A SHORT HISTORY OF CAMP VERDE, ARIZONA, TO 1890

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TODAY CAMP VERDE is a shopping center for local ranchers, farmers and miners, its sleepy appearance giving little indication of its drama-studded past. This paper is only a brief sketch of the highlights of that past, intended to show that in the story of Camp Verde lies material for one of the most interesting chapters in the history of the American Southwest.

The village is located in the Verde River Valley of Yavapai County, Arizona, not far from the geographical center of the state. The Verde River is a permanent stream draining a large portion of the Mogollon Rim country and flowing south to a junction with the Salt River east of Phoenix. Near Camp Verde it flows through a wide valley, meandering its way between the Black Hills on the west side and the Mogollon Rim on the east. Bordering the river today are many irrigated farms.

The pediment plains provide grassland for cattle-grazing, and in the surrounding mountains are timber, minerals and more grazing land. The valley floor is classified as Lower Sonoran desert country, with mesquite, cat's-claw and creosote bush as the principal plants. The slopes of the hills are part of the Upper Sonoran life zone, with piñon and juniper as the dominant plant life. The mountain areas fall into the category of the Transitional life zone, with western yellow pine and other members of the pine family as the diagnostic plants.

Archæologists have provided us with the first field-notes for the story of Camp Verde. The earliest evidences of man in the Verde Valley are found in the northern end, just below the red rock country of Sedona and Oak Creek Canyon. Here rest the material remains of a people who probably inhabited the area some 2,000 to 4,000 years ago. The projectile points and small manos found suggest that these people were a nomadic hunting and gathering group, practicing little if any agriculture.

In the period beginning somewhat before A.D. 1000, according to the archæologists, two distinct groups of people, both living in

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pit-house villages, occupied the valley. In the southern part, near Camp Verde, are the remains of a group which had its origin further south, on the Gila and Salt Rivers — the group called by the prehistorian, the Hohokam. In the northern section of the valley were other pit-house dwellers who had found their way from the Flagstaff region down over the Mogollon Rim, and settled along the many small streams flowing out of the Rim country.

From about A.D. 1100 to 1400 the population of the valley increased at a steady rate. Most of the newcomers were from the Flagstaff region. The Hohokam apparently either left the valley shortly before A.D. 1100 or mingled with the northern peoples. This northern group has been named the Sinagua. After 1150, most of the villages in the valley were contiguous-roomed masonry structures. Some of the best examples of these villages are preserved today at Tuzigoot National Monument and Montezuma Castle National Monument.

The Sinagua people were irrigation farmers growing corn, beans, squash and cotton. Hunting of game and gathering of wild plants also added greatly to their economy, as did trade in valuables and possibly necessities, carried on with peoples outside of the immediate area. Macaws were traded from Northern Mexico and marine shells from the California coast and the Gulf of California. Other items such as turquoise, argillite and other minerals were brought into the region. Seemingly one of the main prehistoric trade routes in the Southwest was through the Verde Valley.

After A.D. 1300 the Sinagua group evidently began to have difficulties, either among themselves or with other Indians, for after that date most of the villages were larger and were constructed with defense in mind. Villages either were cliff dwellings or were built on top of the steep-sloped hills of the area. Many theories have been advanced to account for abandonment of the valley at about A.D. 1400. Among these, harassment and warfare are most commonly noted. Others include disease, either lack of water or over-irrigation, and religious superstition. For whatever cause, the Verde Valley was abandoned by the Sinagua early in the 1400's.

Little is known of the history of the area from the time of the Sinagua abandonment until the first *conquistadores* came into the area in the late 1500's. When the Spaniards entered the valley they

reported an aboriginal people who have been identified with the present-day Yavapai. Just when the Yavapai filtered into the area is unknown, as is the date of entry of the Tonto Apache, the other aboriginal ethnic group associated in later times with the general region.

Historical accounts of the Verde Valley begin with Luxan's narrative of the expedition of Antonio de Espejo to the mines at what is now the town of Jerome, Arizona, in 1583 (Hammond and Rey, 1929). Espejo's route in the valley is described by Bartlett (1942) as being down Wet Beaver Creek, past Montezuma Well, across country to the Verde River, and up the river to the mines. The expedition found little, to its leaders' way of thinking, to justify settlement, and so nothing other than some knowledge of the country came of the trek.

