A HISTORY OF *Morgan County*

Linda H. Smith

UTAH CENTENNIAL COUNTY HISTORY SERIES

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Morgan County in northern Utah contains 610 square miles, more than 90 percent of which is privately owned. Situated within the Wasatch Mountains, its boundaries defined by mountain ridges, Morgan County has been celebrated for its alpine setting. Weber Canyon and the Weber River traverse the fertile Morgan Valley; and it was the lush vegetation of the pristine valley that prompted the first white settlers in 1855 to carve a road to it through Devils Gate in lower Weber Canyon.

Morgan has a rich historical legacy. It has served as a corridor in the West, used by both Native Americans and early trappers. Indian tribes often camped in the valley, even long after it was settled by Mormon pioneers. The southern part of the county was part of the famed Hastings Cutoff, made notorious by the Donner party but also used by Mormon pioneers, Johnston's Army, California gold seekers, and other early travelers. Morgan is still part of main routes of traffic, including the railroad and utility lines that provide service throughout the West.

Long known as an agricultural county, the area now also serves residents who commute to employment in Wasatch Front cities. Two state parks—Lost Creek Reservoir and East Canyon Reservoir—provide recreation to thousands each year.

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1999
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Morgan County Commission

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Dedicated to
Joseph H. Francis

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Special thanks goes to Mark Nethercott for his geological description of Morgan, Earl McCain who wrote a condensation of salient events published in *Morgan Stake 1877 - 1981,* and who compiled a majority of the education chapter. Bob Parson and Joseph

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When the legislature approved the project the Division of State History was assigned administrators. Kent Powell and Craig Fuller have been extremely helpful in bringing this county history book to publication. Appreciation is extended to them and Laurel Barlow for her fine job in copyediting this history.

The book was a project of the Morgan County Historical Society. Special thanks is extended to those who served on the Historical Society Board of Trustees during the research and writing of the book: Chairman Sydney Heiner, Vice Chair Gerald Anderson, Emma Loo Bell, Frank Bohman, Dwight King, Jeff London, Mary Mecham, Joseph Francis, and County Commissioner Sheila Wilkinson.

All photographs used in this book are courtesy of the Morgan County Historical Society unless otherwise noted.

General Introduction

When Utah was granted statehood on 4 January 1896, twenty-seven counties comprised the nation's new forty-fifth state. Subsequently two counties, Duchesne in 1914 and Daggett in 1917, were created. These twenty-nine counties have been the stage on which much of the history of Utah has been played.

Recognizing the importance of Utah's counties, the Utah State Legislature established in 1991 a Centennial History Project to write and publish county histories as part of Utah's statehood centennial commemoration. The Division of State History was given the assignment to administer the project. The county commissioners, or their designees, were responsible for selecting the author or authors for their individual histories, and funds were provided by the state legislature to cover most research and writing costs as well as to provide each public school and library with a copy of each history. Writers worked under general guidelines provided by the Division of State History and in cooperation with county history committees. The counties also established a Utah Centennial County History Council

to help develop policies for distribution of state-appropriated funds and plans for publication.

Each volume in the series reflects the scholarship and interpretation of the individual author. The general guidelines provided by the Utah State Legislature included coverage of five broad themes encompassing the economic, religious, educational, social, and political history of the county. Authors were encouraged to cover a vast period of time stretching from geologic and prehistoric times to the present. Since Utah's statehood centennial celebration falls just four years before the arrival of the twenty-first century, authors were encouraged to give particular attention to the history of their respective counties during the twentieth century.

Still, each history is at best a brief synopsis of what has transpired within the political boundaries of each county. No history can do justice to every theme or event or individual that is part of an area's past. Readers are asked to consider these volumes as an introduction to the history of the county, for it is expected that other researchers and writers will extend beyond the limits of time, space, and detail imposed on this volume to add to the wealth of knowledge about the county and its people. In understanding the history of our counties, we come to understand better the history of our state, our nation, our world, and ourselves.

In addition to the authors, local history committee members, and county commissioners, who deserve praise for their outstanding efforts and important contributions, special recognition is given to Joseph Francis, chairman of the Morgan County Historical Society, for his role in conceiving the idea of the centennial county history project and for his energetic efforts in working with the Utah State Legislature and State of Utah officials to make the project a reality. Mr. Francis is proof that one person does make a difference.

ALLAN KENT POWELL
CRAIG FULLER
GENERAL EDITORS

Introduction

The history of Morgan County and its communities is not intended to be a biography of the individuals who settled in Morgan, but to be a history of the county itself. Individuals will, of course, be mentioned in reference to the roles they played in the history. The main emphasis of this history is to record events, struggles, and developments that took place in the growth of the county: those historical events that brought Morgan County to where it is today, one of the fastest growing counties in the state.

Each community's history will cover the period from the time the first settlers came in 1855 to the time their goals became county oriented. These community histories will present a view of steady progression from primitive beginnings to a contemporary way of life.

Many sources of information have been used to compile this comprehensive history. Due to space limitations the history had to be condensed. Determining what to include and what to omit was difficult. My desire was to include those incidents that affected the community or county as a whole and try to omit items that should be included in individual biographies. Some writers of local histories

near the end of the nineteenth century stated the same goal that historians are challenged with today: a desire to "rescue materials from fast-gathering oblivion."[1]

Every effort was made to ensure the information provided is as factual as possible; however, the words of Christfield Johnson, an author of local history, adds dimension to the effort to provide accurate history. "If any one thinks it easy to harmonize and arrange the immense number of facts and dates here treated of, let him try to learn the precise circumstances regarding a single event, occurring twenty years ago, and he will soon find how widely authorities differ."[2] Because of varying facts and diverse recollections, where possible, official records have been used to document the history.

This history will also attempt to view the life of hardy pioneer women who have rarely been mentioned in previous written histories, and to show the heroism in all early settlers as they struggled to exist. I have tried to include contributions by people whose early existence in the area helped shape the history of Morgan County, but who have been previously omitted from written histories or forgotten because they or their descendants did not remain in the area.

Please accept this book as a labor of love for the sacrifices of early settlers and all those who have brought Morgan County residents to where we are today, living in one of the most picturesque counties in Utah, among citizens of high standards with an appreciation for their heritage. Let us use this heritage to help shape and direct our future. May this book serve for generations as a tool of reflection, learning, and enjoyment.

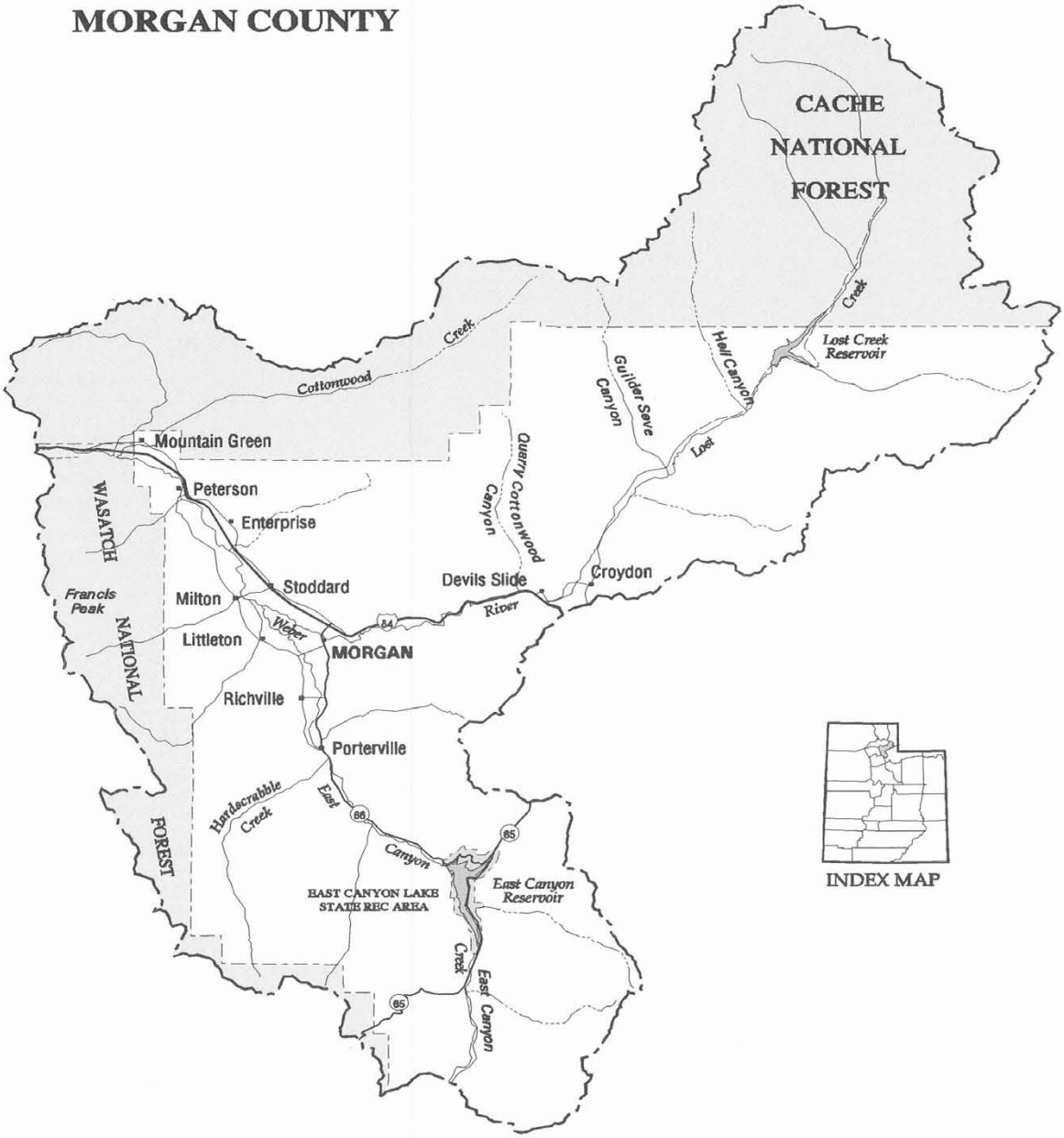
LINDA H. SMITH, COUNTY HISTORIAN
MORGAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ENDNOTES

1. Carol Kammen, *On Doing Local History* (Nashville, Tennessee: American Assoiciation for State and Local History, 1986), 20.

2. Ibid., p. 24.

MORGAN COUNTY



CHAPTER 1

PRISTINE VALLEY

Morgan County, located in the northern part of the State of Utah, is peculiarly shaped like a boomerang or a boot. The foot of the boot runs north and south, and the leg of the boot runs east and west. Morgan County is bounded on the north by Weber and Rich Counties, on the south by Summit County, and on the west by Davis and Salt Lake Counties. It encompasses 610 square miles of land from which all streams flow into the Weber River. The river's principle tributaries are Cottonwood Creek and Lost Creek from the north and East Canyon Creek on the south. The Weber River flows in a westerly direction through lower Weber Canyon to the Great Salt Lake. The valley is protected by the Wasatch Mountains on the north and west and spurs of the Uintah Mountains on the south and east. The highest elevation of the county is found at 9706 foot Thurston Peak, located on the west boundary of Morgan. The lowest point in the valley floor is at Mountain Green, and is approximately 5000 feet above sea level.

Long before the pioneers came to the area, years of spring flooding from the Weber River and its tributaries had created uneven con-

tours throughout the valley. The flooding also created sloughs running in various directions, depending on the type of soil and the elevation of the land.

Weber River, transversing Weber Canyon through Morgan County and eventually flowing into the Great Salt Lake, was named in honor of Captain John Weber. This adventurer was born in Denmark in 1799 and captained a sailing boat in 1815 while still in his teens. In 1822 Weber joined with fur traders William Henry Ashley and Major Andrew Henry to trap in the uncharted Rocky and Wasatch Mountain ranges. In 1827 Weber returned to his family home in Missouri and traveled to Bellevue, Iowa, in 1844. There broke and despondent, he committed suicide in 1859 and was buried in Bellevue cemetery.[1]

Weber Canyon, which traverses through the county, is divided into two major sections. Upper Weber Canyon extends from the Summit County boundary at Henefer to Round Valley in Morgan County. Here the canyon opens into a lush valley extending to the settlement of Mountain Green where the canyon closes in to form another, once formidable barrier of lower Weber Canyon. With time and perseverance, the canyon became one of the major routes to the West for automobile travel, communication lines, railroad routes, and main natural gas pipelines. Weber Canyon virtually became a Gateway to the West.

Geologic History of Morgan County

What constitutes Morgan County today is a product of millions of years of geologic processes. The county's terrain has not only been shaped by the ever-visible changes associated with moving water, wind, and flowing ice, but it has also been molded by the continuous internal tug-of-war from tectonic forces in Earth's interior. The earliest pages of geologic history are recorded in rocks of the Farmington Canyon Complex. These rocks consist of ancient (1.5 to 2.5 billion years old) igneous and metamorphic rocks found on the western side of Morgan County originating in the roots of ancient mountains that may have formed from continental collisions.

The county is different today than it was in its geologic past. Mountains and valleys that give Morgan its beauty are relative new-

comers to the scene. For hundreds of millions of years, the Morgan area was low-lying and very near or below sea level. Changes in elevation and environment are recorded in sedimentary layers overlying the Farmington Canyon Complex.

The Cambrian period's tintic quartzite represents sediments deposited along an ancient shoreline about 6000 million years ago. Tintic quartzite crops out on Strawberry Peak above Mountain Green and can be seen as a tan-colored layer dipping to the east. The sandy shore line from which tintic was deposited gradually migrated eastward across the continent. In so doing, new layers of sediment were deposited in the Morgan area. Ophir shale and Maxfield limestone were both deposited as the ocean flooded northern Utah.

Morgan County's geologic record has a missing interval for rocks of Ordovician and Silurian ages (about 500 to 400 million years before present). Sediments during this time were apparently not deposited due to an ancient geographic high or were removed by erosion. Devonian age rocks (400 to 350 million years ago) reveal that ocean flooded the area once again. Hyrum dolomite and Beirdneau sandstone can both be seen in the mountains to the northeast of Morgan City. Beirdneau appears as a tan-colored ribbon of twisted and folded rock cutting across the mountain side.

Mississippian aged (345 -325 million years ago) rocks of marine origin are well-exposed around the city of Morgan, appearing primarily as gray-colored limestone with some interbedded layers of shale, prosphatic limestone, and dolomite. The lodgepole limestone is very fossiliferous, containing various species of fossil corals, brachiopods, crinoids, and bryozoa to name a few. The old lime quarries and kilns seen near the east Morgan exit of Interstate 84 are located in the lodgepole, Mississippian strata (lodgepole limestone, Deseret limestone, humbug formation, and doughnut formation) and are well-exposed in road cuts adjacent to Interstate 84 just east of Morgan. These layers have been intensely folded, thus showing a steep inclination.

Rocks exposed on the north side of Round Valley are primarily Pennsylvanian-aged marine limestones and sandstones (Round Valley limestone, Morgan sandstone, and Weber quartzite). Morgan sandstone appears as nearly vertical red-colored layers north of

Interstate 84 and west of the Stan Rees home. There, Morgan sandstone is abruptly terminated by an erosional surface, covered with red-colored Tertiary-aged (60–55 million years ago) Wasatch formation. Tan-colored cliffs in the upper end of Round Valley consist of marine Weber Quartzite. Resistant layers of this rock unit make up cliffs in the Taggarts area of Weber Canyon.

Lying stratigraphically above the Weber Quartzite is the Park City Formation (Permian age). Small cliff ledges and slopes are characteristic of the outcrops of this phosphate-bearing unit. The Park City Formation can be most easily seen along Interstate 84 about half a mile upstream from Taggarts. Here the layers are vertical and in some places overturned by folding.

The river valley widens somewhat between Taggarts and Devil's Slide due to the less-resistant Dinwoody formation and Woodside Shale (both are Triassic age—225 to 190 million years old). Sediments of the Dinwoody formation were deposited in a shallow ocean. Woodside shale is a red-colored deposit of siltstone, shale, and sandstone deposited in a tidal flat environment. This formation indicates a period in geologic history when the sea retreated from Morgan area. Interbedded layers of limestone and shale of the Thaynes formation mark yet another advance of the ocean over present day Morgan County. Regression of the ocean allowed deposition of nonmarine sandstones, siltstones, and shales (Ankareh formation) as seen in the railroad cut on the north side of Interstate 84 approximately a half mile west of Devil's Slide.

The Jurassic Period (about 190 million years ago) is represented by Nugget sandstone (orange-colored cliff-formed and Twin Creek limestone). Nugget sandstone was deposited in sand dunes of an ancient desert that blanketed a major portion of Utah. The ocean later covered this desert as recorded in rocks of the Twin Creek limestone. Both formations are exposed in the canyon near Devil's Slide. Twin Creek limestone constitutes the formation from which rock is quarried for processing in the Ideal Cement Company plant. Devil's Slide formed in Twin Creek, where originally horizontal beds folded to a nearly vertical position, a weak layer eroding from between two resistant layers. Twin Creek formation is covered by reddish-colored

conglomerate of Wasatch formation believed to have originated from erosion of the rising Rocky Mountains to the west.

The Evanston formation and Norwood tuff, also Tertiary age formations, are exposed in Morgan County. Layers of brown sandstone and shale, as seen near East Canyon Reservoir, typify the Evanston formation. Norwood tuff, a light gray colored volcanic rock unit which can be observed along the margins of Morgan Valley, is well-exposed in Norwood Canyon and found in road cuts along East Canyon Reservoir.

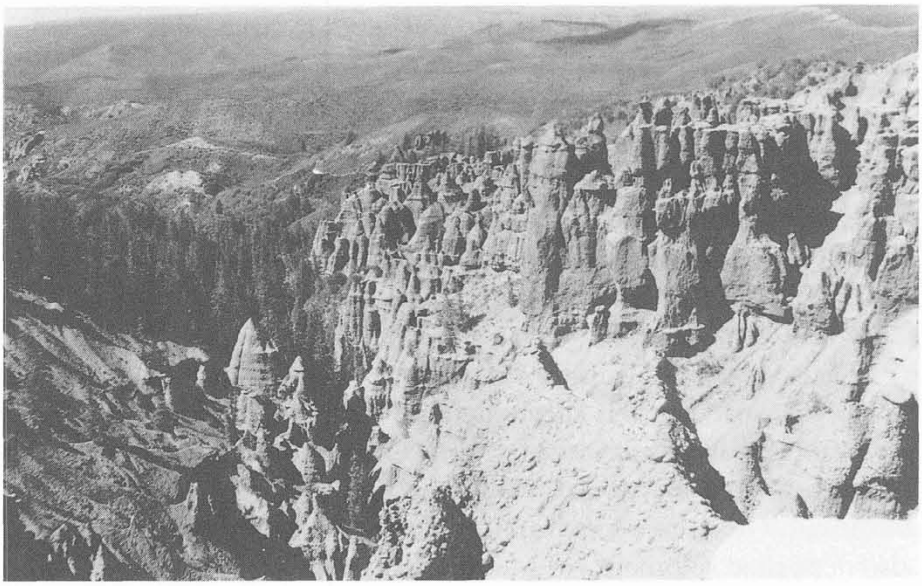
Quaternary (2.5 million years to present) deposits in Morgan County consist, in part, of loose glacial sediments scoured by alpine glaciers from the mountains around Francis Peak. Lake Bonneville sands and gravel extend from the benches and terraces near Mountain Green to a location just east of Morgan. Weber River has also deposited sediments in Morgan Valley.

Tectonic forces have had a dramatic effect on the geography of Morgan County. As stated earlier, Morgan County was probably very low-lying and near sea level for many million years. Tectonic forces caused uplift and mountain building in the area beginning in the late Cretaceous period (about 100 million years ago). Folded sedimentary layers, seen throughout the county, resulted from Earth's compressional forces (pushing together) and extensional forces (pulling apart). The many faults that crisscross the county aided in mountain building and resulted directly from compression and extension of the crust. External forces, action of weathering, erosion, and deposition, helped sculpt massive blocks of uplifted rock into the valleys and surface features we recognize today as Morgan County.

China Town

Morgan County has several unique geological features. Two of these are China Town and Devil's Slide. Located about fifteen miles up Lost Creek and at the top of Toone Canyon is a curiously eroded and picturesque rock formation, covering approximately eighteen acres, known as China Town. Many of the curious formations resemble Chinese pagodas and temples; thus the area was given the name China Town.

The predominate color of the conglomerate rock formations is



China Town natural rock formation at head of Toone Canyon, Lost Creek area.

deep red-orange with highlights of lighter colors. Large pillars tower in a natural amphitheater setting with walls raising to heights between 300 feet to 1200 feet around the pinnacles. Geologists estimate the formations at this 7000 foot elevation of the county formed during the receding of the Jurassic Sea, about 100 million years ago.

One of Morgan County's hidden treasurers, China Town is situated in the tops of the mountains, surrounded by grazing land, wild flowers, and quaking aspens. The spectacular minature Bryce Canyon, as some viewers have labeled it, is located on private property and has therefore had limited visitors.

Devil's Slide

Approximately eight miles east of Morgan on Interstate 84 rests a unique geological formation named Devil's Slide. The slide or chute, as it appears, consists of two, huge, forty-foot slabs of limestone rocks extending parallel to each other up the mountain side.

According to Weber State University geologist, Adolph Yonkee, 170 million years ago the area was covered by a shallow sea. Layers of rock, some hard and some soft, formed on the floor of the sea. The

Sevier Mountain Belt Range, which stretched to Nevada, began forming 100 million years ago. This range would have towered above our Wasatch Mountains. During the up-thrusting of the Sevier Mountains, the shallow sea bed layers were buried beneath several miles of earth and flipped on their sides. Devil's Slide formation presents a side view of a layer of the former sea bed, with the softer rocks eroded away.

Native Americans traveling in the area viewed this unusual feature of nature first, followed by trappers, mountain men, and traders. During the 1840s, Devil's Slide would have been viewed by James Clyman, Lansford Hastings, James Hudspeth, Heinrich Leinhard, and members of the Harlan-Young Company. James F. Reed and two other members of the ill-fated Donner-Reed group scouted down the Weber Canyon before taking the route over Big Mountain. In 1847 Orson Pratt and John Brown, members of the advance group of the Mormon Vanguard Company, evaluated the canyon as far down as Taggarts exit before they also decided to find the trail left by the Donner-Reed group which went up Main Canyon out of Henefer, going over Big Mountain. Devil's Slide would have been a fascinating feature not to be forgotten by its early viewers, but to be discussed with other members of their groups.

Devil's Slide became well known after the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869. Hundreds of travelers passed under its up-stretched walls. Tourist guides published during that era and in later years detailed the location and included a description of Devil's Slide. Travelers on U.S. 30 also had a splendid view of the unusual rock formation. Currently, viewing areas on both the east and west bound lanes of I-84 make observing this striking formation convenient for motorists. Other Rock formations in Weber Canyon include Devil's Eye, Devil's Looking Glass, Devil's Chair, and Devil's Gate.

Topography

The geological classification of lands of the state of Utah is divided into three regions: the west desert, the southeastern region (part of the Colorado Plateau), and the northeast or Rocky Mountain region. Morgan County's location in the center of the

Rocky Mountain Region along with its abundance of natural resources have benefited its residents. Weber Canyon became one of the main routes to the West for automobile travel, communication lines, railroad routes, and main natural gas pipelines. Special transmittal lines were not required to bring local residents some services. Distribution lines could be connected to the main lines; consequently, Morgan received natural gas long before many other counties within the state.

Land

Morgan contains approximately 610 square miles or 390,408 acres. The type of top soil varies according to location. The soil is high quality, containing comparatively low salt and alkalinity content. Different types of foliage exist in the county depending on the elevation. Grasses dominate the valley floor, brush prevails on the foothills, small trees appear above the brush, and large pines continue up to the timber line.

Water

Similar to most areas of Utah, the greatest precipitation in Morgan County occurs between October and May. Most of the precipitation is received in the form of snow during the winter months. Snow in the high mountains naturally refrigerates until spring. This moisture maintains the underground water table, and much of the runoff is collected in reservoirs for use as irrigation water. Thunderstorms constitute the principal form of precipitation during summer months. The heaviest thunderstorm recorded in the Great Basin occurred in Morgan County on 16 August 1958, when a reported 6.75 inches of rain fell in one hour at Como Springs.[2] The east Morgan City railroad underpass filled to a depth of about four feet of water, trapping an automobile. The picnic area and the parking lot at Como Springs flooded with mud and water, but only slight damages were reported. Many homes in North Morgan flooded, and yards were covered with mud and rocks. Wilkinson's gravel pit near the Jake Pentz home was transformed into a lake by the flood. An article in the local newspaper described the flash flood and its effects:

> COUNTY DIGS OUT SLOWLY AFTER FLASH FLOOD
>
> Flash floods streaked down canyons from North Morgan to Round Valley about 4 P.M. Saturday causing several thousand dollars damage to property and closing Highway 30-S for several hours with mud, rock, and water.
>
> Hardest hit was the Joseph E. T. Rees place in Round Valley, where a cattle shed was severely damaged . . . 60 acres of hay was completely ruined and 10 acres of pasture covered with mud and rocks.
>
> Eighteen pure bred bulls and 12 steers in corrals and sheds . . . narrowly escaped death. The bulls were washed end over end from a shed against a corral fence where only quick action by Mr. Rees in cutting them free of the corral saved several of them from drowning.
>
> Paul Rees was pinned against the corral fence by the force of the water and had to be rescued by his father.[3]

Documented history of floods in Morgan County date back to 1861–62 when the few residents located on the Island were forced to move their dwellings to Monday Town Hollow to escape the raging waters of East Canyon Creek.

Morgan has fifteen major streams that flow into the Weber River. This creates a potential for flooding in many areas of the county including along the Weber River. Information provided by the U.S. Geological Survey which commenced measuring the water flow of the Weber River in the 1890's record the highest flows occurred in 1890, 1896, 1907, 1917, 1922, 1952, 1962, and 1983.

In 1917 water covered much of the valley floor. One resident concluded the damage was minimal due to the fact that much of the land along the river and creeks was lined with an abundance of cottonwood trees and willows which helped stop the overflowing of the water. County records indicate a last minute community effort saved the upper bridge (east) in South Morgan. Farm land in Richville and on the Island was inundated. Many basements were flooded but there was no major damage.

The flood waters most remembered were in 1952 and 1983. The conditions in the county prompted the Deseret News 7 May 1952 issue to carry the headline "Entire City Joins Morgan Flood Fight."

Sub headings included; "Even Children Help As Menace Increases," and "Morgan Fights Flood Disaster."

Around-the-clock vigils were kept at all the bridges throughout the county. Debris had to be removed as it accumulated. Crews from the Ideal Cement Company worked steadily dredging the Weber River channel deeper to keep the raging torrent from claiming the railroad trestle and road bridge near the plant and town of Devil's Slide. The walking bridge at Devil's Slide Town was washed out along with several automobile bridges in East Canyon causing considerable inconvenience in those areas.

Schools were closed because of the uncertainty of bridges in the area and to help with the sand bagging efforts. The steel bridge crossing the river between the communities of Stoddard and Milton was a casualty when the abutments were washed out by the rushing, tumbling, and rampaging waters of the Weber. Water flowed over the bridges between North and South Morgan but the structures held.

The rich farmlands of the county were under water and many residents were displaced from their homes. Just below Peterson the river appeared to be about a mile wide and filled with debris. From Strawberry railroad section station to Gateway the railroad built rock dikes along both sides of the tracks to protect its rails. From Gateway west, the river covered much of the road. Many residents remember wading down the water-covered asphalt to view the torrent as it passed through Devil's Gate.

Another quote from the Deseret News dated 7 May 1952 states, "At Devil's Gate where the river roars through a narrow defile in the rocks, the road is completely gone. Just above the defile the main stream is running down the highway." US Highway 30, the main east-west route was closed. Many resident who worked at Hill Field and in Ogden walked around Devil's Gate and were transported to their places of work by waiting vehicles.

The Morgan County News 9 May 1952 issue stated "Flood Emergency Declared in Morgan County." Record pack of snow and a quick melt raises river at Gateway to 8000 second feet, highest on record. By the next issue, 16 May, things seemed to be getting back to normal. Stream flows were still high but cooler weather had arrived reducing the threat of further flooding. Army Engineers were

instructed to finish their flood control work in the county. Travel through Devil's Gate caused the most inconvenience and problems. An entire new road had to be built through this most difficult narrow stretch of the canyon.

Following 1952 dams were built or their storage capacity increased which would help during spring runoff periods. Those located above Morgan County are Lost Creek, East Canyon, Wanship, Echo and Smith and Morehouse. Cumulatively they provide a substantial up-stream storage capacity.

The 27 May 1983 Morgan News head-lines read, "High Waters Plagues Valley as Temperatures Rise." A week later June 3, we read "Flooding Strikes Morgan Area." Two weeks of flooding ripped through the county causing extensive damage. County employees along with city employees and thousands of volunteers worked around the clock battling the elements. 24,000 sand bags were used along with heavy equipment being involved to try to contain the flooding and inevitable damage. All organizations in the county pitched in and did their part. The Utah National Guard also supplied men and equipment.

The 10 June issue opened with "No Matter Which Way You Turn Their Is Water." Farmers were hard pressed to remember a year like this one. Nearly 50 homes and 4000 acres of crop land was damaged. Losses ran high throughout the county. By 24 June, Morgan County was declared a disaster area by the Governor and thus qualified for flood disaster relief funds.

Estimates of the flood damage set by the local flood committee was between one-half and three-quarters of a million dollars. Later in the year a 2 mill tax levy was made by the county commissioners to help pay their share of the flood costs. The federal government and state also shared in the expense.

If there is any satisfaction or lesson to be learned from the floods that have occurred in Morgan is that the citizens of our county will respond in time of need. That the spirit of unity and cooperation to face the challenge of mutual interest is still alive.

The watershed or all of the water collected from above and below the ground in Morgan County either flows directly into the Weber River or into East Canyon, Lost Creek, or Cottonwood Creek. Water

in these creeks empties into the Weber River at Devil's Slide, Morgan City, and Peterson, then drains into Davis and Weber Counties at their boundary line or at Devil's Gate. All water diverted for use in Morgan County is done so in accordance with state water rights established by the Third District Court.

Climate

Perhaps the least recognized and most important factor about Morgan's topography is the location of the county in the temporal zone of the earth which creates a climate neither extremely cold nor hot. As a result, residents enjoy having four distinct seasons of the year. Valleys shaded by mountains have a prolonged dawn and dusk period. Former state climatologist E. Arlo Richardson noted how the " . . . mountains to the northeast, east, southeast, and southwest rise to 8000 to 10,000 feet above sea level. The higher terrain has a marked influence on the climate, producing a sheltering effect from storms approaching from every direction."[4] Virtually all of the county's boundaries are located along the mountain ridges.

Small tornados can occur and in 1952, *Morgan County News* reported the following:

> Wind Damage at Peterson Friday, Estimated at $50,000
>
> . . . when winds estimated at 90 mile velocity struck at several points in the county.
>
> "Twister"
>
> High flood waters was blamed for loosening the soil, thus aiding high winds in this mass destruction. Observers noted that the gale was a "twister" type as it traveled east up the river, topping trees and foliage.
>
> Elsewhere in the county sheds and barns were destroyed, with utility poles also on the causality list. Miraculously, no injuries were reported, in view of the widespread damage.[5]

Maximum temperature during July and August generally ranges in the eighties or low nineties. Because of Utah's relatively dry air, the heat is not as oppressive as in more humid climates. Even after the hottest days, " . . . the nights are usually cool due to strong radiational cooling and the drainage of cool air into the valley from the sur-

Photo taken from South Morgan Cemetery looking west at the flooding East Canyon Creek. circa 1906. (O. R. Stuart)

rounding mountains."[6] Old-timers claimed that these cool night temperatures gave local fruits and vegetables their good flavor and produced pleasant fragrances from the flowers.

History of Morgan Weather Station

Morgan County established an official weather station on 1 January 1903. Thomas R. G. Welch initiated the first observatory approximately five blocks south of the present post office at 188 N. State Street in Morgan City. Dr. W. Visick succeeded Welch as weather observer in June 1908. He served in that capacity until March 1911.

The location of the observatory remained on State Street until 1930, with E. O. Kingston serving as observer from 1912 through 1915, and Dasil A. Smith recording observations through 1917. Dr. Visick returned to the position in 1917 and remained as observer through 1930.

The observatory moved to the offices of the Morgan Canning Company in September 1930 and remained at that location through July 1958. During this time, various individuals acted as weather observers. When the canning company closed its operations, the weather observatory relocated to Morgan City and County Building grounds with E. Grant Parrish acting as official observer. In 1961 Bert S. Dickson assumed charge of collecting data. Weather data has been collected since 1961 by several individuals at several different locations. Others who have collected data include Mrs. Bert Dickson, Robert F. Brimley, and Roger Heiner.[7]

Native Americans In The Area

Native Americans lived in the area covered by the state of Utah for thousands of years, constituting the first people to know this country and live off its bounty. Indians knew how to survive in the deserts and mountains of Utah. Nature was their friend; they lived with it and were one with it. Seldom if ever did they change the natural environment. White men took care of that. Indians were remarkable people; however, they left no written records; consequently what historical knowledge we have of them has been gleaned from information passed verbally from generation to generation and from anthropologist studies.

Indians who lived throughout the Great Basin were Gatherers or Desert Gathers,[8] living mostly west of the Rocky Mountains in much of Colorado and the Great Basin. Their culture, dating back to about 9000 B.C., lived off the land, using what nature provided, never planting, but knowing where to harvest nature's bounties at the proper time of the year, be it animal or plant life.

About 500 A.D. this group of Indians took on some of the Anasazi Indian ways of life, including building dwellings and planting gardens. Those who did so were known as the Fremont Culture. About 1100 A.D., Shoshonean or Numic peoples, the Northern and

Western Shoshoni (including the Gosiute), the Northern Ute and Southern Paiute began to enter Utah. By 1200 A.D., most Indians in Utah were living in small villages; however, their way of life varied with different groups throughout Utah region. By 1300 A.D., the Indians had given up permanent dwellings, gardening, etc. and had returned to the nomadic life style.

By 1850 artifacts of the Paiute were found as far east as western Colorado. Eventually Paiutes occupied much of Utah. Utes and Northern and Southern Shoshoni mainly inhabited the area of Morgan County. The skilled Paiutes also engaged in horticulture and trading although they embraced primarily a nomadic hunter-gatherer lifestyle.[9]

When the Mormons arrived, approximately 20,000 Native Americans lived in Utah. Permanent settlements disrupted Native Americans' life style. Ute, Shoshoni and Paiute tribes followed a yearly pattern moving to gather food and materials for clothing, traveling from the desert and valleys to the mountain ranges. When the Mormons arrived, Shoshoni, Ute, Paiute, and Gosiute Indians occupied Northern Utah. The Gosiute taught John Taylor and other Mormons to harvest Sego Lilies and other roots and sunflower seeds.[10]

Primarily people of the Utes and Shoshoni frequented Morgan Valley when the first settlers arrived. Chief Wanship of the Utah Valley Utes, Chief Washakie a Shoshoni, and Little Soldier, a leader of the Weber Utes, inhabited the valley. They continued to pass through and camp in the area.

When Brigham Young came to the Salt Lake Valley in 1847, Utah was not part of the United States. Not until the Mexican Cession of 2 February 1848 did it become so. Under provisions of the Compromise of 1850, Congress granted Utah territorial status, and President Millard Fillmore named Brigham Young Governor.

> Even though Mormons did not recognize the Native American title to the land, as a practical matter the leaders urged the federal government to buy from the Indians the region where they had settled. In Utah, as in many other territories, the federal government failed to do so. In practice, the Mormons simply moved onto Numic lands, undermining the Indian economy by depleting

> streams and lakes of fish and by converting community hunting, gathering, and farmlands into family farms and herd ground. The Numic people responded by taking livestock, food, and clothing, and the settlers retaliated by punishing and killing the Native Americans."[11]

Before the treaty, Mexico granted Ben Simon use of the land for grazing cattle in what would become Morgan County. Simon was said to be part French and part Cherokee Indian. His wife was Indian, but of which tribe, no one is certain. Simon, himself somewhat nomadic while in the valley, was a good friend of Native Americans who were often in the area. Simon resided in North Round Valley for a period of time, then established a home in Stoddard at a location named Simon Spring, afterwhich he was known to live in Mountain Green. Before leaving the area in 1860, he sold his land holdings.

Fortunately for the settlers of Morgan, Indians weren't permanent residents. Rather, Morgan was a site where Indians would often camp to rest, hunt, and fish on their journey to another area. However, the Indians considered Weber Valley (Morgan County) their land. The first area settlers purchased much of the land from the Indians. The only known deaths caused by Indians in Morgan County occurred in Peterson:

> Two men who were threshing grain for Bishop Peterson were killed by Indians; they [the bodies] were buried by John Robinson and other white men who, having no tools with which to make a grave, piled rocks around the dead bodies and thus protected them from being devoured by wolves.[12]

What incident happened to bring about this tragedy is not known. Fortunately no other deaths were caused by Indians in the area. Indians and settlers were, for the most part, able to peacefully co-exist without major incidents. Hostilities that existed in other areas of Utah didn't seem to be a major problem in Morgan. Perhaps Indians and Mormon settlers felt a kinship to each other.

> . . . the Mormons, too, were refugees whose rights had not been protected by Washington and who were pursued by a federal army (the Utah Expedition) or by federal judges, it was natural to perceive them as fellow sufferers if not blood brothers. Illustrative is

> the story, probably apocryphal, of a Mormon testimony meeting in which an Indian chief arose, drew himself up to his full height, assumed a very dignified manner, and delivered the following short sermon: "Mormon weino [bueno, or good]. Mormon tick-a-boo [friend]. Make-em water-ditch. Plant-em grain. Feed-em Indians. Mormon tick-a-boo. White man, son-of-a-bitch!"[13]

Apparently the council and advice delivered in 1854 to the Territorial Legislature by Brigham Young was observed, "I have uniformly pursued a friendly course of policy towards them [Indians], feeling convinced that . . . it was manifestly more economical and less expensive, to feed and clothe, than to fight them."[14]

When the pioneers first settled in the valley, each settlement started a fort-like structure or build their log homes close to form a fort. This practice was soon discontinued, however, as there was never a need to have protection from the Native Americans in the area. Nevertheless, precautions were always taken to deter any conflict with the Indians. A history of John and Caroline Ager states, "As a fort or safety point from Indians a tall rock fence was built not far from our house."[15] This was located in South Morgan. As late as 1918 residents can remember remnants of the wall located in the middle of Block #21 behind the Eddington home at 133 W. Young Street.

Chief Washakie and his people often traveled through the valley on their way north in the spring and south in the fall. They camped in a meadow near the confluence of Peterson Creek and Weber River. Settlers named the area "Wickiup" because of the numerous Indian tepees erected there when the Indians camped. Once, after seeing the Indians camped in the valley on a return trip from a big Indian fight in the North, Jim Palmer stated, "They really were a sorry looking group as they came back and rested here for a while. In later years kids could find arrow heads around the area."[16] The Indians were also known to camp on the Carrigan dry farm at the south end of Peterson.

Little Soldier, a leader of the Weber Utes, was also a good friend of the settlers. According to Nancy Bohman Zaugg, an early resident of Peterson, Little Soldier asked the LDS Relief Society to prepare the bodies of two small Indian children for burial. The children were then buried in an area near the settlement. The circumstances sur-

rounding this incident are not known, only that for some reason Little Soldier entrusted the bodies of these precious members of his tribe to the settlers.

Some minor problems occurred in the Mountain Green settlement. Problems that existed between the settlers and the Indians usually resulted from misunderstandings, poor communication, or cultural differences. Often the settlers did not completely understand the Indians and their customs, and until this was worked out, a few problems did exist. The Indians were generally an honest people, and there are few accounts of malicious behavior. Occasionally, however, as among the settlers, there were exceptions to the rule. An attempted kidnapping of a small child near the Morgan Opera House was reported. Settlers noticed an Indian carrying something unusually large, moving under his robe. They called to him several times to stop, so he dropped the child he was concealing and ran off.

A history of John and Dorcas Gibby written by Hazel W. Richins tells of the parents leaving two of their girls at home while the rest of the family went to town. The following relates their family's encounter with some mischievous Indians:

> In the afternoon as the girls watched for the return of their family they saw some Indians in the distance, They were on horseback heading their way. The girls hurried and locked the sheep and cattle in the corral as the Indians would often scatter them about. The girls quickly went into the dugout and barred the door. They kneeled and prayed for protection. The Indians were wearing war paint and rode into the yard whooping and yelling. They opened the corral gate and scattered the livestock in all directions. They then headed for the dugout, climbed onto the roof, and began a war dance and chant. The girls were crying and praying at the same time. The girls were frightened that the Indians would break in.
>
> The Indians then noticed the dust of the returning wagon with the family. The Indians jumped on their horses and headed for the wagon with blood curdling yells and their weapons raised.
>
> When John saw the Indians headed towards them he put all his knowledge of a coachman to practice and whipped his horses to full speed for home. They were not only frightened for their own lives, but wondered what had happened to the girls at home.
>
> The Indians whooping and yelling, pulled along side the

> bouncing wagon. It was a race for life. The people clinging to the bouncing seats were fearing not only the Indians, but that the wagon would overturn. The Indians were shouting and whooping on each side. After a few minutes the Indians dropped back hooting and laughing. They had been out for some mischief and excitement. They had not been disappointed with the results.[17]

Indians considered the foliage in the valley their property. Some minor Indian incidents developed between the Indians and the settlers because of this.[18] George Higley a settler in Mountain Green was found guilty of picking service berries by Little Soldier's Indians. Higley was sentenced to be whipped for the offense. No one knows what provoked one of the more serious incidents that occurred; however, at one time Little Soldier and his followers were led to believe the settlers and Brigham Young were trying to cheat them out of their land.

> During one summer, Chief Little Soldier and his band of some thirty Indians attacked the settlers, beating them with whips and trying to trample them under the feet of their horses. An agreement was finally reached when a messenger rushed to Salt Lake City and conferred with President Brigham Young. The Indians were pacified with gifts of food and clothing.
>
> During later years the Chief admitted that the bravery of the settlers had saved their lives. The Indians had planned to massacre the people.[19]

This incident may have been what prompted several early residents of Mountain Green to leave the area and move to South and North Morgan. Those who left included Daniel Williams, Abiah Wadsworth, and the Arave family.

