

OLD TIME RANCH TOUR 1952 HAUNTS OF TOM HORN

TENTATIVE TIME SCHEDULE:

Leave Laramie Courthouse Square.....7:30 A.M.
First Stop, SIDE TRIP FROM McKECHNIE RANCH TO
POWELL RANCH.....8:10-8:40 A.M.
HORSE CREEK FILLING STATION.....9:10 A.M.
STOP FOR LUNCH AT A SUITABLE PLACE NEAR JORDAN'S RANCH
12:00 NOON, 45 Minute Stop
MILLER RANCH and Side Trip to Lewis and Nickel
Ranch. Stop 50 Min, Lv..... 4:00 P.M.
STOP (15 Min.) LANGHOFF or Martin Ranch.....5:00-5:10 P.M.
STOP (30 Min.) BOUGHTON or COBLE RANCH.....6:10-6:40 P.M.
FINISH OF TOUR AT LARAMIE.....7:35 P.M.

HISTORICAL TOUR TO THE HAUNTS OF TOM HORN

SPONSORED BY THE ALBANY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING SUMMER SCHOOL AND THE KIWANIS CLUB. Arranged by Bud Gillespie and Bob Burns. Bring your car, your own lunch and family and friends and be at the COURT HOUSE SQUARE IN LARAMIE at 7 A.M. Sunday July 20, 1952.

* * * * *

Today we are visiting the Haunts of Tom Horn, Cattle Detective and representative of an era which passed with him. Before taking the tour you will be interested in reading the following publications dealing with Tom Horn. He was at once, a commanding, efficient, secretive, and tragic figure in the cattle history of the west. His actions have aroused controversy, and have become almost legendary. Read the following publications and come and join us for a day when you will see many kinds of country, and some interesting landmarks connected with a vibrant period in our range history.

LIFE OF TOM HORN. An autobiography and Vindication.
Published for John C. Coble by Lothian Book Co., Denver.

MONAGHAN, Jay, 1916
Last of the Badmen. The legend of Tom Horn.
Indianapolis and New York: Bobbs Merrill & Co.

THOMPSON, John Charles 1945
The Hanging of Tom Horn.
The Westerners Brandbook 1945 Pp. 111-120 (Denver Posse)

DENVER TIMES, August 5, 1901 Wyoming Feuds Latest. Kels Nickel, father of assassinated boy shot three times.

DENVER TIMES, August 6, 1901 Wyoming Feud Merciless.

DENVER TIMES, May 22, 1902 Your Life is in Danger. A Wyoming rancher receives a dread warning, similar to those that preceded the murders of Lewis and Powell.

DENVER REPUBLICAN Nov. 22, 1903 Horn's funeral this afternoon.

PENCE Mary Lou.

The Woman who wouldn't quit. The story of Mary Powell.

The Empire Magazine (Denver Post) Feb. 2, 1951 Page 22

LARAMIE REPUBLICAN, Nov. 19, 1927 Page 2 Tom Horn's Gory Deeds recalled 24 years later.

On the Tour stops will be made at the Powell, Lewis, Miller & Nickel, Langhoff and Coble Ranches all intimately connected with the legendary haunts of Tom Horn in his war on rustlers. People who are intimately acquainted with these incidents will speak at these stops.

This schedule gives all of the landmarks and ranches which will be passed enroute to the stops and by carefully using the schedule you can become well acquainted with these landmarks. Have someone in

Some interesting landmarks along the way to the HAUNTS OF TOM HORN.