A few years later the valley was again visited by Spaniards in search of mines, this time by an expedition sent out by the settler of New Mexico, Oñate. His lieutenant, Marcos Farfán de los Godos, was in charge of the expedition which arrived at the Jerome mines in November, 1598 (Bolton, 1916, pp. 199-280). Farfán's entry into the valley was over much the same route as Espejo's (Bartlett, 1942). His report on the mines was much more encouraging, but again nothing came of the Spanish venture. There followed a long period of White ignorance of the area which lasted until the Nineteenth Century.

During the early 1800's there roved through Western America that remarkable group of unofficial explorers known as the "Mountain Men." These were the beaver trappers, who first brought knowledge of the West to the young American Republic. Apparently the Verde Valley was visited by some of these trappers who were working out of Taos and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Cleland (1950, pp. 179-182) reports that the Patties, Ewing Young, Pegleg Smith, George Yount and Milton Sublette were in the vicinity of the Verde in 1826. This combined party later split, and half of the group ascended the Verde, trapping as they moved north. In 1829 Ewing Young and forty men left Taos for a trapping expedition at the head of the Salt River. Among the forty was Kit Carson, an apprentice to the trade. This group trapped down the Salt River to

the mouth of the Verde and up this river to its source (Cleland, 1950, pp. 225-228).

In 1854 another trapper, Leroux, worked his way up the Verde, but apparently never reached the vicinity of present-day Camp Verde (Whipple, 1856, part 3, pp. 14-15). Although records are lacking, it is highly probable that the Verde River and its tributaries were frequently visited by the Mountain Men in search of the fur-bearing animals which were at one time plentiful in the region. Little is known of the work of these men, as many of them were illiterate and others were anti-social, and kept their knowledge to themselves. However, when the army was exploring portions of the west and subduing the Indians in the 1850's and 1860's, the Mountain Men and their knowledge of the country proved invaluable to the soldiers.

The discovery of gold on Hassayampa and Lynx Creeks in 1863 heralded the first settlements in Yavapai County. After years of exploration by the Spaniards, Mountain Men, and the United States Army, the magic word "gold" — which heralded the settlement so much of the west — proved its potency again. Prospectors and miners from California and New Mexico began to pour into the Prescott sector. With the coming of the miners the Indian troubles started. While the Mountain Men had moved noiselessly among the Yavapai and Apache peoples, the miners came among them with gusto and with little regard for anything but quick riches.

On October 23, 1863, General Carleton, in command of the Department of New Mexico, set up the District of Northern Arizona. Its headquarters was established at Fort Whipple, which was first constructed in Chino Valley in December, 1863. In May of 1864 it was moved to the newly-named settlement of Prescott near Granite Dells (Wyllys, 1950, p. 153). The command was set up to protect the newly found mines and the miners from the aroused Indians of the region.

Events were moving swiftly for Arizona in these latter days of the Civil War. The Territory of Arizona was established on February 24, 1863. The Territorial Governor and party arrived at Fort Whipple on January 22, 1864, while the fort was still under construction by Major E. B. Willis of the First California Infantry.

The large group of soldiers and miners provided the impetus for

other groups to move into the region — the farmers and ranchers. Supplies were brought to Whipple via either the California ports and thence overland, or up the Colorado River and overland. Either way was a long, costly trip. With the discovery of one of the few well-watered areas in Arizona and with a ready market in the army and the miners for any and all produce, it was an ideal setup for the pioneer farmer and rancher. And it was the reason for the founding of the first White settlement in the Verde Valley.

The first permanent settlers arrived in the Valley in January, 1865. Wingfield (1933) gives the best accounts of the founding of this first settlement. Accounts of earlier dates, sometimes given, appear to ignore the fact that until the founding of Fort Whipple and the town of Prescott, settlement in the Verde Valley would have been virtually impossible, from a security standpoint. Undoubtedly, during the summer of 1864 and possibly in late 1863, hay cutters were in the valley harvesting the lush growth of black grama and other grasses for sale to the army at Fort Whipple, but they were transient visitors, not settlers.

The first true settling party was under Dr. J. M. Swetnam, and came from Prescott. The party returned to Prescott in February, 1865, after exploring the Clear Creek and Beaver Creek areas. With a new load of supplies the group returned to the Verde and made preparations for a permanent settlement on the banks of Clear Creek near where it enters the Verde.

