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Bent's Old Fort

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### Granite Marker at Fort Bent is Dedicated by Ceremony Tuesday

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# GRANITE MARKER AT FORT BENT IS DEDICATED BY CEREMONY TUESDAY

A granite marker commemorating the site of new Fort Bent on the Arkansas River ten miles west of Lamar was dedicated Tuesday with ceremonies at the site at 5 p.m.; and a dinner in the State Armory at 7 p.m.

Some 75 persons assembled at the marker for dedication ceremonies presided over by Herschel Morris. Boy Scouts formed a color guard and Scout Elwood McKibbin sounded reveille. Color guard Scouts were Don Bowman, Roy Adair, Don Bloyd and LeRoy Routh under supervision of Scoutmaster Fred Applegate.

Morris formally presented the marker to the State Historical Society. L. R. Hafen, Denver, of the State Historical Society accepted the marker and sketched the history of Bent's new fort.

Dr. Howard R. Driggs, president of the American Pioneer Trails association spoke. Then Archie Semmens of Wiley, who gave the land for the marker made brief remarks. He said that someday it was hoped that Bent's Fort could be reconstructed. Many of those present visited the site of Fort Wise, the original Fort Lyon, after the ceremony.

There were about 90 persons present at the dinner Tuesday night at the armory. Morris again presided and remarks were given by Mayor R. L. Christy of Lamar. Mrs. Wilkie Ham sang "Old Glory" and Mrs. C. H. Wooden played a piano medley of music of the 1860 period.

L. R. Hafen spoke briefly and introduced Mrs. W. S. Tarbell, D.A.R. leader in Denver, who was accompanied by her husband and daughter. James R. Harvey, president of the Colorado branch of the American Trails association also was introduced.

Mr. Garrettson, curator in a New York museum spoke briefly. He has made a special study of buffalo and other wildlife of the West. Mrs. Hafen was introduced and Fred M. Betz was introduced as regional vice-president of the State Historical society.

Mrs. H. C. Davis, D.A.R. Lamar, gave a paper on Southeast Colorado history, and Hafen spoke briefly on the background of this section.

Dr. Howard R. Driggs, president of the American Pioneer Trails association, New York City, and an educator in New York University, also spoke.

The dinner was served by the Past President's club of the local American Legion Auxiliary.

The Pioneer Trails caravan which came here from Kansas City Tuesday, is tracing the old Santa Fe trail this year from Kansas City to Santa Fe, New Mexico. Wednesday the group left Lamar and moved on west visiting the Kit Carson cabin at Fort Lyon, Old Fort Bent, and on to Trinidad for lunch.

Following is the inscription on the granite marker which was dedicated: (The marker is mounted on stones from the original fort).