



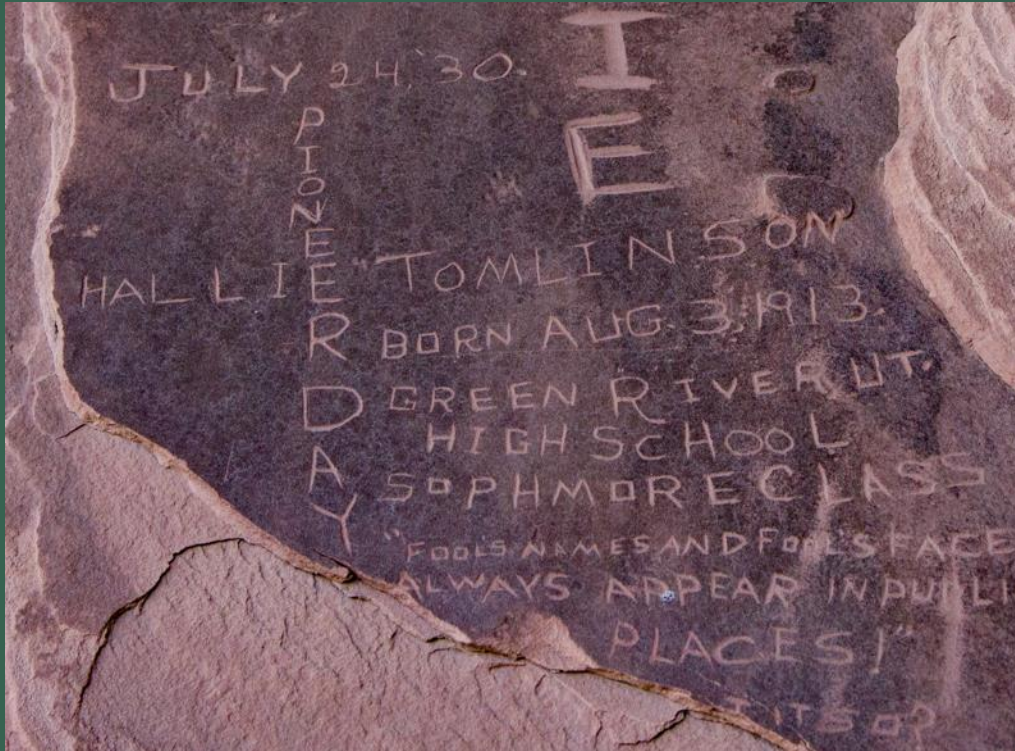
Historic Inscriptions & Their Role in Rock Art



with a ... Case Study
of Butch Cassidy & The Wild Bunch

What are historical inscriptions?

- Names & Dates
- Phrases & Sayings
- Spanish or French or English



They also include...

- Pictorials
- Symbols & Brands
- Western Message Panels



Indigenous or European... does it matter?

We can choose how to judge them...

- Vandalism
- Graffiti
- Desecration

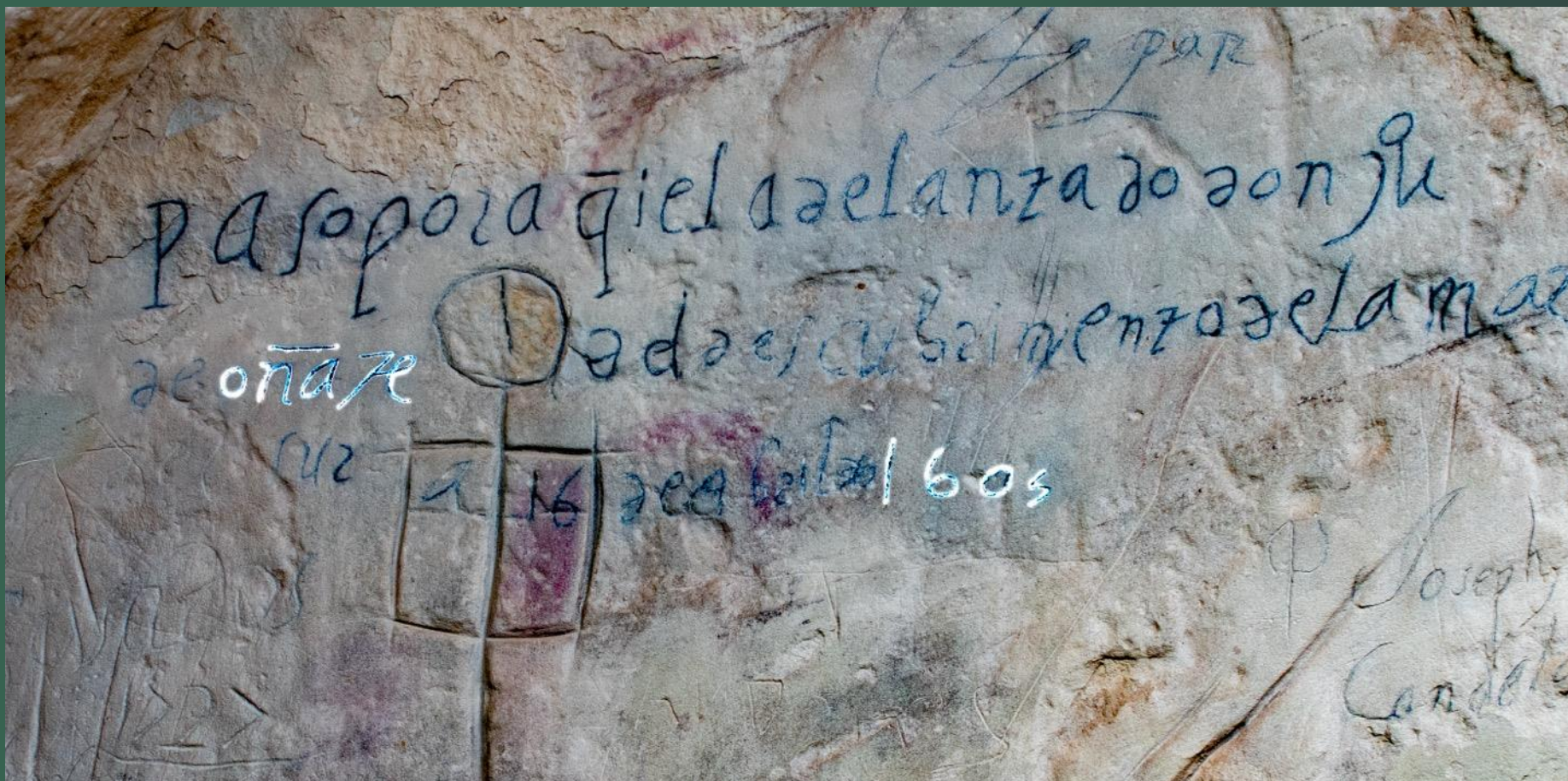
...or a continual record of passage

- A Cultural Composite

After European Contact wave after wave...



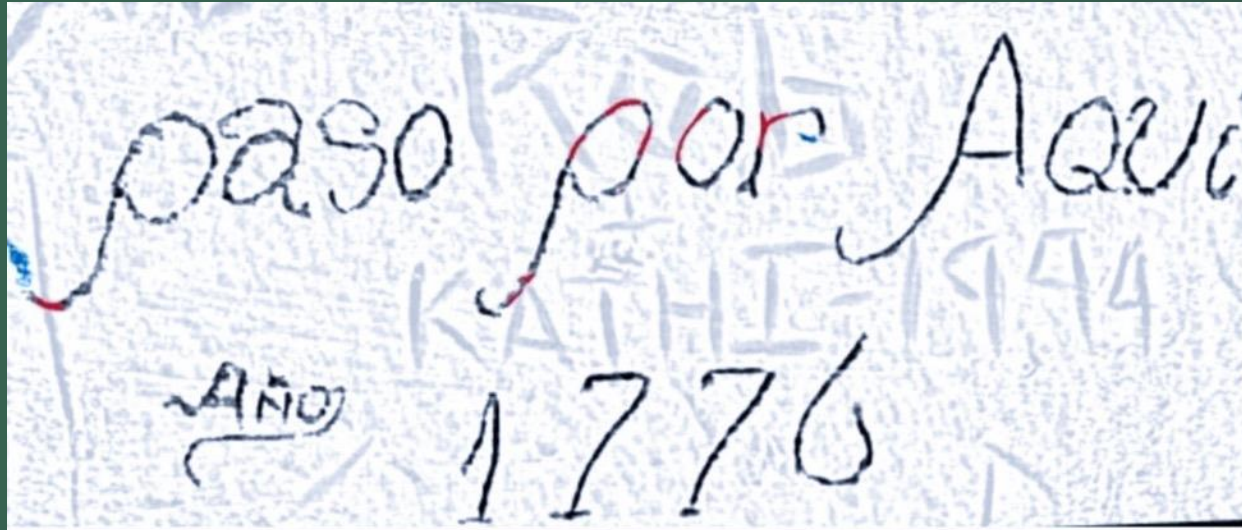
- Spanish Expeditions
- Fur Trappers
- Mormons
- Military Detachments
- Railroaders
- Farmers & Ranchers
- Miners
- Surveyors
- River Runners
- Cowboy Outlaws