The Swetnam party quickly built a small stone fort, incorporating the walls of an old Indian ruin into the building. This fort is reportedly still partially visible on the Charles Ward Ranch on the north bank of Clear Creek. Soon after building the fort they dug a well, dammed Clear Creek, dug an irrigation ditch (after one unsuccessful start), and by May had some 200 acres in grain and garden vegetables. In August a load of barley was taken to the quartermaster at Fort Whipple. At first he refused to buy the poor quality grain, but was finally convinced that his help was necessary to keep the small pioneering group on its feet. The grain was purchased and orders placed for more produce.

The Clear Creek settlement was not without its troubles, and the fort had been erected with good reason. The Tonto Apache and the Yavapai Indians, who lived in the district, soon found that

corn grown by the settlers was as good as Indian corn, and took much less work to acquire. As the harvest season drew closer the Indians harvested more and more of the maturing crop. The settlers soon were unable to cope with the many raids on their fields and asked the commandant of Fort Whipple for aid. Lieutenant "Baty" (possibly the Lt. Abeyta of Wells, 1927) with sixteen men came to succor the settlers in mid-September of 1865. Soon after, Lieutenant McNeal with additional men relieved Lieutenant Baty. What feats the army had to perform are unknown, but the colony survived.

After its first settlement at Clear Creek the Verde Valley began to attract a greater number of farmers, ranchers and prospectors. With the increase in population came the necessity for more protection. In January, 1866, Camp Lincoln was established as a permanent army post. Various historians have reported the founding of this post as dating variously from 1861 to 1868. Much of the confusion apparently has come from notes on the early detachment of soldiers which was assigned to guard the Clear Creek settlement. Army records (Camp Verde files in the National Archives) show, however, that this detachment was not considered a permanent post or camp.

Camp Lincoln was located on the east bank of the Verde River approximately one mile north of the juncture of the Verde with Beaver Creek. Situated on a gravelly flat-topped hill, it overlooked the valley to the south. Here it could protect the settlers to the south and the road from Fort Whipple coming into the valley from the west.

The camp was undoubtedly established by some of the same New Mexico Volunteers who had previously been detailed to protect the settlement. In January, 1865, Arizona had been made a district of the Department of California and removed from the jurisdiction of the Department of New Mexico. However, the new commanding officer of the Arizona District, General John S. Mason, did not reach Yuma until May of that year, and it was June by the time he took command. Evidently troops of the New Mexico Department were not able to return to New Mexico until they were relieved in early 1866 by the Arizona Volunteers of the Department of California.

Captain Washburn, in charge of the Arizona Volunteers, had

started gathering his command in June, 1865. He was ordered to Camp Lincoln on January 4, 1866, and the post was soon thereafter turned over to him. Companies A and E of the Arizona Volunteers operated out of Camp Lincoln.

By 1866 most of Arizona was seething with Indian troubles. General Mason reported that at the time of his arrival all of the roads north of the Gila were blockaded, all but one or two of the ranches abandoned, and most of the settlements threatened with either abandonment or annihilation (Lockwood, 1938). Mason may have exaggerated somewhat, but the settler's lot was certainly not a happy one, faced always with the threat of Indian raids.

At Camp Lincoln, in the summer of 1866, the Arizona Volunteers had their own difficulties. Maintenance orders issued at District Headquarters somehow petered out in the desert country; supplies at Lincoln ran low and the garrison was placed on half rations. To make matters worse, many of the volunteers' yearly enlistments were up. They had not been paid, and their clothing was reduced to tatters. Half of the men struck on August third, and Washburn stated that under the conditions he could not blame them. By the end of August the garrison consisted of five men. On September thirteenth three of the five were discharged and the settlers were asked to help protect the government's property. On September twenty-ninth the post was regarrisoned by a company of the 14th Infantry Regiment under Captain Downie, and the crisis was over. By November fifth the last of the Volunteers had been discharged and Washburn called for mustering-out.

