

## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 19 35



DVD capture



Contributed photo

**DVD Time Code = 01 19 35**

**Location: Hwy 570, east of Dorothy, AB**

**GPS: 51d 16m 14.64s -112d 12m 55.92s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: "Entering Wyoming" Highway**

### **Travel Directions:**

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Hwy 9 north to Drumheller and then Hwy 10 / Hwy 56 southeast from Drumheller towards Dorothy. Continue southeast on Hwy 10 to Hwy 570 East, and proceed to the yellow bridge in Dorothy. Continue past the yellow bridge 8.4 km to the turnout on the left side of Hwy 570. Look west to view the "Entering Wyoming" Highway.

[Alternately, take Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy) to Hwy 21. Go north to Hwy 564 and turn right (east). (Or, go south from Rockyford to Hwy 564 and turn left.) The pavement ends at approximately 57.3 km (Township Road 260, Range Road 182) but Hwy 564 turns left and becomes a gravel road. At the stop sign (6.3 km) turn right onto Hwy 848 North (or follow the sign to Dorothy).

Park and climb the hill on the curve at 8.3 km for an overview of Dorothy and the valley of the Red Deer River. (Beware of cactus growing on the hill!) Continue driving 0.7 km to Earl's ditch (at 9 km), on the left side of the broken wood fence rails. Continue approximately 0.5 km and cross the yellow bridge.

At the intersection of Hwy 848 and Hwy 570, turn right (east) on Hwy 570 and go 8.4 km to the turnout on the left side of the road. Look west to view the "Entering Wyoming" Highway.

Note: Although this is a very direct way to Dorothy, some of these roads are little traveled and farm houses may be several kilometers apart. If your vehicle can't stand it, the highways through Drumheller may be a better choice.]

### **Remarks:**

Behold, you are looking at the most elusive of *Brokeback Mountain's* alluring sites!

Year after year, again and again, love-struck Jack drove some 14 hours toward this place. We expended even more time and gasoline trying to find it. From very early in our search, people associated with the film assured us that this scene was filmed near the Divorce Cabin on Hwy 520, west of Claresholm. Two people who actually live in that area told us that the coulee and road were, indeed, very close by. Over the course of five trips to Alberta, beginning in 2006, we became

intimately acquainted with many of the back roads “north of Hwy 3, west of 2, and east of 22.” But try as we might, we could never find this enchanting and suggestive place where the road magically undulates before a dark and distant chasm.

In 2009, after almost “four [you-know] years” of searching, we finally found it while looking to see what was around a curve in the road east of the tiny hamlet of Dorothy, a three-hour drive northeast of Claresholm! And, as was often the case while scouting these filming locations, we also found another one that had eluded us—the “Texas Highway”—by turning around and looking in the opposite direction!

The filmmakers may have forgotten this enchanting place, but thanks to the epic efforts of our volunteers, we never will.

See also DVD Chapter 14, [01 22 17](#), Texas Highway.

Note: To view or photograph this scene in the same light as when it was filmed for *Brokeback*, visit this location in mid- to late afternoon. While Hwy 570 has little traffic, if you are patient you may see a few pickup trucks pass through this location, as we did.

**Quotation:**

“King of the road!”

**Pictures of surrounding area:**





Revised 25 February 2014

## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 19 57



DVD capture



Contributed photo

**DVD Time Code = 01 19 57**

**Location: Hwy 520 near Range Road 283, west of Claresholm, AB**

**GPS: 49d 59m 18.54s -113d 44m 10.38s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Divorce Cabin**

### **Travel Directions:**

John and Kerry Hart farm, Hwy 520 and Range Road 283, 14.2 km west of Claresholm, AB. From Claresholm, follow 43rd Avenue (Hwy 520) west 14.2 km. (Beware: This road takes an abrupt and poorly marked curve at 7.2 km. Don't make the same mistake Ennis's parents did!) Park at the gate. The cabin, on the left (south) side of Hwy 520, is a short walk from the roadway.

### **Remarks:**

Oscar Wilde had it right, "Life imitates art far more than art imitates life." The large tract of land upon which both the Divorce Cabin and the Lonesome Ranch sit has been in the same Alberta farming family for generations. The cabin was built in 1927 for a "bachelor" uncle who, much like his *Brokeback* successor, appreciated the solitude of this simple shelter. Somewhat short on amenities, the place features a rustic Windcharger (electric generation) tower, outhouse, and root cellar.

### **Important:**

Always obtain appropriate permission before entering private property.

### **Quotation:**

"So here I am."

