

*Entry from United States Board on Geographic Names Quarterly Review # 397,
February 20, 2008*

Frontier Visions Peak: summit, elevation 4,153 m (13,626 ft); in San Isabel National Forest, 3.1 km (1.9 mi) W of Mount Princeton, 14 km (9 mi) SW of Buena Vista; the name recognizes and honors the artists and photographers of the American West; Chaffee County, Colorado; Sec 18, T15S, R79W, Sixth Principal Meridian; 38°45'12"N, 106°16'03"W; USGS map – Mount Yale 1:24,000.

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Mount Yale 1:24,000

Proponent: Lowell Forbes; Arvada, CO

Administrative area: San Isabel National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary:

The new name Frontier Visions Peak is proposed for an unnamed 4,153 m (13,626 ft) summit in west-central Chaffee County, 14 km (9 mi) southwest of the community of Buena Vista, and 3.1 km (1.9 mi) west of Mount Princeton. The summit also lies within the San Isabel National Forest. The name is intended to recognize the contributions of the artists and photographers of the American West, ranging from the more well-known Charles M. Russell, Frederic Remington, Albert Bierstadt, Thomas Moran, William H. Jackson, and Ansel Adams to the less recognized Samuel Seymour and Titian Peale. The latter two individuals produced the first drawings of the Rocky Mountains in 1819, while the Missouri River paintings of another early artist, Karl Bodmer, were so accurate that for many years they were used by pioneers traveling west. As the proponent reports, "his depictions of the Mandan Indian tribe recorded a way of life before they were decimated by a smallpox epidemic." Another early painter of Indian culture was Alfred Jacob Miller. Also during the 1840's, "Seth Eastman, a soldier/artist produced a monumental collection of 275 illustrations pertaining to Indian life on the plains." Numerous other artists and photographers are cited in the proposal as having made contributions to the early knowledge of the West, many of them having accompanied the early explorers and surveyors. "[Their] photography... proved to be instrumental in capturing amazing images of that unspoiled land." William Jackson "amassed a collection that included images of railroads, mining camps, and the growth of boomtowns such as Leadville, Georgetown, and Denver." As the proponent notes, "These individuals headed west armed, not primarily with rifles and ammunition. On the contrary they outfitted themselves with canvas, pencil, paintbrush, and cameras. Their work was hard, at times quite dangerous, and very time consuming. But the results of their incredible efforts have endowed us with a priceless panorama of the old West. To honor their work with the naming of Frontier Visions Peak would be a most fitting gesture." The Chaffee County Board of Commissioners recommends approval of this proposal.