

175th Anniversary

# MORMON BATTALION

AUTO TOUR



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Council Bluffs, Iowa



Cloudburst over New Mexico. Credit: ©Peter Ogilvie.



Historic Santa Fe, New Mexico. Credit: Courtesy of the Yale University Art Gallery



Rowe Peak seen from the Pecos River, Arizona.



Saguaro National Park



## THE LEGACY OF THE MORMON BATTALION

The 2,100-mile march of the Mormon Battalion from Iowa to Southern California is one of the epic trail-blazing journeys that helped build the early United States into the transcontinental country it is today.

It is also a story of volunteerism for church, country and family.

496 men of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints were recruited to serve in the U.S. Army during the War with Mexico. The Battalion's march from Council Bluffs, Iowa to Southern California was described by their commanding officer Lt. Colonel St. George Cooke as, "of great value to our country" adding, "history may be searched in vain for an equal march of infantry." The Mormon Battalion included 3 Battalion Commanders plus other command staff, along with other groups including officer servants, women and children, guides, contracted personnel, and sutlers.

The Mormon Battalion established the first wagon route to the Pacific Coast, linking the east with Southern California. The Mormon Battalion cultivated peaceful relations with the Native tribes and Mexicans they interacted with during the march. Parts of their wagon road were later followed by the Army, Gold Rush Argonauts, the Butterfield Overland Stage, the Southern Pacific Railroad,

and Interstate 8. Their route also helped justify the 1853 Gadsden Purchase from Mexico, comprising an almost 30,000 square mile area in present-day southern Arizona and New Mexico.

Discharged veterans were present for the gold discovery at Sutter's Mill, established other important overland routes, made improvements to California settlements, and observed irrigation techniques that influenced Latter-day Saint settlements in the West.

Today's visitors can follow major portions of the Mormon Battalion Trail by traveling on federal, state and county highways. Along the way visitors will discover inspiring history and friendly hospitality from the great places on the Mormon Battalion Trail!

**Take your own Mormon Battalion Trail Road Trip Adventure!**



Saguaro National Park



Mormon Battalion Monument, Salt Lake City

GET THE **FREE** TRAIL GUIDE APP!

### Mormon Battalion Trail Mobile Tour



**DISCOVER** the Trail's historic events and hidden gems...in the palm of your hand.



**FIND** and download the **Map-N-Tour** app in the app store



**SELECT** and download the **Mormon Battalion Trail Tour**.

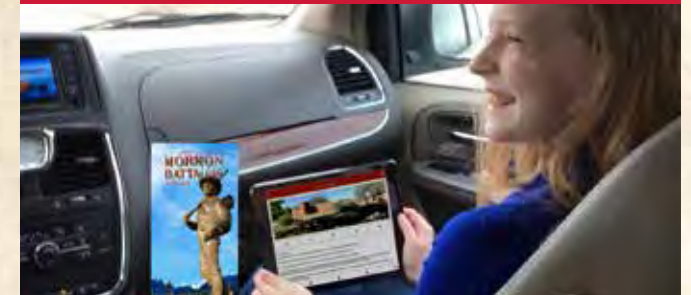
**RECEIVE** Notifications as you travel! Enjoy podcasts, journal entries, videos and more.



The **Mormon Battalion Trail Mobile Tour** is about learning and expanding your understanding of the story—on the go!



**Start your adventure along the Mormon Battalion Trail!**







# THE MORMON BATTALION

## 1846-1847 ROUTES

- 1) Iowa-Mormon Trail, February-June 1846
- 2) Main Command, July 1846-July 1847
- 3) Higgins Family Detachment, September 16-October 6, 1846
- 4) Brown Sick Detachment, October 18-November 17, 1846
- 5) Willis Sick Detachment, November 10, 1846-mid January 1847
- 6) Brig. General Kearny Escort, May 13-August 22, 1847
- 7) Pueblo groups to Salt Lake Valley, May-August 1847

Key locations along the routes

**Iowa-Mormon Trail** The Mormon Battalion was recruited along the western third of the Iowa Mormon Trail between June 27 and July 22, 1846. Under Captain James Allen, Jr., they mustered at Council Bluffs, Iowa on July 21, 1846, to serve for one year.

**Main Command** The command was led to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, there spending two weeks preparing to march for Santa Fe.

**Higgins Family Detachment** At the Arkansas River crossing (near Dodge City, Kansas), most of the families that had been traveling with the Battalion were sent to Pueblo. They wintered there with a group of Latter-day Saints families known as the "Mississippi Saints" who had already settled there temporarily. There were 3 detachments along the trail, Higgins Detachment included families and a few others.

**Main Command** The main group continued to Santa Fe where Captain P. St George Cooke took command and began the march to San Diego.

**Brown Sick Detachment** Two groups of sick men were directed to Pueblo. Captain Brown's group was the largest and followed the Mountain Branch of the Santa Fe Trail. Some deaths occurred along the trail and in California, with the majority related to the detachments en route to or in Pueblo. Brown Detachment included sick men and a large number of remaining women and children with their spouses.

