

# TAYLOR, CHARLES

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TAYLOR, CHARLES, born in the State of New York about 1824; said to have been a sailor; came from New Mexico to Arizona with the Walker Party; on June 12, 1863, he recorded placer claims No. 37 and 38, each 100 yards in length, above the discovery of gold on the Oolkilsipava (Hassayampa) River and three days later like claims No. 6 and 8 on Big Bug Creek, all in the Pioneer Mining District; on October 27 of that year, he bought Claim No. 20, above the discovery of placer gold on Lynx Creek, from Charles H. Noble for \$300; sold an undivided half interest in it for \$100 to Daniel and Angus McLeod on January 30, 1864.

He was a member of the second Woolsey expedition against the Apache Indians, March 29 to April 17, 1864; listed, Territorial Census, April, 1864, 3d District (Yavapai County), age 40, single, resident in Arizona 9 months, occupation - Miner, property valued at \$400; in June that year he located 200 feet each on the "Maximillion" and "Buck" lodes in the Walker Quartz Mining District; at a meeting of claim holders held on August 10, 1864, he was chosen as President of the Turkey Creek Quartz Mining District; the Prescott Courier printed a statement in 1886 that:

In 1868 Charles Taylor and Cornelius (Jeff) Davis built a water wheel on the head waters of the Hassayampa to run arastras with and worked ore from the Astor and other mines. They sold out to S. E. Fredericks.

That they were together at the time is shown by an item in the Prescott Arizona Miner of October 24, 1868, which reads:

Jeff Davis and Charley Taylor have been among the mountains and, as usual, corralled several deer which they brought to town recently.

His name appears in the U. S. Census, 1870, at Prescott, A.T., age 45; he was associated at that time with Jackson McCracken and 3 others in the

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ownership of the DelPasco Mine.

The following references to him appeared in the Miner in 1875:

January 8 -- Charles Taylor and James Fine have also relocated the Bully Bueno mine.

May 21 - - - Mr. Ferris, the Bradshaw mail carrier, tells us that Chas. Taylor, on Minnehaha creek, has one of the finest mountain ranches in Arizona, and that it is in a better state of cultivation than a majority of farms in the low lands.

September 10 -- Charley Taylor, at Minnehaha Flat, has built a new house 20 x 40 feet on the ground. The roof is on and the house is being finished inside. Crops at Taylor's ranch and Walnut Grove never looked so well as at present.

The Prescott Arizona Enterprise reported on January 27, 1878, that:

Charley Taylor, Chief of Minnehaha Flat, one of the old "boys" whose ledge of faith in the richness of the Tiger and other mines of Bradshaw has never pinched out, is in town. He has grown so fleshy that many of his old friends did not know him.

On July 10 of that year, the Enterprise said:

Charles Taylor, one of the oldest Hassayampers, now of Minnehaha Flat, has a good crop of potatoes on his mountain farm near the Tiger Mine.

Served in the lower House of the 12th Territorial Legislature as a Member from Yavapai County at Prescott in 1883; the following announcement of his death was printed in the Prescott Courier:

Postmaster T. B. Carter of Walnut Grove, tells us that Charley Taylor one of the oldest settlers of this County died Saturday last and was buried yesterday. He came to Arizona with the Walker party in 1863, resided here up to the time of his death and so conducted himself that his cabin home in the mountains south of Prescott was a haven of rest for all weary prospectors, and he, himself, the host of the unclouded brow and unpinched heart.

Became ill in his home at Willow Springs and was taken by friends to Walnut Grove where he died on June 6, 1891, aged 66; buried there.

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

W.P.A. records project - Journal of the Pioneer and Walker Mining Districts, 1941, pp. 1, 56, 67, 71, 82, 103, 104, 109, 110, 120, 126, 139, 150, 151.  
 Barney, J. M. - Story of the Walker Party, Manuscript, 1943.  
 Kelly, G. H. - Legislative History, Arizona, 1926, p. 104  
 Farish, T. E. - History of Arizona, 1915, Vol. 2, p. 243  
 The Arizona Miner, Prescott, April 6, 3:3, August 24, 1864, 1:1; October 24, 1868, 3:1; January 8, 2:2, May 21, 3:2, September 10, 1875, 2:1  
 The Arizona Enterprise, Prescott, February 27, 3:1, July 10, 1878, 3:1  
 The Prescott Courier, January 14, 1886, 3:2; June 6, 4:1, June 8, 2:2, June 9, 1891, 4:1 (obituary).

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Yavapai County Book of Mines, 1865-70, p. 111.  
 The Arizona Miner, Prescott, January 18, 1868, 3:2; January 15, 1870, 3:2; November 18, 1873, 3:1; January 4, 2:1 and March 1, 1878, 4:2; January 24, 1879, 4:2.  
 The Prescott Courier, April 15, 4:3 and May 13, 1882, 4:1.

*mt in 1861*

Turkey Creek, September 15, 1865.

Editor of Arizona Miner.--According to your request for a correspondence from this district, regarding times and things here I have written you this, which I submit to your inspection.

About the last of the past month the Apaches entered our district and drove off from Mr. Jesse Sutton's herd of cattle three animals. As soon as it was known, a party started in pursuit of the miscreants, but they met with no success, owing to a heavy fall of rain, which obliterated all sign of the pursued.

On the 11th of this month the Apaches made their appearance again, and during the absence of Charles Taylor from the district broke into his cabin and robbed it of everything of value, taking provisions, clothing, bedding and cooking utensils, and three head of animals, which were grazing near camp, belonging to Messrs, Sutton, Williams and Peck, and evidently packed on them the plunder obtained from Taylorts cabin...H.C.

-----Arizona Miner, October 4, 1865, 3:2