	M I L E A G E S	
	Local	Tour Miles
Leave Albany County Courthouse Square 7:30 AM SHARP	0 0	0.0
East on any Street if you miss the calvacade of cars and turn north on NINTH STREET		
MALODY HOMESTEAD on the right.	0 5	0.5
CYRUS MANN ranch to left two miles. Once a producer of cream-colored horses with white manes and tails. Entering King Brothers ranch now owned by Frank C. Bosler	3.5	4.0
KINGHAM CORRALS. Later King Bros. Camp. Now belongs to Frank C. Bosler	1.0	5.0
THE SPUR. A limestone ridge of the Laramie Mountains extending in a northwest direction from the southeast.	1.4	6.4
SHEEP CAMP OF KING BROTHERS. This is the first corral mentioned by Frank King as the site where many trail sheep perished in the 80's.	1.5	7.9
Entrance to ROGER'S CANYON. Named for Oscar Rogers who hauled timber to Laramie in the early days."	0.1	8.0
ROCK QUARY. Where most of the rock used in the University Buildings is quarried.	0.4	8.4
Cattle Guard. Leaving King Bros. (Bosler) Land and entering Warren Livestock Co. land.	0.5	9.0
Leaving ROGERS CANYON. Middle Fork of Horse Creek to the left Cattle Guard. Entering King Bros. land again, (Present owner Frank C. Bosler)	1.9	10.9
Cattle Guard. Leaving King Bros. land The old Rogers* Ranch located to the south on Sec. 29-17-71. Rogers owned a shed where he could house 15,000 head of sheep in a blizzard. In one blizzard he lost 7,500 head. To the left is the ANORTHROSITE deposit used in the production of aluminium. Many tons of this ore have been trucked to the Monolith plant south of Laramie to be used in the proposed aluminium plant now being reactivated.	0.9	11.8

Cattle Guard, between King Bros. land and Brown crossing on Rogers Creek.

Cattle Guard. Leaving Aiken's pasture. Ragged Top a prominent landmark to the left. The teeth extend upwards like those of a saber-toothed tiger.	1.0	15.0
Dirty Em Mt. about a mile south of Ragged Top acquired its name from the untidy habits of a woman homesteader who resided at its base.		
Middle Branch of Horse Creek. Junction with Horse Creek Road. Strong Mine at the right.	0.9	15.9
Art McKeehanie's cattle guard	0.4	16.3
McKECHNIE RANCH.		
Side Trip to POWELL RANCH, where Fred Powell was assassinated in September 1st or 2nd 1895 on middle fork of horse creek.		
Side trip approx. 1 1/3 miles in and return. (2.8)	2.7	19.7
STOP Thirty Minutes for talks on Fred Powell's Assassination.		
Note Picturesque GREEN TOP MT. to the south.	0.1	19.8
Cattle Guard.	0.4	20.2
Cattle Guard.	1.2	21.4
Cattle Guard.	0.4	21.8
Cattle Guard	0.9	22.7
Cross South Fork of Horse Creek	2.6	25.3
Cattle Guard. Notice Limestone ridges or hog-backs	2.8	28.1
Cross HORSE CREEK	1.1	29.2
Mrs. McKeehanie's mother's ranch on left.	0.2	29.4
JOURNEY DAVIS RANCH. Formerly Hi Andrews Ranch	0.4	29.8
Leaving Davis Ranch	2.4	32.2
HORSE CREEK STATION. Advise travelers to fill their gas tanks here, as the next gas is a long ways off. McLaughlin and Whitaker Ranches nearby to left.	1.6	33.8
SIDE TRIP TO LEWIS RANCH, to where Phil Lewis was assassinated the last day or two in July 1896. 5.7 miles in and return.		
STOP FOR THIRTY MINUTES for talks on Lewis' assassination.	11.4	45.2
Cattle Guard between Whitaker and Farthing ranches.	3.0	47.2
Farthing Ranch	3.1	50.3
Cattle Guard	0.6	50.9
Opposite Old Iron Mountain Station.	1.0	51.9
Crossing CHUGWATER CREEK and Cole. So. RR	4.0	55.9

