

James Beckwourth

Found a second pass through the Sierra Nevada Mtns that avoided difficult places like Donner Lake.

Beckwourth Pass

1844



James Beckwourth (Beckwourth Pass) 1844

James Beckwourth was the son of Sir Jennings Beckwith. His mother, who was half African American and half white, was a slave. Therefore, James was born into slavery.

His father was his slave owner, Sir Jennings Beckwith.

His father had James trained as a blacksmith, and Sir Beckwith freed his son when James was 26 years old.



James Beckwourth (Beckwourth Pass) 1844

1824: James Beckwourth became a fur trader in the Rocky Mountains. He fought the Native Americans while he was there.

Beckwourth was possibly kidnapped by the Crow tribe. He married a daughter of a chief.

Beckwourth became a member and then a chief of the Crow tribe. He sometimes raided other Native American tribes or white settlements.



BECKWOURTH AS AN INDIAN WARRIOR.



1837: James Beckwourth joined the U.S. Army to fight the Seminole Indians.

1846: Beckwourth fought in the Mexican American War. He left that war with 1,800 Mexican horses (stolen).

1848: Beckwourth came to California to join the Gold Rush. He found a pass through the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range.

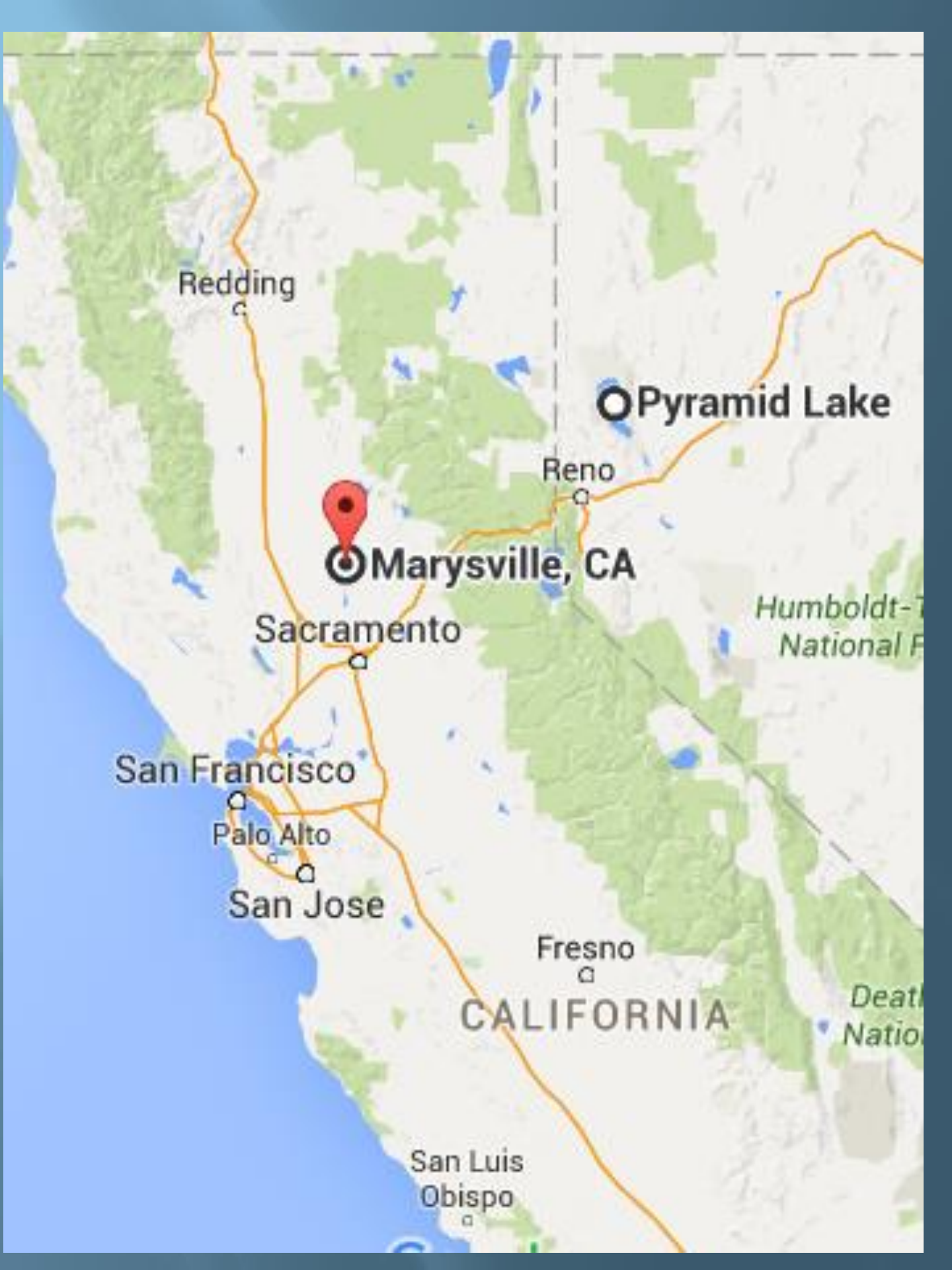


1850's: Beckwourth lived as a card player.

1851: He improved the Beckwourth Trail to lead along the following path:

Pyramid Lake → Truckee River
→ Feather River → Marysville

This trail helped people to avoid dangerous passes like Donner's Pass.



