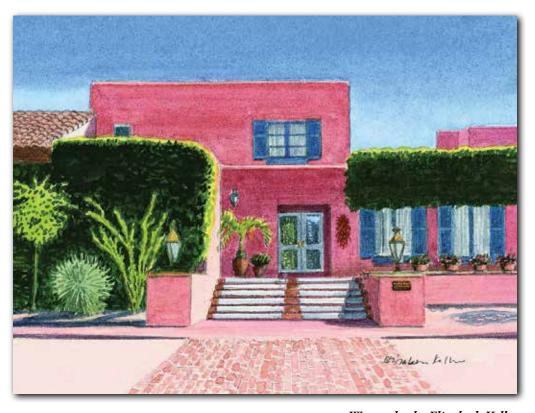


Tucson's

Arizona Inn

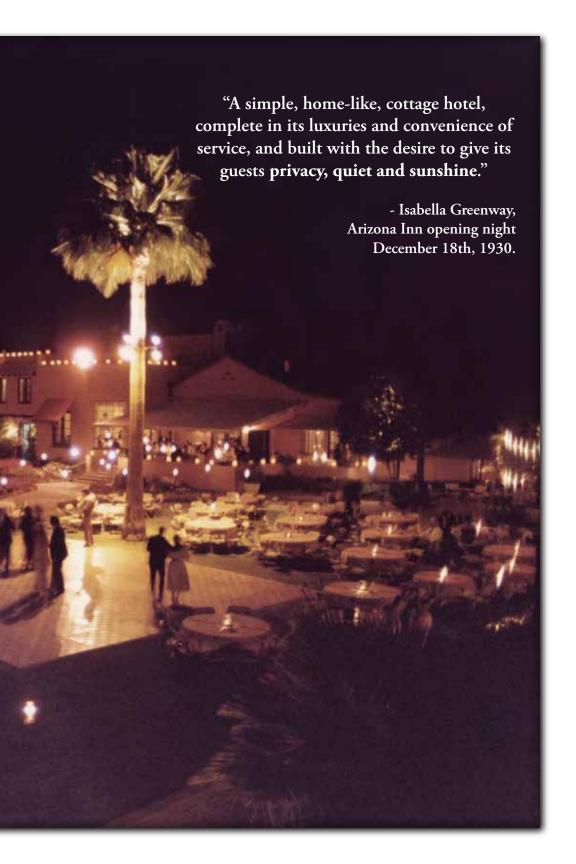


Watercolor by Elizabeth Keller

BY
WILL CONROY

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ISABELLA GREENWAY

The Arizona Inn's founder was Isabella Greenway. By the end of her extraordinary life in 1953, her full name was Isabella Selmes Ferguson Greenway King. Her vibrant, romantic days swept her from the freezing badlands of North Dakota to the glamorous parties of Edith Wharton's New York, from the podium at the 1932 Democratic Convention in Chicago to the corridors of power in Washington D.C., and from the hardscrabble hills of Silver City, New Mexico to the Sonoran desert in the early days of Arizona statehood. She was a bridesmaid at Eleanor Roosevelt's wedding, elected to the 73rd Congress as Arizona's sole U.S. Representative, and reelected by a landslide after that. She was a vigorous New Deal Democrat and a strong voice for disabled veterans and others in Arizona who'd fallen on hard times.

She was passionate, heartbroken, and widowed twice at a tender age, first from Robert H.M. Ferguson and then from John Campbell Greenway, each of whom had charged up San Juan Hill with Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders during the Spanish American War. Ultimately undaunted, Isabella was a hands-on entrepreneur and businesswoman who ignored or simply smashed through glass ceilings on her way to running a 130,000 acre ranch, starting an airline, working in Congress, and founding the Arizona Inn. Above all she was a force for good in dark times, a beautiful woman known for her deep-seated kindness, grace under pressure, charm, humor and strength.





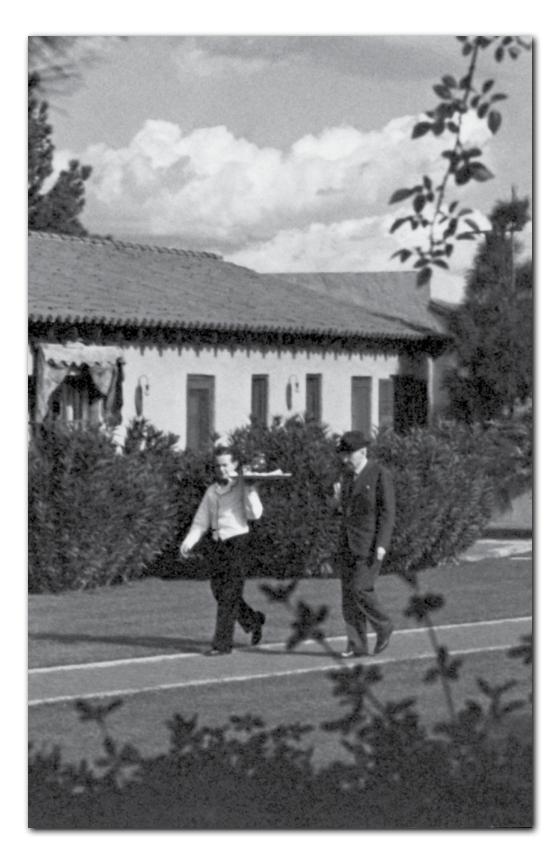
The Arizona Inn, shortly after its inception.



THE ARIZONA INN

The Arizona Inn opened its doors for the first time on the night of December 18th, 1930. After dinner, Bertram's orchestra played a dinner dance for twenty-five couples from the University of Arizona's Sigma Phi Gamma sorority. By all accounts the evening was a great success. Isabella Greenway created the Inn as a candle against the gathering darkness of the Great Depression, and the hotel, emerging as it did along a lonely dirt road on the edge of the frontier town of Tucson (population 32,000), reflected her characteristic resolve in the face of hard times. Although she didn't mention it in her opening statement, Isabella undoubtedly knew she'd built her hotel to last. Working with the Tucson architect M.H. Starkweather, she brought her design and construction experience to bear, along with an eye for detail and an overriding sense of hospitality that imbues the Inn to this day.

Over eight decades the hotel has been steadily enriched by the civility of its staff and the affection of its guests. Its buildings are as solid and quiet as primeval boulders, and the flowerbeds and trees Isabella so thoughtfully laid out eighty-three years ago have grown and twisted happily into their maturity over the years. The Inn's 14 acres of grounds and gardens have provided ever more peace, quiet, fruit and shade as the 20th century has yielded to the 21st, and during that time a wonderful flow of humanity has passed through the Inn's doors, allowing it to plant its own metaphorical roots with a rare grace.



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BUILT TO LAST

In the 1930s Arizona Inn guests often arrived by train, steamer trunks in tow, and stayed for months at a time - hence the large closets found here to this day. It was a bumpy two-mile ride from town and the room rate was twelve dollars a night. Prices have edged up since then but the casita-style inn is generally the same as it ever was. The major changes can be listed quickly: the swimming pool and tennis courts were added in 1937, the annex beyond the pool was added during World War II to accommodate the influx of soldiers, and the main building was air conditioned and remodeled in 1972. The gift shop was created at that time and Plumer Street was partially covered so the "Tucson Room" could be added for larger banquets. In 1974 the hotel began to stay open year-round (until then it had been closed during the summer). In 2006 a private house on the property - known as the Spalding House after the family that rented it for many years - was renovated into nine new guest rooms, bringing the total number of Arizona Inn rooms and suites to ninety-five.



