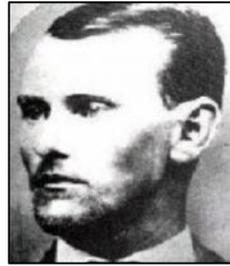
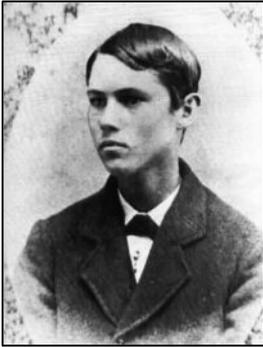


Jesse James  
<http://www.ci.st-joseph.mo.us/jesjames.html>



Pony Express  
City Manager's Office



Of all the worlds' legendary characters, few have attracted world-wide fascination like the outlaw, Jesse James. Some call him America's Robin Hood, while others see him as a cold-blooded killer. Perhaps he was all of these things.

Jesse Woodson James was born in Kearney, Missouri on September 5, 1847. His father, the Rev. Robert James, was a Baptist minister who helped found William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo.

Some people say it was the cruel treatment from Union soldiers that turned Frank and Jesse to a life of crime during the Civil War. Certainly during the war years they learned to kill while riding with William Quantrill and Bloody Bill Anderson.

After the war, Jesse was wounded while surrendering. Within a year, Frank and Jesse are believed to have pulled off the first daylight bank robbery in peace time. They made off with \$60,000 from the Liberty, Mo. bank not far from their home, and one man was killed.

For the next 15 years, the James boys roamed throughout the U.S. robbing trains and banks of their gold, building a legend that was to live more than a century after Jesse's death.



Jesse married his own first cousin after a nine-year courtship. She was named for his own mother, Zerelda, and he called her Zee for short. They had two children, Jesse Edwards and Mary.

*Pictured the family home of Jesse James.*

The Pinkerton Detective Agency was called in to help catch the famous desperadoes. Once during a nighttime raid on the family home outside Kearney, Mo., a firebomb was tossed into the log cabin. When it exploded, it tore off the hand of Jesse's mother, and led to the death of his half-brother Archie.

Jesse reached his Waterloo in September, 1876, when his gang, including the Younger brothers, took on the bank at Northfield, Minn. Within minutes the town people returned fire. All except Frank and Jesse were either killed or were wounded and captured.

Frank James also married, and their wives tried to get them to take on a more normal life. With a \$10,000 reward on his head, Jesse moved to St. Joseph, Mo., with his family in the fall of 1881 to hide out.

On Christmas Eve, Jesse and Zee moved their family into a small house atop a high hill overlooking St. Joseph. Living under the assumed name of Tom Howard, Jesse rented the house from a city councilman for \$14 a month. He attended church, but did not work for a living.

During the winter of 1882, Jesse tried to buy a small farm in Nebraska. But in April, he was short of cash. All of his earlier gang members were either dead or in prison, but Jesse recruited Bob and Charlie Ford to help him rob the Platte City bank. The Ford brothers posed as cousins of Jesse James, but actually were not related to Jesse at all.

The \$10,000 reward on Jesse proved too appealing. While Jesse stood on a chair in the family home at 1318 Lafayette Street in St. Joseph to dust and straighten a picture, Bob and Charlie Ford drew their guns.

Bob Ford put an end to the James Legend with a single bullet to the back of the head on April 3, 1882.

The Ford brothers attempted to collect the reward. Instead, they were charged with murder. They were sentenced to hang, but were pardoned by Governor Tom Crittenden.

Two years later Charles Ford committed suicide and Bob Ford, the "dirty little coward who shot Mr. Howard, and laid poor Jesse in his grave," was himself killed in a bar room brawl in Creede, Colorado, in 1892.

Jesse James was a moral paradox. He was a good father and family man, and was religious in his own way. Whether he stole from the rich and gave to the poor, or just kept it all, has never been decided.

Jesse James died in 1882, but the legend of Jesse James continues more than a century beyond his death. Today Jesse and Frank James are among the best-known Americans in the world.

