

## THE TOM LOGAN STORY

Tom Logan was in his third term as sheriff of Nye County during Tonopah's boom years when he was shot to death by an unruly gambler in the Manhattan red light district on April 7, 1906. Dressed only in his nightshirt and unarmed, Logan's final act as an officer of the law was to prevent the piano player from shooting his assailant. Surprisingly Logan's killer, represented by attorneys Stephen Flynn and future U.S. Senator Patrick McCarran, was later acquitted.

Married to Hannah Hamblin and the father of eight children, Logan was known for his even-handed ways and credited with helping to make early Tonopah "the most peaceable mining camp in the world." His death sent shock waves throughout the land.

Also the proprietor of The American Saloon in Tonopah, Sheriff Logan shared the Nevada landscape with many other historical figures such as Jim Butler, Wilson Brougher, Tasker Oddie, John Sparks, Jack Longstreet, George Wingfield, the Pittman brothers, Tex Rickard, Dan Robb, "Diamondfield Jack" Davis, and Wyatt Earp.

Born in Washoe County, Nevada, in 1861, Tom Logan's life, tragic death, and the controversial murder trial that set his killer free are detailed in *LOGAN: The Honorable Life and Scandalous Death of a Western Lawman* written by his great granddaughter and award-winning author Jackie Boor.

On May 28, 2011, Sheriff Logan was posthumously awarded the **Medal of Valor** and **Purple Heart** by the Nye County Sheriff's Office for his courage and dedication to law and order. His body is buried in the Old Tonopah Cemetery at the north end of town but, as many will attest, his spirit remains on patrol....



## WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

This is my style of Old West history: gritty, truthful and edged with poignant sadness. – **Bob Boze Bell**, *True West*

Loyalty to family, law and order, liquor and ladies of the night make this book a great read and a fascinating work of Nevada History! – **Michael E. Fischer**, *Former Director, Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs*

Happy to keep this book on my shelf.  
– **Mark Hall-Patton**, *Pawn Stars, History Channel*

The narrative of Tom Logan is a fascinating mirror of this time, place, and the culture of the community he served.  
– **US Review of Books**

Whether by journalistic misfire, academic neglect, or unabashed revisionism, much of Nevada's colorful history has often been obscured. This is the case with the remarkable story of the lawman Tom Logan.  
– **John L. Smith**, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*

A helluva story! – **Emil Fanzi**, *Voices of the West*

The scent of sagebrush after a spring rain, the sound of wagons rolling down dusty Nevada roads, and the lively music and rough and tumble sounds of a mining camp all entered my mind as I lost myself in this book. – **Doug Gist**, *President, Silver State National Peace Officers Museum*

A riveting tale of honor, loss and family.  
– **Madeline Neumann**, *President, COPS*

As the story unfolded, I found myself becoming emotionally involved in what is really Old West Shakespeare: cunning, treachery and murder.  
– **Joni Eastley**, *Former Nye County Commissioner*

This old lawman loves it!  
– **Bob Ellison**, *Nevada Lawman Research Project*

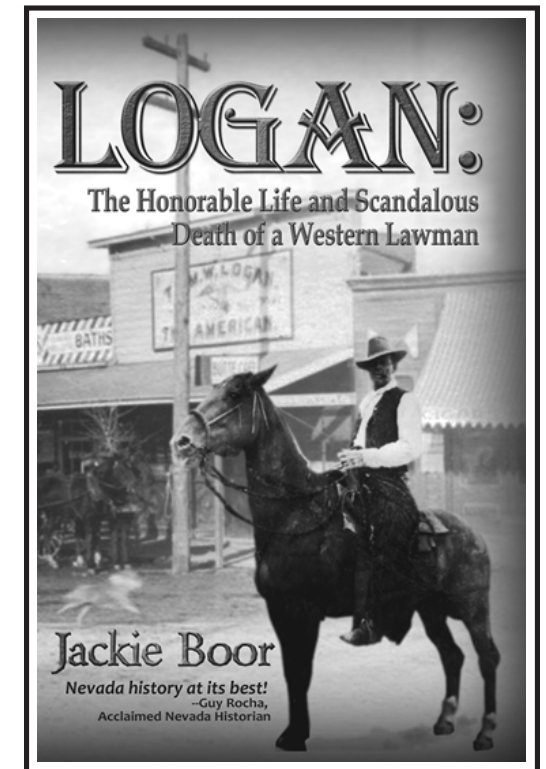
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# On the trail with Sheriff Tom Logan



A self-guided day tour based on the award-winning biography of Nevada frontier sheriff Tom Logan killed in the line of duty on April 7, 1906 in Nye County



## NYE COUNTY

When Tom Logan was elected sheriff in 1899, he was responsible for a district that covered 18,000 square miles and was populated by less than 1,000 people. It took eight days to travel by horse and buggy from one end of Nye County to the other. By 1906, the population had grown to several thousand in Tonopah alone, and the demands on law enforcement were overwhelming.

### BELMONT

Prior to the Tonopah boom in 1900, Logan co-operated a ranch in Monitor Valley. He and his family lived parttime in a brick house behind the courthouse in Belmont, then the county seat where he had his office and supervised the jail. His children also attended school here. The courthouse is still standing among the ghostly ruins of this once thriving town.