Such was the ignominious end of the Camp Lincoln companies of Arizona Volunteers. Most of what has been written of them, however, has nothing but praise for their efforts. The troops consisted mostly of native Arizonians: Pima, Papago, Yaqui and Apache Indians, Mexicans, and some Anglos. General McDowell, in command of the Department of California at the time, wrote in his 1866 report that they were the most effective troops for service in that country that the army had. Not only were they able to cope with the Indians in their own territory, but they did it with less expense than the regular troops. The observation may be made that the Volunteers fought the Indians in country they knew, using Indian tactics, while the regular troops were fighting in unknown territory

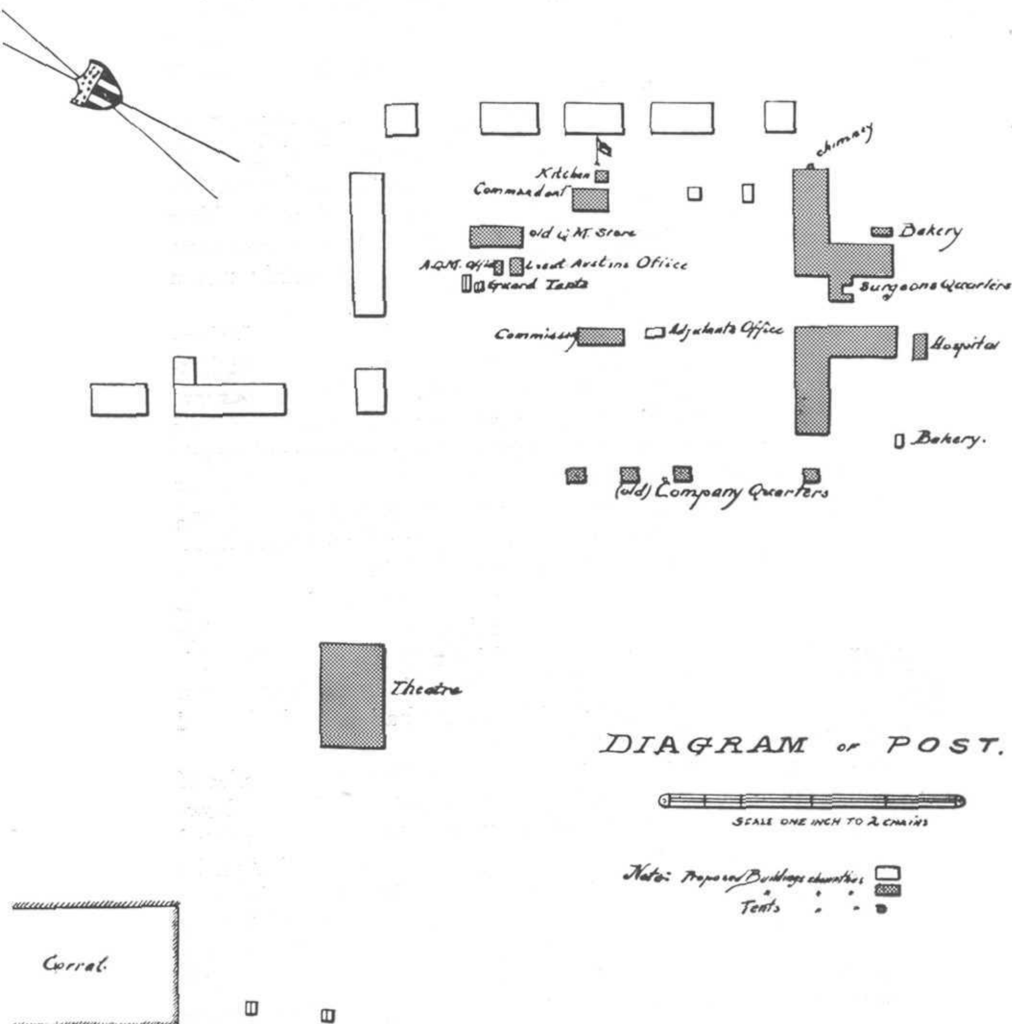

Fig. 1. *Plan of Camp Verde-Camp Lincoln probably ca. 1868. Most of the large buildings shown as "proposed" were later built. (Camp Verde Files, National Archives.)*

against a little-known enemy who fought with rules not found in the tactical manuals of the army.

It was during the occupancy of Camp Lincoln by the Arizona Volunteers that Grief Hill near Copper Canyon got its name. Sergeant Elia of Company E with a small group of men was attacked here by a band of Indians. The fight lasted a good hour and several of the soldiers were killed. There was grief on both sides, though, for the Indians also suffered severe losses.