Redding

Pyramid Lake

Marysville, CA

Sacramento

San Francisco

Palo Alto

San Jose

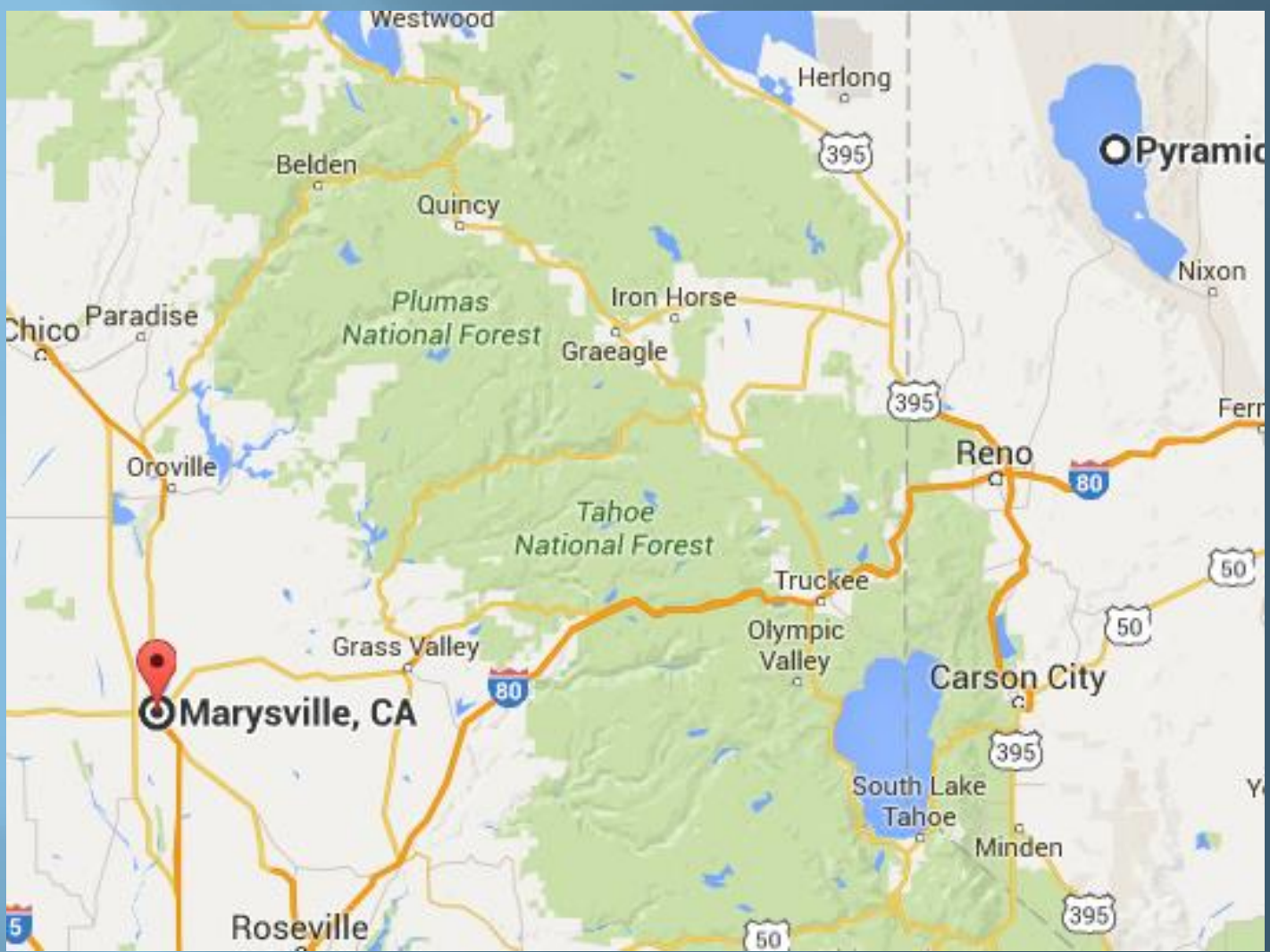