The walls of the Inn are thick and solid, not adobe as is sometimes assumed, but double columns of soft-fired red brick with an inch and a half of space in between. In fact the heavy-duty walls are one of the many ways Isabella ensured her "privacy, quiet and sunshine" pledge. The roofs are done in hand-laid tile and beneath the grounds is a unique system of tunnels to protect the hotel's water pipes. These tunnels now house electrical conduits and fiber optic cables as well as water lines. I once came upon a plumber gazing in apparent wonder at one of the passageways he'd uncovered. He remarked that the tunnel - and the resulting excellent condition of the seventy-year-old pipe suspended inside - was a bit like opening a garage and finding a mint Model A Ford inside, ready to drive. In the same tunnel later that day he found a dusty derby hat left behind by one of the original workers. These are the sorts of discoveries one makes around here. Upon finally re-sealing the tunnel, the good plumber decided to leave the derby hat just where it was.





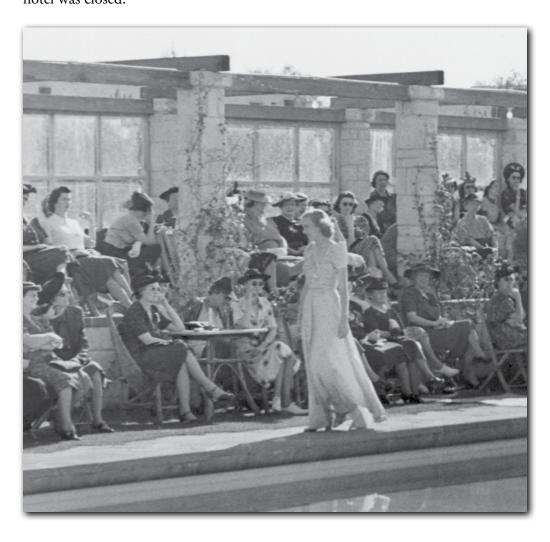
OF FORESTS & MOUNTAINS

A few years ago after an event in the dining room, a large ice sculpture was mistakenly left out and melted overnight. Water seeped through the heavy carpeting, and although the teakwood floorboards are well-fastened by pegs and smartly caulked, as on a ship's deck, the volume of water in this case buckled the wood in one area. Cutting a hole to make repairs, surprised Inn carpenters found the floor to be triple-layered. It turns out Isabella wanted to limit even the slightest creaks as diners made their way to favorite tables. Deeper down an extraordinary trussing of old growth fir, extremely hard wood still obtainable in 1930, had (alarmingly) been placed in direct contact with the ground. We called in an exterminator right away, and he remarked that although a trussing placed against the ground in this way would normally constitute a kind of highway for termites, in this case the wood was so hard the bugs were overmatched. They'd break their little teeth on it, he said with a smile, and give up. And so they have. The original floor remains as solid (and quiet) as ever.





Isabella also set high standards in constructing the Arizona Inn swimming pool in 1937. The aggregate used in the concrete was not the usual river stone pellets used at the time but a more durable pumice from "A" mountain – harder volcanic black stone chips that made the concrete stronger and more lasting. Much of the Inn is made from particularly strong Arizona resources, such as the oak timbers from the Santa Rita Mountains used to cover the private patios, and the weathered stone (tufa) columns from Indian Hot Springs near Safford, Arizona. And Isabella had a large servicing basement created for the pool, an unusual foresight which has made upgrading pumps and filters easier as technology has advanced. The original pool, with its state-of-the-art chlorination and heating systems by the Paddock Engineering Company of Los Angeles, had a diving board and wading area for children. For years it would stay open for the summer, even when the rest of the hotel was closed.





The library at the Arizona Inn

"Starting with the furnishings from the Arizona Hut, Mrs. Greenway personally created the Inn's decor. Practically every item of fine furnishing - and many of them are very fine indeed - came directly from Mrs. Greenway or her family. The pair of Edwardian vitrines in the lobby, for example, is from one of her houses in New York. The American cherrywood corner cabinet in the library came from her house in Santa Barbara. The Louis XV walnut armoire in the dining room was once in her house in Farmington, Connecticut. The Louis XV "Bombe" commode in the gift shop was bought on a trip to France in the 1920s. The historical color prints of American Indians that decorate the walls of many of the guest rooms, the George Catlin hand-colored lithographs, the bird plates by Descourtilz, the Audubon animal prints, the orchids of Mexico and Guatemala by James Bateman, and the African weapons and animal figures - all these interesting and attractive objects were collected by Mrs. Greenway. Even the sentimental bronze statue in the lobby, "Marguerite", was the property of her aunt Grace Flandrau."

Arizona Inn

TUCSON, ARIZONA

NOON DINNER

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 1953

Assorted Relishes Fruit Cup Supreme au Curacao Chilled Apricot, Vegetable Grapefruit or Orange Juice Fresh Shrimp Cocktail Smoked Red Salmon in Oil

Cream of Fresh Mushrooms Chicken Broth with Rice
Cold Vichyssoise Jellied Tomato Rosa Jellied Beef Consomme

Fresh Filet of English Sole Sauté, Lemon Butter
Baby Lobster in Cream a la Newburg under glass
Louisiana Jumbo Frog Legs saute au Champignons
Poached Eggs with Ham on English Muffin a la Benedict
Grilled Calf Liver with Onions or Rasher of Bacon
Roast Tom Turkey, Celery Dressing, Cranberry Sauce
Charcoal Broiled French Lamb Chops Hoteliere, Glazed Pineapple
Roast Prime Ribs of Beef au Jus, Grated Cream Horseradish
Clubhouse Sandwich, Potato Chips, Sliced Tomato
Arizona Inn Special Fruit Salad plate, whipped Cream

Assorted Dinner Rolls
Currant Jelly Sonoita Mesquite Honey

Banana Squash Fresh Asparagus Hollandaise French Peas au gratin Potatoes Candied Sweet Potatoes Snowflake Potatoes

Princess Salad Mixed Greens Salad Hearts of Lettuce and Tomatoes Choice of: Thousand Island, Prench, Roquefort, Mayonnaise or Russian Dressing

Old-Fashioned Strawberry Shortcake Grape-Nut Cup Custard Fruit Cake
Pound Cake Prune Whip Peach Melba Orange Sherbet Fruit Jello
Home-made Apple Pie, Cheese Kadota Figs Cling Peaches Cookies
Nesselrode Parfait Vanilla or Butter Pecan Ice Cream Apricots in Syrup
Butterscotch Sundae Desert Treasures Dates Thin Chocolate Mints

American Blue Camembert Edam Liederkranz Swiss Cheese

Coffee Tea Milk Buttermilk Sanka Chocolate

Please Order Picnic Lunches from Head Waiter Previous Evening

BREAKFAST 8:00-9:30 LUNCHEON 12:30-1:45 DINNER 6:30-7:45





THE ARIZONA HUT

Before there was the Arizona Inn there was the Arizona Hut. In 1927 Isabella toured the old Pastime Park Veterans Hospital with her daughter Martha, and admired the novelty items the men there made. Working through the American Legion's Rehabilitation Committee, she created a workshop for disabled war veterans. Many of the soldiers had been gassed in the trenches of World War I and come to Arizona for its clean, dry air. These men needed flexible hours in order to work effectively, but in the hard economic landscape of the 1920s such jobs were rarely found. Isabella created the Arizona Hut (which took its name from doughboys' slang for a refuge behind the front) as a way to provide "treatment by occupation" for the veterans. The original Hut was in the Presbyterian Church at 138 South Scott Street. Forty men, eager to regain a sense of dignity through work, responded with a fierce sense of purpose. By all accounts their craftsmanship was astonishing, and soon after starting with simple wooden toys and leather goods they moved on to strong and substantial furniture.

