Westwater Lost and Found

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Published by Utah State University Press

Milligan, Mike.
Westwater Lost and Found.
Project MUSE. muse.jhu.edu/book/9269.

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Appendix B

Colorado River Sites within the Westwater Region

The following Colorado River sites are based upon the author's interpretation of historical data. The mile posts are approximated using Belknap's Revised Waterproof Canyonlands River Guide.

132.3: Colorado-Utah border. State Line (Utaline) was a former Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad stop.

131.5: The Charles Brock dugout was located on the right bank near the river.

130.8: May Flats, named for the May family, owners of the Echo Ranch that existed in the area from the early 1900s through the 1920s.

128.8: In the area of Bitter Creek there once existed a sanitarium and a hotel. Private property.

128.6: Northeast of Bitter Creek area near the Colorado River, former resident, Owen Malin, had a graveyard for unidentified bodies that floated down river to Westwater. Private property.

127.9: The house west of Bitter Creek was built in 1917 by Harvey Edward Herbert. Private property.

127.7: Southwest of the river about one mile was the former site of Westwater town.

127.6: Across the river is Moonshine Island, most likely named because of a still that was located near Westwater on a Colorado River island in 1930 during Prohibition.
127.5: BLM Ranger Station. Area used to be a pasture belonging to long time resident Elwood C. Malin. His home, which was also used as a boarding house, was across the road from the railroad station and burned down about 1935. He then built a ranch that is on the hill above Westwater Wash. It is currently abandoned.

**Westwater Ranch:** The ranch was in existence in 1889 when Frank Clarence Kendrick surveyed the area. It originally belonged to the Bar X Cattle Company. Private Property

125 to 121: Southeast of the Colorado River is Snyder Mesa, most likely named after Daniel M. Snyder who was a former Westwater resident who owned a ranch on the Little Dolores River.

124.7: Some Fremont pictographs are about seventy-five yards from the confluence of Westwater Creek with the Colorado River. Private property.

124.2: Wild Horse Cabin, or Miner's Cabin.

123.6: There is a rock chimney on the slope overlooking the campsite downstream of Miners Cabin that most likely is the remains of a placer miner's dugout.

123.2: Duplex Miners Cabins. The cabins can be easily seen from the river during high water.

123: The approximate location of the original dam site that was proposed in the canyon in 1903-1904. The coordinates were “2 miles below Westwater in the NE. 3 sec.27, T. 20 S., R. 25 E., where the width between walls at the low-water line is 100 feet.”

120.8: Little Hole.

120.4: Little Dolores River area. Petroglyph eagle and mounted Indian are located at the base of the Wingate butte. Five miles upstream are Luster Ranch and Cave.

119.3: Outlaw Cave or “Counterfeit Cave” is easily seen on the east bank.

119.4: Outlaw grave.

118.2: Big Hummer Rapid.

118: Funnel Falls was previously called Double Pitch Rapid.

117.3: Skull Rapid. In 1916 this rapid was called Whirlpool Rapid and Big Whirlpool. It was also known as Cisco Bend Rapid and one report claims it was called Dead Horse Rapid.
117: The approximate final 1903-1904 proposed location of a dam site, described as being “about 6 miles below the former site (mile 123), in the SW. 3 sec. 4, T. 21 S., R. 25 E., at a point where the river makes two sudden right-angle bends, forming a letter ‘Z.’” These coordinates are further inland, away from the river, making the exact location unknown.

116.3: Trail Canyon, one of few escape routes out of the canyon.

116: Big Hole.

112.3: Cottonwood Wash, a former railroad stop. Petroglyphs are located here.

111.2: Agate Wash, a former railroad stop.

111.1: A memorial to Charlie Ray “CR” Sherrill.

111: Rose Ranch, formerly the Hallett Ranch.

110.5: Knowles Ranch.

110.5: Cisco Landing. Like Westwater, Cisco was a railroad water stop.