

MEMORIES ABOUT THE MAKING OF THE MOVIE, "THE CONQUEROR"

From Loren R. Webb, July 13, 2022

Susan Hayward was a co-star with John Wayne in the movie. I remember my mother, Doris Webb, who lived at 253 South 600 East in St. George, telling me that when the movie was being made, Susan Hayward rented a home from Konrad and Joan McGregor, who lived on the southwest corner of 200 South 600 East in St. George. My mother said she would often see Susan Hayward come out onto the backyard of the McGregor home and smoke.

My mother said John Wayne stayed in the Motter home, two houses north of the McGregor home on the east side of 600 East.

Local motel owner Brown Hale and local restaurant owner Dick Hammer of Dick's Cafe were instrumental in convincing movie producers to come and film the movie in Snow Canyon. They are referenced in Karl Brooks and Doug Alder's book, *A History of Washington County, Utah; From Isolation to Destination*. See p. 311-312.

I would recommend two other books that mention *The Conqueror: Fallout; An American Nuclear Tragedy* by Philip Fradkin (see p. 144) and *American Ground Zero* by Carole Gallagher. In Gallagher's book, she quotes Downwind survivor Elmer Pickett as referring to their street (200 South 600 East) as Hollywood and Vine. Pickett lived across the street to the north of the McGregor home. See p. 150-151.

Another excellent reference on *The Conqueror* is *When Hollywood Came to Utah* by James V. D'Arc. See pages 87-97.

In my book, *Southern Utah Memories*, although I don't mention *The Conqueror* specifically, I mention a number of details about movie making that occurred in Snow Canyon State Park. See pages 339-344.