

QUINLAN, JAMES

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QUINLIN, JAMES, born in Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine, March 18, 1839; married Mrs. Anna H. (Rogers) Foyle at Tucson, A.T., July 5, 1883; children, Flora Elisa (Mrs. Charles Ford and afterwards Mrs. Albert Quinby) and Margaret Annetta (Mrs. Arthur C. Guthrie); his wife's son by her first marriage, Willis Andrew Foyle, was generally known as Bill Quinlan.

Came to Tucson in 1864 and established a blacksmith shop; listed, U.S. Census, 1870, occupation - Blacksmith, property valued at \$2,000; in 1872 he was engaged in hauling freight with teams between Yuma and Tucson; the Tucson Arizona Citizen of March 6, 1875, stated that:

James Quinlin's train arrived from Yuma On Wednesday with government freight consigned to Tully, Ochoa & Co., and destined for Bowie, Grant, San Carlos and Apache.

The Arizona Weekly Star published in Tucson on December 6, 1877, contained this item:

James Quinlin has disposed of his freight wagons and teams and will attend strictly to blacksmithing with headquarters at Yuma.

On October 6, 1878, the Yuma Arizona Sentinel printed the following:

James Quinlin has sold out his blacksmithing and wagon making business here to Messrs. Horner & Donaldson. It is the best appointed shop this side of San Francisco.

Shortly afterwards he was placed in charge of a train of wagons owned by Field and Morgan engaged in hauling freight from the Colorado River to Tucson but according to the Sentinel of November 23, had difficulty in that position:

James Quinlin was unfortunate enough to become involved in a shooting scrape at Adamsville with Jose Contreras, a wagon master. Quinlin is due here today and will probably be exonerated.

Like many others he was interested in mining as is shown by a statement in the Tucson Arizona Star of May 13, 1880:

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Mark P. Shaff er and James Quinlin are opening mines in the Bunker Hill District about 75 miles northeast of Tucson near Sombrero Butte.

Barter's Tucson Directory, 1881, shows that he was a member of the Committee to celebrate the arrival of the Southern Pacific railroad at Tucson and lists him as a blacksmith and wagon-maker; charter member, Society of Arizona Pioneers, February 9, 1884; he later engaged in stockraising as is disclosed by the Tucson Citizen of December 27, 1889;

On Christmas day Mr. James Quinlin brought to this city from his ranch, one hundred head of as fine two year old heifers as could be gathered from any range in Arizona. They were of average size and in fine condition. They were sold to Messrs. Ben and Frank Heney of this city.

The following mention of him appeared in the Tucson Star, October 2, 1891;

James Quinlin is in the city. Mr. Quinlin, though a rancher, is quite well posted and knows what is going on in politics, and is in general conversation entertaining.

The announcement of his death at Naco, Sonora, Mexico, in the Bisbee Cochise Review reads as follows:

While eating breakfast in the Chinese restaurant on the other side of the line Monday morning, Jim Quinlin, a freighter, dropped dead in his chair. He was brought across that night and buried the next evening. Jim was very popular among the freighters and his death is a sad blow to all his friends.

The Tucson Citizen printed the following obituary:

James Quinlin, one of the old settlers of Tucson and southern Arizona, is dead. He passed away last night at Naco, the new town on the border line south of Bisbee, where he was engaged in blacksmithing.

James Quinlin, lived a long time in Tucson and is numbered among the brave advance guard which moved into this land of Apaches in the early days, fought the battles of a new civilization and helped to tame the wild tribes that possessed the country then. He was a teamster from Tucson to Yuma in those days and had many exciting experiences with the Indians. He then came to Tucson and opened a blacksmith shop which he conducted successfully many years. He afterward engaged in the cattle

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business in the Baboquivari country in which he lost heavily from drouth and depredations of the Papago Indians.

Died at Naco, Sonora, Mexico, January 7, 1901, aged 61; buried in the cemetery at Naco, Cochise County, Arizona.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Arizona Pioneers Historical Society, Tucson - membership book and memorial resolution adopted March 6, 1901.
- Pima County marriage records, vol. 1.
- Disturnell, W.D. - Arizona Business Directory and Gazetteer, San Francisco, 1881, pp. 193, 207.
- Barter, G.W. - Tucson City Directory, S.F., 1881, pp. 21, 102.
- The Arizona Weekly Citizen, Tucson, March 9, 1872, p. 3, C. 3; and March 6, 1875, p. 3, C. 3.
- The Arizona Sentinel, Yuma, January 5 and October 5, p. 3, C. 3, and November 23, 1878.
- The Cochise Review, Bisbee, January 12, 1901, p. 2, C. 2-3.
- The Arizona Weekly Star, Tucson, December 6, 1877, p. 3, C. 1; November 14, 1878; May 13, 1880 and October 2, 1891, p. 4, C. 1.
- The Arizona Enterprise, Prescott, November 27, 1878, p. 2, C. 2.
- Arizona Daily Star, Tucson, October 2, 1891, p. 4, C. 1.
- Arizona Daily Citizen, Tucson, January 8, 1901, p. 4, C. 4 (obituary).