



Master Brewers Association of the Americas
Rocky Mountain District



BRIEF HISTORY OF SARATOGA



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THE UTE, SHOSHONE, CROW,
ARAPAHO, CHEYENNE AND LAKOTA
(SIOUX) TRIBES. TRAPPERS WORKING
IN THE SIERRA MADRES IN THE
EARLY 1830S HELD A RENDEZVOUS AT
THE BASE OF THE MOUNTAINS IN THE
UPPER NORTH PLATTE RIVER VALLEY.
THIS MEETING PLACE BECAME
KNOWN AS THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT.



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IN 1841, A TWO-DAY FIGHT OCCURRED BETWEEN TRAPPERS AND SIOUX, CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO INDIANS AT TRAPPER HENRY FRAEB'S CAMP BY THE LITTLE SNAKE RIVER. BY THE 1860S, MORE EMIGRANTS WERE HEADING WEST THROUGH THE AREA, OFTEN TRAVELING BY STAGECOACH OR WAGON ON THE OVERLAND TRAIL ACROSS WHAT'S NOW SOUTHERN WYOMING. INDIAN HOSTILITY GAVE RISE TO A NUMBER OF ATTACKS ON THE STAGE, AND IN 1862, FORT HALLECK WAS BUILT AT THE FOOT OF ELK MOUNTAIN TO SERVE AS A BASE FOR SOLDIERS PROTECTING SETTLERS JOURNEYING ALONG THE TRAIL FROM SUCH ENCOUNTERS. THE FORT WAS NAMED FOR GENERAL HENRY W. HALLECK, WHO ROSE TO THE RANK OF GENERAL-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES DURING THE CIVIL WAR AND LATER WAS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF. IT CLOSED IN 1866.



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FORT FRED STEELE, NAMED FOR A MEXICAN WAR AND CIVIL WAR VETERAN, WAS ESTABLISHED IN JUNE 1868 TO PROTECT THE ADVANCING TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD WHERE IT CROSSED THE NORTH PLATTE RIVER. THE FORT'S FIRST COMMANDING OFFICER, COLONEL RICHARD I. DODGE, SENT SOLDIERS TO STAND GUARD FOR WOODCUTTERS WORKING ON ELK MOUNTAIN AND IN THE GRAND **ENCAMPMENT** VALLEY WHILE THEY MADE RAILROAD TIES AND CUT LUMBER FOR THE NEW FORT.



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TOWNS SPRANG UP AS THE TRACKS MOVED WEST. AMONG THEM WAS CARBON, WYOMING'S FIRST COAL TOWN, FOUNDED IN 1868 AND NAMED FOR THE RICH RESERVES MINED THERE. DURING THE TOWN'S HEYDAY — THE LATE 1860S THROUGH THE 1880S — SEVEN NEARBY COAL MINES FED THE LOCOMOTIVES TRAVERSING THE COUNTRY. CARBON, LOCATED ABOUT NINE MILES EAST-SOUTHEAST OF PRESENT-DAY HANNA, WYO., LASTED UNTIL 1902.

LATER THAT YEAR, CARBON COUNTY, WHICH, LIKE THE TOWN, EARNED ITS NAME FROM COAL, BECAME ONE OF THE ORIGINAL FIVE COUNTIES OF WYOMING TERRITORY. IT WAS CREATED ON DEC. 16, 1868 BY THE EIGHTH DAKOTA TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE ASSEMBLY.



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EARLY DAY INDIANS, WHO ENJOYED THE HOT SPRINGS RISING IN AND ALONG THE NORTH PLATTE RIVER AND THE PLENTIFUL OPPORTUNITIES FOR HUNTING NEAR PRESENT-DAY SARATOGA, DECLARED THAT AREA NEUTRAL GROUND. HOWEVER, SIOUX, CHEYENNE, SHOSHONE, CROW, ARAPAHO, AND UTE TRIBES FOUGHT IN THE REGIONS SURROUNDING THIS TERRITORY. WHEN A SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC HIT IN THE 1870S, THE ENDEMIC INDIANS, DESPERATELY SEEKING A CURE FOR THE DISEASE, RIGGED A TALL POLE WITH A ROPE TO DUNK THE ILL IN THE HEALING WATERS, ALTERNATING BETWEEN THE HOT SPRINGS AND THE COLD RIVER. THIS “TREATMENT” OFTEN PROVED FATAL.