Juan Onate
1605

El Morro
National Monument
New Mexico

Dominguez-Escalante
Expedition of 1776

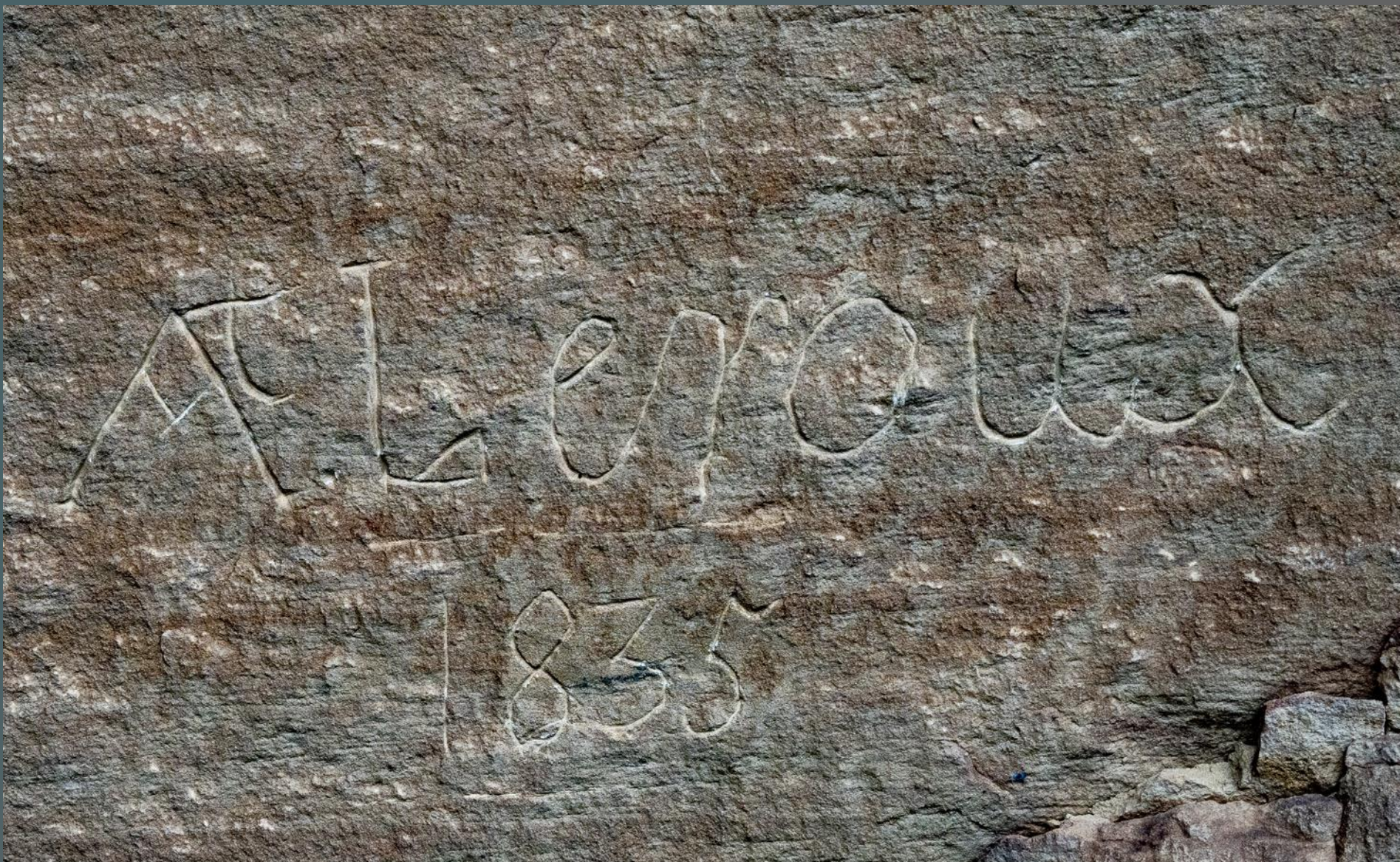


“paso por Aqui
Año 1776”



“passed by here
year 1776”

