

Title:

Fred Harvey: Founder of the Chain Restaurant

Word Count:

1575

Summary:

A historical perspective of Fred Harvey and his impact on the restaurant industry, railroading

Keywords:

Fred Harvey, Harvey Houses, Harvey girls, women, restaurants, fine dining, west, railroad, tra

Article Body:

In 1850, a 15 year old boy from London arrived in New York City with \$10 in his pocket. He fo

As Fred Harvey worked his way west, stopping in New Orleans, St. Louis, and Kansas City, he ac

Along the way, anything was possible. At best, one could expect rancid, bitter coffee, brewed

In 1875, he approached officials at the Burlington Railroad with his idea of opening restauran

Because of Harvey, his restaurants and the rapid expansion of the West, Santa Fe became the pr

Harvey's only problem was his wait staff. The waiters were undependable, coming to work drun

In the 1890's, the only women in the West were either saloon girls or married women with famil

They came like gangbusters. In the late nineteenth century, opportunities for women were very

The standards set by Harvey were rigid. First, they were given a 6, 9, or 12 month contract d

They were trained in the Harvey way. Because of the train schedule, timing was incredibly imp

Cleanliness was also a key to success. If they weren't busy, the girls were expected to be cl

Harvey's chefs were also the best. When Fred Harvey traveled, he would try to lure away the c

Harvey was also a believer of promoting men and women from within. Many women started out as

Fred Harvey invented the chain restaurant, but more importantly, he and his girls civilized th

When Fred Harvey died in 1901, his empire included 15 hotels, 47 restaurants, and 30 railroad

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This article was researched and references, The Harvey Girls: The Women Who Civilized the West

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