

The following is a transcription of a faint, single-spaced document that was found in the materials sent to Glenn Borkenhagen by Bandy's grandson Dirk Reith during August 2019. It consistently refers to Bandy in the third person, which was not his normal writing style. This represents a best-faith effort to decipher something that was confusing in places.

Portions of this document appear almost word-for-word in "Surveys and Surveyors of the Public Domain - 1785-1975" by Lola Cazier, which is available for free downloading. The Cazier book does not mention a book named "History of Public Land Surveys", but that could have been the working title of her book. Ms. Cazier does state that Roy Bandy had passed at the time she finished her book, which was published by the U.S. Government Printing Office in 1976. (Bandy passed in 1972.)

This was copied from the Bureau of Land Management's History of Public Land Surveys
Notes of History of Public Land Surveys 1972

Conrad Carr was a homesteader. He was also a circuit Judge, and he helped form Vernon County, in western Missouri. The land he homesteaded there became the home of his daughter Clara, and her husband, Charles B. Bandy.

Judge Carr's grandsons, Richard Elmer, William Roy, and Willis W. Bandy were all born on the Carr homestead (Give the dates)

They all attended Willow Grove one-room country school. Later Elmer and Willis went to college at Warrensburg, Missouri, and Roy attended college at Sedalia.

Elmer taught school in Routt County, Colo. for a couple of years, and in 1904 he joined the public survey crews of Colonel Samuel W. Brunt and his son Arthur M. Brunt. Arthur was at that time a well known surveyor and engineer, and both of the Brunts were at that time contract surveyors for the General Land Office in the Big Horn Basin of Northwestern Wyoming. Colonel Brunt was a gray-bearded, twinkling-eyed veteran who held survey contracts in California as early as 1869. (Note they got this from some else)

The Col. asked Elmer if he had any brothers in Missouri that he could send for, and in June 1905 Roy Bandy joined the Brunt survey party at Garland, Wyoming.

One of Roy Bandy's first survey jobs was as chainman on Arthur Brunt's contract for the survey of part of the Twelfth Standard Parallel North, in Wyoming. The line ran westward from a point 15 miles north of Worland, Wyoming, across the rough 60 miles to Carter Mountain which is west of Meeteetse. The first 40 miles of the survey line were through desolate, arid, rock covered, badlands country.

Early in July, the nine man crew left Cody, Wyoming. Their two wagons loaded with surveying equipment, beds, tents, and cooking equipment. The men rode atop the loaded wagons. They traveled in this manner for about 100 miles, until they reached a log house on the west side of the Big Horn River. That log house was Worland, Wyoming.

The tents they carried with them were fine for sleeping, but the furniture was none too fancy. Sometimes they had a wooden box to put a candle on near the head of their bedroll. The men supplied their own bedrolls and their own soap and other toiletry articles. These were kept, cowboy style, in a sack called a “warbag”. If the men planned to be in a certain location for just a couple of nights they would not bother to put up tents, they just used the night sky for a roof.

Page 2 (At this point the left edge of the paper is cut off – made best guesses)

In Wyoming the nights were apt to get a bit frosty, so the surveyors soon figured out an efficient way to get dressed in the morning. They crawled out of their bedrolls, putting their hats on first, next as their shoulders emerged, their shirts, then they as they worked their way out, their pants. Last of all came socks and boots. Their clothing was all kept under the heads of their bedrolls where it was both handy and protected by the tarp.

Breakfast was at 6 a.m. and supper at 6 p.m. The hours between were the work day. The men hiked to and from the work area. They carried their lunch in a handkerchief or a piece of flagging, tied to their belts. The quart canteen of water they carried with them had to last all day, and some of those days were long and hot.

The survey line was run with the solar compass or the solar transit. A one-chain tape was used and the tape was leveled. The clinometer had not been invented at that time. The chainmen kept track of the distance by the time honored method of counting the tally pins, and one pin for every chain. If the ground surface was steep and it was necessary to take less than a chain, a mark was made and the pin stuck in the ground when the whole chain of 100 links was reached. The chainmen in this instance, Arthur Brunt and Roy Bandy, took turns going ahead with the chain. They changed every ten chains. The same man always started out from a corner and went ten chains. The front chainman had ten pins, and when the last of them was stuck in the ground he would call out “Tally one.” The rear chainman then walked up counting his pins. If the count was ten pins, he would say “Tally one ten pins.” In this manner it was known immediately if either one had lost

a pin. If one was missing, they went back, also in the time honored method, and chained it over, in order to be sure of the distance. The rear chainman then took the lead for the second ten chains. One man always had the even numbered tallies and the other man always had the odd numbered tallies.