From a biography of William Toone, we learn he made friends with the Indians, particularly Chief Walker, and through his influence, the settlement of Croydon was not molested by the natives.[20] Indians often traveled through Croydon, sometimes forming a procession a half mile long. The women traveled on horseback with papooses on their back and tee-pee poles dragging from the sides of the animals. They would camp on the creek bank among the trees.

One day an Indian died, and they set up a war hoop that lasted for three days and nights.[21]

Indians traded goods for food from the settlers. Folktales suggest that early Croydon residents often hunted with the Indians. Indians would kill the game and take the best cuts of meat for drying, leaving the rest for the settlers. This saved the settlers' ammunition.[22]

Shoshoni and Ute Indians spent time during the summer months in the Richville area. W. H. Dickson, a young man in the early days of the settlement tells an interesting incident which reminded the settlers of their good fortune in being able to form friendships with the Native Americans:

> They had fine horses and could go anywhere over the mountains. At one time I visited the camp of Washakie, the Shoshone chief, and his men when they camped in Norwood Hollow near Porterville. Washakie had been fighting another tribe of Indians, and I saw hanging on the sagebrush, the wet and bloody scalps of the Indians that his men had killed and brought back with them.[23]

John Henry Dickson (Uncle Jack), brother of William H. Dickson, related another incident:

> There was a large camp of Indians not far from where he had set his traps. He went to this Indian Camp and found Chief Washakie. He told the Chief that someone had stolen his traps. Washakie stepped to the front of his tepee, threw his blanket over his head and began to yell. In just a few minutes a young Indian came running with the traps. Washakie gave him such a whipping with his riding whip that Jack said he wished he had never said anything about the traps.[24]

Indians visited local families often, and the young fellows frequently ran races. Joe Waldron always out ran the Indians in a short race, after which they wanted to run a long one.

Clara Gibby Whitear who lived near the sawmill in North Morgan related the following:

> Indians and gypsies used to come and camp by the mill pond. She (Clara) was fascinated watching the Indian mothers bathe their babies in the pond. Her family came to know some of the Indians personally. There was one Indian called Charlie. He was a convert

> to the LDS Church and lived the law of polygamy, having two wives. He was friendly and well mannered. When they camped near the mill he would often come and visit. Her mother, Dorcas Gibby would spread a cloth on the grass and in the shade of the trees and share some of her meager food supply. Charlie would appreciate it and thank her.[25]

The following story of Indian Jack exemplifies miscommunication and honesty between settlers and Indians.

> The Indians in Morgan were always very kind to the Mormon settlers. Peter Rock made good friends with some of the Indians and would often lend to and borrow from them. Peter owned a muzzle-loaded rifle that was five feet long. The gun was named Old Howler as you could hear it around the town when he shot it. One day, his friend Chief Indian Jack, ask to borrow the gun. Peter agreed requesting that it be returned tomorrow. Jack said he would and went off with it. The next day the Indians had left to go to their winter area and Jack didn't return the gun. Peter assumed he would never see his gun again. The next summer when the Indians returned Chief Jack showed up with the rifle and said, "Bring em back gun." Peter said, "I thought you said you would bring it back tomorrow." Jack replied, "Tomorrow, No, Bring em back today."[26]

When in Morgan City, Chief Washakie, whose tribe often camped on the Island or Como Flats, ate at the home of William and Jane Hales Eddington. Charles Turner, a resident of South Morgan was appointed by Brigham Young as Indian Agent for Morgan County. It was Turner's responsibility to oversee the peaceful relationship with the Indians. Descendants of Turner recall stories passed from generation to generation of some of the Indians, when passing through Morgan City, stopping in the Turner yard for a meal. Goods in the tithing shed or storehouse of the LDS Church could be used as gifts for the Indians, and records were kept of the transactions.[27]

Entries in Turner's journals record times when he sent his sons to the storehouse to get goods and food for the Indians. "April 1896, Today waited upon Indians. This morning I was visited by Indians, Sergeant Jim and his son, we gave them breakfast. Was called on twice for food today."

The Nauvoo Legion, made up of all male members over eighteen

years of age who resided in the communities, conducted regular military drills throughout the county. Como Flats was the muster ground for drills in South Morgan. This show of strength and unity posed a great deterrent in the early years of settlement against Indian problems in the area. Settlers of Morgan Valley were extremely fortunate that they were able to exist with the Native Americans with very few problems. In other areas of the territory, settlers were not so fortunate. Natives were displaced from their lands, settlers' livestock was stolen, confrontations arose, and deaths occurred on both sides. The settlers' philosophy of land acquisition created some problems. The Black Hawk war of the mid 1860s climaxed an accumulation of these continuing problems. The war didn't have much effect on residents of Morgan County; in fact, the local malitia was not called up to participate in the conflict. Members were ordered to remain at home and be on guard to protect county residents if necessary. Fortunately no conflict came into the Morgan area.

Native Americans enriched the lives of the settlers. They taught settlers about native plants of the area. In general, peaceful, friendly feelings existed between the two cultures. According to an account told by Mabel Porter Carter, some Ute Indians settled in upper Porterville; however, the government relocated them onto a reservation. Pioneer settlers were greatly distressed with their leaving as they had been good neighbors and friends.

ENDNOTES

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11. Ibid., 101.

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13 Leonard J. Arrington and Davis Bitton, *The Mormon Experience, A History of the Latter-day Saints* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1979), 148,149.

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16. Untitled newspaper article on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

17. Richins, Hazel W., "History of Henry Olpin, John Gibby and Dorcas Gibby," n.d., on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

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19. Ibid., 10, 27.

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21. Helen Thackeray Rees, "The Settlement of Croydon 1922," n.d., on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

22. Loyd Toone, "History of Lost Creek Area 1824–1980," 5, 34.

23. Family History of John Henry (Jack) Dickson, n.d., in possession of Barbara Whittier, Morgan, Utah.

24. Ibid.

25. History of Clara Catherine Gibby, typed, n.d., submitted by Mable Welsh to Morgan County Historical Society.

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27. Arrington and Bitton, *The Mormon Experience,* 148–149.

CHAPTER 2

TRAPPERS, TRADERS, AND EXPLORERS

Weber Canyon posed a formidable barrier for those early western travelers who wanted simply to find the easiest, most direct route through present day Utah and Nevada and onto California or Oregon. In the spring of 1846, Lansford W. Hastings, James M. Hudspeth, and James Clyman discovered the inhospitable barriers to Morgan County:

> The trail was easy down the Weber [River] and around through Croydon Valley, but then began the struggle with the lower canyons of the Weber [River]. It required seven days to force a way through, often in the stream bed. Three times it was necessary to rig windlasses to lift wagons over obstructions. The rope broke once near the windlass and the men had to let go or be dragged to [their] death. During a heart-stopping moment, the oxen struggled for their lives and then the wagon hurled them over the seventy-five foot precipice. The men were silent for several moments before resuming their task. When they finally pulled out of the [mouth of the] canyon onto the open bench land (Uintah) they felt an overwhelming sense of deliverance.[1]

On 24 July 1846, the Bryant-Russell party, nine men on mules, camped in Morgan Valley. They had come by way of Lost Creek through Croydon on July 23rd, where they saw two Indian lodges. These lodges located near the Bryant camp housed eight to ten men, women, and children. Bryant recorded that the Indians were sociable but curious about the manner in which the Bryant party prepared their evening meal of stew from antelope meat highly seasoned with pepper. The Indians tasted the stew and refused to eat it, but the coffee, bread, and sugar intrigued them.

On 24 July, the Bryant party left Croydon and traveled through Henefer to the summit of the hills that intersected with East Canyon Creek. After turning north, they disappointedly encountered another impassable canyon, East Canyon gorge, present site of East Canyon Dam. The group's first choice had been to go down the Weber River below Henefer and Devil's Slide, but after having evaluated the area the day before, they felt the course to be impassable and chose finally to follow the route suggested by Native Americans, a small Indian trail winding over and under the dangerous cliffs of East Canyon. The trail looked impassable when viewed from the bottom of the canyon; however, the group of men and mules were able to follow the dangerous path single file. The trail was so narrow that a single misstep could have sent the men over the precipice to the bottom of the 1000 foot gorge.

The determined Bryant-Russell party continued down East Canyon Creek five miles and, to their pleasure, reached Morgan Valley about four or five in the evening of 24 July 1846, one year before the Mormon pioneers' entrance into the Salt Lake Valley. The Bryant-Russell party camped on the site where East Canyon Creek empties into Weber River. In order to rest their mules, the party remained camped through the 25th, leaving on 26 July through lower Weber Canyon. The men spotted a forest fire on the mountains to the west the morning of the 25th. At times smoke from the fire was driven into the valley, darkening the sun. The fire had burned through the previous night, and, although it was a great distance away, the wind sent burnt leaves through the atmosphere to the travelers.

The following description taken from the journal of Edwin

Devil's Gate, Weber Canyon. (Utah State Historical Society)

Bryant is one of the earliest documentations of Morgan Valley on file and helps readers appreciate this beautiful area:

> We determined to remain encamped to-day, to rest and recruit our mules, the grass and water being good. . . . It is scarcely possible to imagine a landscape blending more variety, beauty, and sublimity, than is here presented. The quiet, secluded valley, with its luxuriant grass waving in the breeze; the gentle streamlet winding through it, skirted with clumps of willows and the wild rose in bloom; the wild currant, laden with ripe fruit; the aspen poplar, with its silvery, tremulous foliage; the low, sloping hills rising at first by gentle ascents, and becoming gradually more and more elevated and rugged, until their barren and snowy summits seem almost to cleave the sky, compose a combination of scenery not often witnessed.[2]

The beauty of the valley and its natural resources had been protected by the perilous canyons of the Weber on both the west and east ends of the county. One of the few surviving narratives of the Harlan-Young wagon party gives an account of the difficulties that group encountered while traversing Morgan's rugged terrain:

> The (Weber) canyon is scarcely wide enough to accommodate the narrow river which traverses it, and there was no room for roads between its waters and the abrupt banks . . . Three times spurs of the mountains had to be crossed by rigging the windlass on top, and lifting the wagons almost bodily. The banks were very steep . . . so that a mountain sheep would have been troubled to keep its feet, much more an ox team drawing a heavily loaded wagon. On the 11th day of August, while hoisting a yoke of oxen and a wagon up Weber mountain, the rope broke near the windlass . . . The faithful beast . . . held their ground for a few seconds, and were then hurled over a precipice at least 75 feet high, and crushed in a tangled mass with the wagon on the rocks at the bottom on the canyon.[3]

The book *Mountains Conquered* states, "No easy conquest here awaited the weary traveler. Jealously guarded, made almost inaccessible by sheer canyon walls—hospitality was extended only to the most daring and rugged invader."

Corridor to the West

Early emigrants to California traveled the Oregon Trail to Fort Bridger, Wyoming, veered northwest to Fort Hall, Idaho, then southwest to the Humbolt River in Nevada, across the Sierra Nevada Mountains and into the Sacramento Valley. In 1846 a young promoter and lawyer named Lansford Hastings traveled from California across the Salt Flats and around the south end of the Great Salt Lake, continuing up over Big Mountain and down to the present site of Henefer. From there he went on to Fort Bridger. Hastings and his group traveled by mule and horseback with no wagons over this new, uncharted route. His goal was to persuade wagon trains of emigrants to travel his newly discovered route, Hastings Cutoff, which was some 200 miles shorter than going by way of Ft. Hall.

It had been Hastings's intent for the Harlan-Young group to travel this new route, bypassing Weber Canyon, but miscommunications sent them down the treacherous canyon of the Weber River. Had they taken the Hastings Cutoff, they would have helped open the trail for the group that followed, the ill-fated Donner-Reed company.

The Donner-Reed Group

The first group to gamble on this new cutoff route was the Donner-Reed wagon train en route to California. At Ft. Bridger their group left the established Oregon Trail for the shorter, more direct, and assumably less time-consuming route to California. From Ft. Bridger, the Donner-Reed party traveled through western Wyoming with no difficulties, entering Utah east of Echo Canyon. Following Echo Canyon, they arrived at Henefer where they took Hastings's advice and turned west, up Main Canyon. The party of emigrants entered Morgan County at Hogsback Summit, proceeded down Dixie Hollow, a very difficult area to traverse, then camped at the mouth of Broad Hollow. Turning north, they advanced up Broad Hollow to the flat above present East Canyon Reservoir. From there they descended to East Canyon Creek where they encountered another very difficult willow area as well as the creek which required several crossings. Upon reaching Little Emigration Canyon, they camped three days while the group of about twenty men cut through timber and moved rocks to make way for their wagons. Completing the thirty-six mile trail from Henefer to Salt Lake required sixteen days. The exhausting and time-consuming delays in Morgan County as well as problems on the Salt Flats contributed to the late arrival of the Donner-Reed group at the Sierras where half of the eighty-seven men, women, and children died in a terrible ordeal of cold, starvation, and cannibalism. This journey, resulting in indescribable hardships and suffering, ranks high among the human tragedies of America.

Mormon Vanguard Company

The next group to traverse the southern extremities of Morgan County or the Hastings Cutoff was the Vanguard Company of Mormon Pioneers in 1847. Thousands of other Mormons soon followed this group

In 1847 the Mormon Pioneer company followed the same route used by the Donner party which started at Fort Bridger and continued on to Salt Lake Valley. At Henefer the Mormons proceeded west up Main Canyon to Hogsback Summit or Heartbreak Ridge, as historians refer to it. This weary group and thousands to follow got their first good look at the majestic, forbidding Wasatch Mountains from

this ridge. Travelers were heartbroken to discover still more mountains to conquer before they reached their destination. From Heartbreak Ridge, the trail entered Morgan County, descending the extremely dangerous Dixie Hollow. The trail wound precariously along the side of a hill and over large cobble rocks that caused the wagons to slide severely. The Mormon pioneers camped at the mouth of Broad Hollow. To continue down Dixie was impossible for the wagons as the hollow was filled with dense brush and willows. The Donner Party had camped at Broad Hollow the year previous, and the site would be used many more times by groups that followed. Dr. LaMar C. Berrett, author of a forth coming work to be published by Bookcraft entitled *Sacred Places and Sacred Events,* has named this campsite the Martin Cove of Utah.[4] In 1856 members of the Hodgett wagon train, who were part of the Martin Handcart company, were stranded at Broad Hollow for three days in snow three feet deep. Their rescuers from Salt Lake had to walk in front of their horses to make a trail for the wagons.

After ascending Broad Hollow, the pioneers turned towards East Canyon Creek, following a route that was used until circa 1858 when the bottom of Dixie Hollow was cleared for travel. The pioneers then camped along the creek at a site now covered by East Canyon Reservoir, just west of the boat ramp. The Donner Group, Orson Pratt and Vanguard Company, and Brigham Young's party all camped at this site. Orson Pratt recorded the following: "We followed the dimly traced wagon tracks (of the Donner Party) up this stream for 8 miles, crossing the same 13 times. The bottoms of this creek are thickly covered with willows, from 5 to 15 rods wide, making an immense labor in cutting a road through for the emigrants last season."[5] Some of these crossings are still visible today.

The Mormons then camped at Large Spring, their last campsite before viewing the Salt Lake Valley. Contrary to previous writings, Mormon Flat was not a campsite; it was completely covered with thick willows. At Large Spring camp, the pioneers prepared for the 4.2 mile ascent up Little Emigration Canyon, the longest sustained climb of the entire trail. George Shepard, an early pioneer, made this journal entry: "We now ascended a mountain four miles on a steady pull sometimes on the side hill, sometimes in the crick, and going 3

or 4 rods on nothing but stones before we got to the top of the mountain." They reached the top of Big Mountain where they left Morgan County and continued on to Salt Lake Valley. The Mormons covered the thirty-six mile section from Henefer to Salt Lake Valley in four days, in contrast to the sixteen days the Donner Party spent.

From the laborious work of the Donners and the first group of Mormons, this section of the trail, Hastings Cutoff, from Henefer to Salt Lake Valley actually became the Corridor to the West for many years. Estimates project that the trail was used by 120,000 travelers until a route was made down Parley's Canyon via Silver Creek Canyon in 1862.

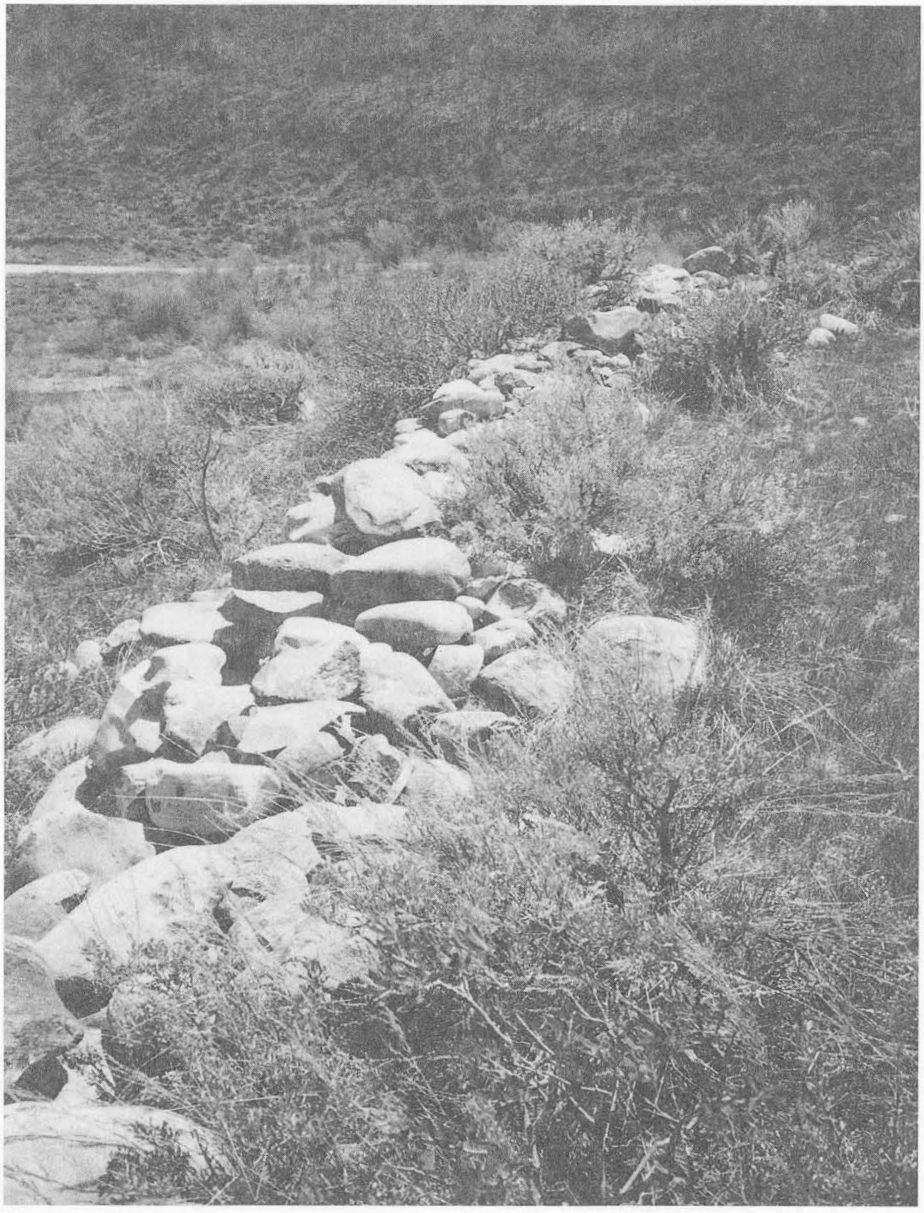
The Pony Express

The Pony Express, established in 1860, also used the pioneer trail through the south portion of Morgan County. During the eighteen months existence of the Pony Express, two stations were located on this section of the trail, Dixie Station and Bauchmann's Station.

Johnston's Army

Another major group to use the trail was Johnston's Army, sent to Utah Territory by U.S. President James Buchanan. Having been greatly misinformed about the Mormons, the President dispatched the army in 1857 to control the "rebellious Mormons." Members of the Mormon Militia took measures to deter the army's coming into the Salt Lake Valley. They built fortifications along the route from Echo Canyon to Mormon Flat, in case of a conflict.

According to LaMar C. Berrett, Johnston's Army camped on the northwest side of East Canyon Reservoir. This site was in full view of one of the rock walls or batteries built by the Militia for cover. From East Canyon Reservoir to Mormon Flat, five sites exist where trenches and/or rock fortifications were constructed. The fortifications or breastworks, as they are also called, situated on the two hills commanding the mouth of Little Emigration Canyon, constituted the last line of Mormon defense before the army reached the Salt Lake valley. The most prominent and visible breastworks can still be seen on the two hillsides near Mormon Flat. Located on public land, these remain accessible to the public. The Mormon Militia, under command of Lt. Gen. Daniel H.



Duke Battery. One of the two rock fortifications at Mormon Flat near the entrance to Little Emigration Canyon.

Wells, built the two fortifications known as Duke Battery and Hyde Battery, named after the officers who directed their construction.

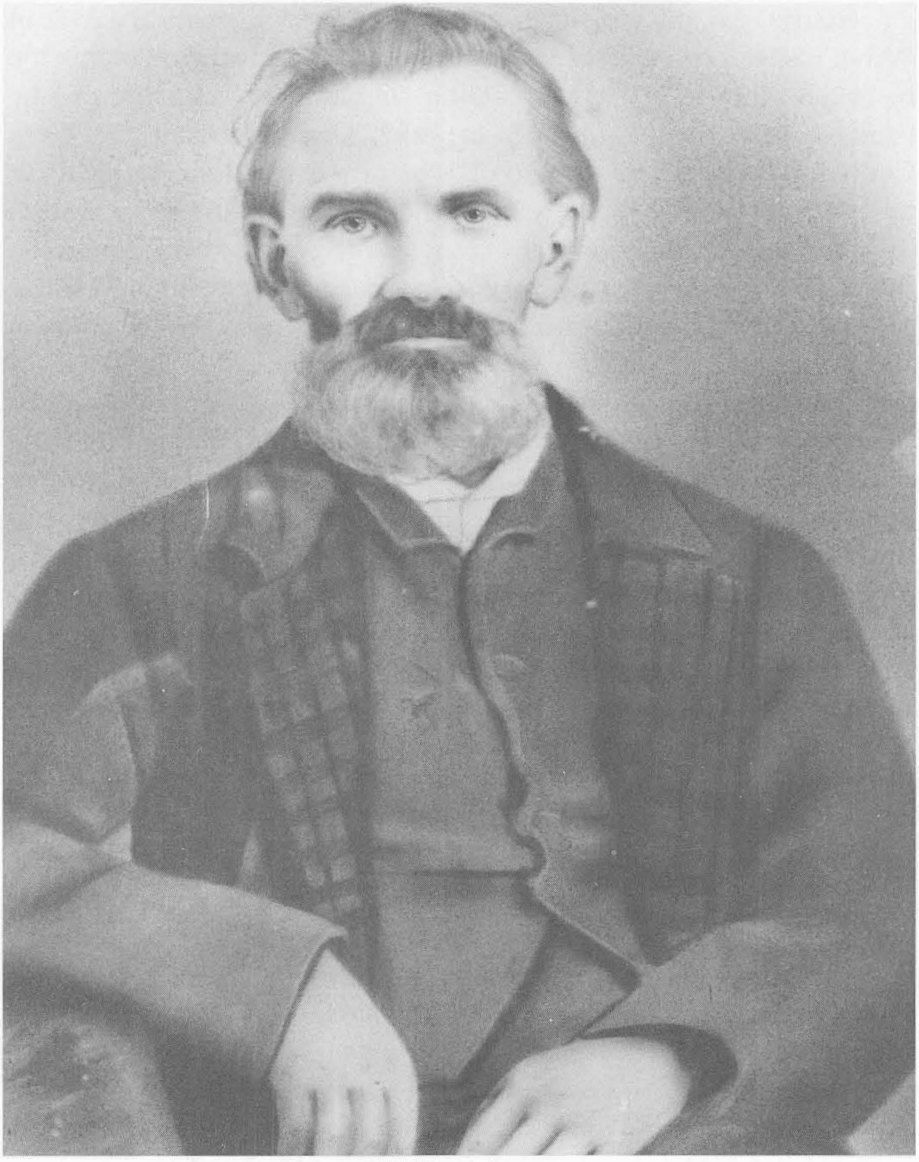
On 25 June 1858, when Johnston's Army passed the structures, Pvt. Charles Scott wrote in his journal, "2 Breastworks of Stone" were dignified with the Title "Fort Wells." Captain Albert Tracy, another member of the army wrote in his journal, "June 25, 1858 - We get off as early as five in the morning, and after a long and toilsome ascent in the course of which we pass additional fortifications of the Mormons, reach at last the bald and rocky crest of Big Mountain."[6]

Weber Canyon Conquered

Not until 1855 would Weber Canyon, which had protected the fertile Morgan valley for so many years, be conquered by stalwart Mormon pioneers seeking a new home. During this year, under the leadership of Thomas Jefferson Thruston, a group of sturdy men breached the barrier by constructing a crude road. Settlement in Morgan County proceeded slowly, but in 1866 some of the more enterprising settlers, hoping to attract new settlers into the region, organized a road company in order to improve the route into the valley. The company charged users a toll for the privilege of traveling the road. The money was to be used for maintenance of the road. Up to this time, many people had been using the road but not helping with its upkeep. A contract with the road company provided that the overland stage and mail route would also begin using the road.

Shortly after the road company implemented the toll road, the Union Pacific Railroad dampened the company's plans. As a more direct route from the Continental Divide to the West Coast, Weber Canyon became the path of choice for the railroad, and the railroad proposed building a better road with fewer river crossings along its own grade.

With the arrival of the railroad came new technologies and equipment which, for the first time, facilitated the conquering of Weber Canyon; moreover, once conquered, Weber Canyon became the most practical route for all subsequent transportation, commercial, and communication enterprises. In 1869 Western Union strung its telegraph lines along the transcontinental railroad route. By 1915 new communication demands and technological advancements



Thomas Jefferson Thurston envisioned the colonization of Morgan Valley and helped carve the road through Weber Canyon.

brought cross-country phone lines up Weber Canyon and through Morgan County. With continual scientific refinement, underground cable replaced these lines in 1956, and in 1985 transcontinental fiber-optic cable was laid along the same route.

Natural gas, oil, and water also flow in pipes beneath the soils of Weber Canyon. Mountain Fuel Supply Company installed a pipeline in 1929, followed in 1939 by a Utah Oil Company line and one by Pioneer Pipe Line Company in 1952. Utah Light and Railway Company constructed a hydro-electric power plant on Weber River in 1910, later absorbed by Utah Power and Light. The system included a diversion dam in the river, a large pipeline buried between the road and railroad tracks to convey water to the plant, and above ground transmission lines running east and west out of the canyon. Weber Basin Water Conservancy District also tapped the Weber River to bring water from a diversion dam in Morgan County and convey it through a three and a half mile long tunnel bored through the mountain. From there, the water flowed into systems of the Weber and Davis Aqueduct. Referring to Weber Canyon as "The Gateway to the West," local historian and Morgan County resident, Joseph H. Francis noted how we seldom realize that buried beneath or running above the lower canyon functions a web of commercial installations vitally important to millions of people.

The old Weber Canyon Road of pioneer days is hardly recognizable today, but the route carved out by Mormon pioneers in 1855 and improved and modified by the Union Pacific Railroad still traverses a similar path. In 1910 the road through Morgan County became a state highway but remained un-surfaced until the 1930s Traffic through the gateway increased, commensurate with considerable improvements that were made to the road which was soon designated as part of the national interstate system. In the 1960s, a new four lane highway was constructed up Weber Canyon and through Morgan Valley. More recently Interstate 84 and Weber Canyon have been connected with Ogden Canyon through the construction of Trappers Loop Road. The road, dedicated in 1989 by Governor Norman Bangerter, opened with the purpose of diverting more traffic into Weber Canyon from Ogden Canyon.

Each additional construction project brings further changes to the landscape. Weber Canyon underwent significant change during construction of the interstate highway. Construction necessitated moving the river into a man-made channel, allowing for two lanes of traffic on either side. Such mammoth undertakings have transformed

Weber Canyon into a corridor more man-made than natural. Industrial development is therefore not without an environmental price-tag. Barriers such as Weber Canyon have historically been viewed as challenges to the ingenuity of man, and with the limited technological means available to early Morgan County settlers, breaching Devil's Gate and the subsequent construction of the old Weber Canyon Road was accomplished only through shear grit or rugged determination, or to paraphrase author Irving Stone, by men to match the mountains.[7]

ENDNOTES

1. Fine Arts Study Group, Comp., *Mountains Conquered: The Story of Morgan With Biographies* (Morgan: Morgan County News 1959), 6.

2. J. Roderic Korns and Dale L. Morgan, eds., *West from Fort Bridger, The Pioneering of Immigrant Trails Across Utah, 1846–1850,* revised and updated by Will Bagley and Harold Schindler (Logan: Utah State University Press, 1994), 74.

3. Gail Martin, *Utah,* American Guide Series, 359.

4. LaMar C. Berrett has done extensive research on the Mormon Trail. His research has contributed much information about the Mormon Trail as it traversed Morgan County and other areas. Dr. Berrett is the author of a forth coming publication by Bookcraft entitled *Sacred Places and Sacred Events* in which all locations on the Mormon trail are addressed in detail.

5. William B. Smart, *Exploring the Pioneer* Trail (Salt Lake City: YMMIA, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1962), 7.

6. *Journal of Captain Albert Tracy,* published as *Utah Historical Quarterly* 13 (1945): 25.

7. This is a paraphrase of Stone's work. See, Irving Stone, *Men to Match My Mountains; The opening of the Far West, 1840–1900,* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1956).

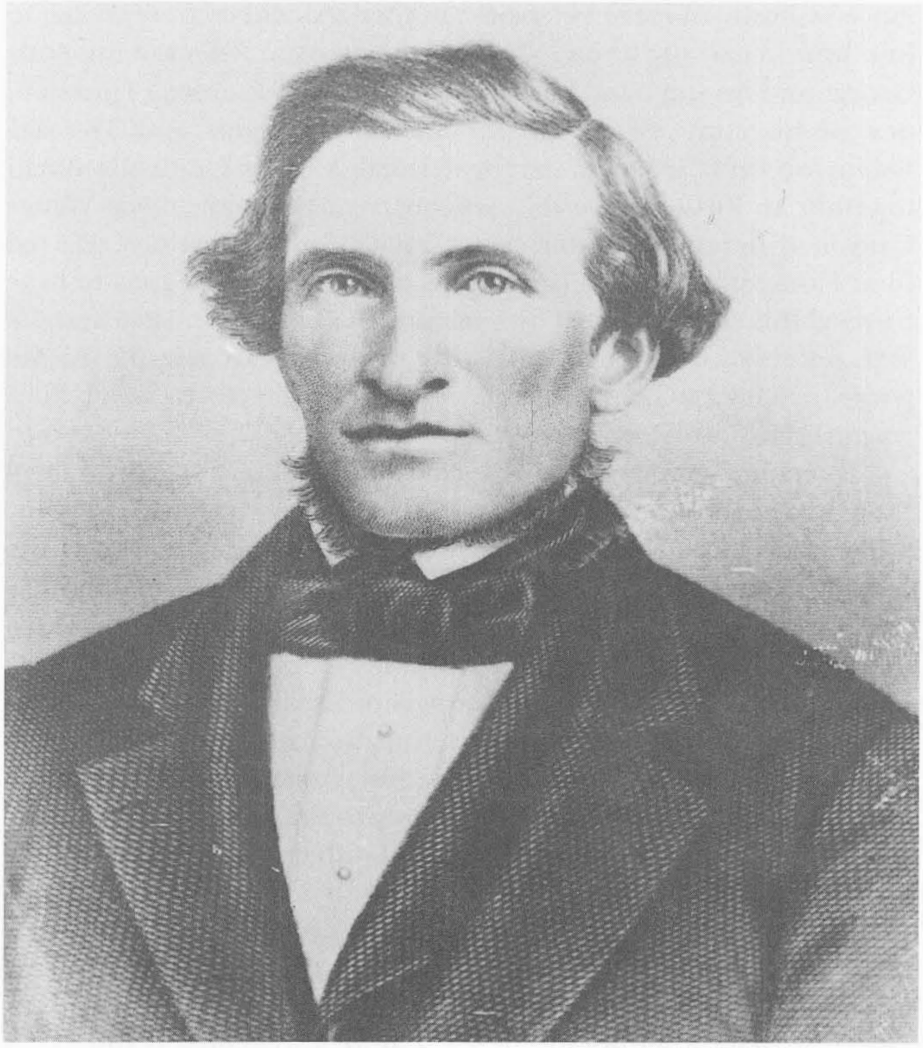
CHAPTER 3

SETTLEMENTS IN THE VALLEY

The colonization history of Weber Valley (later Morgan County) commenced with a man named Thomas Jefferson Thurston, who came to Salt Lake City in 1847 in Jedediah Morgan Grant's company. Like other pioneers, Thurston spent his first year in Salt Lake City. In 1848 he was sent by Brigham Young on the first exploration expedition of Cache Valley. In 1851 he moved his family to Centerville, Davis County.[1]

In 1852 as Thomas Jefferson Thurston and his two sons cut logs in the mountains east of Centerville, they looked down from the summit onto the beautiful Weber Valley. The green lush valley reminded Thurston of his home in Ohio; thus he determined to explore the valley. He convinced two friends, William Porter and J.B. Nobel, to accompany him. The group crossed the mountains and spent three days exploring. "They found the valley well-watered with lots of timber on its streams which were all well-stocked with fish, the country covered with grass, and deer and fowl and game in abundance. . . "[2]

After this short expedition, Thurston decided to make the area his home. The greatest problem involved the inaccessibility of the val-



Jedediah Morgan Grant. Because of his contributions to help settle the valley Morgan County was named in his honor.

ley due to the surrounding mountains and the one narrow canyon through which the Weber River flowed.[3] The canyon contained a thin trail that had been used for years by Ute Indians. The Utes considered Weber Valley to be their territory, but this did not deter Thurston.

Thurston spoke often of the lush valley to his friends. He con-

vinced Charles Shreeve Peterson, another resident of Centerville, to join him in carving a road through the canyon. Peterson, his sons George and Andrew, and his son-in-law, Roswell Stevens,[4] Thurston, one of his sons, two Englishmen, John Cousins and Thomas Bebington, and three men sent by Jedediah Morgan Grant all worked together to build a passable wagon road through lower Weber Canyon, their largest obstacle being Devil's Gate, (sometimes referred to as Horseshoe Bend). Prior to this time, the only wagons to have traveled this route were led by Lansford W. Hastings in 1846 and the T.H. Jefferson Company, consisting of twenty-six wagons. At the gorge, or Devil's Gate, Hastings's group was forced to lower their wagons down the steep rocky chasm with ropes.[5]

Peterson, Thurston, and the group camped in the canyon until they had completed a crude, but passable road for wagons. Sometimes large rocks had to be loosened from the side of the canyon walls and rolled down into the river bed to make a foundation for the road. The men completed the crude road after much manual labor, using the most modern equipment for that era—mainly picks, plows, shovels and crowbars. Devil's Gate gorge section of the road continued to be treacherous to maintain for years, even into the 20th century. Many times the crude road was declared unsafe for travel. Weather conditions frequently took a toll on it.

In 1855 adventurous settlers moved into the green valley, marking the beginning colonization of the county. Due to the hard labor of those few individuals who had courage and foresight, the area was made accessible for settlement. In order to acknowledge Thomas Jefferson Thurston's foresight and perseverance, on 6 September 1993, the highest mountain on the boundary of Morgan and Davis County was named "Thurston Peak." This long overdue recognition for Thurston's contribution to Morgan County's colonization was spearheaded by Morgan County Historical Society. A special ceremony and dedication program was held on the peak, and a granite marker was placed there.

Peterson and his family settled in the northern end of the valley. T. J. Thurston and Grant's hired men traveled further south and settled in the Littleton area. From these first settlers historians have attempted to reconstruct the colonization of Morgan County. As

nearly as can be determined, colonists established fourteen settlements in the valley during a nine year period from 1855 to 1864. Most of these settlements have maintained their identification to the present date. Although colonizing endeavors varied in size from a few individuals to a dozen or more families, settlements were usually acknowledged as permanent with the erection of the first public building. Early settlers in Morgan valley located in the northern part at Peterson, Littleton, Milton and Mountain Green. Soon after, other colonies located further south at Enterprise, Stoddard, South and North Morgan, Richville, East and West Porterville, North and South Round Valley and Croydon. Devil's Slide originated as a pre-planned company town after the 20th century.

Early Pioneers In Morgan Valley

Morgan was unique in its colonization from most other areas around the state in the fact that Thurston and his group who first came to the valley were not sent by Brigham Young as was the practice in most of the other areas of Utah. Customary upon arrival at Salt Lake City, immigrants spent time in and around the area where friends or relatives were already located, deciding where to permanently locate themselves. Many of Morgan's early colonizers first settled in the Bountiful and Farmington areas prior to moving to Morgan.

Many early Morgan settlers were acquainted with each other prior to making the journey West. In some cases, they were friends before crossing the ocean on the same ships to join the Mormons in what they considered to be Zion. Some traveled the pioneer trail together, suffered the same hardships getting to this new land, and decided to settle in Morgan where their friends or relatives had settled. Family histories indicate that after the initial colonization of Morgan Valley, Brigham Young directed many settlers to this choice area to start their new homes.

Peterson

The area now known as Peterson, located in the northwest section of Morgan County, was originally named Weber City. Bounded on the south by Dalton Creek and on the north by Jacobs Creek,

Peterson is separated from Mountain Green and Enterprise by the Weber River. At one period in time, the valley floor of Peterson was a flood plain, allowing for little cropland. High water runoff from streams in spring and early summer, along with a shallow soil depth, produced sand and gravel bars along the valley floor; however, meadow hay and small grains could be grown where the land was cleared. Even at the present date, most crops in Peterson are grown on dry farms. The west side of Peterson runs from 5000 feet elevation to Thurston Peak, the highest mountain in the county at 9706 feet. To the east of Peterson is Durst Mountain at an elevation of 9284 feet.

Precipitation along the tops of the mountains of Morgan County comes primarily in the form of snow during the wintertime. The winter snow cover makes these mountains some of the most beautiful in the world. Several creeks flow from snow melt and provide a good water supply to communities below, usually until late summer. The water is diverted to irrigate cropland along the benches.

After Thomas Jefferson Thurston's group of hardy men entered the fertile Weber Valley in 1855, Thurston and part of the group traveled south to settle at Littleton. Charles S. Peterson and his group settled at Weber City. The first settlers in Peterson tried to raise grain crops in the summer of 1856. They were somewhat unsuccessful due to large swarms of grasshoppers that devoured the crops, thus placing a hardship on the settlers. Unfortunately, over the years the pests would again destroy the crops.[6] Needless to say, the settlers' provisions became depleted. That first winter was very difficult for the pioneers. Some of them went without bread for three months. Many survived by digging wild roots for food. Men supplemented family food supplies by fishing and hunting. During the spring and summer, settlers added dandelion greens and sego lily bulbs to their diets.

The Morgan pioneer woman endured all of the hardships associated with pioneering a new country far away from civilization. Her day was filled with continuous chores and tending to the children. On the day recently-widowed Alice Boyden Whitear gave birth to her fourth child, she did daily chores as usual, including feeding and milking the cows. Alice was known to offer home nursing care to other residents when requested.

On 19 February 1872, the name Weber City was changed to Peterson in honor of the first settler.[7] Dalton Creek, located approximately half way between Peterson and Milton, became the boundary line separating the two settlements.[8] Only a small portion of Peterson lies on the east side of the Weber River. This area is the present site of the Interstate 84 Peterson interchange. Prior to the interstate road system, Fingle Bohman Store, built circa 1869, occupied the spot. A store owned by the Pendletons was built on the bench at a later period. Additionally, three separate school buildings had been located on this site at different periods of time. Below the bench and next to the railroad tracks nestled the train depot, several railroad buildings, and the stock yard. C.S. Peterson settled near the mouth of Peterson Canyon (Creek) in 1855. Peterson Creek trickles through the west side of the valley, approximately mid-way between the north-south boundaries of Peterson.

Charles S. Peterson and Thomas J. Thurston had brought an LDS Church-owned herd of cattle to graze in the lush valley; however, many of the animals died that first harsh winter. The stalwart women gathered the bones of the dead animals and boiled them in a large camp kettle brought across the plains. The women skimmed off the grease and combined it with beechwood ashes to make a soft soap for household use.

On 14 December 1855, the first child, Martha Ann Stevens, daughter of Roswell Stevens, was born in the valley at Peterson. Stevens also claimed the honor of becoming father to the first boy to be born in the county. Born on 23 September 1857, the child was named Charles Russell Stevens. The cabin in which Charles Russell Stevens was born was moved to Morgan City in 1931 and has since been preserved by the Morgan Daughters of Utah Pioneers. Presently located at forty-eight South State Street, the cabin, one of the first in the valley, was built by George Henry Peterson.[9] The first cabin built by Charles Peterson was located at the site of Albert Whitear's home (1930). Today's address would be near 4015 West 4100 North Peterson, Utah.

In the spring of 1861, six men took up squatter's rights and settled in Peterson. They were Charles Boyden, James Carrigan, John Croft, Henry Benjamin Hubbard, Joshua Williams, and James Bond.

In 1862 their families joined them to live in the settlement. The Homestead Act of 1862 required only a registration fee, but a settler was required to live on and cultivate the land for five years before he could receive title to the property.

John Boydon and Henry Hales were also early settlers. Hales lived for a period of time in a tent on the east side of the Weber River. At the close of 1862, eleven families lived in Peterson. Unfortunately, their crops didn't mature due to early frost; thus provisions were scarce. Nevertheless these early settlers were soon joined in 1863 by Lars Anderson, Peter Anderson, Peter Nielson (the first shoemaker in the county), and Alfred Bohman.[10] Other early residents were George Edward and Laura Carrigan.[11]

At this time, Jesse Fox surveyed and divided the bench land into quarter acre lots. The townsite of Peterson was mapped out with wide streets, following the pattern of the old LDS Church plats of Zion. Most of the early homes were built on this bench, south of Peterson Creek and above the flood plain. Everyone shared the available water in Peterson. Joshua Williams, Roswell Stevens, and J.H. Robinson owned sawmills in the Peterson area. These mills provided building materials.[12]

Most of the early settlers in Peterson espoused the LDS faith. Many had emigrated from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, England, and Ireland. Some of the settlers came from the states of Maine and Ohio. Others had settled in Salt Lake City, Centerville, or Farmington before moving to Weber Valley.

