

Packer Chronology 1842 - 1907

1842

11/21 Alfred Packer born in Pennsylvania

1862

4/22 Enlists in the 16th U.S. Infantry of Minnesota

12/29 Mustered out of service in Ft. Ontario, New York due to epilepsy

1863

6/10 Enlists in the 8th Regiment, Iowa Cavalry

4/25 Mustered out of service in Cleveland, Tennessee due to epilepsy

1873

Party of 21 leaves Provo, Utah

1874

1/21 Meeting with Chief Ouray and winter encampment near Montrose, Colorado

2/9 Party of 6 leaves winter encampment toward Gunnison

Party becomes snow bound, hungry, and desperate enough for cannibalism

4/6 Packer arrives alone at the Los Pinos Indian Agency near Gunnison

5/8 Confession signed under General Adam's supervision

8/8 Victims found, Packer mysteriously escapes from Saguache jail

John A. Randolph of Harper's Weekly discovers victims near Lake City

1883

3/11 Packer found under the alias "John Schwartze" by Frenchy Carbazon in Cheyenne

3/16 Second confession signed under General Adam's supervision

4/6 Trial begins in Lake City, Hindsdale County

4/13 Packer is found guilty and receives death sentence

1885

Death sentence reversed by Colorado Supreme Court due to "grandfather clause"

1886

8/5

Packer sentenced to forty years in second trial in Gunnison

1899

6/19

Packer's sentence upheld by Colorado Supreme Court

1901

1/8

Packer is paroled by Colorado Governor Thomas and assisted by muckraker Poly Pry

1/10

Moves to Deer Creek, Jefferson County

1907

4/23

Packer reputedly dies of "Senility - trouble & worry" and buried in Littleton

1981

3/5

Judge Kushner's posthumous pardon denied by Governor Lamm

1989

9/17

Exhumation project begins under the supervision of Scientific Sleuthing Inc.