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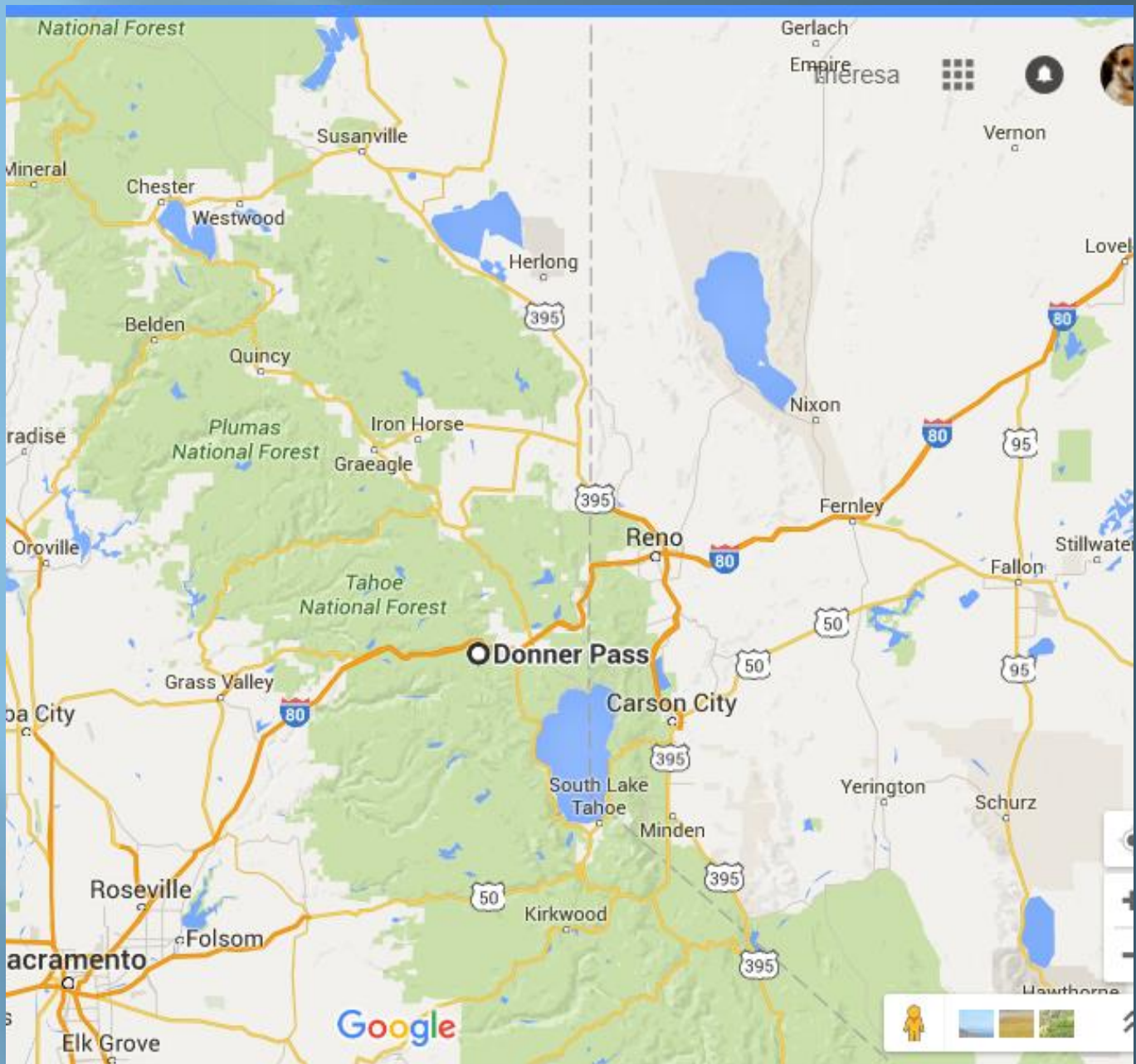
CALIFORNIA