**Willis Sick Detachment** A month later, Lieutenant Willis's sick group retraced their route up the Rio Grande to Santa Fe, then followed the Trappers Trail over the

Sangre de Cristo Pass and into Pueblo. Willis Detachment included a number of sick men. **Main Command** The Main Command of 335 men, 5 women, and 1 child continued westward, creating Cooke's Wagon Road, arriving in San Diego on January 29, 1847.

**Pueblo Groups** In spring 1847, most of the Pueblo group traveled to Fort Laramie, turned west, and followed close behind Brigham Young's Pioneer company into the valley of the Great Salt Lake.

**General Kearny Escort** Also in the spring of 1847, General Kearny completed his work in California, and had 15 Mormon Battalion men detailed to escort him and his party back to Fort Leavenworth. They used pack mules and traveled quickly, following the California Trail. They met some of the Mormon emigrant ship Brooklyn company, buried part of the Donner party, narrowly missed meeting Brigham Young and encountered the "Big Company" of Mormon emigrants just east of Fort Laramie. The General Kearny escort arrived at Fort Leavenworth on August 22, 1847. After the Battalion was discharged, a total of 82 men reenlisted, being identified as "Davis's Co A, Mormon Volunteers. They served in San Diego for 8 months.

and many of the inhabitants with them, taking their public arms, canons, etc.

Mormon Battalion Sergeant Nathaniel V. Jones (5)

**December 22, 1846» Akimel O'odham (Pima) tribal villages south of present-day Phoenix, near the City of Maricopa:**

"The camp is full of the Indians, and a great many have some eatables, including watermelons, to trade; and they seem only to want clothing or cotton cloth, and beads. I am sorry they will be disappointed. It reminds me of a crowded New Orleans market. There must be two thousand in camp, all enjoying themselves very much; they stroll about, their arms around each other, graceful and admirable in form; their language certainly sounds like ours; their honesty is perfect!"

Lieutenant Colonel Philip St. George Cooke (7)

**January 1847**

"We had a weighing festival. I now weigh 125 pounds. When we started, 198."

Mormon Battalion Sergeant Nathaniel V. Jones (5)

"...this commenced a scene of privation and hardships, that I am persuaded, remains without a parallel. I saw athletic and vigorous men reduced by thirst and fatigue, to the imbecility of children, their bodies attenuated and feeble; their faces bloated; their eyes sunken; their feet lacerated and bruised, mechanically moving forward without a murmur and without an object; the latter having been lost sight of in the gloomy contemplation of their present helpless condition."

Lewis Dent, Paymaster Clerk (8)

**January 19, 1847» Box Canyon (present-day Anza Borrego Desert State Park, California)**

**At el Puerto:**

"...I found that the guides, had stopped, there was a rugged mountain, in our front, some two hundred feet high. Weaver very coolly turned to me and remarked that he believed we were penned up. "Ah!" I replied, "then you never saw this mountain before I suppose. ...find a crossing, or I shall send a company of my men who will soon do it."

**At Box Canyon:**

"...But the worst was the narrow pass...Setting an example myself, there was much labor done on it before the wagons came; that is with axes, we pounded, broke, split, and hewed the rocks to increase the opening."

Lieutenant Colonel Philip St. George Cooke (7)

"I have suffered much, although I have not regretted at any time that I enlisted. I have seen human nature tried to its utmost in nearly every possible way, and I think we have had to bear more than there was any necessity for us to bear. However, we have lived through it, and I hope it has prepared some of us for a better and greater work in the future."

Mormon Battalion Private Henry G. Boyle (9)

**January 30, 1847» General Order No. 1, San Diego**

The Lieutenant-colonel commanding congratulates the battalion on their safe arrival on the shore of the Pacific ocean, and on the conclusion of the march of over two thousand miles. History may be searched in vain for an equal march of infantry.

"There, with almost helpless labor, we have dug deep wells, which the future traveler will enjoy. Without a guide who traversed them, we have ventured into trackless prairies where water was not found for several marches. With crowbar and pick and axe in hand, we have worked our way over mountains which seemed to defy ought to save the wild goat and hewed a passage through a chasm of living rock more narrow than our wagons.

Thus, marching half-naked and half-fed, and living upon wild animals, we have discovered and made a road of great value to our country."

Lieutenant Colonel Philip St. George Cooke (7)

"Our joy, however, was mixed with sorrow. The next thought was where were our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, wives and children whom we had left in wilderness."