### **Pictures of surrounding area:**





Revised 25 February 2014

## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 22 17



DVD capture



Contributed photo

**DVD Time Code = 01 22 17**

**Location: Hwy 570, east of Dorothy, AB**

**GPS: 51d 16m 14.04s -112d 12m 52.74s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Texas Highway**

### **Travel Directions:**

From Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy), take Hwy 9 north to Drumheller and then Hwy 10 / Hwy 56 southeast from Drumheller towards Dorothy. Continue southeast on Hwy 10 to Hwy 570 East, and proceed to the yellow bridge in Dorothy. Continue past the yellow bridge 8.4 km to the turnout on the right side of Hwy 570. Look northeast, across the road, to view the Texas Highway.

[Alternately, take Hwy 1 (Trans-Canada Hwy) to Hwy 21. Go north to Hwy 564 and turn right (east). (Or, go south from Rockyford to Hwy 564 and turn left.) The pavement ends at approximately 57.3 km (Township Road 260, Range Road 182) but Hwy 564 turns left and becomes a gravel road. At the stop sign (6.3 km) turn right onto Hwy 848 North (or follow the sign to Dorothy).

Park and climb the hill on the curve at 8.3 km for an overview of Dorothy and the valley of the Red Deer River. (Beware of cactus growing on the hill!) Continue driving 0.7 km to Earl's ditch (at 9 km), on the left side of the broken wood fence rails. Continue approximately 0.5 km and cross the yellow bridge.

At the intersection of Hwy 848 and Hwy 570, turn right (east) on Hwy 570 and go 8.4 km to the turnout on the right side of Hwy 570. Look northeast, across the road, to view the Texas Highway.

Note: Although this is a very direct way to Dorothy, some of these roads are little traveled and farm houses may be several kilometers apart. If your vehicle can't stand it, the highways through Drumheller may be a better choice.]

### **Remarks:**

The "Entering Wyoming" and "Texas Highway" scenes were filmed from opposite directions on the same road. And opposites they truly are.

The "Entering Wyoming" landscape is one of activity and anticipation. The road sign helps; it marks an entrance, and the lively Wyoming Cowboy motif underscores the theme of action. Consider, too, this extremely wavy section of highway, one in which motion occurs not only from near to far, but up and down, as well. The truck is, quite naturally, "red-lining" it. And, in case you have not yet

grown anxious enough, Jake Gyllenhaal’s gleefully pregnant “King of the Road” completes the effect. Energy and expectation are everywhere: the words, the bucking horse, the rippling road, the speeding truck, and in Jack’s song and smile.

Aptly, the “Texas Highway” scene is quite different. It consists of a terribly bland, straight road. The road goes uphill. A hillside to the rear of the shot is covered with mature grasses. The road sign conveys neither immediacy nor action, but distance. Laden as it is with contrasting imagery, it is an appropriate venue for one of Jake Gyllenhaal’s most convincing performances, one of pure grueling emotion—not a word was needed.

See also DVD Chapter 14, [01 19 35](#), “Entering Wyoming” Highway.

Note: To view or photograph this scene in the same light as when it was filmed for *Brokeback*, visit this location in mid- to late afternoon. While Hwy 570 has little traffic, if you are patient you may see a few pickup trucks pass through this location, as we did.

**Pictures of surrounding area:**



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## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 22 24



DVD capture



Photo courtesy Jan Geyer.

**DVD Time Code = 01 22 24**

**Location: La Mesilla, New Mexico, U.S.A.**

**GPS: 32d 16m 28.90s -106d 47m 38.05s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Juarez Skyline**

### **Travel Directions:**

Near Las Cruces, New Mexico, U.S.A. South of US Hwy 180 and I-25, W of I-10. The building in the foreground is located at the corner of Calle de Parian and NM Rt 28.

### **Remarks:**

If you are looking for the Juarez skyline in Alberta, you need to go back to the airport! This shot was made in La Mesilla, near Las Cruces, New Mexico.

La Mesilla ("Little Tableland") is a lovely historical community near Las Cruces. Since its beginning, around 1848, Mesilla has had a major influence on the southern part of what is now New Mexico. Once home to Billy the Kid and later a lively social center, the town has a prominent part in the rich history of the southwestern U.S.A.

### **Pictures of surrounding area:**





## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 22 31



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 01 22 31

Location: Calgary, AB, 805 24th Avenue SE

GPS: 51d 1m 54.30s -114d 2m 36.54s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Jack's Alley

### Travel Directions:

East of Stampede Park, behind the Ramsay Design Center.