By 1928 the Arizona Hut employed more than 100 workers and sold furniture to the best department stores of the day: Marshall Field's in Chicago, Abercrombie and Fitch in New York, and many others. "Buy from the Arizona Hut, not for sentiment, but for superior workmanship". The veterans produced "everything that goes into a house except the carpets, stoves and refrigerators". Then came the stock market collapse of October, 1929 and the onset of the Great Depression. Hut orders dried up, and at first Isabella kept things afloat by buying up the furniture herself. She filled a warehouse with beds, chairs and sofas before admitting the Hut couldn't last this way. Taking out a building permit for the Arizona Inn, she aimed for two things at once: a new hotel, and a furniture market for the Arizona Hut. Today (ironically), only the Inn remains, although much of the original veterans' furniture remains in use at the Inn, maintained by an in-house master carpenter.





ISABELLA IN CONGRESS



Isabella's short but successful political career was doubtless given a boost by her lifelong friendship with Franklin and, especially, Eleanor Roosevelt, with whom she was intimately close from the time the women met as teenagers in New York. Beyond the circumstances of her initial ascendancy however, Isabella was a tenacious advocate for the citizens of Arizona and a highly effective member of Congress during the toughest economic years in the history of the United States. She was successful in her political efforts despite the fact that she was scrupulously honest, genuinely concerned at all times with the well being of her constituency, and steeped in the sort of authentic civility that would seem breathtakingly refreshing should it occur in the halls of power today.

She was unfailingly charming and polite, but behind the good manners was a steely determination on behalf of the relatively new State of Arizona, for which she was the only member of the House of Representatives. Within two months of her arrival in Washington Isabella secured from Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes a large public works project that put fourteen thousand of Arizona's estimated twenty-one thousand unemployed to work. She served on the Committee on Indian Affairs, the Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation, the Committee on Public Lands, and she was consistently a champion of veterans' affairs. She was overwhelmingly re-elected for a second term, and among her important accomplishments was an effective rewording of the copper code which served to reopen Arizona's mines against industry's use of stockpiled foreign copper.



MRS. GREENWAY GRIPS ATTENTION IN CHICAGO

Roosevelt Seconder and One of Vice Presidential Candidates Has Had Colorful Career.

CHICAGO, June 29 (P).—The mosttalked-of woman in the National Democratic Convention today was Mrs. Isabella Greenway of Arizona, appearing in the dual rôle of Roosevelt seconder and the woman to be nominated for Vice President.

She made it clear there was no connection between the two capacities, her prominent place in the Roosevelt camp (she was bridesmaid at the Franklin D. Roosevelts' wedding) having "nothing whatever to do" with her own "purely honorary candidacy."

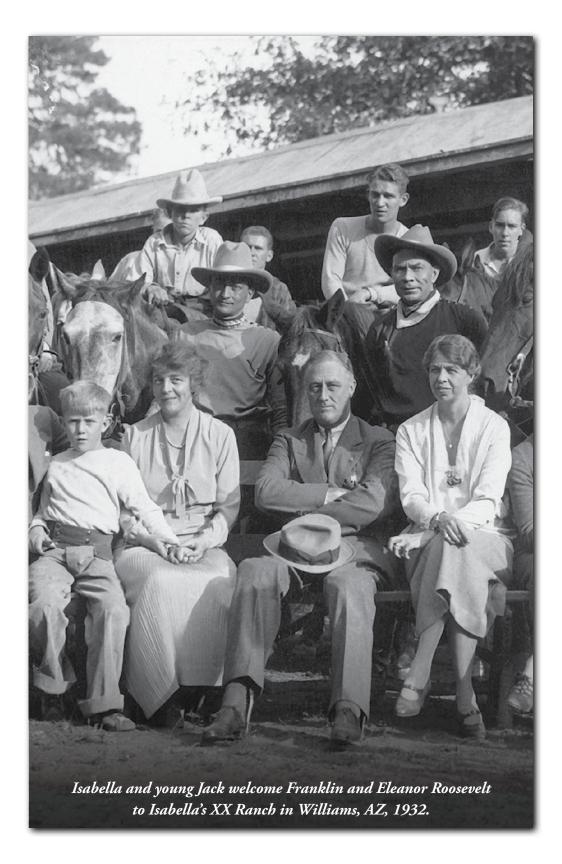
But the Rooseveltian rôle did promise an opportunity for the crowds to study this feminine figure so startlingly risen from the Painted Desert.

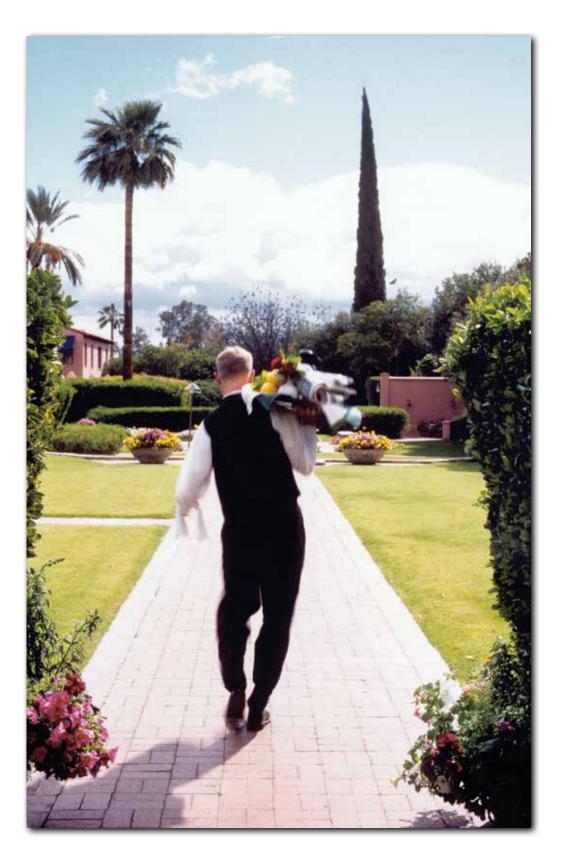
"Who is this Mrs. Greenway?"

"The most colorful woman in the United States," was the emphatic if boastful answer of the Arizona delegation. And she is colorful—every bit of it natural. No rouge, no lipstick, no salon specialist's "set" to her curly brown hair. Her cheeks have a healthy glow that comes of cow-ranching and flying over mountains in airplanes.

cow-ranching and hying over mountains in airplanes.
She's Southern, Northern, Eastern and Far Western. Fatherless at 8, her childhood was divided between Kentucky and the home of her grandfather, Judge Charles E. Flandreau of St. Paul. Minn. Sent to New York in adolescence to Miss Chapin's and Miss Spence's schools, she formed enduring friendship ties with the Roosevelts.

At 19 she was married to Robert Monroe Ferguson, who later died, and her twenty-third year saw her westward bound with two children, Martha and Robert. She was a homesteader on a ranch in the Burro Mountains of Mexico—lived there raising cattle for twelve years. Later Arizona's General Greenway came along and claimed her for that State.





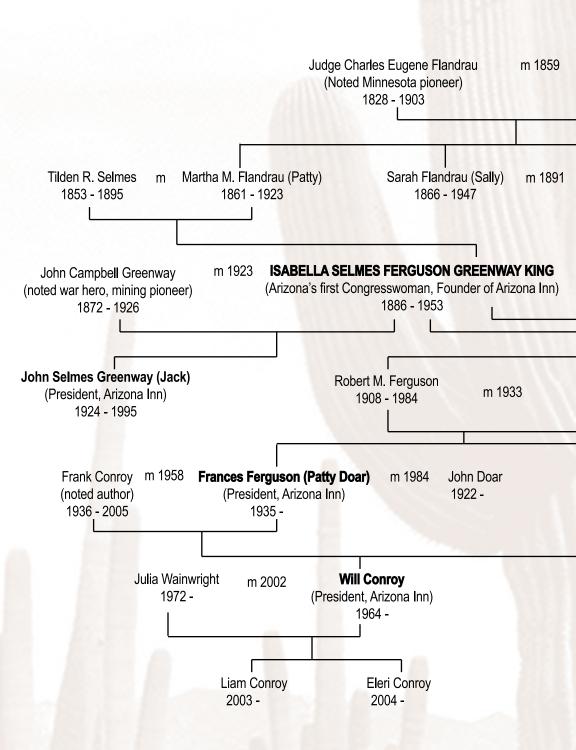
FOUR GENERATIONS

For four generations now, the Arizona Inn has never left Isabella's family. I'm her great-grandson, Will Conroy, and I'm writing this from my little office on the hotel grounds. For many years a wonderful sort of time-lapse has clicked away through the rooms and garden paths at the Inn as it's welcomed all manner of check-ins, gatherings, breakfasts and weddings, tennis matches, trysts, wine tastings, and celebrations of life. Some events are well-planned and known beforehand to be important to everyone involved, but there are also the smaller ticks of the clock here, the millions of less obvious but nevertheless superb little instants which are no less significant to those who experience them: the personal moments alone away from the party, the unexpectedly intimate conversations or points of private thought, the distant forks of monsoon lightning caught in the mountains through a suite in window in 1945, or 1968, or 2013.

