

RAYADO CAMP PROFILE

Camp Name: Rayado (Kit Carson Museum)

Date: 1852

Theme: Santa Fe Trail Trade and Fort Union Contracts

Historical Significance:

The settlement at Rayado engaged in the very lucrative endeavor of providing fodder and agricultural products for Fort Union as well as a relatively safe stop for the wagon trains en route to the fort on the Santa Fe Trail. While offering food, repairs and respite for trail travelers, their wagons and gear, it became a small but vigorous trading center in its own right.

Characters.

James White. Emigrated from Missouri to Taos where he worked as a carpenter and later a blacksmith. He came with Maxwell and the first band of men in 1848. Man of few but powerful words.

Tom Boggs. Thomas O. Boggs came west on the Santa Fe Trail and stayed. He arrived at Bent's Fort around 1843 and began working for the Bent brothers. His job was to organize stock raising between Taos, New Mexico and Bent's Fort. He must have done a good job too because in 1846 he married the boss's stepdaughter, Rumalda Luna Bent. He was also among the first men to come to Rayado with Lucien Maxwell in 1848. Good friend of Kit Carson. Tom and his wife Rumalda were named as guardians for Carson's children.

Rumalda Luna Bent Boggs. Married to Tom Boggs and quite a courageous frontierswoman, Rumalda was resourceful and wily. It was she who suggested that rather than try to fight with a war party of Jicarilla Apaches, the Rayado women would prepare a feast for them. (See story in Murphy books listed in the reference section.)

Vidal Trujillo. Son-in-law to Carlos Beaubien, Vidal was a stockman and an excellent horseman who had ridden in many horse races so popular among the Spanish speaking New Mexicans. Legend has it that he once outran a party of Indians on horseback. (See story in Murphy books listed in the reference section.)

Leonora Beaubien Trujillo. Daughter of Carlos Beaubien who married Vidal Trujillo. Like all the Beaubien women she was skilled in household maintenance and social graces which they continued to practice as best they could on the rugged frontier. Her preference was to live in Taos where it was safer and a bit more genteel than Rayado.

Manuel LeFavre. Trapper from French Canadian family who was born in about 1803. He settled in Taos where he married Maria Teodora Lopes. He was friends with Maxwell, Carson and other mountain men and adventurers who had made Taos their home and headquarters for trade.

Maria Teodora Lopes LeFavre. Born into the prominent Lopes family of Taos in about 1816, she married Manuel in 1827. They had seven children at this time but had just lost their eighth child, a son Manuel, at age

8 months after joining the settlers at Rayado. Maria would still be in mourning at this time. Their eldest daughter Dolores is married to Dick Wooten of Raton Pass fame.

Tim Goodale. Mountain man, trapper and contract furrier who also made Taos his headquarters for many years. At this point in his life he is trading at Rayado. His skills with a rifle and as an Indian fighter are useful in warding off the hostile Jicarilla Apaches.

Historical Background: The Santa Fe Trail was opened as a roadway of trade between the United States and New Mexico in 1821. New Mexico was then a territory of Mexico which had just won its independence from Spain. Raw goods such as wool, mineral ore, agricultural produce, furs, and hides went East to Independence, Missouri, while canned goods, fabric, utensils, tools, mules and money, usually in gold, came into New Mexico. In 1846 New Mexico was occupied and claimed by the United States and Fort Union was established between Cimarron and Las Vegas.

The first settlers at Rayado came in February of 1848. Rayado was at that time part of the Beaubien land grant which later became known as the Maxwell Land Grant. Lucien Maxwell, son in law to Carlos Beaubien, was among that first band of men to arrive in 1848. Others trickled in – Spanish speaking New Mexicans, former mountain men, farmers, traders and such – during that first year and by January of 1849 it was reported that Maxwell was “at his father-in-law’s doing a very prosperous business as a merchant and contractor for the troops”. (*Philmont*, Lawrence R. Murphy, pg. 59)

Relevant Dates and Events:

1821--- Mexico became independent of Spain – New Mexicans became citizens of Mexico. Trade with the United States began on the Santa Fe Trail from Independence, Missouri to Santa Fe, New Mexico.

1846 --- General Steven Kearny and troops arrived in Las Vegas, New Mexico, and from a rooftop facing the plaza there claimed New Mexico as a territory of the United States.

1847 -- Rebellion against American occupation in Taos results in the assassination of the newly appointed governor Charles Bent and many of his family and friends among them Ramon Abreu's uncle.

1848 -- The Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo transfers New Mexico to United States and guarantees that the United States will honor Spanish and Mexico land grants. Lucien Maxwell begins Rayado settlement.

1851 -- Fort Union established on Santa Fe Trail; it was a major supply center for the US Army in the SW and became a large factor in the economics of the area. Forage for animals, food for soldiers, drivers and tenders of stock, etc. created jobs and market for agricultural goods.

Future Events/Extra Information:

1857 -- Maxwell moves to Cimarron River settlement.

