

# Discovering Fort Smith - Solo Expedition

Using the exhibits on the first and second floors to answer the following.

## First Jail

### *Hell on the Border*

How many people could the jail hold?

30-50

### *Go into the jail for the remaining questions*

The buckets in the fireplace on the left were the toilets, and the place to clean up was in the fireplace on the right. There is also a barrel for water with one cup to drink from. Visitors and lawyers would meet with the prisoners by standing in the room with the iron door. What does this room look like to you?

*Opinion, answers will vary.*

What do you think this jail needs changed to make it a better place?

*(Air conditioning and heat do not count).*

*Opinion, answers will vary.*

## The Jail, Prisoners, and Jailors

### *The Jailors of Fort Smith*

Explain who the men on the stairs are, what they do, and why they are wearing uniforms?

*They are jailors. They take care of the prisoners. They keep the prisoners from escaping. They wear uniforms so they look different from the prisoners.*

### *Making a Break For it*

How did prisoners try to escape?

*Digging out the toilet to climb up the ventilation shafts and used blankets tied together to climb down the roof*

### *Making a Break For it*

What kinds of things were smuggled into the jail?

*Weapons, knives, guns, brass knuckles, saw blades, and pistols*

# U.S. Marshals Service

Answer the questions below and be ready to share what you discovered with members of your group.

## *The Fee System*

In the month of August a deputy marshal recorded the following trips so he could be paid at the end of the month. How much did he earn?

### **Trip one:**

Traveled 50 miles  $\$0.06 \times 50 = \$3.00$

Made six arrests  $6 \times \$2.00 = \$12.00$

Traveled back with prisoners 50 miles  $\$0.10 \times 50 = \$5.00$

**Total Pay for trip one \$20.00**

### **Trip two:**

Traveled 100 miles no arrests made  $100 \times 0 = 0$

**Total pay for trip two \$0.00**

### **Trip three:**

Traveled 50 miles  $\$0.06 \times 50 = \$3.00$

Delivered 10 subpoenas  $\$0.50 \times 10 = \$5.00$

Traveled back alone 50 miles  $\$0.06 \times 0 = \$0.00$

**Total pay for trip three \$8.00**

Total pay for the month of August \$28.00

Multiply your answer by 27 to find out how much that money is worth today.

*28\*27=756 per month and 9,072 per year adjusted for inflation*

Did deputies make a lot of money?

*No*

Describe a US Deputy Marshal's job and was it a safe or dangerous job?

*Opinion, answers will vary. However, it was very dangerous.*

# The End of Indian Territory

## *Economic Invasion of Indian Territory*

What kind of technology brought change to the Indian Territory and how do you think American Indians' lives were effected?

*The railroad. Non-Indian settlers moved in, Indians became a minority in their own land, economic development, and students may add their opinion.*

## *Reassigning Tribal Land*

What did congress do when the tribes did not agree to land allotment and what do you think about their actions?

*It proceeded to divide Indian Land without approval and thier opinion.*

## Outlaws

### *Youth Gangs*

Describe what you see in the Rufus Buck Gang picture.

*Opinion, Answers will vary. They people look very young. They men are chained together.*

### *Youth Gangs - Cook Gang*

List five different crimes that were committed in Indian Territory.

*Smuggling whiskey, train robbery, bank robbery, rape, murder, horse theft, man slaughter, stage hold ups.*

How are they similar to crimes today?

*Opinion, Answers will vary.*

# The Growth of Fort Smith

**1822**

Why were the soldiers stationed in Fort Smith?

*To enforce federal Indian policy and maintain peace between the Osage and Cherokee.*

How many people lived in the area at that time?

*7-8 families and 64 soldiers.*

**1857**

Look at the model and describe the differences between this fort and the earlier one.

*A larger fort, a town, bigger buildings, fewer trees, etc.*

How did Zachary Taylor feel about Fort Smith?

*He thought it was a useless expenditure of money and labor. He wanted it closed.*

What do you think would have happened to the city of Fort Smith if President Taylor had been successful in stopping construction of the fort?

*Opinion, answers will vary.*

**1864**

How did the military use the fort during the Civil War?

*To store food, supplies, and provide safety.*

**1891**

How is the old fort site being used from 1872-1890

*Jail and the courthouse in 1890 the courthouse was moved to the corner of 6th and Rogers*

How many people live in the area?

*11,311*

# Life in the Indian Territory

*Look for a long list of tribes*

List ten tribes that lived in the Indian Territory.

