

EXECUTION LIST

THOSE EXECUTED BY HANGING IN WHAT BECAME THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

I. Executed by United States officials in Dakota Territory:

Jack McCall, March 1, 1877, Yankton, for murder of Wild Bill Hickock

II. Executed by Dakota Territory officials:

Thomas Egan, July 13, 1882, Sioux Falls, for the murder of his wife, Mary.

Brave Bear, Nov. 15, 1882, Yankton, for the May 1879 murder of Joseph Johnson, a Sully County resident.

James Leighton Gilmore, Dec. 15, 1882, Deadwood, for the murder of a Mexican man named Bisente Ortez

III. Executed by the State of South Dakota officials:

James B. Leehman, Feb. 19, 1892, Custer, for the July 11, 1889, murder of James H. Bums.

Nathaniel Thompson, Oct. 20, 1893, DeSmet for the murder of his wife's friend, Mrs. Bliton, in Arlington.

Jay Hicks, Nov. 15, 1894, Sturgis, for the murder of a rancher John Meyer during a robbery.

Chief Two Sticks, Dec. 28, 1894, Deadwood, for instigating and directing the murder of four cowboys during an Indian insurrection.

Charles Brown, July 14, 1897, Deadwood, for the murder of Emma Stone during a robbery.

Ernest Loves War (also known as Ernest Bird), Sept. 19, 1902, Sturgis, for the murder of George Ostrander and George Puck, Meade County homesteaders.

Allen Walking Shield, Oct. 21, 1902, Sioux Falls, for the murder of an Indian woman, Ghost-Faced Bear.

George Bear, Dec. 5, 1902, Sioux Falls, for the murder of J. W. Taylor (C. Edward Taylor) and John Snow.

Emil Victor, Nov. 16, 1909, Aberdeen, for the murder of Mildred Christie (he also murdered Mr. & Mrs. James Christie, her parents and Mike Ronayne).

Joseph Rickman (Ryckman), Dec. 3, 1913, Bison, for the murder of Ellen Fox and her daughter, Mildred. (the last hanging in South Dakota)

IV. From 1915 to 1939, South Dakota did not permit the use of the death penalty:

George Sitts on April 8, 1947, was electrocuted in Sioux Falls. He murdered Erik Johansson in a Minneapolis robbery, escaped from prison where he was serving a life sentence, and murdered law-enforcement agents Tom Matthews and Dave Malcolm near Spearfish.