Shortly after elements of the 14th Infantry Regiment moved into Camp Lincoln they were joined by one of Arizona's most fabulous characters. Pauline Weaver — Mountain Man, fur trapper, scout, guide, prospector and miner — was assigned to Camp Lincoln in November, 1866. There are indications that Weaver had visited the Verde Valley as early as 1832 in his fur-trapping days (Weight, H. and L., 1952). Weaver was in his late sixties when attached to the troops at Camp Lincoln as Indian Scout. He was one of the first of the prospectors to search the Prescott area, and knew the local Indians intimately, so he was well qualified for the job.

While at Camp Lincoln, Weaver set up his camp one-half mile north of the post, down by the river, where he gained some privacy. At this camp he died on July 21, 1867, and was buried by his friends of the 14th Infantry Regiment in the military cemetery. In 1892 his remains, along with the other army dead, were removed from Camp Lincoln to San Francisco. In 1929 his remains were again moved, from San Francisco to Prescott, where they now are.

On November 23, 1868, the name of the camp was changed by the army from Lincoln to Verde. This was done because of confusion with another Camp Lincoln among the army posts. The plan in Fig. 1 is of the Camp Verde of this period. Reconnaisance of the ruins of old Camp Lincoln-Camp Verde show that most of the proposed buildings shown on the map were built. Many of the permanent buildings are recognizable on the site from the ruins of the old foundations, still visible.

A story typical of the times is that of the journey of Lt. Cradlebough's detachment, in 1867 or '68, from Fort Whipple to Camp Lincoln. On the first night's bivouac the detachment was attacked at dawn by a group of Apaches and most of the horses were killed or driven off. With the army party was one Jackson McCracken,

a civilian of considerable girth. During the fight he took refuge behind the largest tree in the vicinity, a giant with a trunk about six inches in diameter. Surviving, through brisk deflationary efforts, he later said he would have given all of Arizona to have had that tree-trunk six inches thicker.

Another tale has to do with a group of prospectors who had left Santa Fe during 1869 and were heading west looking for placer deposits. They were attacked while at work, four or five were killed, and they lost their supplies and animals. They headed for the settlement at Clear Creek, but in coming down the trail to the settlement their bedraggled appearance caused them to be mistaken for a party of Indians. The soldiers on duty fired some fifty shots at them before the harried prospectors could convince their attackers that they were not Apaches.

Sometime in late 1870 or early '71 it was decided to move the location of Camp Verde. The original camp was near the river, and in those days much of the land along the river was marshy, supporting heavy growths of willows, reeds, and rushes. Malaria was a problem, according to some chroniclers; there were anopheles and other mosquitoes in the region, along with swarms of other insects. These insects, even without the malaria, would have been enough to justify relocation of the camp.

The site chosen for the new post was the high mesa on the west side of the river where the present village of Camp Verde is located today, opposite and one mile south of the original site of Camp Lincoln. This new location was far enough away from the river and high enough above it to afford safety from the hazards of the marshes. It gave a much better view of the lower valley, and as the river looped around the spot, it also provided added protection against surprise raids from three sides.

Arizona was separated from the Department of California and formed into a department by itself on April 15, 1870. General George Stoneman was made the commanding officer on May third of that year. In June, 1871, the colorful General George Crook succeeded Stoneman as commanding officer of the Arizona Military Department.

General Crook left Tucson in July, 1871, heading for Fort Whipple. He was accompanied by his "Boswell," Captain John G.

Bourke, and the men of Troop F, Third Cavalry. The group traversed the unmapped and practically unexplored Mogollon Rim country on their way to Fort Whipple. Bourke says of the adventure, "No one in the party had ever visited Camp Verde . . . (the) only guide, Archie McIntosh, was totally unacquainted with Arizona" (Bourke, 1891, p. 148). In spite of this, the party finally reached Camp Verde, coming into the valley via the old trail which ran down the north side of Beaver Creek Canyon.

After looking over his command General Crook began to plan his campaigns to put an end to the Indian difficulties. During the early 1870's most of the recalcitrant Indians had become organized. Two chiefs stand out in the chronicles: Delsha (or Delt-Che, the Red Ant), and Cha-lipun (the Buckskin-Colored Hat) called "Charley-Pan" by the Whites. Both leaders have been variously assigned to both the Tonto Apache and Yavapai tribes. Undoubtedly their bands by the 1870's were mixtures of both tribal stocks.

Wells reports (1927, p. 456) that at one time Delsha, as the result of a trip back to Washington, D.C. in the late 1860's, was a peacemaker. He was embittered later, however, when an army doctor at Fort Reno, where Delsha had gone on a friendly visit, shot him without provocation. After recovering from his wound he became a leader in the Indian efforts to drive the white man out of the territory.