Sergeant Daniel Tyler (10)

**Journal source credits:**

- 1) Reddick Newton Allred: CHL MS 8106; Text: "Mormon Battalion experiences and songs" The Allred Family Organization has transcription of a variant found in the Daughters of Utah Pioneer's "Treasures of Pioneer History", Volume 5 (1956).
- 2) George Washington Taggart: CHL MS 1184 Transcript in Folder 3, Transcripts with Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University.
- 3) Henry Bigler: Utah Historical Quarterly, Volume V Number 2, Pg. 35-112.
- 4) William W. Hyde: CHL MS 21910, "William Hyde journal 1974".
- 5) Nathaniel V. Jones: LDS CHL MS 1625; Text, "Extracts from the Life Sketch of Nathaniel V. Jones, by his wife, Rebecca M. Jones"; Utah Historical Quarterly, Vol. 4, No 1 (January 1931).
- 6) Elijah Elmer: CHL MS 13956/10004.
- 7) Lieutenant Colonel Philip St. George Cooke: Cooke's Official Report, LDS archives; and Exploring Southwestern Trails, edited by Bieber and Bender, p. 222.
- 8) Lewis Dent: The Daily Reveille, Vol. IV, Number 958, 12 June 1847, pp. 1-2; and The Weekly Reveille, Vol. III, Number 49, 14 June 1847, p. 1311.
- 9) Henry G. Boyle: Original location unknown. Transcription of secondary copy at Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, "Autobiography and Diary of Henry G. Boyle 1832-1855, Vol. 1; Call number 921.73 B697
- 10) Daniel Tyler: Deseret News book publication



## THE 2,100-MILE MARCH IN THE BATTALION'S OWN WORDS

**July 1846» Council Bluffs, Iowa**

"Our people were in exile, being driven from their homes by mob violence, when at this point we were visited by Capt. Jas. Allen, of the American Army with orders from Pres. Polk to enlist 500 men to march to Calif., war having being declared against Mexico. Pres. (Brigham) Young advised a response to the call and in two or three days the number was made up and organized into five companies of 100 each. I was made 3rd Sergeant of Company A., & Jefferson Hunt, Capt. We were mustered into service on the 16th day of July 1846, to serve 1 yr. to be discharged in Calif. with our arms."

Mormon Battalion Sergeant Reddick Newton Allred (1)

"I feel Fanny as though I had made as great a sacrifice as I could well make, in that I have forsaken for the time My possessions My family and at the risk of life start for Mexico as a United States Soldier with 500 of My Brethren in order to show that Blood of my Grandfathers who fought and bled in the revolutionary war and the spirit of liberty and freedom still courses in the veins of some of their posterity that are called Mormons, ..."

Fife musician George Washington Taggart (2)

"On the 21st of July at twelve o'clock Captain Allen took up the line of march for Fort Leavenworth, two hundred miles distant, the men keeping time to the tune of "The Girl I Left Behind Me." To me this was a solemn time as also to others, though to a casual observer we may not have shown it. Leaving families, friends, near and dear relatives, not knowing for how long and perhaps to see them no more in this life, I bid my folks farewell and did not see them again for nine years."

Mormon Battalion Private Henry Bigler (3)

**August 1, 1846» Fort Leavenworth, Kansas**

"We were immediately put upon the march for Ft. Leavenworth where we rec'd our outfit for the journey to Santa Fe, also where we drew out 1st month's pay, by which we were enabled to secure suitable clothes & send some back to

our families, for we had all left them in tents and wagons with little for them to subsist upon."

Mormon Battalion Sergeant Reddick Newton Allred (1)

**August 26, 1846» Rock Creek Kansas after hearing of the death of the Battalion's first commander**

"This information struck a damper to our feelings, as we considered him a worthy man, and from the kind treatment which the Battalion had received from him, we had begun to look upon him as our friend, and a person from whom we should receive kind treatment. The Colonel had been to the Bluffs, and had witnessed the situation of the camps of the saints, and well knew the situation in which we had left our families, which was enough to melt the heart of a strong man."

Mormon Battalion Sergeant William W. Hyde (4)

**September 18, 1846» Southwest Kansas**

"It is indeed wonderful to me, how the buffalo and antelope subsist in such numerous herds. I saw during the day several large droves of buffalo, no timber and very little water, which we found just at night in a hole by the way."

Mormon Battalion Sergeant Nathaniel V. Jones (5)

**October 19, 1846» Leaving Santa Fe, New Mexico**

"Their farms are very good for this country; they have no fences at all. Their land is all watered by ditches, and their cattle consists chiefly of herds of stock. There are some parts where grapes are abundant, out of which they make wine and brandy."

Mormon Battalion Sergeant Nathaniel V. Jones (5)

**December 11, 1846» "The Battle of the Bulls" near present-day Tombstone, Arizona**

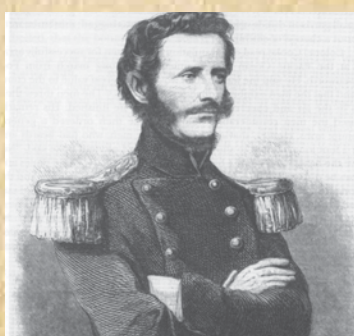
"Set out early this morning with hunters, the front guard, to kill wild cattle for beef. There was five killed. There came two into our drove of cattle and ran over one man. He did not get hurt much. A mile or two further on there was one run at our teams and threw the mule off over the near one and let the guts out of the near one with his horns and killed him. Before this he took a man on his horns and threw him ten feet in the air. He was hurt pretty bad in the thigh.