HAL ELRICH RANCH on Chugwater Creek	2.0	57.9
JORDAN RANCH, on Chugwater Creek--eat lunch	2.0	59.9
Crossing COLORADO & SOUTHERN RR.	4.0	63.9
Old AL RANCH to the left on Chugwater Creek	1.0	64.9
HUGH McDONALD RANCH to right on Chugwater Creek	1.0	65.9
Crossing COLORADO & SOUTHERN RR.	3.0	68.9
WED FOSS RANCH on Chugwater Creek	1.9	70.8
Junction North Chugwater Creek. Road to GUS MILLER RANCH	---	---
Cattle Guard	0.1	70.9
Cattle Guard	2.3	73.2
MORRISON RANCH to right, Present owner D. Piper	2.7	75.9
OLD 40 RANCH Buildings,	2.5	78.4
Gus Miller's Reservoir	3.5	81.9
GUS MILLER RANCH.	2.8	84.7
SIDE TRIP TO SITE OF WILLIE NICKEL'S ASSASSINATION		
July 18th, 1901.		
VISIT TO SITE where Kels Nickels was wounded,		
STOP FOR 30 MINUTES.		
Total about 12 1/3 miles in and return	12.3	97.
Note Laramie Peak to the north. Highest peak in Laramie Range and is 11,000 odd feet high.		
MULE CREEK. Several nice ranches on this creek. Billy Clay ranch the oldest on the creek and was settled in pioneer days by Mr. Clay an outstanding cowboy, native Virginian who had "color" enough for another Owen Wister book.	0.8	97.8
Observe Hog-Back on West Rim of Dead Head Basin. Cross Mule Creek	0.3	98.1
BRAY RANCH, now owned by George Martin	2.1	100.2
Cattle Guard	0.8	101
Cattle Guard dividing Martin and Rosentrater lands	1.9	102.9
Cattle Guard on Rosentrater ranch, Squaw Mt, a distance ahead. Notice the small point that extends upwards and resembles a squaw wrapped in a shawl.	2.8	105.7

South Sybille, a stream where many old ranches were located. Wm. Owen states that Sybille was named for a member of the firm Sybille, Adams and Company who ran a post at Fort Platte situated immediately at a point of land at the junction of the Laramie with the Platte.	0.6	106.3
Cattle Guard entering lands of Ned Dover's ranch. Road passes between the two houses. This ranch was settled in the early days by Christ Christen.	0.1	106.4
Cattle Guard	0.3	106.7
Cattle guard through highway fence. Highway #24 Turn LEFT towards Laramie	0.6	107.3
FLAHARTY RANCH on Right. Settled by Louis Rowe in early days	2.1	109.4
LANGHOFF RANCH. Now owned by Verne Martens on Right. Langhoff and friends apprehended by Tom Horn and tried for allegially butchering beef which did not belong to them. Horn's lookout point on high rocks to left of road. This incident occurred early in fall of 1893.	4.1	113.5
Middle SYBILLE. Several prominent ranches located on it.	0.6	114.1
JOHNSON CREEK empties into the Sybille from the north. It is named from a sheepman who lived on its banks.	0.3	114.9
ED MOORE RANCH. Old Cabin at left. Now a game bird refuge. Note the woven wire fence around it.	0.5	115.4
Junction with road from HENRY BRIDGER RANCH to the east. Ranch settled by a nester named Van Burken in late 90's.	1.4	116.5
CEDAR CREEK empties into the Sybille from the west. Named from cedars which grow along the sides of the canyon.	1.4	116.2
SCHOOL CREEK. Received its name from the pretty school teachers who came here to see the beautiful scenery in the canyon. They had to ride horseback to get there.	0.3	118.5
FITZMORRIS RANCH. Settled by a pioneer couple in the early 80s. They raised and educated 12 children. This ranch and all of the railroad land from the Laramie River to the limits of such land in Township 20 N. Range 74 W. is owned by the Sybille Corporation and contains about two townships or 36 square miles of land.	2.0	120.5
SHEEP ROCK on the right. A large landmark much higher than any of its neighbors. From a distance it resembles a sheep.	0.6	121.1