Lieutenant Wheeler, in charge of the army's geographical surveys, came through Camp Verde in 1871. His description gives an insight into the conditions of the time. Wheeler (1872, p. 76) writes:

> No Indians were seen again until reaching Camp Verde, although throughout Chino and Agua Fria Valley they frequently commit depredations. The ranchmen always take their rifles with them; and it is a common occurrence for herders to be picked off, or men shot, while at work in the fields. The Apache-Mojaves roam through this region, and their country extends east to the mountains beyond the Verde River. At the post of that name several hundreds were being fed. Quite a large number were found at Beaver Creek and, although then enroute to the post to get their five days allowance, showed great insolence to a small advanced guard that had proceeeded the party.

The encircling campaign of General Crook to round up the Indians during the winter of 1872-1873 was rugged and bitter, but successful. The focus of the campaign was the Tonto Basin country just below the Mogollon Rim — wild, untamed wilderness in any

season, but in winter adding deep snows and freezing temperatures to its perils. In early April, 1873, a group of Indians made overtures to surrender at Camp Verde — and on April sixth came the end of the major Indian troubles in northern Arizona. On that date Cha-lipun with 300 followers, representing a total of approximately 2,300 Indians, unconditionally surrendered to General Crook at Camp Verde. The surrender scene has been described by Bourke (1891, p. 212) and is worthy of repetition:

> At Camp Verde we found assembled nearly all of Crook's command and a greasier, more uncouth-looking set of officers and men it would be hard to encounter anywhere. Dust, soot, rain, and grime had made their impress upon the canvas suits which each had donned, and with hair uncut for months and beards growing with straggling growth all over the face there was not one of the party who would venture to pose as an Adonis; but all were happy because the campaign had resulted in the unconditional surrender of the Apaches and we were now to see the reward of our hard work.

A system of reservations had been planned for the various Indian groups during 1870. One was established near Camp Verde, but it saw little service until the surrender of the local Apache and Yavapai groups. Soon after the surrender most of the Indians were placed on the Camp Verde Indian Reservation and put to work in an effort to make them at least partially self-sufficient. The Indian Bureau and the army decided to make farmers of the nomadic hunting-and-gathering Apaches and Yavapais.

The reservation was under the command of Colonel Julius W. Mason of the 5th Cavalry. Directly in charge of the Indians was Lieutenant Walter S. Schuyler, 5th Cavalry. Under Lt. Schuyler's supervision the construction of an irrigation ditch was commenced. Supplies of any sort were very short and it was necessary to use old picks, axes, files, rasps and sticks to dig the canal. Groups camped along the line of the ditch and the men tediously dug the dirt loose while the women hauled it away in their baskets. The ditch when completed was five miles long and averaged four feet wide by three deep.

Soon after the completion of the ditch some fifty-seven acres were put under cultivation in garden crops. Preparations were also made to place additional land in cereals, especially corn and barley. In 1874 more Indians were added to the reservation when the Camp Date Creek Reservation, southwest of Prescott, was abandoned

and the Western Yavapai Indians occupying the reserve were moved to Camp Verde.

Reservation life was restricting and some of the Indians expressed their dissatisfaction by leaving the reserve. Usually they did not get far before they were caught and returned. Sometimes it was necessary to use force to return them. Meanwhile the country was still being scoured for small groups who had not surrendered. Several "battles" reported by the army during this period fall into these two categories. Troop K of the 5th Cavalry was in engagements at Diamond Butte on May 21, 1874, and at Black Mesa from May 20 to June 5, 1874. Indians located at Haskell Spring, later to be used as a water supply for the town of Clarkdale, were rounded up by Lt. Harry Haskell, 12th Infantry, and placed on the reservation. Undoubtedly many more skirmishes, undocumented, took place during the same period.

During the winter of 1874-1875 the Camp Verde Indian Reservation was abandoned and its inhabitants moved to the Apache Reservation at San Carlos, Arizona. Bourke says that this move was due to pressure of government contractors in Tucson, who foresaw that the agricultural efforts of the Indians might cut out their market for supplies which were being bought by the army and given to the Indians (Bourke, 1891, p. 216).

