

Conclusion

From the data that I was able to gather, I believe that more than one Indian battle took place at Almo. While I was growing up, I was led to believe that only one massacre had taken place. It is difficult, after some 120 years, to discover what really happened. I have tried to use the documents that were necessary to show the accounts. In the Johnston Memoirs, I attempted to point out the differences between the accounts told to different sources by one man.

Three hundred people are not easily lost. The army and neighboring settlements should have been aware of such a large party traveling through the area. The amount of feed and provisions needed for a wagon train of this size would have been too obvious to remain unnoticed and unrecorded. I feel that more research is needed to totally disprove the 'great' massacre. There is still a slim possibility of it happening, but not of such great force. I think that all the battles have been confused into one great battle.

Having grown up in the area concerning the site, I realized, when reading authors' accounts, that some had never been in the proximity of the massacre. Their landmarks and locations of certain streams were as much as five miles off. The Almo Creek had never and will never run through the City of Rocks. It does run near the Castle

Rocks about five miles to the north.³⁵ The description of Indians Grove was a little ambiguous. Indian Grove was about five miles from the Almo Creek site. (As the crow flies.)³⁶ There was no way humanly possible for the Indians to travel this in the short space of a morning.

The different accounts of the same battles and attacks indicates how history will change if not written at the time, and the different recollection abilities of people.

The stories that I was able to uncover have been interesting. By the use of pictures and maps included in the text, I endeavored to show a few of the locations and sites.

No attempt has been made, to my knowledge, to uncover the bodies. The water table is very high in the massacre site and it is thought by some that the bodies may have floated away.

There are three sites of the Almo Massacre.³⁷ Each is supposed to be the one and only true site. They occur in a hundred yard radius. So I guess they are almost accurate.

I have not been able to trace some of the people who were part of the rescue teams sent after the attacks. I will continue my research in this area.

³⁵See map #4.

³⁶(Ibid.)

³⁷(Ibid.)

I do know that Pocatello and his band were active in this geographical area and that several wagon trains and parties were attacked. But to whether the Almo Massacre happened, I am not sure. But having no eye witness diaries or journals as proof, the Almo Massacre is just a legend.

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MAPS

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