry

The RABBIT MINING DISTRICT & a TOWN CALLED ROCHESTER

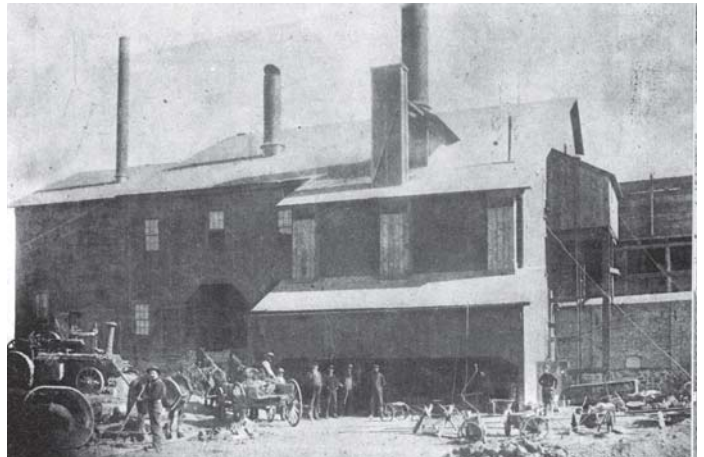
by TERRY HALDEN

Approximately ten miles north-west of Twin Bridges, up Rochester Creek, is the Rabbit Mining District. In the greasewood and sage bush covered hills on the south-east corner of the Highland mountains, near a lone spring prospectors named the district after the abundance of rabbits drawn to the lonely watering hole. After mis-identifying the discoverer as a Mr. Cavendish, who was prospecting in the area, the Montana Post of October 27, 1866 reported: "*The actual discoverers were Henry Rust and M. Pettyman. The gravel has yielded forty cents to a dollar and a half to the pan*". This produced the usual rush to the area and the following February the same newspaper reported that eight placer mines had been recorded. From the start a lack of water was a major problem; there just wasn't enough to go around, and all but the hardy moved on. For those that remained, a site was chosen for a camp about two miles from Rabbit Springs. A well was dug to supply domestic water needs, lumber was brought in for building supplies and the small camp, that they named Rochester was born.

That same month, February 1867 Zachary Mathuss and a miner named Powers, located a gold bearing quartz a short distance from Rochester. They called their lode mine the 'Watseka'. Rather than haul the ore out of the district for crushing they persuaded two friends, Woodworth and Hendrie, with the promise of equal ownership in the mine, to build a small 10-stamp mill at the site for the astronomical amount of \$34,000. It went into operation in June 1868, and in the first five weeks of operation cleared a profit of \$15,286 for the four owners, And this was leaving 50% of the value of the ore on the tailings dump due to the inefficient milling methods. A second stampede to the district produced more lode mines being located and more small mills sprouted on the hillsides. The population of Rochester

mushroomed to about 500, warranting the awarding of a post office. The original four owners of the mine and mill formed the Watseka Mining Company in 1869.

As the 1870's arrived, the free milling gold became exhausted, with the result that mines closed, miners started drifting away for better prospects elsewhere, and the population of Rochester dwindled, with the result the town lost its post office in 1876. Only the 'Witseka' continued operating, with the original owners selling out to a F.R. Merk in 1888. He patented the property and continued the operations with renewed vigor, causing a minor surge in the local population. Although the ore being mined was assaying at about \$200 a ton, poor crushing methods, left half the value in the tippel dump, whilst high freight costs ate up a good chunk of what profit there was. When the miners encountered seams of water just below the 100 foot mark that regular pumping methods could not keep up with, after a year Merk called it quits, and closed down the mining business. Again population left with the odd family remaining, scraping out a living with the family cow, a few chickens and whatever gold the head of the household could glean from placer claims abandoned as worthless by previous owners.



ABOVE:
The 'Witseka' mill
Cr. 1900.

ALMA PITCHER
photo

LEFT:
Rochester Cr 1900,
The 'Witseka' is on
the upper left.