"About two miles further on there was one ran at the pay masters mules and killed one of them. Lieut. Stoneman shot it and a few rods further on, he shot at another with his fifteen shooters. Two leads went in at once; one of the balls passed over the joint of his thumb and took it off, which leaves him lame. Some men took fright and climbed up a tree; others took shelter behind two wagons and shot over them at the running bulls. We marched about 15 miles and camped on the same river."

Mormon Battalion Sergeant Elijah Elmer (6)

**December 14 & 15, 1846» Tucson, Arizona**

"About six miles before we came to the (Mexican) garrison we met several men from there who tried to have us pass around the fort, but the Col. pushed on the double speed, until we came to the town, when on our arrival the soldiers fled,





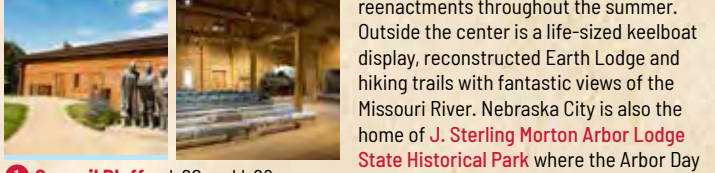
# FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS OF HISTORY



The following descriptions includes highlights from the Battalion's 2,100-mile journey and the communities and attractions along the Trail today.

**M** For descriptions of the Battalion's day-to-day experiences, please download the *Mormon Battalion Virtual Tour* mobile app that includes first-hand descriptions, maps, sketches and audiovisual demonstrations.

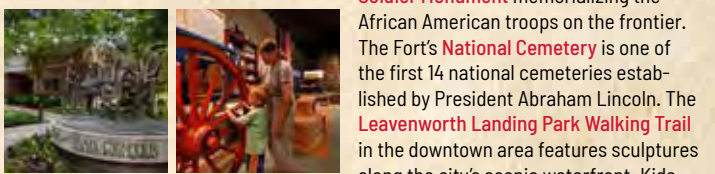
## IOWA AND NEBRASKA



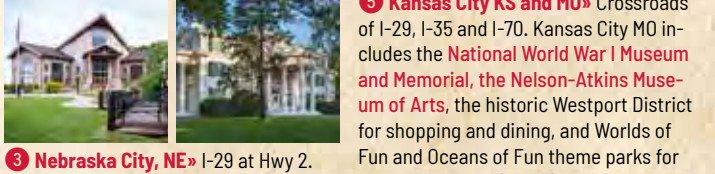
**1 Council Bluffs** I-80 and I-29. Brigham Young and the advance group of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints arrived in Council Bluffs on June 13, 1846. They camped at Mosquito Creek Hill, later called Redemption or Taylor Hill which today is adjacent to I-29 at East 29th Avenue and Harry Langdon Boulevard.

The sites of the 1846 Grand Encampment of Mormon Pioneers and the Mormon Battalion Mustering Grounds are today on the grounds of the Iowa School for the Deaf east of I-29 at the intersection of US 92 and Harry Langdon Boulevard. Two historical markers and a walking path at the area are located at the scenic grounds where visitors can still imagine the enlistment and mustering of Battalion volunteers on July 21, 1846.

The reconstructed *Kanesville Tabernacle* and visitor center is at the historic site of the reorganization of the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in 1847. The visitor center has exhibits and a film on the Mormon Battalion's journey and its achievements. The *Kanesville Tabernacle* is not open for public tours, but the visitors center is open. Go to: [churchofjesuschrist.org/visitkanesville-tabernacle](http://churchofjesuschrist.org/visitkanesville-tabernacle).



**2 Omaha, NE** I-80. The *Mormon Trail Center at Winter Quarters* features interactive exhibits, artwork, reconstructed settings, artifacts and a film on the Mormon Trail pioneers, the Mormon Battalion, and the historic Winter Quarters of 1846-48. Go to: [churchofjesuschrist.org/visitmormontrailcenter](http://churchofjesuschrist.org/visitmormontrailcenter).



**3 Kansas City, MO** I-70. Crossroads of I-29, I-35 and I-70. Kansas City MO includes the *National World War I Museum and Memorial*, the *Nelson-Atkins Museum of Arts*, the historic Westport District for shopping and dining, and Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun theme parks for families. Kansas City, KS offers great shopping at Village West and at Legends Outlets of Kansas City, and a scenic river view of downtown KC at Lewis and Clark Park at Kaw Point.

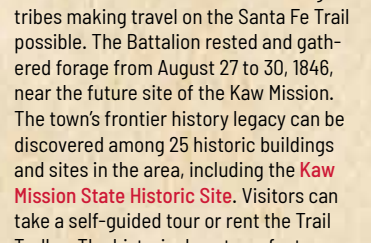
**4 Independence, MO** East of I-435. The *National Frontier Trails Museum* celebrates the history of the Lewis and Clark, Santa Fe, Oregon, Mormon, Cali-



# MORMON BATTALION TRAIL

- ### 1846-1847 ROUTES
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fornia and Pony Express National Historic Trails with colorful exhibits and programs.