Go east on 9th Avenue SE, cross the bridge, turn right on 8th Street SE (also known as "Spiller Road SE"), then turn left on 24th Avenue SE to 805. Note: The red building opposite the alley has been demolished.

### Remarks:

Never has a one-word scene conveyed as much pain as *Brokeback Mountain's* Juarez alley scene. This alley, located behind a former Calgary fitness center, seems an unlikely place for rejected cowboys and Mexican hustlers, but it served both well in the film. The opposite wall, upon which the set designers struggled to crowd in as many Spanish words as possible, is a prop.

There is no truth to the unfortunate local rumors that the *Brokeback* production crew re-named "Ramsay," "Ram-Me."

### Pictures of surrounding area:





Revised 25 February 2014

## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 22 45



DVD capture



Contributed photo

DVD Time Code = 01 22 45

Location: Calgary, AB, 805 24th Avenue SE

GPS: 51d 1m 54.30s -114d 2m 36.54s

Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)

Site Name: Jack's Alley

### Travel Directions:

East of Stampede Park, behind the Ramsay Design Center.

Go east on 9th Avenue SE, cross the bridge, turn right on 8th Street SE (also known as "Spiller Road SE"), then turn left on 24th Avenue SE to 805. Note: The red building opposite the alley has been demolished.

### Remarks:

"Mexico was THE place - Ennis has heard." Some of us take issue with the entire "Mexico" thing. If Mexico is, or ever was, known for its bevy of male hustlers, it is news to us. There are plenty of places in the U.S.A. where such accommodations are much more readily available. Besides, if Mexico was indeed "the place," where would fear-driven, travel-challenged Ennis have obtained such information? Oh, yes. Childress is over 965 km (600 miles) from Juarez.

### Pictures of surrounding area:





Revised 25 February 2014

## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 22 53



DVD capture



Contributed photo

**DVD Time Code = 01 22 53**

**Location: Calgary, AB, 805 24th Avenue SE**

**GPS: 51d 1m 54.30s -114d 2m 36.54s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Jack's Alley**

### **Travel Directions:**

East of Stampede Park, behind the Ramsay Design Center.

Go east on 9th Avenue SE, cross the bridge, turn right on 8th Street SE (also known as "Spiller Road SE"), then turn left on 24th Avenue SE to 805. Note: The red building opposite the alley has been demolished.

### **Remarks:**

Just how did esteemed director of photography Rodrigo Prieto end up playing Jack's Mexican hustler? "I was starting to light the scene and Ang said he wanted to ask a big favor," recalls the cinematographer. (Lee, who explains that the actor originally cast turned out to be too short, notes, "Rodrigo will do anything for a director, including putting himself in a dark alley!") Prieto continues, "They whisked me off to hair and makeup and wardrobe, and God, it was horrible." [1]

### **Quotation:**

"Señor?"

[1] American Cinematographer, January 2006, page 66.

### **Pictures of surrounding area:**





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## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 23 30



DVD capture



Photo courtesy Paul Carson.

**DVD Time Code = 01 23 30**

**Location: Calgary, AB, Now-demolished house near Elbow and Glenmore**

**GPS: 50d 59m 41s -114d 5m 20s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Jack's Thanksgiving**

### **Travel Directions:**

From downtown Calgary, south on Macleod Trail, west (right) on Elbow to Glenmore.

### **Remarks:**

A Calgary road widening project gave the filmmakers a “candy store” of 15 empty condemned houses from which to pick the Twist Thanksgiving scene location. This one, with its adjoining dining and living rooms, worked beautifully. Sadly, it was claimed by the wrecking ball soon after production was completed.

### **Quotation:**

“Sit down, you old son of a bitch!”

### **Pictures of surrounding area:**



## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 26 01



DVD capture



Contributed photo

**DVD Time Code = 01 26 01**

**Location: Calgary, AB, 315 Sharon Avenue SW**

**GPS: 51d 2m 30s -114d 6m 11s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Monroe's House (Interior)**

### **Travel Directions:**

In Calgary, from 17th St. SW turn left onto 11th Ave. SW, proceed 0.2 km and turn left on 18th St. SW, go 0.2 km to a "Y" intersection, turning left onto Sharon Ave. Site is 0.1 km on the right.

### **Remarks:**

The Schwab / Moriarity home in the Scarboro neighborhood of Calgary provided a great "retro" setting that contrasted perfectly with the post-modern decor of Lureen and Jack's home.

### **Important:**

Always obtain appropriate permission before entering private property.

### **Quotation:**

"Daddy, tell about when you rode broncs in the rodeo."