Irrigation was a major concern of the settlers. Settlers diverted the first water for irrigation in Peterson from Peterson Creek. The Whitear-Farley ditch, constructed in 1860, irrigated land to the north and west of Peterson Creek.[13] Other ditches included Settlement Ditch, Anderson- Bohman Ditch and Lower River Ditch, all built in 1861.[14] The Whittier-Cobabe Ditch was built in 1902, but the construction date of the Sand Bar Slough ditch is unknown. Beavers dammed the ditches several times a year. According to a favorite folktale, someone suggested putting up a scare crow to keep the beavers away, but the determined critters cut the scare crow down and used it in their dam. Eventually five small reservoirs were built to help supplement the ditch water when run off got very low: Bohman's reser-

Peterson band in front of the Peterson Union Pacific Railroad station. circa 1896.

voir (1900), Joe Whittier and Ivan Carrigan reservoir, Albert Whitear reservoir, and Herbert Whittier's two holding-water ponds.

Settlers, concerned about education for their children, erected a public school in 1861. Constructed of logs and located at approximately 3940 North 4000 West, Peterson, the school was built through the combined efforts of the settlers and served as their school, church, and public meeting place. In this small cabin in February 1862, Morgan County government was setup under an act of the Territory Legislature. Weber City was designated county seat on 2 June 1862, and Charles S. Peterson was appointed first Probate Judge for the county. Weber City retained the designation of county seat until 1866 when Littleton became the county seat and a new probate judge was assigned.

In 1862 the Weber River and valley streams left their banks and flooded throughout the county. The settlement of Peterson was not spared. When all of their provisions were consumed, some residents traveled over the mountain south of Devil's Gate and brought supplies back, thus keeping the pioneers from starvation.[15]

Because a blacksmith shop was a community necessity, Charles Peterson and his sons opened the first one in Weber valley. A tannery was built by Phillip Pugsley of Salt Lake City. In an article in the *Deseret News* dated 27 September 1865, Andrew Jenson wrote in regard to Peterson, "The general health is good and everybody is busy with harvest or making preparations for winter, digging wells, putting up habitations, hauling hay and grain etc."

According to a 11 September 1867 article in the Deseret News Jesse C. Little reported that the Weber Canyon road was in good traveling order and that stage line coaches would begin traveling on it the next day. Stage coaches continued to use this route until the railroad was constructed. During 1867 Charles S. Peterson and others took contracts to build two mail stations in Weber Canyon. They were also to provide 120 tons of hay to feed stage coach teams. Wells Fargo Company soon ran its line up the canyon from Great Salt Lake City, intercepting the old line at Echo Canon [canyon].

Peterson grew in population, and by 1871–72 the town needed a new school building. A frame school, twenty-four feet by forty feet, was built on the bench above the log school location (3890 North 4000 West Peterson). Peterson has had a total of five different schoolhouses. Records of Peterson schools indicate that the youth of yesteryear were as mischievous as their counterparts of today: a young man demonstrated his Irish temper by throwing his male teacher out the window. Another time this same young man threw a book at his teacher, hitting him in the eye. Because the book hit the teacher's only good eye, school was dismissed until the eye healed.[16] Peterson seemed to be the central location for the northern part of Morgan County. Students from both Mountain Green and Enterprise often attended school at Peterson.

The school doubled as a church where sacrament meetings were held. For the service a water picture and two heavy glasses filled with water were used. Each member took a sip of water from one of the glasses. Clara Whitear hated to drink from the large sacrament cup after so many other people had used it, especially men with mustaches. Since there was no budget to buy sacrament trays and cups, Clara staged plays and programs to earn money to purchase them. The new cups etc. were made of silver. Clara took the silver pieces

Peterson baseball team.

home each week to boil and polish them, so they were sanitary for the next use.

The school provided an excellent place to hold socials. Young and old participated in dances held in the building. The pioneers were humble people who enjoyed themselves even when their clothing was faded and their toes stuck out of their shoes. For decades the confluence of Peterson Creek with the Weber River provided the youth with a favorite diversion outside the school building. Young people spent many hours on hot days at this pleasant swimming hole. South of the school and higher on the bench of the foothills is the Flat, an area that provided plenty of space for baseball games and other activities. The Flat area is now used as a dry farm.

Following the council of Brigham Young who wished the stars and stripes to fly over every city and town on the 4th of July to demonstrate Mormons' patriotism, the Relief Society of Peterson made a flag in 1873. The wool fabric came from the Brigham Young Woolen Mills at Sugar House. Stars were made from bleached muslin. Emma Croft, Margaret Green, and others walked from

Enterprise to Peterson to sew on this handmade flag, first displayed on the Peak in Peterson. Armistice Day 1918 was the last time the flag was used. It was donated to the Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum in Morgan, Utah.

The 1880 United States Census report lists Peterson as having ninety-eight inhabitants, including two children with diphtheria. Job descriptions for the residents were listed as follows: five men worked for the railroad, one man was a sheepherder, all women kept house, and all other men were farmers. A 1893 Morgan County tax assessment roll showed that Peterson had nine frame homes, one rock home, and ten log homes. The 1900 Census shows Peterson with a population of 302 residents, including two school teachers and the blacksmith George Scott. In addition to regular residents, the people of Peterson were often visited by Indians who camped in the area.

Littleton

Littleton is centered around the Deep Creek area with Milton located on the north. The boundary is approximately 665 North Morgan Valley Drive (former residence of Norman Gorder).[17] The intersection of Young Street and Morgan Valley Drive provides the Southern boundary, the western boundary being the tops of the mountains and the eastern boundary, East Canyon Creek.

> Littleton is some two miles in width and extends up Deep Creek to include several miles of Mountain sides, beautiful canyons and a large tributary of Deep Creek including the right hand and left hand fork of this lovely stream. There is also a middle fork which stream of water usually dries up in the fall of the year.[18]

Thomas Jefferson Thurston, in 1855–56, after assisting to construct the road through Weber Canyon spent a season in Littleton with his wife Elizabeth, daughter Hulda Cordelia, and two of Jedediah Morgan Grant's hired men who also helped with the road construction through Weber Canyon. Dalton Creek formed the dividing line between Peterson's and Thurston's ground.[19] In later years, Thurston claimed all the ground between Line Creek and just south of Deep Creek for himself, Jedediah M. Grant, and Jesse C. Little.

Thurston and Grant's men planted ten to twelve acres of wheat in the Littleton area two different seasons although they didn't spend the winters there. Thurston also built a cabin but returned in the winter to his home in Centerville, Utah. In 1859 he sold his holding in Centerville to Brigham Young for $7000, paid mostly in livestock, and moved his family to Littleton where they took up permanent residence. Thurston built a log cabin enclosed in a stockade, as well as other cabins, sheds, and corrals. The Thurstons lived in Littleton only until 1860 when they moved to Milton to settle.[20] Jedediah Morgan Grant had petitioned the Territorial Legislature for a herd ground in Weber Valley, which was granted 2 January 1856, to Thurston, Grant, and Thurston's son George W. The herd ground consisted of the south end of Weber Valley, including Round Valley. In 1860 the grant was repealed to provide land for other early residents. Thurston had fenced in Milton and much of the Littleton area, which he retained.

Following the death of Grant (1856) from typhoid and pneumonia at age forty, Thurston offered half of his land claim to Grant's heirs. Grant's brother, George D. Grant, who assumed the care of his brother's families, selected the south half which consisted of the area in Littleton where Thurston had settled and made many improvements. Thus, Thurston moved his family to Milton. George D. Grant kept the area with the improvements as his own farm. Other areas were divided between his sons and George and William Benjamin Hampton and a step-son, John Lamb.[21]

Littleton was named in honor of Colonel Jesse C. Little. Little, a prominent member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and an influential pioneer, was among the first pioneer contingent to enter Salt Lake Valley on 24 July 1847. In 1859 Brigham commissioned him to go to Weber Valley to help colonize the area. Thurston had already laid claim to land in the valley for Jesse Little, and some of Little's livestock were pastured there.[22] Little brought his third wife, Mary, to Littleton and built a cabin.[23] He had a large tract of land in the area which he farmed and rented to other settlers for a share of their crops. He also sold ground to new settlers.

Early residents of Littleton were John T. Rich, John T. Richards, Daniel Bertoch, George D. Grant, Robert Cambell, T.R.G. Welch, William Hemming, George Criddle, Eli Whittier, John H. Giles,

Littleton Sandstone school/church located near 70 North Morgan Valley Drive. (Photo courtesy of Esther Stephens)

Willard G. Smith, Joseph Spendlove, A. Hanson, and a Dann family. In the fall of 1864, only five families resided in Littleton.

Littleton was an agriculture settlement in which residents grew wheat, barley, oats, corn, and potatoes along with family gardens. The first ditch of any length was built in 1866 when Joseph Spendlove and Edward Criddle surveyed and dug, by hand and oxen, a small irrigating canal from Deep Creek down through the fields and hill sides, on both sides of the creek to their land along the stream. Shortly after this a large canal was started and completed from the Canyon Creek [East Canyon] bridge in South Morgan, down the hill sides on the west side of the valley to the farms.[24]

Willard G. Smith came to Littleton in 1865 having been called by Brigham Young to locate in Weber Valley and preside as bishop over LDS residents at Littleton and the adjacent settlements.[25] In 1866 he became Probate Judge of Morgan County, and the county seat was moved to Littleton. As a young boy, Smith survived the Hauns Mill Massacre. Later he served as a drummer in the Mormon Battalion.[26]

In 1866 fifteen families lived in Littleton.[27] At that time it was considered a thriving community; however, the flooding of Deep

Creek discouraged residents in the area and the population decreased over the years.[28]

The first school instruction in Littleton took place in the LDS tithing building located adjacent to Deep Creek, under the tutelage of Eli Whittier, a blacksmith by trade. Whittier also organized the first choir in Morgan County in 1865 and was instrumental in organizing and teaching music to the first band, the Milton-Littleton Band. Whittier later moved to Peterson where he remained a permanent resident.

The first school building at Littleton was a frame building constructed in 1864 at approximately 60 North Morgan Valley Drive. The next school, located at 70 North Morgan Valley Drive, was built with local sandstone in 1868.

A sandstone quarry located up Deep Creek provided stone for many of the homes in the area. Stone from this quarry was used in the construction of the Morgan Opera House in 1906 as well as in the Morgan Canning Company building.

Two versions exist of the origin of the name Deep Creek in Littleton. One version suggests the name is due to the number of deep holes in the creek bed as it traveled through the fields.[29] The other story suggests that Deep Creek was so named because of the deep crevice through which it flows. The creek heads near Farmington flat and is about five miles long.[30]

At one time Jesse Little anticipated operating some sort of water powered business. A large water wheel and machinery were placed on Deep Creek (west of the Deep Creek pea vinery), near the settlement but were never used. The equipment remained in the area for several years and children spent many hours playing on it.

Although Littleton was an important settlement in the valley and was even the county seat of Morgan for two years, from 1866–1868, it seemed to lose its identity. Many area residents are unaware of the settlement known as Littleton. This may be due to the fact that no major geological feature created the boundary between Milton and Littleton. Also, the population of the area dwindled due to the overflowing of Deep Creek. Eventually those residing in Littleton who were members of the LDS Church attended their meetings with the saints of Milton. Operating a public school in Littleton also became

unfeasible. The school children were transported to Milton to attend classes until county students were bussed to Morgan City in 1936. Since those events, Littleton is usually included as part of the Milton area.

Milton

The community of Milton is located about five miles south of Peterson on the west side of Morgan Valley. Milton's north boundary is Dalton Creek and its south boundary is approximately 665 N. Morgan Valley Drive (former residence of Norman Gorder)[31] and the settlement of Littleton. The west boundary is the mountain tops and the east boundary is the Weber River.

The first pioneers to reside in Milton were Thomas Jefferson Thurston and his family on some of the herd ground approved in 1856 to J.M. Grant, T.J. Thurston, and others. Apparently Thurston was unaware of Grant's petition and was surprised when told of this land grant. Jedediah felt Thurston deserved the land for all his efforts in opening the valley to settlement. He told Thurston, "I do not want this for myself, but put my name at the head as I thought it would pass without controversy."[32] As settlers came into the valley, the herd ground grant was repealed by the Utah State Legislature in January 1860.[33]

Thurston moved from Littleton to Milton in 1860 following the death of Grant. Thurston measured the land between Line Creek and Deep Creek and offered Grant's heirs their choice of the north or south half. Thurston is said to have stated. "Now, Brother Grant (George D. Grant, Jedediah's brother who assumed care of his brother's families), I wish you to take your choice of the two parcels of land." Grant chose the half on which the Thurstons were living (Littleton) with all the improvements. George Grant kept the farm with the improvements for himself and divided the remaining land between his sons George and William Benjamin Hampton and a stepson John Lamb. It is possible other heirs were reimbursed for the property.[34] Thurston was quite happy with the division of the land. He actually seemed to prefer the land in the Milton area but was surprised with Grant's choice.

Thurston located on the south side of Line Creek. He built his

log cabin home about one-quarter mile from the current LDS meeting house, near some springs.[35] Thurston later built a two-story home in the same area, known as Thurstonville, then Morganville, and finally Milton. There are two versions suggesting why the name was changed to Milton. One says the town was named in honor of Milton Musser, a prominent LDS Church official. The other version explains that it was called Mill Town because of James Hanson's sawmill operating in the area, the name being shortened through the years to Milton.[36] No community or landmark in Morgan County retained a name in honor of the early colonizer Thomas Jefferson Thurston. To rectify this oversight, in 1993 the tallest mountain in Morgan County was named Thurston Peak.

Thurston built a large barn in 1863–64 which was used for all public gatherings and as a temporary amusement hall by the settlers. Thurston constructed the barn with wooden pegs in place of nails. The barn was still in use in 1995. As were the majority of early settlers in the valley, Thurston was a member of the LDS faith. He presided over Milton, Littleton, South Morgan, Richville and Porterville as a bishop. In 1864 Charles Turner recorded in his journal attending a church meeting held in the foundation of bishop Thurston's barn.[37]

According to the writings of Mary Chadwick, published in 1947, "Thurston, Mads Poulson, B.Y. Bextrum, Ole Johnson, and several other families built homes in Milton in the form of a fort as a protection against the Indians.[38] This was then referred to as Thurston's Fort. After a couple of years, these people moved out onto their farmland or lots in the townsite. Jesse Fox, a surveyor from Salt Lake City, surveyed the townsite in the summer of 1861. Mads Poulson, an immigrant from Copenhagen, Denmark, built his log home at the current address 1203 North Morgan Valley Drive. Since that time, the house has been added to and remains part of the home currently located there (1995).

Most early settlers in Milton were of Scandinavian descent. After arriving at Salt Lake City, they were instructed by Brigham Young to settle in Milton and Weber Valley, where Thurston granted each new family a building lot and five to ten acres of land to cultivate. The Scandinavians brought with them a delightful custom concerning

visits by neighbors and friends. According to this custom, a visitor must not leave until he or she had something to eat and drink.

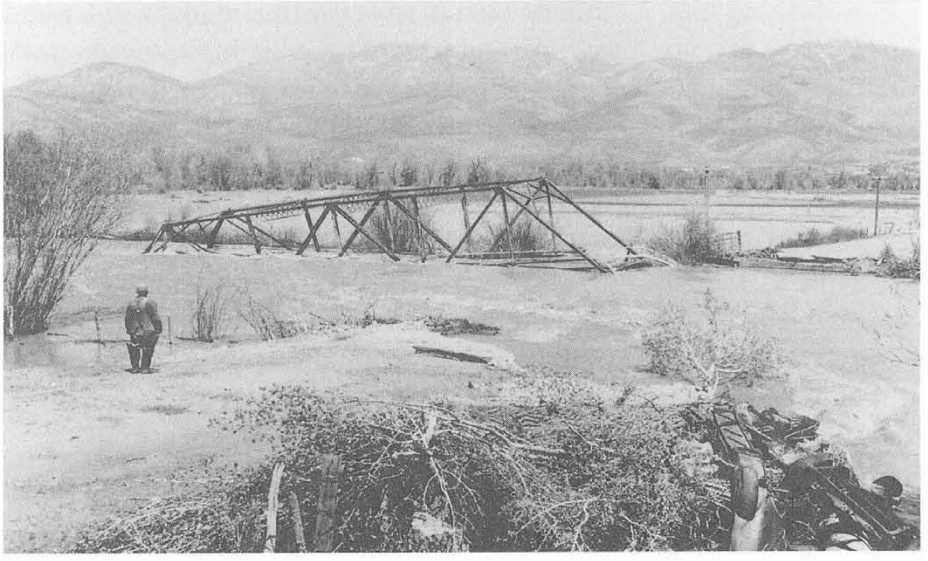
Other earlier settlers in Milton were Anders Nielson; Weaver (Yeller) Jensen, who wove material; Niels C. Jensen, a cabinet maker and cooper who built his home at 1234 North Morgan Valley Drive; John Anderson, a tailor; L.P. Edholm, a well-educated man who later served as Probate Judge of Morgan County; Soren Madsen, a carpenter, millwright, and furniture maker; and James Hanson, a carpenter who located at the mouth of Line Creek and operated a sawmill near his home.[39]

Hulda Cordelia Thurston taught school in her father's home until a log school with a dirt floor and willow roof was built in 1864. Other teachers in Milton included Miss Hall, Sarah Mecham, Charlton Goldsberry, and Mrs. Parkinson.[40]

Streams located in the area of Milton received their names in honor of the settlers or circumstances surrounding them. In 1860 Joseph Mecham settled across the creek from Thurston, the creek forming the boundary line between their properties; thus the stream was designated Line Creek. Crossing Line Creek was hazardous at times. By 1873 residents of the area petitioned the court for a bridge. The court accordingly appropriated $200 for the bridge.[41] By 1890 a new bridge was needed and $375 was paid to T. S. Allen for a thirty-foot-long fourteen-foot wide Red Pine bridge with two ten-foot high abutments.[42]

Ephraim Swan settled in 1861 along a creek subsequently named Swan Creek; however, the family moved to Croydon after a few years. William Smith then moved to the valley and located on Swan Creek. According to the custom of that time, the creek's name was changed to Smith Creek, the name it currently retains.

Smith's brother-in-law, Ted Dalton, settled on the creek further north and gave his name to that stream, Dalton Creek. Early settlers needed to get irrigation water to their crop lands in order to survive. Diary entries of Joseph Franklin Spendlove detailed the great efforts made by the pioneers to construct irrigation waterways. He listed the following ditches constructed in the area, Settlement Ditch (1861), Littleton-Milton Ditch (1862), Garden Ditch (1863), and the longest, North Bench Ditch.



DeWilt Harding views the washed away Milton/Stoddard bridge in the flood of 1952.

Milton had several sawmills within its boundaries. Line Creek was the site of two: one located at Fifth Crossing and one at Seventh Crossing. Another mill stood between Fifth Crossing and Smith Creek. Some mills owners included Chris Hanson, John Giles and Harmon Johnson and James Hanson.[43]

Many residents of Milton were known for their musical abilities and always had music in their homes. Some residents supplemented their family income by playing for a fee at public dances, but most often their talents and time were donated.

The first store known in Milton was located at 2350 Line Creek Road. The business operated by Peter and Eliza Parkinson (parents of Fred Parkinson) from a log cabin.[44]

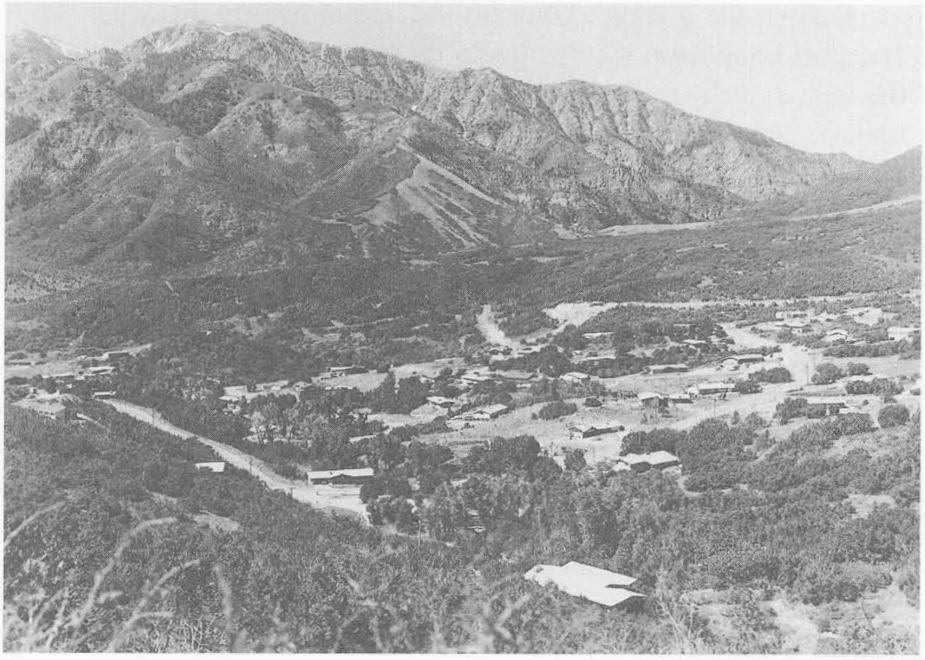
Pioneers of Milton were predominantly members of the LDS Church. The first church, a one-room white frame structure, was built by the Milton LDS High Priests on a lot donated by Mads Poulson. An LDS tithing building was constructed at approximately 2360 Line Creek Road. Members of the church took their tithes, which were usually paid in kind—grain, farm products, etc—to this building to be stored.

A meeting held 5 January 1891, to discuss the building of a public hall was attended by both Peterson and Milton residents. L.P. Edholm, acting chairman of the meeting made a speech about the necessity of having an amusement building in the community. The building, eventually erected across the street from the church, was at one time owned by M. Hanson, who offered his hall for the use of the Milton-Littleton Band.[45] The meeting to form the band was held in the Milton Hall. Through the years, the use of the amusement hall changed, apparently taking on the atmosphere of a tavern in its later years. The amusement hall was eventually destroyed by fire of an unknown nature, but was rumored to have been started by unhappy wives.

Mountain Green

The area of Morgan County referred to as Mountain Green begins at Devil's Gate on the Weber River, then goes east along the north side of the Weber River near the I-84 Peterson Interchange. The boundary then extends to the top ridge of mountains, which marks the east and north boundary lines of Morgan County. Mountain Green also includes the land on the south side of Weber River in the area of Jacobs Creek.

Within this area, five streams flow down the slopes from the north and the east into the Weber River. Strawberry Creek is the western-most stream; moving east, the next is Gordon Creek. Both of these creeks flow year-round. Dry Creek, just east of Gordon Creek, provides drainage from the ridge's heading on the east side of Mt. Ogden. A major drainage channel for Mountain Green is Cottonwood Creek, which heads north of Durst Mountain and flows into the Weber River near the middle of Mountain Green. All streams contribute water to the flat lands along the north side of the Weber River. This situation provided lush pasture for game in the early days and has continued to provide food for domestic animals since the advent of man in this area. The soil was rich and deep, and in addition to the meadows in the floodplain, the mountainsides were covered with lush grass, brush, and timber. Jacobs creek is the only stream in the Mountain Green area located on the south side of the Weber River, situated across from Strawberry Creek on the North.



The Highlands residential area 1972. (Photo by Donald C. Schuhart)

Durst Mountain can be observed as a very rugged mountain and one not frequented by many people; however, it has provided range for cattle and sheep and was later a haven for elicit bootleggers when prohibition was the law of the land.[46] Mining was also conducted on the slopes of the mountain.

Prior to 1840, little is recorded about Mountain Green; however, mountain man Osborne Russell left an interesting account of a visit he made there. During 1839–40 Russell wintered on the lower Weber River in what is now Uintah. On January 10, Russell, while hunting elk, made his way up the Weber River into Mountain Green, using a horse trail high on the canyon side. After spending the night, he went north over Trappers Loop to Ogden Valley. His description of coming to Mountain Green follows:

> The route was very difficult and in many places difficult traveling over high points of rock and around high precipices on a trail just wide enough for a single horse to walk, in about 10 miles I came into a smooth plain 5 to 6 miles in circumference . . . [Mountain Green].[47]

Early trails through Utah intersected at Mountain Green. Here Trappers Loop from the north met the trails up the Weber River from the west and the trails from the east that came out of Santa Fe, New Mexico.[48] Native American Tribes also had trails over Trappers Loop visible to early trappers and settlers.

An historic meeting of fur trappers occurred in Mountain Green at a site known as Deserter Point on 23, 24, and 25 May 1825. Three groups from the three centers of the western fur trade including Taos, New Mexico (Etienne Provost and fifteen trappers); American Fur Company (Johnson Gardner and his twenty-five trappers) St. Louis, Missouri; and Hudson's Bay Port of Fort Vancouver on the Columbia River (Peter Skeen Ogden and his fifty-eight trappers) had penetrated the present-day boundaries of Utah and met on the Weber River in Mountain Green.[49]

Ogden and Gardner argued with each other as to whether Mountain Green was on American or British soil. Twenty-three of Ogden's trappers defected and joined Gardner's group. Gardner offered the trappers more money for their pelts, so they deserted Ogden and took 700 pelts with them.[50] Thus the name Deserters Point was given to the site.

When the first Mormon settlers arrived in Mountain Green, they discovered that the Simon brothers were in possession of the land. Ben Simon, who had a Native American wife, his brother James, and their families claimed exclusive right to Mountain Green for use as grazing land, a right granted to them by the Mexican government. Apparently the Simon brothers had been in the area twenty years, trading with members of the Shoshone Tribe.

Because of the abundance of lush green grass in the area, the area was named Mountain Green. Settlers established dairies and sawmills very early. Families still utilize the resources found in 1855; dairies and sawmills are a source of income 140 years after they were first used by the early pioneers.

George W. Higley, an early settler, used the meadowlands and mountainsides for grazing livestock. Higley moved to Mountain Green in 1855. Ben Simons and the Native Americans granted him permission to build a cabin and a water-powered churn on the Weber

River near Strawberry Creek. They also gave him permission to graze dairy cattle in the area.[51]

Most Native Americans accepted the settler's presence and were friendly; however, they considered the land and foliage their property, and some minor problems occurred. Due to a misunderstanding, George Higley was found guilty of picking service berries by Chief Little Soldier's Indians; he was sentenced and whipped for the offense.

Gordon Beckstead settled in Mountain Green in 1858, occupying a homesite near Gordon Creek, named in his honor, with permission from the Simonses. Another early resident of Mountain Green, Isaac Bowman [Bohman] settled on land known as Bohman Hollow. Edward A. Fernelius, an area resident, stated that he had heard Bowman operated a small post office and stage coach way-station near the spring flowing from the hollow named after Bowman. Bohman Hollow is located at approximately 4000 West Old Highway Road. Other early residents were William Bills, John Robinson Jr., Ira N. Spaulding, Eli Spaulding, Myron Higley, the McLean family, and three Hammond and Bybee families. Daniel Williams, the Arave family and Abiah Wadsworth settled in Mountain Green for a short period of time; however, they moved to Morgan, fearing impending problems with the Indians. In 1877 approximately 150 people resided in Mountain Green. The 1880 census records only 96 residents. Morgan County tax assessment rolls indicate eleven families with nine homes were assessed for 3191 acres.

Streams flowing into Mountain Green from the surrounding hills ran high in the spring, but by August they were too low to provide irrigation water for the farms. The Rollins family, Warner family, France family, and the Parrish family organized the Northwest Irrigation Company and built a substantial reservoir on the Parrish farm. The Wilkinson family also built a reservoir on their farm near Bohman Hollow.

A California company operated a substantial dairy in the floodplain near Cottonwood Creek in Mountain Green. It was located on a spring flowing out from under Durst Mountain. The operation was not successful, and in 1872 it was taken over by the Centerville Ward of the LDS Church. Centerville Ward operated a ranch of approxi-

Wilkinson reservoir reflects the snow-covered Wasatch Mountains. (U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service)

mately 1000 acres in the Cottonwood area. Other dairy farms provided a continuous source of income for some Mountain Green residents.

One of the early users of the grazing lands was John W. Thornley who ran thousands of head of sheep along the mountains and in the areas of Mountain Green. For many years, it was the practice to gather cattle that had wintered on farms in Weber County and trail them up Weber Canyon to be pastured for the summer. The cattle were returned to their Weber County owners in the fall.

Enterprise

Enterprise is located on the southeast side of the Weber River between the communities of Peterson on the northwest and Stoddard on the southeast. The length of Enterprise is approximately two and one-half miles. On its northeast side, the foothills form a crescent and partially encircle the bench land. The foothills on the south side of Dry Hollow form Enterprise's northern boundary and Roswell

Canyon forms its southern boundary. The western boundary is the Weber River. Enterprise was one of the smaller settlements and two distinctive elevations marked its topography: the valley floor on the east side of the Weber River and the bench land which rises abruptly about thirty-five feet above the valley floor. The village area of Enterprise was located on the bench; however, some pioneers settled on the valley floor.

Highway 30, one of the major east-west highways, ran through the bench land of Enterprise until it was replaced by Interstate 84. Highway 30 was then reclassified as a county road. Both the railroad tracks and Interstate were constructed on the valley floor and traverse the length of Enterprise from north to south.

Enterprise was basically an agriculture community having very choice farmland; however, the lack of water for irrigation on the bench land posed a disadvantage that discouraged potential settlers. In 1861 Henry and Stephen Hales, the first pioneers to farm in Enterprise, made a ditch approximately two miles long to convey water from the Weber River for irrigating. However, this wasn't as successful as had been anticipated. In 1863 the Enterprise Bench Canal was designed and constructed to irrigate all of the bench land. This seven mile long canal extended from a point near North Morgan along the side of the foothills to about one-half mile beyond the Enterprise Cemetery. Unfortunately, the canal did not solve the water problem. Verbal history passed from generation to generation confirms that water was diverted without authorization from the canal before it reached Enterprise. "Even when water escaped the thieves up-stream, the canal had such a low velocity that seepage was excessive and washouts were frequent."[52]

In September of 1861, Jesse Haven and Thomas Palmer staked a claim on land extending from the Weber River to the foothills.[53] Roswell Stevens, a son-in-law of Charles S. Peterson, first settled in Weber City (Peterson). He moved to Enterprise and built a cabin in the mouth of a canyon that was later named Roswell Canyon in his honor. Stevens, who had also staked a claim, and Jesse Haven are acknowledged as the first pioneers to build cabins in Enterprise. Haven located his cabin approximately one-fourth mile west of the

Daniel Heiner near Enterprise Point on the southeast end of Enterprise.

townsite in a cottonwood grove below the bench land. Later, Thomas Palmer also built a cabin in the same vicinity.

Another early resident, Charles Card, soon left the area to settle in Canada. The Canadian town in which he settled was named Cardston in his honor. John Croft purchased Card's property and his large one-room log house. Croft and his family had originally settled in Peterson and build a nice log home there. In 1865 Croft moved his family of six across the valley to Enterprise. Croft's home in Peterson was located close to the mountains where the sun went behind the mountains as early as 4:00 P.M. in the winter months. Enterprise, located on the opposite side of the valley, experienced about two more hours of sunshine each day. While in Enterprise, John Croft operated a sawmill in Roswell Canyon (Devil's Hollow) in the late 1870's. Croft became one of the largest landowners in Enterprise.[54]

In 1863 residents built a log school house which their children attended until 1873 when a larger school/church was needed. In 1865 the townsite of Enterprise was surveyed and laid out in city blocks and streets. The town was named Enterprise to compliment the enterprising settlers who lived there. Several homes were built on the townsite, but some settlers built their homes on farms in the bottom

lands. Jesse Haven served as Probate Judge for Morgan County in 1869, 1870, and 1871.[55]

John Green homestead a section of land at Enterprise in 1868. He, accompanied by his mother, brothers, and sister came to the territory from South Africa, where the family had joined the LDS Church. Green first lived in Kaysville where he joined the militia. He fought in the Utah Black Hawk Indian War until the hostilities ceased. Green had previous experience in fighting, having fought in the Kaffir wars in South Africa.

The United States 1880 Census Report verifies sixteen households with eighty-two residents in Enterprise. Most residents were of English descent. Morgan County Assessors' records list fourteen settlers as land owners in Enterprise in 1889 and 1890. By 1893 only thirteen pioneers owned land in Enterprise. The smallest parcel of land owned was twenty acres and the largest parcels were 515 and 1028 acres. Original Enterprise settlers comprised most of these landowners.

Stoddard

Stoddard is situated on the northeast side of Morgan Valley. Dimensions run approximately one-half mile south of the Stoddard Lane overpass to Enterprise Point on the north, a length of two miles. The west boundary is the Weber River and the foothills form the boundary on the north. The area contains approximately two square miles.

Stoddard has no canyons or mountains of distinction, just bare sloping hills. The soil is relatively deep and well-suited for pasture grass, hay, grain, and row crops.[56] Several springs bubble up in the fields of Stoddard. Some of the springs are fed from the drainage of the North Morgan Irrigation Company ditch and the Millrace irrigation ditch; others are fed from underground sources. Due to the level of the land, the water moves very slowly, creating sloughs filled with moss, water-cress, and cattails. This creates an ideal fish habitat for German Brown trout and Cutthroat trout.

Native American and trapper trails laced early Stoddard. Modern-day Interstate-84 parallels the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, which dissect the area of Stoddard.

> The early settlers of Stoddard were attracted by a large crystal clear spring. The first family to settle in Stoddard was Ben Simon. Simon, along with his family, located at the site of the spring, which were originally called Simon Springs. About 1860 Judson L. Stoddard from Farmington, Utah, purchased the Simon property and brought large numbers of livestock into the valley to graze. The springs and settlement were later named Stoddard in his honor.[57]

A thriving settlement soon developed in the area of Stoddard. Other families to locate there beside those already mentioned were Philemon C. Merrill, Conrad Smith, the Manhards, Nick Barkdahl, Henry Rock, Miller Parish, John Hess, Than [Nathan] Smith (brother of Lot Smith), Dave Saunders, John Hayes, and Jake Grover.[58]

Most of the residents of Stoddard were farmers or ranchers, an occupation which the environment of the area favored. In 1869 Olof Rose with his wife Mary Lina Brink Rose and family moved to Stoddard. A history of Mrs. Rose written by J. H. Rose states that the family moved, " . . . and farmed for Bishop Hess (Hess had been an LDS Bishop in Farmington prior to coming to Stoddard) and then [they farmed for] Judson Stoddard. At one time forty acres were planted into grain and not one bushel harvested due to grasshoppers."[59]

Another noted resident of Stoddard was Lot Smith, who played an important part in impeding the advancement of Johnston's Army through Echo Canyon. The 1870 United States Census lists as residents of Stoddard Lot Smith, a farmer, age forty-two; Smith's wives Julie age thirty-two, and Jane, age thirty-five; eleven Smith children; T. M. Grover; David Clawson; E. E. Lyon; William H. Lyon; Charles J. Pentz; Alfred J. Hemming; Conway Morris; E. M. Preece; and W. P. Rollins.[60]

Philemon C. Merrill, a Stoddard resident, had been a bodyguard to the LDS Church Prophet Joseph Smith, at Nauvoo, Illinois, in 1846.[61] As a member of the Mormon Battalion, Merrill had held the rank of 3rd lieutenant in Company B.[62] In 1852 he served as district commander of the Davis and Weber (Morgan) Militia. He was also an educator and civic leader.[63]

School-age children of Stoddard attended classes with students

in North Morgan. This continued until a new school was built in North Morgan, and Dave Clawson obtained the old log school and moved it to his property in Stoddard in circa 1869. Clawson allowed school classes to be conducted in the building until 1894–95 when a brick school was constructed.

In 1902 the county purchased a right-of-way for a road to connect the communities of Stoddard and Milton. Land for the right-of-way was purchased from the following residents: John Ekstrom, David Clawson, Conrad Smith, Joseph Jensen, Lyman Mecham, and Mrs. Mary E. Lyon.[64]

Water for irrigating the croplands of Stoddard was provided by the Enterprise-Stoddard Ditch Company (registered in Salt Lake City, Utah). Residents owned shares of water. Through the years many disputes arose between local residents concerning water rights, water shares, and water turns. Frequently these disputes became very intense. Rumor declared that essential equipment used during watering turns included hip boots, shovels, and a sidearm. Because of this continuing situation, Stoddard was given the nickname RumpusTown.[65] In later years, someone posted the sign RUMPUS TOWN on the small beet scale building near the railroad track.

South Morgan

South Morgan settlement is located southwest of the Weber River, approximately in the center of the county and consists of approximately 890 acres of land. The eastern section is mostly residential and the western section is primarily agricultural; however, the agricultural area is quickly giving way to residential development.

Settling South Morgan dates back to 1860 when Richard Fry, Daniel Bull, and Richard Norwood established residence at what is customarily referred to as The Island. Two weeks after Richard and Ann Rawle Fry arrived in Salt Lake City, Brigham Young advised them to settle in Morgan Valley. They traveled three days to reach Morgan.[66] The first white child born in South Morgan was Mary Ann Fry Eddington who was delivered in the Fry cabin in February 1861. The cabin was later moved to Monday Town.[67]

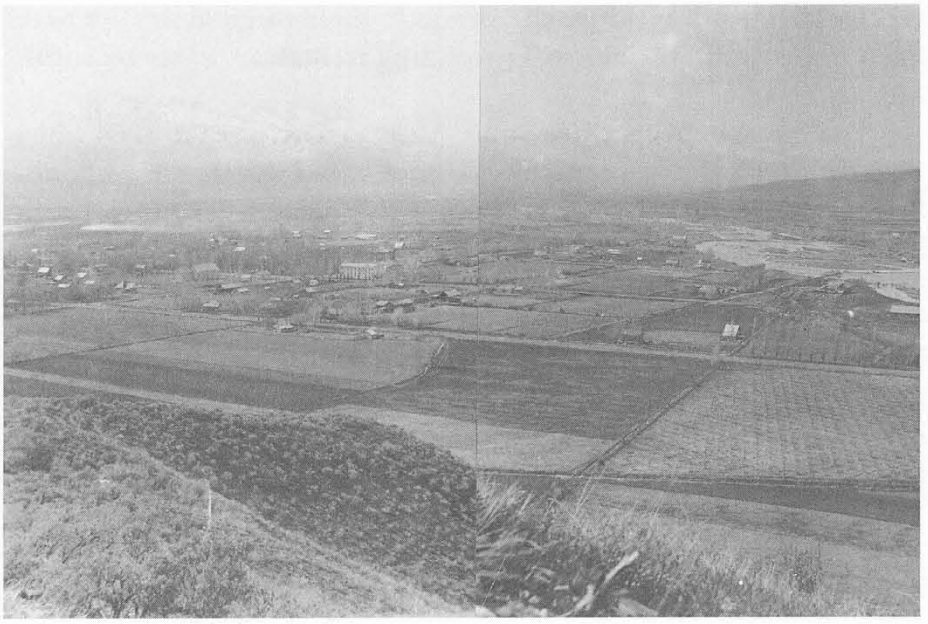
Due to spring flooding from East Canyon Creek, South Morgan's early settlers were forced to move. The Bull and Fry families moved

their homes southwest to higher ground between the base of the hills and East Canyon Creek, where several other families were already located. T.R.G. Welch owned the property for this new settlement which he offered for a townsite. The area was named Monday Town Hollow because many residents moved on a Monday. However, since farm land was limited and Monday Town Hollow became crowded with new settlers, the Bull and Fry families soon moved back eastward to a higher area in South Morgan. They joined the families of Charles Turner, Ebenezer Crouch, Frederick Darke, and Robert Hogg, who in 1861–1862 had located on the higher ground in South Morgan. Within a short time, all residents had moved from Monday Town and settled in other areas of Morgan County (circa 1865–66). The pioneers left little evidence of their existence at that temporary location. Concerning the move to Monday Town R.T. Fry said, "They took buildings apart and loaded them on wagons. They moved back in [after] about four years, on advice of Brigham Young, and settled in South Morgan, which hadn't flooded and was covered with sage brush."[68]

Early writings indicate Robert Hogg built the first house in South Morgan. Many of the early lots were purchased from Mr. Darke and Mr. Hawkins (first names unknown).[69] John Ager, George Simmon, Samuel Francis, and David Coolbear arrived in South Morgan in 1863. A high percentage of the early settlers in South Morgan professed English descent. Many settlers were acquainted with each other or were members of the same LDS branch or mission prior to leaving their native country. The history of Thomas Robert Green Welch acknowledges that Samuel Francis confirmed Welch a member of the LDS Church in 1854 prior to his leaving England.[70] They both settled in South Morgan with their families.

Friends James Tucker and Richard Fry sailed to America together on the ship *Underwriter*. They also traveled across the plains together and eventually both settled in South Morgan.[71] Many residents came to Morgan to work on farms that had already been established. Charles Turner's journal states that when Turner first came to Weber Valley, he lived in a structure of Richard Norwood's and worked shares on his farm for one year (share cropped).[72]

Abiah Wadsworth, George Higley, and Nelson Arave operated A



View of South Morgan from cemetery taken circa 1907. (O. R. Stuart)

sawmill for shingles first located east of 200 East and Young Street, presently the site of Morgan High School . A millrace ditch connected to City Ditch at the corner of 200 East and Young Street supplied water to power the early sawmill. The mill was soon moved across the river and located at approximately 404 East 300 North Street, North Morgan, at the site of Clark's Feed and Seed.[73]

About 1872 David J. Ross, who married Carolina Ager after her husband drowned in the Weber River, built a playground for the Ross and Ager children, located between the Ager home, on the corner of 100 West and 100 South Street and the LDS Stake Tabernacle. The playground, which provided a play area for all children in the locality, included a merry-go-round, flying trapeze, teeters, and small swings with wooden bars to keep the children from falling out.[74]

As early as 1861workers commenced to dig a small ditch to convey water from the Weber River. Other ditches were constructed to irrigate the farm acreage in the South Morgan area. Ditches also provided the culinary water for many residents until wells were dug. These ditches include Fry Ditch (later named the City Ditch), Weber

Ditch (1864), and Field Ditch. Although these original ditches have been improved, they are still providing irrigation water to South Morgan.

The first school classes in South Morgan took place in 1864 when Elizabeth Crouch began teaching school in her home at First South Street and Third West Street.[75] From this early beginning, South Morgan would go on to become the education center of the county where all public schools would be located (1936).

Brigham Young came to Morgan County on 4, 5, and 6 August 1864, as a guest of Thomas J. Thurston. While visiting the South Morgan area, Brigham Young gave instructions to Jesse W. Fox, a registered surveyor, to lay out a town site. This surveyed area would later become part of Morgan City.