San Luis Obispo

Humboldt-T
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1864: Sand Creek Massacre:

Beckwourth lived in the territory of Colorado and worked as a Scout for the militia. The militia attacked a village of Cheyenne and Arapaho Native Americans, killing 70-163 people, 2/3 women and children.

Beckwourth could no longer trade with the Cheyenne. He continued fur trapping and scouting for the U.S. Army.



1866: Beckwourth led a military troop to a Crow village in Montana. He may have died when he got there as a result of heart problems.

However, his friend who founded the *Rocky Mountain News*, guessed that he was poisoned by the Crow Indians in retaliation of the Sand Creek Massacre. That is just speculation, though, according to Wikipedia.

The process of settling a land is difficult.

What sort of societal problems could there be? (problems among people in society)

What sort of planning problems could there be?

Timed Pair Share

**Sand Creek
Massacre:
A Westward
Expansion
Story of
Tragedy**



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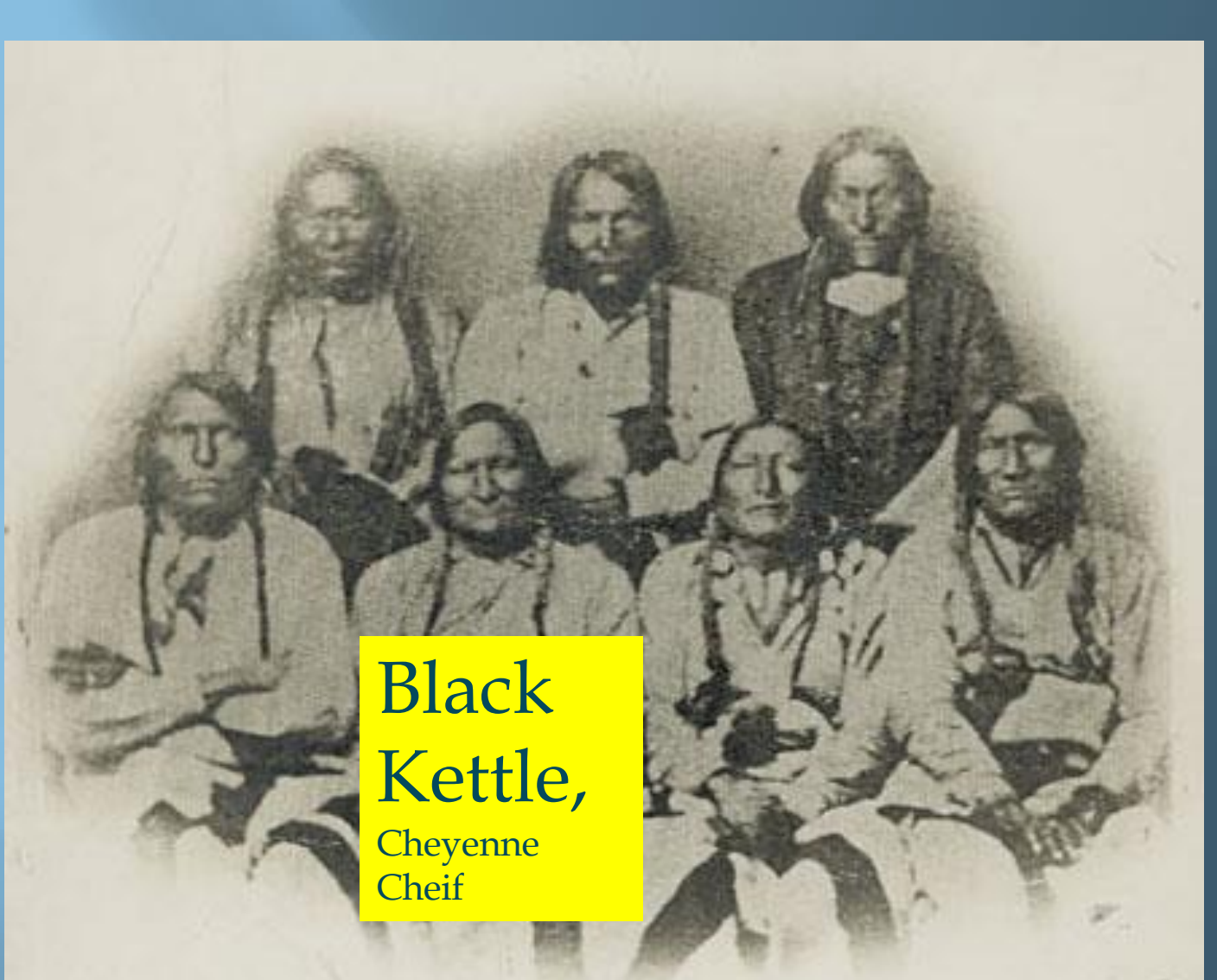


1864: Cheyenne and other Native American Chiefs were forced to sign over most of their land to the United States. Many Cheyenne Indians were upset about this loss of land and about settlers moving into their land. Some called themselves “Dog Soldiers,” and they raided white settlements.



Black Kettle

1864: Because U.S. settlers complained that Native Americans were stealing their livestock, the Colorado militia began attacking Cheyenne villages.



