

DESCRIPTION AND SUGGESTED USES

This is a spur from the 1860s. It is said to have belonged to Vivian Espinosa a notorious outlaw who rampaged throughout Park County, Colorado in the summer of 1863. He was caught and killed near Cripple Creek, Colorado. Artifact courtesy of the Colorado Springs Pioneers' Museum.

SUGGESTED USES

- 1. Combine with the "JL" spur and the "JR" spur and conduct a comparison and contrast of western spurs from the same time period. Why do you think decoration on the spur was important? What objects today reflect that same idea, especially for men?
- 2. Begin with the parts of the western spur document and try to identify the parts on this spur. Utilize the HS Lewis interview to gain some insight into the "sight and sound" of spurs and western towns in the latter part of the 19th century.
- 3. The "Poppy Lady" interview is especially poignant in terms of "winning your spurs." Have students heard that phrase? What might be the current equivalent?