From the top of William's Point or Eagle Rock on the east side of the valley, Brigham Young instructed Surveyor Fox to plot a straight line southwest to a bush on the hill on the west side of the valley. This was to be the course of main street from which all adjacent streets and city blocks would join at right angles. This main street was later given the name of "Young Street," in honor of the occasion. Because Young Street was not laid out following an exact compass direction of east to west, the later joining roads would not be in accordance with right angles of the compass. Through the years this has caused considerable confusion when identifying land and writing legal descriptions of the property within the city boundary.

Early writings verify South Morgan had two early residents who manufactured brick. These were John Ager and Charles Turner. The first known blacksmith shop in South Morgan was owned by William Tonks in 1866. Thomas Geary also operated a blacksmith shop in the settlement. The first merchandising took place at Monday Town by a man named Sholes.[76] William Eddington and a brother-in-law John Fry erected two small cabins near the East Canyon Creek and also started a mercantile business on a limited scale at Monday Town. In 1867 Eddington and Fry moved to South Morgan. Eddington built a brick home and used the front part for a general merchandise store. Jane, his wife, was very instrumental in the success of the business.[77] After the incorporation of Morgan City in 1868, the first mercantile license was issued to William Eddington.

John Fry also built a brick home in South Morgan on the corner at 210 West Young Street and used the front portion for a store. Fry expanded his business by producing homebrew. Due to a city ordinance, this venture didn't prove favorable, and Fry sold his business. Rumor purports that Fry moved to Ogden and located a brewery by the Ogden River. That business was supposedly sold to Becker's Brewery Company.[78]

South Morgan was selected as the hub of both city and county government. Plans for the county courthouse to be erected on Public Square in South Morgan were begun in 1874, and the building was considered completed in 1887. The incorporation of Morgan City in 1868 was an important event to residents in the area. New city boundaries included the complete settlements of South and North Morgan, thus mandating that the two previously separate communities act as one entity and work towards the betterment of a unified city rather than as individual settlements.

Mt. Joy or North Morgan

North Morgan or Mt. Joy as it was originally named, encompasses land on the northeast side of Weber River. The east boundary is located at William's Point, and the north boundary is approximately one-half mile east of Stoddard Lane. The Weber River provides the west boundary, and the foothills establish the east boundary. Mt. Joy encompasses an area of approximately 1.74 square miles.

Although early settlers named this settlement Mt. Joy, with the passing of time, the area became known as North Morgan. Throughout this history, Mt. Joy and North Morgan will be used interchangeably. The main route through the settlement, originally named Mt. Joy Avenue, was lined with large trees on both sides of the road that formed a canopy over the road. Mt. Joy Avenue, later designated U.S. Highway 30, became one of the main east-west routes through the Wasatch Mountains; however, following the construction of the interstate highway through Morgan County, U.S. 30 was changed to 700 East Street and no longer functioned as a major highway.

Three major canyons distinguish the east side of Mt. Joy.

Mt. Joy Avenue, North Morgan. East side entrance to LDS Church building can be seen in lower left corner.

Beginning at Williams Point is Metz Hollow, named after early settlers Timothy Metz and his wife Lydia. Metz had established residence at the mouth of the hollow where he began one of the first businesses in Morgan, a restaurant and stable. Cedar Canyon is so named because of the large number of Cedar trees in the canyon. The north slope and bottom lands abound with Cedar (juniper) trees. The entrance to Cedar Canyon is northeast from 525 N. 700 E. Street. The canyon is about one mile in length and contains a spring located near its entrance. Mahogany Canyon, approximately one mile long was named for the abundance of Mahogany trees, located on its south slope. Although void of water, this canyon provides a good area for livestock and wildlife. Pine Canyon, the furthest canyon to the north, like the two previous canyons was named for its abundance of trees. On the north slope of the canyon stands a forest of conifer trees. The south slope provides an excellent area for grazing livestock and wild game. A spring located at the mouth and head of the canyon contributes to good grazing.

North Morgan consists of two distinctive elevations. Most of the colonization took place on the lower foothills. The area of North Morgan located between the west side of the railroad tracks and the Weber River is part of a floodplain. This area has been covered with flood waters several times throughout the years. North Morgan townsite was surveyed in 1864–65 by territory surveyor Jesse W. Fox.

Early settlers of North Morgan in 1861 were John Heath and his wife Josephene, William Parker and his wife Eliza, Daniel Williams and his wife Harriet, and William George and his wife Emily. Daniel Williams as a widower had previously settled in Mountain Green for a short period of time. A history written by Hattie Robinson Heiner states that Daniel Williams built a two-room log house at approximately 294 North 600 East. His second wife, Harriet Thurston Williams, taught school there and also operated a post office in their home. Daniel Williams found a good deposit of limestone on his property. He burned it and used the lime as a medium of exchange. From this income, he was able to build a two-story limestone home, part of which was used as a tavern.

Other early residents of Mt. Joy were Abiah Wadsworth and his wife Eliza; George Higley, a wagon maker, and his wife Nancy; and Nelson and Susanna Arave. These pioneers settled in Mountain Green first and then moved to Mt. Joy when Chief Little Soldier and his followers gave settlers in the area some problems.[79] Benjamin F. Smith, another early settler of 1861, had previously crossed the plains many times to assist immigrants coming to Utah. Smith is credited with bringing the first telegraph wire to Utah."[80]

In 1863 Martin Heiner and his wife Adelgunda, along with ten children, settled in Mt. Joy. They were joined by William and Margaret Robison who came from Farmington. Conrad Smith, Peter and Henry Rock, and Daniel Robinson were also among early residents of Mt. Joy. Robinson had been captain of the last LDS handcart company to come to Salt Lake in 1860. Peter Rock distributed fruit trees shipped from the East. He planted the first orchard in North Morgan. Philemon C. Merrill, former body guard

to Joseph Smith and a member of the Mormon Battalion, also moved to North Morgan.

Mt. Joy afforded an ideal area to settle. An abundant supply of fresh water flowed from a spring area near the base of the mountains, first known as Bennetts Springs, which not only provided water for area settlers but also later for the railroad. In the spring of 1864, Daniel Williams constructed The Big Ditch for which residents paid 200 bushels of grain as compensation to Williams. The ditch, nine feet wide and eighteen inches deep, conveyed water from the Weber River near Williams's Point to the settlers in North Morgan and extended north to Stoddard Meadow. It was completed in time to help produce a bountiful harvest that year.

One of the first community-oriented projects was the construction of a log school/church built prior to 1864, located near the present day address 555 Old Highway Road. For a period of time the children from Stoddard also attended school in this building in North Morgan.[81]

In 1868 the Union Pacific Railroad was constructed through Morgan. Although this historical event changed the character of the entire county, North Morgan was particularly affected. Coincidental with the railroad construction, Commercial Street also began to take shape. Businesses from South Morgan relocated in North Morgan near the railroad tracks. New businesses were also established on the west side of the tracks, and North Morgan became the trading center for the county.

The 1890 tax roll for North Morgan listed forty-two residents owning property. The 1893 tax roll registered forty-two homes in North Morgan. Fourteen log homes, nine frame homes, nine brick homes, five concrete homes, and five homes were not described. The 1900 U.S. Census register listed two hundred and fifty residents living in North Morgan.

Round Valley

Round Valley is a beautiful agricultural area on the east side of Morgan City. The small valley, somewhat circular in shape, is encircled by mountains, thus the name Round Valley. Canyons at the east and west ends of the valley mark where the interstate highway, the

Weber River, and the railroad enter and exit the valley. Round Valley is approximately two miles from east to west and two miles from north to south. The Weber River divides North Round Valley from South Round Valley and creates a natural boundary between the two settlements. Several times during the year, high water prevented early settlers from safely crossing the river between the two small settlements.

Ben Simon was known to live in this area at one time. Two trappers are recorded as residents of North Round Valley: William Cooper lived in the eastern end, and Mr. Elhannon, resided in the western end.[82] Two canyons, Yence Hollow and Cooper Gulch, loom on the north side of the valley. Cooper Gulch was named after the early settler William Cooper, but the exact origin of the name Yence Hollow is not known.

The next resident to settle in Round Valley appeared to be Edward Hunter. Journal entries in 1863 of Charles Turner recorded his helping to construct a ditch in Round Valley for Bishop Hunter and also a new log house. Edward Hunter's land was located between the property of William Cooper and the property of Mr. Elhannon. At one time a Mr. Rasmussen from Denmark rented the Hunter farm.

O.B. Anderson came to Round Valley at an early date and is credited with introducing alfalfa into the county.[83] County records verify Anderson eventually purchased part of the Hunter property.[84] County records prior to 1870 record Nathaniel H. Felt's also owning property in North Round Valley.[85] Felt purchased the big spring and surrounding acreage from William Cooper. Thomas C. West, a son-in-law of Felt, did the farming. West was a farmer, gardener, and horticulturist, boasting one of the best orchards in the county. Others to reside in North Round Valley were Evan A. Richard, John Ellingford and Andrew Black, said to have been a deserter from Johnston's Army. Black's original name was Andrew Schwartz, but he changed it to Andrew Black (Schwartz in German means black). Black was a mason and after marrying Amelia Heiner he built their two-story home at 605 N. 700 E. Morgan. County records also list the following as owning land in North Round Valley: William W. Way, George Goddard, and Oswald Bluemel.[86]

Early school classes were taught in the Edward Hunter home. At one time a footbridge placed across the Weber River allowed children to attend school in South Round Valley. (For more information on education in Round Valley, refer to the book, *Morgan County School Buildings: An Illustrated History,* published by the Morgan County Historical Society 1989.)

The first known residents of South Round Valley were John Cameron from Scotland and Mr. Filshop who came circa 1860.[87] Mr. Filshop settled at the entrance of a hollow, later named Philshop Hollow in his honor, but for some unknown reason the name was spelled differently. Others to settle at South Round Valley included John Gibby and his family, Henry Olpin, Gibby's father-in-law; also Edward Geary and wife Elizabeth Ann, Henry Bluemill, Henry Ridout, Samuel Carter, Henry Wise, August Limberg, and Johney Binsley and their families.[88]

As an agricultural community, South Round Valley required that a ditch be constructed. This was done as early as 1861, sometimes necessitating that dynamite be used to trench through solid rock. Settlers built a log school in South Round Valley circa 1870. Henry Olpin, a rock mason, built a one-room rock school still standing (1996), now privately owned by the Round Valley Golf Club.

Three canyons on the south side of South Round Valley are Philshop Hollow, Geary Hollow, and Tonks Canyon. Geary Hollow was owned by Ed, Dan, and Hyrum Geary.[89] Tonks Canyon, named in honor of the Tonks family who also settled in South Round Valley, had a spring in it.

Porterville

The area known as Porterville is located in the extreme southwest portion of Morgan County. Its eastern and southern boundaries are determined by the Summit County line. Porterville is bordered on the southwest by Salt Lake County and on the west by Davis County. The settlement of Richville provides the north boundary.

Porterville is characterized by high stream terraces or benches and bottom-lands, the first terraces formed from the lake terraces

and terrace escarpments of prehistoric Lake Bonneville. Most of the land lying east of East Canyon Creek is a low terrace giving way to rolling hills, then graduating to steep rugged mountains running between the community of Henefer in Summit County and Porterville. Lands on the west side of East Canyon Creek lie approximately 150 feet higher in elevation than those on the east. Lands on the west are generally flat and are occasionally traversed by a small drainage way running from the west to the east. Again the terrain becomes rolling immediately west of the flat lands, then climbs into steep, rugged mountains along the Davis/Morgan County boundary line.[90]

Sanford Porter Jr. first saw the area known as Porterville when he traveled to Echo to participate in guarding against the invasion of Johnston's Army. In 1859, Sanford and his brother, Warriner, returned to the Porterville area via the mountains from Centerville, Davis County, into Hardscrabble Canyon. Using pack animals, the two brothers brought the equipment to operate a sawmill as well as provisions on which to live. They located a sawmill on Beaver Creek, a tributary to Hardscrabble Creek, originally named Mill Creek after the sawmill but later changed to Hardscrabble, meaning hard, rocky terrain.

During the winter of 1860, Sanford Porter Sr. and his sons returned on snow shoes to the East Canyon Creek area and staked out farm sites in the snow. When they returned in the spring of 1861, they found that they had laid claim to some excellent agricultural land, and they began to cultivate it.

Porterville was thus named in honor of the Porter families who first settled its territory. Sanford Porter Sr. built the first log house in Porterville and with his family became a resident of the area.[91] The home was located near the present Marvin Kilbourn home at 3075 South Morgan Valley Drive. Chauncy Warriner Porter and his brother Sanford Porter Jr. also moved to Porterville and built homes in the summer of 1861.[92] In the spring of 1862, John President Porter and Lyman, brothers of Chauncy Warriner and Sanford, settled in Porterville.

John President Porter had first settled in Centerville by the Great Salt Lake, but the land was full of alkali. He felt all the good

land in Centerville had been claimed. Porter wrote in a journal entry, " . . . heavy snow in winter and high waters followed caused unusual rise in lake and salt water damaged the farm land."[93]

Porterville land on the west side of the creek and the bench land contained heavy clay soil and could therefore be purchased for a very reasonable price. The lower price of land on the bench combined with counsel from Brigham Young to locate a town upon the bench land, resulted in many residents establishing homes there.[94]

In 1863 Samuel Adams and his son Thomas staked out a large farm on the west bench where they built two log houses. One year later Adams sold most of his holdings to Stephen King Taylor, Henry Florence, William Dearden and Aaron Smethurst who began to farm the land. He also sold some of the town lots.[95] Thomas Brough brought his family and few possessions to Porterville by covered wagon in 1864.[96] Other families came to make their homes in Porterville, many of whom had immigrated from England and were converts to the LDS Church. These families included Woods, Cottam, Norwood, Stoddard, Cherry, Spackman, Phillips, White, Carter, Mikesell, Mortenson, Chreechley, Smith, and Kilbourn.[97] Most of the first settlers located and laid claim to the low land on the east side of East Canyon Creek. Building lots on the bottom land cost a great deal.

As early as 1862, Mrs. Anna Wood taught a small school in her home during the summer months. Joseph R. Porter taught in the winter. When Mrs. Wood moved away, Joseph Porter also taught her summer classes. In 1867 a school/church was constructed near the village center on the lower land in Porterville. Children from both East and West Porterville attended school classes and church in this building.

Settlers dug East Porterville Canal in 1861. Water was diverted from East Canyon Creek about 500 yards below White's Crossing. The ditch skirted the eastern side of the valley and irrigated approximately 352 acres. Local water users maintained the ditch in addition to providing manpower to clean it each spring. In 1865 the men of West Porterville dug a ditch to bring water to the west bench lands. Water was diverted from Hardscrabble Creek to lands west of East Canyon Creek. Later a reservoir was built at the mouth of Lake

Canyon. Due to the good moisture-holding capacity of the soils, dry farming was practiced on the lower slopes of the east and west sides of the valley with alfalfa and wheat as the principle crops.

According to the 1880 United States Census, 155 inhabitants lived in East Porterville and 134 residents in West Porterville. An LDS Church record for 1900 lists 316 souls in the combined Porterville Ward. The Morgan County 1893 tax assessment records 32 dwellings in West Porterville and 21 dwellings in East Porterville.

Throughout the years, nine sawmills have been located in Hardscrabble. Thomas Brough worked as a brick maker and mason, a trade learned from his father. Thomas and his sons, Samuel and William George, opened a brick making business in 1865.

Richville

The settlement of Richville is located between Young Street on the north and Porterville or 2225 South Morgan Valley Drive on the south. According to the United States Soil Conservation Service, this area covered about five square miles in the valley and five more square miles of dry farm and range land, including the hills and mountains west of the settlement.

A special feature found along the side of the valley is an outcropping of volcanic ash, known by geologists as Norwood Tuff. Some of the early homes were built of this material quarried from an area named Sand Blast, located on the Olof and Mary Rose property.

David Henderson, Isaac Morris, and Jonathan Hemingway were the first settlers in Richville in 1859. John H. and Thomas Rich (for whom the settlement was named), Gillispie W. Waldron, Solomon Conley, and John Wood soon joined them. According to the book *Mountains Conquered*, other early settlers included Albert Douglas Dickson, John Seaman, George W. Taggart, the Garns, the Mikesells, James Doricut, Baltzar Peterson, Philemon Merrill, John O'Brien, and Nels Merkley. A short history of John Rich states, "In 1861, he took up a squatter's claim and bought land off the Ute Indians and later when the land was surveyed he preempted his claim."

Settlers first selected a town site near East Canyon Creek, but according to folklore were advised by Brigham Young to locate on higher lands near the foothills. Following Young's advice, they settled at the mouth of Taggart Hollow (660 West 1550 South), building about half a dozen log houses there in 1861. Some of the early settlers in Richville came from Centerville, Davis County. Others came from Canada, England, Denmark, Sweden and the New England states.

A ditch tapping water from East Canyon Creek was constructed in 1861 and extended in 1862. Settlers used a single hand plow and ox team plus a pick and shovel to dig this first irrigation ditch. To make sure the ditch was level, they used a two-by-four and a saucer of water. Water from the ditch was utilized for irrigation, livestock and domestic use. Furthermore, Richville became the home of the first gristmill in Morgan County, located on the ditch at approximately 1425 South Morgan Valley Drive. As a result, the ditch became known as the Mill Race but was later incorporated as the West Richville Irrigation and Canal Company. George Washington Taggart of Salt Lake City and Morgan and Henry Hinman (brothers) from Farmington, Davis County, commenced building the gristmill in 1863; however, owing to the difficulties of obtaining necessary materials, the mill was not completed until 1866. Thomas Grover indicated that Brigham Young came to the valley before the mill was in operation and after viewing it said, "Brother Taggart, it won't run. The draft is in dead water." This proved to be true, and the wheel had to be enlarged and sunk deeper before it would operate.

Taggart Hollow leads into the western hills and mountains. One of the hills is called Fan Died Ridge, or the ridge where Fan died. As the story goes, one of the Richville residents had ridden his horse, Fan, out on the Richville Range. He tied his horse to a post while he walked around the area on foot. Several hours later he absentmindedly walked home to Richville without his horse. Many days after, he began wondering what had happened to his horse. He walked out on the range and found his horse dead, still tied to the post where he had left her. Thus, the hill was named Fan Died Ridge. Bear Hollow, Pole Hollow, Stone Quarry Ridge, Rocky, Left Hand

Fork of Deep Creek, and Spring Hollow were some of the other names pioneers used to identify this area.

Richville Land, Range, and Livestock Company was the original name given to the grazing area. The pioneers decided among themselves that a share would consist of forty acres. The entire range contains approximately eighty shares or 3,200 acres. Many springs in this area made it a good place to graze cattle in the summertime. Each livestock owner had a bell cow that went out with his herd. Each owner tried to have a different sounding bell to make finding his cow herd easier in the evenings.

The first schoolhouse in Richville was erected in 1863. The building also served as a meetinghouse for the LDS church and for other activities. It stood at about 1480 South Morgan Valley Drive. In 1872 a more commodious and substantial school building was erected at the same site. Jonathan Hemingway and John Seaman were two of the earliest teachers.

East Canyon Creek bridge was completed in 1868, making Richville Lane a more convenient way for residents to reach their farms located east of the Creek. It also made travel to East Porterville and Morgan City less difficult. Richville Dugway, an area or small hill located at approximately 1845 South Morgan Valley Drive which makes access to the bench land much easier, was completed in 1884, greatly improving travel.

Croydon

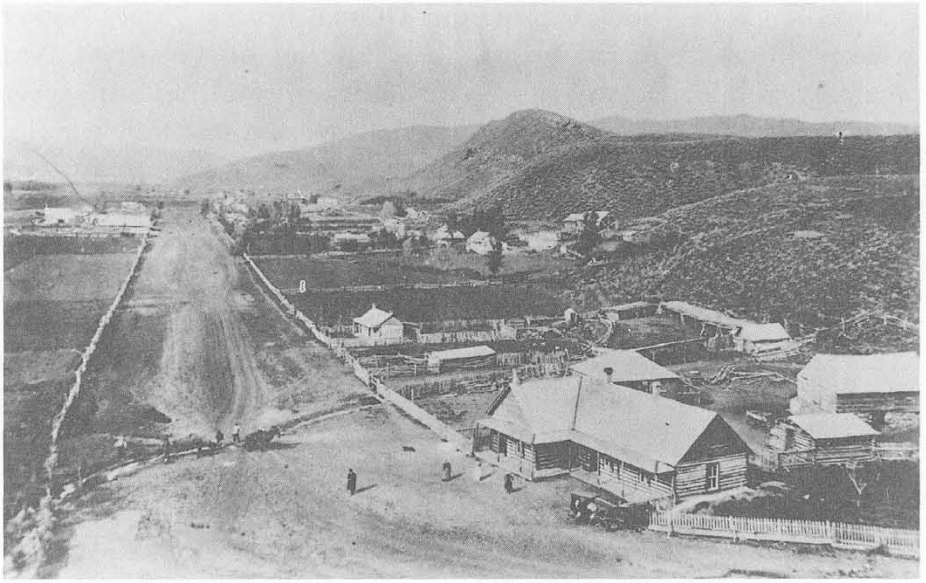
The community of Croydon is located approximately ten miles east of Morgan City.[98] On the southeast side of Croydon and beyond a small ridge is the community of Henefer, Summit County. Croydon is separated from the Narrows, the current route of Interstate 84, by a large mountain called the Banana Slope.[99] Prior to the construction of the railroad, travel through the Narrows to Devil's Slide was impossible. The main route to the East and West went from the junction where Lost Creek flows into the Weber River, through Croydon, then over the gradual sloping ridge to Henefer. The Banana Slope mountain has a large circular hole at the top of the west (northwest) end called the Devil's Looking Glass. The Devil's Eye rock formation is also located in the Narrows area.

Lost Creek was originally identified Plumbar Creek on an early map made by Jim Bridger.[100] The 1938 WPA Historical Records Survey compiled by Hugh O'Nell stated, " . . . and Pumbar's (also called Plumbar) creek was named for Pumbar, another trapper. The creek was later renamed Lost Creek." Lost Creek is one of the major tributaries of the Weber River. When early settlers came to the area, they discovered the creek water disappeared about one half mile above the site of the settlement and went underground a considerable distance. It resurfaced further down the canyon. However, due to geological changes, the streambed has become naturally sealed, and the water no longer disappears below the streambed's surface.

Lost Creek gathers head waters at Monte Cristo near the boundary of Weber, Rich, and Morgan Counties. It is located approximately twenty miles north of the confluence of Lost Creek Canyon and Lost Creek with the Weber River. The confluence is near the Holnam Cement Plant and the Croydon junction of Interstate 84. Croydon/Lost Creek area constitutes approximately one-third of the land area of Morgan County.

The geographic topography of the land includes a number of small canyons and hollows on both sides of Lost Creek canyon. Water coming from these canyons drain into Lost Creek stream. Over the years rich topsoil draining from the side hills formed a narrow valley, which runs from Lost Creek Reservoir to the community of Croydon. Prior to the completion of the Lost Creek Dam in 1967, a large percent of the valley floor functioned as pasture land. However, with a good supply of summer water from the reservoir, much of the ground now produces hay and grain crops. This feed is used as a winter supplement for livestock that grazes on the hillsides during the summer. A majority of the watershed area grazes cattle, sheep, and wild game animals.

Following Lost Creek canyon, numerous canyons and streams flow into the creek. Some of these were named after their characteristics and others were named in honor of the early settlers who claimed that area. Lost Creek Canyon contains a number of unusual rock formations. The majority stand on private property. The most prominent rock formations are located on private land at the head of



View of Croydon in early pioneer days.

Toone Canyon and are not accessible to the public. This beautiful phenomenon of nature has been named Chinatown.

The 1846 journal of Edwin Bryant gives the earliest known descriptions of the Croydon and Lost Creek areas. Bryant's group traveled down Lost Creek, and Bryant recorded seeing skeletons of buffaloes that had perished there many years ago. The group also saw as many as 500 antelope and some other wildlife. In the fall of 1861 Thomas Condie of Salt Lake City and Charles Richins of Henefer went to Lost Creek to fetch some grazing cattle owned by a man in Salt Lake City. This was the first time Condie had seen the valley.[101] Originally called Lost Creek, Croydon had been considered a part of Summit County.[102] Condie apparently liked what he saw because he returned in 1862 and built the first log house in Croydon. George Shill and Levi Savage returned with Condie in the spring of 1862 and also built a cabin.[103]

Most of the early settlers were from Salt Lake City and were mainly of English descent. Some were from Scotland.[104] The settlement may have been named Croydon in 1866 after a town in England. In November of 1862 another group of men came to

Croydon: Charles Shill, Gibson and Thomas Condie, James Walker, George Knight, Wm. Chapman, Chas. Bunting, Abel Mitchell, Wm. Probert, and Thos. Walker who brought four families with seven wagons. From Gibson Condie's journal we learn that they traveled together to Henefer. As they looked towards Lost Creek (Croydon), the hills looked black, all the grass and sagebrush having been burnt off by a large fire; however, as they continued their journey and approached the valley, they could see that fortunately the fire hadn't reached the hay they had stacked previously or the surrounding area. This group built their cabins in the form of a fort for protection from the Indians. A building lot inside the area was designated for a school house.[105] This public building, when constructed, also served as a church and a general meeting place. The first settlers intended to build a regular fort stockade, with houses inside, but the project was never accomplished. Only a few families participated in the plan. The majority of settlers placed their homes in a scattered row and formed a sort of string town.[106]

Other early settlers to the Lost Creek/Croydon area included W. H. Toone, John Toone, Charles and Joseph Blackwell, Ephriam Swann, George Thackeray, Solomon Edwards, Thomas Cooke, John London, Charles Toone, and John Casto. In 1864 the first child was born in Croydon to James Walker and his wife.

Before long Brigham Young called some Croydon settlers to settle in other areas, including Idaho. New settlers came to the area and homesteaded the vacated ground. Among them were John Hopkin, William Bower, W. A. Flagstaff, G. W. Bowering, E. Wilde, Charles Cottrell, John Mole, James Bosworth, Rob Stokes, and William and John Palmer.

The road to Morgan was very crude and dangerous. Lyon Toone stated, "We had to cross the river thirteen times to get to Morgan. It took a full day to go there and back by oxen." Most of the residents of Croydon went to Echo to get needed provisions.[107] Even as late as 1872 the road to Morgan was not in a good condition for travel.[108] To receive flour, residents of the area often traveled to Kaysville via Coalville, Parley's Canyon, and Salt Lake City. Some families would take a load of wood they had harvested and trade it for flour.

Croydon was somewhat isolated from the other settlements in Morgan County; nevertherless, residents were fortunate to receive mail three times a week at Walker's Store.[109] Charles Bunting was verified as the first Postmaster for Croydon in the 1870 United States Census report. From 1888 to 1893, John Bunting carried mail by horseback three times a week to Echo to meet the mail train and bring back mail for the residents of Croydon.[110] In 1878 Croydon had four stores: Walker's, Swan's, Hopkin's, and Thackeray's.

Robert Heber Beesley started a rock quarry business located three quarters of the way up the mountainside, north of Devil's Slide rock formation and the railroad tracks, from which he excavated beautiful red and gray sandstone. Rock from this quarry was used in the construction of the stately St. Joseph's Catholic church located at 24th Street and Adams Avenue in Ogden, Utah. The Beesleys, Robert Heber and his wife Mary Ann, and John and his wife Jane homesteaded nearly all of section 19. In January 1906 they sold the property. Resold in March 1906, the land became the site of Union Portland Cement Company's operation.

Morgan County tax rolls of 1893 listed one store, a frame building owned by John Hopkin. Also listed were thirty-three dwellings: twenty-six were built with logs; four were frame structures; one was made of rock; one was made of concrete, and one was constructed of lumber.

The 1880 U.S. Census recorded 152 residents in Croydon. Most of the men listed their occupations as farmers; however, some worked in the quarry, some were lumber merchants, and some were carpenters. George Bowering taught school. By 1883 there were twenty-eight families with a population of 176. Near the end of the century, 135 people resided in Croydon. Croydon has always been and still remains a close-knit community, perhaps because it is somewhat separated from the rest of Morgan County, located ten miles from Morgan City. Settlers of Croydon had to rely on what was in the area for their basic needs, including medical help. By the turn of the century, roads were greatly improved, and the small communities of Morgan County were no longer quite so isolated.

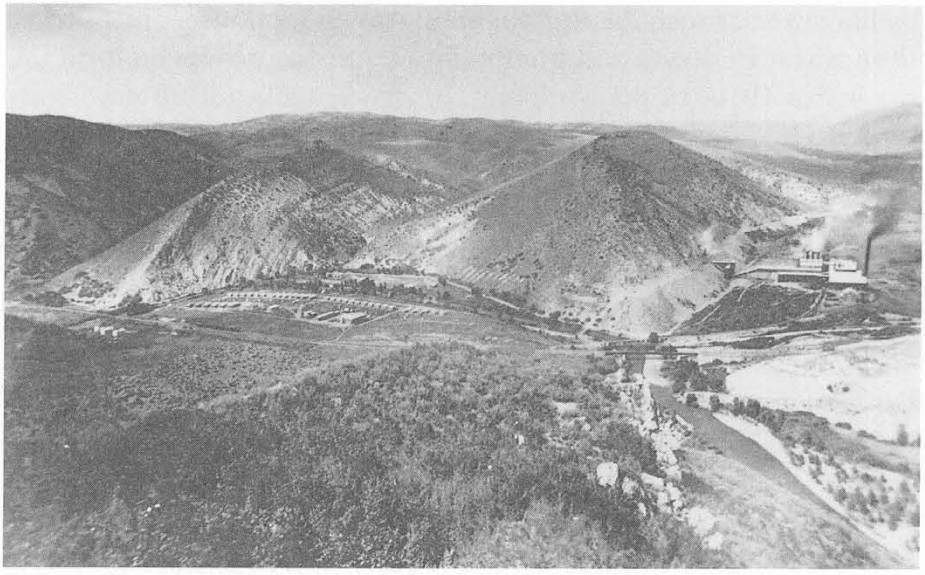
Devil's Slide

"The community of Devil's Slide was not noted as a pioneer town since its beginning was not until 1907; nor was it known as a railroad town, even though the Union Pacific Railroad passed within a stone's throw of the once thriving community."[111] Devil's Slide townsite was part of the property purchased by James Pingree from Heber and John Beesley for the Union Portland Cement Company. It was located between the Union Pacific railroad tracks on the south and the massive limestone mountain to the northeast where rock for manufacturing cement was found. The Weber River ran between the town site and the mountain. The original county road ran parallel to, and on the north side of the river. Devil's Slide was the only pre-planned community in Morgan County.

Almost as soon as production started at the new plant, the building of the company town got underway. The largest and most imposing structure was the hotel (boarding house). This two-story building with the corner entrance boasted twenty bedrooms upstairs with accommodations for two men to each room. Downstairs was a huge dining room where forty people could be seated for meals. Just off the front lobby there was a comfortable reading room and two bedrooms for the use of visiting VIP executives from the head office. The kitchen was at the back as were living quarters of the operators.[112]

Those who operated the hotel included Felix (Pean) Toone and his wife Emily, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Niebush, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mole, and John (Jack) and Sarah Hopkin.

> Homes in the village were built in groups at different times. The first were on Weber Avenue (next to the river). They were four-room houses without [indoor] bathrooms. (Bathrooms were added later) Water for culinary use was hauled from a spring located across the river. In 1921 spring water was piped to the homes and a sewer system was implemented. Then five-room homes with baths were built on Front Street or Ogden Avenue. Larger homes were constructed on the west end of town for the superintendent, the company physician, an emergency hospital and a two-room schoolhouse. The hospital was very adequate with a pleasant reception room, office, operating and recovery room, and other rooms to be used as the doctor wished. All necessary



The company town of Devil's Slide is in the middle. The cement plant is on the left. The road is located on the east side of the Weber River.

equipment and furnishing were furnished and financed by the company.[113]

C. Edison Dorland practiced as the first company doctor, followed by Harlan T. High.

While Union Portland's plant was still under construction, the company erected a building about half a block from the hotel on the same side of the street. This was used for the general store, drug store, and post office. It was named the Red Devil Drug Store. A Mr. Thomas operated the store and became the first postmaster for Devil's Slide. He hired a pharmacist to operate the drug department of the store. The store had several owners: Mr. Thomas, a Mr. Woodman, Ernest Balch and John Sagers, J. Williams and Sons, Theodore Henefer, and William Connell. In 1921 Frank Ulrich and Dr. C. E. Dorland bought the drug business. Frank Ulrich eventually sold his holdings to his brother Walt Ulrich, and Walt eventually bought the doctor's share. Walt and his wife, Thora, operated the store until Walt's retirement in March 1969.

Next to the general store sat a butcher shop operated until 1923

by Ebenezer Crouch. Behind the shop was an ice house. The butcher shop was torn down, and eventually a tennis court was built on the site. Circa 1918–19 the company constructed a beautiful new clubhouse. The large recreation hall was the site of dances, with home town talent furnishing the music. Silent movies were shown twice weekly and never-to-be-forgotten Christmas parties were held in the new facility. The clubhouse also had a barbershop which employed several barbers over the years, but the two who stayed the longest were Ernest Waldron and Benjamin Creager. Reed Richards operated an amateur radio station at Devil's Slide. Plant superintendent Dorland got permission for Richards to use the plant's red devil symbol on his QSA cards.

The home next to the doctor's was built for the company superintendent. Twelve men occupied this position throughout Devil's Slide's existence. When the village was razed, a resident of Logan bought the house. The building was literally sawed in half, moved across the railroad tracks, and transported to Logan via a house movers' truck.

Devil's Slide's first Union Pacific Railroad depot, called the Croydon Depot, was located one mile north of the village across from the rock formation known as the Devils Slide. Although it remained in the same general location, the station was moved three times prior to its closing in 1970.

In the very early days of the town's existence, school children of Devil's Slide were transported to school by horse and wagon in good weather and by bobsleigh in the winter to the nearby town of Croydon until a two-room school was built at the company town. The company directed the school's operation, owned the building, and hired and paid teachers' salaries; however, salaries along with school curriculum and schedules were under the jurisidiction of Morgan County School District, just as other community schools.

The schoolhouse also served as a meeting house for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. A full-functioning ward, completely organized for forty-seven years, met at Devil's Slide; however, on 17 December 1961, Devil's Slide Ward was discontinued and members were included in the Croydon Ward.

Dust from the plant presented environmental problems until

1944 when a new wet process plant was constructed, practically eliminating dust. Before implementation of the wet process porches had to be swept and hosed off first thing each morning, and homes had to be dusted daily.

The company laid cement sidewalks and roads throughout the town and planted one hundred trees. A new swing bridge with sides three feet high replaced the board path with a rope that spanned the Weber River in order to accommodate those living across the river.

The first baseball diamond, located directly across the street from the general store and the clubhouse, was also used as a playground and town square for celebrations. A new ball park was located about one mile east of town, across the road from the cement plant. The company hired some men strictly for their ability to play ball, but the men were expected to earn their wages working somewhere in the company. Players were given special privleges such as leaving the job for regular pratices and whenever a game was schelduled during their work shift.[114]

The "Red Devils" baseball team was the pride of the village. On ballgame days, townspeople followed the team, and businesses were closed except for the post office and drug store. In 1940 the Red Devils won the Utah State Semi-Pro Baseball Championship and received front page coverage in the sports pages of the newspapers. Devil's Slide, a little Utah community with a population of around 300, was featured extensively in the 1941 National semi-pro record book. Devil's Slide was the smallest community in the United States to win a state semi-pro baseball crown in the 1940 competitions.

Jap Camp was a little village built by the first Japanese employees who came to work at Devil's Slide. The exact year is not known, but approximately twenty-five to thirty Japanese men worked for Union Portland. As soon as they arrived in the Devil's Slide area, they began to build their little village. Their homes were constructed from surplus grain doors salvaged from railroad cars, used sheets of corrugated tin, poles, old boards, logs or even sheets of heavy cardboard. Some of the shacks had dirt roofs; others were tin. Water for culinary use was piped from the plant. It is not known if the houses had electricity. The one fairly-substantial log building in the camp had been

the home of the previous owners of the property. Known as the cook shack, it was used for central cooking and special meetings.[115]

A quiet peaceable group, the Japanese were always respectful to the men with whom they worked. While working, they wore ordinary work clothes, but as soon as their shift finished, they went home, took a daily bath, and donned their kimonos and clogs. The women wore kimonos daily.

Although the Japanese lived in a separate community from the town, they were considered a part of the town. Their children attended school with the other children, dressed like them, and learned quickly to speak English. Japanese food consisted mostly of rice shipped to the company store, then delivered six or seven sacks at a time to their camp via a wagon."[116]

During the years 1917–1918, every house in the village was filled. There was a Greek Town, an Italian Town, and the Jap Town a short distance away, but never a mention of any racial differences. Devil's Slide was nearly self-contained, providing employment, housing, entertainment, schooling, and medical care.

Circa 1918–19 Union Portland built three new apartment buildings for Japanese employees and their families, located along the road leading to Croydon. Each unit provided apartments for seven families. The apartments were modern in every way. Each of the two buildings provided a special room for Japanese ceremonial bathing customs. These hard-working people finally had nice living accommodations.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, a man from Union Portland's Denver office came to Devil's Slide, and soon after the Japanese people were gone. Rumor said they were moved for their own protection. These people were loyal to America, and some of their sons served in the United States Army. After the war, they did not return to work at Devil's Slide. Jap Camp homes were then used by newly married couples if the husband was a company employee. In 1948–50, to make room for the new wet process plant, the housing units were sold to a private concern that salvaged the materials.

By 1960 new super highways and modern car conveniences made travel fast and effortless. Many employees bought and built permanent homes in surrounding areas, moving their families out of the

village. As homes became empty, the company determined it was no longer expedient to make neccessary repairs, so they were torn down. Early in July 1987, the last resident moved from Devil's Slide and the last home demolished. Today a few garages remain by the river. The village is silent. The stately trees and the still intact cement roads and sidwalks are all that is left to remind us of this once lively village. Devil's Slide is now a ghost town; however, for those who called Devil's Slide home, the town will never really die.

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CHAPTER 4

POLITICAL HISTORY

Acquiring Title to Land

The pioneers arrived in Salt Lake Valley in 1847, but eight years passed before the first settlers entered Morgan Valley. This lapse in time was due to the natural barriers which prevented access into the area, nevertheless the delay did have its advantages. Those who settled in Morgan Valley benefited from the knowledge gained by early settlers of other areas. Also by that time, lawmakers had implemented a system for obtaining ownership to land. Settlers followed procedures established by the State of Deseret in 1848 although approximately twenty years passed before the system was accepted by the U.S. land office in 1869 when it was established in Salt Lake City.

As settlers became satisfied that Morgan Valley was the place where they would make their permanent homes and raise their families, acquiring land and property rights became important. A majority of the settlers felt satisfied with the procedures by which lands were acquired and owned. During that early period, many laws were passed as means of receiving ownership such as pre-exemption

(priority), squatters' rights, homestead acts, special grants, and others.

Land located in the townsite of Morgan City was surveyed into blocks and lots in 1864. Persons already residing there or desiring to acquire land filed a claim with the county recorder for a certain lot and paid a fee for the property. If two or more individuals requested the same unoccupied area, their names were placed in a hat and a drawing was conducted to see who would have the opportunity to obtain the property. Large plots of land outside the townsite which were used for farming or livestock grazing were handled in the same general manner. When the federal land office was established in Salt Lake City in 1869, the government reviewed the survey plats, recordings, and fees. Officials accepted the land transactions and recordings, and made and granted official titles to the land. County recorders and assessors have done a tremendous job of keeping account of the vast amount of land and the many transactions which have occurred through the years.

Morgan County's Unique Land Ownership

As an incentive to develop the West and to help finance the Transcontinental Railroad, the U.S. Government granted Union Pacific and Central Pacific Railroads alternating sections of land along the route. In Morgan County, the land along the railroad route had already been claimed; consequently, other parcels of land were selected from within the county boundaries and granted to the Union Pacific Railroad. The railroad was granted approximately one half of the total land area in Morgan for building the 19 1/2 miles of track through the county. The railroad sold Union Pacific Railroad Bonds and the land to private individuals in order to help finance construction costs. (Railroad companies retained mineral rights on the land.) This accounts for Morgan County's having the highest percentage of privately owned land in the state (91.5%).

As of 1992, only 8.5 percent or 33,207 acres of public land are located within the boundary of Morgan County. This is a small amount compared to San Juan County with the largest amount of public land, 4,403,670 acres or 88.8%.[1] Some people feel this abundance of private land to be an advantage to Morgan; others see it as a

disadvantage. All private land is assessed and taxed, which helps to finance the schools, county, and city governments. Also, residents have more control over their land resources, and availability exists for free enterprise development. However, little area is available for the public to enjoy Morgan County's natural resources. Residents must first gain permission from land owners or pay a fee to access land for hunting and other outdoor recreational activities.

Morgan County Land Use

	Number of Acres
Federal Land	20,441
State Land	12,767
Agricultural Land	350,177
Residential Land	1,520
Commercial Land	375
Non Assessed Land	6,161
(School, Church, Parks, roads etc.)	
Total Land	391,441

In January 1862, an act of the Territorial Legislative Assembly defined county boundaries. The assembly created and defined the boundaries of Morgan County as follows:

> All that portion of the territory bounded south and east by Summit County, west by Great Salt Lake, Davis and Weber counties, and north by Weber County and a line running from a point in the eastern boundary of Weber County nearest the most eastern headwaters of Ogden River, along the summit of highlands or range passing around the headwaters of Plumber or Lost Creek, easterly to the point where the north boundary of Summit County crosses Bear River.[2]

The legislative act awarded the settlers and future settlers of Morgan County a valuable inheritance. The area included a plentiful supply of water, timber, fertile soil, and natural resources. Morgan County's location within the territory and state also made it a crucial piece of real estate. Not only would the Union Pacific Railroad line traverse the county in 1868, but in years to come, Weber Canyon would become the industrial gateway for the West coast.