Black Kettle,

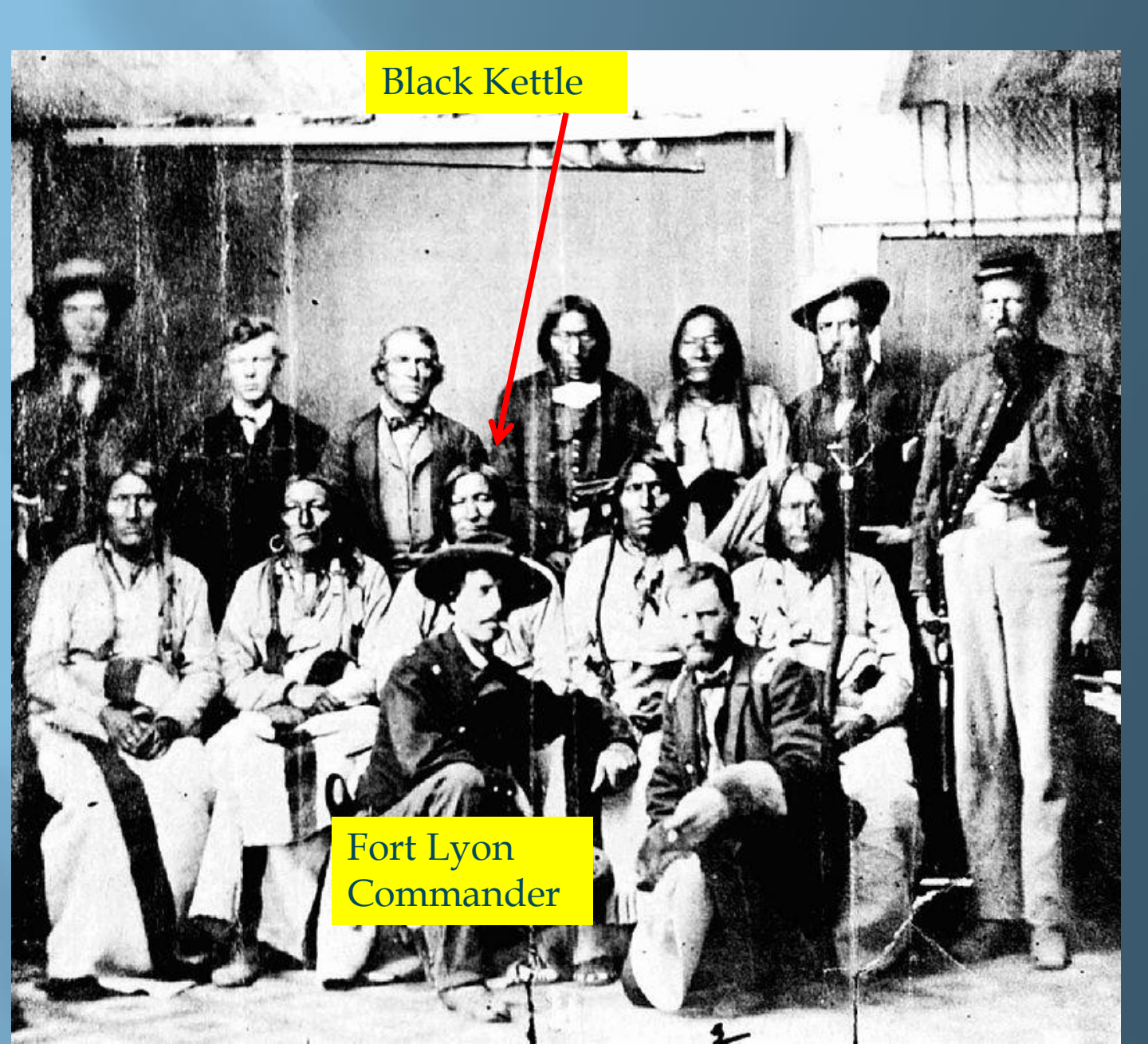
Cheyenne
Chief

11/29/1864, the commander of Fort Lyon told Black Kettle that it would be safe for his men to leave their land to go hunt. Black Kettle flew the U.S. flag and a white flag of truce over his camp.

Black Kettle



Fort Lyon
Commander





However, U.S. Army Colonel John Chivington, a man who was opposed to slavery and was a Methodist preacher, rode out to Black Kettle's settlement. Beckwourth was his guide. Chivington ordered the attack.

Black Kettle

Captain Silas
S. Soule

Fort Lyon
Commander

Captain Soule ordered his men to not obey Chivington's orders.

Despite that, Chivington's men started shooting and continued shooting.



