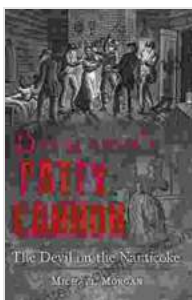


Patty Cannon: The Notorious Female Outlaw of Delmarva

In the annals of American history, the name Patty Cannon stands out as one of the most notorious female outlaws of the 19th century. Her reign of terror on the Delmarva Peninsula, a region spanning parts of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, left an enduring mark on the local communities and folklore.

Early Life and Origins

Patty Cannon was born Patience White in Virginia around 1812. Little is known about her early life, but it is believed that she ran away from a violent home as a teenager and made her way to the Eastern Shore of Maryland. There, she met and married David Cannon, a notorious horse thief and sometime smuggler.



Delmarva's Patty Cannon: The Devil on the Nanticoke (True Crime) by Michael Morgan

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 3543 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 131 pages
Lending	: Enabled

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Under Cannon's influence, Patty quickly abandoned the life of a housewife and embraced a life of crime. She learned the tricks of the trade, including horse stealing, counterfeiting, and robbery.

The Cannon Gang

Together with a band of loyal followers, the Cannon Gang terrorized the Delmarva Peninsula for nearly two decades. They would raid farms and homes, steal livestock and goods, and engage in violent confrontations with the local authorities.

Patty Cannon's cunning and ruthlessness made her a formidable leader. She was known for her sharp mind, her ability to charm people, and her willingness to use violence to get what she wanted.

Notorious Crimes

Among Patty Cannon's most notorious crimes was her involvement in the murder of John Keating, a wealthy merchant from Sussex County, Delaware. In 1845, Cannon and her gang ambushed Keating's carriage and robbed him of a large sum of money. They then brutally murdered Keating and his driver.

This crime sent shockwaves through the region and brought Patty Cannon to the attention of the authorities. She was eventually captured and charged with murder, but she managed to escape from jail before her trial.

The Capture and Trial

Patty Cannon's life of crime came to an end in 1854 when she was captured in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She was extradited to Delaware and faced charges for murder, robbery, and counterfeiting.

The trial was sensational, attracting widespread attention from the press and public. Patty Cannon defended herself with vigor, claiming that she was innocent of the murder charges and that her gang's crimes were justified because they were fighting against oppressive laws and corruption.

Execution and Legacy

Despite her eloquent defense, Patty Cannon was found guilty of murder and sentenced to death. She was hanged on March 2, 1855, at the Kent County Jail in Dover, Delaware.

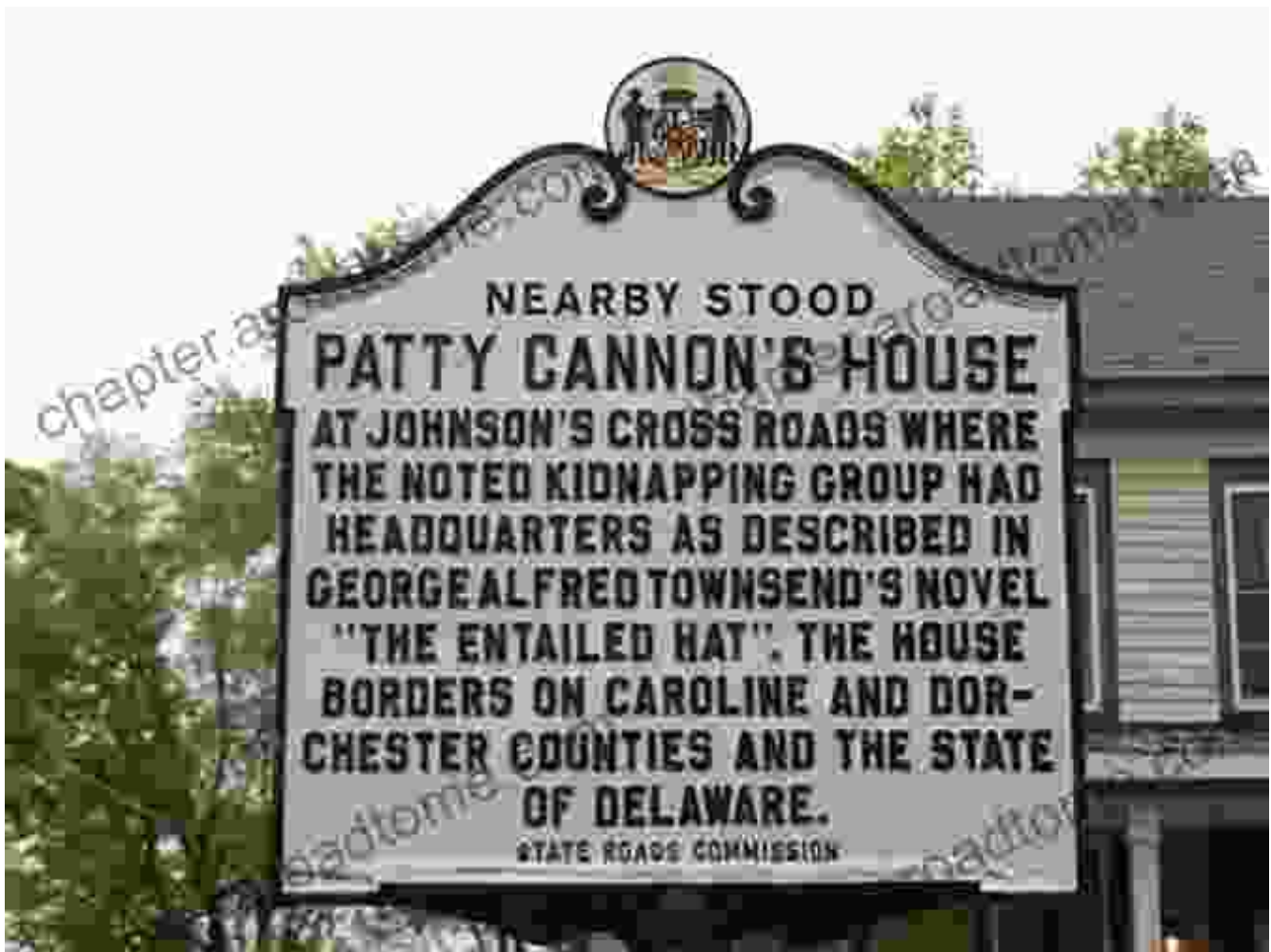
Patty Cannon's execution marked the end of an era of lawlessness on the Delmarva Peninsula. However, her legacy lived on. She became a symbol of female empowerment, a rogue heroine who defied the conventions of her time.

To this day, Patty Cannon's story continues to fascinate people. She has been the subject of numerous books, articles, and even a television series. Her legacy as a notorious female outlaw remains firmly entrenched in the history and folklore of the Delmarva region.



Patty Cannon's House

Patty Cannon's house, located in Laurel, Delaware, is now a museum dedicated to her life and crimes. Visitors to the museum can learn about the history of the Cannon Gang, explore Patty Cannon's personal belongings, and even see the chair in which she was hanged.



Patty Cannon's house, now a museum dedicated to her life and crimes.

The Enduring Legend of Patty Cannon

Patty Cannon's story is a complex and multifaceted one. She was a criminal, a murderer, and a legend. Her life and crimes continue to inspire and fascinate people today.

Whether you view her as a ruthless outlaw or a misunderstood victim of circumstance, the legacy of Patty Cannon lives on as a testament to the enduring power of human nature.



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