The Jesse James Home is owned and operated by the not-for-profit Pony Express Historical Association  
Box 1022, St. Joseph, MO  
(816) 232-8206

Left is the James Family Photo which James expert George Warfel says most likely was taken October 1858 includes Jesse James (back row third from the left) next to his future wife Zee Mimms. His Stepfather Rueben Samuel (middle second row second from left next to Jesse's mother Zeralda James Samuel third from left. Jesse's half brother John T. Samuel (front Row) next to Jesse's sister Susan James (far right). It has been suggested the other 2 men Back row far left John Newman Edwards and 2nd from left Frank James, but Warfel disagrees with this identities of these 2.



**JESSE JAMES' WATERING HOLE**  
\*See Story, Exit 268, Buffalo Valley, Tennessee

One group that traveled the roads to Buffalo Valley was the Jesse James' Gang. Jesse and Frank James watered their horses and hid out at Dr. Farmer's spring when in Buffalo Valley. One day the James' brothers were in Buffalo Valley and Dr. Farmer brought Frank James to meet John T. Askew. John's brother was about to leave for Texas. When he arrived in Texas he bought a newspaper and read, "Frank James was in Buffalo Valley, Tennessee last week."

The James' Gang organized after the Union Army killed Jesse James' stepfather. They became an issue in state level politics throughout Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee and other states. The liberal candidates for governor upheld the James' gang for helping the poor. The conservative candidates wanted them caught and tried for their actions. Jesse James, also known as F.T. Howard, was killed by a man named Ford. Frank James stood trial in two states and was acquitted. Many people considered him as a good person.  
ajlambert.com - <http://www.rootsweb.com/~daisy/jamesgd>



Mammoth Cave, Kentucky by Phillip Steele

Several men stopped the stagecoach carrying passengers between Kentucky's Mammoth Cave and the railroad station in Cave City on September 3, 1880. The seven passengers were made to step out. While the largest bandit asked them to empty their purses into a wheat sack, a small man with irritated and watery eyes searched the passengers for jewelry. Judge R. H. Rountree of Lebanon, Kentucky, a leading political figure, was wearing a gold pocket watch which was engraved: "To Judge Rountree, with best wishes from Gov. J. Proctor Knott." The bandit took the watch and exclaimed, "This is one watch I will be most proud to wear."

Picture: Two Stage Coaches in Front of the Old Hotel, Mammoth Cave, Kentucky. It could have been one of these very carriages That was robbed by Jesse James, on the night of September 3, 1880.

Folkways of the Mammoth Cave Region  
by Gordon Wilson – pg. 20



Dr. Farmer Spring (Town Spring), near Buffalo Valley, TN. Many residents got their water from this spring. Jesse James would get water from this spring when hidden out in this area, while the Younger Brothers visited kinfolks near Chestnut Mound, Tennessee in the late 1800's.



Frank & Jesse James  
<http://www.historyoftheworld.com/cowboy/cowboy.htm>

The Desparados  
Those who rode with the James - Younger Gang

At least 41 men were believed to have ridden as outlaws with the James's and Younger's during their notorious history:

Jesse Woodson James Born Sept. 5, 1847.  
Murdered by Robert Ford Apr. 3, 1882.

Alexander Franklin (Frank) James Born Jan. 10, 1843.  
Died of heart attack Feb. 18, 1915.

Thomas Coleman Younger Born Jan. 15, 1844.  
25 years in Stillwater for Northfield robbery.  
Died Mar. 21, 1916.

Jim Younger Born Jan. 15, 1848.  
25 years in Stillwater for Northfield robbery.  
Suicide, Oct. 19, 1902.

Bob Younger Born Oct. 29, 1853.  
Died of tuberculosis in Stillwater Prison Sept. 16, 1889.

John Younger Born in 1851.  
Killed in shoot-out with Pinkerton agents near Roscoe, Mo., Mar. 17, 1874.

Charlie Ford Accomplice to murder of Jesse James.  
Suicide, Nov. 1882.

