

CLOWER, EDWARD

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CLOWER, EDWARD, born in New Jersey about 1828; his name appears in the Territorial Census taken in April, 1864, as a resident of the 3d District, afterwards Yavapai County, age 36, unmarried, resident in Arizona 5 months and by occupation a Miner.

James D. Monihan, who had established a stage station at Willow Grove, on the Prescott-Fort Mohave road, left him in charge of the place on March 24, 1865; five days later Milton Hadley and William King arrived there from Prescott and found the station house burning and Clower dead with his head split open by an axe.

In 1898 William H. Hardy testified that about 1878 a Walapai Indian named Query Query confessed to him that he killed Clower and gave as a reason that Willow Grove had been his home before the white men settled there. About a year after his death the following was printed in the Arizona Miner:

On the night of the 30th of March (1865), a cabin at the Willows on the Mohave road, in which Edward Clower, formerly of Prescott, was sleeping, was totally destroyed by fire, and Clower lost his life, his body being burnt to a crisp. The story goes that Clower had lost his horses and been engaged for a day or two in hunting for them, assisted by a Hualapai Indian. On the night in question, the night of the eclipse of the moon, when Clower returned to sleep in the cabin, the Indian was permitted to sleep there also, and it is suspected that he first murdered Clower and then started the fire. This suspicion is strengthened by the evidence that all the arms and provisions had been removed from the cabin and no traces of the Indian being found.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

U. S. Court of Claims - Indian Depredation Docket No. 1175 (Monihan) Parish, T. E. - History of Arizona, Vol. 2, p. 259; Vol. 3, p. 129
The Weekly Arizona Miner, Prescott, April 25, 1865, and October 14, 1871, p. 1, Col. 2