- BEAR CREEK** flows into the Sybille from the south. It acquired its name for its ruggedness which afforded good hiding places for bear and oldtimers went here to hunt bear. 1.1 122.2
- TWIN BUTTES** to the west. They stand out to themselves and nearly close enough together to appear as one. 1.0 123.2
- LONG CANYON**, Its creek flows into the Sybille from the southwest. It gets its name by being so straight for so great a distance. This canyon appears as a great "gouge" out of the earth. It is inhabited by numbers of rattlesnakes, and is notorious for them. 1.1 124.3
- LONG CANYON PEAK** to the left. It is the highest peak and the sharpest pinnacle in this vicinity. Its crest has never been scaled. 0.9 125.2
- MAIN SYBILLE CREEK**. The home of brook trout since early days. 0.7 125.9
- LATHAN BOTTOM**. It was named for a pioneer prospector. Some of the old timers cut and harvested hay on that meadow. 0.6 126.5
- MORTON PASS**. A divide between the Laramie Plains and the Sybille hills. It is practically the same height as Laramie, believe it or not!!!! 0.7 127.2
- SYBILLE SPRINGS** to the right by the grove of trees. These springs are the headwaters of the Sybille proper. However, the creek above the SPRINGS is called Sybille from where the Plumbago creek enters the Laramie Plains. The creek flows within a few yards of the springs. A noted watering place and here the Swan Company used to pull in with their roundup wagons. Bud Gillespie here saw the largest roundup in his memory, some 3500 head of cattle gathered in one drive at this point. The Coble wagon was working with the Swan wagon in this roundup. 0.3 127.3
- DEAD MAN'S CAVE** received its name from a man that was found dead in June 1900. To the left you will see two groups of caves in the limestone formation. The man's body was found in the cave to the left of the two furthest south. He started on foot to Laramie in March 1900 from the Iconoclas Mine on the Bluegrass. A blizzard came up and he became exhausted and went into the cave for shelter and sat down in the back end of the cave, which was quite comfortable and resembled an arm chair. To get out he would have had to fall forward. He had his overcoat spread over his knees. It is presumed that he fell asleep and never aroused. Mike Fitzmorris, a boy, found the body while looking at a swallow nest. He was frightened and started home on a high lops. He met a prospector by the name of Gavett who went back with Mike to investigate. He thought the man was asleep but he was dead and was buried a few yards from where he was found. 1.1 128.6

PLUMBAGO CANYON with a small stream flowing out onto the plains north to form Sybilis Creek. Wm. Radical and his wife settled in that canyon in 1856 and Mrs. Radical and one daughter still live on the ranch. In front and west of Plumbago canyon the late S. W. Gillespie killed the last buffalo in these parts, in July 1891. The Laramie Plains lay in front of you. A vast tract of land lies in front of you between the Laramie Mts. on the east and the Medicine Bow Mts. on the west, and the Boulder Ridge to the south almost to Bates Hole to the north. These plains average 7,000 feet in elevation.

0.5 139.1

ELK MOUNTAIN, a pleasing sight to the west is about fifty miles away. Its elevation is slightly over 11 thousand feet. The Medicine Bow range or so called Snowy Range (named for the center section) is to your right. The blue color indicates ever-green timber.

Medicine Bow Peak is the highest point and has banks of perpetual snow. The Snowy Range has many cold, clear water lakes which are stocked with trout. This area furnishes relaxation, scenery and fishing to thousands of visitors each year. The elevation of the peak is around 12 thousand feet.

FARLEY'S RANCH. A family located a stock grazing homestead here. He raises sheep, potatoes and milks some cows. GATE CREEK on the east flows into Long Lake. BLUE GRASS KNOLL is off to your left about six miles. Miss Mabel Hayford, school teacher and daughter of the late Judge J. H. Hayford of Laramie, who published the Laramie Sentinel, taught school at the Gillespie ranch. She took her eldest pupil, the late Joe W. Gillespie and they took a flag and pole, climbed the knoll and raised the flag and built a pile of rocks around the pole which held it in position for many years. The Monument still stands.

1.4 139.5

Look back to the right and you will see the BLUE GRASS RIDGE. It extends about four miles west and then turns north for a distance of 14 miles. It acquired its name for the rich blue grass which grows on it and the Blue Grass Flats. Nature provided an everlasting water hole not far from the center of these Flats which is known as THE BLUE GRASS WELL. Its water level remains the same regardless of weather or large numbers of livestock watering there. As many as 3,000 head of cattle and several hundred horses have watered there in one day in the open range days.

LONG LAKE is about eight miles to the west. It is about three miles long and three quarters of a mile in the widest place. It is strong in alkali, and receives the waste water from the Boughton ranch.