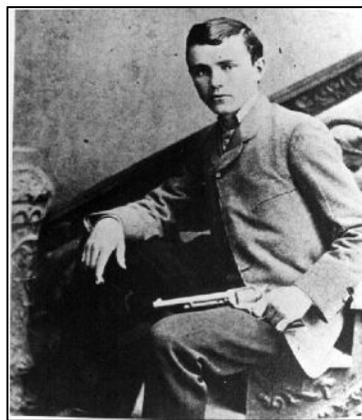
Robert Newton Ford Short-term gang member. Killed Jesse James.  
Himself slain by Ed O'Kelly in Creede, Co., June 8, 1892



Cole & Jim Younger



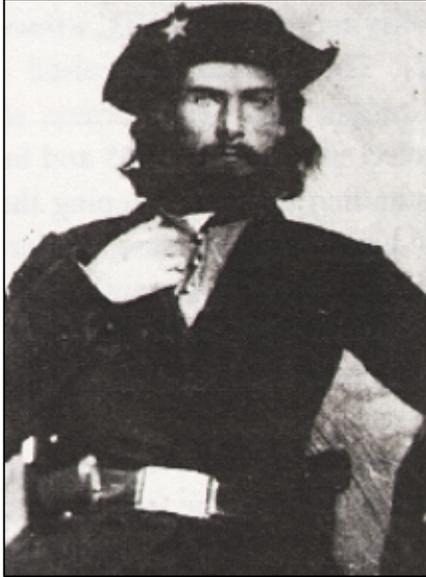
Bob, Jim, Cole & sister,  
Henrietta Younger 1889



Robert Newton Ford  
<http://www.islandnet.com/~the-gang/bio.htm>

## William T. "Bloody Bill" Anderson

[http://www.millersparanormalresearch.com/Pages/Bloody\\_Bill.htm](http://www.millersparanormalresearch.com/Pages/Bloody_Bill.htm)



One of the most feared of all Missouri guerillas was **William T. Anderson** who actually considered himself a Kansan. It was said that he carried a silk cord on which knots were tied for every Yankee killed and that he sometimes frothed at the mouth during battle. He was also known to scalp his Federal victims, which is probably one reason why he received the name of "Bloody Bill." Bill was described as being tall, sinewy and lithe with long black hair that curled and fell to his shoulders. He had prominent cheekbones and small angry eyes.

William was born in Randolph County, Missouri in 1840. His parents were **William and Martha (Thomason) Anderson**. Bill was one of six children who included **Ellis, James, Mary C, Josephine and Martha**. Also living with them were his grandparents, **William and Martha Thomason**. His father was a hatter and the family moved from Palmyra, Missouri to Huntsville, Missouri between 1847-1848.

In 1850, the father went to California to join the gold rush leaving the family in Huntsville. During this time, Bill and his brothers were the heads of the family and their relationship with their sisters were both brotherly and fatherly. The father returned in 1854 and the family relocated to Breckinridge Co, Kansas (which is now Lyon County) in 1857.

In March of 1862, his father was murdered while Bill and his brother, Jim were on a trip to Fort Leavenworth. The murders were either Pro-Northern neighbors or a squad of Union soldiers. There are several accounts of the murder. One account claims that Union soldiers hanged him because his name appeared on a list of southern sympathizers. Another account says that a neighbor who accused him of horse theft murdered him. Bloody Bill later killed this same neighbor.

When Bill and his brother returned home that evening and found their father dead, his campaign of revenge began that same evening when he sneaked up behind a Union picket and broke his neck. The next night he killed another Union soldier and was almost caught by a federal calvaryman and had to shoot him in order to escape. He left that same night for the Missouri border and joined up with Quantrill.

In August of 1863, Federals arrested his three sisters along with other some other women in an attempt to draw out the guerilla soldiers. They imprisoned the women in a makeshift prison located in a building in Kansas City. Mysteriously, this building collapsed killing his sister Josephine and maiming Mary for life. This event was the reason cited behind the attack on Lawrence and intensified Bill's hatred of the Federals.

Bill was content to ride with Quantrill, being a follower instead of a leader until a quarrel with Quantrill in 1864 caused him to form his own band of guerillas. This band included 16 year old **Jesse James** and they became the most feared band of all guerillas. Bloody Bill showed no mercy to Union soldiers and killed them on sight. He showed no sympathy to Pro-northerners and raided their homes and stores, murdering those that offered resistance. There is only one known case of when he spared the life of a union officer and he did so because he admired his bravery. There are other accounts of his band robbing southern sympathizers and returning the loot with apologies when their loyalties were revealed.

