

SLACK, F.N.

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Born at _____ New York, _____, 18____
(About 1814)

Son of _____ and _____

Listed, U. S. Census, 1860, at Santa Rita Silver Mines, Arizona County, New Mexico, age 46, born in New York, occupation, Miner, property valued at \$500; J. Ross Browne, who visited the Santa Rita mine early in 1864 wrote an account of the death of the manager, Horace C. Grosvenor, and said:

"His grave lies a few hundred yards from the headquarters of the hacienda. A marble head-stone, upon which his name is inscribed, with additional words not uncommon in Arizona, 'Killed by Apaches', marks the spot. By the side of this grave is another headstone, bearing the name of Mr. Slack, his predecessor, who lost his life by the same ruthless tribe of Indians. Another of the managers, also killed by Apaches, lies buried at Tubac".

Hinton's Handbook to Arizona, published in 1878, contains the following statement:

"Nine miles from Tumacacori, the ruins of the Hacienda del Santa Rita are reached, burned by the Apaches in 1861 under Cochise, after a remarkable fight by Captain Smith, a half dozen Mexican employees and the wife of one of the latter, against a force of 80 Indians, directed by the Apache Napoleon in person. The Hacienda was abandoned June 15 of that year. The ruins are a striking if mournful object in the bold sweep of landscape. The hillside was till recently tenented only by the dead. Several unmarked mounds and two over which white sandstone slabs are still standing, marked with the names of Grosvenor and Slack, show the resting place of these victims of the Apache savages".

Raphael Pumpelly, who was at the Santa Rita mine when Grosvenor was killed on April 25, 1861, returned to Arizona in 1915 and says of his visit to that place:

"We were now on the Santa Rita property. It was beyond recognition. In my time live-oak and mesquite trees gave the rolling country the appearance of a vast orchard of old apple trees, and the surface was covered with the semiarid grasses and small cacti. Now all was bare. The trees had been cut off; cloudbursts had stripped the surface.

"The Mexican found for us the grave of Grosvenor in a dense growth of brush. I had marked the spot with a stone cut from a white volcanic tufa and carved on it a brief inscription. On the stone we now found the legend was so well chiselled that I could not be sure that it had not replaced mine".

Ambushed and killed by Apaches between the Santa Rita mine and Tubac in the Gadsden Purchase on August 23, 1860; a Masonic square and compass is carved on the headstone at his grave.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

McClintock, J. H. - Arizona, the Youngest State, 1916, p. 182.
 Browne, J. R. - Adventures in the Apache Country, 1868, p. 228.
 Hinton, R. J. - Handbook to Arizona, 1878, p. 202.
 Pumpelly, R. - My Reminiscences, 1918, pp. 763-764.