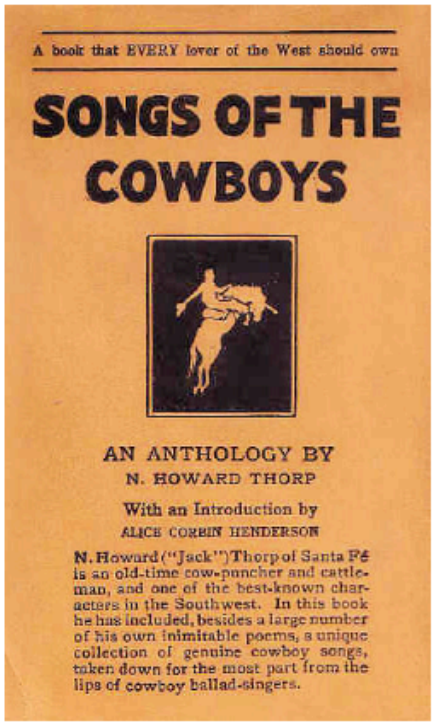
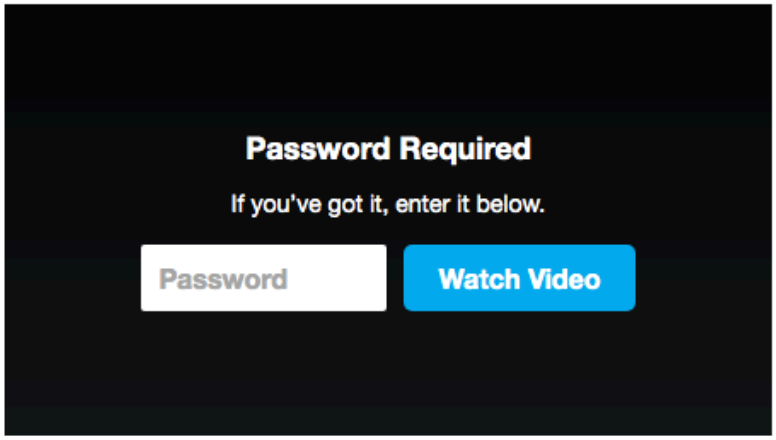
But Jack - son of a wealthy Manhattan lawyer who lost the family money in a bad real estate deal - never achieved the fame of rival collector John Lomax or the fortune made by record companies from Thorp's hit song, Little Joe the Wrangler.



Thorp put it all together, preserving the musical heritage of The Old West.

Yet Thorp's groundbreaking work established a new musical genre, setting the stage for Gene Autry, Roy Rogers and generations of cowboy singers to come. This is Jack's story, told by historians, cowboys, cowboy singers and Thorp relatives whose rare family photographs reveal Jack's complex life.

Screen the entire 30 minute film here. Vimeo password: jackthorp



With narration by Kelli Biggs - great-granddaughter of legendary cowboy movie star Tom Mix - On the Trail of Jack Thorp includes the work of contemporary cowboy musicians dedicated to preserving the musical legacy of the Old West.

AWARDS: On the Trail of Jack Thorp received a Silver Lei Award for Excellence in Filmmaking at the 2009 Honolulu International Film Festival. It was also an Official Finalist of the 2009 Las Vegas International Film Festival and selected for screening at the 2009 White Sands, New Mexico

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