

STATE OF ARIZONA HISTORICAL MARKER

Record of Historical Information
From
The Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus

Plaque: **Lost Dutchman Plaque #15**

Name of Plaque: **TOMBSTONE ARIZONA "The Town Too Tough To Die"**

Location of Plaque, **Tombstone, Az. On Toughnut St.**

Lat/Long: 34.7508N -112.1162W

Explain the Design of the Plaque and Base: **Bronze Plaque Mounted On Quarry Stone**

Date of Dedication: **10/28/1995**

President of Chapter at time of Dedication: **Ed "the Mayor" Smith, NGH#6**

Are requested Photos enclosed? Yes X/No__

Exact Wording of the Plaque:

**TOMBSTONE, ARIZONA
THE TOWN TOO TOUGH TO DIE**

IN 1877 PROSPECTOR ED SCHIEFFELIN SEARCHED FOR SILVER IN APACHE LAND. HE WAS TOLD HE WOULD ONLY FIND HIS OWN TOMBSTONE. SCHIEFFELIN IGNORED THE ADVICE. THE RESULT WAS A STRIKE WORTH AT LEAST FORTY MILLION DOLLARS.

THIS BROUGHT NOT ONLY MINERS AND BUSINESSMEN, BUT GAMBLERS, PROSTITUTES AND GUNMEN TO THE NEW TOWN. THE MOST FAMOUS GUNFIGHT IN THE WESTERN HISTORY OCCURRED AT THE OK CORRAL, OCTOBER 26, 1881, WHEN THE EARPS SHOT IT OUT WITH THE CLANTONS AND THE McLAURYS.

IN 1882 THE MINES FLOODED AND HUGE STEAM PUMPS WERE INSTALLED. A FIRE IN 1886 DESTROYED THE PUMPS AND OPERATIONS CEASED. IN 1901 THE MINES REOPENED BUT BOILER PROBLEMS AND FLOODING AGAIN CLOSED THE MINES.

IN 1929 THE COUNTY SEAT MOVED TO BISBEE. TOMBSTONES FUTURE WAS UNCERTAIN, BUT A GROUP OF DETERMINED CITIZENS COINED THE PHRASE "THE TOWN TO TOUGH TO DIE" AND INVITED THE PUBLIC TO COME CELEBRATE THE TOWNS ROWDY PAST. TOMBSTONE CONTINUES TO LIVE OFF A UNIQUE AND VIOLENT PAST.

**DEDICATED OCTOBER 28, 1995
LOST DUTCHMAN CHAPTER 5917
E CLAMPUS VITUS**

TOMBSTONE, ARIZONA

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