The act establishing the boundaries of Morgan County also spec-

ified that the probate judge, when elected, was to organize the county and establish the location of the county seat. Those duties fell to Charles S. Peterson who organized Morgan County in February 1862. Ira N. Spaulding, Philemon C. Merrill, and Joseph Bradt were the first selectmen in the county. Weber City, later named Peterson, was designated the site of the first county seat. The county court's powers extended to the "management of all county business and the care and custody of all county property"; the dividing of the county into "road districts, precincts, school districts" and others which may be required; control of timber, water, and other natural resources; the granting of mill sites; overseeing the needs of the poor and insane; and the appointment of all non-elected county officials, as well as appointing individuals to vacated elected offices. As defined by the territorial assembly, the office of the probate judge also exercised considerable jurisdiction in criminal cases. Congress, however, stripped the courts of criminal jurisdiction after the passage of the Poland Act in 1874.[3]

The county court appointed numerous officials within the various precincts it created within Morgan County. The county court divided the county into different precincts at different times, but by 1878 the districts had stabilized and included Mountain Green, Peterson, Enterprise, Milton, North Morgan, South Morgan, Littleton, Round Valley, Croydon, Richville, East Porterville, and West Porterville.[4] Poundkeepers, fence viewers, road commissioners, and irrigation commissioners were appointed for each district, though in the case of estray pounds, districts were consolidated. Provision for poundkeepers and fence viewers were two of the earliest ordinances passed by the Provisional Government of the State of Deseret.[5] The territorial assembly also mandated their appointment within Morgan County. Poundkeepers were expected to take care of any stray animals "found to be in mischief"[6] coming into their possession, and to keep a record of those animals, together with any marks or brands, and to make an effort to find the rightful owner. Before the owner could take possession of an animal he/she had to pay for any damages, as well as reimburse the poundkeeper for the animal's upkeep. In the event no one came forward to claim the animal, it became the

1913 Morgan County Officers (l to r): Ernest E. Butters, Co. Sheriff; Harry Toone, Road Supervisor; Lyon L. Toone, Commissioner; Richard T. Fry, Clerk; S.S. Florence, Commissioner; W.A.E. Visick, Recorder; Thomas W. Butters, Commissioner; Hyrum W. Phillips, Fruit Tree inspector; George Brough, Assessor; E.A. Wilde, Attorney; O.B. Anderson, Surveyor; A.R. Bertosh (in rear on horse), Game Warden.

property of the county court. In 1888, for instance, the county received over $148 from the sale of unclaimed livestock.[7]

A companion ordinance to the estray pounds dealt with trespass and enclosure. With much of the area surrounding the early settlements in Morgan County being used as common pasture, keeping cropland properly fenced was important. The idea was to fence animals out, not in, and each precinct had at least one individual designated as a fence viewer. Outside of the obvious, the fence viewer also was responsible for deciding where fences could be erected. After 1870, fence viewers, along with constables and justices of the peace, became elected offices within each county precinct.

The first elected officials to serve in Morgan County included Thomas S. Johnson, sheriff; James Bond, clerk/recorder; John D. Parker, county attorney and assessor; and A.W. Stoddard, surveyor.

Each elected official had certain duties and responsibilities assigned to his office by the territorial assembly. The territorial assembly in January 1854 authorized county sheriffs to be elected every two years. With consent of the county court, sheriffs were authorized to appoint deputies where circumstances required additional law enforcement. By virtue of his office, the county sheriff also served as jailer for the county. During the early years of settlement, the county sheriff incarcerated prisoners in whatever secure building he could obtain. When the county courthouse was completed in 1887, five of the six basement rooms in the new building were set aside as jail cells.[8] These were used until underground cells were prohibited circa 1925.

With enforcement of county and territorial laws in the hands of the sheriff, prosecution of offenders became the responsibility of the county attorney. In addition to prosecutorial duties, the county attorney also advised the county court on legal matters, and represented the "county in all suits and controversies where it shall be interested."[9]

The office of county treasurer was created early in the territory's history. In February 1852, the territorial assembly authorized the election of a treasurer in each county, the duties of which were "to keep an accurate account of all moneys or other property received or disbursed within the county, and to pay over all demands that shall be legally presented."[10] The treasurer was to report on the financial condition of the county at least semi-annually to the county court.

Most county revenue came through the process of taxation, and the office of the county assessor, created by the territorial assembly in January 1865, was required to prepare a tax list and present it to the county court annually. The tax list contained the total number of assets—land, livestock, merchandise, etc.—for each county resident.

With farming being the most common economic pursuit among early Morgan County settlers, the office of county recorder, which entailed the responsibility of keeping track of all land transactions, had particular importance. Recorders were to keep records of all transfer or conveyances "of land or tenements," and to record "town and city plats . . . [and] all surveys of lands, roads and . . . public

works."[11] The responsibility for recording deeds, "precisely as they occur," also fell to the recorder.[12]

Land transactions additionally required the services of the county surveyor, an office created by the territorial assembly in March 1852. The act required the county surveyor to map, chart, or diagram all surveys conducted under his jurisdiction within a thirty day period, and to provide descriptive detail of each tract of land in transaction. The surveyor was to erect a marker of wood or stone "at the southeast corner of each survey" made. The surveyor's responsibilities also included settling boundary disputes between claimants through the process of re-survey.[13]

County clerks were essential to county government. During some periods of time, the county clerk also served as county recorder. The county clerk served both the probate court and the county court, and territorial law required that separate records be kept for the proceedings of each. The clerk was further responsible for posting notice of ordinances passed by the county court and for corresponding with other counties and territorial agencies. The county clerk also served as ex-officio auditor in Morgan County.

In 1890 Mormon Church President Wilford Woodruff published the Manifesto, officially ending the practice of sanctioned plural marriages by the Mormon Church.[14] This declaration helped ease tensions between Mormon and non-Mormon political groups in Utah. It paved the way for Utah's ascension to statehood. In the 1895 elections, voters ratified the state constitution, and on 4 January 1896 President Grover Cleveland signed the proclamation making Utah the forty-fifth state.[15] On Monday, January 6, all state officers embarked on their new duties, and Utah's population held a glorious celebration. Two prominent public officials of Morgan County recorded statements in their journals concerning statehood. Samuel Francis, a delegate from Morgan who signed the Constitution of the State of Utah, wrote, "attended a grand meeting at the Stake House [and] a Ball at the Hall and Court House" on statehood day. Charles Turner recorded, "Monday, 6 January, music, singing, reciting, speaches [sic], fireing [sic] of gunns [sic], etc., etc." Later, Turner attended a dance at Simmons Hall "to see the people dance. Ho!" he stated, "what a crowd was there, and at the courthouse . . ."[16]

Commencement of New Legal Status For County Government

Territorial county courts throughout Utah and in Morgan County from 1862 through statehood accomplished a great deal. They were responsible for the formation of, and the perpetuation of, government within the county. Those who served as officers within Morgan County during territorial times accomplished this with little compensation and very few resources and should be honored for their selfless devotion and persistent determination. Numerous individuals have also served as Morgan County officials since statehood.

Following statehood, county courts were supplanted by county commissions.[17] In 1896 in the interest of establishing uniformity among all counties, the state legislature passed an act creating the county commissioner form of government. A county commission consisted of three resident individuals from each established county elected by their constituents. Article eleven of the new state constitution set forth the relationship between local government and state government. Under the constitution, counties were recognized as "legal subdivisions of [the] state."[18] In other words, county government (as well as municipal government) depended upon the state legislature. The first election for county commissioners commenced in Morgan County with the election of 1896[19]. However, in February 1896, the Morgan County Court was informed that the office of probate judge had been dissolved, and with that dissolution, so went the county court. As such, the first board of county commissioners in Morgan County began business on 10 February 1896 and consisted of T.U. Butters, A.F. Bowman [Bohman], and Chris Kofford. These three men served as selectmen at the time of statehood. In November 1896, the county elected three new commissioners: A.F. Bowman, James Tucker, and Joseph Durrant. At the subsequent election in 1898 the following individuals were elected: J. (Joshua or James) Stuart, J. (John) Thurston, and George Thackeray.

At the 1898 general election, voters of Morgan County also elected Chris Kofford, sheriff; Thomas Grover, assessor; C.E. Condie, attorney; Fred W. Clark, surveyor; J. Taggart, clerk/recorder; and F. Little, treasurer. The duties and responsibilities of elected county offi-

cials expanded considerably with passage of statehood.[20] Furthermore, the job descriptions of county officials have continued to become more complex and challenging.[21] It is positive to note that the original eight elected offices - recorder, clerk, auditor, assessor, attorney, sheriff, treasurer, and surveyor - still constitute the framework of county government today. Anyone desiring more information on the individual duties and responsibilities of county officials is directed to Section 17 of the Utah Code.

In 1972 Utah State Legislature amended the state constitution to allow optional forms of county government, including a county executive and county council. Morgan County continues to operate under the commission form of government. Cache and San Jaun Counties are the only two counties in the state with a county manager. (1995)

Morgan City Corporation

Morgan City is the only incorporated city in Morgan County. The settlements of North Morgan and South Morgan combined and incorporated in 1868. The Charter of Morgan City, "An Act Incorporating the City of Morgan in Morgan County," was approved 13 February 1868, to be effective the first day of April 1868. The charter consisted of eighteen sections that defined the boundaries of the city (which includes 1366 acres of land), established a mayor and a five member council to govern the city affairs, defined the powers of the council, established regulations to govern the city, and gave the council power to create an official seal.

Election of city officials was held the first Monday in August 1868.[24] The first meeting of the council was conducted 22 August 1868, in the one-room South Morgan school located on Public Square. The officials included Wm. Eddington Mayor and Councilors Richard Fry, Robert Hogg, Wyman M. Parker, Charles Turner, and Abiah Wadsworth. Justices of the Peace were Samuel Francis and David Robinson. Tho. R.G. Welch was appointed city recorder.[25]

At this first meeting, a city seal was authorized, consisting of "an antelope with cliffs of rocks in the background and the inscription Morgan City, Morgan County." Morgan City's current seal is basically the same except that it pictures a mule deer in place of the antelope.

Another item of business conducted at this meeting was to appoint a special committee to assess and collect taxes within the city. The first tax authorized at the 5 September 1868, was one-quarter of one per cent. At the 11 November 1868, meeting, Samuel Francis was appointed assessor and collector of taxes. The council then took on the responsibility of implementing ordinances to govern activities within the city limits. Among these were regulations for business licenses and the manufacture and sale of spirituous and fermented liquors. An ordinance relating to houses of ill fame and prostitution also passed.

Various business were already operating prior to the establishment of Morgan City in 1868. After the city was incorporated, business owners needed to acquire business licenses and to pay a fee to operate within the city limits. The first license applied for and granted was to Wm. Eddington for merchandising in the First Ward (South Morgan).[26] Other licenses were issued to Timothy Mets (Metz) to operate a restaurant, feed stable, and store at his residence in [the] Second Ward (North Morgan) and to Ann Littlefield to operate a restaurant and feed stable in the First Ward.[27]

The original business district was located in south Morgan. However, with the coming of the railroad (1868), local businessmen could see the advantage of being located close to railroad freight and passenger stations; consequently, they moved their establishments north to the west side of the tracks. All businesses were located on the same side of the street and formed a long string of buildings. The area remained the main business district for both the city and county for decades, but it is now only a fragmented shadow of what it once was. With the passing of time and the need for more space, businesses relocated in other parts of the city.

Many applications were presented and granted for the sale of spirituous liquors when the Union Pacific was constructed through Morgan and several saloons were established; however, the selling of these beverages had its drawbacks. One of the first ordinances passed by the council was to control the sale of liquors. By 1870 a motion was adopted "that the sale of all spirituous liquors be discontinued from date and all licenses for the same cease."[28] By March 1871, the city appointed an agent to sell liquors. According to records, the city

corporation liquor agent reported a net profit of $325. The book *Mountains Conquered* states,

> In July 1878 two hundred citizens petitioned the City Council to prohibit the sale of spirituous liquors. This ended the sale of liquor in South Morgan. The petition was granted with the provision that the agent of the corporation have the privilege of selling out the stock on hand.[29]

In 1870 the city experienced a smallpox epidemic and city fathers approved an ordinance to help prevent the spread of the disease.[30] Quarantine physicians were appointed and limitations were placed on visiting other residents.[31] The city also set up a building used as a quarantine hospital and paid for expenses involved there.[32] The disease became a problem again in 1873 when the council took measures once more to curb the spread of the illness.[33]

In 1874 Morgan City and County joined efforts to construct a courthouse. This was the first of many cooperative projects between city and county governments. The county paid two-thirds and the city one-third of the cost of the building. City and county governments maintained a good working relationship and provided the best final result for the citizens.

Morgan city is still governed by the system adopted in 1868. It currently owns and operates its own power, water, and sewer systems. Morgan is catorgorized as a third-class city, with 2023 inhabitants according to the 1990 census. The 1998 estimated population is 2300.

Morgan County Road System

A good road system is vital to the well-being and growth of a county. The roads of Morgan county originated with Indian trails along the mountain sides. These trails were also used by mountain men and fur trappers. Later, early travelers went through Morgan on their way to other destinations. These travelers included the Harlan Young Company, the Bryant-Russell Company, Lansford Hastings, and, in 1855, James Brown, who purchased Ogden Valley from Miles Goodyear, traveled down through Round Valley and Morgan to reach Ogden.[34] The Donner Reed Party and the Mormon immigrants trav-

eled the south end of Morgan County. Morgan's road system evolved from these early trails.

Thomas Jefferson Thurston and others who aided him constructed the first road through Weber Canyon. Although crude, the road allowed wagons to enter the area and consequently colonization to begin in the fertile valley. After leaving the canyon, the early settlers merely utilized the most feasible routes to reach their various destinations. They mostly followed the contour of the valley, avoiding as many stream crossings and marshy areas as possible.

These early routes, changed but little, constitute the roads in Morgan today. They form a type of belt route around the valley. The original road in North Round Valley curved around the base of the mountains until 1916 when a major change located it parallel to the railroad.[35] A road was built through the narrow upper Weber Canyon to the Croydon area. Two roads left Morgan City on each side of the valley as routes to Richville and Porterville. These two roads connected again at Porterville; then one continued up East Canyon to the Summit County Line.

In 1862 when the county was designated and the court system established, five road districts were defined. These included Mt. Green #1; the portion of Weber City (Peterson) west of the river #2; the portion of Weber City east of the river #3; Thurston #4; and Kanyon Creek #5.[36] As more people came to the area, roads became more of a concern, and by 1867 the number of road precincts in the county had increased to twelve.[37] By 1909 the county was consolidated into three road districts which eliminated the need for a road supervisor in each of the twelve settlements. G. L. Little was appointed road commissioner/supervisor over all the roads in the county.[38]

The road through Devil's Gate, the major route into Morgan, was difficult and costly to maintain. Additionally, a question existed as to what county this treacherous section of road was located in—Morgan, Weber, or Davis County. To help maintain the road in a travelable condition, some residents of Morgan formed the Weber Road Company. To cover maintenance costs, travelers were assessed a toll to traverse the road. In 1872 the road company abandoned its charter, and the road on the north side of the river in Weber Canyon

was declared by the court to be a county road as far as the county line.[39] Morgan County then expended large amounts of money to repair this section of road.

By 1876 the road at Devil's Gate was unsafe to travel. County road funds were depleted, and a public notice declared the county would not be responsible for any accident that might occur there. A question still existed as to which county Devil's Gate was actually located in. Officials from the three counties met to determine the boundary line and liability for that section of the road.[40] It was finally determined that the road below Devil's Chair (East end of Devil's Gate) lay in Weber County.[41] No additional funds for maintenance would be expended at Devil's Gate by Morgan County.

Private citizens built toll roads into most of the canyons within the county. These were constructed after obtaining permission from the court. To cover construction and maintenance costs, the court agreed upon a charge. Common charges equaled fifty cents for a single team and seventy-five cents for a double team.[42] The roads were used primarily to haul loads of lumber from the canyons, and were eventually turned over to the county. As irrigation expanded, ditches which crossed the roads created problems. The courts deemed the owner of the ditch responsible to maintain the road. Eventually culverts that complied with specifications set by the county court were placed at the crossings.

As more people settled in the county, a greater need and desire arose to cross the valley from the east to the west. In 1902 agreements were made with property owners, and a road which became known as Stoddard Lane was built from Stoddard to Milton, complete with a bridge crossing the Weber River.[43] In the flood of 1952, the Stoddard Lane bridge was washed out, causing great inconvenience to area residents who once again had to travel to Peterson or Morgan to cross the valley until a new bridge was built.

The road crossing from Richville to the east side of Kanyon Creek (East Canyon Creek) was deemed a limited highway in 1889. By 1895 it was accepted by the county as a public highway.[44] In 1899 a proposal was made to build a road from Morgan County to Summit County. At this time, the wagon road still went from Henefer over a small pass, around Banana Slope Mountain, and through Croydon, by-passing a

View down North Morgan Hill on State Street. Cement bridge is for North Morgan Ditch Company. (O. R. Stuart)

treacherous gorge called The Narrows. The proposed road would follow the route of the railroad, leaving Henefer and entering Morgan County two miles south of Devil's Slide at The Narrows.[45] When the road was completed, it shortened the distance between Morgan and Henefer. By 1914, however, it was considered unsafe and was in need of repair; nevertheless travelers continued to use it.[46]

The county road from Devil's Gate which ran along the east side of Morgan Valley to Henefer was designated a state highway in 1904.[47] Later it was designated U.S. Highway 30. Beginning in 1958, the interstate road to replace Highway 30 was built, paralleling the railroad through Morgan Valley. This road was completed in 1966 and served as one of the major routes from the East to the West.[48] During the later 1800s, several occasions arose when the county discussed building a road through Hardscrabble Canyon to the summit at the head of City Creek in Salt Lake County; however, the project was never undertaken. In 1963 the feasibility of a scenic road between Hardscrabble and Farmington was discussed, but again the road was never built.[49]

To help with the maintenance of roads in Morgan City, Public Service Days were established during the 1910 administration of Mayor H. B. Fry. On these two days, citizens donated service to improve the roads. Male residents came with teams, shovels, and picks to work for public benefit.[50]

In 1893 Weber County petitioned Morgan County to make a road from Mt. Green to the summit leading into Ogden Valley (Huntsville). The road was eventually built but never paved. In 1904 the county court designated it a public highway.[51] The road provided a scenic route, but it often proved impassable for passenger vehicles. Under good conditions, traveling the eight mile road took approximately one hour. Each year winter weather conditions took a heavy toll on the road, causing a need for major repair work in the spring. Many times a proposal to build a new and improved road was presented to the county commission, but the proposal was never approved. Finally in 1986, an agreement was made to build a two-lane paved highway between Huntsville and Mountain Green. The original Trappers Loop road was closed and a new road designated Trappers Loop was built northwest of the original location. The new road was dedicated and opened to the public in 1989 under the direction of Governor Norman H. Bangerter.

Another major road project in Morgan County involved improving and paving Lost Creek road in 1991. The road is mainly used by ranchers in the area and recreationists in route to Lost Creek Reservoir and State Park. This road leading from Croydon originally extended to Woodruff, Rich County. Prior to improvements on the route in Echo Canyon, Lost Creek road was the main link connecting people in Bear River Valley to the Wasatch Front. After the Echo Canyon section of road was improved, the Echo road became the main route. The Lost Creek road, from the present site of Lost Creek Dam to Woodruff, was then closed.

During the depression years, much of the county road work was accomplished through WPA (Work Progress Administration) projects and funding. WPA oversaw road improvements, including asphalt application as money became available.

The original Morgan valley trails have evolved into approximately twenty-eight miles of two lane roads and twenty-four miles

First bridge built across the Weber River in Morgan County. Located at Peterson it was known as the Magic Bridge.

of interstate road, seventy miles of county roads, and thirteen miles of city roads.[52] County roads are maintained by Morgan County Road Crew under direction of the road supervisor and county commission. Because of incomplete records, a list of all citizens who have served as county road supervisors could not be compiled. Those known to have been supervisors since 1933 are Carl Phillips, C. E. Rich, James W. Compton, Wesley Bertoch, Parley Carter, LaVain R. Eddington, Arvin Rust, Arnold Hannum, Vern Shaw, and Denny Stuart.

Bridges

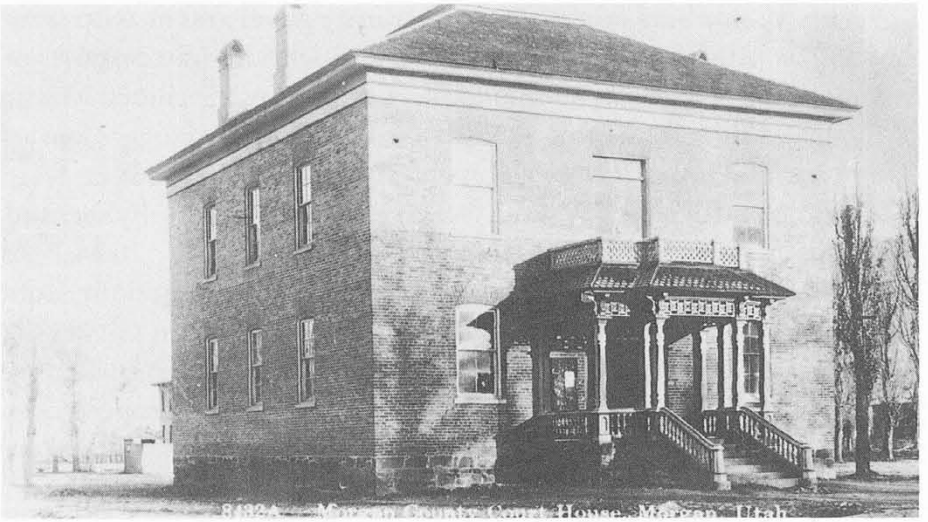
As more pioneers entered the Morgan County area, traversing the Weber River frequently became necessary. Bridges became very important. The first bridge built over the Weber River in Morgan was built at Weber City (Peterson). In 1867 the county court accepted the bridge from the contractor after abutments were filled and braces repaired.[53] This particular bridge was very important because it was the only bridge allowing access to the west side of the county at that time, but it was costly to maintain and was always in peril from

spring flooding. In 1872 in order to prevent the bridge from washing away, fifty-eight days of work with teams, and eighty-four and one half days of work without teams, and a total amount of $406 were expended.[54] By 1873 the court had used all available money on the bridge and turned the responsibility for its maintenance over to area residents.[55] By 1883 the Weber City bridge was posted too dangerous for use, and a ford was built nearby for teams to cross the river. The bridge was again repaired, but by 1886 it was again unsafe for use.[56] Finally, with additional funds from the state legislature, a contract was signed which enabled Ole Bergstrom to build a new bridge at Peterson, just north of the previous bridge, at a cost of $1,778.73. Eventually bridges that were adequate for crossing were built over all the creeks in the county. As funds were made available and needs required, several bridges spanning the Weber River were built throughout the county .

In 1869 the county court appropriated $1000 for building a county bridge over the Weber River in Morgan City.[57] Until this time, a foot bridge had been used, and prior to that, pioneers had to wade the river or cross it in a boat. At one time, a ten cow weight limit for the bridge was set. In 1946 the upper bridge located at the intersection of 125 North Street and 200 East Street was removed after it had collapsed in November of 1945. It was replaced with a modern, reinforced concrete bridge. During the time the bridge was out, all traffic was required to use the bridge on State Street.

Morgan County Courthouse

Early residents of Morgan County could see the need to erect a public building in which to carry out functions of their already-established governing agencies. As early as 1862, the county had been functioning with a probate judge and selectmen. In 1868 Morgan City was incorporated, and a mayor and councilors were selected. Also, the county seat was changed from Littleton to Morgan City this same year; however, no public building was designated for conducting business. Meetings had to be held in private homes and schools. Monies belonging to the county and city were kept in the vault at the ZCMI store on Commercial Street. For many years, meetings were held in the one-room brick school in South Morgan. County



First courthouse in Morgan. Construction started in 1874 and completed in 1886.

Commission minutes also indicate that meetings were held in the home of Daniel Bull, located at 56 North State Street, and in the office of Samuel Francis, the county clerk. Francis's office was a room he had built on the east side of his home located at 314 West Young Street.

The first entry in official county minutes that mentions building a courthouse appeared in the city council minutes date 29 March 1873: "The erection of a City Hall was brought up for consideration and after discussing the subject on motion of Councilor Turner the site was located on the public square where the foundation of a meeting house had been commenced. LDS Bishop Smith and council agreeing to relinquish the work done on said foundation for a reasonable consideration (unanimous)." Why this foundation was built and had not been used is not known, and when the foundation was constructed is a matter of speculation.

The next entry in the minutes was recorded at the county commission meeting dated 20 April 1874: "David B. Bybee moved that Morgan County unite with Morgan City Corporation to erect a good substantial building that may answer for a courthouse and City Hall. Seconded by J.R. Porter and carried unanimously."

Those members of the city and county government who were serving as public officials at the time and who had an important influence in the decisions for erecting a courthouse included Mayor William Eddington, Councilors Richard Fry, Robert Hogg, Charles Turner, and Timothy Metz; Morgan County Probate Judge Jesse Haven, Selectmen J. R. Porter, W. G. Smith and D. B. Bybee and County Clerk Samuel Francis.

The site selected for the new building encompassed city lots number one and two in block twenty-nine in Morgan City. This property, located on the south portion of the block, was owned by Morgan City Corporation. Later part ownership of the property was deeded to the county.[58] This block is often referred to as Public Square and City Park.

As with all endeavors of great importance, decisions are made with changes effected when they are necessary. "On motion of Councilor Metz it was agreed to erect a building 40 feet by 40 feet and that the city and county unite in its erection. Unanimous."[59] However, at a meeting held in May the dimensions were changed: "The dimensions of the City Hall were brought up for reconsideration and after due deliberation it was motioned by Councilor Hogg that the outside dimensions of the building be 38 feet by 46 feet (unanimous).[60]

With some of the preliminary work completed, the time arrived to appoint committees to handle the details of the construction. " . . . Motion that Tho. R. G. Welch, R. Fry and T. Metz be appointed as a building committee for the city in their erection of the Hall (unanimous)."

"On motion Jos. R. Porter, Sam Francis, and L. W. Porter were appointed a like committee for the county (unanimous)."[61] It should be noted that from the first official discussion in 1873 until its completion, construction of the courthouse took approximately twelve years. During this time, officers of local government changed, and other members of the community and county served on various committees involved with constructing and furnishing the building.

County documents for 1874 record,

> An agreement made and entered into between Morgan County and Morgan City for the purpose of building a Court House and

> City Hall on the fifteen day of June A.D. 1874. Whereas it is absolutely necessary that Morgan County and Morgan City should have public buildings for the performance of public businesses and whereas by uniting together said county and city can jointly erect a suitable building large enough for both. It is hereby agreed by and between said Morgan County and Morgan City to jointly build a two story brick building . . . the basement to be built of rock and divided into five cells, with hall or passage way for the confinement of prisoners. The first floor to consist of five rooms for offices, a hall and stairway. The upper story to consist of one large room, to be used for a court room and for public assemblies.[62]

On this same date, officials agreed that Morgan City and County would each pay fifty per cent of the costs to erect the building and would continue to pay fifty per cent of the utilities and maintenance expenses. Each would be allowed equal office space on the first floor, however, a supplemental agreement between the county and city later stipulated that wherein Morgan County would pay two-thirds of the costs and would occupy, as nearly as could be ascertained, two-thirds of the office space on the first floor. Morgan City would pay one-third of all costs and have available one-third of the office space on the first floor.[63] Two-thirds interest in the ownership of the property would also be deeded to Morgan County. The large room on the second floor would not be divided, but used for a courtroom and public assemblies as should be agreed upon thereafter.

When construction started on the courthouse, the LDS Stake House was also under construction. Because the majority of residents were of LDS faith, undertaking two building projects at the same time presented a great hardship to the settlers. The length of time required to complete the building could have been attributed to this.

Winters in Morgan are often severe and workmen had to prepare the uncompleted building to withstand bad weather.[64] County minutes of 1879 discuss the necessity to secure the building against advancing winter storms. At that date, walls weren't yet completed, and in October 1880, the committee recommended that the walls be raised to the square, weather permitting.[65] Not until August 1881 were preparations made for roofing the building.[66]

The few expenditure reports on file verify that local residents

supplied a great amount of material and labor. Charles Turner supplied lime and red brick; H. T. Pugh was paid for labor; Thomas West did the plastering; Wm. Hemming painted; S. Francis and his sons planted trees;[67] J. Williams provided the shingles; Simmons and Sons did various contract work;[68] John K. Hall was paid for designs; Bernard White received payment on several occasions for lumber used in the building; various other residents of the county hauled shipped-in lumber,from the railway station to the building site; George Criddle put down the sill; George H. Taggart was paid for carpenter work; and E. Geary hauled loads of sand to go around the courthouse. Many other residents of the city and county contributed to the construction of the building, but these are the only names listed on the few financial reports submitted to the county and city.[69]

Building the courthouse represented a massive undertaking in a period of time when money was limited. Each year work on the building progressed as money became available. A report extending over a period of the nine years from 1874 to 1883 shows Morgan County had expended a sum of $3,979.43 and Morgan City had expended a sum of $2,547.76, making the total expenditure thus far on the courthouse $6,527.19. The building was still not compete, however, and required much finishing work before it was useable by either city or county. The matter of finances for furnishings also had to be considered.

The people of South Morgan must have felt great excitement as the courthouse neared completion. Residents had watched the progress daily as they went about their business. Now the time had come when the building could finally be used. Morgan was in dire need of a place for public gatherings other than the small brick school building which had served their needs for many years; consequently, in April 1885, Mayor S. Francis made a request that the city purchase stairs, allowing access to the second floor for a suitable place for public gatherings.[70] Not until 2 January 1886, were the stairs installed and ready to be painted. On 7 August 1886, authorization was given to purchase furnishings for the city council chamber. The day had finally arrived when business could be conducted in the newly completed building. No record has been located of an official opening of the courthouse for use, but on 9 August 1886, according

to Morgan County minutes, citizens held their first meeting in the newly completed building.

A final accounting of expenses was presented to the city council on 10 April 1889, indicating the county had spent a total of $5,808.30. No exact figure could be located for the total amount expended by the city, but the estimated total cost of the building was $8,607.[71]

As with any building, the main construction of the courthouse wasn't the end of expenses. On 13 April 1887, an appropriation of $100 was made for planting shade trees on the courthouse grounds and erecting a fence. George Heiner was paid on 11 December 1888, for this fence. The south half of the block (public square) was planted into grass and watered from the irrigation ditch. The grass was mowed or cut by a team pulled hay mower, then raked and hauled off for animal feed. The city and county held most of their summer celebrations there. Often people who traveled to the courthouse from other communities brought their lunches and spread a blanket or quilt on the grass to eat and relax before making the journey home. On 3 December 1888, at a county commission meeting, the building committee was instructed to build two privies out of lumber as soon as possible. They were to be located a reasonable distance from the back of the building.

In November 1890 some of the jail cells in the basement were used for coal storage, thereby avoiding the necessity to build another building for the coal. On 2 March 1891, the county accepted the completed masonry work and the rock steps completing the portico on the front of the courthouse. Rocks for the steps were purchased from a quarry in Coalville.[72]

On 14 July 1902, on motion, the clerk was instructed to post notices in three of the most public places in Morgan City for the installation of hitching posts in front of the courthouse. Said notice was to read as follows to-wit:

> Notice is hereby given that the County Clerk of Morgan County will receive bids on or before the 26th day of July A.D. 1902 for the putting in of hitching posts in front of court house. Said hitching posts are to extend a distance of 80 feet each side of the gate. The posts are to be of Red Pine. 7 feet long and 6 inches through at the

> top. Are to set two and one-half feet in the ground, the end placed in the ground must be tarred, while a bolt one-half inch thick should be placed through top of post to keep same from splitting. It will require 22 posts which are to be placed 8 feet apart with an iron pipe one and one-half inch thick running through top of posts. Thirty days will be given in which to complete said work.[73]

A later entry in the county minutes shows William Morris was paid $32.40 for constructing the hitching posts. Morgan City paid part of the expenses.[74]

The courthouse was a well-constructed, modern building for its era, but eventually it became inadequate. As work loads increased for all county and city officials, more space for offices, records, storage and public meetings became necessary. At a meeting of the Morgan County Commission and Morgan City Council held 20 December 1955, a proposal for a new facility was introduced. This building would be constructed with the county paying eighty-eight per cent and the city twelve percent.

During a special bond election held 11 September 1956, citizens of Morgan passed a bond for $325,000 by a 155 majority vote, facilitating financing for the new building. *Mountains Conquered* discusses funding sources for this building:

> Part of the money used for the new building came from another source. In 1941 in memory of all veterans who have served their country, a "Memorial Levy" was placed on all local taxes and is continuing at this writing [1959]. Another, levied in 1945, which continued for four years, was known as the "Building and Construction Levy." From these two funds . . . a total of $114,932.93 had accumulated for use in the construction of this building.[75]

On 4 February 1957, Wilkinson Construction Company of Morgan demolished the historic courthouse. County business was conducted in the Daughters of Utah Pioneers building. Morgan City Corporation office and the county agricultural department rented space in the new Earl's store on State Street.

Construction of the new facility started in April 1957 under the direction of Ernest Stettler and Sons Company of Logan, Utah. Local

resident and high school industrial arts teacher Peter Evans was hired as building inspector. The building was designed and constructed in such a manner that when more space was needed, a second story could be added to the existing building. The modern structure was built of pre-cast, pre-stressed concrete slabs provided by Otto Buehner and Company of Salt Lake City.

The new City and County Memorial Building provided 23,800 square feet of space with 1900 square feet of basement storage area. Fifty-one rooms accommodated the needs of the county and city including an adequate two cell jail, court room, Veterans Memorial room, library, and office space. The building was dedicated 8 February 1958, by Bruce R. McConkie of Salt Lake City, Utah.

As of 1996, this building also has become inadequate to provide space necessary for the growing needs of the city and county. One way to alleviate this was to construct a new library/senior citizens center slated for completion in the summer of 1998, thus freeing current library space for other offices.

Morgan County and City Law Enforcement

The office of sheriff is the oldest law enforcement position in the world, created in England in 992 A.D. by the ruler Athelred. In 1992 the millennial or 1000 year celebration of the office was held in London, England. A history of Morgan County along with Morgan County Sheriff's patches were submitted to Scotland Yard and both are on display in a memorial to sheriffs at the new Scotland Yard Headquarters in London.[76]

When Morgan County was organized and the Probate Court system implemented in February 1862, one of the first appointed officers was Sheriff Thomas J. Johnson.[77] At that time Morgan had five precincts. A constable, accountable to the sheriff, was appointed at each of the precincts: Mt. Green, Weber City (Peterson), Thurston (Milton), Canyon Creek, and Lost Creek.[78] As the county became more populated, it was divided into additional precincts, and other constables were appointed. Ten sheriffs were appointed before 1896 when Utah became a state and the office of sheriff became an elected county position.

Duties of the sheriff are the same in each county of the state and

are outlined by the Utah Code. Early law enforcement officers in Morgan County were involved mostly in disorderly conduct, quarantine enforcement, fence law compliance, and an occasional horse theft. 20 September 1878, Morgan County minutes state, "The sheriff by motion was authorized to spend six days in hunting up the horse thieves supposed to be camped in the mountains between Mountain Green and Loss [Lost] Creek.[79]

Morgan City Marshall

Section Eight of the Charter of Morgan City provided for the city council to appoint a marshall and supervisor of streets. In August 1868, Philemon C. Merrill, North Morgan resident and former bodyguard of Joseph Smith Jr., was appointed first marshall and superintendent of streets for Morgan City.[80] It appears this position didn't last long because in October of the same year, Isa Toomer was appointed Captain of Police, with Thomas Lerwill and George Heiner as policemen. During the early years of law enforcement in Morgan City the titles of marshall, captain of police, and chief of police were used concurrently. Occasionally the city employed a night watchman to patrol the business district. It wasn't until February 1869 that an ordinance was approved authorizing city police and defining the duties of policemen.[81] The duties of city law enforcement officers were basically the same as those of the county sheriff's except for the fact that their duties were applicable only within the city boundaries. One particular job of the city marshall was to collect license fees from city businesses and to close establishments if owners failed to produce a fee. During a quarantine in 1887–88, the marshall was paid $1.50 per day for attending people under quarantine.

Morgan City operated its own police force until 1980 when it decided to contract police protection from the Morgan County Sheriff's Department. Since that time, law enforcement has been under the direction of the Morgan County sheriff, coordinated with Morgan City Council.[82]

Law Enforcement

Although the principles and purposes of law enforcement are about the same today as in the early years of settlement, the scope of

operation has changed to meet the needs and demands of increased population, industry, and advanced technology. Many crimes are basically the same today as they were in earlier times but have increased in numbers with population growth. Criminals have become more educated, and law enforcement is now required to use modern methods and technology to counteract their unlawful acts.

Law enforcement responsibilities and actions required to keep order during the past 130 years of the county's existence have seen many changes. Building the Transcontinental Railroad through Morgan brought with it a responsibility for the sheriff to see that railroad camps remained orderly. Train robbery became a frequently committed crime in the West after the railroad was completed; however, no record can be found of any such occurrance in Morgan County. Rumor has it that in the narrows of Weber Canyon near Devil's Gate, Weber County, trains were stopped and robbed by early notorious outlaws. Sheriffs of Morgan, Davis, and Weber counties joined forces with Pinkerton Detectives to pursue and apprehend the robbers.[83]

During its early period, Morgan County had its share of saloons. Law enforcement officers monitored patrons for drunkenness and disorderly conduct and kept youth of the communities out of these establishments. Under orders, law officers also closed saloons at different times for varying reasons.

The law prohibiting plural marriage was difficult to enforce by the local law officers in Morgan and throughout the state; consequently, federal marshals were assigned to carry out enforcement. Not unlike other communities in Utah, Morgan County had many LDS Church members living within its boundaries who practiced plural marriage. When federal marshals came into Morgan by way of the train, word was relayed to residents, and polygamists went into hiding. Located in Line Creek is a small cave said to have been used as a hideout by polygamists. Charles Turner, a city resident, had a secret room in his attic where he hid from officers. Some polygamists were known to go to Lost Creek area and stay until Federal Officers left the county. A few men from Morgan County were incarcerated in the state prison for practicing polygamy.

In January 1919, the Eighteenth Amendment prohibiting the

manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages was ratified, and nine months later, Congress passed the Volstead Act providing for enforcement of prohibition. Morgan law enforcement officers had their share of problems with bootlegging and liquor smuggling, known as rum-running. Morgan County was fortunate not to have the gangster involvement prevalent in many other states during prohibition.

Sheriff Brigham Y. Robison was known to dump confiscated alcoholic beverages down his home sink home which drained into a cesspool. One day, according to local lore, the chickens around his yard partook of the seeping liquor and began staggering about the area. Many residents also reported that liquor could be smelled when they drove past Sheriff Robinson's North Morgan home.[84] In 1933 the Twenty-First Amendment repealed the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Act, thus ending prohibition.

The introduction of the automobile changed the complexion of peace officers' duties and created more problems as society started to move and migrate. In the late 1920s, the Utah Peace Officers' Association was formed and subsequently provided formal training for sheriffs and other law enforcement officers. During World War I and II, sheriffs had the additional duty of enforcing draft laws.

During the 1940s, Morgan County's Sheriff worked with federal agencies involving military deserters who came into the county. He also settled gas and food rationing problems. The sheriff dealt with an increase of transients from Highway 30, which traversed the county, making Morgan a good stop-off. Morgan County Sheriff Bernard Dahlquist also worked cooperatively with Ted London, a Highway Patrolman from Croydon, dealing with this problem by feeding travelers and sending them on their way. In June 1944, with the assistance of Patrolman London, an escaped Italian prisoner of war was apprehended in Morgan.[85] In 1947 a federal prisoner was also apprehended in Morgan County.[86]

Up until the 1940s, the sheriff had to rely on telephone communication to remain updated on incidents in Morgan County and surrounding areas. Sheriff Dahlquist purchased and installed the first two-way radio in his vehicle at his own expense. At that time the sheriff used his own car and was reimbursed for mileage. It wasn't

until 1949 that the county appropriated money for radio equipment.[87]

Throughout the nation, the '50s was a rebuilding era. Morgan, still plagued with hobo problems, began helping displaced veterans. During this time, automobile travel increased. Highway 30 down Weber Canyon was a narrow, two-lane, winding road used by passenger cars, semi-trucks, and commercial busses. This created a very hazardous condition for motorists, and numerous fatal traffic accidents occurred which the sheriff was responsibility for investigating. These accidents often required pulling wrecked vehicles apart to free victims. Devil's Gate was the scene of many accidents.

In November 1958, Navy flyers parachuted out of their disabled C119 plane into the high country of Lost Creek during a severe snow storm. Through the efforts of Sheriff Porter Carter, many volunteers from Morgan, Summit, Weber, and Davis Counties, and a Jeep Patrol from Provo, the survivors were rescued, and the bodies of those who died were recovered.[88] This incident prompted the organization of the Morgan County Jeep Patrol in April 1959 under the supervision of Sheriff Carter. All members were volunteers and provided their own vehicles. The Jeep Patrol is still in operation and remains a valuable asset in Morgan. Since its organization, Jeep Patrol members have participated in many courageous and unselfish searches and rescues. They have continually risked their own lives to help others. Jeep Patrol members are not reimbursed for their expenses.

During the '60s, the hippy and drug era emerged. Many, including some law enforcement officers, thought the drug era to be a passing fad. According to Sheriff Bert Holbrook, "Due to the denial by federal, state, and local officials, the drug problem was allowed to escalate." Morgan and other counties continue to fight a never-ending battle against problems created by illegal drug use and increased violence associated with it.

In the late 1980s, gang activities became prevalent along the Wasatch Front. Morgan and other counties will be dealing with this subculture within society for years to come.[89] In 1994 law enforcement initiated a pro-active program in the school system, providing for one officer to be involved at the school full time to educate students about law enforcement. The school district pays 3/4 of the offi-

cer's salary; the county pays the other 1/4. This program has proven to be very successful.

The '90s brought an increase of domestic crimes that required many hours of involvement by law enforcement officers. Morgan County Sheriff Department classifies Morgan as a recreational county with a state park located at Lost Creek and East Canyon. On hot summer weekends, Morgan's population doubles, bringing additional drug and alcohol related problems. However, many of the visitors are respectable law-abiding citizens who enjoy the beautiful outdoors.

Currently, Morgan has had two major crimes that remain unsolved: the sniper killing of a truck driver in Mt. Green in 1982 and the murder of three year old Rachael Runyan of Sunset, Davis County. Runyan's body was discovered in the stream along the original unpaved Trappers Loop Road. These investigations are still active.

Morgan County Jails

When Morgan County was first organized, those arrested for criminal offenses were housed in any building available. Criminals requiring long term incarceration were taken to Weber County, with Morgan paying the boarding expenses. This worked until 1883 when the county courthouse, which included five jail cells in the basement, was completed. These cells were improved through the years and used until discontinuance of housing prisoners in basement facilities was recommended. Once again, for a period of time, Weber County facilities were used to house Morgan County criminals.

