

- 04/07/83- Occidental Hotel opens; "..has fine restaurant"  
 07/02/83- Hutchinsons close Bird Cage; had been open continuously since December 1881  
 02/22/84- Bisbee gangleader John Heath lynched from telegraph pole on Toughnut west of courthouse  
 03/28/84- five bandits responsible for Bisbee "massacre" in December of 1883 are hanged in courthouse jailyard  
 05/31/84- Boothill full; officially closed to burials  
 01/05/87- John Slaughter 45, elected Cochise County Sheriff  
 01/16/86- Joe & Big Minnie Bignon reopen Bird Cage  
 05/03/87- Earthquake; big scare; little damage  
 06/01/87- Ike Clanton killed near Blue river in eastern A.T. by "mail order" detective J.V. Brighton  
 11/08/87- Doc dies in Glenwood Springs,CO; drank last glass of whiskey before last words, "This is funny."  
 07/03/88- Wyatt 2nd wife Mattie kills self in Pinal,AZ  
 07/\_\_\_/92- Olympic Theatre, originally Bird Cage then Elite, closes permanently  
 11/06/94- C.S.Fly elected Cochise County Sheriff  
 05/12/97- Ed Schieffelin 49, found dead at cabin near Canyonville in Douglas County,OR  
 05/23/97- Schieffelin buried in Tombstone with much ceremony  
 07/06/00- Warren Earp 45, killed by John Boyett in Willcox under mysterious circumstances  
 \_\_\_/\_\_\_/03- First rail service; connects from Fairbank  
 10/\_\_\_/05- Virgil 62, dies in Goldfield,NV as Deputy Sheriff of Esmiralda County; buried in Portland,OR  
 12/07/10- Dr.Goodfellow 53, dies in Los Angeles  
 01/19/11- Last pumping operations cease; pumps abandoned  
 06/07/12- Behan 66, dies in St.Mary's hospital, Tucson  
 02/16/22- John Slaughter 82, dies at his ranch  
 10/25/21- Bat 67, dies in New York City as Sports Editor of Morning Telegraph  
 \_\_\_/\_\_\_/26- James Earp 85, dies in Los Angeles  
 01/13/29- Wyatt 80, dies in Los Angeles; buried Colma,CA  
 \_\_\_/\_\_\_/30- Cochise County Seat is moved to Bisbee  
 05/02/32- Clum 80, dies in Los Angeles  
 11/02/40- Big Nose Kate 89, dies in Prescott's Arizona Pioneers Home; buried there as Mary K.Cummings  
 \_\_\_/\_\_\_/44- Josie Earp (Wyatt's 3rd wife) dies  
 09/30/62- Tombstone named National Historical Landmark

# TOMBSTONE CHRONOLOGY

A brief sequential compilation of some noteworthy happenings relevant to this city's colorful past.

J.Daub Wallner

**CITY OF TOMBSTONE**  
 VISITOR AND INFORMATION CENTER  
 FOURTH & ALLEN STREETS  
 POBOX 280  
 TOMBSTONE, AZ 85638  
 PHONE: 520-457-3929

TOMBSTONE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
 POBOX 995  
 TOMBSTONE, AZ 85638  
 PHONE: 520-457-9317

TOMBSTONE OFFICE OF TOURISM  
 POBOX 917  
 TOMBSTONE, AZ 85638  
 PHONE: 1-800-457-3423

REPRINTED FEBRUARY 1998

A wealth of Additional information on Tombstone's history is available at our City Library, Courthouse Museum and local bookstores.

## 1877 -- 1880

- 08/01/77- Edward Lawrence Schieffelin 29, stakes his first area mining claim; names it "Tombstone"  
 03/15/78- Schieffelin discovers what is to become lucrative Lucky Cuss mine; records claim April 9  
 10/\_\_\_/78- J.D.Kinnears begins weekly stagecoach service with Tucson; 1-way 17-hour trip with overnite stop, \$10  
 03/05/79- Townsite plotted, named "Tombstone"  
 12/01/79- Earps in town. Deputy U.S.Marshal Virgil Walter 36, with 3rd wife Allie; Wyatt Stapp 31, with 2nd wife Mattie; James Cooksey 38, with Nellie (aka Bessie)  
 12/\_\_\_/79- Golden Eagle Brewery erected, soon to be Crystal Palace; still in operation at Fifth & Allen  
 02/02/80- John P.Clum 28, arrives from Tucson after selling A.T.'s first daily, "The Arizona Citizen"  
 02/22/80- Daily U.S.Mail service begins  
 03/\_\_\_/80- John H.Behan 34, arrives from Prescott to start livery with partner John Dunbar  
 05/01/80- Clum publishes initial issue of Epitaph; glowing forecast of Tombstone's future  
 06/22/80- Buckskin Frank kills Mike Killeen at Cosmopolitan Hotel over affair with Killeen's estranged wife  
 07/\_\_\_/80- E.J.Bradshaw kills T.J.Waters during argument over Water's "ugly" new shirt  
 07/\_\_\_/80- Morgan S.Earp 29, arrives alone from Butte, Montana via Colton,CA  
 07/\_\_\_/80- Mary Katherine (Big Nose Kate) Horony 29, opens Tombstone's first bordello  
 07/21/80- Oriental Saloon opens, "...most elegantly furnished.."  
 07/27/80- Wyatt 32, appointed Deputy Sheriff of Pima County  
 09/09/80- Grand Hotel opens  
 09/15/80- Dr.George Emery Goodfellow 23, resigns as Army surgeon to start practice in Tombstone  
 10/11/80- John Henry (Doc) Holliday 29, in town few months, has skirmish in Oriental with operator Milt Joyce  
 10/27/80- City Marshal Fred White, trying to subdue rowdy cowboys, is shot (accidentally?) by William "Curly Bill" Brocius, dies few days later; initial confrontation between cowboy and Earp factions  
 10/28/80- Deputy U.S.Marshal Virgil 37, appointed temporary City Marshal  
 11/09/80- Wyatt resigns office of Pima County Deputy Sheriff  
 11/12/80- Virgil loses City Marshal election to Ben Sippy

