Old Trails Museum

Journeys To Winslow

The Old Trails Museum's *Journeys to Winslow* exhibit explores Winslow's many connections to the Smithsonian's *Journey Stories* traveling exhibition. *Journey Stories* examines the roles that migration, travel, and modes of transportation have played in American society. These themes intersect to tell us something about who we are as Americans – that we see mobility as a way of asserting our individual freedoms.

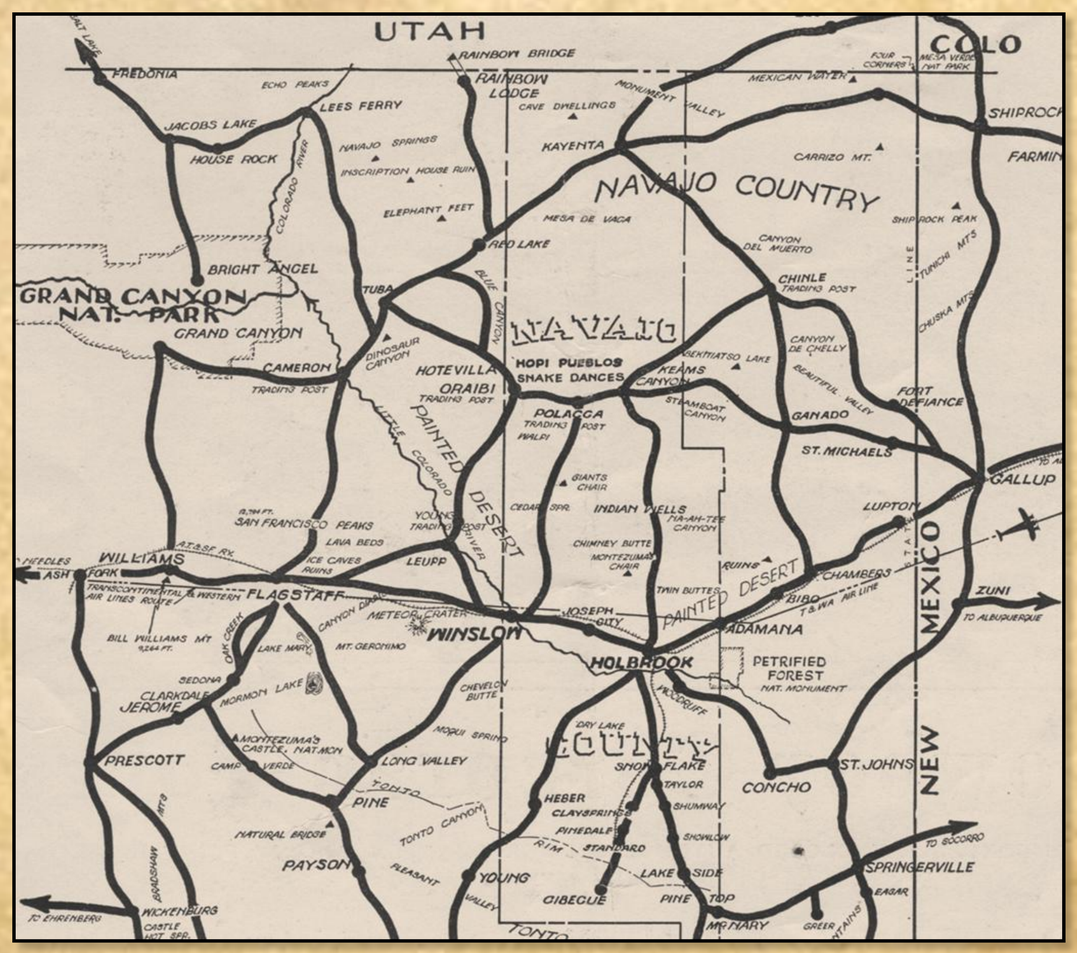
The Winslow area has continually been the center of a migration and transportation crossroads. People have traveled area trails, roads, railways, highways, and airways for trade, religious freedom, economic opportunity, and adventure. The city's rich journey stories connect it with the Southwest and the nation as a whole in diverse and unexpected ways.

In 1880, the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad laid out the Winslow townsite along its new transcontinental line through northern Arizona Territory. In December 1881, the first rail line arrived in the new town named in honor of railroad executive Edward F. Winslow. In 1897, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, known as the Santa Fe, bought the Atlantic and Pacific and transferred division headquarters to Winslow. The railroad boomtown blossomed into a bustling city.

The Santa Fe provided shipping for area ranches, trading posts, and lumber mills, as well as passenger service to the Southwest. Travelers enjoyed fine dining provided by Fred Harvey and the Harvey Girls, as well as lodging at Winslow's early Harvey Houses and La Posada Hotel.

The highway running through downtown Winslow became part of famed US Route 66 when automobiles began replacing rail travel in the 1920s. In 1929, Charles Lindbergh selected Winslow for one of the key airfields along Transcontinental Air Transport's first coast-to-coast passenger route. For all these reasons, Winslow enjoyed the largest population in northern Arizona from 1900 into the 1940s.

Winslow's growth was scuttled when the Santa Fe modernized operations and expanded its workforce elsewhere. It stalled again when Interstate 40 bypassed Route 66 in 1979. Today, Winslow's population is stable at almost 10,000 people, and the economy is becoming more diversified. And Winslow's historic and cultural attractions continue to lure visitors from around the world.



This 1930 tourism map shows Winslow's proximity to US Route 66, Transcontinental & Western Air's passenger route, Meteor Crater, Hopi and Navajo lands, and the Petrified Forest National Monument.

Acknowledgments

The Old Trails Museum/Winslow Historical Society and our partner venue, La Posada Hotel, are proud to host the grand opening stop on the Arizona Humanities Council's statewide tour of the Smithsonian's *Journey Stories* traveling exhibition.

The Old Trails Museum and our community partners are presenting companion exhibits and programs at multiple locations during our six-week tour stop. Partners include Brigham City Restoration, the City of Winslow Airport Commission, Homolovi State Park, the Just Cruis'n Car Club, the Winslow Arts Council, the Winslow Chamber of Commerce, the Winslow Harvey Girls, the Winslow Public Library/Friends of the Library, the Winslow Rotary Club, and Wiseman Aviation.

The Old Trails Museum's *Journeys to Winslow* exhibit was developed by museum director Ann-Mary Lutzick, Northern Arizona University journalism professor Mary Tolan, and museum volunteer David Andreasen, with additional help from Northern Arizona University intern Brooke Weber. La Posada general manager Daniel Lutzick constructed the exhibit kiosks, and Northern Arizona Signs printed the exhibit panels. Unless otherwise noted, all images and interviews are from the Old Trails Museum Collection.

The *Journeys to Winslow* exhibit and companion programs have been made possible in part by a grant from the Arizona Humanities Council, with additional funding provided by the Old Trails Museum/Winslow Historical Society, the Winslow Chamber of Commerce, Curtis and Linda Hardy, Dave and Ann Hartman, and Daniel and Ann-Mary Lutzick.

Journey Stories has been made possible in Winslow by the Arizona Humanities Council. *Journey Stories* is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and State Humanities Councils nationwide. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress.

Smithsonian Institution

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Journey Stories

Historic Fred Harvey Hotel
La Posada
Winslow Arizona

Winslow
Chamber of Commerce