*Any of the tribes listed on the panel. There are 64 possible answers.*

*Life in the Indian Territory*

Describe what you see in the pictures of students.

*Opinion, answers will vary.*

Do they look like American Indians to you?

*Opinion, answers will vary.*

## Fort Smith's Role in Westward Expansion

*The Long Expedition 1819-1820*

What was the main purpose of this expedition?

*To learn about what would become the western United States.*

*The Gold Rush 1849*

Why was Fort Smith important in the Gold Rush?

*A "Jumping off" place to purchase supplies*

*The Pacific Railroad Survey 1853*

Why did some people want a transcontinental railroad built?

*For economic development, to connect the east and west, to preserve the integrity of the Union, to keep the United States unified.*

# Workings of a Court

## *From Arrest to Trial*

List the steps taken between a crime being committed and punishment.

*Complaint*

*Arrested*

*Hearing,*

*Grand jury*

*Jury trial.*

## *A Week in the Court*

During the week of November 17, 1882, who was sentenced to prison in Detroit (Michigan) and what were their crimes.

*Sunday and Barney Lucy - Guilty of Larceny sentenced to  
1 year at Detroit House of Corrections*

*Matt Russell - Acquitted of Larceny*

*Jerry Lewis - Plead guilty to introducing liquor into Indian Territory  
2 hour in Jail and a \$10 fine (\$270 today)*

*Jacob M. Halstead - Guilty of cutting timber on Government land  
2 hour in Jail and a \$10 fine (\$270 today)*

*Jordan Kingsbury - Tried for murder jury found him guilty of manslaughter*

*Byngton Brown and John Lemons - tried for larceny  
Brown acquitted Lemons guilty 1 year at Detroit House of Corrections*

*Wm Brown - Guilty of retail liquor sale  
18 months at Detroit House of Corrections*

*Murder trail of John Jacobs started*

Eight trials in one week -busy

*Larceny - the taking away of the personal goods of another with intent for the taker's own use. Stealing*

# Judge Parker

*Attorney, Politician, Judge*

List four jobs Judge Parker did before becoming a federal judge in Fort Smith

*City Attorney*

*US House of Representatives*

*State Attorney*

*State Judge*

*Union militia (rank of Corporal)*

*Defender of Justice*

What did Judge Parker believe punishment was for?

*To lift a man up; to stamp out his bad nature, and wicked disposition (Reform criminals).*