## 1881

- 01/14/81- John (Johnnie Behind-the-Deuce) O'Rourke kills W.P.Schneider in Charleston; brought to Tombstone to avoid lynching, protected in Vogan's until lynch mob disperses; some later reports portray Wyatt as lone hero holding mob at bay  
 02/01/81- Behan appointed first Sheriff of newly formed Cochise County; violates pledge by naming Harry Woods Undersheriff instead of Wyatt  
 06/06/81- City Marshal Sippy takes leave; never returns  
 06/07/81- Irish League dance is first event held at new Schieffelin Hall on Fremont Street  
 06/22/81- disastrous fire starts as barrel of whiskey explodes at Arcade Saloon; 66 businesses destroyed  
 06/24/81- Virgil sworn in as acting City Marshal  
 07/\_\_\_/81- Wyatt/Josie Marcus romance heats up, much to dismay of Josie's former lover, Sheriff Behan  
 07/04/81- Deputy U.S.Marshal Virgil appointed permanent City Marshal by Mayor Clum  
 07/05/81- Doc arrested for Philpot murder with warrant based on ill-gotten affidavit signed by sodden scorned lover, Big Nose Kate; Doc released on \$5,000 bond; charges dismissed  
 08/\_\_\_/81- "Old Man" Clanton and five cowboys killed in Guadalupe Canyon during rustled cattle drive; Doc and Earps suspected by some  
 10/12/81- Oriental reopened; rebuilt after fire damage  
 10/26/81- 2:30 pm (after much verbal and physical exchange between opposing factions): Gunfight west of Fremont Street entrance to OK Corral lasts 30 seconds; Behan 35, stands by; Ike 34, and Claiborne 20, run; Tom McLaury 28, Frank McLaury 33, and Billy Clanton 19, die; Morgan 30, and Virgil 38, wounded; Doc 38, scratched; Wyatt 33, unscathed  
 10/27/81- Ceremonious funeral for Billy Clanton, McLaurys  
 10/29/81- warrants issued to arrest Earps and Doc for murder; served on Wyatt and Doc only; each released on \$10,000  
 11/30/81- Hearing over; Judge Wells Spicer finds for defense (history upholds decision as legally sound)  
 12/26/81 Billy and Lottie Hutchinson open new Bird Cage Theatre; admission 50 cents  
 12/28/81- Deputy U.S.Marshal Virgil shot on Fifth aside Crystal Palace from ambush; maimed for life  
 12/29/81- Wyatt appointed Deputy U.S.Marshal via telegraph

## 1882

- \_\_\_/\_\_\_/82- Ed Schieffelin 35 sells all and moves to California as millionaire  
 01/17/82- inebriated John Ringo challenges Wyatt and Doc who disdainfully refuse to oblige; no fight  
 01/23/82- Deputy U.S.Marshal Wyatt and federal posse leave town with variety of warrants; mainly after Virgil shooters  
 01/30/82- Ike, Phineas (Phin) Clanton and Pony Diehl surrender to posse of lesser repute, issued warrants for attempted murder of Virgil; Judge Wm.H.Stilwell dismisses charges on technicality  
 03/18/82- Morgan Earp 31, killed at billiard table by shot thru rear window in Campbell & Hatch Saloon; 2nd shot barely misses spectator Wyatt  
 03/20/82- Deputy U.S.Marshal Wyatt and "posse" allegedly kill suspect Frank Stilwell in Tucson railyard; arrest warrant issued next morning  
 03/21/82- Wyatt, Doc, party return to Tombstone; discover they are "wanted" for Stilwell murder  
 03/21/82- Wyatt, Doc, four others resist arrest by Sheriff Behan, leave Tombstone from Cosmopolitan  
 03/24/82- Earp "posse" encounters Curly Bill Brocius gang near Iron Springs (or Mescal Spring); Wyatt allegedly kills Bill in ensuing gunfight  
 04/\_\_\_/82- lavish civic banquet for General William T.Sherman in Tombstone at Maison Doree restaurant  
 05/05/82- Wyatt, Doc argue, separate in Trinidad,CO; Doc leaves with William Barclay (Bat) Masterson for Denver; Wyatt, Warren Earp head for Gunnison,CO  
 05/16/82- Doc arrested in Denver by "officer" Perry Mallan for Stilwell murder; Bat comes to Doc's assistance  
 05/22/82- Pima County Sheriff Bob Paul arrives in Denver with arrest warrants; Earps still in Gunnison  
 05/29/82- Colorado Governor Pitkin refuses request for extradition; Doc freed; Earps untouched in Gunnison  
 05/25/82- second disastrous fire destroys much of Tombstone business district; starts in Tivoli Saloon  
 07/14/82- Ringo's body found shot thru head in Turkey Creek Canyon; later attributed to Wyatt by wife Josie  
 11/18/82- Bill Claiborne killed by "Buckskin" Frank Leslie from side door of Oriental Saloon; charges dismissed