

John Wesley Powell (1834 - 1902)

Lost most of his right arm at the Battle of Shiloh when struck by a minie ball while in the process of giving the order to fire

1869 - Expedition of discovery down the Colorado River

Lake Powell is named after him

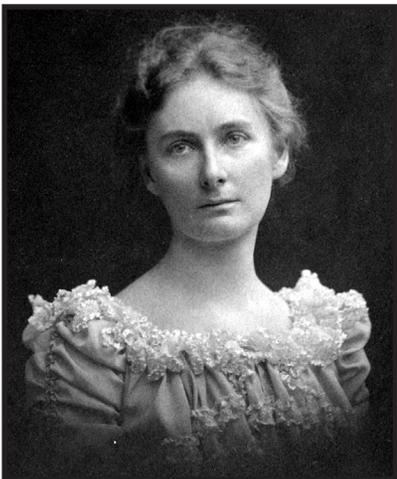
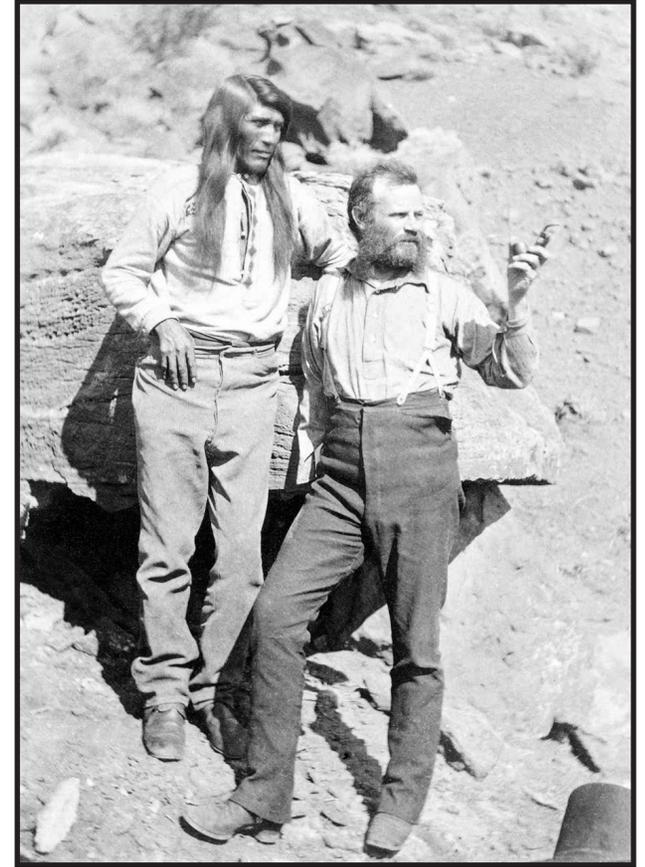
1875, Published a book based on his explorations of the Colorado, originally titled "*Report of the Exploration of the Colorado River of the West and Its Tributaries*".

1895 Revised and reissued as "*The Exploration of the Colorado River and Its Canyons*".

1878 - *Report on the Lands of the Arid Region of the United States*

Founder of the United States Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.)

Second director of the U.S.G.S. from 1881–1894



Florence Bascom (1862 - 1945)

First woman to work with the United States Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.) - 1896

Second woman to earn a Ph.D. in Geology in the U.S.

Geologist & Crystallographer

"The fascination of any search after truth lies not in the attainment, which at best is found to be very relative, but in the pursuit, where all the powers of the mind and character are brought into play and are absorbed by the task. One feels oneself in contact with something that is infinite and one finds joy that is beyond expression in sounding the abyss of science and the secrets of the infinite mind."

- Florence Bascom



Arthur Holmes (1890 - 1965)

Pioneer in radiometric dating techniques

In 1913, he dated the oldest rock known at the time to 1-6 billion years old.

He also contributed to the understanding of mantle convection



Alfred Lothar Wegener (1880 - 1930)

German polar researcher, geophysicist and meteorologist

Proposed the Theory of Continental Drift which was the precursor to the Theory of Plate Tectonics

Used multiple lines of evidence to support his theory

- Shapes of the continents

- Matching rock types across the ocean

- Matching fossil occurrences across oceans

- Matching evidence of glaciation across oceans