### **Pictures of surrounding area:**





## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 26 33



DVD capture



Contributed photo

**DVD Time Code = 01 26 33**

**Location: Calgary, AB, 315 Sharon Avenue SW**

**GPS: 51d 2m 30s -114d 6m 11s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Monroe's House (Interior)**

### **Travel Directions:**

In Calgary, from 17th St. SW turn left onto 11th Ave. SW, proceed 0.2 km and turn left on 18th St. SW, go 0.2 km to a "Y" intersection, turning left onto Sharon Ave. Site is 0.1 km on the right.

### **Remarks:**

Here we come to the last of Alma's three sinks. This kitchen features far nicer appliances and fixtures than she found at the Lonesome Ranch and the Laundry Apartment, but she was in no mood to celebrate.

Having learned from the best, it was Alma's turn to deliver her own sucker punch.

### **Important:**

Always obtain appropriate permission before entering private property.

### **Quotation:**

"Jack Twist? Jack Nasty! You didn't go up there to fish."

### **Pictures of surrounding area:**



## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 28 42



DVD capture



Contributed photo

**DVD Time Code = 01 28 42**

**Location: Calgary, AB, 913 18th Avenue NW**

**GPS: 51d 4m 7.44s -114d 4m 55.74s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Monroe's House (Exterior)**

### **Travel Directions:**

Near the corner of 9th Street NW and 18th Avenue NW, just northwest of the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary's Mount Pleasant neighborhood.

### **Remarks:**

Ennis stormed out of this wood-frame Mount Pleasant house that snowy Thanksgiving night and years later returned to pick up insightful Alma, Jr. Do not bother knocking; this is not the building used for the chilling interior scenes, which were filmed in a Scarboro home south of here.

Why were different houses used for the exterior and interior shots of Monroe and Alma's home? We do not know. Some buildings in the film (the Signal Bar and Newsome Farm Equipment, for instance) were used for both interior and exterior scenes. Other scenes, such as this one and the Childress Dance Hall, use entirely different interior and exterior locations.

One possible explanation is that unlike the house used for the interior shots, this building has a covered front porch which gave Alma Jr. a place to wait outside for her father later in the film. It seems that Ennis was reluctant to go back inside after his Thanksgiving quarrel with Alma.

### **Important:**

Always obtain appropriate permission before entering private property.

### **Quotation:**

"Bye, Daddy."

### **Pictures of surrounding area:**



Revised 25 February 2014

## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 28 47



DVD capture



Contributed photo

**DVD Time Code = 01 28 47**

**Location: Blackie, AB, Railway Avenue**

**GPS: 50d 36m 23.16s -113d 37m 22.50s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Riverton Thanksgiving (Fight) Bar**

### **Travel Directions:**

From Hwy 23, take Hwy 799 north to Township Road 192. Site is near the corner of Railway Avenue and Aberdeen Street.

### **Remarks:**

Though some viewers of the film are offended by the initial "FNIT" (First Night In Tent) scene, the movie's real obscenity lies in its carefully crafted bookend, set on the snowy streets of Riverton. Here, in lieu of passion, it is self-loathing and fear that propel the intense man-on-man action. The consequence is both unnatural and unbearable.

The bar building is a former hardware store. Though the neon signs of the film are gone (at least one was post period, anyway), it stands as a powerful reminder of the rage and pain Ennis suffered off the mountain. See:

<http://ca.epodunk.com/profiles/alberta/blackie/2003434.html>

### **Pictures of surrounding area:**





Revised 29 April 2015

## Chapter 14 - Don't Fool Me - 01 28 58



DVD capture



Contributed photo

**DVD Time Code = 01 28 58**

**Location: Blackie, AB, Railway Avenue**

**GPS: 50d 36m 23.16s -113d 37m 22.50s**

**Map / Satellite Image: [Google Link](#)**

**Site Name: Riverton Thanksgiving (Fight) Bar**

### **Travel Directions:**

From Hwy 23, take Hwy 799 north to Township Road 192. Site is near the corner of Railway Avenue and Aberdeen Street.

### **Remarks:**

It is widely reported that when making this scene, Heath Ledger insisted on actually being hit by veteran stunt actor Ken Zilka. (Similarly, he pushed doubles aside to film the Diving Cliff scene and parts of the Twist Ranch scene.) But few are aware that Ledger accidentally broke Zilka's nose in the melee.

In a gesture reflecting the profound commitment that the cast and crew felt toward this project, Zilka told no one of his injury until the filming of the scene was completed, thereby allowing the production to proceed on schedule.

### **Quotation:**

"Hey, asshole, watch where you're goin'!"

### **Pictures of surrounding area:**





Revised 29 April 2015