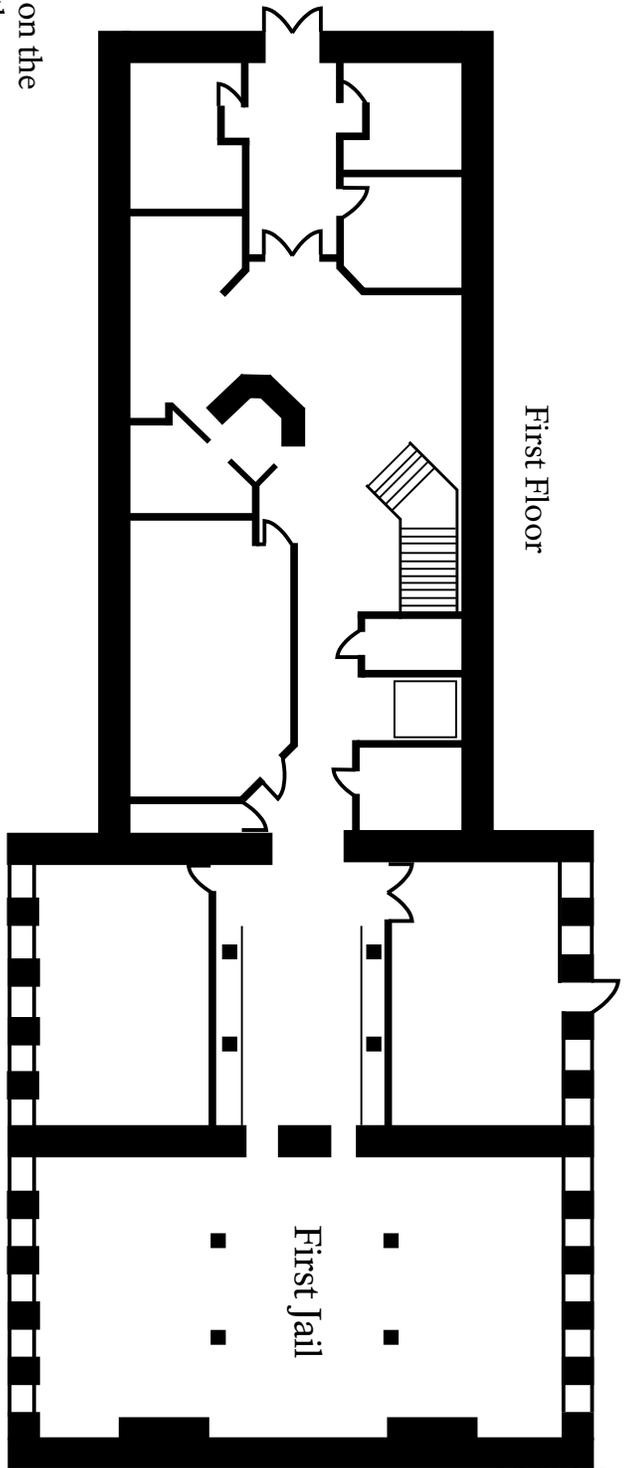
*Fort Smith Courthouse 1872-1889*

Look at the picture of Judge Parker's courtroom. Describe what you see and what is your impression of Judge Parker's courtroom?

*Opinion, answers will vary.*

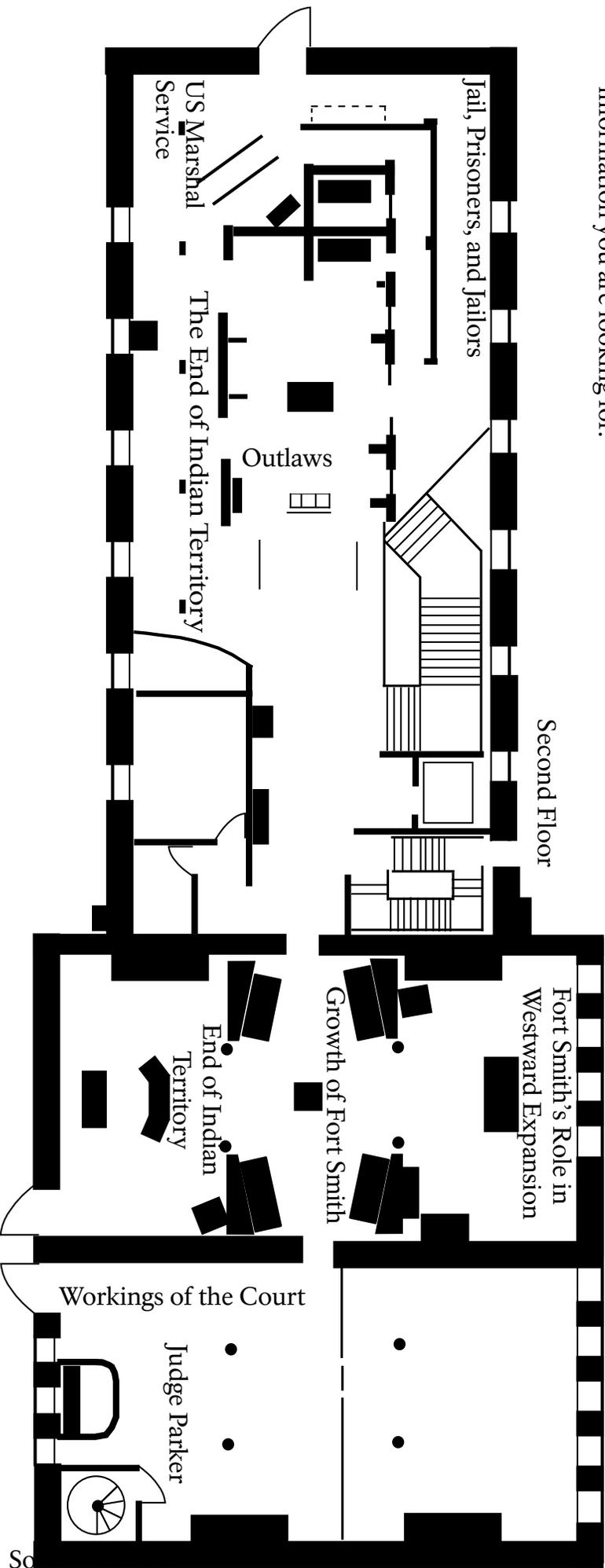
What was the most interesting fact or item that you discovered today?

*Opinion, answers will vary.*



Answers

The headings on the map corresponds to the headings on the handout. Use map to locate the information you are looking for.



So