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THROUGHOUT THE 1870S, HUNTING WAS PRIZED. SPORTSMEN CAME FROM AS FAR AWAY AS ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND TO PURSUE ELK, DEER, BIGHORN SHEEP, BEAR AND BUFFALO. MAJOR THOMAS THORNBURGH, WHO BECAME THE COMMANDING OFFICER AT FORT STEELE IN 1878, LED A NUMBER OF HUNTING EXPEDITIONS INTO THE SIERRA MADRES.. ON A LATER TRIP WITH A GROUP INCLUDING WEBB HAYES, THE SON OF PRESIDENT RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, THORNBURGH WAS SAID TO HAVE CAUGHT FIFTY-TWO FISH IN THIRTY MINUTES. THORNBURGH WAS KILLED ON SEPT. 29, 1879.



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IN THE 1880S, SHEEP AND CATTLE RANCHES SPRANG UP THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. SOME OF THESE CONCERNS WERE BEGUN BY MEN WHO FIRST VISITED ON HUNTING TRIPS. A CANADIAN, RICHARD SAVAGE, WHO CAME TO THE AREA TO WORK AS A GOVERNMENT TRAPPER IN 1868, BROUGHT THE FIRST BLACK-FACED SHEEP TO THE AREA. HE OPERATED THE SAVAGE SHEEP COMPANY, RAISING A LARGE HERD OF THE IMPORTED STOCK NEAR SARATOGA.



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THE PICK WAS ONE OF MANY RANCHES LOCATED NEAR PRESENT-DAY SARATOGA. THE TOWN, FIRST KNOWN AS WARM SPRINGS, WAS RENAMED SARATOGA IN 1884 BY FENIMORE CHATTERTON, WHO REMEMBERED DRINKING MINERAL WATER IN SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y., AS A CHILD. CHATTERTON WORKED AS A CLERK AND BOOKKEEPER FOR J. W. HUGUS, THE POST TRADER AT FORT STEELE, AND IN 1903-1905, SERVED AS GOVERNOR OF WYOMING.

TRAIN ROBBERS BUTCH CASSIDY AND HIS WILD BUNCH VISITED BAGGS AND VICINITY OFTEN DURING THE 1890S AND EARLY 1900S.



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IN 1907, AT THE SARATOGA RAILROAD DAY CELEBRATION AND FISH FRY, FISHERMEN CAUGHT 3,100 TROUT AND SERVED THE FISH TO VISITORS.

**THIRD ANNUAL FISH FRY, SARATOGA 1910.
(C) HISTORICAL REPRODUCTIONS BY PERUE.
THE SARATOGA NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY
OPENED IN 1911. THE HATCHERY, LOCATED
FOUR MILES NORTHEAST OF TOWN, BREEDS
TROUT AND SENDS THE STOCK TO VARIOUS
LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.
FISHERMEN TODAY STILL ENJOY CASTING
THEIR LINES INTO THE NORTH PLATTE RIVER, A
BLUE RIBBON TROUT STREAM.**



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BEFORE 1884, SARATOGA WENT BY THE NAME WARM SPRINGS AFTER THE NATURAL HOT SPRING LOCATED THERE. THE NAME SARATOGA WAS INSPIRED BY THE TOWN OF SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK, IN ANTICIPATION THAT SARATOGA WOULD BECOME REMINISCENT OF SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK.



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The original building where the Saratoga Resort and Spa now resides was built in the late 1870's and was known as the Hugus and Chatterton log store. In 1884, the Saratoga Springs Hotel was constructed and replaced the Hugus and Chatterton log



store. In addition to an office, sleep rooms, a billiard room, a 60-person dining room and a ladies' reception room, the Saratoga Springs Hotel also contained a drug store and barbershop. William H. Cadwell and Judge M. E. Hooker were the original owners of the Saratoga Springs Hotel.