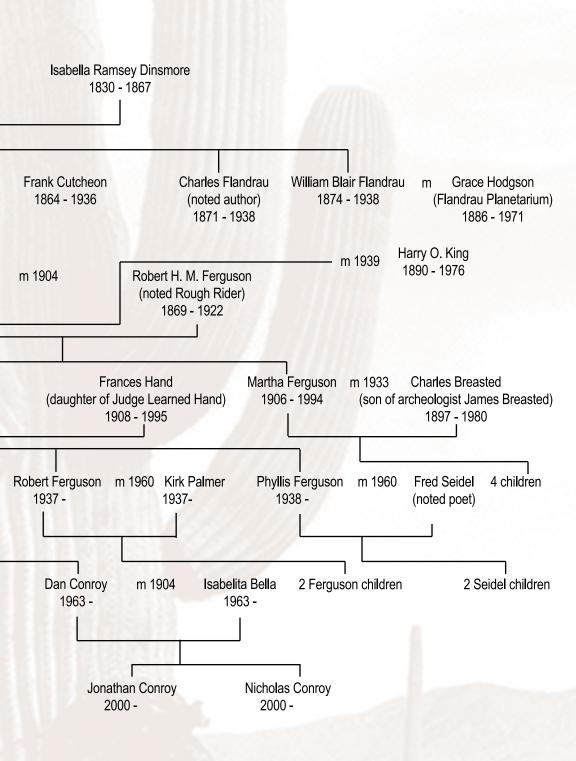
These fleeting joys, smiles and touches, cups of hot soup, books by the fire, swims in the pool and sunset strolls have created a unique kind of human momentum at the Arizona Inn. So much has *happened* here, consequential and trivial, funny and sad, happy and unbelievable, that beneath the tranquil surface of things one feels the past swelling powerfully into the present. I feel it anyway, and I'm reassured by it every time I walk through the Inn's familiar front doors. I'm not sure even my great-grandmother could have predicted that.

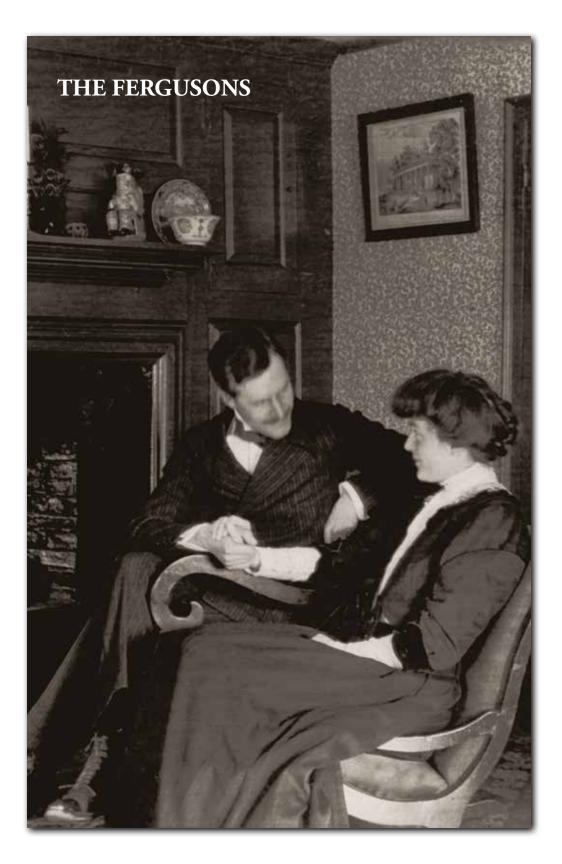


(some of) ISABELLA GREE



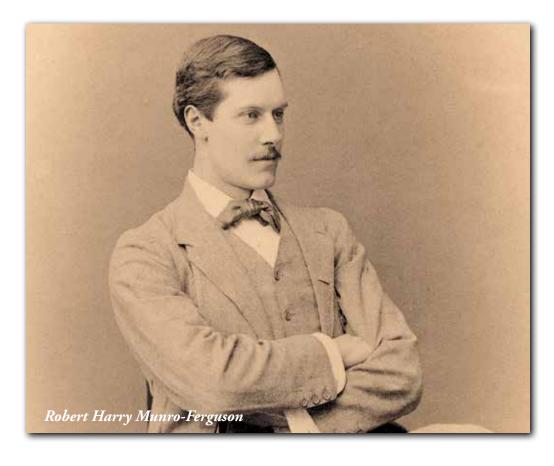
NWAY'S FAMILY





ROBERT HARRY MUNRO-FERGUSON

Isabella's first husband, Robert Harry Munro-Ferguson (1869-1922), was the third son of a Scottish Lord. An adventurous young man, he undertook an extraordinary and dangerous exploration of the Northwest Territories in Canada during the years 1894 and 1895, when he was still in his twenties. "Ferguson Lake" is named after him. He became a friend and hunting partner to Teddy Roosevelt, with whom he ranched in the Dakota badlands, and later proved to be one of Roosevelt's best Rough Riders during the Spanish American war. He distinguished himself in battle and became a Lieutenant after he was the first man in his regiment to enter the enemy trench at Santiago, a feat which prompted Teddy to write to Isabella's mother: "I wish you could have seen him, in his gentle, quiet way, going everywhere with me and everywhere I sent him, with literally complete indifference to Spanish bullets". Once back in New York Ferguson married Isabella and the couple had two children, Bob and Martha. Ferguson, who had contracted yellow fever in Cuba, eventually died from tubercular lung infection in 1922.





Robert H. M. Ferguson with daughter Martha, c 1907





Bob and Martha Ferguson in Cat Canyon New Mexico, c 1919

Isabella's children with Robert Ferguson, Bob and Martha, grew up together in relative wilderness around Silver City, New Mexico, and then in Santa Barbara, California before heading East for their education in the 1920's. Bob Ferguson later married Frances Hand, daughter of Judge Learned Hand, and Martha married Charles Breasted, son of the archaeologist James Breasted. Martha and her family lived on Adams Street for many decades in what is now known as "The Breasted House" at the Arizona Inn.



Long Island, c 1942. Bob Ferguson holds his new niece, Isabella Breasted. With them, left to right, are Frances Hand Ferguson, Bobby, Phyllis and Patty Ferguson, David Breasted, Martha Ferguson Breasted and Macomb Breasted.



Martha Ferguson, Santa Barbara, 1923

Rockepeller 48

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

Miss Martha Munio Ferguson

has been enrolled as an undergraduate student for the academic year 1924-1925.

Secretary and Registrar of the College.

Date, September 29, 1924.

B-14.

OFP 3 0 1924

Wed With White House Approval



Their engagement announced by Mrs. Roosevelt in the White House, Miss Martha Munro Ferguson and Charles Breasted will have a June wedding. Miss Ferguson, shown above with her fiance, is the daughter of Mrs. Isabella Greenway, of Tucson, Ariz., close friend of the Roosevelt family.