The importance of the starting man having ten pins is obvious when one understands the system. Arthur Brunt taught Roy Bandy to count his pins the last moment before starting out. One morning Roy was standing around, waiting for the transitman to set the flagman ahead before he started chaining. Just before starting Arthur Brunt asked him if he had ten pins. Roy had counted them, so he told Arthur he had them. Arthur told him that he should always be sure he had all ten. Roy said he was sure for he had just counted them. Arthur seemed hesitant and interrupted, so Roy counted his pins again. He found to his embarrassment that he had only nine pins. Arthur had actually slipped the other pin out of Roy's hand as he stood waiting for the transitman.

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On this survey where they were running a straight line all the way camp was moved every two days. For two months they surveyed the line and set stone corners. At the end of 60 miles, they went to another job, that of subdividing another township on the east slope of Carter Mountain. During that entire 4 month survey season they saw only one town. They visited Meeteetse, Wyoming, and since, in that year the whole town consisted of one store and three saloons, they were able to see all they wanted of it in just one evening.

The following year, 1906, Roy Bandy was appointed a U.S. Deputy Surveyor by Alpheus P. Hanson, the Surveyor General for Wyoming, as a joint contractor with Arthur Brunt, for the survey of six townships in the Big Horn Basin. At that time it was understood that Roy Bandy, aged 21, was the youngest of all the United States deputy surveyors. The contract was completed in the summer of 1907. Later that year, Roy was employed by the United States Reclamation Service, which had been created under the Reclamation Act of 1902 as the Division of Reclamation. It became the Bureau of Reclamation in 1923. Roy Bandy worked on the Shoshone Project. He remained with the Reclamation Service until he went back to work for the General Land Office in the spring of 1911. Elmer Bandy stayed with the Brunts until 1909.

The year before Roy Bandy rejoined the General Land Office, some important changes in the cadastral survey system of the United States was put into effect. When the Act of March 3, 1909 was amended and passed on June 25, 1910, it provided for the resurvey or retracement of all surveys of the Public Lands in order that they might be properly marked. It also provided that the surveys and resurveys were “. . . to be made by such competent surveyor as the Secretary of the Interior may select . . .” This provision of the law ended the practice of letting contracts for the making of the surveys of the Public Lands. After passage of this legislation, surveyors were hired directly by the General Land Office and executed surveys under what has since been know as the Direct System. Under the direct system, the surveys improved, as was expected. An unexpected change also took place; the cost of executing surveys went down.

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In 1909 he was in Missouri until August, then went to Snake River, Seattle and Hayden Lake.

Wilford Utterbach and Roy Bandy had both run crews for the Brunts, and in 1911 they both were employed as U.S. Cadastral Engineers out of the Surveyor General's Office in Cheyenne, Wyoming along with the Saxons, the Pidgeons, Mark Kelly, Herman Jaeckel, and the Voigt Brothers, Hans and Emil.

In 1910 Roy and Willis were in Idaho on Snake River.

1911 was also the year that Roy Bandy married Inez Estes. Inez, who had grown up on a farm in Missouri, was a pretty young woman with a sunny disposition. Since the Bandys had been married only a short time they really did not want to be apart for a whole long summer survey season. They finally found a way for Inez to go along. No one was allowed to stay in camp unless they were part of the crew, so she became the camp cook. Inez cooked for parts of four seasons. One incident of the summer of 1912 has been immortalized in a fine painting by Montana Artist “Shorty” Shope. The

painting owned by Mr. Bandy, is from a photograph. It shows Inez cooking breakfast, at a survey camp, high up in the Big Horn Mountains in the month of August with a huge snow bank in the back ground. Willis Bandy was in the crew it was he who had bagged the savory, succulent mountain grouse Inez served that crisp August morning. Willis had spotted the birds the day before as they followed an ancient Indian trail. It was dusk when they found themselves near an enormous bank of last winter's snow. The water provided by the melting snow made it a most attractive camping place. The rings from Indian tepees, still visible on the ground the next morning, showed the surveyors that they were not the first to camp there.

In 1914 Roy Bandy was transferred to Helena, Montana under J. Scott Harrison, one of his first assignments was with Guy R. Veal and Glenn Sawyer in the breaks along the Missouri.

He worked in the Breaks the years 1917 to 1919

In 1920 the resurvey of the Sumatra – Sand Springs area was made

In 1921 Roy Bandy had six crews working on the Crow Indian Reservation

In 1922 to 1927 Bandy and Parker worked on the Cheyenne, Yogo, Cheyenne Reservation and Blackfeet Reservation with six crews

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Continued on page 155.