Padre Bay
Lake Powell
Utah



Antoine Leroux
1835

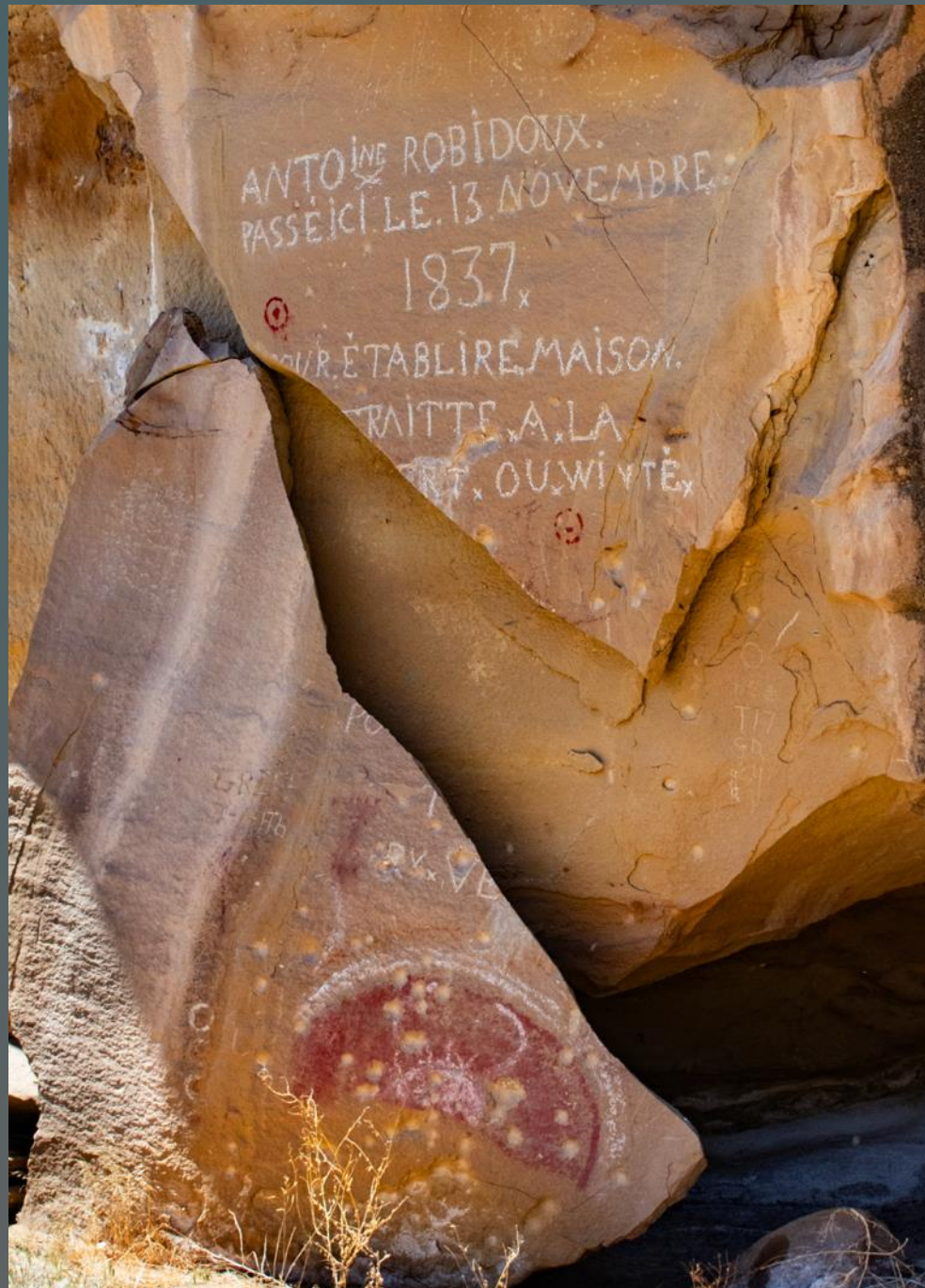
Fur Trapper
Uinta Basin



Denis Julien
1836

Mountain Man
&
River Runner

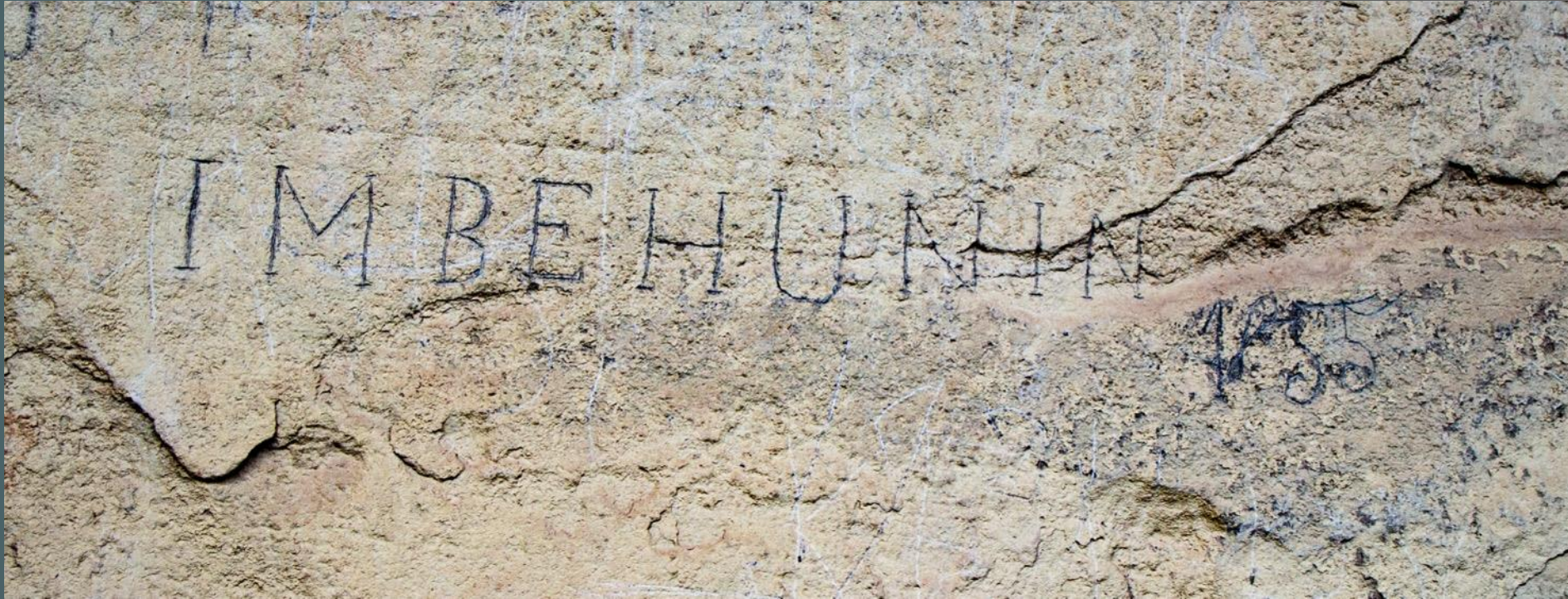
Green River
Near Moab



Antoine Robidoux
1837

Fort & Trading Post
Uinta Basin





I. M. Behunin
1855

Mormon
Elk Mountain
Mission to
Establish Town of
Moab



Carl E. Jensen
1881

Castle Dale
Railroad
Grade

Scandinavians scribe with
a reverse
“N” and “S”



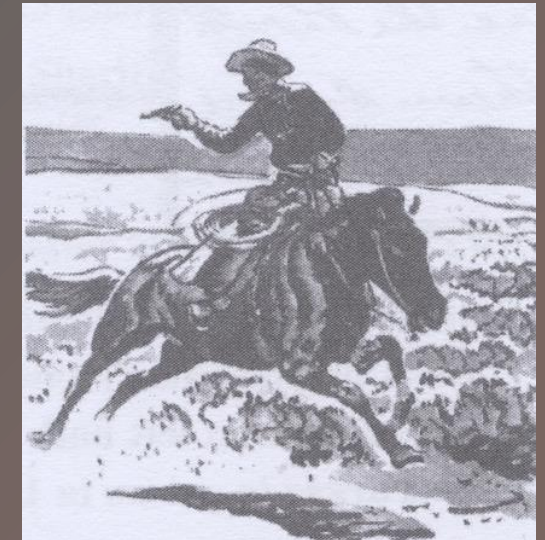
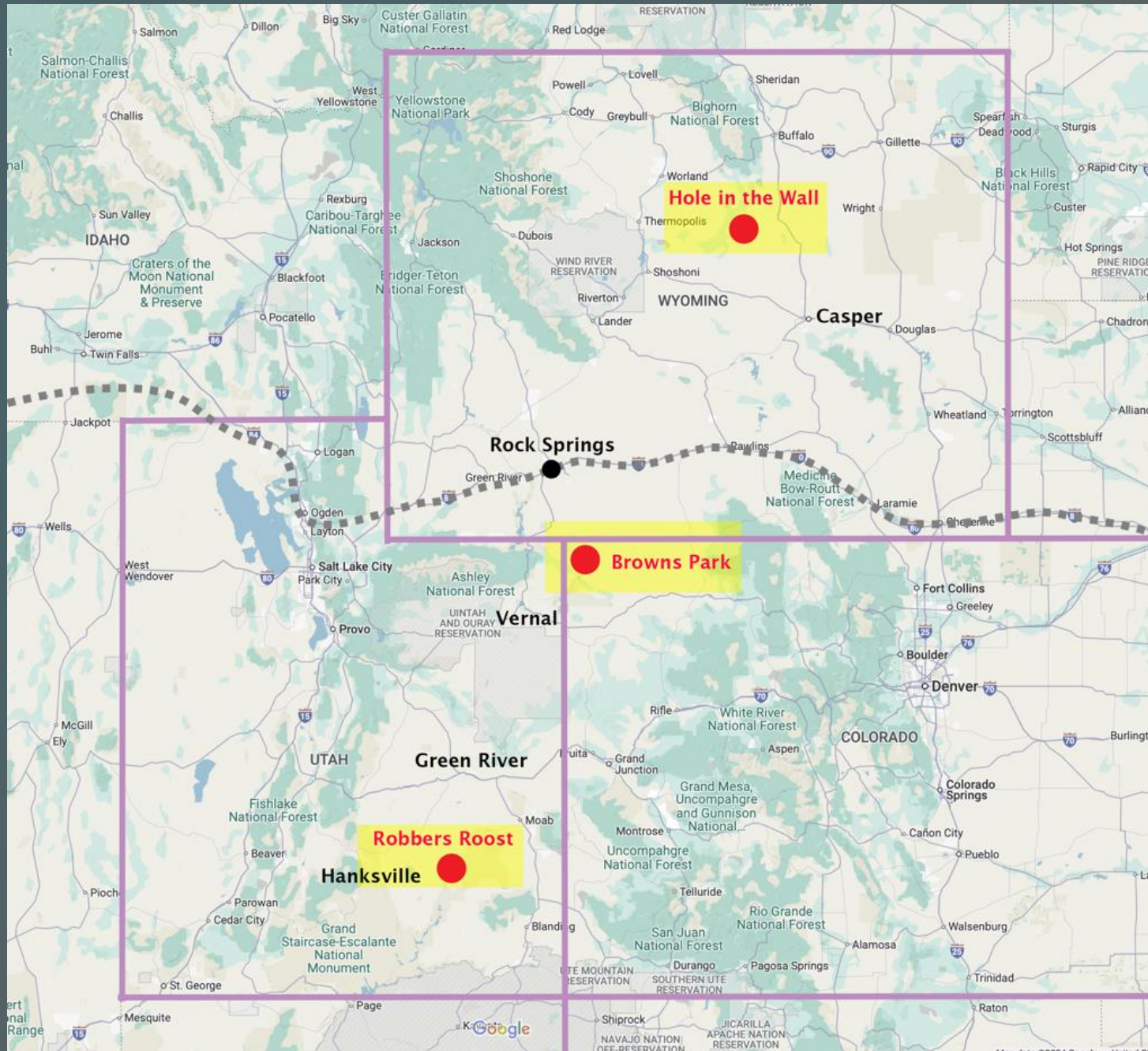
Cowboy Outlaws

.....

Butch Cassidy & The Wild Bunch

Outlaw Hideouts 1885 - 1905

- Three Corners – CO, WY, UT
- Black Dotted Line = Transcontinental Railroad
- They loved Browns Park with its “3-state getaways” and easy access to UP Railroad





Monte & Ella Butler 1897
Robbers Roost Rustlers

Authentic or Tribute (fake)?

