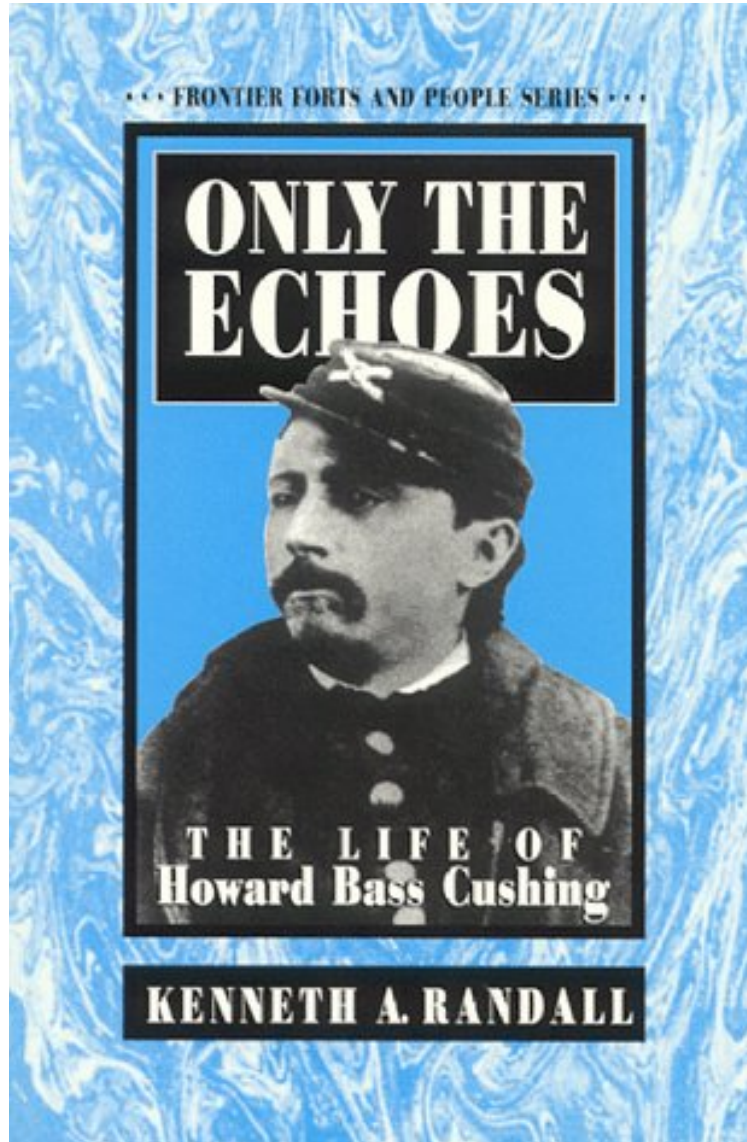


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## Only the Echoes: The Life of Howard Bass Cushing (Frontier forts and people series)

*Kenneth A. Randall*

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**Kenneth A. Randall : Only the Echoes: The Life of Howard Bass Cushing (Frontier forts and people series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Only the Echoes: The Life of Howard Bass Cushing (Frontier forts and people series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good bookBy CustomerInteresting brief account of his life. Probably not much documentation for the researcher.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great find.By J. StrandbergA gem of a book! A quick read, maybe taking four hours, gives the reader insight into the life of this

obscure officer and a taste of life on the Indian frontier.

Howard Bass Cushing's short life was a kaleidoscope of experiences and adventures. His military career began with the First Illinois Light Artillery as a private during the Civil War, and he later rose to the rank of Lieutenant in the Regular Army. He died in 1871 in an Apache ambush while leading a special scout to locate and punish marauding Apaches in southeastern Arizona Territory. A checkered military career reflected his personality. During the Civil War, he rose rapidly and proved capable of commanding an artillery battery, yet Cushing faced a court martial as the result of a drunken escapade. To escape the stigma attached to this incident, he requested, and was finally granted, a transfer to the third Cavalry in the New Mexico and Arizona Territories. As troop commander, Cushing led numerous expeditions against renegade Apaches in both Territories. He was respected by his men and his bravery and leadership qualities were never questioned by those he led. Howard Bass Cushing is one of the unsung heroes of Arizona Territory.

"Randall spent a considerable amount of time in the National Archives and elsewhere researching this brief but fascinating biography of Cushing's life and military career. A Civil War veteran, young and probably brash, he was "blown away" by some understandably irate Apaches in 1871 near the Whetstone Mountains, just north of the present-day sprawl called Sierra Vista, Arizona. Randall concludes with a sentiment which I am sure will be applauded by most in Sierra Vista: "The contributions of Howard Cushing to the unenviable task of ensuring the safety of the settlers of the West have largely gone unnoticed. Let us not forget what he and other unsung heroes like him did in their brief time on the stage of history." -- Books of the Southwest "Based on research in military records and published sources, the author traces Cushing's career from his 1872 enlistment as a private in the First Illinois Light Artillery to his appointment as a lieutenant in the postwar regular army and his death at age thirty-one in an Apache ambush in southeastern Arizona. One of the four fighting Cushing brothers of Civil War fame, Hower emerges from Randall's biography as an energetic and likable young officer whose high spirits occasionally ran him afoul of military authorities and whose reckless enthusiasm eventually resulted in tragedy. Tucsonans memorialized his heroism by naming a street after him... ." - The Journal of Arizona History "Delafield's Cushing Park is dedicated to three Cushing brothers who became Civil War heroes. William, Alonzo and Howard, and a new book called 'Only the Echoes,' tells of Howard's life... . In 1864, while the civil War was still raging, Howard had one unusual assignment. For 10 months he was assigned to be in charge of a Union prisoner of war camp at Elmira, NY. Howard had deep feelings about the Confederate prisoners and a reprimand he gave them is included in the book. Howard's remains are buried in the Presidio Army cemetery in San Francisco, CA... ." -- Lake Country Reporter -- Publisher Comments About the Author Kenneth Randall is a native of Norristown, Pennsylvania and retired teacher, coach, and school administrator in that state. He and his wife Peggy, live in Tucson, Arizona. In addition to his passion for researching Arizona Territory frontier history, he is a docent at the Fort Lowell Museum, Tucson.