On March 2, 1864, Bloody Bill married **Bush Smith**, a young girl from Sherman, Texas but this did nothing to curtail his taste for blood and his need for revenge. They moved to a small farmhouse in Ray County, Missouri.

In a letter sent to a local newspaper, Bloody Bill wrote, "I have chosen guerilla warfare to revenge myself for the wrongs that I could not honorably avenge otherwise. I lived in Kansas when the war commenced. Because I would not fight the people of Missouri, my native state, the Yankees sought my life but failed to get me. Revenged themselves by murdering my father, destroying all my property, murdered one of my sisters and have kept the other two in jail for 12 months. But I have fully glutted my vengeance. I have killed many, I am a guerilla. I have never belonged to the Confederate Army, nor do my men."

On Oct 26, 1864, just south of Richmond in Ray County, Missouri, Bill and his guerilla band was ambushed by Captain Samuel P Cox and his union troops. They were caught completely unaware. A skirmish ensued and it is said that Bill and another of his men rode right through the Federal line. When his comrade was shot from his horse, Bill turned around to assist him and it was at this time that he was riddled with bullets and killed. Upon examining the personal items found on his body, he had seven pistols, \$600 in cash and 2 watches. Private papers found in his saddlebags from General Price identified him as William T Anderson.

Bill's body was taken to Richmond, Missouri where it was propped up in a chair and a pistol was placed in the dead mans hand for photographs. A short time later, the Union troopers decapitated him and placed his head on a telegraph pole at the entrance to the town. His torso was roped and tied to a horse where it was dragged through the streets of Richmond before being buried in an unmarked grave outside of town.

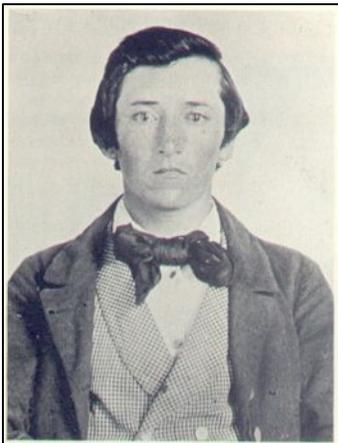
Years later, Cole Younger visited the site of Bloody Bills grave and requested that a funeral procession be held for him, in which it was. His grave was marked years later.

As with the other legendary guerillas, it is claimed that another man who resembled Bloody Bill was riding Bill's horse on that fateful night near Richmond and that he was the one whom they identified as "Bloody Bill." One claim is that Bill Anderson changed his name and escaped to Erin Springs, Oklahoma where he ran a saloon. Another report was that Bill settled in Salt Creek, Brown County, Texas where he lived for about sixty years under an assumed name. There may be some truth to this last report as a man resembling "Bloody Bill" died there on November 2, 1927 and found on his bedside table was a photograph of three young women who were later identified as the sisters of William T "Bloody Bill" Anderson.

### William "Bloody Bill" Anderson

<http://www.theoldwestwebride.com/txt1a/anderson.html>

Any army encompasses various Divisions, Units and specialized factions; the Confederate forces of the American Civil war were no exception.



William Clarke Quantrill  
<http://www.millersparanormalresearch.com/Pages/Quantrill.htm>

The Quantrill Raiders, led by one **William Clarke Quantrill**, never officially enlisted but was instead commissioned as a captain by President Jefferson Davies. The Raiders were an infamous band of rebel guerillas that specialized in the absolute devastation of entire communities. Theft, rape and calculated mass-murder were the Raiders trademarks.

The ranks of the Raiders spawned many well-known Outlaws including, **Frank James** and (a very young) **Jesse James, Cole, Bob** and **Jim Younger** and last but not least, the feared **William Anderson**.

Although an enlisted Raider, the renegade Anderson operated independently with his own band of some sixty-five men to whom many well documented atrocities have been attributed in particular, the comprehensive obliteration of Centralia, Missouri in 1864.

Anderson was a vicious, heavily armed killer who had a pathological hatred for Unionists and their sympathizers which it is said, stemmed from the attack of his three sisters by Union troops. Uncorroborated

reports contend that Anderson's sisters were psychologically humiliated, brutally raped, tortured, bound and locked in a farm outbuilding which was subsequently set on fire while they were still alive. This incident however (whether true or not), may have been used by Anderson as self-justification for the persecution and murder of many innocent men and women. Another Raider, Jim Cummins, who later rode with Jesse James eloquently described Anderson as...