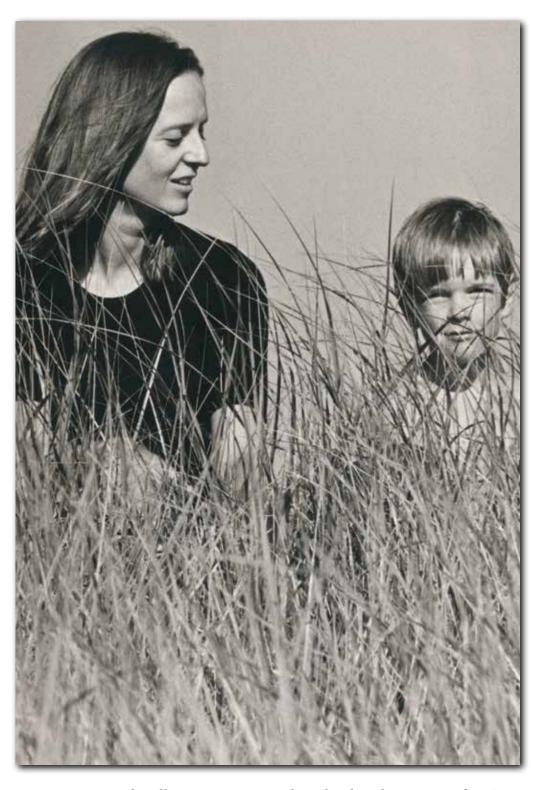
always a danger of offending some nationality in Shanghai, where there are people of all naElizabeth Miller





PATTY DOAR

Bob and Frances Ferguson had three children, including Isabella's granddaughter, my mother, Patty Ferguson, who grew up in New York City and married the writer Frank Conroy. The couple had two boys, Dan and me, before Patty later married civil rights lawyer John Doar. She moved from New York to Tucson in 1989 at the invitation of her uncle Jack Greenway and became Jack's business partner at the Arizona Inn. She was General Manager of the Inn until Jack's death in 1995, when she became sole proprietor.

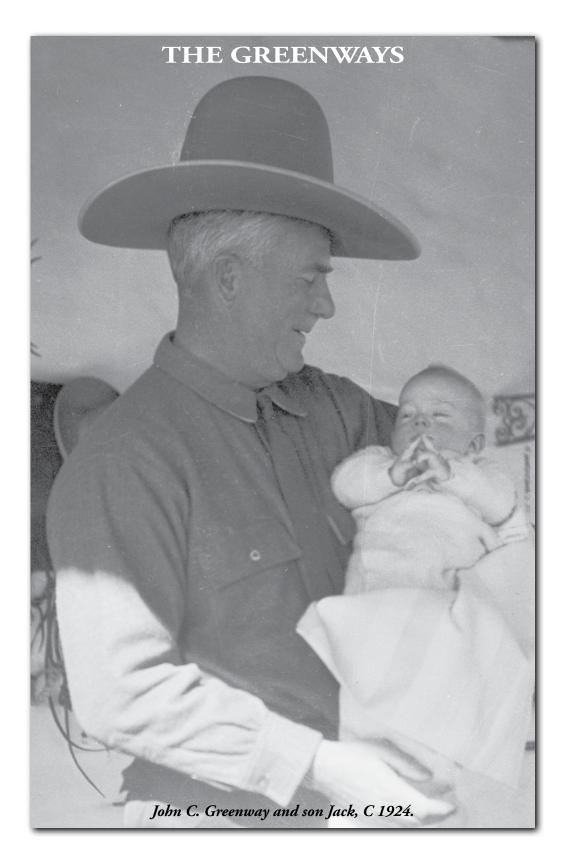


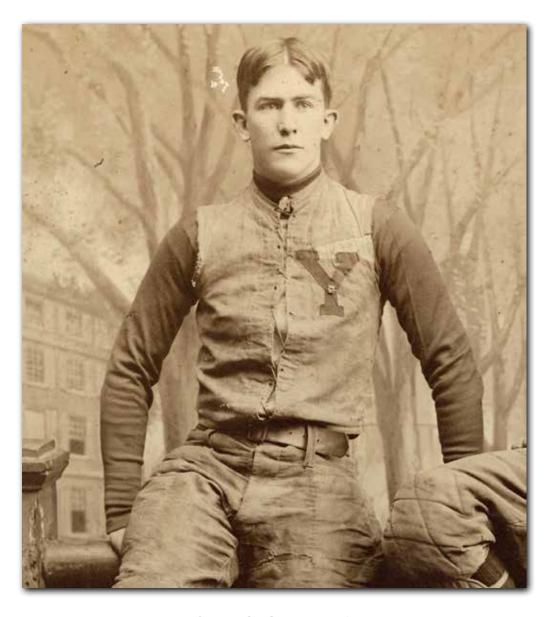
Patty Doar and Will Conroy on Nantucket Island in the summer of 1969.



WILL CONROY

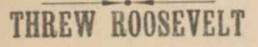
I'm Isabella Greenway's great-grandson. I moved from the East coast to Tucson full-time in 2003 with my wife Julia and our son, Liam. Our daughter Eleri was born here shortly thereafter and I became President of the Arizona Inn in 2005. My brother Dan Conroy is a lawyer in Boston, Massachusetts, where he's married and has two boys.





JOHN C. GREENWAY

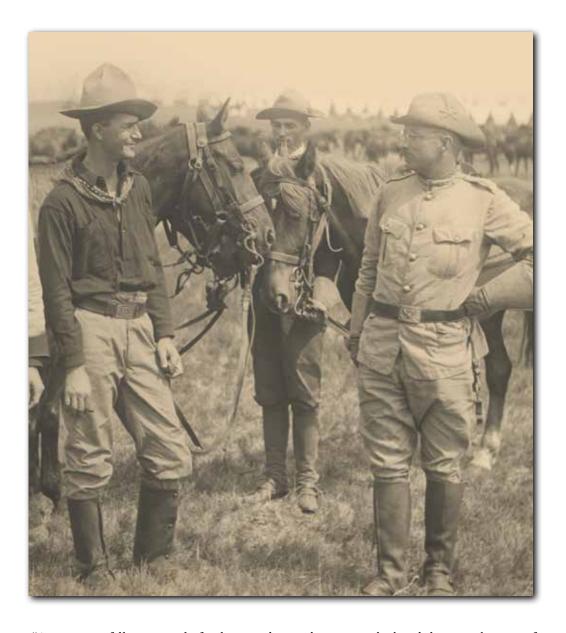
Isabella's second husband was John Campbell Greenway (1872 - 1926). Greenway, a Huntsville, Alabama native and a football and baseball star at Yale in the 1890s, worked as a furnace helper and later a foreman at the Carnegie Steel Company before becoming an outstanding officer in the Arizona squadron of the Rough Riders. Greenway fought with distinction in the Spanish American war, winning a Silver Star after reaching the top of San Juan Hill before any other commissioned officer.