Question has arisen as to whether the rock building located behind the R.H. Welch furniture store on 125 North Street was ever used as a jail or to house transients. City Council minutes in 1925 empowered the city marshall to rent the building and verify that to some extent it was used as a jail:

> . . . for the purpose of setting up a steel cell to be used as a jail.[90]
> . . . city notify Mr. Albert C. Welch who is the owner and leasor of the property used by Morgan City and Morgan County (as a city and county jail) to add to his equipment a toilet and proper lights and to make a corresponding change in the monthly rent.[91] . . . Marshall Chadwick replied that he and Sheriff Fry had met with

> County Commissioners and that Mr. Fry had been instructed to notify Mr. Welch that the county would have no further use of the building formerly used as a jail.[92]

Morgan County minutes verify the following: " . . . an agreement had been made for remodeling the building formerly used as a jail, by removing the cells and making additional improvements, and to use the building as a sleeping quarters for trancients."[93]

In 1934 the government financed a WPA (Work Progress Administration) project to build a cement block jail in Morgan City. County minutes dated 2 February 1934, state, "The matter of equipping the jail building, which subject had been previously discussed, was approved and the materials ordered." The jail was built on the corner of State and Young Street, next to the county courthouse (southeast corner of Public Square, block #29). The cement blocks were made to resemble sandstone. County minutes dated 4 March 1935, state that the city was billed for 1/3 the cost of the building or $872.04. Total cost of the jail and furnishings was $2,616.12.[94] The completed jail contained one cell, a conference room, rest rooms, and a small waiting room. The facility was used for twenty-three years until a jail was included in the new courthouse in 1958. Willis Packard Company of Morgan demolished the old jail.[95]

The jail in the new courthouse was described in February 1958 as "Small but Mighty," with cement floors, steel plate walls and ceiling, and tempered glass windows.[96] The sheriff"s office and jail are located at the rear of the west-wing of the courthouse. They have a separate outside entrance but can also be assessed from the inside corridor. The jail was used for many years, but only for short term incarceration. The policy continues of transferring prisoners to Weber County while Morgan County pays for housing costs as specified by a contract between the two counties.

Morgan Fire Department

Fires were fought in Morgan County the same way they were in other communities throughout the territory. Neighbors helped neighbors, much like the often-recalled bucket brigade. The first reference to any form of organized fire fighting in Morgan appeared in the 18 September 1908, city minutes where the council recom-

mended a volunteer fire department There is no record of any action taken at that time.

Through the years, several fire engines and other equipment were purchased. The procedure was always for the county to pay 2/3 percent of the cost and the city 1/3 percent. In 1918 the city received a bid of $300 to purchase a hose cart and 250 feet of hose. Apparently this was accepted, because the equipment, which was Morgan's first fire fighting equipment, was purchased.[97] Although this equipment was a great asset, the fire had to be within 250 feet of a water source to utilize the hose cart. According to city minutes, in 1919 the city and county shared the cost of a chemical fire engine equipped with 500 feet of hose. The county's portion being $183.34.[98]

The first fire equipment was housed in a shed at Heiner's Garage. In 1945 a building was constructed to house the fire engine and ambulance located at 320 East 125 North Street. This station was used until 1981 when equipment was moved to the newly-constructed public safety building at 41 North State Street.

Robert Richards was Morgan's first fire chief and was paid $2.00 per month for his services.[99] In 1924 a Model-T Ford was purchased and converted into a fire engine. The engine included two 30 gallon tanks filled with soda and water, which when turned upside down, released sulfuric acid. The acid caused the soda water to boil and foam. This foam solution was then applied to the fire.[100] A fire siren was purchased and installed circa 1925 to alert the volunteers of a fire. An established code system enabled volunteers to locate the fire. The siren also alerted residents of a robbery in town or water system shut-off. The siren was first located on the Vallis Hotel on Commercial Street. It was then moved behind the telephone offices at approximately 415 East 125 North Street and later moved to the fire station at 320 East 125 North Street. A new siren was purchased in 1983 and installed on the public safety building on State Street; however, it is to be used as an alert only in the case of disaster.

After telephones were introduced into Morgan, seven volunteer firemen had fire-phones installed in their homes. When someone called the fire number, the phones in all seven homes rang, along with an additional phone at Heiner Ford and Carrigan Motors, thus alerting the men of the emergency.[101] Employees at these two busi-

nesses have always supported the volunteer fire department and are among the first to respond to a fire call. If the emergency warranted, wives of those men would call other firemen and alert them of the problem. In 1985 a pager system was implemented which is still being used today. Morgan's fire department can now be reached by dialing 911.

The area has experienced several major disasters, but Morgan's volunteers have saved many homes and a great deal of property for the citizens of the county. According to former Fire Chief Dale Peterson, when he was a young man, " . . . Williams burnt down, across the street from the present company." In 1920 Heiner Livery Stable and Garage was completely destroyed by fire.[102] In 1943 the building between the drug store and Williams burned, resulting in a fatality. Fire destroyed the municipal power plant in 1945, resulting in an eight hour blackout of Morgan City.[103] In August 1960, a fire in Lost Creek consumed over 3300 acres. While fighting this fire, county employee Arvin Rust had his right leg run over by a caterpillar tractor, resulting in amputation above the knee.[104] A major fire consuming more than 7000 acres occurred in 1966. The fire started in Enterprise and spread along the mountains on the east side of the county. In 1980 the restaurant and bowling alley at Como Springs were razed by fire. One of the most unusual fires, according to Fire Chief Dale Peterson, was a multi-structure fire in Porterville at the Wayne Mortenson farm in 1972. Mortenson's hay barn, milk-house, and corrals were all destroyed, along with a field of ripe grain belonging to Ronnie Adams. The raging fire threatened three nearby homes and burned a hole in the roof of the LDS church building.

To make an accurate list of all the dedicated volunteer firemen who have served Morgan would be impossible; however, the following men have served as fire chief: Robert Richards, S. Jack Olsen, Joseph Williams, Frank (Whitey) Little, Ken Sommers, Dale Peterson, and David Rich.

Morgan still owns the 1941 Howe-Ford-Mercury triple fire engine which officials keep for use in parades, etc. The equipment used currently for emergencies consists of Engine #1, a 1993 Pierce Tanker/Pumper Combo; Engine #2, a 1989 Dodge fast attack truck; Engine #3, a 1976 Dodge tanker; Engine #4, a 1967 American

LaFrance; and Truck #5, 1986 Dodge 4 x 4 brush unit.[105] Currently twenty-nine volunteer firemen are provided training on a monthly basis.

In 1997 Morgan area was reclassified and upgraded from a class 7 to a class 6. This reclassification was done by the ISO (Insurance Services Office) located in Denver, Colorado. The results are distributed to all insurance agencies nationwide.

Mountain Green Fire District was established in July, 1971, to provide closer fire protection for homes and subdivisions along Highway 84. Because Morgan City/County's fire department was located ten miles away, local residents requested a closer response unit. The first fire commissioners were D. Gerry Weyer, Don L. Harbertson, and Hyrum Fromm, appointed by the Morgan County Commission to serve until the next general election. D. Leroy Thorpe was appointed as the first fire chief. Arrangements were made with the Utah State Forestry Department to assemble fire apparatus. A 1200 gallon tank was installed on a surplus army truck to provide a tanker fire truck for the district. The hose, nozzles, and a 500 gpm (gallons per minute) fire pump were mounted on the back of the truck. The 1200 gallon gallon tank truck was planned as backup for large brush fires.

Volunteer firemen were enlisted and Fire Chief D.L. Thorpe and Dee Bybee established training schedules. Reed Harding, a county fire warden initiated coordination. Aleene Weyer served as a dispatcher to notify volunteers when fires were reported to her home. Training was provided for ladies' auxiliaries as most of the men were away at work during the daytime. To ensure adequate protection, Mountain Green and Morgan Fire departments back each other up in emergencies when necessary.

Plans were formed in 1973 to construct a fire house on lots fifteen and sixteen of Highland Drive. Financing for the construction was obtained by the three fire commissioners who signed a mortgage contract for the district. Local volunteers and the 301st Civil Engineering Tactical Fighter Squadron from Hill AFB accomplished a majority of the construction. A 4 x 4 surplus army truck was obtained and equipped with a 175 gallon tank and a gasoline pump for brush fires. The current equipment owned by the district consists

Morgan's first ambulance. 1944 photo of Jack Olsen and Joseph Williams. The vehicle is a 1943 Chevrolet.

of a 1988 Chevrolet one-ton brush truck, a 1977 Dodge one-ton brush truck, a 1975 Pierce Custom Pumper, and a 1967 GMC 1500 gallon tanker. The ISO evaluated the Mountain Green Fire District in 1997 and reclassified its rating from a class eight to a class six, an outstanding rating for a volunteer department. Those individuals who have served as fire chief are D. LeRoy Thorpe, Gary Weyer, Chet Crowther, Pete Larsen, James Harris and Ernie Magana.

Morgan Ambulance

"A cruel and sudden crisis usually jolts people into activity. The city and county of Morgan are no exception. It took a tragic death by fire to convince them that ambulance service was needed."[106] At about midnight the night before Thanksgiving 1943, a fire threatened the Morgan business district and caused the death of Norma Colbabe Williams. The fire occurred in the frame building located between Ulrich Drug Store and J. Williams and Sons store. Damage to the frame building amounted to $1500.[107] The upper floor contained an apartment occupied by Earl and Norma Colbabe Williams. The bottom served as an office for the Selective Service and Ration Board.

Earl and Norma Williams were in their apartment at the time of the fire. Although both were rescued from the flames, Norma was in critical condition; however, Morgan had no ambulance to transport her to the hospital in Ogden nor any medical facilities to care for her; therefore, Mrs. Williams was taken to the old post office building on the corner of Commercial Street and 125 North Street until the next morning when an ambulance came from Ogden to transport her to the hospital, where she later died.[108]

Joseph W. Williams and Jack Olsen, representing the businessmen of Morgan, petitioned the city and county officials to invest in a much-needed ambulance. By February 1944, a 1942 Chevrolet blue panel truck ambulance was purchased at a cost of $1688 by Morgan City and Morgan County.[109] The city paid one-third of the cost of the vehicle and would continue to pay one-third of the cost of maintenance. The county assumed responsibility of the ambulance.[110] In 1944 resuscitator equipment was purchased for the ambulance. Fire Chief Joseph W. Williams operated the ambulance. The fee to transport a patient to Ogden was $5. Only a driver was sent on an emergency, and the party who called was expected to furnish extra help.[111] Many times Lamar Olsen, a nurse, administered first aid to patients and accompanied them in the ambulance to the hospital. Other ambulance drivers included Bert Carrigan and Frank (Whitey) Little, who worked at Heiner's Garage. Carrigan and Little worked conveniently close to the ambulance which was housed in a tin shed by the side of the garage business. Following the use of the ambulance, the driver and his wife took the responsibility of cleaning the ambulance and making it ready for the next emergency.

In 1945 ground was purchased from the J. Williams Estate for a new building in which to store the ambulance and fire truck. The approximate cost of both the building and the ground totaled $3,000. In April 1949, John Johnson was appointed to take charge of the ambulance with George Pratt and Frank (Whitey) Little as alternate drivers.[112] For many years those involved with the care and driving of the ambulance donated their services. By 1951 drivers were paid $5 per call. Charges for ambulance service within the county were $6; out-of-county service calls cost $12.[113] Beginning September 1953, the supervisor of the ambulance was paid a monthly fee of $5 for main-

tenance of the ambulance. In November 1951, the Morgan ambulance crew of George Pratt, John Johnson, and Frank Little drove the ambulance to Evanston, Wyoming, to aid in rescuing injured passengers from a train wreck that claimed seventeen lives. The men drove through a blinding blizzard on icy roads to reach the site and offer assistance.

Morgan city and county officials considered purchasing a new ambulance in 1954. Salt Lake City had converted station wagons for ambulance service, and Morgan officials also considered doing this.[114] However, in May 1955 officials decided to purchase a regular ambulance from Olsen Chevrolet dealership in Morgan. The old vehicle was traded in for $530 and became the property of Whitey Little who converted it to a sound equipment vehicle. The new custom ambulance with a resuscitator and two cot capacity was purchased at a cost of $5735.[115] George Pratt and Francis Porter served as drivers. Fees for ambulance service raised to $10 in 1957. Of this amount, the driver received $7.50 per call.[116]

Due to a need for drivers, in 1960 all volunteer firemen were authorized to be ambulance drivers. At this time, the first known county training of ambulance drivers was conducted. The Red Cross sponsored a first-aid course.[117] A new resuscitator was purchased at approximately $450[118] and was eventually credited with saving the life of Delbert Geary on a trip to a Salt Lake City hospital.[119] Max Widdison was named chief maintenance man for the ambulance, replacing Francis Porter.[120] In November 1966, the county commission agreed that all ambulance drivers should know how to operate the resuscitator and to administer oxygen and first aid. Commissioners also agreed that more volunteer drivers were needed.

As with all vehicles, ambulances don't last forever, even with excellent maintenance. By 1972 a new ambulance was needed, and Morgan was fortunate to purchase a used vehicle from Washington Terrace. The 1965 Buick, equipped with emergency signals, oxygen equipment, first aid kit, leg and arm splints, and two stretchers cost $3,000. The old ambulance was retained as a back-up unit.[121]

Utah State appointed an Emergency Service Director and initiated the Emergency Medical Technician Training. Soon after, EMT training was required for all volunteer ambulance attendants. Garth

Palmer and Max Widdison, charter members of the state's EMT program, became instructors. By 1974 the ambulance supervisor's wage increased from $5 a month to $30 a month for upkeep and maintenance of the ambulance. Following the unexpected death of Max Widdison in 1977, Garth Palmer and Glen Allgood were appointed co-supervisors of the ambulance service. They split the $30-per-month salary.[122]

Morgan has always had well-trained, dedicated ambulance personnel. Currently all volunteers meet state requirements and, as of 1982, are I.V. certified. In 1989 Utah State required EMTs to become defibrillator certified. Training each EMT currently costs $400.[123]

In 1995 the 911 system was installed, and calls are currently dispatched from Ogden. Each EMT has a pager and when paged responds to the fire station to get the ambulance. Three EMTs accompany each emergency run for which they are paid $25 if the patient is transported.[124] Ambulance supervisors have included Glen and JoAnn Allgood, Roger Wangsgard, Nancy Davies, Merlin Good, Dee Haslam, and currently, Terry Turner (1996). In August 1997, Terry Turner was employed as the full-time Ambulance Supervisor/ Emergency Managment Service Director.

Morgan City's Culinary Water System

New settlers arriving in Morgan established themselves around the valley's various water sources. As time went on and people realized that drinking water from open sources was risky, they dug wells and piped springs. The first water pipe within Morgan City limits was a two inch iron pipeline constructed by Union Pacific Railroad in February of 1869.[125] Water was transported through this pipeline from Robinson Springs to the northeast side of the railroad tracks near where South Bridge Street (125 North Street) intersects Commercial Street. The water was used to fill the water tower, which was in turn used to fill steam locomotives. Sources of water that comprise the present day Morgan City Water System were developed independently and are as follows:

Robison Springs

Robison Springs as it is now named was formerly known as the

east or south portion of Bennett Springs and later as William Robison Springs. Eventually the name was shortened to its present status. As early as 1902, city officials acquired a water right and made plans to pipe water from Robison Springs. This is confirmed in a letter from Margaret Robison, wife of William Robison, a portion of which reads, "I have also understood that you intend to lay a two inch pipe . . . to those on Commercial Street then to South Morgan some day when enough people want it."[126] This pipeline was begun on 1 November 1903, and by 1908 small galvanized iron pipe had been laid from Robison Springs down to Commercial Street, along South Bridge Street, across the Weber River and along Young Street past the county courthouse to Field Street (300 West). This also included pipeline on most streets between Young Street and the Weber River.

Around 1910 the city built a 10,000 gallon rectangular cement reservoir at Robison Springs. This same year the railroad completed a 30,000 gallon cement reservoir, and the homes of seventeen people, with 1864 priority water rights in Robison Springs, were connected to the U.P.R.R. 6" pipeline.[127] The latter system is still being used and is now called South Robison Springs System.

Prior to June 1913, Morgan Canning Company had constructed and put into use a 114,000 gallon circular cement reservoir.[128] In December 1925, a 520,000 gallon rectangular cement reservoir was completed in a joint effort by Morgan City and Morgan Canning Company and the two smaller, previously mentioned reservoirs of 10,000 gallons and 114,000 gallons were abandoned.[129]

On 9 July 1950, an agreement went into effect, allowing the city to operate the U.P.R.R. water system and to use the railroad's 1874 water right. In 1960 the railroad deeded the system over to the city. On 2 January 1973, the city turned over the reservoir and pipeline to the water right holders connected to the U.P.R.R. System or South Robison Springs.[130] On 31 December 1973, Morgan City purchased the canning company's 1902 water right and other interests in Robison Springs from S. J. Olsen.

Bradt and Seaman Springs

As early as 1861, Joseph Bradt and John Seaman appropriated all the water of these two small springs which were subsequently named

Bradt Springs and Seaman Springs. On 3 April 1891, Samuel Francis purchased from James Benjamin Waldron, one of Joseph Bradt's successors, lands which used some of the Bradt Springs water.[131] In 1893 S. Francis and Sons constructed a two inch galvanized iron pipeline to South Morgan and diverted twelve gallons of water per minute through the pipe for culinary use.[132] On 4 March 1907, these same men, wishing to expand their water system, petitioned Morgan City Council for a franchise to lay pipe on South Bridge Street (State Street) down to and along Spring Street (100 South Street).[133] The petition was granted.

When the city purchased the S. Francis and Sons water system on 4 June 1928, it included a 25,000 gallon rectangular cement reservoir located part way between the Morgan City boundary and Bradt Springs.[134] This 10,500 foot pipe system was referred to as water district #2 until a new 250,000 gallon circular cement reservoir was built near the South Morgan Cemetery at the same elevation as the Robison Springs reservoir. A ten inch cast iron water main connected the two reservoirs together, thus making the two separate systems one.[135]

North Morgan Springs

North Morgan Springs probably derived its present name from the fact it was originally known as the north portion of Bennett Springs. It was also referred to as Daniel Robison Springs and Heiner (Martin) Springs. These two men secured rights in this spring with a priority of 1861.

In 1902 the Heiner brothers built a 20,000 gallon rectangular cement reservoir. With the help of other people in the area, they laid a pipeline down the county road. From this main line, each shareholder ran a pipe to his own house.[136] Over the years, however, water shortages became a problem; plus the need for chlorination became an issue. In 1956 some shareholders expressed an interest in selling out to Morgan City, but an agreement was never reached.[137]

In the 6 September 1957, issue of the *Morgan County News,* Milo Heiner, President of North Morgan Water Users Association, outlined the Association's plan to meter the twenty-eight families using the water; this was completed shortly thereafter. On 9 May 1968, a fifty

year lease agreement was signed and NMWUA members were connected to the Morgan City system.[138]

Wells and System Improvements

On 1 June 1936, the county, with a stipulation to provide water for the courthouse, gave Morgan City its six inch water well with water rights. This well was re-drilled to 101 feet with an 8 inch casing in 1936. During the same year, it was connected to the city water system by means of a WPA project.[139] In the spring of 1963, a second well was drilled to 175 feet with a 12 inch casing. The old Morgan Canning Company water well water right (1914) was purchased from the county in November 1964 and transferred to the new well.[140] In June 1979, a third well, with a 12 inch casing, was drilled to 190 feet. This well was connected into the city water mains in 1980, producing 1000 gallons per minute to the distribution system.

In 1974 and 1975, Morgan City, using in-house labor, replaced the water line and redeveloped Bradt Spring.[141] In 1979 the city undertook a $750,000 culinary water project to redevelop Robison Springs and North Morgan Springs. The project also included three new circular cement reservoirs, a 500,000 gallon reservoir at Robison Springs, a 100,000 gallon reservoir at North Morgan Springs, and a 150,000 gallon reservoir located on the southeast city boundary near Como Springs. With the existing 250,000 gallon South Morgan Cemetery reservoir, the city's total storage capacity equalled 1,000,000 gallons. Morgan City's water distribution system as of December 1994 contained 14.8 miles of pipe varying from four inch to twelve inch in size.[142] Currently (1994) there are 645 residential and 84 commercial connections to the system.

Electric Power

In April 1881, Salt Lake City became the fifth city in the world to adopt the central power station lighting.[143] When small communities such as Morgan learned how much cleaner and more convenient this method of light was compared to gas or kerosene, they were anxious to have it.

Serious discussions took place in Morgan on how an electric system could be established. On 9 July 1906, a franchise to operate a

power system was granted to the Morgan Electric Light Company.[144] Little is known about this company. No records are available to substantiate whether or not such a plant was ever constructed, although the book *Mountains Conquered* states that a power plant was located just east of Como Springs.[145] On 18 May 1908, Morgan City Council approved having lights installed in the courthouse, but this was not likely accomplished.[146] A power plant in Weber Canyon had been started by Utah Light and Railway Company in October 1909 and was nearly completed by July 1910. This company was unwilling to build power lines into the county unless it would be allowed to serve the cement plant at Croydon as no agreement was reached the lines weren't constructed into Morgan.[147] Utah Light and Railway Company merged with Salt Lake Light and Traction Company in 1914 under the name Utah Light and Traction Company. Utah Light and Traction Company's holdings were purchased by Utah Power and Light Company on 2 January 1915.[148]

Several parties were interested in developing a power plant at Hardscrabble. Morgan County Commission on 10 January 1910, granted a franchise to L.B. McCormick to build and maintain an electrical system throughout the county.[149] This proposed venture was never accomplished. L.B. McCormick wanted Morgan City Corporation to invest in this venture or agree to a long term contract to buy power; neither was accepted.

The city council was then petitioned by C.F. Holding and F.A. Bean for a franchise to operate an electric light system within the city limits; this was granted 18 April 1911.[150] Holding and Bean sold water rights to generate power in Hardscrabble plus a fifty-year city franchise and a fifty-year county franchise to Como Light and Development Company on 8 September 1911.[151] On 28 February 1912, the electric power operation was sold to the Como Light and Power Company. Officers and incorporators of this company (CL&P Co.) included W. A. Buchanan, J. C. Lynas, W. D. Ball, Fred Lehaman, Elmer C. Brain as president, and Charles F. Holding as manager. Also mentioned in the articles of incorporation was a powerhouse situated on four acres of land in Hardscrabble, said land having been part of the Joseph Taylor homestead.[152]

Under the direction of Elmer C. Brain and Charles Holding,

Como Light and Power system was fairly well-completed by the summer of 1912. In August 1912, Como Light and Power placed one of its 275 horsepower generators at the Pingree Anderson Mill (on Mill Race Ditch near 350 East 300 North Street) to temporarily supply power to the system.[153] This facilitated getting electricity into local power lines while the generation plant in Hardscrabble was being completed. This small power company had problems as indicated by city council minutes 8 September 1913, when the city refused to pay its electric bill, "until the whole city is lighted up as promised." Mr. Holding stated, "the system would be in first class condition in the near future."[154]

The CL&P company's power plant in Hardscrabble was plagued with a lack of water and was considered a failure within two years of its completion. Como Light and Power Company struggled, and on 13 July 1914, despite objections of F.M. Burdick, current company president, Morgan County Commission granted Utah Power and Light Company a franchise to operate in the county. Restrictions placed on the franchise did not allow Utah Power and Light to operate in " . . . the incorporated cities and towns of Morgan, Porterville, Richville, Milton, Littleton, and Stoddard," where Como Light and Power Company operated a system; however, these restrictions were dropped on 17 April 1917.[155]

Late in 1915 Frank Ryan took an interest in Como Light and Power Company and on 1 February 1916, he bought the company under the name of Morgan Light and Power Company. On the same date F.M. Burdick deeded the power plant and the four acres of ground in Hardscrabble to Oliver R. Stuart, engineer/trouble-shooter for the company.[156] Morgan Light and Power Company, under the direction of Mr. Ryan with Oliver R. Stuart as engineer and Wilbert Dingman as lineman, began to prosper. The company purchased power from Utah Power and Light Company and encouraged people to put in their own poles and wires for which they were reimbursed so much each month until the electric utility line was paid for.[157] Sometime between 1922 and 1925, Morgan Light and Power became Western States Utilities Company under the ownership of C. H. Rice.[158] Orval Mathias, Roland Robison, Oliver R. Stuart, and Joseph W. Williams worked for this company.[159]

By March 1932, Morgan City was talking with engineer Harry T. Bletzacher about the possibility of building a municipal generating power plant. In November the city bonded for $65,000 and opened bids for the new power plant to be located approximately one half mile west of 300 North (State Street) on the Mill Race Ditch.[160] Water was carried to the plant through a large wood-stave pipe. The diversion to place water in the pipeline was located in the same place as that of the Pingree-Anderson Mill, being on the Mill Race Ditch south of 300 North Street (State Street). The plant also had the capability to run on two diesel engines. On 19 January 1933, Morgan City purchased the power utility lines located within the city boundaries from Western States Utilities Company for $9250. According to employee personal records, Utah Power and Light acquired Western States Utilities holdings in Morgan County in 1940.[161] Utah Power and Light Company has continued to serve the county to the present time.

Oliver R. Stuart was hired as the first Morgan Power Plant superintendent along with Wilbert Dingman as lineman.[162] The plant operated much of the time using its two diesel engines because of problems with the hydro portion of the plant. Ironically, the diesel portion of the plant became its downfall. On 7 October 1945, one of the diesel exhaust pipes set fire to the building, immediately consuming the telephone lines to the plant. Plant Superintendent Russell Carrigan had to run half a mile to summon help. By the time help arrived, the power plant was totally destroyed.[163]

Following the loss of the power plant, Morgan City contracted with Utah Power and Light Company to purchase power for resale to city residents. By December 1950, Utah Power and Light had completed a new substation to provide electricity to Morgan City Corporation and county residents located at approximately 390 W. Island Road.[164]

Morgan City became involved with the Intermountain Power Association (a group of municipalities and other small power companies) as early as February 1961. In September 1963, the city began purchasing power from the Bureau of Reclamation Colorado River Project, particularly Flaming Gorge. The electricity was "wheeled" to

Morgan City through Utah Power and Light distribution lines for a small charge.

Morgan City Power Superintendents have included Oliver R. Stuart, Walt London, Moroni Heiner, Reed Richards, George Newbold, Russell Carrigan, Howard Hulet, O.R. Stuart, Glenn Butters, Fernando C. Jensen, and Dennis Woolsey.

Morgan County Historical Society

In the fall of 1976, Richard T. Fry a life-long resident of Morgan encouraged Joseph H. Francis, " . . . to gather and preserve as much of the history of the county as possible, before it was too late." Francis considered the idea and believed it to be a worthy endeavor. In December 1977, Francis petitioned Morgan County Commissioners to form a historical society to gather and preserve the history of Morgan County. He recommended that the society be operated as an agency of county government. In January 1978, Jay Haymond, coordinator for the Division of State History, attended a public meeting in Morgan and presented a favorable argument for the establishment of such an agency. At that meeting a resolution was adopted requesting the county commissioners to establish such a program. Francis and members of the county commission met and selected individuals representing different groups in the county to serve as an organizational committee to draft a constitution for the Morgan County Historical Society. Commissioner Don Turner was to be county representative and Joseph Francis to serve as chairman.

Nine members of this committee met with Jay Haymond in February 1978; subsequently, a proposed constitution was written. The name of the organization was to be Morgan County Historical Society. Its purpose was to preserve historical records of Morgan County and its people, understanding that the history of the county was basic to residents' democratic way of life, giving them a better appreciation of their local, state, and national heritage. The primary function was to research, discover, collect, and assemble any material and/or information which may help establish, interpret, and illustrate the history and pre-history of Morgan. A Board of Trustees to serve on a voluntary basis would be established. By March 1978, the committee had completed a constitution which had been approved

by the county commission. The county attorney advised the committee and county commissioners that whether or not state statutes allowed for the county to finance such a program was questionable. The state attorney general was contacted, and he advised the group to have legislation passed by the State Legislature allowing funding by county governments for such a program. Following the attorney general's counsel, further efforts to establish the local historical society were deferred until legislation could be passed.

Joseph Francis began a campaign to have legislation presented and approved. He contacted Melvin E. Leslie, Legislative General Council. Leslie suggested that an amendment could be appropriately made to Section 17-5-80.5 of the Utah Code relating to "County resource development," by adding a new section pertaining to "County Historical and Cultural Development." Stephen Allred of the Legislative Legal Council drafted a bill in proper form for introduction into the State Legislature. Senator-Elect Glade M. Sowards who represented Morgan County in the Utah State Senate sponsored the Bill, numbered S-B-71. By February 1979, S-B-71 had passed the Senate and the House of Representatives, and on 6 February 1979, Governor Scott M. Matheson signed the Bill in the presence of Melvin T. Smith and Joseph H. Francis.

Establishing a county historical society pioneered a new concept in the state of Utah. Passage of the legislation enabled all twenty-nine counties of Utah to establish like organizations if they so wished. By April 1979, Morgan County Commission determined that substantial public interest existed to collect and preserve the historical records and heritage of the county. They therefore approved establishment of the Morgan County Historical Society in accordance with the charter and by-Laws presented. On 15 July 1979, Articles of Incorporation were signed, and nine members of the Board of Trustees were appointed. Officers selected were Joseph H. Francis, Chairman; Raymond Larson, Vice Chairman; and Camille Wilde treasurer. Lucille Sommers acted as secretary during this organizational period.

In October 1979, Evelyn Palmer was employed as county historian/secretary. One of the first goals of the society was to collect oral history from local old timers. The society also began conducting a

search to obtain copies of all previously written histories of Morgan. It also established a photographic library. In 1984 members of the Board of Trustees were also appointed members of the Preservation Commission for Morgan City and County. Preservation of local buildings and sites was considered part of the duties of the local group.

In 1986 Linda H. Smith was appointed county historian/secretary. Under Smith's leadership, the Historical Society continued to research and collect factual information and to document as much information as possible. In addition, the Historical Sociey undertook a major project to microfilm all city, county, and school board meeting minutes, then to index them according to subject material. These official records would be used as a major research source for compiling a history of the county. In 1989 the book *Morgan County School Buildings, an Illustrated History* was compiled by Joseph H. Francis and Linda H. Smith. In 1995 Joseph Francis resigned as Chairman. Sydney Heiner was then elected chairman with Gerald Anderson Vice Chairman. The county historian position assumed more responsibilities, and its title was changed to Director/County Historian. The Historical Society continues with the goals established in 1979. Historical information is researched, documented, and preserved for the public and posterity.

Through the years, many projects have been conducted for the benefit of citizens. Not only does the local organization promote preservation of history on a local level, but following the leadership of Joseph H. Francis, members have pioneered projects to promote history throughout the state. The approved projects included, 1) Proposed H.B 100 to State Legislature which created the County Centennial History Project wherein each county would sponsor a written, published history of its county. 2) Proposed funds be appropriated to create a capstone book of centennial activities conducted throughout the state during 1996. 3) Petitioned and received money from State Legislature to improve the road to Mormon Flat for Centennial and Sesquicentennial years. All three proposals received financial appropriations from the Legislature.

Morgan County Historical Society has conducted other major projects:

Morgan County Historical Society Project: Dedication of Thurston Peak September 1993 (l to r): Vice Chairman Sydney Heiner, Chairman Joseph H. Francis, County Historian Linda H. Smith, County Commissioner Herbert Crittenden and Scout representative Robert Walker.

Named and dedicated highest peak in county "Thurston Peak" in honor of the founder of Morgan County, Thomas Jefferson Thurston.

Placed marker on Francis Peak in honor of Esther Francis, Morgan pioneer woman for whom the mountain was named.

Compiled the History of Morgan County for the County Centennial History Project.

Conducts tours of the Pioneer Trail through the county and presents historical programs. The Society receives community support and participation in all its activities and programs. Local businesses and organizations also donate financially to promote many of these projects.

During the Centennial and Sesquicentennial the Historical Society sponsored and participated in many historical activities and programs literally bringing history to life for many. Twelve local artists were involved in a project to paint a Sesquicentennial Montage presently hanging in the county courthouse.

Morgan County Library

On 9 November 1920, Morgan County Commissioners, assisted by Miss Sprague of the Utah State Library Board, formed a county library board. Local members of the board included J. S. Turner, E. O. Kingston, E. M. Williams, Kate Littlefield, and Olga Anderson.[165] The board was to always consist of one county commissioner and the city mayor along with three lay members.[166] On 13 November 1920, Morgan County Library Board held its first meeting. Members agreed that a library be started at once and a building be secured. On 23 November 1920, board members agreed to rent the Albert Williams building to house the library for a fee of $300 per year. This building is connected to the south end of the present Valley Implement building at 408 East 125 North Street and at one time had served as a movie theater. Maytie Turner was selected by the board to be the first librarian. The county appropriated money for the purpose of the library through a tax levy. The combined effort of the entire community was necessary to implement a public library.The library board sponsored a contest to obtain some of the first books for the facility. Students who collected the most books to donate received a prize. The LDS Church was also asked to donate books. In December a prize was presented to the eighth grade class for the largest number of books donated. A prize was also awarded to Alberta Fry as the individual bringing in the most books.[167] The Civic League donated $50 to assist with purchasing new books.[168] J. R. Tippetts supervised building two five foot long study tables in the high school shop for use in the library. State Librarian Miss Doroney came to Morgan to attend several library board meetings and offer her assistance in setting up the public library.

By November 1922, 1,236 books were loaned from the new library, and during December of the same year, 1,387 books were loaned.[169] It wasn't until 17 January 1924, that a decision was made to insure the library books and furniture. By this time, a substantial number of books had been purchased and donated. On 9 September 1925, the board accepted the resignation of Maytie Turner. Annie C. Dickson was selected as the new librarian and paid a salary of $50 per month.

Dr. Wilford Visick, Morgan Health Officer, spoke to the library board in January 1926, expressing concern with the diphtheria situation in the county at that time. The board decided that librarian Dickson should give Dr. Visick a list of all books on loan to individuals whose homes were under a quarantine order. Doctor Visick was authorized to destroy all these books.[170]

Annie C. Dickson served as librarian until her resignation in July 1954.[171] Dickson became closely associated with all patrons of the library and formed a friendship with the children. Assistant librarians operated the library until November 1954 when Daisy Crouch was appointed librarian. Daisy served in this position until her resignation in 1957.[172] Lina Giles was then appointed librarian, and Daisy Crouch continued working as library assistant.

Each year in May the librarian position was reappointed. By July 1957, the librarian salary had increased to $110 per month. Assistant librarians were paid $40 per month and worked 40 hours during the month. Janitor salary was also $40 per month.

Library patronage increased to a size that made a larger facility desirable. May 24, 1930, Albert Welch met with the library board and " . . . discussed the renting of the R. H. Welch building for [a] library; the two rooms front and back, paint the building, put linoleum on the floor for the sum of $27.50 per month rent." The library board accepted the proposal, and the building was to be ready for occupancy on July 15, 1930.[173] The Welch building, located across from the Valley Implement Store at approximately 425 East 125 North Street, served as home for the library until 1958 when the new Morgan City and County Memorial Building was completed. The library moved more than 20,000 books from the Welch building to the spacious new room in the courthouse at 48 W. Young Street. An article entitled "Beautiful Library" that appeared in the 7 February 1958, *Morgan County News* described the new facility:

> The Library, which is 42 by 48 feet, has windows along two sides and plenty of overhead lights. Walls are platinum shade, with the marbled tile floor in similar shades. There is shelving for 20,000 books and reading and study tables.
>
> The Librarian's office is glassed in, near the door, and is supplied with a cabinet and sink as well as desk and posture chair.

Through the years, the county library has been used extensively by young and old. Many clubs and other organizations have contributed time, money, and books. Story hours were instituted for preschool children along with a summer reading program initiated to encourage reading through summer months. Library programs have included poster contests and after school activities.

Books not available on the local shelves can be borrowed through inter-library loans from other libraries. By 1984 the county library had approximately 34,500 books for use by the public. Morgan also participated in a state bookmobile program beginning in 1980. The bookmobile, funded through grants, county funds, and school funds, stopped at the elementary school, middle school, and several designated locations throughout the county. Bookmobile service was discontinued in 1988.

The library is still financed with a tax mill levy; however, each year several books are donated in memory of a loved one who has died. Clubs in the county have donated funds at various times. Through the years, librarians and their staffs have managed the library in such a manner that it has been a great asset to the community. Many dedicated citizens have also donated time and books to the library. Fern Carter was selected as librarian in 1966 when Lina Giles retired. Fern was followed by Ruth Rich 1967, Betty Mecham 1970, Francis Stone 1982, Kay D. Isakson 1993, and Jileen Boydstun 1994.

In 1995 a project was begun to computer barcode all books in the library, thus automating the book check-out system. The library has approximately 25,000 books and serves approximately eighty patrons a day. The library board discussed the need for more space as the library had outgrown the room in the courthouse. In 1995 the Morgan County Statehood Centennial Committee along with the library board petitioned county commissioners to build a new library as a Centennial Legacy Project. Commissioners endorsed the proposal, and a bond election was held for the construction of a Library/Senior Citizens Center. With a 41 percent voter turnout for the June 1996 bond election, the bond passed 733 for, 708 against. This attractive new complex now occupied the corner of 100 North and 100 West streets.

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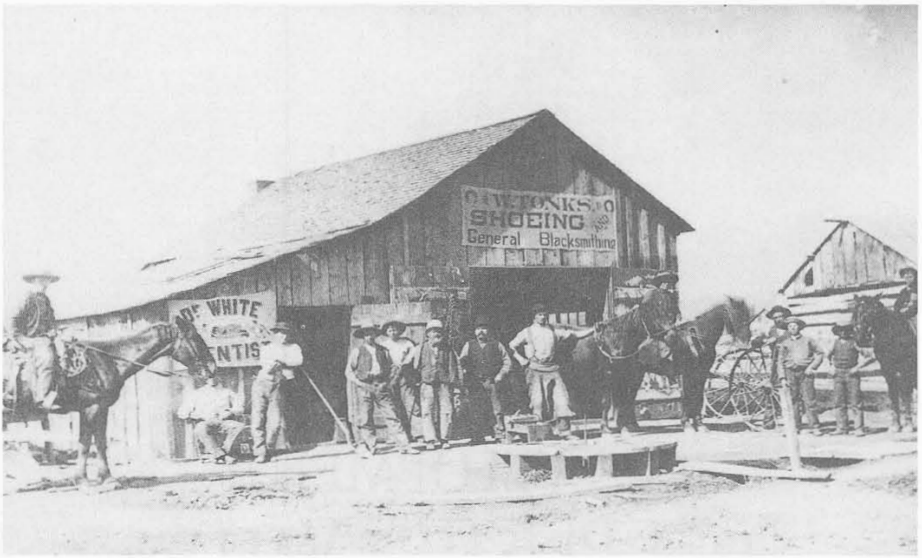
CHAPTER 5

DEVELOPMENT IN A PRISTINE VALLEY

When the pioneers came to Morgan Valley, they were able to bring only the bare necessities to sustain life. It wasn't long before they needed many items they had been unable to pack within their small wagons or had been forced to leave along the trail; consequently, merchandising in Morgan Valley was born.

The economic history of Morgan County began when one settler provided services necessary to help other settlers survive in this new region. The first priority of the settlers was cultivating the land and growing crops. The services of a blacksmith, without which no settlement could survive, was one of the first necessities. The local blacksmith did more than shoe horses, oxen, and mules, and repair and make farm implements. He was also able to correct an animal's improper gait by creating special shoes, then adjusting them to the animal's particular needs. The "smitty" was also considered a good source of medical help for animals.

Besides caring for needs of work animals, the blacksmith mended everything that broke or wore out. This extended beyond farm equipment to the culinary needs of pioneer women. The blacksmith was



South Morgan's first blacksmith shop owned by William Tonks circa 1868. Located on the northwest corner of Young and 200 East street. William is 7th from the left by the large door, wearing a black hat and buttoned vest. Notice the dentist shop attached to the shop.

the town handyman, providing the settlers with items that helped them colonize the area. Cooking kettles were always in need of repair. Dull knives needed to be sharpened. Nothing could be thrown away, and skillful blacksmiths were able to extend the life of pioneers' belongings.

Morgan County Blacksmiths

Because Peterson was one of the earliest settlements, it is credited with having the first blacksmith shop. Charles S. Peterson and his sons opened a blacksmith shop, and Phillip Pugley of Salt Lake City built a tannery to process leather.

The earliest known blacksmith shop in South Morgan was owned by William Tonks in 1866. Tonks had previously established a nail shop in Salt Lake City where the first nails in the territory were made. When he came to Morgan, he established a blacksmith shop on the corner of Young Street and 200 East Street. Tonks's business remained at this location until circa 1868–69 when it moved to Commercial Street. During construction of the Transcontinental

Railroad, Tonks contracted to make shoes for the horses and mules used in the construction work. For this service he was paid $10 a span.

Thomas Butters and Thomas Geary learned the blacksmith trade from Tonks. Geary opened a shop at 188 N. State Street, property to which he was issued title in 1884.[1] Another blacksmith, Earl Halls, established his business in the former Tonks building on Commercial Street in 1930. Halls operated the business until 1955 when he sold it to his son Lorin.

Agriculture and Related Businesses

Morgan became known primarily as an agricultural community; however, due to changes over time, few residents currently farm for their primary source of income. Most farmers and ranchers have other jobs to subsidize their incomes. Presently, much of the land is being sold for residential use. Agriculture in Morgan began when the first settlers moved to the valley in the mid and late 1850, planting gardens and a few field crop to sustain themselves. Sheep, cattle, horses, poultry, and pigs also helped provide necessities. Lush native grasses located in many areas provided food for the animals.

Pioneers in Morgan Valley soon learned that agriculture presented special challenges. Water could be an enemy as well as a friend. The first families who settled on the Island Road area of South Morgan were there only a couple of years before they were forced to move to the nearby foothills to escape the flooding creeks and river, swollen by high spring run-off. The pioneers learned that the growing season in Morgan Valley was short, with late spring and/or early fall frosts which damaged or destroyed the crops. Morgan has an average of ninety-six frost free days in a growing season.