"the most desperate man I ever met"

- This statement was wholly justified.

On September 27, 1864. Anderson accompanied by approximately seventy men, invaded the town of Centralia. Wearing Confederate uniforms, this band of ruthless marauders showed no mercy to the inhabitants as they systematically raided homes and stores, raped, murdered and one report has it that a store of Whiskey barrels were found and Anderson and many of his men drank all the raw alcohol using their shoes as drinking vessels. In a final act of wanton destruction, the entire town was reduced to a burning ruin.

By chance, Anderson decided to check the train schedules and found that a train was due to pass through the station at midday. When the train was forced to stop at the barricade built across the line by Anderson's men, all the passengers, including twenty-six Union soldiers were rounded-up on the depot platform.

A Union officer, Lieutenant Peters, had already recognized Anderson earlier from the train window as it halted at the station. Knowing Anderson's formidable reputation for instantly executing Union officers without trial, Peters wrapped a blanket around himself and jumped from the train in an attempt to hide beneath the platform of the now burning depot. The keen-eyed Anderson spotted Peters bid to desert his troops and shouted to his men -

"Pull that bastard out of there!"

Knowing that he had to get away or be tortured and killed, Peters decided to run for his life. With a sinister coolness Anderson draw a pistol, took aim, and with unnerving accuracy, pumped six bullets into Peters killing him instantly.

Anderson ordered that the remaining twenty-six Union troopers be lined up in an open field. With the feeling that they were certainly going to be slaughtered, most dropped to their knees sobbing and begging for mercy - a sight that Anderson reveled in.

Armed with four Navy Colt pistols in his waistband, a sabre, a hatchet, four rifles and a bag of pistols on his horse, Anderson proceeded to psychologically terrorize his victims by strutting up and down in front of them. Ignoring their pleas for their lives to be spared Anderson stopped, lighted a cigar and then, in a somewhat subdued manner, asked -

"Boys, do you have a Sergeant in your ranks?"

Met with no response, Anderson repeatedly asked the same question with the inference that co-operation would mean that their lives would be spared. Eventually, Thomas M. Goodman took a pace forward and announced his rank.

"Fine, we'll use you to exchange for one of my men that them damned Yankees have caught".

The fearsome lunatic Anderson then withdrew two of his pistols and walked down the line of troopers firing until the chambers of both guns were empty then, he repeated this act twice more until he had murdered all the Union men in cold blood single-handed.

Upon his later escape, Sergeant Goodman reported Anderson's heinous crime to the authorities - but it was too late, the guerilla band had moved on to attack Union troops in neighboring States.

A short while later, Anderson married a young girl in Texas and settled in a small farmhouse in Ray County, Missouri - although this episode proved to be a temporary respite that did nothing to curtail Bloody Bill's thirst for murder and indiscriminate pillage.

While leading his guerilla band near Orrick, Missouri on October 27th 1864, Anderson was ambushed by Captain S.P.Cox and his Union troops. Anderson was caught completely unaware and was riddled with bullets then left for dead in his saddle. His loyal followers put up a fight to try and recover Anderson's corpse, but they were driven back by superior firepower.

Anderson's body was taken to Richmond, Missouri where it was propped up in a chair and a pistol was placed in the dead man's hand then photographs were taken. A short while later, the Union troopers, full of loathing for the dead man, decapitated Anderson and impaled his head on a telegraph pole at the entrance to the town as a signature to all that the infamous killer was indeed dead. Anderson's torso was roped and tied to a horse then dragged along the streets of Richmond before being dumped in an unmarked grave outside of town.

This account of Anderson's demise has been contested however. One claim has it that another man resembling Anderson was killed at Orrick and Anderson changed his name and escaped to Erin Springs, Oklahoma where he ran a saloon. Yet another report says that Anderson settled in Salt Creek, Brown County, Texas where he lived for some sixty years under an assumed name. There may be an element of truth behind this story since a man resembling Anderson died on November 2nd, 1927 in Salt Creek, and on the bedside table was a photograph of three young women - later identified as Anderson's sisters.