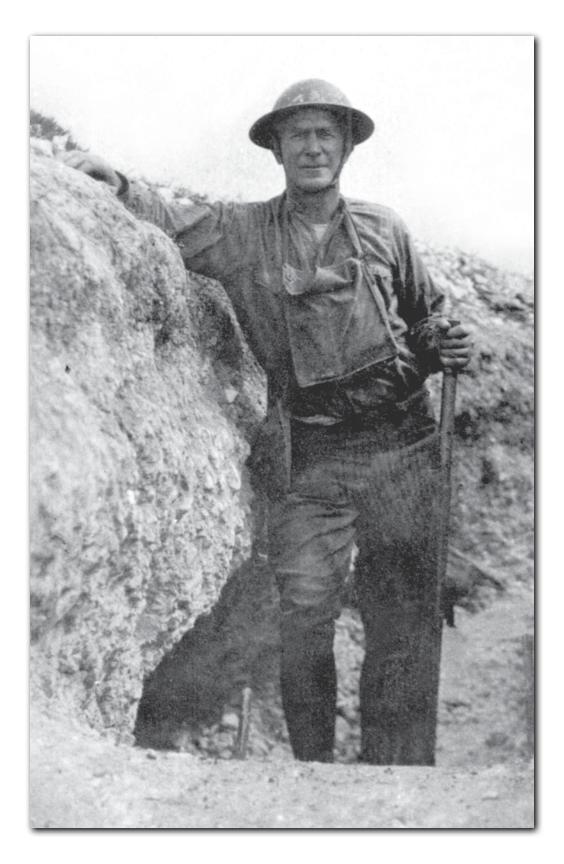
Jack Greenway Downed the President.

On a Friendly Challenge to Test Their Physical Strength

A little episode is said to have recently occurred in New York which we have not seen in the public prints, but which will be read with local interest. The story was related to the News by a prominent Arkansan. He stated that while out for a walk recently with his personal friend "Jack" Greenway, of Hot Springs, President Roosevelt, on reaching a grassy lawn, bantered Jack for a wrestle, saying he didn't believe the Hot Springs boy could throw him. Greenway, who is a stalwart athlete never lets a challenge of that sort pass "up, and at once accepted. They doffed coats and vests and locked for the struggle. It goes without saying, that Jack soon had the Presidential back to grass, although Mr. Roosevelt is credited with much physical strength himself. John Greenway was one of the bravest of Roosevelt's "Rough Riders" in the Spanish-American war and was in the thickest of the charge on San Juan Hill. He has ever since been an especial favorite of the President.



"A strapping fellow, entirely fearless, modest and quiet, with the ability to take care of men under him so as to bring them to the highest point of soldierly perfection, to be counted upon with absolute certainty in every emergency; not only doing his duty, but always on the watch to find some new duty which he could construe to be his, ready to respond with eagerness to the slightest suggestion of doing something, whether it was dangerous or merely difficult and laborious."





Although he rarely spoke of his military record, Greenway later fought as a Lieutenant Colonel with the 101st Infantry in France during World War I, serving with distinction at Cantigny, Chateau Thierry, San Mihiel, in the Argonne and along the Meuse. At Cambrai he was cited for particular bravery after gathering men from a detachment (not his own) and leading them in a successful advance on an enemy trench - Greenway himself being first to enter. For this and other acts he received the Distinguished Service Cross from the United States, the Croix de Guerre with two palms, the Legion of Honor and Croix de l'Etoile from the Republic of France. Before the end of his military career he was made Commanding General of the 109th United States Reserve Infantry Brigade.

Greenway is perhaps most remembered as an outstanding mining pioneer, particularly in Minnesota and Arizona, where he arrived as General Manager of the Calumet and Arizona Mining Company in 1910. He also ran the Tucson, Cornelia and Gila Bend Railroad and was regent of the University of Arizona in 1911 and 1912. Among his accomplishments was his invention of the turbo log washer, his leadership in building the town of Ajo, and his tremendous, lasting development of the New Cornelia Copper mine. For more than 75 years until 2012, a Gutzon Borglum statue of John Greenway represented Arizona in the National Statuary Hall in Washington D.C. Greenway died unexpectedly when his son Jack was only three years old, four years before Isabella created the Arizona Inn.



Mount Rushmore sculptor Gutzon Borglum poses with his rendering of John Campbell Greenway.

Photograph of beaver



photograph is a likeness of the person to whom this passport is issued. In witness whereof the seal of the Department of State is impressed thereon.



Jack tours Arizona's Sonora Desert Museum site, early 1950s

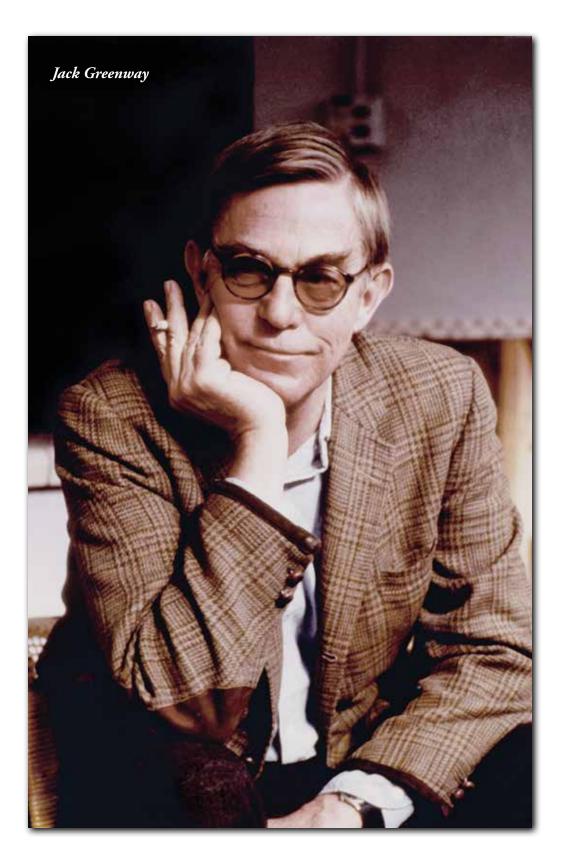


JOHN SELMES ("JACK") GREENWAY

John and Isabella's son, Jack (1924-1995) ran the Arizona Inn for more than forty years. He was first and foremost a great friend to many people in Tucson, which he called home for almost his entire life. He graduated from Yale in 1949 after having served in the Army Reserve Corps during World War II, and later received a law degree from the University of Arizona in 1954. In addition to his extraordinary stewardship of the Arizona Inn, which he preserved and greatly enhanced over the years, he became a philanthropist and a formative Tucson community leader as the city took shape. He was, among other things, Chairman of the Arizona Democratic Party, a founding member of the U.A. Foundation, Director of the Pima County Health Association, Director of the Southern Arizona Bank and Trust Company, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Arizona Desert Museum (which he had a hand in creating) and, in the 1970s, one of the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous in Tucson. Jack also lead the initial fundraising drive to build the planetarium at the University of Arizona, which was built in 1974 using money bequeathed by his great aunt, Grace Flandrau.



Jack (far right) on the Island of Attu celebrating VJ day, 1945





My father and mother were dining out this particular night. Father, in evening clothes, came downstairs ahead of Mother and stepped into the kitchen from which was coming that special and wonderful fragrance of newly baked bread just out of the oven. The cook was telling a tramp, who had come in the back kitchen door, that she would not give him the loaf of bread he asked. Father, always generous and human, and probably thirty years old, protested and gave the man several loaves. I was moved with approval. At this point, the man went out the back door, took careful aim from the dark, and hurled the loaves back at father who was placating the cook. Then it all happened - out the door, over the rail, I saw father jump into the dark and a scuffling mass. They struggled round to the front sidewalk. In the light of a street lamp I could see my father being attacked by three or four men. He called to my mother to bring him his pistol. My uncle, Frank Cutcheon, then a frail young lawyer also in evening clothes, plunged into the melee while Mother, truly beautiful (I know yours and everyone else's mother is beautiful), held the pistol and refused to give it to father who, bruised and battered and his clothes torn, was definitely getting the worst of it. When the neighbors joined in, the marauders vanished. The impulse (rarely resisted) to plunge into the dark of unmeasured conflict has been mine since that night. Father taught me my principle prayer: "Dear God, please make me good and brave and true."