Thomas J. Thurston, with the help of Jedediah Grant's men, teams, and meager equipment, planted ten to twelve acres of wheat which failed to mature due to lack of water. The following year wheat was again planted, but an early frost prevented it from maturing. Weather conditions, grasshoppers, and other pests often had an effect on what the pioneers planted and were able to harvest. In 1856 wheat planted in the Peterson area failed to mature due to grasshoppers' devouring the crop.[2]

Although pioneers found the ground fertile, early years of farming in Morgan were not easy. Settlers had much to learn about the area and its unique conditions. They worked to discover which crops were best adapted to the short growing season, and they built ditches and dams to control the water. Despite difficulties, some of the early crops, which included wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, and garden vegetables were successful. Elder Edward Stevenson visited Morgan County 2 July 1867, and was quoted in the *Deseret News* as follows: " . . . where the Weber River is joined by East Canyon Creek, the valley widens out to a vast ocean of wheat, which is more advanced as we descend. Barley, oats, and wheat are headed out and look remarkably well . . ."[3] With determination and perseverance, early settlers eventually produced abundant crops.

Preparing the ground, planting, and harvesting were accomplished slowly, using an ox team, horses, or human energy. Seeds were sown by hand and raked with wooden rakes. Harvesting was accomplished with a cradle, scythe, or sickle. Grain was threshed by beating it out with a flail or by having cattle trample the kernels out of their husks into a wagon cover laid on the ground. The grain was then winnowed by the wind and sacked. It was taken to the Salt Lake Valley to be made into flour until a grist mill was completed in the Richville area in 1866 by two Hinman brothers and George W. Taggart. This mill operated until about 1913. In 1867 Ezra T. Clark was asked by Brigham Young to go to Morgan (then Weber Valley) and build a flour mill. Clark's mill was completed in 1868–69 on Mill Race ditch in North Morgan.[4]

Much of the native grass on the valley floor was soon grazed off, and the land was then used to plant crops. This necessitated that livestock be driven to the surrounding hills to graze during summer months.

Agriculture Growth in the Valley

Agriculture provided a way of life for a majority of the early settlers in the Great Basin area. Time brought change, and many events engendered the growth and development of farming in the valley. When the transcontinental railroad was completed through Morgan Valley, accompanied by greatly improved roads, the ability

to transport agricultural products became much easier and opened new markets. Commercial agriculture increased. The railroad also made acquiring new and improved farm implements from the East much easier.

The pioneers realized they could not depend on rainfall to mature crops. Irrigation systems were a necessity. Although many of the settlers had no experience in irrigation, they soon mastered the procedures through a trial and error method. Conveyance ditches were engineered and built to divert water from the Weber River and almost all creeks in the county.[5] Small dams were placed in streams to divert water into ditches. These diversion dams were built with rocks and perhaps brush to tighten their storage capacity, thus allowing water to flow into the ditches. The dams were simply constructed and often washed out by high water; consequently, they required multiple reconstructions. Keeping the ditches, canals, and diversion dams repaired with only manual and animal labor seemed to be a never-ending job. The work was done individually or on a cooperative basis with those who used the ditch, according to the amount of land they irrigated. An 1885 diary entry of Charles R. Clark, water master of the Mill Race Ditch, gave an indication of the work necessary to keep the dams, ditches, and canals operational.

> Aug 2. Worked on Water Canal.
>
> Aug 3. Worked on Water Canal 1/2 Day.
>
> Aug 5–6–7–8 Turned off water and cleaned out Mill-race (canal).
>
> Aug 27 Turned off water to fix the Mill-race (canal)
>
> Sep 1–7 Worked on the Mill-race strengthening the banks of the channel to confine the water from running into field.
>
> Oct 14 Went down the Mill trail-race to the dam that had been torn out to prevent much ice from lodging.[6]

Large water storage reservoirs built in the 1900s became a great booster to agriculture in Morgan Valley. East Canyon Dam and Reservoir, about seven miles south of Porterville, was built in 1898 by the Weber and Davis Canal Company. Echo Reservoir and Dam, an earth fill dam on the Weber River, was completed in 1931. Lost Creek

Reservoir and Dam, another earth fill dam, was completed in 1967. Wanship Dam, located above Echo Dam on the Weber River, also benefitted the people of Morgan Valley.

These dams have helped control early spring runoff from melting snow pack, although flooding still occurs when winter snow pack is excessive. Recent major valley flooding occurred in 1952 and in 1983. Water stored in reservoirs has made it possible to continue growing crops throughout the growing season; for example, farmers currently have three abundant cuttings of hay. Before the large reservoirs were built, second or third cuttings were non-existent or small. In addition, today many farmers have installed sprinkling systems for more efficient water use and better weed control.

Dairy

With time, dairy cows increased in number. Several creameries were located in Morgan County and began converting milk into products for both local and out-of-county sales. There were many small dairies where the cows were milked by hand. A cheese factory, operated by a Centerville company, was located in the Mt. Green area. The Dairy, as the factory was called, was located on foothills which separate the Weber River and Cottonwood Canyon. Further back in the hills, two miles east of the Centerville dairy, a California company operated a cheese factory. The business wasn't successful, and the company sold its ranch stock and cheese factory to the Centerville Ward of the LDS Church in 1872.

The Centerville Ward operation was a ranch of approximately 1000 acres in the Cottonwood area. A large cottage for teenage boys and girls was built. Boys tended the cows and other livestock; girls were in charge of cooking, cleaning, washing, and mending. This operation, of course, was seasonal since the area did not produce adequate winter forage for livestock. Cows were rented for the summer from local ranchers in Morgan, Weber, and Davis Counties. This operation did not function beyond the 1800s.

About 1888 another group of men from Centerville homesteaded in Cottonwood Canyon and began a dairy called Red Dairy. Operated by Orrin and Melvin Randall and three sons of Joel Parrish, Red Dairy sold butter and cheese.

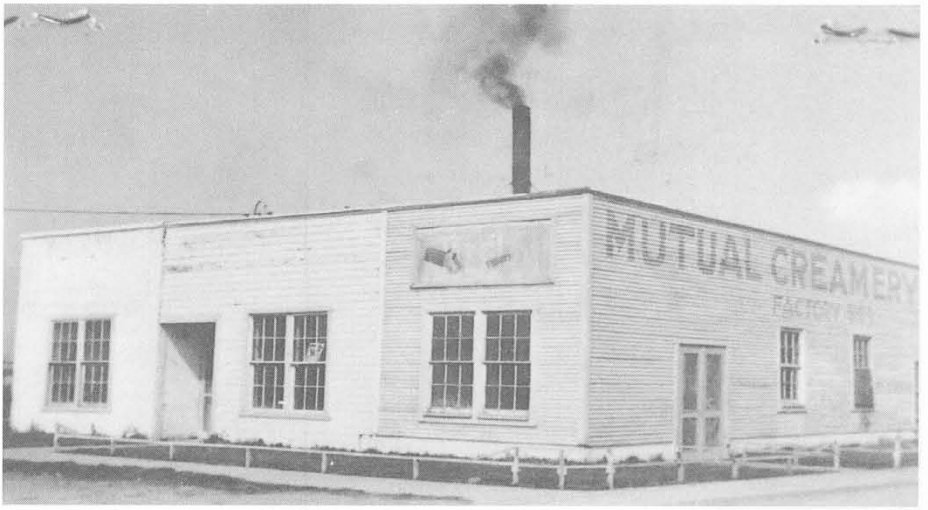
Chadwick and Austead Creamery located at the corner of 125 N. and 250 East Street (l to r): Ira Creager, Lester Creager, Mr. Austead, and Billy Rich on platform.

Creameries

IXL Creamery

In 1892 the Randall brothers from Centerville, Orrin and Harley P., along with John Woolley started the IXL Creamery near East Canyon Creek on Young Street. Aaron Porter also had an interest in the business. The men constructed a brick building to house the boiler. The main factory/store building was made from lumber. "There were two cheese presses and a large, square butter churn, and a revolving table on which the butter was worked, printed, and wrapped by hand."[7] Owen Durrant, a life-long resident of Morgan, was cheese maker.

The cheese was hauled to Salt Lake City by wagon, and supplies were brought back on the return trip. The round-trip on the crude roads of the time took three days. Sometimes in the winter Melvin Randall or Aaron Porter drove with a load of butter and cheese to meet Roy Randall, the regular driver, and exchange loads. These trips were not easy: "One trip it was bitter cold. When Roy met Mr. Porter



Mutual Creamery located at 194 East 100 North Street.

he was so cold he couldn't get out of the wagon, so Mr. Porter forced him out and built a fire and made Roy walk around it until he finally got warmed up."[8]

Milk was hauled by wagon each day to the creamery from the surrounding communities. The milk was placed in a separator to extract the cream which was then used for making butter and cheese. The by-product, whey, was used to feed pigs. Each winter large blocks of ice to cool the dairy products were cut from the river and creek. The ice was then covered with sawdust and stored in the ice house located north of the creamery. Sawdust was obtained from a sawmill in Hardscrabble. The business operated until 1906, and the Randall family moved back to Centerville in 1908.

Mutual Creamery

In June 1911, N. J. Austead and William Chadwick built a creamery at 243 East 125 North Street (corner lot at 250 East Street and 125 North Street). Morgan Creamery Company operated successfully for several years until it burned down. Austead and Chadwick then built another factory on property owned by Chadwick, located across the Weber River on the corner lot of 100 North Street and 200 East Street. In June 1920, Morgan Creamery Company was sold to Mutual Creamery Company of Ogden, Utah. A new separator was installed

and the building was expanded. Don C. Durrant was hired as manager and held that position until the business closed in 1942.

Each morning farmers set out their milk in cans. Haulers came by to collect the full milk cans and deliver them to the creamery. The factory used over 12,000 pounds of milk a day for cheese. Some milk was brought in from Summit County. Morgan's creamery had the reputation of making the best cheese distributed in Morgan and surrounding counties; however, at the beginning of World War II (1942), the factory in Morgan closed, and milk from local farmers was then hauled to Ogden factories.

Ritter Creamery Company

Another creamery in the county that has been nearly forgotten was located in Peterson. near the Peterson Weber River Bridge and the entrance to Dexter Park. The business was owned by J.T. Ritter. J.C. Armstrong served as manager. The creamery employed Oscar Wold as a driver who hauled butter to Riverdale. The *Morgan County Star* dated 6 September 1913, discussed Ritter Creamery: "One of Morgan County's Industries - Dairying and the Ritter Creamery. There are 500 lbs of butter made per month." When the creamery was built or the business discontinued is unknown.

Cole-Armstrong Creamery was another small operation located approximately one fourth mile east of Stoddard Lane on old Highway 30.

After the Warners moved into Morgan County, it became the practice to gather cattle that had wintered on farms in Weber County and trail them up Weber Canyon. The cattle summered in Mountain Green pastures located in the drainage land of Dry Creek and Gordon Creek and were returned to their Weber County owners in the fall.

As local creameries closed and transportation improved, milk was placed in milk cans and trucked to Ogden where it was pasteurized or homogenized and sold for family consumption. With these changes came more strict regulations for sanitary conditions. The number of dairies decreased while the number of cows milked at each location increased. Milk is currently hauled in large tank trucks under refrigerated conditions. The USDA Census of Agriculture lists

the number of cows in Morgan Valley as follows: in 1880, 603 cows; in 1930, 1436 cows; and in 1992, 1499 cows on 20 farms. Through the years, milk production per cow has increased greatly. In 1940 each cow produced 5730 pounds of milk per year, and in 1993 production per cow was 16,000 pounds. The dairy industry in Morgan has been a sound agricultural enterprise.[9]

Cattle Ranching

In addition to sheep, the pioneers also brought cattle with them. Milk cows were essential, and cattle for beef were encouraged. However, the first animals of recognized beef breeding were introduced into Utah by overland emigrant trains in 1849 and 1850. Those rushing to the gold fields in California traveled through the territory. Their misfortune became bounty for the settlers of the area: "Animals of good breeding, but so weak and foot sore that they could not continue the trip to the Western Coast, were traded to Utah farmers for provisions. Thus Utah obtained good cattle far earlier than otherwise would have been the case."[10]

The first settlers in Peterson brought church-owned cattle to pasture in the fertile valley; however, that first winter was so severe most of the herd died. Concerning the winter of 1855 Wilford Woodruff stated, "four out of every five head of cattle in the Northern counties had been killed." Heber C. Kimball stated, "About half of all the cattle in the territory had died as a result of the winter."[11]

In 1860 Judson Stoddard brought a large cattle herd into the Stoddard area. By 1870 the cattle and calves in Utah Territory increased 860 percent from 35,701 to 343,690. Grazing land in the valley was shared; however, it wasn't long before observance of the livestock branding law to identify cattle ownership became essential to avoid livestock loss, but not even branding assured that all cattle would be accounted for.

Some ranchers contended with cattle rustlers. Although not on a large scale, rustling did occur in the county. A rustler's corral made from old trees was found on the west side of Durst mountain concealed in an area of dense brush. Running irons used to change brands on cattle were found hanging in a tree near the corral. Located a short distance from the corral a hideout consisting of a dugout in

the side of the mountain was also found. A person on horseback could ride out on top of the hideout without seeing it concealed below.[12]

The evolution of cattle ranching started from the family farm, then moved to a ranching enterprise. The railroad constructed through Morgan provided new markets for cattle. By the twentieth century, agriculture had established itself as a basic industry upon which many settlers in the valley depended for a family income.

According to the book *Mountains Conquered* three types of herd management were common in the county in 1959. Large herds grazed on mountain range during the summer and were fed in the valley during the winter on hay ranchers had harvested or purchased from another source. In 1959 cattle ranchers of this type included the Thackeray Ranch, E.M. Crouch, Sam Hopkin, S. Francis and Sons Company and Arnold H. and George Smith. Second, some purebred herds were managed in pastures during the summer months by Joseph E. Rees, Frank Bohman, Harry Wilkinson, Royal Clark, Roy and Jerry Morgan, and J.D. Lamb. The third type of cattle management involved buying feeder animals in the fall, wintering them on home-grown hay and grain, and selling them in the spring. This type of operation was practiced by Stewart and Earl Waldron, Hebert Whittier and Doug Thackeray. Currently ninety percent of calves born in the spring are kept for approximately a year and a half and sold in the fall of the next year.

In the 1990s, due to the encroachment of urbanization and the increasing cost of supplemental feed, the cattle industry is diminishing in the Morgan area. No longer can cattlemen sustain a family on cattle business alone. Fluctuating market prices and severe weather conditions make ranching an unsure venture each year. Family operated businesses find maintaining a living to be more difficult each year. Only about three ranchers in Morgan County acquire the majority of their income from cattle ranching. Almost all local operations have another means of income to subsidize their agricultural pursuit. Operations with the largest amount of range land and animals are absentee owned—owners live outside Morgan County. Western U.S. range land is not capable of sustaining the number of animals required to operate a profitable small business, especially

when supplemental feed must be provided during the winter. Midwestern U.S. where ranchers are not required to contend with long severe winters is more appropriately suited for raising herds. The Midwestern area also requires less land for each head of stock than Utah does.

Sheep Industry

As the Mormon pioneers came west, they brought livestock with them. Brigham Young counseled each family to bring a sheep or two. The second company coming west included 358 sheep. A later emigration company of 700 wagons brought 4000 sheep. Sheep herds in the territory had increased in size by 1850 such as to entice professional herders, offering their services for hire. When Charles Peterson came to Morgan in 1855, he brought a sheep herd of unknown size to the Peterson area. Wool from the animals was sheared and taken to Ogden to be carded. From the carded wool, the Peterson family and their neighbors made cloth to be used for clothing.[13]

Heeding Brigham Young's advise, most pioneer families in Morgan maintained a few sheep on their farms; however, some farmers increased their farm flock to herds as an agricultural business. John W. Thornley grazed thousands of sheep in the Mountain Green area. According to Thomas G. Alexander, "Sheep and cattle grazing swept into Utah at a tornado pace."[14] In 1870 sheep in Utah had increased 6,300 percent from 59,672 to 3.8 million. The extensive mountains and deserts of Utah provided large tracts of natural summer and winter ranges. Much of the privately owned land in Morgan County was used for summer grazing, especially East Canyon, Lost Creek, and Cottonwood Canyon areas.

The sheep industry has improved over the years through better breeding and range management practices. These improvements have increased the grade, quality, and amount of wool per sheep and have produced a larger and better meat quality lamb. In 1883 sheep averaged five pounds of quality wool to the fleece. In 1997 the average had increased to ten pounds to the fleece.[15] Lambs average ninety-five pounds when sold. In 1930 Utah ranked seventh in sheep production in the United States.

Sheep growing families and companies of the past included

Deseret Livestock, Jacob and Perry Company, Arch Livingston, Roberts Bros., Smaltz Bros., J. Etcheverry and Sons, L. Toone, M.W. Crouch, E.A. Wilde and sons, C.R. Kippen and sons, S.T. Gilmore, Mortensen Bros., Porter Bros., Jack and Joe Kippen, Alma Richins and sons, Gene Etchhart, Martin Erithabide, Thornley Family, Al Crouch, Bertanoli Bros., and Weldon Ercanbrack.

Like other agricultural pursuits in Morgan County the number of sheep raised in the county and the number of ranchers have declined. Predators have always posed a major threat to the sheep industry. Other factors contributing to decreasing numbers include labor problems, depressed prices, and inflated expenses.

Years ago the herds were trailed (herded by men and sometimes women on horseback, sheep dogs, and some walkers) to and from winter desert ranges. This journey took about three weeks from its beginning to its destination. The trail in Morgan went up East Canyon to Parleys Summit. It then traversed down Parleys Canyon, through the heart of Salt Lake City by way of 2100 South Street and continued to Garfield, Utah, and Lake Point. Here the trail divided, one branch going west through Tooele County towards Nevada; the other going southwest through Juab and Millard Counties. With the passage of time, some ranchers conveyed their animals as far as possible by train, then unloaded the sheep and trailed them the remaining distance. Today sheep are moved by trucks to and from their winter ranges.[16] Most all summer grazing is on private land in the high altitude ranges. Sheep are then transported to desert ranges of Tooele, Juab, and Millard Counties or to Nevada for winter grazing.

In the 1950s, sheep operations reached a high peak. About 30,000 head grazed the ranges in the county during the summer months.[17] The 1992 Census of Agriculture listed 17,169 sheep in Morgan County.[18] In 1997 approximately 19,000 head of sheep summered in Morgan County. Only five residents and eight non residents currently run sheep ranches in Morgan.[19]

Family operations and companies operating today are M.R. Wilde and Sons, Kippen Bros., Charles Pentz, Pentz Bros, John Toone, Etcheverry Bros., Byram Bros., Norman Richins and Sons, H.R. Richins and Sons, S. Gilmore, David Earl, Basin Livestock, and J. Bertanoli.[20]

Mink and Fox Ranching

Domestic breeding and raising of fox in Morgan County began in 1927, preceding the raising of mink. John Heiner Sr. established a fox farm located on the south part of the Como Springs property which he owned. Heiner purchased several pair of foxes for $1,800 a pair. Friends and relatives invested in Heiner's venture which proved to be a success. In 1935 the original enterprise was dissolved and a settlement was reached with the investors. Some took foxes to start their own farms, and the remaining animals were sold to John Heiner Sr. From this division the following individuals established new farms: G.S. Heiner, Henry Tonks, Ivan Bell, and Albert and Joseph Francis.

Raising foxes requires the knowledge of animal husbandry and nutrition. Early ranchers prepared their own feed. As ranchers' herds increased, securing enough products from which to make feed became difficult. In 1937 Gale Allen of Milton began a business of supplying horse meat for Morgan farmers to make their feed. This continued until 1941 when farmers began purchasing horse meat from the Fur Breeders Co-op. Ivan Bell then stored the meat in a freezer located in Round Valley. Farmers would pick up the amount they needed and mix it with other products to make their own feed.

In 1945 ready-mixed feed was delivered to Morgan by the Fur Breeders Co-op. This business was established by a group of fur ranchers from Salt Lake and Utah Counties. Joseph H. Francis, while working for the Department of Agriculture in Salt Lake City, became acquainted with Bruce Hartman, president of Fur Breeders. Francis informed him that ranchers in Morgan would be interested in joining the Fur Breeders Co-op. Morgan Ranchers at that time included Ned Vernon, Golden Tucker, B. R. McKinnon, Henry Tonks, Charles Tonks, Ivan Bell, Vance Heiner, J. H. Francis, Gilbert Francis, G. S. Heiner, John Heiner, Gale Allen, Franklin D. Richards, James Gamble and Irvin R. Butters. A meeting between Morgan ranchers and the Co-op was arranged and in February 1942, they were accepted as members. From 1942 to 1945, during WWII, delivering feed from the Co-op's location in Midvale to Morgan created many problems. In

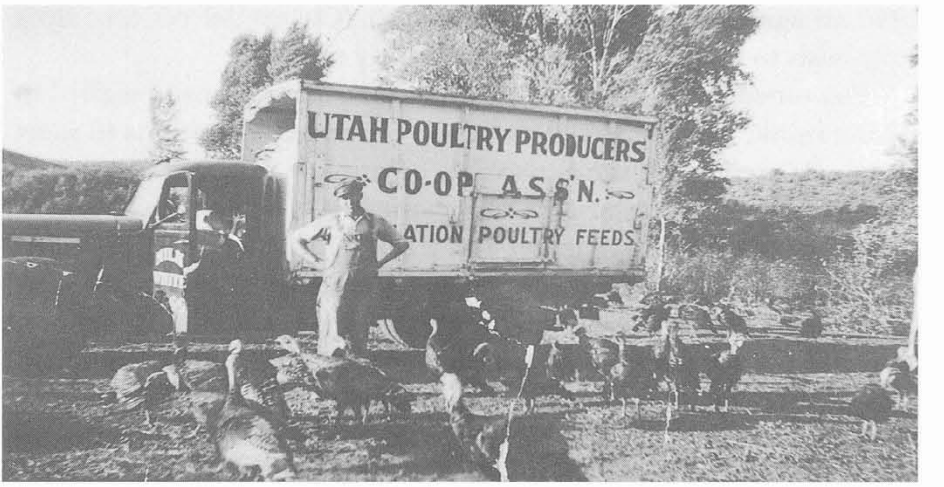
1946 an agreement was made to have the Co-op deliver feed on a daily basis to Morgan and Summit County ranchers.

Fox ranchers began losing money; consequently, many turned to raising mink. The Fur Breeders Co-op expanded operations to meet the needs created by the expansion of mink ranching in the Utah area. The Co-op purchased a fish plant in California and built an additional plant there to grind and freeze chicken viscera provided by Foster Farms Company. These plants together provided the necessary increase in meat needed for the fur farmers. Without the well-managed Co-op, the mink ranching industry in Utah would not exist today.

The success of the fur farming industry in Morgan County can be credited to the ingenuity of early fur farmers. The mink industry in Morgan County started during the depression years of the late 1930s and early 1940s and stabilized during the mobilization period of World War II. Prior to this time, fox and mink were not raised in captivity. Trappers of wild animals supplied all fur manufactured into clothing. Fur farmers had to secure a license to raise fur bearing animals. Those raising fur-bearing animals were classified as trappers of wildlife. This interpretation placed the business of breeding and raising fox and mink under control of both state and federal departments of wildlife. Problems with the industry had to be resolved by passing both state and federal laws defining the breeding and raising of fur-bearing animals in captivity and the products thereof as being a domestic pursuit and industry. Morgan fur breeders took an active part in bringing this legislation about, both at the state and national government levels.[21]

While serving as secretary of the Utah Fur Breeders Cooperative, Joseph H. Francis, a fur farmer of Morgan, was employed by the National Board of Fur Farmers Organization to represent the National Fur Breeders Association and to protect and promote the interest of the fur farmers.

Despite contagious diseases and other related problems that perplexed the industry, mink ranching continued to grow in Utah. The Fur Breeders Co-op mixed and delivered one hundred million pounds of feed in 1989. That same year a large world wide production of forty-two million pelts greatly reduced the profitability of



James Gamble and the Utah Poultry Producers Co-op Association's truck circa 1945.

mink ranching. Prices tumbled, and during a five year period, fifty per cent of the ranchers went broke. In 1995 the total number of mink ranchers in the U.S. was 480, declining from over 1200 in 1989.

Poultry

In 1925 the Morgan Local of Utah Poultry Cooperative was organized to help Morgan and Summit County egg producers market their produce and buy farm supplies on a cooperative basis. William Smith was Morgan Local's first president with Elmer Waldron secretary and five board members.[22] Eggs produced in the county were sent to Salt Lake City for processing. In 1925, 1400 cases of eggs were shipped from Morgan County. For many years, poultry provided a good supplemental cash crop for Morgan farmers.

During the late 1920s, a poultry plant was constructed near the railroad tracks in Morgan. In 1930 a celebration and dance were held in the newly completed building. The plant served poultry producers in Morgan and Summit counties. Rulon Scott was the first plant manager followed by Dewey Spendlove (1944), Richard Carter, Jay Porter, and Ivan Carter. Other Presidents of the Local included Archie Smith, J.E. Rees, John Compton, and Frank Smith.[23]

Eggs were shipped out of the county first by rail, then later by

International Harvester Separator purchased in 1928 when Dick Bates started his own business. Dick is standing second from left.

truck. In 1930 the USDA Census of Agriculture listed 31,920 various kinds of poultry in the valley. Today no commercial poultry operations and only a few family flocks exist in Morgan County. For a short period of time in the 1940s, turkeys were raised commercially in Morgan County; however this was not a very successful venture and was discontinued after a few years. Turkeys were raised on a small scale as late as the 1960s and '70s.

Animal Labor and Machinery

When settlers first came to Morgan, farm labor was accomplished manually by oxen or by horses. The first mowing machine was brought into Morgan County in 1870. Thomas Rich brought the first threshing machine, called The Old Chaff Piler, into Morgan. Gradually area farmers purchased other farm machinery. The USDA 1880 Census of Agriculture listed 578 horses in the valley, 25 mules and asses, and 112 working oxen. In 1910 there were 1494 horses listed, 45 mules, and no oxen. With the advent of modern gas powered farm machines, horse numbers gradually diminished. Today over 800 horses exist in the valley; most are used for pleasure riding

or racing. The Thurston family, descendants of Thomas Jefferson Thurston, still raise Clydesdales. These beautiful animals pull Thurston's livestock feed wagons in the winter. The Clydesdales are also used at Lagoon Amusement Park's Pioneer Village in Davis County.

In 1930 the Agriculture Census listed 218 autos used for farm labor, 37 trucks (including pick-up trucks) and 7 tractors. These numbers gradually increased to 416 trucks and 380 tractors in 1992. In 1964, 18 pull-type combines and 16 self-propelled machines existed in Morgan County. Increased efficiency and high cost decreased the number to only 9 self-propelled combines by 1992. Some farmers contract their combining out to those who own machines. Because of the large amount of hay harvested in the valley, hay bailers are very important. In 1964, the census listed 118 balers, and in 1992 the number 111.

In addition to machinery, the Agriculture Revolution brought electricity to farming. Electricity is used to milk cows, cool milk, operate sprinkling systems, run generators, and perform various other jobs on farms.

Field Crops

Currently there are 234,576 acres of farmland in Morgan, 9474 acres of harvested cropland and 7960 acres of irrigated land. Cultivated land in Morgan is small in acreage but high in production.

Wheat was the first grain grown in Morgan as it was needed to make flour for food. In 1880, 1416 acres of wheat were grown. In 1992 only 336 acres of wheat were harvested. Barley grows well in the valley. In 1880, only 80 acres of barley were grown compared to the 1376 acres for 1992. Oats are also grown in the valley. Morgan farmers have been involved in testing and growing new varieties of grain under supervision of the Extension Service of Utah State University.

Today alfalfa is an important agriculture product in Morgan. With present day irrigation, variety improvement, and improved cultural practices, yields sometimes reach seven tons per acre.

Through the years, many vegetable crops have been grown, some of which succeeded while others failed. Vegetables were considered cash crops as they were more intensively farmed and provided

needed cash for diversified family farms; thus a new agriculture-related business was established.

Centennial Farms And Ranches

Sixteen farms and ranches in Morgan County qualified and were designated Century Farms. This designation honors the commitment of Utah farm and ranch families to the state's agriculture industry. These families have contributed to helping the desert "blossom as a rose."

One of the criteria to being designated a Century Farm and Ranch is that the farm or ranch must have been in continuous ownership and operation by a family for at least 100 years from the present calendar year back. Except for the original owner, lineal descent must be traced through either a son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter (including in-laws) of the previous owner/operator. The sixteen Centennial Farm and Ranch recipients in Morgan County include

George E. Carter 1896
Ivan and Ludene Carter 1996

Judson S. Dickson 1875
Reed Dickson Farm
Barbara Whittier, Estelle Porter, Maisie Whitaker, and W. Lee Dickson 1996

Henry Florence 1881
Wallace and Vera P. Carter 1996

Ole Gorder 1850
Gorder Brothers
Gail, Gary, and Dee Gorder 1996

John Hopkin 1876
Hopkin Farm
George S. Hopkin and Susan Hopkin Porter 1996

Hyrum Phillips 1887
Marvin L. Phillips 1996

August E. Rose 1882
P. Otis and Geraldine C. Rose 1996

Oloff Rose 1873
-0- Ranch
James Ray Wiscombe 1996

Thomas Jefferson Thurston 1859
Thurston Family Farm
Dale H. and Barbara Thurston 1996

Thomas J. Thurston 1872
Earl J. Weatherston 1996

William Tonks 1882
Tonks Brothers Ranch
Lewis Tonks 1996

W. H. Toone 1863
M. Reed Wilde and Sons
M. Reed Wilde, Jr. 1996

Charles Turner 1887
Turner Farm
Terry Turner 1996

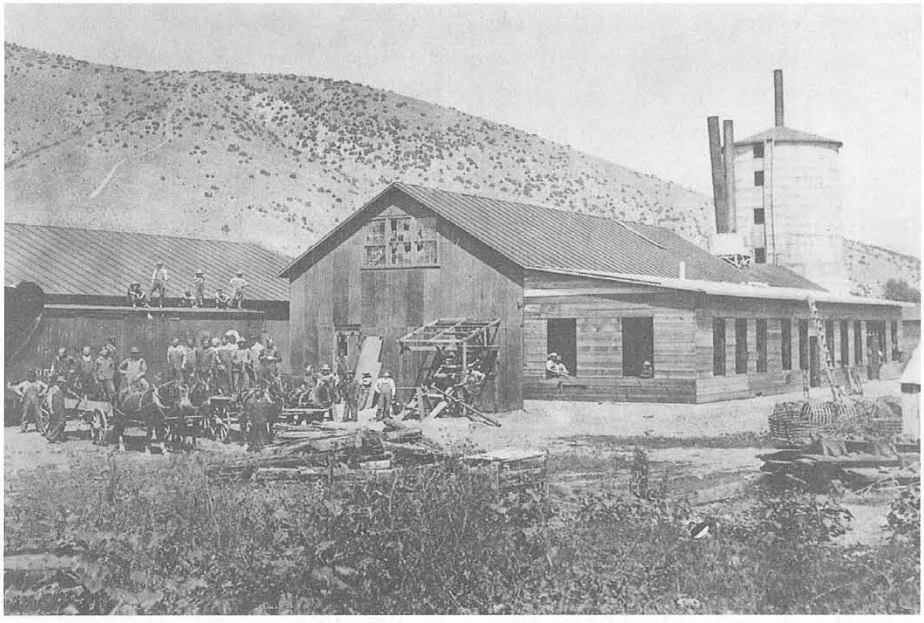
Gillispie W. Waldron 1861
Dee's Dairy, Inc.
Dee Alan Waldron 1996

Eli Whitear 1889
Whitear Farms
Donald J. Whitear 1996

Edwin Wilde 1882
M.R. Wilde and Sons
Eric R. Wilde 1996

Morgan Canning Company

James A. Anderson worked for John H. Guild in his store at Rock Springs, Wyoming. Peas canned in Colorado were sold at the store. Anderson felt quality peas could be profitably packed in Utah. In 1904 Anderson and James Pingree, cashier of The First National Bank of Ogden, founded Morgan Canning Company with a capital of $10,000. A small building was constructed for one viner and a line of



Morgan Pea Factory circa 1912. Henry J. Butters standing with horses.

pea processing equipment. The cost of equipment and building totaled $12,000.

An individual considered an expert in processing was hired; however, the first year, 25 per cent of the pack of 4000 cases of peas had to be culled as swells, leaks, or springers, and discarded. Unfortunately, the first couple of years the Morgan Canning Company lost money. At a 1908 meeting of stockholders, Anderson assumed responsibility for losses. No profit was made from the 8000 cases canned that year. Anderson offered to purchase all shares of stock at 100 cents on a dollar and bought all stock that was purchased except that owned by Mr. Scoville of Ogden. Three short years later, James A. and Joseph Anderson paid Scoville $3.50 per share, making them the sole owners.

> The following year (1909) produced a bounteous harvest and the business would be a success if they could only get the money to pay for the cans. Most of the farmers were willing to wait for their pay until the pack was sold but there came a day when a carload of cans was standing on the tracks and there was no money to

> release the bill of lading. Loads of peas were waiting to be threshed and it looked as if everything must be shut down. Jim went to Mr. Joseph Williams Sr., to appeal for help. Mr. Williams loaned him the money on his word of honor and the cans were released.[24]

Each year thereafter was more successful than the previous year. Thirty thousand cases of quality peas were packed in 1910. Each year the factory was enlarged to meet the needs. By 1916 a new plant was necessary. Morgan Canning Company's struggle for existence was paying off. A larger, modern facility was built one fourth mile from the original plant. The most up-to- date equipment was installed, making the plant modern in every way. The new factory produced up to 1,200 cases per day. In half a day, the new plant packed as much as the first factory packed in an entire season. Several viner sheds were built in communities throughout the county to help thresh the peas, after which the peas were transported to the Morgan plant for processing. According to Paul Stuart, former employee of the canning company, farmers eventually quit raising peas because of late frosts. As a result, in 1922 the company commenced selling or dismantling most of its viners; however, the company continued to raise crops, and a viner was maintained at the plant site.[25]

The popularity of "Those Good Peas," as they were labeled, created the need for a sister factory. Negotiations between the Anderson brothers, the Farm Bureau, and Smithfield, Utah, officials brought about the establishment of Morgan Canning Company in Smithfield. Some employees from the Morgan plant traveled to Smithfield to assist in the early stages of the plant's construction and production. The success of the Anderson's canning company became well known. "A correspondent of an eastern magazine wrote as follows: 'Out in this great broad western country in a crack in the mountains, I find the largest, best equipped and the most modern pea canning plant in the world; with nine complete lines, having a daily capacity of over 20,000 cases.'"[26]

True to the expectations of James and Joseph Anderson, the canning company proved to be a successful business. Misfortune hit the business in November 1926 when James contracted pneumonia and died suddenly. Only three short months later, Joseph Anderson died

The new plant built after 1916. Photo shows the canning company after 1926 when the railroad built the underpass.

of a heart attack. The two widows did their best to keep the company operating, but the expertise of James and Joseph was greatly missed. In 1930 the company discontinued canning peas. Threshed peas were sent to the Ogden plant. In 1930 Morgan Canning Company sold the business and issued a deed to the Utah Packing Corporation.[27] E. E. Anderson was appointed plant superintendent. He was followed by Harold K. Gould and Curtis Rogers. In 1935 the company was deeded to California Packing Co. The Morgan plant then canned sour kraut. Morgan Valley's cool nights, long days, refreshing showers, and rapid growing season are ideal for growing cabbage. Cabbage crops in Morgan have yielded as high as forty tons per acre with some heads weighing as much as twenty-seven pounds. Average crop yield was twenty-six tons per acre. Approximately 8000 cabbage seedlings were planted to an acre. In 1956 kraut canning was discontinued, and the facilities were converted to a large distribution and storage center.

The canning company employed many Morgan residents through the years and was indeed an asset to the county. After the

plant closed, the building sold several times, accommodating numerous businesses. Presently the historic sandstone building houses Morgan Valley Metals L.C., a sheet metal fabrication machine weldment company owned by Kelly Strong, which employs thirty-one individuals.

Other Crops

Lettuce was also grown in the valley for a period of time. Marketing was a problem for this crop but a small amount continued to be raised for several years. Celery, broccoli, and onions are each raised on a small scale for individual use. Potatoes have been raised for home use as well as commercial sale. In 1910, according to the Agriculture Census, 723 acres of potatoes were planted. Currently only a few acres are grown. At one time, an effort was made to raise seed-potatoes; however, this venture did not prove to be successful and was finally discontinued.

Over 400 acres of sugar beets were planted and an effort was made to establish a local sugar beet factory to serve Morgan and Summit counties. Two dump sites where beets were loaded into train cars were established, one at Morgan City and another at Stoddard. During World War II when sugar was rationed, farmers planted 900 acres of sugar beets in the valley. In the early 1950s, when there was no longer a sugar shortage, farmers discontinued raising sugar beets.

Apples grow well in Morgan. The growing season is too short for most other types of fruit trees. At one time, numerous orchards were located in the county. Almost all early settlers had some apple trees. According to the 1910 Agriculture Census, 13,958 apple trees were growing in Morgan Valley. Today, only a few scattered apple trees grow in back yards.

Because agriculture was a major economic pursuit in Morgan County, several agriculture-related businesses flourished. Following are some of those businesses.

Gristmills

Richville was the home of the first gristmill in Morgan. The mill was located on the ditch dug in 1861 at approximately 1425 South Morgan Valley Drive. George Washington Taggart of Salt Lake City

and two brothers, Morgan and Henry Hinman of Farmington, Davis County, commenced building the gristmill in 1863. Owing to the difficulties of obtaining necessary materials, the gristmill was not completed until 1866. The irrigation ditch dug by earlier settlers was enlarged into a mill race.

Thomas Grover said that Brigham Young came to the valley before the mill was in operation and asserted, "Brother Taggart, it won't run. The draft is in dead water." This proved to be true; consequently, the wheel had to be enlarged and sunk deeper before the mill would run. In the words of Frederick W. Clark, a Morgan County Surveyor, "The old mill was a masterpiece of workmanship. George W. Taggart was a millwright, a wheelwright, a general carpenter, a gunsmith, and last but not least a musician. He could fit a martial band with fifes and drums all from native materials and play many instruments."

The gristmill, the first to be built in Weber Valley as Morgan was originally called, was greatly appreciated and proved a blessing to the people as it gave them the opportunity of milling what little grain they raised, encouraging them to plant more. The people of Coalville and throughout the upper country patronized the gristmill. Settlers from outlying areas had to stay overnight when they brought flour to be milled. As many as thirty teams came at one time. The gristmill provided milling and chopping until 1913.

Timbers from the old mill were used to build the Ada Waldron barn on Richville Lane (approximately 1540 South 1550 West). The barn still stands today, 1998. The stone (old mill burr) used in the Taggart gristmill is mounted in a monument erected by the Daughters of Utah Pioneers. This is located by the log cabin (68 S. State Street, Morgan City).

In 1867 at the request of Brigham Young, Ezra Thompson Clark purchased farmland and the property where a sawmill was located at approximately 300 North State Street. He then sent seven yoke of oxen to the Missouri River for equipment necessary to operate a gristmill. Clark's mill was in operation before the railroad came through Morgan in 1868–69, providing a local mill for residents of North Morgan and surrounding areas. The gristmill operated until circa 1892, when Thomas and Edward Spackman bought the Clark

Mill. The mill was improved through the years, and ownership changed many times. At one time the old mill was demolished and a new mill constructed at the same location along Mill Race Ditch. The new mill owned by Pingree-Anderson Company was leased to Fry's Flour and Feed Mill. It operated until circa February 1932 when it caught fire and was destroyed.[28] Grant Eddington then purchased the land and built a feed mill which operated for many years under the name Eddington Feed.

Consolidated Wagon and Machine Company

Access to wagons and agricultural implements was a concern to the early settlers. After two failed attempts to manufacture these items in Utah, the Board of Trade Committee in 1883 organized the Consolidated Wagon and Machine Company with a capital of $2,500,000 to import wagons, carriages, implements, and tools. This company was recognized as a Church Company because Joseph F. Smith, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also served as company president, with other prominent church leaders as officers, directors, and stockholders. Consolidated Wagon and Machine Co. occupied a strategic position in the implement and machinery field throughout the intermountain area for almost four decades, having at one time sixty retailing stores scattered over four states, including Utah, Nevada, Idaho, and Wyoming.

Officials recognized Morgan City as a suitable place to establish a C.W.& M.Co. branch. The store commenced doing business in 1904 in a building at approximately 145 North 500 East Commercial Street. George A. Taggart who had been working at the C.W. & M. Company store in Ogden was hired to serve as manager of the new Morgan store. In 1910 Roy Francis was employed as assistant to Mr. Taggart and remained with the company until he resigned in 1922. He was succeeded by Hasvel Taggart.

In 1906, a new building located on what was then named New Street (412 East 125 North Street) was constructed of sandstone quarried at Deep Creek. From this store, Bain Wagons, white top sulky and surrey buggies, shipped by railroad in wooden crates were sold during summer months. Cutters and bob-sleighs were displayed

Consolidated Wagon and Machine Company.

for sale during the winter. Model variations rivaled today's automobiles.

Industrialization of agriculture began in the Midwest and moved to the far west. By 1908 new farm implements began to be introduced into the county. The hand plow became obsolete, replaced by the new rigging two-way sulky plow. To prepare for expansion in farm machinery, a new annex built of lumber, was added on the east side of the C.W.&M.Co. building.

While horse power was the only energy available to operate new implements, agricultural expansion in the valley was underway. Some of the more prominent farm machinery to come on the market following the Moulboard Plow were the spike-tooth and the spring tooth harrows, disks, cultivators, seed drills, mowers, dump rakes, reapers, and binders. The name John Deere and McCormick were trade marks identified with farm implements sold by the C.W. & M. Company.

All implements were broken down and shipped via railroad in separate boxes for reassembling at the branch store. Hundreds of parts had to be identified and assembled; then equipment was usu-

Inside view of the Consolidated Wagon and Machine Company. Roy Francis and George Taggart.

ally taken to farms and operated to the satisfaction of purchasers. Keeping enough varied spare parts in stock was a perplexing problem; however, the central C.W. & M. Company warehouse was located in Salt Lake, and because Morgan was located on the mainline of the Union Pacific railroad, spare parts could be obtained in a limited amount of time.

With the ending of World War I and the invention of the gas combustion engine, horse power began to be replaced by the mechanical horse called a tractor. The first tractor to appear was a John Deere two cylinder, three-wheel machine soon nicknamed the "putter" because of the put-put noise made by its engine. C.W.& M.Co. also stocked small gasoline engines used for pumping water and other services.

During the 1920s, the company kept busy changing its products and equipment to adjust to the new era of mechanized equipment. Horse and buggies gave way to automobiles as a means of transportation. Trucks began to haul farm and industrial products. Farm implements manufactured to be pulled by tractors began to be marketed. Along with this change, privately owned enterprises sprang up.