**7 Council Grove, KS** US 56. This city is named for the site of the 1825 treaty with the chiefs of the Great and Little Osage tribes making travel on the Santa Fe Trail possible. The Battalion rested and gathered forage from August 27 to 30, 1846, near the future site of the Kaw Mission. The town's frontier history legacy can be discovered among 25 historic buildings and sites in the area, including the *Kaw Mission State Historic Site*. Visitors can take a self-guided tour or rent the Trail Trolley. The historic downtown features unique boutiques, galleries and restaurants. Lodging choices include motels, bed and breakfasts and campgrounds. Outdoor recreation options include the *Federal Reserve* with six campgrounds, a marina and rental boats, the smaller *Council Grove City Lake* with boating and several public picnic areas, and the *Council Grove Aquatic Center* featuring a seasonal outdoor pool. The scenic *Neosho Riverwalk* connects the Neosho River crossing of the Santa Fe and Mormon Battalion Trails with the Kaw Mission State Historic Site and the *Flint Hills Nature Trail State Park*. Go to: [CouncilGrove.com](http://CouncilGrove.com).

**8 Larned, US 56**. The Battalion camped in the area on September 8 and 9, 1846, when they collected forage for the animals and were on the lookout for Comanches who had raided other parties. Today, the *Santa Fe Trail Center* features artifacts, exhibits and reconstructed pioneer buildings celebrating the area's history from when early Native Americans hunted bison

on the Great Plains, to the Santa Fe Trail trade caravans to the southwest, to early pioneer settlement.

**9 Dodge City** US 56 and US 400. The Battalion camped in the area that became Dodge City on September 13, 1846. Dodge City was later named "Queen of the Cowtowns" in the days of the Wild West which are recreated today at the *Boot Hill Museum* and the *Gunfighters Wax Museum*. Tourism dollars spent in Dodge City help preserve and protect the *Soule Canal Swales* where today's trail travelers can still see the wagon ruts from the Santa Fe Trail. West of Dodge City and off US 50 is a marked parking area for visitors to see the historic following a boardwalk with signage.

**10 Middle Crossing of the Arkansas River** US 50, west of Ingalls. This is the location where on September 15 and 16, 1846, the Battalion rested to prepare for the 50 to 80-mile crossing through water that followed the Cimarron Route of the Santa Fe Trail. This is also the location where Lieutenant A. J. Smith, the Battalion's commanding U.S. Army officer, decided to send the Higgins' Family Detachment on the Santa Fe Trail's Mountain Route to Pueblo, which was then known as "el pueblo," for the winter.

**11 Albuquerque** I-25. The Battalion camped 3 or 4 miles south of the Rio Grande crossing. Today's Albuquerque includes the historic *Gutierrez-Hubbel House* and the *Albuquerque Museum of Art and History*.

**12 Truth or Consequences** I-25. This is the location where the Willis Detachment of sick and weak Battalion members were mustered on November 9 and 10, 1846, to be sent back to Santa Fe and then Pueblo.

**13 Pueblo, CO** I-25 and US 50. Early "el pueblo" was initially built in 1842 as a cooperative base for traders, trappers and early settlers. On Christmas Eve 1854 a band of formerly friendly Utes attacked and killed most of the inhabitants. The *Mormon Town History Marker* is located where the Mormon Battalion's family and sick detachments spent the winter of 1846-47 with the Mississippi Saints. The obelisk monument is located east of I-25 and BUS 50 on Stanton Avenue in a landscaped park. On one end of the *Union Avenue Historic District*, the *El Pueblo History Museum* features a recreated plaza with adobe buildings of the original El Pueblo. Visitors can see the excavated remains of the original El Pueblo in the adjacent *Buckles Archeology Pavilion*. At the other end of the *Union Avenue Historic District*, the *Pueblo Heritage Museum* is devoted to the ethnic and cultural history of the people of Pueblo and includes artifacts and displays

chronicling the area's history. Visitors see vintage aircraft from World War I to Desert Storm at the *Pueblo Weisbrod Aircraft Museum*. The Arts come alive across Pueblo's Creative Corridor which showcases art, music and dance with a variety of galleries, museums, street sculptures, fountains, cafes, live music and festivals. The *Pueblo Zoo* is a favorite family destination. For outdoor enthusiasts there is the *City Park Disc Golf Course*, the *Pueblo River Trail System* and *Lake Pueblo State Park*. Go to: [VisitPueblo.org](http://VisitPueblo.org)

**14 Santa Fe, NM** I-25. Santa Fe was established as the capital for the Spanish "Kingdom of New Mexico" in 1610. U.S. Brigadier General Stephen Kearny, commander of the Army of the West, raised the American flag over the Plaza during the War with Mexico on August 18, 1846.