.....

We will never know for sure

.....

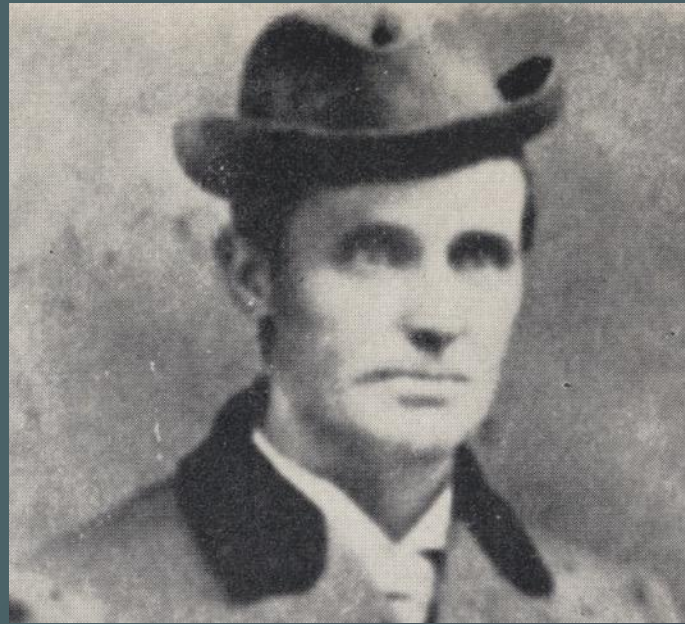
Some Clues...

- Do locations & dates match the history?
- Journals & Diaries
- Do letterforms look 19th century?
serifs & cursive & flourishes
- Are they obscure sites?

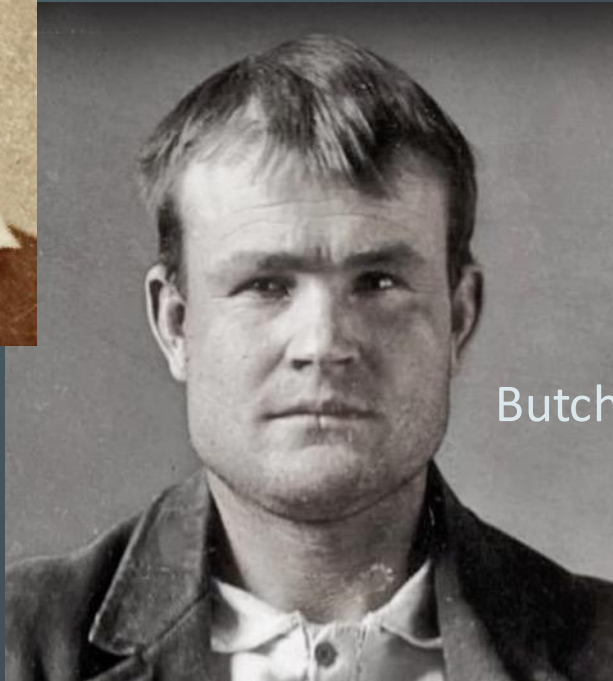
The Butch Cassidy Years

1889 - 1902

Tom McCarty



Matt Warner



Butch Cassidy

June 24, 1889

.....

Three men rob the San Miguel Valley Bank in Telluride, Colorado

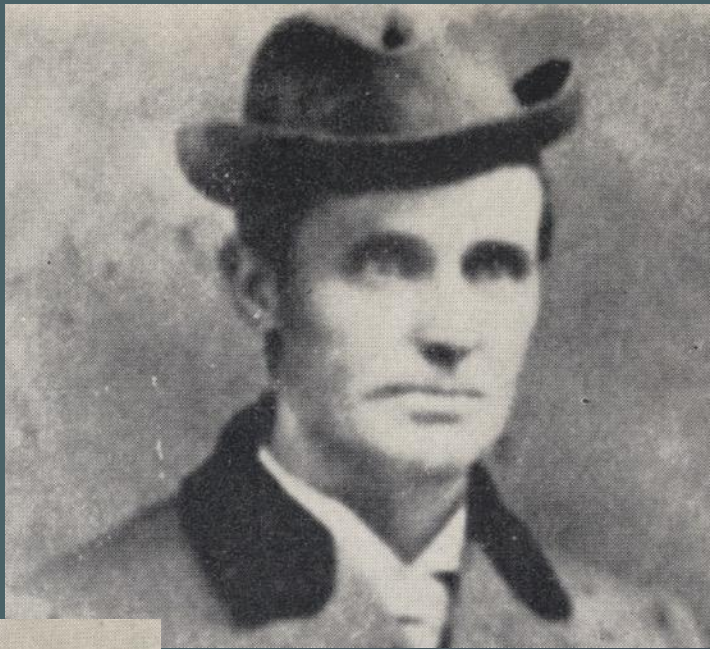
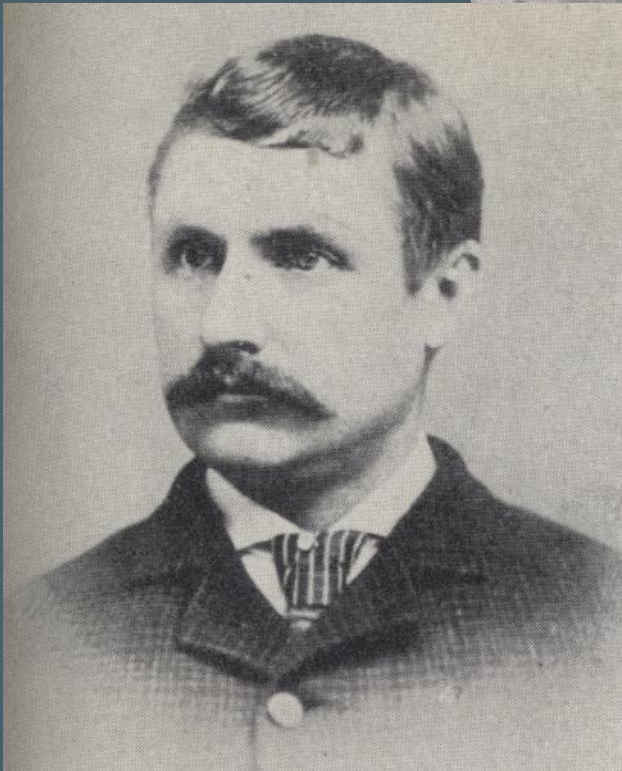
-
- They reportedly got \$21,000
 - They were never caught
 - It was Butch Cassidy's first heist



Tom McCarty
Matt Warner
Butch Cassidy



Bill McCarty

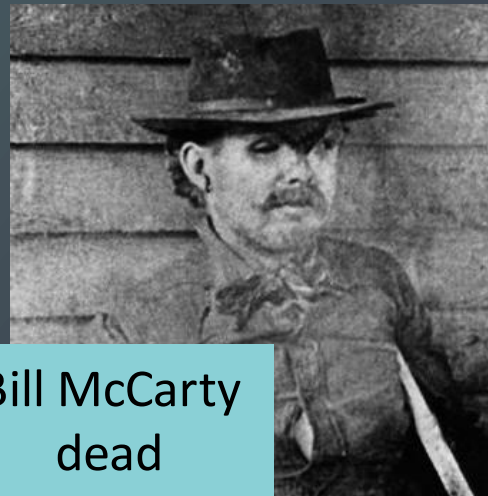


Tom McCarty

The McCartys

.....
September 7, 1893
.....