The BOUGHTON RANCH was settled in 1884 by an Englishman of that name. John Whitaker bought the ranch from Mr. Boughton and sold it to the late John C. Coble and Frank C. Bosler, who owned the Iron Mountain Ranch Company. The beneficiary, Mrs. Frank C. Bosler, sold it to the Wallis Brothers. It now belongs to Wallis and Miller. This is the ranch where TOM HORN made his headquarters from 1900 until his arrest for the killing of Willie Nickel. This RANCH is about seven miles west.

MIDDLE CREEK flows out onto the Laramie Plains, and the water finally reaches Long Lake. It acquired its name by its location half way between Wall Rock 1.4 131.9

GATE CREEK acquired its name from two immense gate posts in a fence which passed across it from the Plumbago Canyon. This gate could be seen for miles.

BEN SMITH'S SHEEP RANCH is on the Highway on the east side about a mile to the east. The Smith's raised an unusual sized family of twelve who have worked on the ranches of this region, and Medicine Bow. The GILLESPIE RANCH can be seen some nine miles to the west and are distinguished by the metal roofs on the buildings. It was settled in 1883 by the late S. W. Gillespie. On this ranch was the well-known Ione Lake which the old timers claimed was bottomless, and some of them ventured to say they had seen sea serpents in it. This ranch was expanded from a 160 acre holding to around 28,000 acres of deeded land. Schmale Brothers are the present owners.

Observe the livestock reservoirs to the west which were built under the program set up under the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

WALL ROCK CANYON is to the east and south. It acquired its name from the immense rock wall or strata which the creek eventually cut its way through and discharged its volume of water into Long Lake. 2.1 134.

TURN TO THE RIGHT off from Highway #34 en route to the Boughton or Coble Ranch. You are now travelling through the Wall Rock Pasture which is about six 0.9 134.9 by eight miles in size and then go into the work and saddle horse pasture of the Boughton or Coble Ranch 3.3 138.2

BOUGHTON DITCH, which furnishes water for the hay meadows on the Bosler Ranch -- --

BOUGHTON RANCH. STOP FOR 30 MINUTES. This is the Coble Ranch mentioned before which was TOM HORN'S HEADQUARTERS, 0.7 138.9

LARAMIE RIVER BRIDGE 2.4 141.3

JUNCTION WITH LINCOLN HIGHWAY #30 1.1 142.4

BOSLER	2.2	144.3
Crossing HIGHWAY BRIDGE ACROSS LARAMIE RIVER		
Crossing Boughton Ditch	2.5	147.1
Crossing OASIS DITCH		
The Oasis Ditch was built by Ora Haley in 1890 to irrigate the Oasis, Wyoming and Ghost Ranches. Wyoming Station on the UPRR was Ora Haley's shipping point after 1901 when the cut-off was made to Rawlins which left OLD WYOMING STATION some five miles to the west where the bend of the Laramie River is located. Ora Haley was the richest man ever in the cattle business in Albany County and built the home now occupied by the AMERICAN LEGION HOME.	3.2	150.3
There are three ranches visible a short distance to the left and west of Wyoming Station. To the extreme left is the new ranch of John Riedesel, in the Middle is the old OASIS ranch of Haley now owned by the Lloyd Brothers, and to the right over against the bluff is the old Riedesel place now owned by Edna Biddick.		
As you travel along Highway #20 you will note a ranch to the east with a large windbreak. This ranch is about two miles east and is owned by Bill Krueger, who has built up a nice ranch starting with a veteran's homestead in 1913.	1.0	151.3
To the south and east the King Brothers red roofed buildings show in the distance. Notice the number of sheep sheds and camps each with a windmill for watering the sheep. This ranch was visited on last year's OLD TIME RANCH TOUR.		
Now owned by Frank C. Bosler who grazes black Angus where fine-wooled Rambouillets once grazed.		
There are several other ranches along the Laramie River from Howell station on to Laramie and all of these ranches were described in the 1951 OLD TIME RANCH TOUR.		
DIAMOND HORSESHOE. Home of good steaks and meals. Just west is the PFE Ice House which is said to be one of the largest icing stations for produce cars in the world.	10.0	161.3
LARAMIE. The end of the tour,	2.0	163.3