**15 Albuquerque** I-25. The Battalion camped 3 or 4 miles south of the Rio Grande crossing. Today's Albuquerque includes the historic *Gutierrez-Hubbel House* and the *Albuquerque Museum of Art and History*.

**16 Socorro** I-25. The Battalion passed through Socorro and camped about a mile past town in the river bottoms on October 31, 1846. Today, the *San Miguel Mission* founded in 1598, is in the historic plaza.

**17 Truth or Consequences** I-25. This is the location where the Willis Detachment of sick and weak Battalion members were mustered on November 9 and 10, 1846, to be sent back to Santa Fe and then Pueblo.

**18 Douglas, AZ** 90. Northeast of the Mormon Battalion Trail, the area's mining history is celebrated at the Bisbee Visitor Center, the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum, tours of the Copper Queen Mine, or roadside views of the Lavender Pit.

**19 Tombstone** AZ 80. The town is located east of the Battalion's "Battle of the Bulls" experience on December 11, 1846. Tombstone is the historic Wild West town where the Shoot out at the OK Corral occurred in 1881. Today the town includes many themed Wild West museums and family activities

**20 Bisbee** AZ 90. Northeast of the Mormon Battalion Trail, the area's mining history is celebrated at the Bisbee Visitor Center, the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum, tours of the Copper Queen Mine, or roadside views of the Lavender Pit.

**21 Tucson** I-10. The *Presidio San Agustín del Tucson Museum* has been reconstructed to look as it would have appeared in the early 1800s. The beautiful *Mission San Xavier del Bac* was built in the 1700s by Spanish missionaries. The *Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum* includes a zoo, aquarium, botanical garden, natural history and art gallery.

**22 Chandler and Phoenix** I-10 and I-17. After traveling through the desert with only muddy rain puddle water for three days, the Mormon Battalion reached the Gila River on December 21, 1846. For the next three days they enjoyed rest and rejuvenation with members of the Akimel O'odham (Pima) tribe. Today's Gila River Community in Chandler features the fun of an 1800s Western Town at *Rawhide at Wild Horse Pass*. Phoenix's cultural treasures include the *Heard Museum* showcasing Native American arts and culture. At Maricopa, Arizona Route 238 includes several Battalion points of interest. Sonora Desert National Monument has Battalion sites including Christmas Camp. And just west of Arizona Route 238 is the BLI Painted Rock Petroglyph State Park, an area the Battalion visited.

**23 Yuma** I-8. The Mormon Battalion crossed the Colorado River southwest of Yuma on January 9-10, 1847. Today's visitors can see a 10-foot-tall statue of Mormon Battalion officer Philemon Merrill to commemorate the Yuma Crossing at *West Wetlands Park*. Yuma's unique Western heritage is on display at the *Colorado River State Historic Park* that once served as the

dedicated in 2021. Visitors can also see an early Native American Village featuring authentic Navajo Hogans, America's largest teepee and Native American presentations of traditions, storytelling and much more before stopping at the best little Gift Shop west of the Mississippi! The park is also home to the National Pony Express Monument and Mormon Battalion Monument and Museum. This is The Place Heritage Park is open from 9 AM to 5 PM daily. Visit the Gift Shop and Pioneer Center on Sunday. Go to: [ThisIsThePlace.org](http://ThisIsThePlace.org) or call (801) 582-1847.

**24 Grantsville** on UT 138. The *Donner-Reed Museum* features such an extensive collection of Hastings Cutoff pioneer artifacts that it has been called "Grandmother's attic". The grounds include a commemorative monument, wildlife exhibits, an 1853 cabin, and a unique cage-like jail built in 1863. The Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Museum is open by appointment only. Call (435) 884-3767 or (435) 884-4311.

**25 Bluffdale** Southbound I-15 at Exit 288. A stone marker is at the location of *Rockwell's Station*, once a Pony Express mail station, hotel and brewery operated by Orrin Porter Rockwell, often called "the Destroying Angel."

**26 Lehi** Located off I-15 at Exit 279. *John Hutchins Museum of Natural History* features exhibits on the Pony Express, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints pioneers, and native peoples of the area. The Eagle Mountain Pony Express Trail Segment features pedestrian, bike, and equestrian trails, as well as wildlife exhibits along the original Pony Express Trail.

**27 Provo/Utah Valley** South of Salt Lake City on I-15. Provo is home to Brigham Young University which features the *Museum of Art*, the *Covey Center for Fine Arts* and the *BYU Museum of Paleontology*. Utah Valley includes the *Uinta-Wasatch Cache National Forest*, *Robert Redford's Sundance Resort*, and the scenic *Bridal Veil Falls*.

**28 Ogden** North of Salt Lake City on I-15/84. *Fort Buenaventura Park* features the reconstructed fort and trading post built by mountain man Miles Goddeer in 1845. The park features a visitor center with artifact exhibits and a campground.