- Tom & brother Bill McCarty, along with nephew Fred, rob the Farmers & Merchants Bank in Delta, Colorado
- Bill and Fred are shot dead
- Tom rides away unhurt... ending his outlaw days



Bill McCarty
dead



Fred McCarty
dead

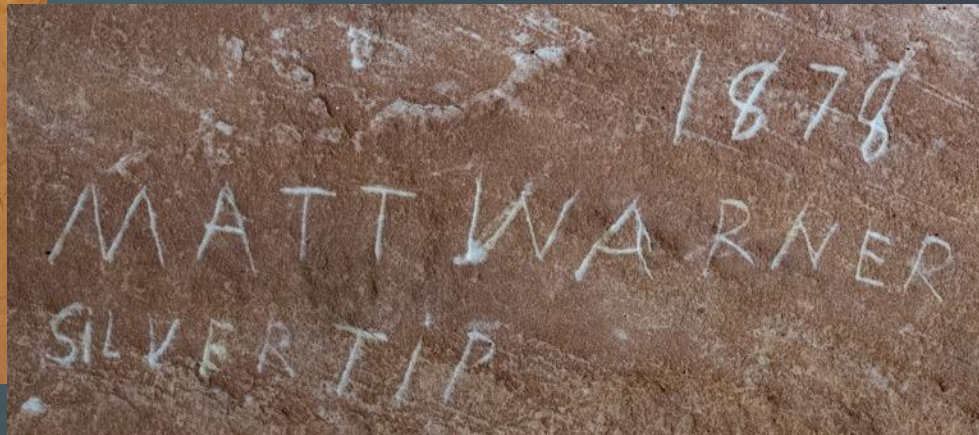


Matt Warner

- After 1889 Telluride bank heist, he continues his outlaw ways in Wyoming & Browns Park
- 1896 sentenced to Utah State Prison for manslaughter
- In 1900 released and decides to "reform"
- 1909 becomes Justice of the Peace in Carbonville, Utah
- 1938 dies in Price, Utah after becoming a folk hero & deputy sheriff



Buckhorn Wash



Capitol Reef Area

Butch Cassidy

Robert Leroy Parker

- Born April 13, 1866 in

Beaver, Utah

- 1879 family moves to Circleville, Utah
- 1882, still at home, Butch works for a shady cowboy named Mike Cassidy who is a “little on the rustle”
- 1884 Butch leaves home & adopts the name Cassidy as an alias
- The name “Butch” will come later

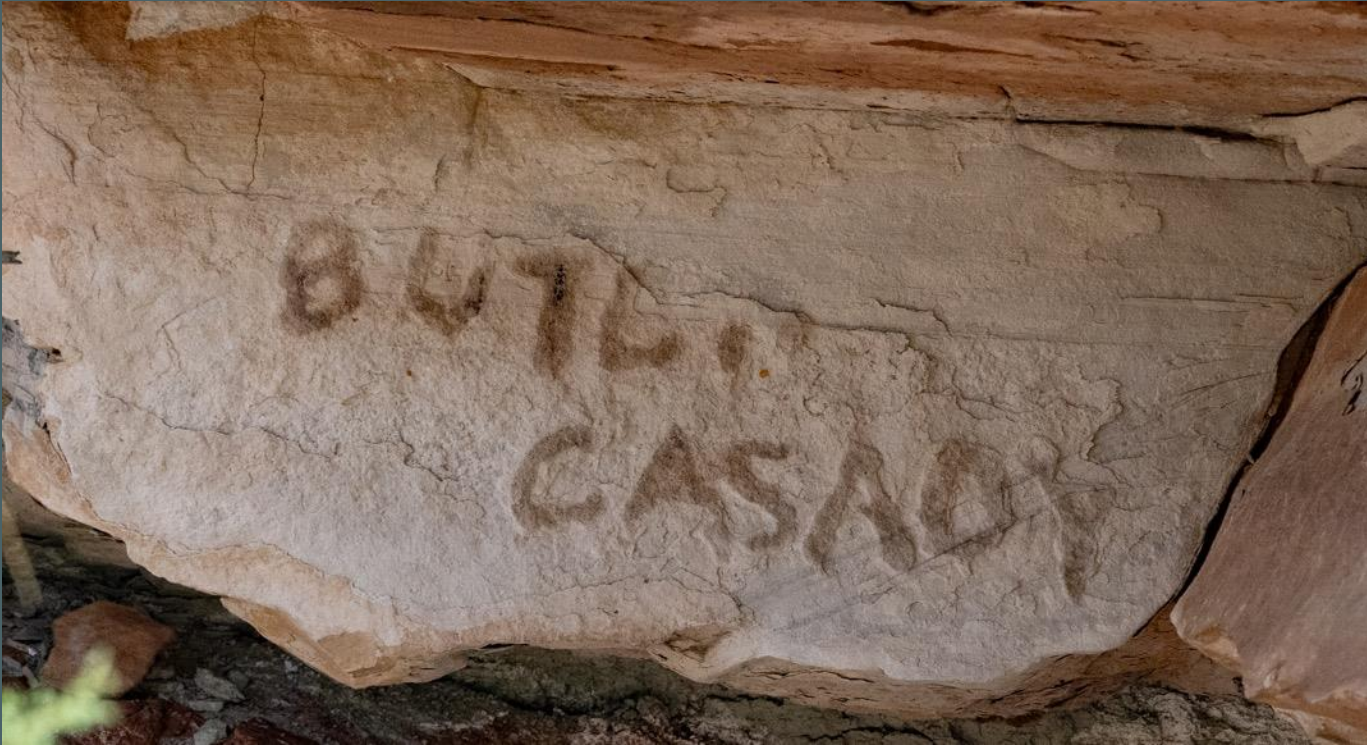




Butch Cassidy



- After 1889 Telluride bank heist Butch buys ranch near Lander, Wyoming
- 1894-96 Wyoming State Penitentiary
- 1896 – 1902 leader of the Wild Bunch
history implicates him in...
 - 4 train holdups
 - 3 bank holdups
 - 1 mine payroll holdup
- 1902 Butch is on the run... sets sail for South America with the Sundance Kid & Etta Place.



