

(Ebook pdf) Vanished Arizona;: Recollections of my army life; (The Lakeside classics. [37])

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Martha Summerhayes

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Martha Summerhayes : Vanished Arizona;: Recollections of my army life; (The Lakeside classics. [37]) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Vanished Arizona;: Recollections of my army life; (The Lakeside classics. [37]):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. MemoriesBy George BurnsThe heart of this book is the time Martha Summerhayes spent during the 1870s in Arizona as an army wife. Raised in comfortable circumstances on the East Coast, she was intelligent and educated, but unprepared for the harshness of life in Arizona. Bad food, extreme heat, discomfort and dangerous animals and people were all parts of her life. She sometimes despaired, but never quite gave up. She was a keen observer of all that she experienced. She recognized the problems caused by bad Indian agents and deplored the misery imposed on soldiers by foolish members of temperance societies. Occasionally, there are surprising omissions: there is no mention of the Battle of the Little Bighorn which convulsed the army. This is a very good book , but should it get a four or a five? Martha was too charming to merit less than a five.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I love this bookBy jerryabI love this book. I purchased it in book form also.Made me feel I was there with the people in this book. I have read it many times and will keep doing so at times.A true history of a woman's journey with her army husband in the 1880's.Awesome book if you like the past of the Old West soldiers life with their families.I wish someone would have made a movie based on this book. If they have I haven't seen it and I have seen a lot of Westerns.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A transplanted Eastern born military wife takes on the early Arizona frontier.By Margaret GrafI read this more as a story of a frontier woman who left a

comfortable Eastern US home to follow her husband's army career in opening the West rather than as a story about a West that no longer exists. There is a strong ring of truth to the shock and deprivation of all known comforts readily exchanged for the adventurous challenge of the unknown. While probably played out in one fashion or another by many women of the time, there are few journals or writings to suggest the love, inner strength and faith these women had both in their chosen spouses or the country's march toward manifest destiny. As the original wild west of Arizona fades the writer identifies loneliness and isolation as the real enemies, far worse than deprivation, loss of even simple comforts and familiarity of home and surroundings. How truly brave these women were. It gives new meaning to 'stand by your man.'

In 1874, when Martha Summerhayes came as a bride to Fort Russell in Wyoming Territory, she "saw not much in those first few days besides bright buttons, blue uniforms, and shining swords," but soon enough the hard facts of army life began to intrude. Remonstrating with her husband, Jack, that she had only three rooms and a kitchen instead of "a whole house," she was informed that "women are not reckoned in at all in the War Department," which also failed to appreciate that "'lieutenants' wives needed quite as much as colonels wives." In fact, Martha had only a short time to enjoy her new quarters, for in June her husband's regiment was ordered to Arizona, "that dreaded and then unknown land."

"Written by the wife of an Army officer stationed in Arizona from 1874 to 1878, Vanished Arizona provides a clear picture of life on the frontier and the hardships faced by both the men and the women."-True West -- Shelly Dudley True West
From the Back Cover
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About the Author
In his introduction, Dan L. Thrapp describes the Apache-white frontier and sets the book in its historical and biographical context. He is the author of Encyclopedia of Frontier Biography, also a Bison Book.