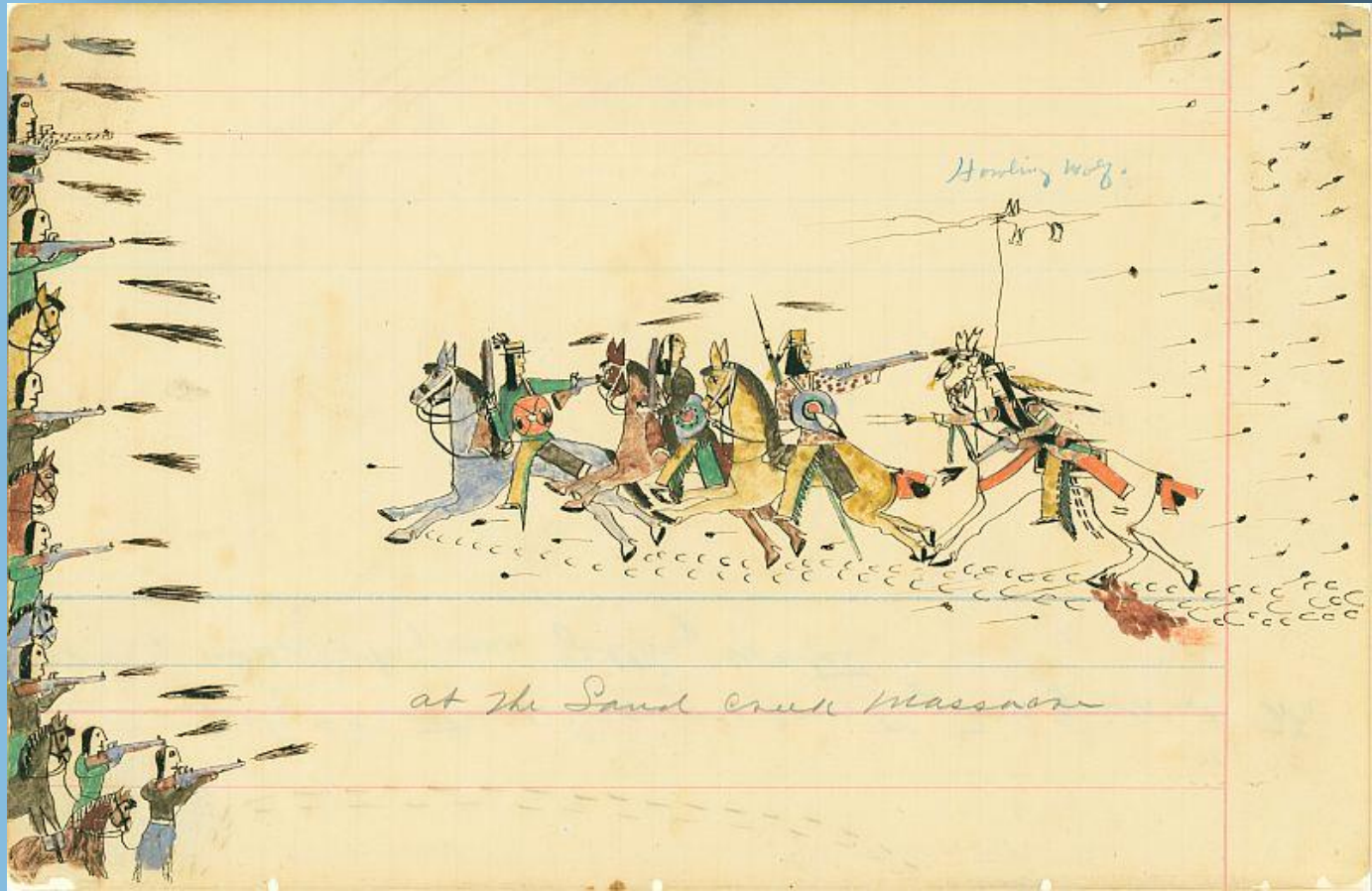
Captain Silas S. Soule testified against Chivington in a Congressional hearing, despite the death threats that he received. He was murdered a several weeks later.



Mochi, a 24 year old Cheyenne woman in Black Kettle's village, survived. She spent the next 11 years fighting back, raiding white settlements with her husband.



Lone Tree Massacre: Mochi, along with others, attacked a surveying party in KS. They attacked a German family, killing the parents and two older daughters. They kept 4 daughters as captives and finally traded two. The last two were given up when they surrendered to the military. She served 4 years in a U.S. Camp as a prisoner of war. Released in 1878, she lived in OK until her death in 1881.



Howling Wolf,
15 year old
Cheyenne
Indian,
survived the
Sand Creek
Massacre and
drew this
picture of it.