**29 Brigham City** Off I-15/84. Mormon Pioneer Trail pioneer attractions include the *Brigham City Museum-Gallery* and the 1855

**30 Golden Spike National Historic Park** I-32 miles west of I-15 at Exit 365 at UT 13 to UT 83. Follow the signs to SR 83 to the Golden Spike National Historic Park. This is the site of Promontory Summit where the "Golden Spike" was pounded in to complete the Nation's first transcontinental railroad. Today the grounds include a visitor center, two operating steam engines and a walking trail.

**31 Salt Lake City** I-80. The Great Salt Lake basin became the destination for Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saint pioneers from 1847-1869. Brigham Young's Vanguard group arrived at the south branch of City Creek and camped on the east side on July 23, 1847. This event is memorialized with a monument at Washington Square. The Mormon Battalion's Pueblo group set their final camp on the grounds of today's City Creek Center on July 29th. One of the first things they did upon their arrival was for Brigham Young to designate the location for a majestic, sacred temple to their God. Today, *Temple Square* is undergoing renovation that is anticipated to be completed in 2024. During construction, visitors will be guided to the Conference Center. The nearby *Tabernacle* is home to the *Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square* and is one of the most acoustically sound buildings in the world. Families can trace their own ancestry at the *Family History Library*, while the *Church History Museum* features interactive exhibits that tell the history of the pioneers on the Mormon Trail. All of this is in the heart of Salt Lake City where visitors can find many opportunities for shopping, cultural events and every type of dining imaginable. Go to: [visitSaltLake.com](http://visitSaltLake.com).

**32 This Is The Place Heritage Park** Immediately east of Salt Lake City on I-80 at the Foothill Drive Exit. The park includes the inspiring *Triumphs* statue and monument dedicated to the Mormon Battalion. Visitors can step back in time and experience the Old West and early pioneer life in Utah. This unique historical park is fun for everyone! Visitors can pan for gold, ride ponies, ride one of four trains for a tour around the park, make take-home crafts, interact with frontier shopkeepers, a blacksmith, tinsmith, and saddle maker and see the new Pioneer Children's Memorial and Pioneer Center

**33 Stansbury Park** Off I-80 on UT 138. The *Ezra T. Benson Grist Mill* was built by Latter-Day Saint pioneers in 1854 and is mentioned in pioneer diaries. Today the site includes the original gristmill, a sawmill, a re-created and operating gristmill, a country store, blacksmith shop, several historic cabins, barns, and picnic facilities.

**34 Leavenworth, KS** US 73. The Battalion arrived at *Fort Leavenworth* on August 1, 1846. The post was established in 1827 and today is the oldest continually operating U.S. Army post west of the Mississippi River. The *Frontier Army Museum* at Fort Leavenworth features exhibits and displays of one of the best collections of 19th century military weapons and equipment. The *Fort Leavenworth Wayside audio driving tour* leads visitors to over 20 different historic, commemorative and scenic sites within the fort's grounds including the inspiring *Buffalo Soldier Monument* memorializing the African American troops on the frontier. The *Fort's National Cemetery* is one of the first 14 national cemeteries established by President Abraham Lincoln. The *Leavenworth Landing Park Walking Trail* in the downtown area features sculptures along the city's scenic waterfront. Kids of all ages will enjoy the *C.W. Parker Carousel Museum and Gift Shop*. Leavenworth's colorful history comes alive at the 1880s Victorian *Carroll Mansion*, *First City Museum*, and the *Richard Allen Cultural Center and Museum*. A variety of comfortable lodging is available. Go to: [VisitLeavenworthKS.com](http://VisitLeavenworthKS.com).

**35 Kansas City, KS and MO** Crossroads of I-29, I-35 and I-70. Kansas City MO includes the *National World War I Museum and Memorial*, the *Nelson-Atkins Museum of Arts*, the historic Westport District for shopping and dining, and Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun theme parks for families. Kansas City, KS offers great shopping at Village West and at Legends Outlets of Kansas City, and a scenic river view of downtown KC at Lewis and Clark Park at Kaw Point.

**36 Independence, MO** East of I-435. The *National Frontier Trails Museum* celebrates the history of the Lewis and Clark, Santa Fe, Oregon, Mormon, Cali-

including the O.K Corral, the Bird Cage Theatre, Allen Street and the Boothill Graveyard.

**37 Douglas, AZ** 90. Northeast of the Mormon Battalion Trail, the area's mining history is celebrated at the Bisbee Visitor Center, the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum, tours of the Copper Queen Mine, or roadside views of the Lavender Pit.

**38 Yuma** I-8. The Mormon Battalion crossed the Colorado River southwest of Yuma on January 9-10, 1847. Today's visitors can see a 10-foot-tall statue of Mormon Battalion officer Philemon Merrill to commemorate the Yuma Crossing at *West Wetlands Park*. Yuma's unique Western heritage is on display at the *Colorado River State Historic Park* that once served as the

dedicated in 2021. Visitors can also see an early Native American Village featuring authentic Navajo Hogans, America's largest teepee and Native American presentations of traditions, storytelling and much more before stopping at the best little Gift Shop west of the Mississippi! The park is also home to the National Pony Express Monument and Mormon Battalion Monument and Museum. This is The Place Heritage Park is open from 9 AM to 5 PM daily. Visit the Gift Shop and Pioneer Center on Sunday. Go to: [ThisIsThePlace.org](http://ThisIsThePlace.org) or call (801) 582-1847.

