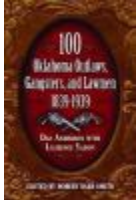
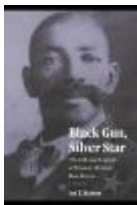


Western Americana: Oklahoma and Local History

Many larger than life Western tales were inspired by figures that earned their infamy right here in the Sooner State. Pretty Boy Floyd robbed a bank in Salisaw and loot stolen by Jesse James is purported to still be buried somewhere in Chandler Park, right here in Tulsa. For these tall tales and others, check out the selections below.



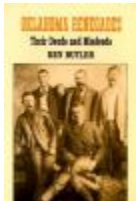
[100 Oklahoma Outlaws, Gangsters, and Lawmen: 1839-1939](#) by Dan Anderson with Laurence Yadon. One of the most definitive collections of historical outlaws in circulation. Learn everything about virtually everyone involved in the wild early years of Oklahoma statehood. (One of the authors even gathered much of his research at Tulsa's Central library.)



[Black Gun, Silver Star: The Life and Legend of Frontier Marshal Bass Reeves](#) by Art T. Burton. As feared as most outlaws, Bass Reeves became the most notorious lawman in all the Wild West. The fact that he was an African American marshal made his notoriety all the more improbable. Author Art Burton traces his life from its beginnings as an antebellum slave to his marshalling of the untamed Oklahoma territory. An informative and entertaining read.



[The Kimes Gang](#) by Michael Koch. The Kimes Brothers wreaked havoc all across the American Southwest, from Kansas to New Mexico. But it was in Oklahoma that they had their most sinister influence, corrupting officials in the Oklahoma Governor's office. A must for True Crime enthusiasts.



[Oklahoma Renegades: Their Deeds and Misdeeds](#) by Ken Butler. Butler examines several characters, long since forgotten, who gained infamy in the early years of the Oklahoma territories. A great book for the Wild West enthusiast, as the subjects within these pages are seldom written about.

[West of Hell's Fringe: Crime, Criminals, and the Federal Peace Officer in Oklahoma Territory, 1889-1907](#) by Glenn Shirley. Mr. Shirley has been considered, rightly so, among the primary authorities of Oklahoma history. This selection is one of the more intriguing true tales of frontier justice in the newly acquired Oklahoma territory.

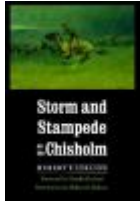
-For many more Glenn Shirley selections, [click here](#).



[Ghost Towns of Oklahoma](#) by John W. Morris. If you've sated your appetite for the grisly side of early Oklahoma, why not read about the frontier towns that are now no more. This book is an excellent compendium to an adventure just waiting to happen. It comes complete with maps and short anecdotal histories of ghost towns right here in our backyard.



[The Chickasaw Rancher](#) by Neil R. Johnson. Johnson's book, first published in 1960, tells the story of the first white settlement in Oklahoma. Follows the Johnson family, who bought a piece of land in 1868, for thirty two years as they work the land and encounter all the hardships one would expect of a hardy, frontier homestead.



[Storm and Stampede on the Chisholm](#) by Hubert E. Collins. Storm...reads more akin to a western revisionist novel. Collins depicts a picaresque and romantic version of frontier life on the Cimarron River in the 1800's.