Isabella Greenway
on an incident involving her father, Til,
at the family home in the 1890's

MRS. GREENWAY CHARTS HER OWN COURSE

No DUNCAN ASERAN

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Congresswoman and Friend of the Roosevelts, Outlining Her Philosophy, Advocates the 'Liberty of Living'

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Story & String

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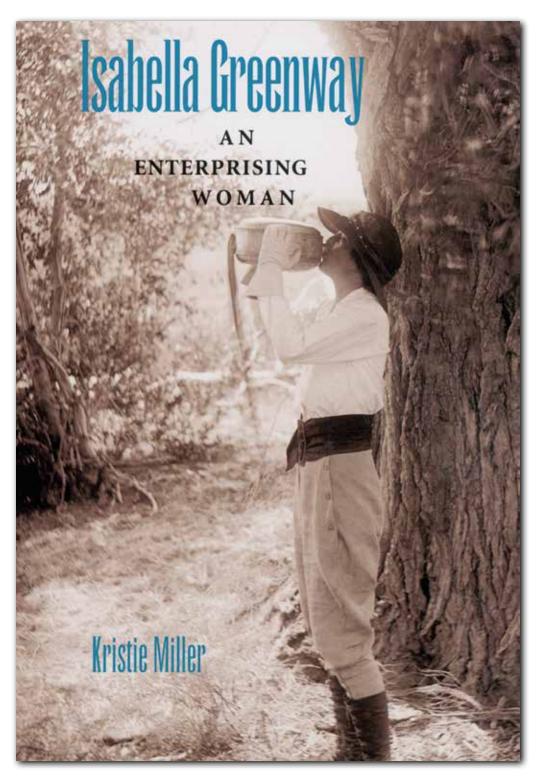
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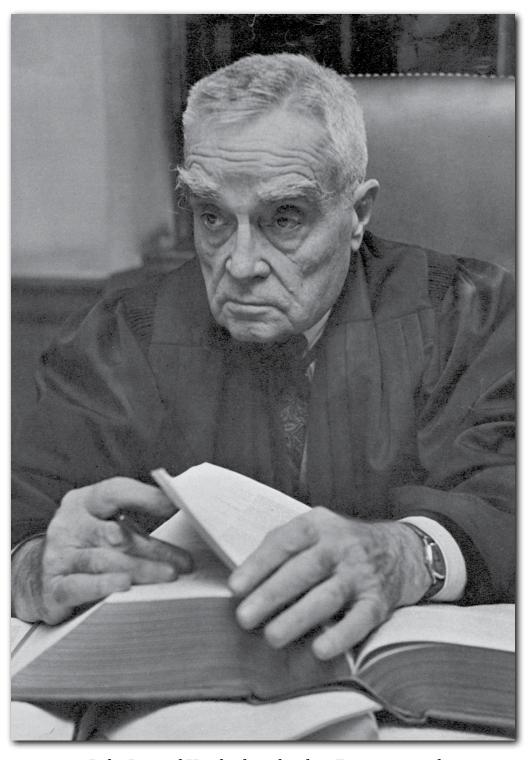
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of memorable hospitality. Two pours after his death the married Jack Greenway another young Rough Misse whose the heat at the Franchitz Received welding. He was known as the most remarried developes of copper properties in Arisenta code, hospitale to

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The cover of Kristie Miller's excellent biography



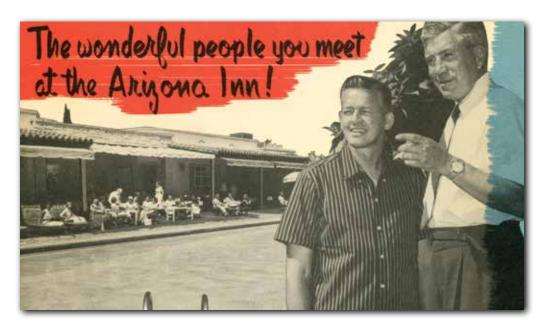
Judge Learned Hand, whose daughter Frances married Isabella's son Robert in 1933



"What then is the spirit of liberty? I cannot define it; I can only tell you my own faith. The spirit of liberty is the spirit which is not too sure that it is right; the spirit of liberty is the spirit which seeks to understand the minds of other men and women; the spirit of liberty is the spirit which weighs their interest alongside its own without bias; the spirit of liberty remembers that not even a sparrow falls to earth unheeded; the spirit of liberty is the spirit of Him who, near two thousand years ago, taught mankind that lesson it has never learned, but has never quite forgotten—that there may be a kingdom where the least shall be heard and considered side-by-side with the greatest."

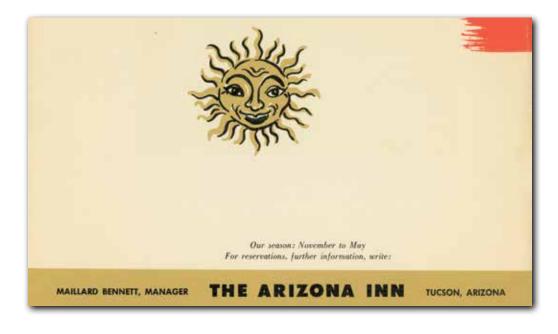
Judge Learned Hand May 21st, 1944. Central Park, New York City to one and a half million people gathered to celebrate "I Am an American Day" honoring new American citizens.

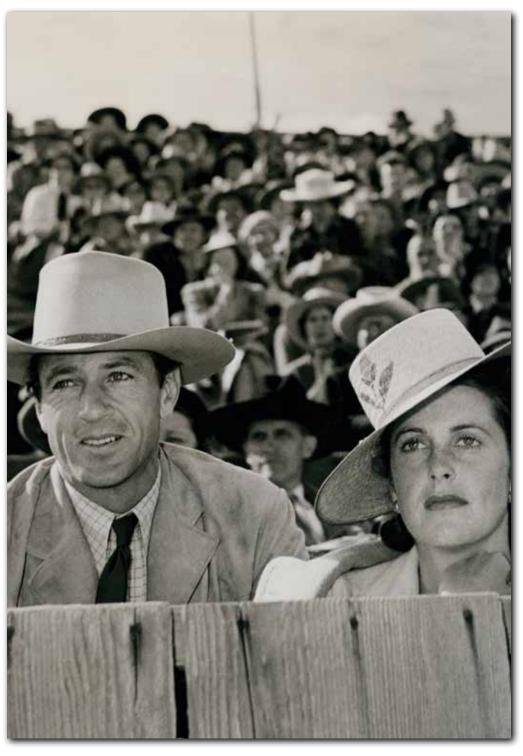




THE GUESTS

Over its eighty-three years the Inn has always protected guest privacy, regardless of whether a particular visitor is famous or recognizable. The hotel has understood discretion as a crucial aspect of civility. That said, many of the public figures who favored Isabella's hotel during the World War II era cheerfully announced their own presence in Tucson and didn't hesitate to mention their affinity for the Arizona Inn to the local press. It was a different world, to be sure.





Arizona Inn guests Gary Cooper and Sandra Shaw take in a rodeo not far from the Inn [date unknown]

When we upgraded the televisions at the Inn, it somehow felt wrong to settle for the usual pay-per-view, digitally integrated systems most hotels offer these days. Checking in someplace to find "Welcome Mr. Conroy" on a T.V. screen always feels creepy and Orwellian to me, a set up to sell me things. The Arizona Inn does not and will not charge for amenities, and instead of any gimmickry we offer a DVD library of classic movies available at no charge from the front desk. Our films feature the best actors and actresses who stayed at the Inn before 1960, and by keeping to movie stars who were widely acknowledged to have enjoyed the hotel more than fifty years ago, we felt we could avoid compromising any of the Inn's long-held principles of privacy.

Happily the DVD library has been a great success, and limiting the titles to those movie stars who strolled the grounds, swam in the pool, and slept in favorite rooms here has not been a problem either, since so many truly wonderful actors did so. Among others they include Arizona Inn guests Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Clark Gable, Bette Davis, James Stewart, Cary Grant, Gary Cooper, Teresa Wright, Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Jean Simmons, John Wayne, Montgomery Clift, Frank Sinatra and Bob Hope.