MUSEUM of the
ROCKIES photo

In 1891, David G. Bricker inspected the 'Watseka', liked what he saw and bonded the property. With investment money from Butte, using new mining and pumping techniques, he reopened the mine. Miners were employed in sinking a new shaft and a new more efficient concentrator was built. With the increase activity, the fortunes of Rochester were rekindled. Other mines were reopened, new ones opened, all using new pumping methods to get past the underground water table. As

the population of Rochester surged again, this presented another problem. The only well in town was sucked dry. There after domestic water had to be carried two miles from the old Rabbit Spring.

The peak decade of Rochester was 1895 to 1905 with numerous mines, stamp mills, concentrators and chlorination mills were in full operation treating gold ore, which, eventually, started yielding amounts of silver, lead and copper. But by 1910, the district was in serious decline. Ore in the mighty 'Watseka', which was down over 500 feet, was petering out. Yet again the problem of underground water arose, which only got worse as other mines closed and silenced their pumps. It was described as trying to reverse the tide with a broom. The 'Watseks' closed in 1916, opening up again a



Upper Main street, Rochester, Cr. 1900

MUSEUM of the ROCKIES Photo

decade later in 1926 for a few years when the price of gold rose.

The last two inhabitants of Rochester were two widowed sisters who lived a quarter of a mile apart, claiming there wasn't enough house work in one house to keep two women busy. For twenty years Lucy Mueller and Etta Fisher stuck it out, raising vegetables and gathering firewood during the summer months, whilst during the snow bound winter months they were often reduced to boiling snow for water. Finally in 1952, one had passed away and the other consented to going into a senior citizens home in the 'city'

Today nothing remains of the boisterous town of Rochester.



Rochester store, Christmas 1901

MIKE BYRNES photo

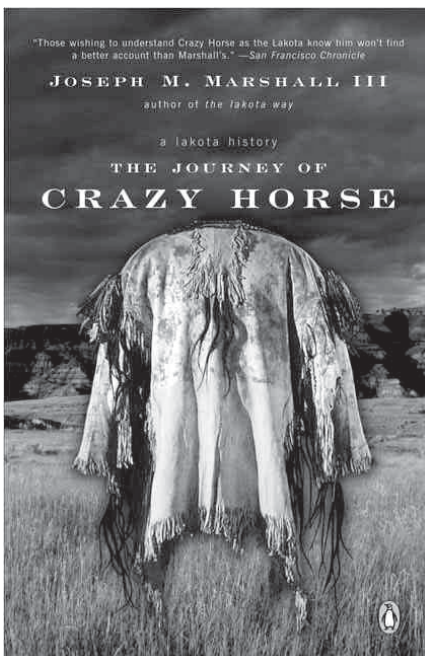


P.O. BOX 1861, BOZEMAN, MT, 59771-1861

REVIEW:

The JOURNEY of CRAZY HORSE

by Joseph M. Marshall III



On December 21, 1866 a group of woodcutters from Fort Phil Kearney were attacked by eight Sioux and two Cheyenne warriors. Captain ('Give me eighty men and I will beat the entire Sioux Nation') William J. Fetterman, with specific orders not to pursue the attackers, was dispatched with eighty men to save the woodcutters. The handpicked young warriors led by 'Light Hair' did a masterful job of pretending one of their group was wounded and lured the troops, five miles from the safety of the fort into a trap where a thousand hidden warriors were waiting. Not one trooper survived the fight. For his heroic role 'Light Hair's father Crazy Horse bestowed his own name on his son, taking a new name for himself.

Joseph M. Marshall, born on the Rosebud reservation was raised there listening to his family and elders relate the oral history of his people in their native Lakota tongue. English is his second language, learned when he went to school and then university. As a result the book gives the reader a unique glimpse into native oral history from the native's point of view and reveals Crazy Horse to be a thoughtful, loner, family man, who put the safety and wellbeing of his followers before himself, and not the blood thirsty Indian that relished massacring enemies for the joy of it, that white history has portrayed him. An excellent biography of Crazy Horse.

Terry Halden