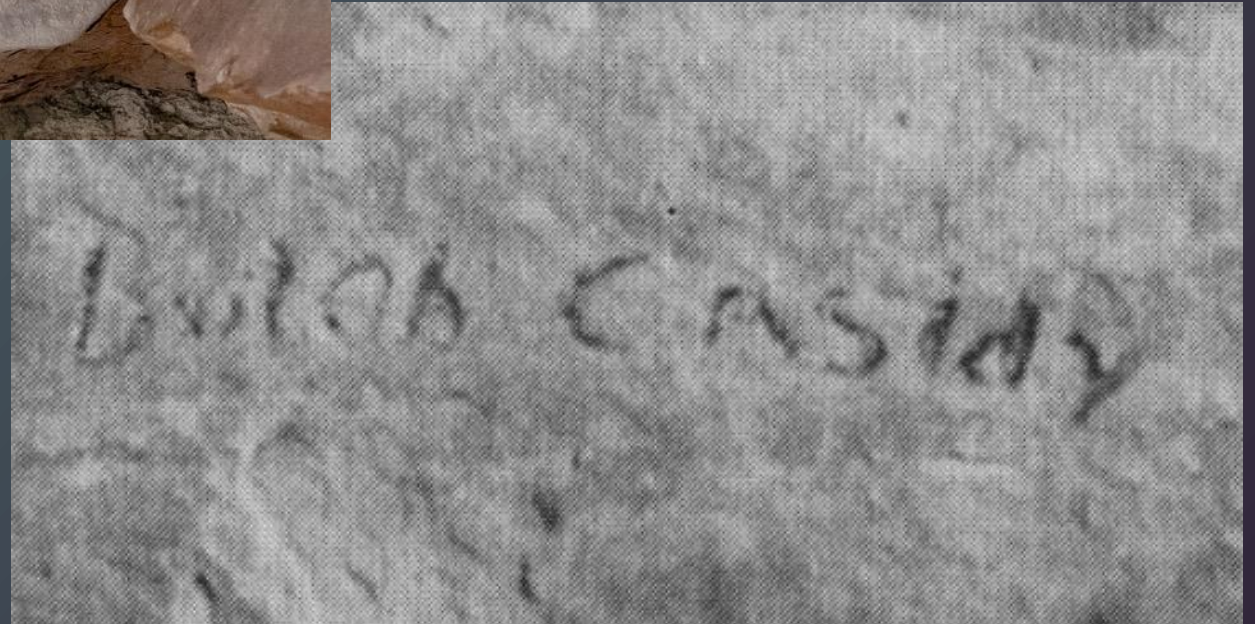
San Rafael Area

Butch Cassidy



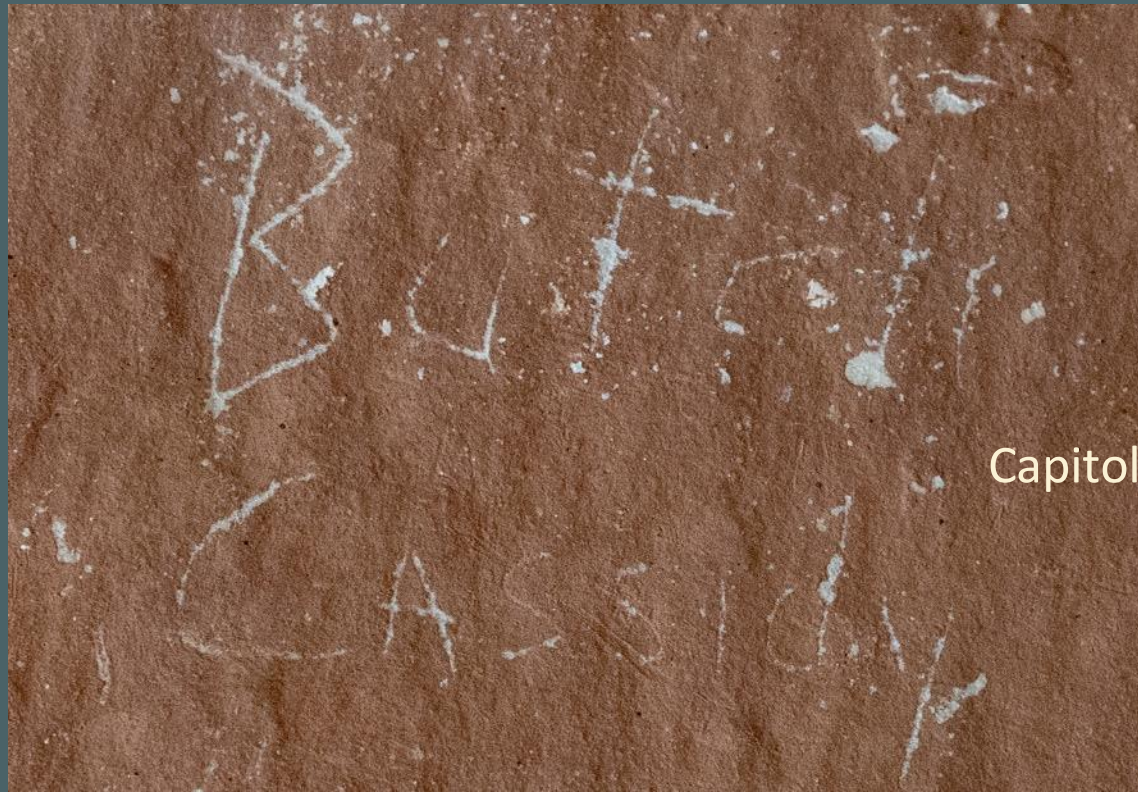
Inscriptions

“Casady vs Casidy”



San Rafael Area

Photo Credit: Pearl Baker



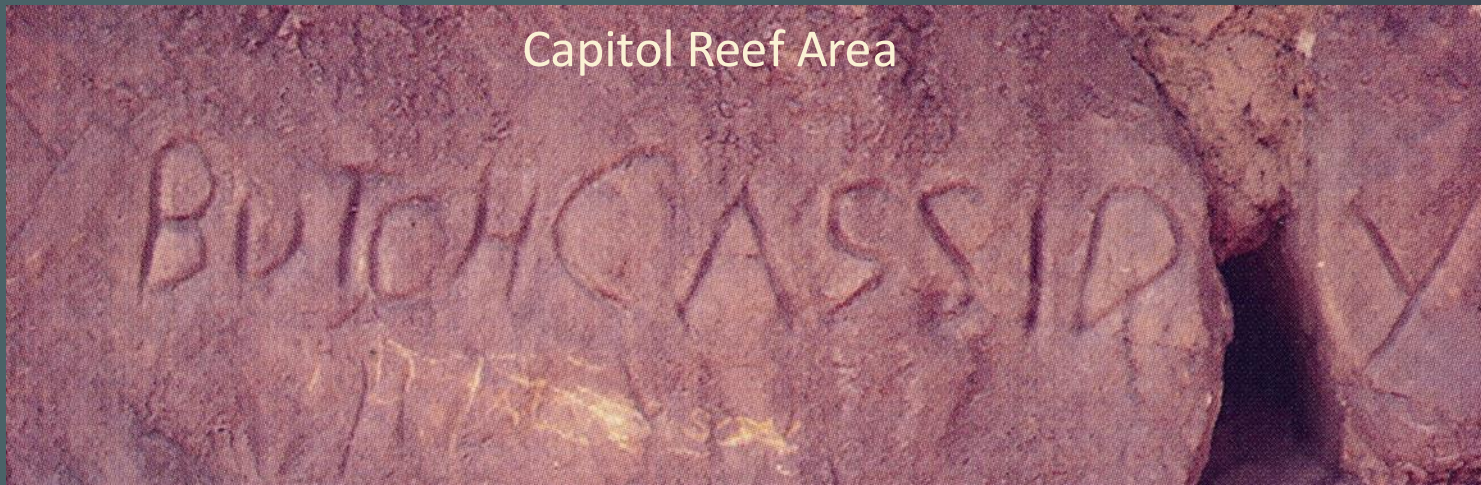
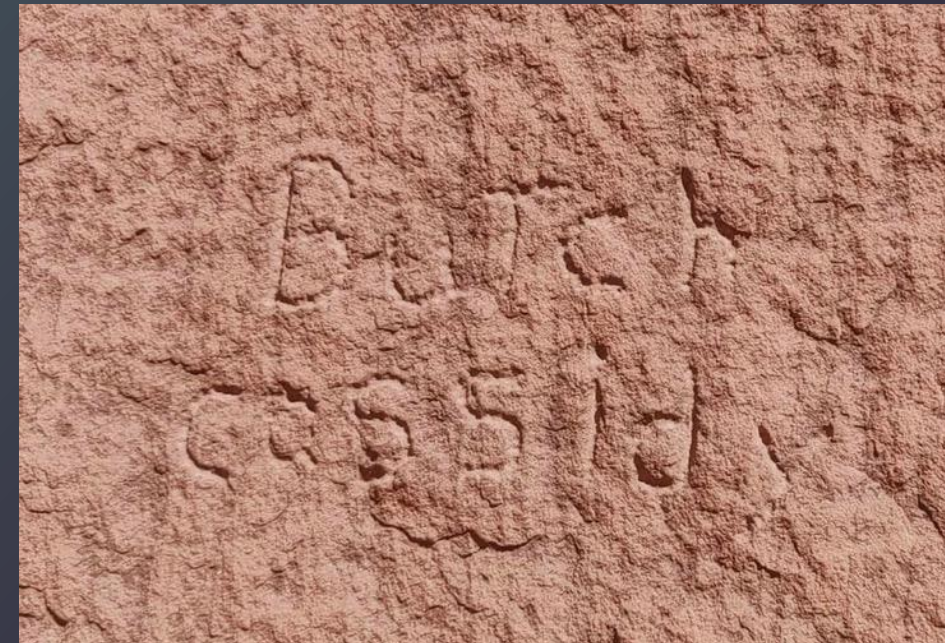
Capitol Reef Area