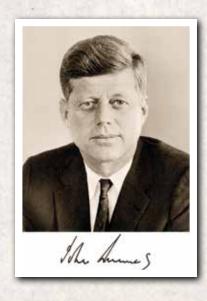
Mr. T. Sorensen, Secretary to Senator Kennedy, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Sorenson:

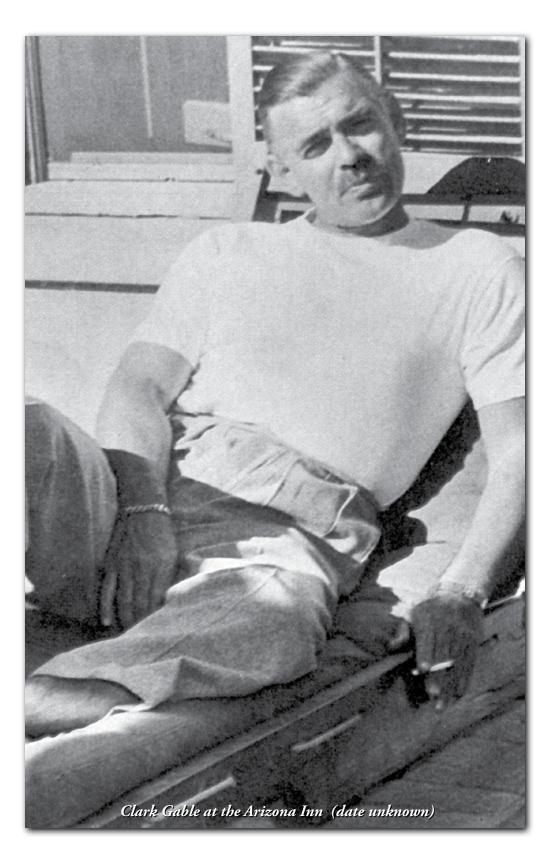
Will you be so kind as to give me Senator Kennedy's home address so that I may mail his bathing suit, which was left here, to him.

Very truly yours,

(Mrs) Mary M. Lovelee, Secretary to Mr. John S. Greenway









A few other remarkable Inn guests who were broadly known to have stayed, often repeatedly, during the hotel's first 30 years: Salvador Dali, Howard Hughes, Thornton Wilder (who wrote "The Matchmaker" at the Inn), Van Cliburn, Ansel Adams, John Foster Dulles, Louis B. Mayer, Lord and Lady Halifax, Frank Lloyd Wright (who voiced admiration for the Inn's architecture), and Eleanor Roosevelt.

Rockefeller Center New York 20, N.Y.

April 12, 1957

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Thank you for your letter of March 28th which you wrote in answer to my query as to whether the rate which we were paying at the Arizona Inn was sufficient. I note that you feel the rate which we paid for our recent visit was "about in line with other rates throughout the Inn" and that, therefore, you prefer to let it stand.

I shall count on your telling me frankly if you think the rate for any subsequent visits should be raised. This you say you will do.

Mrs. Rockefeller and I greatly enjoyed our recent stay at the Inn as we always do.

With kind regards from us both, I am,

John D. Rockefeller. Jr.

Mr. M. Bennett, Manager Arizona Inn Tucson, Arizona





THE STAFF

The unassuming hospitality at the Arizona Inn has always come primarily from its staff. Since the hotel's inception, many people have stayed in the Inn's employ for long periods of time, often twenty-five years or more, and gardeners, housekeepers, launderers, carpenters and kitchen staff have gone about their days and nights with extraordinary effort and care. Eye for detail, experience, and expertise manifest everywhere from a dinner plate's garnish to the crispness of a bed sheet to the radiance of a flowerbed.

Here are a few of the early members of the management and staff at the Arizona Inn who, along with many others from 1930 to 1960, created, improved and cared for Isabella Greenway's hotel during the first three formative decades of its life. Their remarkable efforts led directly to today's good situation: Lois Kronholm, Manuel Ochoa, Mailard (Pete) Bennett, Bill Wertz, Howard Caffrey, Bobbe Rosenberg, Maynard Pike, Trinidad Holguin, Jim Oliphant, Francis Ryan, Agnes Peo, Angel Olives, Robert Toller, Dorothy Gibbs, Mary Bingham, Hilda Raver, Ed Wahlgren, Robert Nielsen, Florentino Carrillo, Bill McLean, George Rau and Buttons Knauff.









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Tucson Daily Citizer

PUBLISHED BY THE CITIZEN PUBLISHING CO.
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Published Daty Except Sunday

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MEMBER OF THE UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATION

MEMBER OF THE AUDIT SUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Rates: Home Delivered in Tucson 25c Per Week Home Delivered Outside of Tucson 25c Per Week

PAGE 14 FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 18, 1953

Arizona Loses A Great Citizen

Isabella Greenway King died this morning. In her passing Tucson has lost one of its most beloved residents and the state of Arizona has lost a great citizen.

Mrs. King twice was elected to congress starting in 1933. She was Arizona's first woman representative. When she went to the house she said, "I must succeed for Arizona." She did. Her success both in congress and in her home state through the years stands as a considerable part of the success and progress of Arizona.

A woman of pioneer stock—she was born in Boone county, Ky., in a home which had been built by her great-grandfather—she reflected the sturdiest qualities, the initiative, and the ready adaptability of her forebears in all her personal, public and political activities.

When she first came to Arizona to live in Ajo with her mining engineer husband, Col. John C. Greenway, together she and her husband accomplished the virtual rebuilding of the camp into a model mining town.

When her attention was attracted to the host of World War I veterans sent to the Tucson area for convalescence, she became interested in their plight of inactivity. She set up some of the first occupational therapy by providing the means and the materials for them to build furniture. The project became so large that Mrs. King almost literally built the now fabulous Arizona Inn in order to buy and use the output of the veterans' handicraft.

The Arizona Inn will stand as a monument to her creativeness and to her remarkable affinity for people in all walks of life. Long known and admired as "Arizona's sweetheart," Mrs. King now goes to rest with the benediction that her "success for Arizona" will always be a part of this state's proud and colorful history.







TIME MARCHES ON

A wonderful gem and mineral show is underway in Tucson as I write this, and every single room at the Arizona Inn is booked tonight. The gardens are beautiful, the food is delicious, the service superb, and the suites as clean and comfortable as ever. It truly feels as if the Arizona Inn has never been better, and that makes sense to me actually, since Isabella built the hotel against the backdrop of the Great Depression in the first place, and it seems appropriate that her inn has the strength of spirit to outlast the various storms, financial and otherwise, that buffet the landscape now and again. At any rate the gentle parade of people and events continues here - the reassuring hum of human occasion.

And although I'm sure it's not part of the great cosmic deal, I still sometimes wish I could meet Isabella for just a few minutes, on some soft, present-day Tucson evening, for a calm stroll across the Arizona Inn grounds. I wonder if she'd be amazed to see her hotel today, to see how it's lasted and thrived into the 21st century, or if maybe she always suspected it would. I don't know. One thing is for sure though: I'd take a moment to introduce her to my boy Liam and his little sister, Eleri. And I wouldn't need to mention how deeply the children love the Inn because Isabella would see it right away - their complete contentment as they finish a plate of french fries, lose a ping pong ball in the cactus garden, or slip their fingers into the cold, clean water of the wedding fountain. She'd see their fine sense of place here, their quiet familiarity, and most of all their tacit understanding, as young as they are, of the fulfillment of their great-grandmother's long-ago promise. Privacy, quiet and sunshine.



"THAT WHICH THY FATHERS HAVE BEQUEATHED TO THEE, EARN IT ANEW IF THOU WOULDST POSSESS IT" - GOETHE

ARIZONA INN 2200 East Elm Street Tucson, Arizona 85719