**39 Salt Lake City** I-80. The Great Salt Lake basin became the destination for Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saint pioneers from 1847-1869. Brigham Young's Vanguard group arrived at the south branch of City Creek and camped on the east side on July 23, 1847. This event is memorialized with a monument at Washington Square. The Mormon Battalion's Pueblo group set their final camp on the grounds of today's City Creek Center on July 29th. One of the first things they did upon their arrival was for Brigham Young to designate the location for a majestic, sacred temple to their God. Today, *Temple Square* is undergoing renovation that is anticipated to be completed in 2024. During construction, visitors will be guided to the Conference Center. The nearby *Tabernacle* is home to the *Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square* and is one of the most acoustically sound buildings in the world. Families can trace their own ancestry at the *Family History Library*, while the *Church History Museum* features interactive exhibits that tell the history of the pioneers on the Mormon Trail. All of this is in the heart of Salt Lake City where visitors can find many opportunities for shopping, cultural events and every type of dining imaginable. Go to: [visitSaltLake.com](http://visitSaltLake.com).

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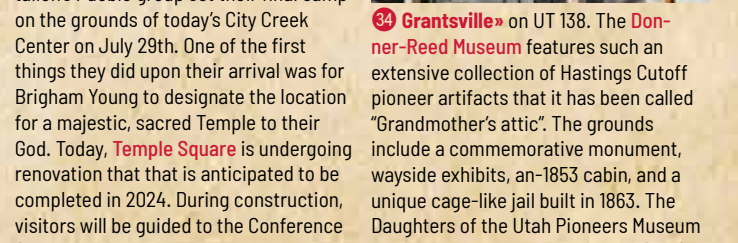
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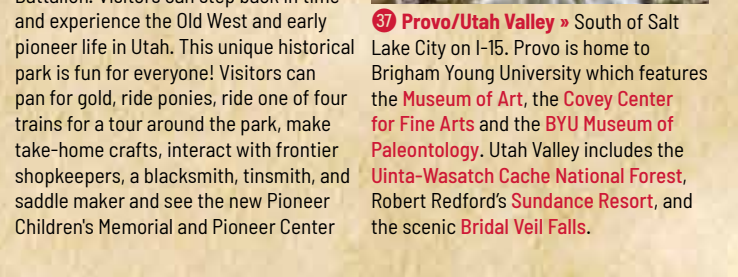
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**24 Grantsville** on UT 138. The *Donner-Reed Museum* features such an extensive collection of Hastings Cutoff pioneer artifacts that it has been called "Grandmother's attic". The grounds include a commemorative monument, wildlife exhibits, an 1853 cabin, and a unique cage-like jail built in 1863. The Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Museum is open by appointment only. Call (435) 884-3767 or (435) 884-4311.



**26 Lehi** Located off I-15 at Exit 279. *John Hutchins Museum of Natural History* features exhibits on the Pony Express, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints pioneers, and native peoples of the area. The Eagle Mountain Pony Express Trail Segment features pedestrian, bike, and equestrian trails, as well as wildlife exhibits along the original Pony Express Trail.



**27 Provo/Utah Valley** South of Salt Lake City on I-15. Provo is home to Brigham Young University which features the *Museum of Art*, the *Covey Center for Fine Arts* and the *BYU Museum of Paleontology*. Utah Valley includes the *Uinta-Wasatch Cache National Forest*, *Robert Redford's Sundance Resort*, and the scenic *Bridal Veil Falls*.



**28 Ogden** North of Salt Lake City on I-15/84. *Fort Buenaventura Park* features the reconstructed fort and trading post built by mountain man Miles Goddeer in 1845. The park features a visitor center with artifact exhibits and a campground.







This Is The Place Heritage Park, Salt Lake City



West Wetlands Park, Yuma, Arizona

175th Anniversary

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### Program Partners

**Funding in part by Otoe County Visitors Committee**

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**Tourism Santa Fe**

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**This Is The Place Heritage Park**

[ThisIsThePlace.org](http://ThisIsThePlace.org)

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175th Anniversary

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## The Mormon Battalion Association™

Our Mission is to preserve and celebrate the heritage of the Mormon Battalion.

A person does not have to be a descendant of the original Mormon Battalion to belong to the modern Mormon Battalion Association™

Membership is open to patriotic individuals who wish to unite in emulating the courage of the original Mormon Battalion.

As an organization, we strive to keep the Mormon Battalion in remembrance by uniquely identifying each man, woman, and child who participated in this march. Our goal is to preserve their history and help the generations that have followed to know about these individuals' courage, dedication, and sacrifice in support of their church and country.



GO TO: [MORMONBATTALION.COM](http://MORMONBATTALION.COM)