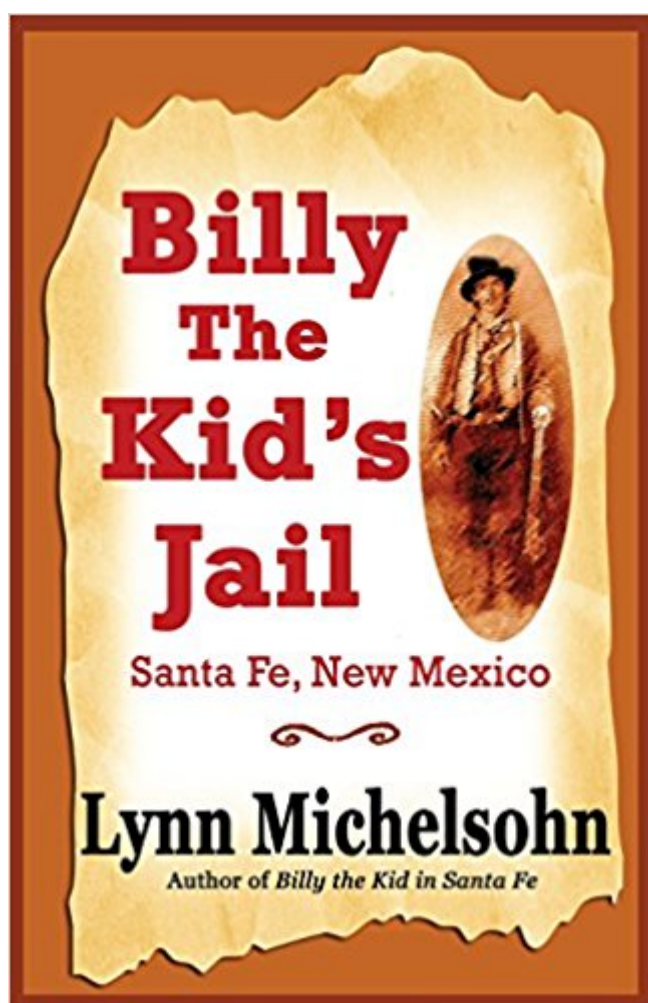


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# Billy The Kid's Jail, Santa Fe, New Mexico: A Glimpse Into Wild West History On The Southwest's Frontier



## Synopsis

The young outlaw known as Billy the Kid spent the winter of 1880-1881 in Santa Fe--trying desperately to get out of its jail! He talked to lawyers. He wrote the Governor, pleading for his promised pardon. He even tried digging his way out! Nothing worked. Billy only "escaped" the "safest jail in the Territory" in March 1881, when deputies finally escorted him to the railroad station for a trip to southern New Mexico--where a jury of his peers waited to convict him of murder. But just where was this invincible Santa Fe jail? Today, in Santa Fe, two plaques mark the spot. Or rather, two competing spots . . . Lynn Michelsohn tracks down historical sources to identify the long-disputed location of Billy the Kid's Santa Fe jail and to provide this brief glimpse of life in the Wild West on the Southwestern Frontier (12,000 words; 16 photographs, drawings, and maps). Recommended for Western history buffs, Billy the Kid aficionados, and anyone who loves Santa Fe. Table of Contents ~ Chapter 1. Where was Billy the Kid's Santa Fe Jail? ~ Chapter 2. More than You Ever Wanted to Know about Santa Fe's "New" Jail ~ Chapter 3. What about Santa Fe's "Old" Jail? ~ Appendix A. Background Information: Billy the Kid ~ Appendix B. Contemporary Accounts of Billy the Kid in the Santa Fe Jail ~ Bibliography

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Award-winning author Lynn Michelsohn enjoys sharing her love of Santa Fe and New Mexico history and travel with readers (Roswell, Your Travel Guide to the UFO Capital of the World!), as well as exploring other places she finds fascinating: the Carolina Lowcountry (Gullah

Ghosts and Tales from Brookgreen) and the Galapagos Islands (Galapagos Birds and In the Galapagos Islands with Herman Melville). Although she has taught law-related courses at the college level and published in professional journals, her forays into historical research and writing are strictly for pleasure. Living for many years in New Mexico, she developed a fascination with the young outlaw Billy the Kid and his world, especially his stays in Santa Fe. Currently, she and her husband intersperse their own time in the City Different with winters on Florida's Hutchinson Island, visits to their two adult sons, and assorted other travels.

this is a very interesting and informal book about where The Kid was imprisoned in New Mexico. The description was so compelling it made me want to go and see the area. Even though the old buildings have been torn down and or are now used for other purposes and not recognizable. What I really liked about this book is the fact that I learned something that I didn't already know. It makes the book worth the price and the time it takes to read it.

My shelf is full of books on Billy and the Lincoln County War, but this little volume provides some new research and illustrations. Glad I discovered it; glad I bought it.

Excellent book. Almost finished with it and I just bought it. Worth buying, worth reading. Recommend it highly. Deals with where the jail is located where Billy the Kid was incarcerated in Santa Fe. Surprises all over the place. Not really what one expects when one first opens the book. Worth the \$10.00. Recommend it to all my friends.

I loved it. I love history and like many people I've been fascinated with the various versions of Billy the Kid. I look forward to more Billy the Kid history from Lynn Michelsohn.

Billy The Kid's Jail by Lynn Michelsohn contains a wealth of information about Billy the Kid's time in a Santa Fe jail and how the actual location of the jail was determined. It is obvious that this is a well researched book and very easy to read. Included in the book is an Appendix that gives background information on this iconic historical figure and I found this to be interesting and informative. I think that this book would be good to read when planning a trip to Santa Fe, New Mexico. I received this book free of charge through LibraryThing and I give this review of my own free will.

The question of where the jail was located was well researched by Ms. Michelsohn. The simple

question complicated by the existence of multiple jails, and the fog of time was answered nicely in the vignette. The authors diligent and thorough research should appease and find approbation among Billy the Kid buffs and Historians alike. It was a pleasant and informative read recommended to any with a curiosity of the Old West.Sam H. DaMit

This is an interesting little book about determining the location of the jail that held Billy The Kid in Santa Fe. This is more of interest to those who have at least some prior knowledge of Billy The Kid as it does not cover Billy's story in great detail, concentrating on determining the facts of the location and layout of the jail. With the amount of background knowledge I have of his story, I found this an interesting addition to my knowledge.

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