

# BEAUCHAMP, John W.

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BEAUCHAMP, JOHN W., born in Tennessee about 1838, probably a son of John W. and Mary (Wilson) Beauchamp of Lebanon County, Tennessee; the following account of how he came to Arizona late in 1863 from San Francisco, California, is abridged from the writings of C.B. Genung:

A prospector named Jack Beauchamp, whom I knew, called on me one day after I decided to go to Mexico with Doctor John R. Howard. I told him of my plans and he said he would go with us. In two days we started from San Francisco by stage and did not stop only to change horses and eat until we got to Los Angeles, five days and nights travel.

We arranged to buy saddle horses and a pack horse and go via Yuma and Tucson to Hermosillo but we met the news of the finding of placer gold at Rich Hill so we decided to go via La Paz. At San Bernardino two men joined our party, Cal Ayers and Ben Weaver, half breed son of Pauline Weaver. Weaver had been over the road and knew all the water.

Listed, Territorial Census, May 1864, at Copper Creek, 3rd District, (Yavapai County) age 26, single, resident in Arizona 6 months, occupation, miner, personal property valued at \$150; member of an expedition of 93 men under command of King S. Woolsey which left the Agua Fria Ranch June 1, 1864 to explore the Apache Country in eastern Arizona; Col. Woolsey wrote the following account of his death on July 25, 1864:

On the 24th day of July, with 24 men, I left our camp at the forks of the Black river and followed the western branch up to its head, distant about 8 miles. I then turned in a south-westerly direction. We were obliged to camp the first night without water, but about 9 o'clock the next morning we found water in tanks at the foot of a high round mountain, the end of the range lying to the northwest, and covered with pine timber.

Soon after stopping Mr. J.W. Beauchamp left camp to go to the top of this mountain and take a view of the unwinding country, and the bearings of different points towards which we expected to travel. Upon arriving near the top of the mountain he was waylaid by six Indians, shot through the chest with a rifle, lanced, stripped and left for dead. He lived for some fifteen or twenty minutes, however, after we reached him, but died before we could get him to camp. We buried him at the foot of the mountain, which we named Beauchamp peak, in memory of the unfortunate victim of Indian cruelty and cowardice.

Will C. Barnes, who was very familiar with that area, locates the place where he was killed as near the headwaters of the San Carlos river in what is now the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation in Gila County, Arizona, and Beauchamp Peak as the modern Nantes Peak; his obituary in the Prescott Arizona Miner reads:

The death of Jack Beauchamp, as he was familiarly called, is generally regretted. He was everywhere known and well liked. Last winter he was engaged with his partners, Messrs. Genung and Mahon, in working the Montgomery gold lode, on the Hassayampa, and he had good mining interests at different points. He was from California, where as here he was esteemed a good companion, a clever fellow, and had many warm friends. His brutal butchery by the savages adds another to our many reasons for hastening their extermination. The men who were with Woolsey, and all who knew Beauchamp, will eagerly avenge his death.

Charles B. Genung was appointed by H Ezekiah Brooks, Probate Judge of Yavapai County, Arizona, as administrator of his estate, September 24, 1864, the first estate to be probated in Yavapai County, which consisted of 375 feet in the Montgomery Ledge in Hassayampa District; 300 feet in the Fancy Taylor; 300 feet in the Montezuma; and 300 feet in the Arizona ledges, all in the Cerro Colorado District; undivided one-third of improvements on the Montgomery Ledge consisting of 1 house, 1 arastra, 2 picks, 2 shovels, 1 bar, 1 brace, and set of bits, and other tools, also one-half of 1 horse; the only known heir was a brother, William Beauchamp, then residing in Nevada.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Report on Condition of Indian Tribes, Washington, 1867, p. 262  
Barnes, W. C. - Arizona Place Names, p. 41  
Ferish, T. E. - History of Arizona, Vol.4, p. 28; Vol.8, p. 127  
Acklin, J. - Tennessee Bible Records and Tombstone Inscriptions,  
p. 474  
Probate Court of Yavapai County, Arizona, Docket No. 1  
The Arizona Miner, Prescott, September 7, p. 3, Col. 1, and September  
21, 1864, p. 1, Col. 2.  
Fish, Joseph - History of Arizona, Manuscript, pp. 408-538.

BEAUCHAMP, JOHN W.

See file of Charles B. Genung.

Arizona Daily Star, Tucson, 3/19/11, 6:4, 5, 6

One of the partners in the Montgomery mine; obstacles to be overcome in working it.

Arizona Daily Star, Tucson, Section III,  
3/26/11, 1:1, 2.

In Indian skirmish. After the arrastra at the Montgomery mine was gleaned up, the last of March, 1864, went prospecting.

J. W. BEAUCHAMP

COPY OF JOSEPH FISH MANUSCRIPT in the State Historian's office, Phoenix, Ariz. P. 408.

...While on a scout and prospecting trip in August, Woolsey lost one man near Rio Prieto, J. W. Beauchamp...

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...The first quartz mine worked in Yavapai County was located by J. W. Beauchamp, (afterwards killed by Apaches), I. R. Howard, A.L. Mahan, and C. R. Genung, on the 11th day of October 1863.

Beauchamp, John  
Prescott Courier, 8/27/64, p.2.  
From Arizona Miner, 9/7/64, col.1

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ALSO: Col. Woolsey's party returned Aug. 27th. Unfortunate in loss of three of its members, Jack Beauchamp, at hands of Indians. Mr. Morell, by accidental shot, and Capt. Porter, who in a fit of petulance left camp, probably killed by Indians.

**BEAUCHAMP, JACK.**

THE WEEKLY ARIZONA MINER, Oct. 14, 1871, P. 1, Col. 2.

July 24, 1864, poor Jack Beauchamp lost his life while exploring the country east of Prescott. The "friendly" Coyoters killed him.