LOGAN Pgs: 27-29

### MANHATTAN

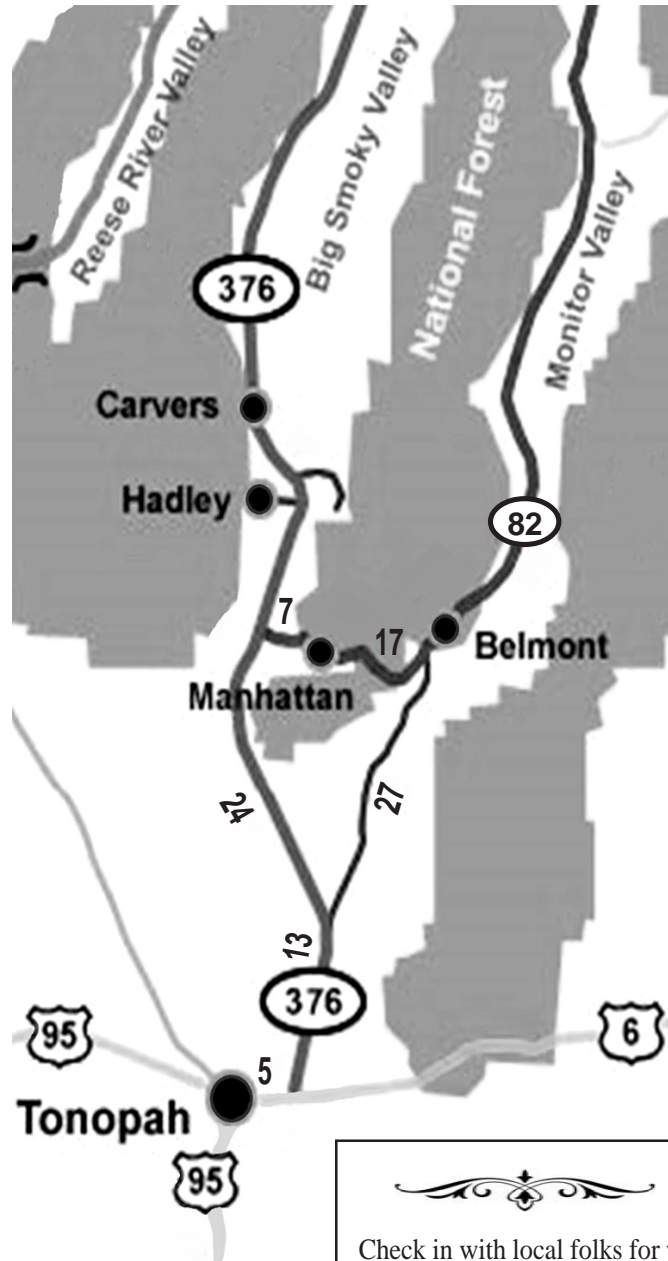
The mining camp of Manhattan soared into existence after gold was discovered there in 1905. May Biggs, a divorcee from Tombstone, Arizona, took advantage of the exploding population and, with Tom Logan's assistance, opened The Jewel, a house of ill-fame. It was there that Logan was sleeping when Biggs had an altercation with gambler Walter Barieau. Her scream woke Logan. He rushed to her aid and ejected Barieau from the premises. Upset with the sheriff, Barieau shot him five times. The killing took place in the red light district at the far end of Dexter Street, at the base of Mustang Hill.

LOGAN Pgs: 133-138, 157-165

### BIG SMOKY VALLEY

Hannah Logan, Tom's widow, ran their Smoky Valley ranch from 1906 until 1919 when she sold it and moved to Reno to live out her days. She died in 1942.

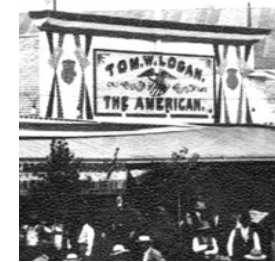
LOGAN Pgs: 221-229



To Goldfield,  
Beatty and  
Las Vegas

## TONOPAH

Tom Logan was among the first to haul ore for Tonopah founder Jim Butler. As with any boomtown, word spread quickly of the big silver strike. Along with hopeful miners and cunning con-artists came businessmen and



a full range of services. Within two short years, Main Street was lined with banks, hotels, restaurants, stage stops, hardware stores, grocers, and more saloons than could be easily counted. Against his wife's wishes,

Logan opened The American Saloon that stood on the site now occupied by the Jim Butler Inn. Other popular drinking houses at the time included The Mizpah Bar & Grill, the Tonopah Club, and The Northern owned by Wyatt Earp.

Sheriff Logan's funeral was the largest held in the history of Nevada to date. The trial of his killer lasted five days. Court records and newspapers reflect a flurry of suspicious accusations and claims. Witnesses to the murder were discredited by virtue of their association with the red light district. To this day, some believe Barieau was a hired gun. Others are certain witnesses were paid for false testimony. Indeed, Logan's story is one for the ages to ponder...



LOGAN Pgs: 56-58, 124-25, 167-178, 187-201

### Tips for the Trail

Check in with local folks for weather and road conditions. Fuel up in Tonopah. Gas services are available in Carvers and Hadley during the day. No gas in Belmont or Manhattan.

Belmont's **Dirty Dick's Saloon** (310-779-6004) is open most days of the week. There is a campground on the edge of town. More info: [www.dirtydicksbelmontsaloon.com](http://www.dirtydicksbelmontsaloon.com)

In Manhattan is the **Miner's Saloon** (775-487-2379) and the **Manhattan Bar & Grill** (775-487-2304). Call ahead for open times. There is also a small motel and RV park.