Butch Cassidy

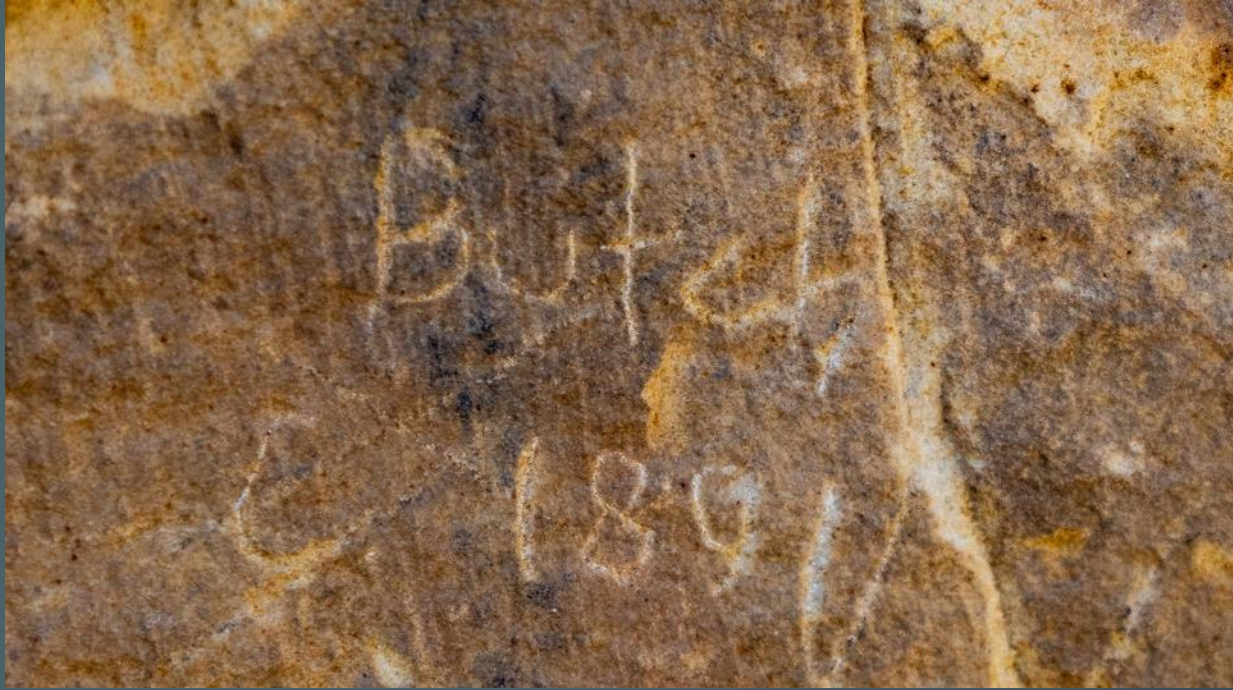


Inscriptions

Robbers Roost Area



Capitol Reef Area

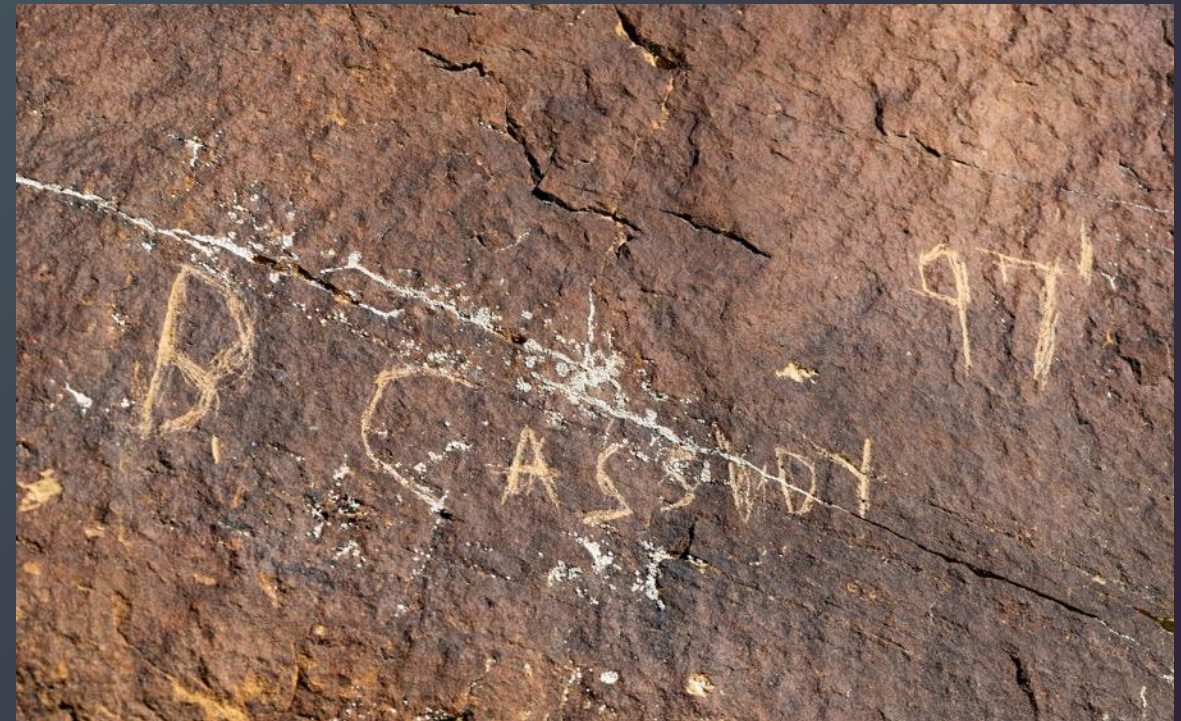


Browns Park Area

Butch Cassidy

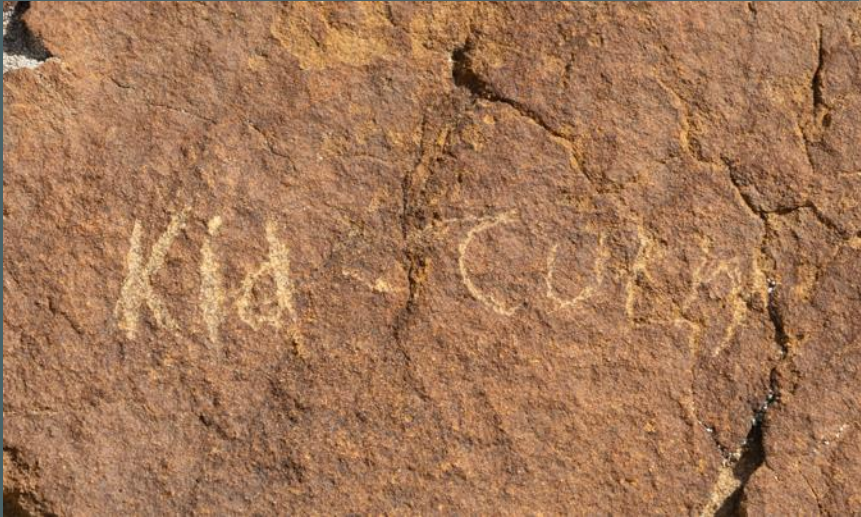


Inscriptions



Browns Park Area

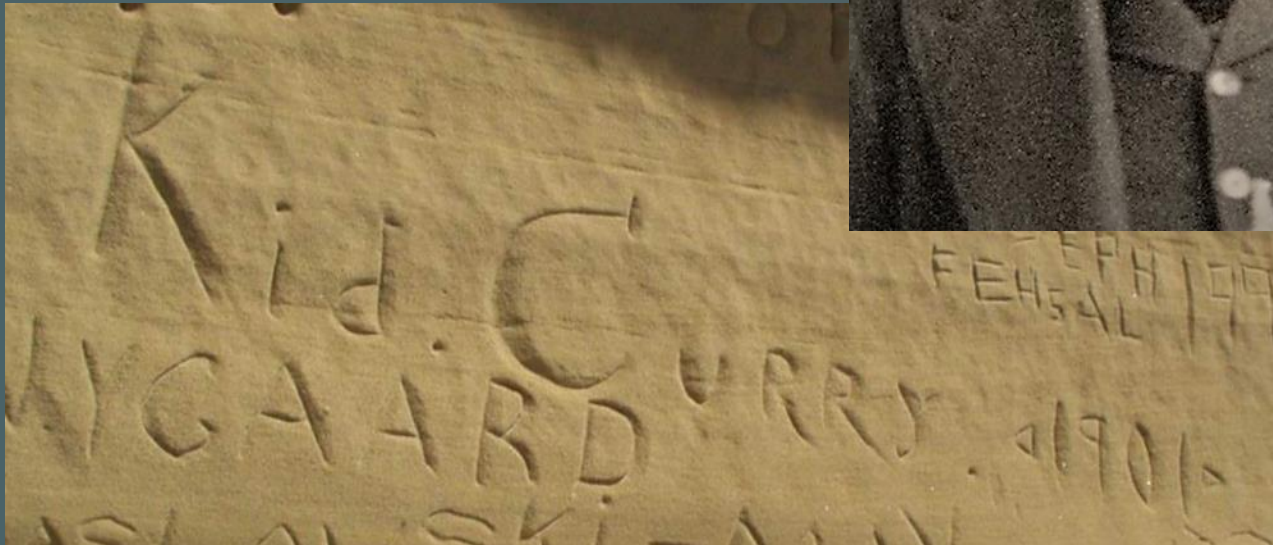
Browns Park Area



Kid Curry

Harvey Logan

- Curry crime family comes in from the north – WY & MT
- 1897 – 1902 active in the Wild Bunch – most ruthless
- Reportedly kills “a dozen or so” people including 5 lawmen
- 1904 Killed in CO during a train robbery shootout



Montana

Photo Credit: Tim Urbaniak



Silver Tip

Bill Wall or Bill Howells

- Robbers Roost horsethief & Wild Bunch outlaw
- 1896 Bill & Matt Warner sentenced to the Utah State Prison for manslaughter
- 1899 gunfight at Robbers Roost Spring along with Blue John & Ed Newcomb
- Afterwards drifts into Browns Park & Wyoming & fades away



Capitol Reef Area



Sundance Kid

.....
Harry Longabaugh
& Etta Place
.....