1861-1867 -- US Indian Agency established and maintained near Cimarron for the Utes and Jicarillo Apaches until its closing due to increased settlement and influx of gold seekers

1864 -- By this time Jesus Abreu and his wife Petra Beaubien Abreu (daughter to the original land grant owner and sister in law to Maxwell) took over the settlement at Rayado. This became a stop for traffic and travelers along the Santa Fe Trail. It provided safety, food, hospitality and camping. It was a ranch and agricultural operation that supported 20 or more families in the old patron/partido (landowner/worker-resident who received 50% share from the portion of land that was worked) system. During the next 20 years they had 6 children who are most of the characters at the Abreu Homestead/Camp. Ramon was the youngest.

1862 -- Thomas and Rumalda Boggs moved from Taos to the confluence of the Purgatory and Arkansas River (near present day Las Animas). Here they build a small ranching and agricultural settlement. The settlement would become know as Boggsville and would be an important stopping place on the Santa Fe Trail and a center of commerce and agriculture from 1863 – 1873. During this period Boggsville grew from a few

adobe structures to a full-fledged community of 20 or more buildings. Boggsville grew in part because of its location on the Santa Fe Trail and its close proximity to Fort Lyon – the new one relocated across the Arkansas River in 1866 after the old one at Big Timbers and Bent's New Fort was destroyed by floods. About this time, Boggs started construction of a new 9-room adobe home that blended Territorial architecture with Spanish Colonial styles found further south in New Mexico. The Boggs home with its unique architecture can still be seen today at Boggsville.

1865 -- War Between the States ends with Lee's surrender of the Army of the South to Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia

1866 -- Gold is discovered on Baldy Mountain

1871 -- Lucien Maxwell sells the Maxwell Land Grant to European investors.

Costumes/Appearance.

Women. High necked or collared, loose workdresses with aprons to draw into the body; or a ankle length skirt with blouse; one petticoat, low-heeled lace-up work shoes. Prints and simple plaids in a variety of colors. Look for drawings and pictures in references listed below, but take care to notice dates on the photos... 10 years either way makes a difference in the styles, especially for women. Lace up, low heeled boots. No bare feet.

Accessories include: Shawls, wool for warmth and rain protection; Coats, 3/4 or full length "dusters" or men's jackets; Cardigan sweaters of plain design in dark or neutral colors, collared or with V-neck. Sunbonnets and/or wide brimmed straw hats for outdoor work are essential to look right; Jewelry, Pin or necklace watches; otherwise, none; Handkerchiefs, fine cotton often trimmed with a bit of crochet or lace; Hairpieces and combs for ornament if a simple tortoise shell; Stockings, black or dark brown opaque tights.

Appearance: Neat, clean and orderly even in work clothing; housekeeping is always neat and clean even though rustic; hairstyles of the period and class are long hair drawn back into a bun or twist. If hair is short, wear a bonnet, scarf tied behind the head, or wide brim sun hat to disguise the short hair. No obviously dyed or colored hair.

Men. Heavy cotton collarless shirts with fuller button-fly trousers of the period in heavy cottons, twill, gabardine and wool with button on suspenders and work boots. Wool collared or V-neck cardigan sweaters; and wool jackets -- dark and neutral colors --for nights and cool weather.

Accessories include: Handkerchiefs, white or subtle print, no bandanas; Pocket watches; Socks; Hats are necessary, wide brim for sun protection; Derby, high top, knit, a variety is likely at Rayado. See pictures of the period for details but take notice of the dates; Lace up work boots. No bare feet ever.

Appearance: Neat, clean and orderly as much as possible; dirty only as work has made you; barns, tools, etc. in order; hairstyles of the period were medium to short -- to and over the ears slightly, and above or at the nape of the neck -- but without "buzzed" or shaved areas. No obviously dyed hair colors like orange, purple, and such.

Language:

Standard American English without contemporary slang, please. Vidal and Maria would speak English with the musical Spanish accent that is still heard among Northern New Mexicans today.

Any attempts at accents should be respectful, comfortable and well-chosen. No hokey hilly billy accents, please.

Props:

Trade items; gardening tools; equipment and props in storage area including hides, wagon wheels, etc.; blacksmithing tools, apron and raw metal; knives for whittling or other regular activity; cooking utensils and pots; musical instruments.

Activities: Blacksmithing, *la posta* trading center, gardening, equipment and hides storage area, house visits.

Staff Roles and Responsibilities as Historical Interpreters:

Welcoming – In Character (1st Person Interp) or Out of Character (3rd Person Interp)

Blacksmithing – In Character (1st Person Interp)

La Posta – In Character (1st Person when showing the 1800's trading room)

La Posta -- Out of Character (3rd Person when selling in the contemporary trading post)

Gardening – In Character (1st Person Interp)

Equipment and Hides Area – In Character (1st Person Interp)

House Visits – In Character (1st Person Interp)

Visitors' Roles. Santa Fe Trail travelers and traders.

References.

Out in God's Country: A History of Colfax County, New Mexico. Larry Murphy. See pages 37-42, In Seton Museum Library Collection.

Philmont: A History of New Mexico's Cimarron Country. Lawrence R. Murphy. See pages 58-70. In Seton Museum Library Collection.

On line searches for more information: Tom Boggs, Mountain Man; Manuel LeFavre, Taos, New Mexico; Tim Goodale, Taos, New Mexico; Lucien Maxwell; Maxwell Land Grant; Rayado, Santa Fe Trail and no doubt more.