Lt George O. Eaton of the 5th Cavalry was in charge of the move. Many of the Indians refused to leave the Verde Valley and attempted to hide out in the hills. They were pursued by the army and forced to go to San Carlos. One group hid in the Red Rock country of Oak Creek Canyon and was rounded up by Lt. Schuyler and Scout Al Seiber. Another group was tracked up onto the Mogollon Rim and finally caught near Sunset Pass, southwest of Winslow. However, they were not taken without a pitched battle.

It was at the Battle of Sunset Pass on November 1, 1874, that Lt. (later Capt.) Charles King was wounded. Capt. King had arrived at Camp Verde in May, 1874, and after receiving his wounds at Sunset Pass was sent back east to recuperate. His short stay in and about Camp Verde provided the settings for many of the novels he was to write in later years. Among his best known works dealing with Camp Verde were *The Colonel's Daughter,*

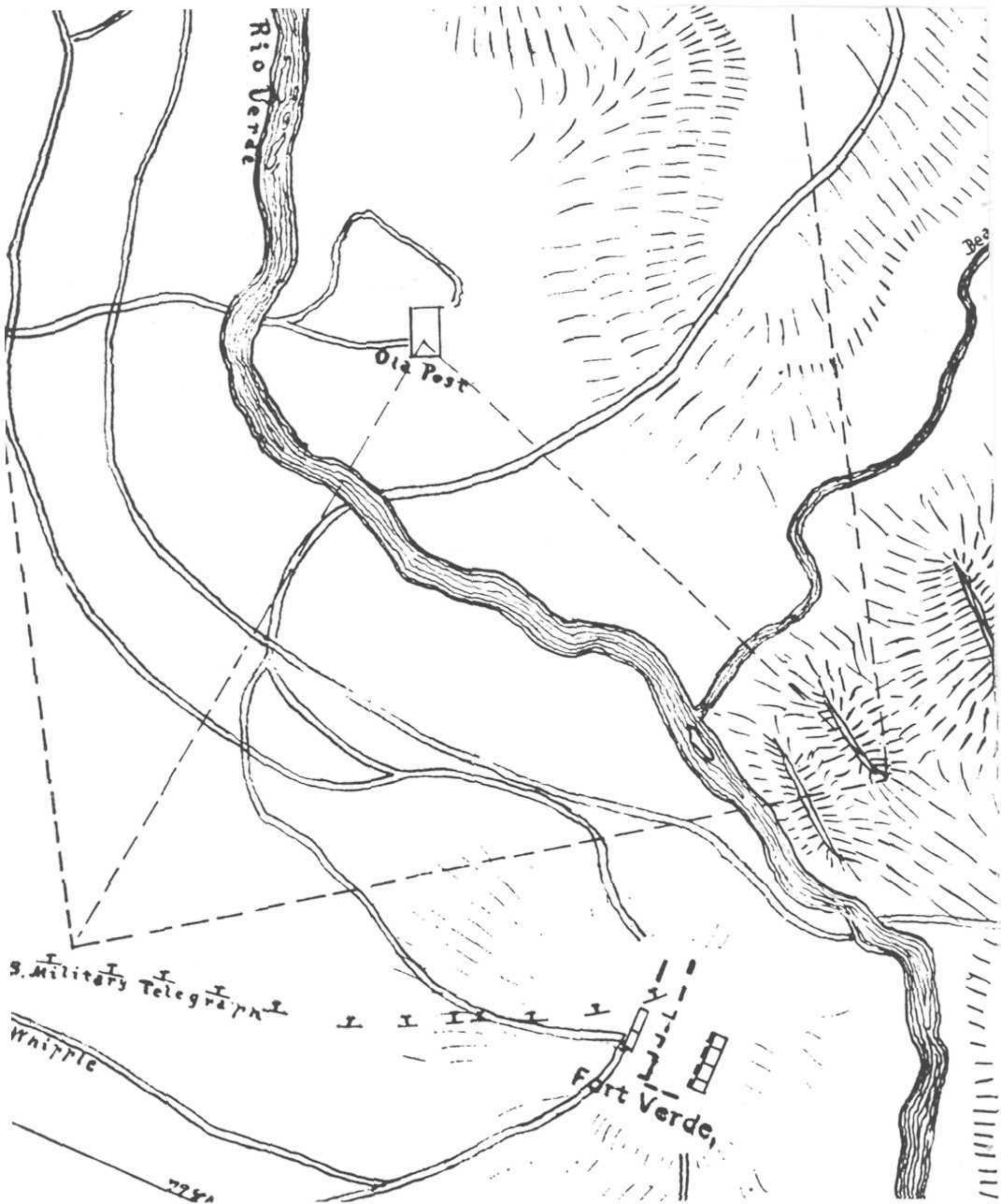

Fig. 2. *Map of Fort Verde area probably in 1880's. "Old Post" is old Camp Verde-Camp Lincoln. Scale: 4 in.-1 mi. (Camp Verde Files, National Archives.)*

Campaigning With Crook, Sunset Pass, and *Apache Princess* (Russell, 1952).