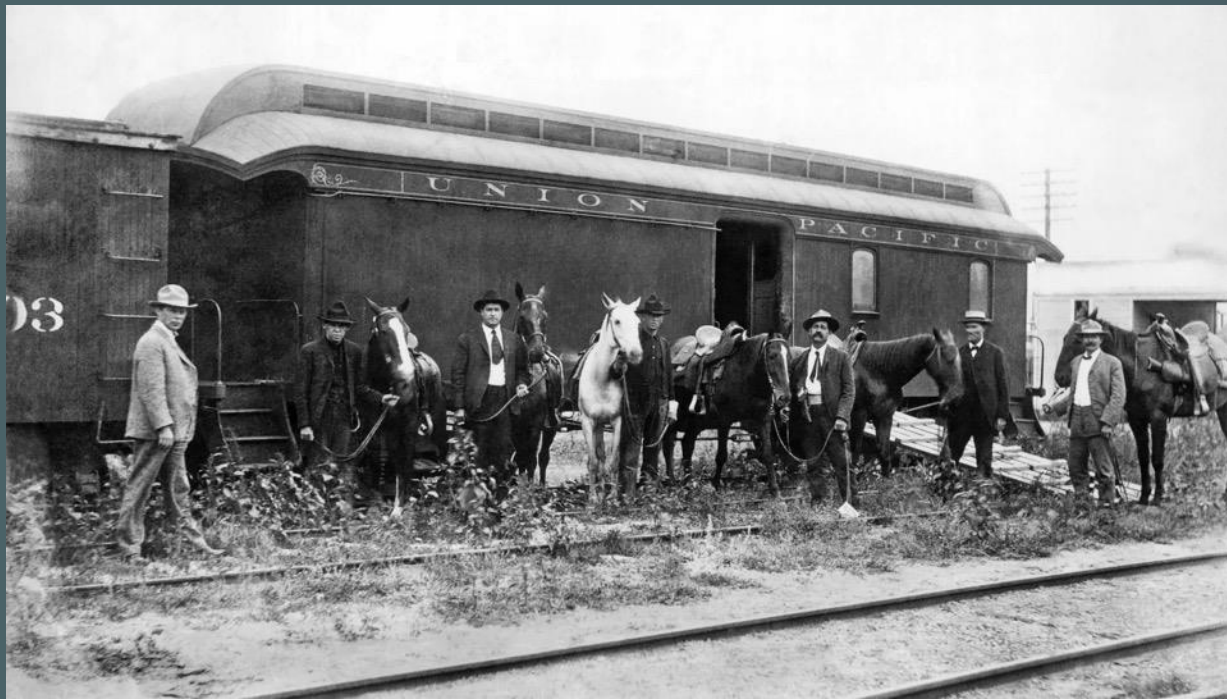
- 1899 – 1901 Sundance a major player in the Wild Bunch
- 1902 Sundance, Etta Place & Butch Cassidy sail for South America



Elzy Lay



- Butch Cassidy's best friend
- 1896 – 1899 mastermind of the Wild Bunch bank & railroad robberies
- 1899 sentenced to New Mexico Territorial prison
- 1906 pardoned from prison
- 1935 dies in Los Angeles



The End Comes

- 1899 Spanish-American War patriotic enlistments...
"Remember the Maine"
- 1899 Pinkerton Detective Agency
- 1900 Tom Horn - cold-blooded hired assassin murders Isom Dart & Matt Rush in Browns Park

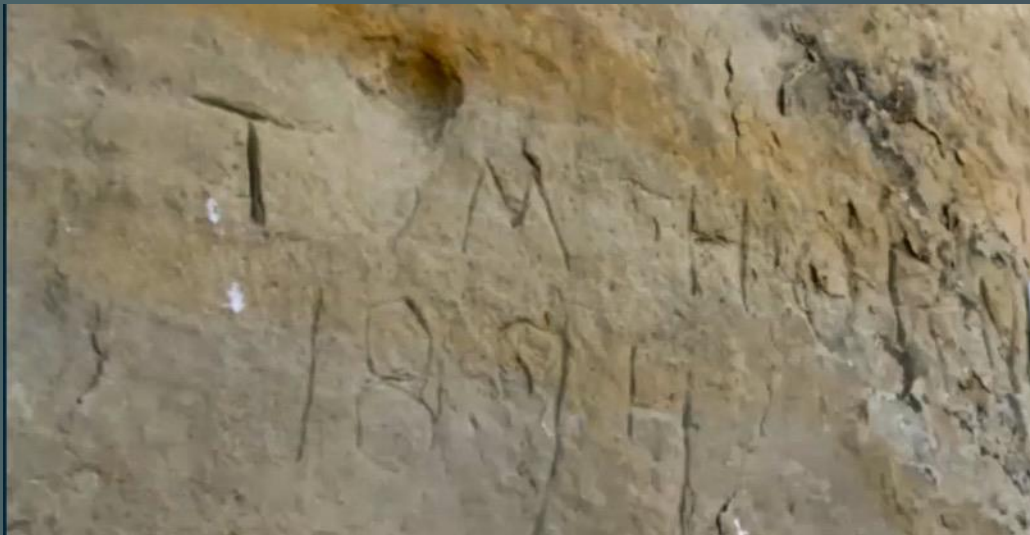
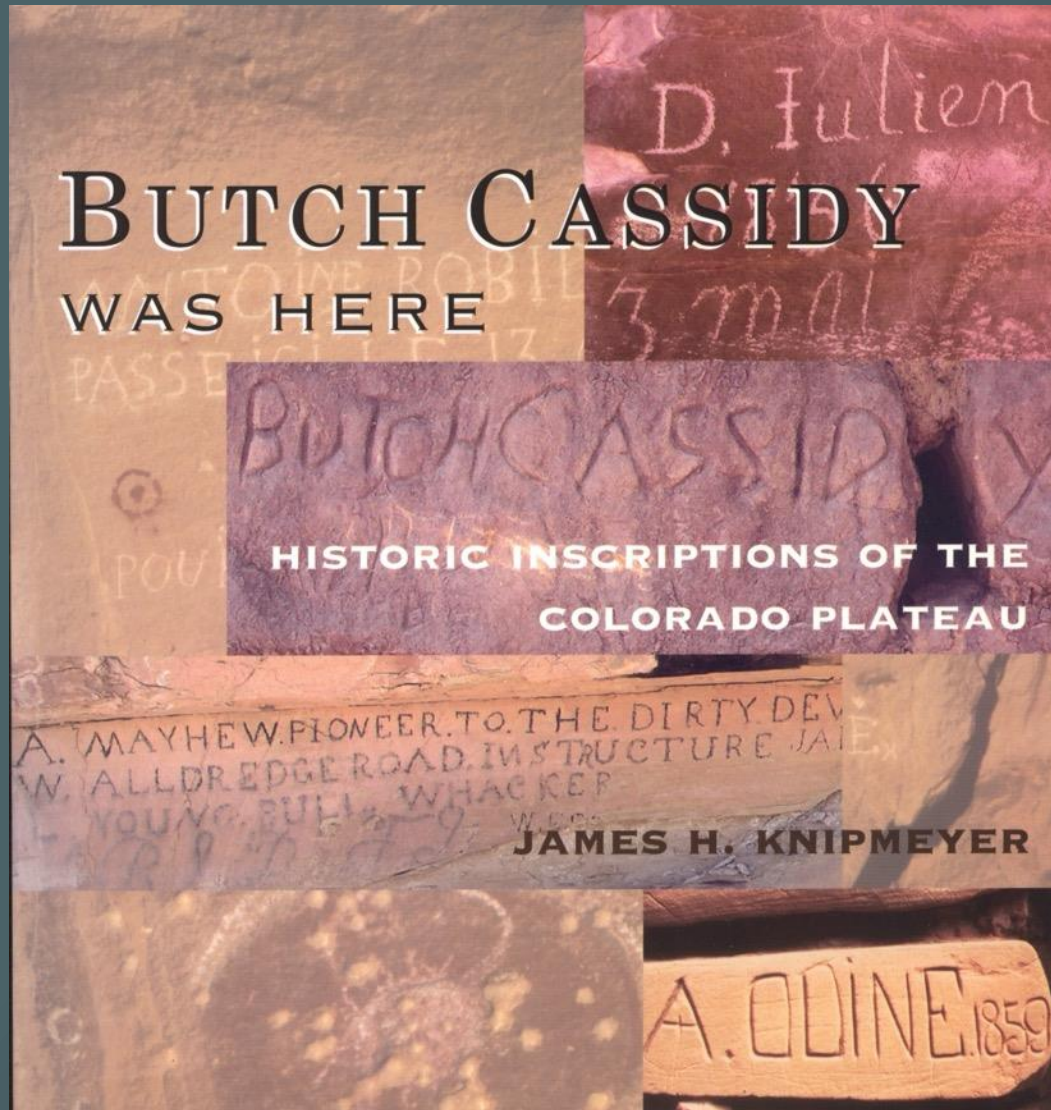


Photo Credit: Tim Urbaniak





Butch Cassidy Was Here

by
James H. Knipmeyer

Published in 2002



The End