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AFTER THE SARATOGA SPRINGS HOTEL WAS DEMOLISHED BY FIRE IN APRIL 1902, THE STATE OF WYOMING BUILT THE STATE BATH HOUSE. THE STATE BATH HOUSE WAS LOCATED WHERE THE HEALING WATERS SPA BUILDING NOW RESIDES. TRAVELS WERE CHARGED 50 CENTS TO USE THE STATE BATHS WHICH WERE THOUGHT TO CONTAIN HEALING POWERS. MANY PEOPLE TODAY STILL BELIEVE THAT THE MINERAL HOT SPRINGS OFFER MANY HEALTH BENEFITS.

The Saratoga Inn was erected in the summer of 1949 by Bill Walker, and replaced in the Sate Bath House. The Saratoga Inn offered the services as the original Saratoga Springs Hotel. People traveled from all around the world to experience the natural hot springs as well as the Wild West in luxury.



*Saratoga Inn as it appeared close to
opening June 15, 1950.*

Photo by R. D. (Bob) Martin



Millions of dollars were spent in 1994, restoring the Saratoga Inn to resemble the style of the original Saratoga Springs Hotel. In addition to restoring the Saratoga Inn the buildings were reroofed, three stone fireplaces were built, five mini hot spring pools set under teepees were created and a microbrewery was established. The new microbrewery, called the Snowy Mountain Brewery after the Snowy Mountains or “the Snowies” as they are so called by the locals, was established in 2009 brew master Steven Simpson. Prior to the opening of the Snowy Mountain Brewery, the microbrewery was named the Sierra Madre Brewery after the adjacent Sierra Madre mountain range.



The Saratoga Inn also has the best public golf in Saratoga, luxurious guest rooms and suites, a tennis court, snowmobile and raft rentals. Hot or cold, rain or shine, there's always something to do in Saratoga. Come float the “North Platte” river on one of our raft tours in the summer or take a snowmobile tour in the winter. Saratoga also offers great fishing, hunting and extraordinary scenery. Whether you want to spend your vacation on a snowmobile or hunting adventure or just get a massage and relax in the natural hot springs Saratoga is a wonderful place to be.

Brief History of the Brewery





- In June 1994 legislation was passed for microbrew and the breweries started off. Teton was the first followed by Snake River on March 1994. Library was to follow helped by Odell's brewery on December 1994. The next was Sierra Madre which turned into Snowy Mountain Brewery on January 1st 1995. The build started in June of 1994. We are the third oldest active brewery in Wyoming since Teton moved out to Idaho in 2000, making us the 3rd oldest brewery in Wyoming.

- Our first name was Sierra Madre, ran by E.J. out of Boulder. We brewed from 1995 until 2000, then the brewery shut down. In 2008, E.J. started the brewery up again. The brewery started with a 5-barrel system, two fermenters and four serving tanks. When Steve Simpson took over in 2009, he produced 9 different beers, 5 of which were from kegs. In May of 2010, we expanded our serving tanks to 8 by 100%, keeping one tap per keg. In 2012, we expanded our fermenters by 50% to keep up with production. We currently brew 140 to 170 barrels per year.

There are 23 active breweries in Wyoming in 15 cities

- Buffalo - [Clear Creek Brewing](#)
- Casper – [Wonder Bar](#)
- Cheyenne – [Freedom's Edge Brewery Co.](#)
- Cody – [Pat O'hara Brewing](#)
- Cody – [Millstone Pizza Company & Brewery](#)
- Douglas - [Headstrong Brewery](#)
- Evanston – [Suds Brothers Brewery](#)
- Gillette – [Prairie Fire Brewing Company](#)
- Gillette – [Gillette Brewing Co..](#)
- Jackson – [Snake River Brewing Company](#)
- Jackson – [Thai Me Up](#)
- Jackson – [RoadHouse](#)

There are 23 active breweries in Wyoming in 15 cities

- Lander – [Lander Brewery Company](#)
- Laramie – [Altitude Chop House](#)
- Laramie – [Library Sports Grille and Brewery](#)
- Laramie – [Sheep Mountain Brewery](#)
- Laramie – [Coal Creek Tap House](#)
- Pinedale – [Wind River Brewing](#)
- Rocksprings – [Bitter Creek Brewing](#)
- Saratoga – [Snowy Mountain Brewery](#)
- Sheridan – [Black Tooth Brewing](#)
- Sheridan – [Luminous Brew house](#)
- Ten Sleep – [Ten Sleep Brewing Company](#)