While part of the army was occupied with the reservation the rest was kept busy by General Crook in modernizing the command. Badly needed wagon roads were constructed or rerouted. The road between Camp Verde and Fort Whipple was practically rebuilt. A road was pioneered from Camp Verde to Fort Apache in 1873. Later known as Crook's Road, it followed the edge of the Mogollon Rim, at times only three feet from the edge of the precipice. Miles along the road were marked in huge roman numerals on trees and rocks. It is said that the numeral on "Thirteen Mile Rock," near Camp Verde, can still be seen.

The first military telegraph lines were being built during the same period. The first pole on the Fort Whipple branch was set September 2, 1873, and presumably the Camp Verde line was in operation soon afterward.

By the summer of 1875 things had fairly well quieted down around Camp Verde. That year General Crook left the Department of Arizona to try his military skill on the Sioux of the northern plains. In 1879 the designation of Camp Verde was changed to the more impressive title of Fort Verde.

In 1882 there were new Indian uprisings in Arizona, this time in the southern part of the territory among the White Mountain and Chiricahua Apaches. The disturbances brought General Crook back to Arizona in September, 1882, to resume his old command. Shortly before Crook's arrival the last Indian battle in northern Arizona took place. A group of seventy-five White Mountain Apaches, who had left the reservation under the leadership of Na-ti-o-tish, had been chased into the Mogollon Rim country and were finally caught in the Battle of Big Dry Wash. Some twenty-two Apaches were killed in this skirmish by troops of the 6th Cavalry under Capt. A. R. Chaffee on July 17, 1882.

After this final clash peace descended upon Fort Verde. With peace came more farmers, ranchers, and miners. The rich copper deposits of nearby Jerome were being exploited and future developments in the valley were to be centered around this now prostrate hillside mining town.

Hamilton (1884, pp. 112 and 338) reports only 112 troops at

Fort Verde in 1884, but during the same year 3000 acres were under cultivation in the Verde and a new canal was under construction to provide a thousand more acres. On July 22, 1884, the Indian Reservation lands at Camp Verde were relinquished to the Interior Department.

During the last years of the army occupation of Fort Verde one of the most famous naturalists of the time was stationed there. Edgar Allen Mearns took over the post of surgeon at Fort Verde in March, 1884. In the four years he was at the fort he managed to traverse most of northern Arizona and parts of southern Arizona and New Mexico. During his travels his primary duty was as surgeon to the troops, but at the same time, he amassed a great quantity of data on the wildlife of the area. His skill as a naturalist is memorialized in the scientific and common names of many Southwestern plants and animals. Also to his credit is the excavation and reporting of the ruin known as Montezuma Castle (Mearns, 1890). When Mearns left in 1888, for Fort Snelling, Minnesota, knowledge of the biota and archæology of Arizona had been greatly advanced.

Fig. 2 shows the relative locations of the old and new posts. Plans for the complete development of the new post, on file in the National Archives, were never fully materialized, for by 1890 there was no further need for an army post in the Verde Valley. By orders of the War Department issued April 10, 1890, all army holdings in the area were disposed of.

Thus ended the colorful days of the Cavalry Trooper and the grime-besmudged Infantryman . . . Suds Row, and all the dullness and excitement of army life in a frontier post. Camp Verde now belonged to the rancher, the farmer and the tourist.

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Romain Gary, French consul for the Southwest, with headquarters at Los Angeles, lectured at St. Francis Auditorium on the evening of October 12, on the subject "France and the Algerian Situation." He observed that Algeria has been a part of France by constitutional recognition for the past twenty-five years, and that the French government has recently moved toward constitutional reforms for Algeria which will give that country much greater political liberty, when effected. M. Gary is distinguished in the field of literature, having had six novels translated and published in the United States. His latest, *Roots of Heaven,* won for him one of France's highest awards, the Prix Concourt.