Like all other commercial businesses, C.W.& M. Co. was involved in the Great Depression of the early 1930s. Being overstocked and burdened with large amounts of credit on their books, the company began to show a loss. In addition to trying to survive the depression, on 13 July 1935 the large central warehouse, where hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment and products were stored, caught fire and burned to the ground. With these setbacks and problems, directors had to make decisions concerning the future of the company. The Church's aim of pioneering economic development in the area through the company had succeeded. The company was phased out during the next several years. Liquidation of inventories took place and the local branch stores were offered for sale to business men in the local communities where stores were located. After many years of successful business, Consolidated Wagon And Machine Company closed, circa 1938–41

Valley Implement

C.W.& M.Co. building stood idle until approximately 1941 when Jack Olsen of Morgan purchased the building and used it as a warehouse. Olsen acquired the John Deere sales franchise and in 1944 opened The Valley Implement hardware store which he hired William Hunt to operate. Though the United States was in the midst of World War II, business progressed and became successful. In 1945–46, after returning from service in the army during World War II, Harold E."Tye" Little was employed as manager of the store at a salary ranging between $200 and $250 per month. Marion, Tye's wife, kept the books. In February 1968, Tye and Marion purchased the Valley Implement business, leasing the building. They bought the building at a later date.

Most of Valley Implement's hardware merchandise was supplied by Salt Lake Hardware and Strevell Patterson. The store also carried some toys, household appliances, work boots, and clothing. If a person needed an item, Valley Implement could usually supply it.

At Valley Implement, farmers could purchase their tractors locally as well as have them repaired. Each spring the Valley sponsored John Deere Days. Movies about the most current farm equip-

ment were shown at the Vallis Theater and a light lunch was served. Farmers and their families were invited to see one of the finest equipment displays of farm machinery in the area. Tractor driving contests were also held. As the business expanded, Tye and Marion Little found enlarging the building to be necessary, especially important was more area to service farm machinery. At this time Valley discontinued selling John Deere products, and the shop area was converted to a modern automobile repair shop operated by Tye Little's son, Gary Little. Valley Implement has been in operation fifty-four years. The store ceased business in the summer of 1998.

Clark's Feed and Seed

In 1910 brothers Carlos, Lawrence, and Wallace Clark teamed together to form a farm produce business. The brothers bought the old canning factory building at 404 East 300 North (State Street) circa 1916. The building, located on a railroad spur, was an ideal location for their warehouse. During Clark's early years, money was scarce, and a considerable amount of merchandising was transacted through bartering.

Wallace's son Leon took over management of the business in 1958. In 1961 Carlos Clark sold his interest and Wallace, Lawrence, and their sons Leon and Rich became owners. The business included a warehouse, dairy, irrigated farmland, and dry farm land.

In 1969 Pamela Clark (Turner) took over management of the feed store following the accidental death of her husband Leon who was killed when a cement silo located at the warehouse collapsed and buried him beneath tons of barley and broken cement. The Clark brothers' partnership was dissolved in late 1970. Rich Clark retained the dairy, irrigated lands, and a portion of the dry farm. Pamela retained a portion of the dry farm, feed store business, and the warehouse and facilities.

After seventy-six years of operation, Pamela Clark Turner sold the feed store to Rex and Janeal Wilkinson in 1986. The Wilkinsons opened the R.W. Marketing and Design business. Three years later, Eldon and Linda Bohman took over the business, naming it Peterson Creek Distributing. Bohmans carried mostly agriculture supplies. In November 1991, Intermountain Farmer Association (IFA) joined

with Peterson Creek Distributing. A grand opening of the IFA store was held in December 1991. In 1993 IFA closed, and the building remains vacant.

Extension Service in Morgan County

The Extension Service had its beginning in 1862 when President Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act. This Act provided for at least one college in each state " . . . where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific or classical studies, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts." The Morrill Act appropriated land grants in each state to provide financing for colleges. The Hatch Act of 1887 provided for research departments for the discovery and application of truths to the common problems of life. Successful research was taught to students, but a need existed to disperse this newly-acquired knowledge to those directly involved with agriculture. To accomplish this, the Extension Service was established as an arm or extension of the land grant institutions.

Extension work in Utah began in 1896 when the state passed a law providing for Farmers' Institutes to be held in the counties of the state. Two horses and a buggy were purchased and Professor F. B. Linfield made a month long trip into the central and southern parts of the state. The first farmers' two-day school was held in Ephraim, Sanpete County, in 1902. Smith County, Texas, was the first county in the United States to hire a full-time county agent, W. C. Stallings, in 1906. In 1911 Utah's first county agent, Luther M. Winsor, was hired and assigned to the Uintah Basin. Winsor was very successful in helping farmers with their agriculture problems.

In 1917 Morgan county petitioned for a county agent. Aaron Bracken was then employed as county agent for Morgan and Summit Counties. No definite program was undertaken that first year. In April 1918, S. R. Boswell was appointed the new agent, and during that year twelve projects were undertaken to assist the farmers. These projects included potato improvement, alfalfa weevil control, farm management records, livestock development, and crop pest control. The cash value of the work accomplished through the Extension Service in Morgan County was estimated at $20,986 that year.

Stephen Roy Boswell (far left), County agent for Summit and Morgan Counties, 1918. (Photo courtesy Gladys Boswell Fredrickson)

It became apparent that one agent for the two counties was not satisfactory for either county. In January 1919, Morgan County Commissioners decided they would no longer support a part-time county agent and discontinued their financial backing. With the help of the Morgan County Farm Bureau, the Extension Division was induced to furnish a full-time agent for Morgan County. County commissioners reinstated their financial support, and Alma L. Wilson became Morgan's first full-time county agent, assuming work on 1 March 1919.

Listing all benefits the farmers and ranchers have received through the years from the assistance of the Extension Service County Agent would be impossible. Extension agents provide farmers, homemakers, and youth with the latest technology developed through research by the Department of Agriculture, land-grant colleges, and other agencies. They continue to provide information on production, marketing, home economics, natural resources, human nutrition, and activities and services available to them in other areas. Agents conduct programs to aid minority and low-income families in improving their nutritional levels.[29] Local county agents have been educators, helpers, and friends to the agriculture community.

Home Economist

Like their farmer/rancher husbands, homemakers also needed to stay abreast of new technology. Homemakers' needs were addressed in Morgan County beginning in 1925 when Morgan hired its first home demonstration agent, now referred to as the home economist. Originally the home agent went from house to house teaching food preservation, home improvement, and other life skills. At one time reading programs were held to increase literacy skills of homemakers. As the community grew, classes were conducted to spread instruction to the public. Even today the Extension office provides answers for many homemakers' questions in food preservation, sewing, and a variety of subjects. Home economists conduct classes on money management, upholstery, nutrition and other skills used in today's world.

Four-H

Four-H clubs are a product of the Extension Service. The first Four-H club in Morgan was organized in 1921 to raise hogs. The leader was Hubert Visick. The purpose of the club was to assist and encourage boys living on farms. Knowledge the boys gained was also valuable to farmers. Leaders of the clubs were chosen, then sent to Utah State Agricultural College in Logan for one week of training. The clubs were to provide an educational program for youth, and records were to be kept. One young man, Merrill W. Haven wrote about his project to raise a hog.

> When I started to raise my pig for the pig club, my pig weighed 20 pounds. After I had my pig for about a month, somehow he became lousy. Before he became lousy he was doing fine and was growing like a weed. But after he became lousy he fell away about 10 pounds.
>
> I took the Rawleighs insect powder and covered him with it and in about a week the lice were all gone and the pig was doing fine. He now weights one hundred and seventy four pounds.

In 1922 two girls' sewing clubs were organized as demonstration clubs, forerunners of Four-H clubs. Six girls were organized in Porterville under the direction of Veda Porter and eight in South

Morgan with Thora Turner as their leader. A total of 46 articles of clothing were made by these girls. The value of the completed articles was $71.60; their materials cost only $47.28.

From these small beginnings Four-H clubs have expanded extensively. In 1996 Morgan County had a total enrollment of 283 members in 87 Four-H clubs, supervised by 100 leaders. These clubs are not only agriculture and homemaking oriented, but they have also expanded to include crafts, photography, art, calligraphy, and many other worthy subjects. Four-H has enhanced the lives of thousands of youth in the seventy-five years it has been active in Morgan County. [30]

ENDNOTES

1. Flora Tonks, Flora Tonks, on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

2. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered* (Morgan: Morgan County News, 1959), 19.

3. Evolution of Farming in Morgan, n.p., n.d. on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

4. Annie Clark Tanner, *A Biography of Ezra Thompson Clark* (Salt Lake City: University of Utah, 1975), 32.

5. Appropriations of water for each ditch was defined by adjudication of water rights made 2 June 1937. At that time the Second Judicial District Court issued a decree providing for water rights on the Weber River system.

6. Charles R. Clark, journal, in possession of Josephine Clark, Morgan, Utah.

7. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered,* 145.

8. Ibid.

9. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered,* 145; Lloyd Smith, "History of Extension Service in Morgan County;" n.d., n.p. on file at Morgan County Historical Society; Statistics from USDA *Census of Agriculture.*

10. Department of Public Instruction, Charles H. Skidmore, Superintendent, *Utah-Resources and Activities* (Salt Lake City: State of Utah, 1933), 261.

11. Leonard J. Arrington, *Great Basin Kingdom* (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1958), 151.

12. Information as told to Ivan Rich, Spring 1961, by Verl A. Smith, son of Arnold H. Smith, who worked for his father on the ranch.

13. Andrew Jenson, *Encyclopedia History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Publishing Company, 1941), 652.

14. Thomas G. Alexander, *Utah The Right Place* (Salt Lake City, Gibbs-Smith, 1995), 206.

15. *Utah - Resources and Activities* (Salt Lake City: Department of Public Instruction, Charles H. Skidmore, Superintendent, 1933), 25; Reed Wilde, interview by Linda H. Smith, 1998.

16. Reed Wilde Jr., on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

17. Josephene Clark, History of Agriculture, on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

18. Ibid.

19. Reed Wilde Jr.

20. Ibid.

21. Public Law 369, 79th Congress Chapter 242–2D Session. H.R. 2115, Act approved 30 April 1946, on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

22. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered,* 147

23. Ibid., 147, 148

24. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered,* 139.

25. *Morgan County Newspaper,* 24 March 1922.

26. Ibid., 140

27. Book of Deeds L, 571; Book of Deeds M, 1930, 10–14,, Morgan County Recorder's Office.

28. Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum, Morgan, Book 3, 27.

29. "Federal Extension Service," Microsoft (R) Encarta (R) 96 Encyclopedia. (c) 1993–1995 Microsoft Corporation, Funk & Wagnalls Corporation.

30. Lloyd Smith, History of Extension Service, Morgan County, typed manuscript, n.d, n.p. on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

CHAPTER 6

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

Natural Resources Tapped

Eight years after the pioneers arrived in Salt Lake Valley, settlers came to the pristine area known as Weber Valley. At that time an abundance of natural resources awaited the settlers. Besides a supply of good spring water, several creeks and the Weber River flowed through the center of the valley. In addition, settlers recognized an abundance of trees for building, along with necessary materials to make brick. They also discovered ore to be mined.

Mining

Some of the early settlers in Morgan tried their luck at mining. Some found traces of gold in the hills above North Morgan, but the ore was not sufficient to pay returns on the investment.[1] (Several reports of prospecting claims in Mahogany Canyon have surfaced.) David Robison worked a claim without success in a small draw east of the Robison Springs area.

Ore was discovered about a mile south of Mahogany Canyon. The first owner and operator of the mine that was subsequently

Mining in Morgan County. (O. R. Stuart)

developed was Mart Garner from New York, circa 1880. George T. Stenhouse took over as operator in 1908–1910, further developing the mine and employing several miners. A rail track was installed in the mine on which ore cars carried ore to the surface; consequently a considerable-sized mound of ore was created. A chute was built to slide the ore down to the bottom of the hill. Financing for the mine was provided by investors on the east coast whom Stenhouse assured abundant ore was in the ground and a sufficient water supply.

In time it became evident that the ore was insufficient to be profitable, and investors began crowding Stenhouse for a return on their monies. When Stenhouse failed to meet investors' demands, he was fired and a man named Tabor assumed control. Renz Eddington and Dick Stuart worked as miners. Soon after the chute was burned, and the water supply destroyed by someone who dropped explosives into the spring in Cedar Canyon. Stenhouse was rumored to be responsible for the vandalism; consequently, he left the county and was never heard of again. Tens of thousands of investors' dollars were lost.

One mining operation conducted by a company from the East Coast found ore near the surface to be very promising, but when miners dug into the ground, the vein stopped completely. Company

officials theorized that a fault or upheaval of the mountain caused a separation of the vein. The separated vein was either too deep or too high to locate, thus resulting in low or non-production for the operation.

Four major mines in the Cottonwood Canyon on the north slope of Durst Mountain were Carbonit Hill, Carbonit Gem, Pembroke, and Morgan Chief. The mines were located in Mills Gulch and Arbuckle Hollow. The two major producers, Carbonit Hill owned by Judge Tillman D. Johnson and Mr. Finland, and Carbonit Gem owned by AlonzoVon Patton yielded about $500,000 in lead, silver, iron, zinc, and trace amounts of gold, remaining active in the late 1880s until circa 1900.[2]

Carbonit Hill mine had a two-story bunk house and a blacksmith shop located at the mine site. Men working at Carbonit Gem also used the facilities. A tram was installed to transport ore from Carbonit Hill down the slope to the bins. Ore from the other mines was hauled by team and wagons. The road from the mine was so steep, drivers had to "rough lock" the back wheels to make the descent safely. Once down the mountain, the ore was taken to the railroad station at Peterson where it was shipped to smelters. The Arbuckle mine operated until circa 1947. The Pembroke consisted of three mines with patented claims designating them as the Argenta Mining District. The mines were owned and operated by Adrian Pembroke and his sons. Morgan Chief mine was owned and operated by Daniel Heiner from 1900 to 1905. A coal mine operating for a short period of time under the ownership of Heber Robinson was located in Toone Canyon in the Lost Creek area.

Mining took place in Hardscrabble Canyon circa 1870. Old Iron Hill mine was first operated by Mr. Iverson then Mr. Froiseth. The mine was then worked for several years by John Porter and son Sanford, producing iron ore that was transported to smelters at Murray and Midvale. The date Porters discontinued this operation is unknown. Iron Hill mine was opened in 1949 by the New Park Mining Company of Park City, Utah, which developed the mine and hauled approximately 100 ton of ore to the cement plant located at Devil's Slide to be used in making cement. The venture was short

lived, and thereafter the cement company obtained needed ore from another source.

During the 1890s, other mines were established in Hardscrabble, but apparently they had little success and were discontinued. In 1915 the Lamar mine was started in Arthur Canyon. Several individuals were involved in the venture, and a corporation was formed and stock sold. Unfortunately the shaft dug to follow a copper vein filled with water and all work was discontinued.[3] Once again, circa 1926, ore was shipped from the Hardscrabble area but only for a short time. This operation was under the direction of Joseph Carpenter.

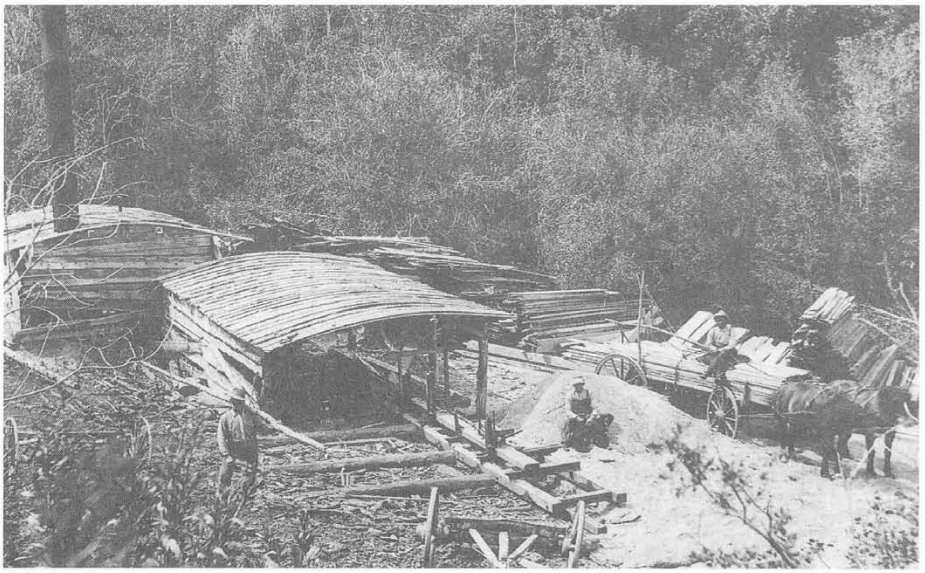
Sawmills

Trees grew abundantly in the valley when the settlers arrived; consequently, many of the canyons had sawmills established in them at one time or another. The first sawmill in Mountain Green was built on Strawberry Creek by the McLean family. Later David B. Bybee and sons milled lumber in Cottonwood Canyon and Jacobs Creek Canyon.[4] The Robinson family also had a sawmill which at different times was located in various areas. Joshua Williams, Roswell Stevens, and J. H. Robison each owned and operated sawmills in the Peterson area.[5] In 1998 the Robinson family still operated their business.

Milton had several sawmills in its boundaries. Line Creek was the site of two of these sawmills, one located at Fifth Crossing and another at Seventh Crossing. Still another mill was located between Fifth Crossing and Smith Creek. Some mills owners included Chris Hanson, John, Giles and Harmon Johnson.[6] James Hanson had a sawmill near the community which operated for many years, providing building materials for residents.

In Enterprise John Croft operated a sawmill in Roswell Canyon (Devil's Hollow) in the late 1870s. One of the earliest businesses in Croydon was a sawmill in Pine Canyon. In October 1864 William Henefer, James Henefer, George Shill, Solomon Edwards, and A. S. Long mutually agreed to build a good substantial sawmill at the mouth of Pine Canyon, to control the sawed lumber in that canyon.[7]

Through the years, nine sawmills have been located in Hardscrabble, some operated by steam engines and others water



Robinson Sawmill in Morgan County. (O. R. Stuart)

powered. In the spring of 1859, Chauncy Porter and his brother Sanford Jr. made their way over the mountains from Centerville. They used pack animals to carry the machinery and provisions they used to build a sawmill on Beaver Creek in Hardscrabble. This first sawmill which cost about $3,000 to construct was completed in 1859 and was used until 1891. The first 500 feet of lumber sawed at the mill were taken back to Centerville over the mountains. A cart pulled by four yoke of oxen transported the lumber.[8] Later the road through Weber Canyon was used to haul the lumber to the lower valley. The sawmill produced between three to four thousand feet of lumber per day, depending on the number of hours worked each day.

Samuel Brough built a sawmill to provide lath and shingles for building homes. Brough's mill was located on Shingle Creek (named for the shingles made at the mill). Shingle Creek was a tributary to Hardscrabble Creek. The following taken from the book *The Weber River Basin* describes some of the sawmills:

> Samuel Brough built a mill to make shingles on the tributary of Hardscrabble Creek known as Shingle Mill Creek. Lumber was a major product from 1860 until 1875, much of it used to make ties

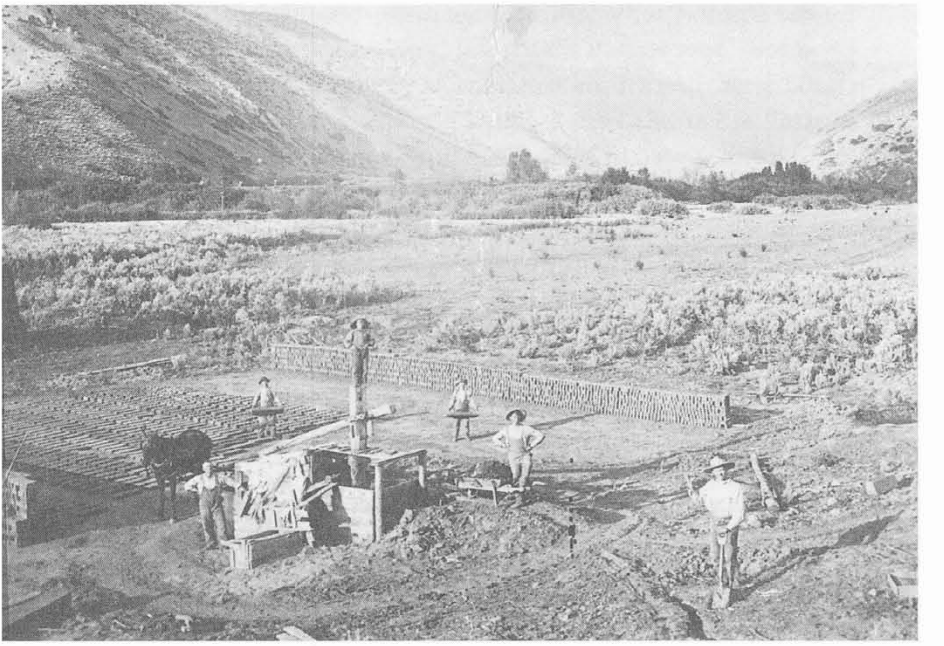
> for the Union Pacific Railroad. Six mills -two steam and four water powered- operated in Hardscrabble Canyon at the time. One of the largest operations was that of William Ferrell, who had a sawmill at Ferrells Fork (spelled Farrell's Creek on current maps) and a lumber yard in Richville. About 600 feet down Hardscrabble Canyon, Holdman's sawmill made shingles and ties. Farther down was another water-powered mill, run by Bill Dickson. Shingle Canyon held both Sam Brough's mill and Joseph Taylor's at its mouth. At the mouth of Arthur's Fork, Jake Arthur ran a water-powered mill. At first Bert and George Turner ran the last sawmill in the canyon, but they sold it to Joe Carpenter, who moved the machinery to the canyon's Black Grove.[9]

William Ferrell came to Morgan from the East circa 1870. He brought ten expert sawmill employees and a large number of oxen with him, establishing a steam-operated sawmill. Trees were chopped or sawed with a two-handed cross-cut saw and trimmed. They were dragged down to the mills by ox or horses, sawed into whatever length was wanted for lumber—sixty, twenty, or eighteen feet lengths—then pulled into the mill to be sawed into lumber, ties or shingles.

Building the transcontinental railroad created a demand for ties on which to place the rails. Many of the sawmills in Morgan County, especially those in Hardscrabble, produced ties. Construction of the Union Pacific Railroad provided a boom to the local lumber industry. William Ferrell cut railroad ties at his sawmill, stored them at his lumberyard in Richville, then shipped them to the railroad. Men were paid $10.00 a day to deliver a wagon load of sixteen ties to Echo. The round trip required about three days. Thomas Phillips was an expert at cutting ties and hewing logs with an axe.

A large lumber yard was located at approximately 1676 South Morgan Valley Drive, Richville. The nine sawmills in Hardscrabble Canyon (about six miles southwest of Richville) kept the yard in good supply. Great stacks of lumber covered nearly one-half acre of land. Henry Florence and his sons had a sawmill in Sheep Canyon. In 1898 it was relocated onto the church grounds in order to saw the lumber used in building the Porterville Church.

A sawmill for shingles was operated by Abiah Wadsworth,



Charles Turner Brickyard on old Como Road circa 1890.

George Higley, and Nelson Arave. It was first located east of 200 East and Young Street,[10] present day site of Morgan High School, South Morgan. Water to power the early sawmill was supplied from a mill-race ditch that was connected to the City Ditch at the corner of 200 East and Young Street. Logs were floated down the river into a large pond behind the mill.[11] The mill area included many acres which later comprised the Clark brothers' farm at approximately 404 East 300 North Street, North Morgan.[12]

Brickyards

Early writings verify South Morgan had two residents who manufactured brick. The area had a substantial supply of clay and limestone, both of which were essential for the production of brick. Some of the early bricks were sun-dried and referred to as adobe. Other bricks were dried by kiln which tempered them.

John Ager came to South Morgan in 1863. The exact date he began manufacturing brick is not known; however, his home was considered one of the first brick homes in the area.[13] John Ager

located his brickyard about one-quarter mile south of 100 South and 300 West Street, along the South Field Lane. Over the years the area has been referred to as the "Brickyard Slough." Not much is known about this early industry. In 1868 "John Edger [Ager] drown in the river [Weber] while crossing with two others. The boat turned over and the other two got out safe."[14]

In 1861 Charles Turner, a farmer and brick maker, immigrated to Morgan from England. He had learned the brick making trade from his father, a renowned brick maker. Turner located a brickyard, including kilns, on the Como Flat in 1865 close to a limestone deposit which provided an essential ingredient.

Many brick homes that were constructed from these early crafted brick are still in use today. Some of the buildings containing the bricks include the Charles Turner home located at 162 West 100 North Street, the Vallis hotel located on Commercial Street, the Darrell Eddington home, originally built and owned by Octava Fredrick Ursenback, located at 57 East 100 North Street, the Samuel Francis home located on the corner of Young and Field Streets, and the Rawle home located at the corner of 200 South and Field Street.

Thomas Brough of Porterville was a brick maker and mason, a trade he learned from his father. Thomas and son William George opened a brick making business in 1865 located in lower West Porterville at approximately 2415 South Morgan Valley Drive.[15] South Morgan Valley Drive passes over part of the yard; however, part of the brickyard site is located west of the road at this location. Some of the homes built with brick from this business, still in use today include the John President Porter home at 2850 S. Highway 66 Porterville, the Lyman Wight Porter home at 2710 S. Highway 66 Porterville and the George Compton home built in 1881 at 111 E. 100 South Street Morgan City.[16]

Daniel Williams owned property in North Morgan containing a good deposit of limestone which he burned in kilns built into the side of the hill. The lime was used as a medium of exchange for other goods and also sold. From this income Williams was able to build a two-story limestone home, part of which was used as a tavern. Williams provided much of the lime used in construction of the rail-

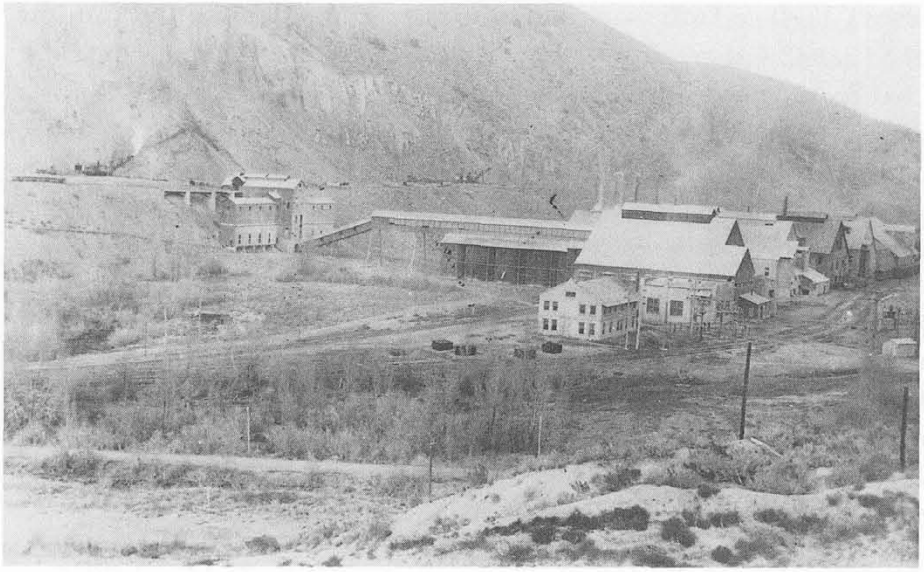
road through Morgan County. He also provided lime for use in construction of the Salt Lake LDS temple.

Union Portland Cement Company

Ammon Moore, traveling west on the Union Pacific Railroad circa 1904, noticed blue limestone in a mountain northeast of the geological rock formation known as Devil's Slide. The mountain was located about eight miles east of Morgan at the convergence of the Wasatch and Uinta mountain range, where Lost Creek empties into the Weber River. Moore and several prominent men realized the value of the "find" and had it analyzed. They found the limestone to be some of the finest rock in the west for making cement. Subsequent meetings were held for the purpose of forming a company and building a plant in which cement could be manufactured. The location was ideal as limestone could be quarried on the site.

At that time the property, known as Beesley Meadows, was homesteaded by Heber and Mary Ann Beesley and Heber's brother John and wife, Jane. Heber Beesley quarried the beautiful red and gray sandstone rock from the mountain to the north, loaded it into small ore cars, which ran on tram-way tracks up and down the steep mountain side to rail cars for shipment. The tram-way was built so that when the brakes were released on the loaded car, it would pull an empty car up as it went down. This rock was used to construct many historical buildings in surrounding towns, one of which is the majestic St. Joseph's Catholic Church on 24th Street and Adams, in Ogden.

Heber Beesley learned that the rock on his land could be used for making cement and lime. He gathered samples and sent them to a chemist for testing, but did not receive an answer. A short while later, a man by the name of James Pingree from Ogden offered to buy Beesley Meadows, on which he would build a summer home.[17] Pingree offered to give Beesleys cash. After some deliberation, the Beesleys decided to sell. Information from old records in Morgan County Courthouse states that all of Section 19 (the aforementioned land) was purchased from the Beesley brothers and their wives by Mr. James Pingree and his wife Cynthia on 30 January 1906.[18] Heber and Mary Ann received $2,600.00 and John and Jane $2650.00. John



Early Cement Plant. (O. R. Stuart)

Toone also owned and homestead part of the land purchased. Warranty Deeds show Mr. Pingree also purchased property from Edward and Maria Preece for $3,600.00 and Joseph and Eliza Williams for $140.00 on this same date.[19] On 7 March 1906, James Pingree and his wife Cynthia issued a Warranty Deed conveying to Union Portland Cement Company, a corporation, this same tract of land, Section 19, for the sum of $200,000.[20]

The corporation of Union Portland Cement Company was formed. A letter written on Union Portland's letterhead dated 23 August 1900 by R. R. Dorland to Wallace Blackington, Ogden, Utah, executive officers were listed as C. W. Nibley, president; Joseph Scowcroft, Reed Smoot and M. S. Browning, vice presidents; James Pingree, secretary and treasurer and O. B. Gilson assistant manager. In addition to the above, the board of directors consisted of C. E. Murphy, Carl Leonardt, J. W. Abbott, B. G. Blackman, James Mack, Angus T. Wright, D. A. Smyth and Charles Zeimer. [21]

Limestone deposits were acquired through placer mining claims under filings by O. B. Gilson and others. Adam Patterson acted as organizer and secured investments to get the company into production. The executives owned the majority of stock. The Church of

Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints subscribed to stock in the amount of $10,000. Other subscribers were Carl Leonardt of Salt Lake City, Olaf B. Anderson, Round Valley and other Morgan residents. Charles Boettcher and Associates joined the company about 1908. Boettcher eventually became president.[22]

22 December 1905, at a mass meeting of about one hundred citizens and tax-payers of Morgan County, Ammon Moore of Denver, Colorado, was present to learn whether or not the county would build a sixteen foot macadamized (crushed rock) road between Croydon and Morgan City; if so his company would construct a two thousand barrel per day cement factory near Croydon. The cost of the road would include $5,000 for machinery, $15,000 to build the road and $5,000 to change the river and build bridges. The following is taken from the minutes of the meeting:

> Whereas, we fully believe that there is a certain reliable Company who offer to put a cement plant in our county which cost over 600,000 dollars which said Company guarantees to operate to its full capacity for many years to come, and which will employ from two hundred fifty to three hundred men steady and increase our population about one thousand, and our revenue, one half;
>
> And Whereas our condition demand just such an industry to furnish employment for our people;
>
> And Whereas a golden opportunity never knocks at the same door twice; Therefore be it resolved, that we as tax-payers will support our County commissioners in building a good road from the Cement Factory to Morgan City, and giving such other encouragement as they may deem wise to secure the above proposed plant. Also that we favor bonding the County for 25,000 dollars for the above purpose if necessary.

LDS Stake President Daniel Heiner then made a motion that the resolution be adopted; and about ninety per-cent pf those present voted in favor of the resolution.

Plumbar Creek, commonly called Lost Creek because its water disappears underground and comes to the surface lower down, had to be diverted to the east side of the valley and the land drained.[23]

Union Pacific Railroad Company played a special role in build-

ing the Union Portland Cement Plant. A trestle bridge was built across the Weber River and track spurs laid throughout the plant area, making possible the shipment of large quantities of material and machinery to be used in building the plant. Were it not for the many services provided by the railroad company, building and operating a facility of this magnitude might not have been possible. Over the years, hundreds of tons of heavy equipment, coal, iron ore, gypsum and other necessary commodities, have been shipped by rail and delivered to the very doors of the mills. The amount of finished cement products that have been transported via railroad all over the Western United States and Canada cannot be estimated.

Construction of the plant actually began in 1904 with the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company erecting the steel buildings, and Allis Chalmers Construction Company with F. L. Smith Company installing the machinery.[24] The foundation for the plant building was made of sandstone hauled from a nearby quarry by the Union Pacific Railroad.[25] During construction of the plant, men in outlying towns were drafted for employment and moved into the area, living in tents or sheep camps. A few Croydon families boarded some of the workers. Local men who owned a team of good horses were hired and paid good wages, as horses were used to do much of the heavy work.

Workmen were fed in two boarding tents operated by Felix (Pean) and Ben Toone, brothers who were also employed as construction men. Their wives, Emily and Nan, along with family and local girls, prepared gargantuan amounts of food consumed daily. Each dining tent seated thirty or more men. Meat was furnished and slaughtered by ranchers of the area and other commodities shipped by rail or hauled with teams and wagons from Ogden or Salt Lake City. At that time, a one way trip to Salt Lake City by wagon took two days via Coalville and Parley's Canyon.

Building these large scale operation facilities caused much excitement among the local citizenry. In the fall of 1908, after two years of long back breaking work, the completed plant was ready to begin production. Mr. Edward Dutcher, consulting engineer during construction, was appointed superintendent. The first milling operation was not satisfactory, however, so production was halted for time enough to install storage for the purpose of blending and testing

processed limestone until a marketable product was made. The cement sold as RED DEVIL CEMENT, UNION PORTLAND CEMENT COMPANY, DEVIL'S SLIDE, UTAH. The plant's capacity was approximately 1500 barrels a day.[26]

Union Portland's operation provided a big economic boost to the surrounding towns of Morgan, Croydon, Henefer and Coalville, employing 250 to 300 men. Many families moved into the area for employment and "big wages," the wage scale averaging from 37 cents to 60 cents per hour for common labor, and $125.00 per month for supervising personnel. Men worked seven days a week. The day shift lasted eleven hours, and the night shift thirteen.[27] Some men rode horses to work. Those not married lived in bunk houses on the west side of the tracks. Building family living accommodations became imperative, and the company soon constructed the first planned community in the area.

Francis Bray, employed at the plant for over forty years, described making cement nearly a hundred years ago:

> Basically, the manufacture of cement seems simple. You take some impure limestone rock burn it, grind the clinker into fine powder, add approximately four per cent gypsum, and you have it. But to follow the raw materials as it winds its way through the mill to become first-class cement is anything but simple. It is very complicated and filled with many contrasts.[28]

The first step of the operation blasted the rock out of the mountainside into lumps the size of a piano and big enough to be handled by men and machinery. Before electric drills were available, blasting tunnels were dug by hand with picks, shovels, bars and hand drills. Black powder, the explosive, was extremely dangerous to handle; consequently, as soon as dynamite was obtainable, it was used.

A story is told of how one Hugh McGuire, known as the powder monkey, had watched his crew finish the last phase of a one-hundred-foot tunnel. The men sat on the ground at the face of the tunnel, legs spread apart, one behind the other, until they formed a human chain that reached deep into the heart of the tunnel. When all the men were in place, cans filled with black powder were handed to the front man, who then passed the cans one by one over his head to the man back of him. According to a news item in the *Ogden*

Standard, "A tunnel had been driven into the hill above the cement plant in which several hundred kegs of powder had been placed. The workmen were proceeding to seal up the powder preliminary to firing the mine, when a premature explosion occurred. . . . The force of the explosion broke every window in the town of Devil's Slide. . . . The ill fated men were blown from the tunnel and killed outright."[29] As a result, the lives of eighteen men were lost: seven Japanese, seven Austrians, two Italians, one Irishman, and Hugh McGuire. Subsequently, great precautions were taken, and safety regulations meticulously followed. An expert powder man was called in to assess each project, check the condition of the rock, determine the length of the tunnel, and calculate the amount of explosives needed. The tunnel was then very carefully loaded.

When the final cement product was achieved, it was placed in handfilled burlap bags and wire-tied for shipment. Clark Lucas described the experiences of the boys who tied sacks:

> when we got to be 10 or 12 years old, the company hired us to tie sacks. Up to 1930 all cement was loaded in cloth bags. They were tied with a hand operated machine and wire ties, 50 sacks to a bundle. The company paid sixty cents a thousand. Sacks that were returned to the plant for reuse were sorted and counted. They were dusty and we didn't have respirators or any health or safety devices. Adelmo Matue hired on at 12 and became the fastest and could tie 800 [bags] a day. The Redden boys, Bill, Doan, and Pete were so good, during an emergency they were let out of school for a month to tie sacks. They brought home more money than their dad did.[30]

During the years 1911 and 1912, the necessity for storage bins was critical and they were constructed at the packhouse. Union Portland's first large contract for cement was made in early 1907 for Milliner Dam in Idaho.

Union Portland Cement Plant was first operated by electrical power produced in the power-house by huge steam-driven generators. In 1914 Utah Power and Light Company built a line through Weber Canyon after which Union Portland purchased electricity from Utah Power, and the old power plant was discontinued.

In 1922 the Devil's Slide Plant became a subsidiary of Ideal Cement Company of Denver. From 1929 to 1933, approximately 670,000 barrels of cement were used in construction of Hoover Dam. World War II years, 1940 to 1944 inclusive, saw cement shipped to various defense plant installations, namely Naval Supply Depot, Clearfield, Utah; Hill Air Force Base, Clearfield, Utah; Utah General Depot, Ogden, Utah, and several federal housing projects.

On 16 April 1940, the workers joined the United Cement Lime and Gypsum Workers Union at a cost of three dollars for initiation and the first month's dues. Salaried men did not join the union. From the time the first plant started to the present, workers have never gone out on strike. A new wet process plant costing 7,000,000 dollars went into production in 1948. This plant produced 350,000 ton of Portland cement annually. The old plant was demolished, and Union Portland Cement Company became Ideal Cement Company.

One of the biggest new markets is ready-mixed concrete companies. In 1986 the Denver based Ideal Basic Industries was purchased by Holderbank Financere Glaris, the largest cement company in the world. Holderbank consolidated its North American holdings into one company called Holnam Inc. in 1990. In November 1997, a new dry-process facility went into operation doubling, cement production to 700,000 tons annually.

Modern technology has made possible operating the plant with approximately ninety hourly men and women and twenty-three salaried. Recycling is a prime concern at Holnam. By supplementing fuel (coal or natural gas) with high-heat-value shredded tires, reducing fuel costs and ridding the landscape of unsightly piles of used tires. The Devil's Slide plant has consistently been among the safest in the entire industry. While utilizing some of the largest moving equipment known to man, the plant boasts a safety record of 2,652 accident-free days during one period and 1,175 accident free days during another period. The plant also monitors and safeguard plant emissions to ensure proper air quality."[31]

Plant managers throughout the years include Mr. Dutcher, A. W. Hooton, Mr. Bartholomew, Horace Straight, A. F. Krabbe, Charles S. Burriss, Alex Vego Jensen, Robert L. Barker, Robert R. Dorland, William (Bill) Lower, V. T. Williams, Bryant Giles, and Barry Lower.

Morgan County Wildlife

A wide variety of wildlife was encountered during the exploration and fur trapping period of Morgan County's history. Elk and bighorn sheep were common; black and grizzly bears, mule deer, bison and antelope were present along with beaver, otter, wolverines and wolves. Cut-throat trout inhabited the waters and tributaries of Lost Creek, East Canyon Creek and the Weber River, along with a variety of waterfowl. Blue and ruffed grouse lived among willow, aspen, and conifer covered mountain slopes; sharp-tailed grouse lived in the bushy foothills and sage grouse utilized the open sage brush areas and the valley floor. These species were often mentioned in the diaries and journals of early explorers, trappers, and settlers because of wildlife's importance to the livelihood and sustenance of these hardy individuals.

By the turn of the century, very few big game animals of any species remained in Morgan. These animals were exploited during the period of time when white settlers were establishing permanent homes and drastically changing the face of the landscape by timbering, livestock grazing, and farming. Settlers thought wildlife to be an endless resource and utilized it year around. Reduced and disappearing wildlife populations soon became evident, and protection was given to fish in 1853 and to other wildfowl in 1872. In 1874 the first law naming specific species was enacted. The first protection afforded to big game and the first hunting seasons were established in 1876. In 1888 and again in 1896 laws were enacted to control or eliminate certain species of wildlife by establishing a bounty system on a variety of predatory or noxious species of birds and mammals determined to be detrimental.

In 1907 the first resident hunting and fishing licenses cost one dollar and were required for all male sportsmen over the age of fourteen, and the first season was set for deer hunting. No license was required for women at that time. From 1908 through 1913, the deer hunt was closed to help rebuild depleted deer herds, and in 1913 the legislature passed a buck law, allowing hunters to take only male deer with antlers at least five inches long. Hunting seasons were closed on other big game in 1914, and deer season was reduced to fifteen days.

Utah State Legislature established a series of game preserves in 1917, and by 1923 nearly a million acres of the state's best deer and elk ranges were set aside as refuges to provide year-round protection for these big game animals. The upper Lost Creek drainage area was a part of one of these preserves known as the Wasatch State Game Preserve, established to increase depleted deer herds in Morgan County. The need to acquire and protect critical big game winter ranges for the future and long term benefit of deer and elk was recognized. A land acquisition program was initiated and about 12,000 acres are currently held in division ownership in Morgan County.

Morgan County has historically been an extremely important deer hunting area even though 91.5 percent of the lands are privately owned and access by sportsmen is carefully controlled. The 10th Edition of *Records of North American Big Game* by Boone and Crockett Club, lists twelve trophy typical and non-typical mule deer taken in Morgan County, including the magnificent buck owned by Gilbert Francis of Morgan (currently on display at The First National Bank of Morgan.)

Morgan County's elk population probably resulted from transplants into upper Ogden River Drainage near the present Causey Dam and from the Salt Lake County transplant, both of which occurred during the winter of 1928–29. Individual shira moose appeared during the 1930s and 1940s, apparently wandering into this area from the north. Six Boone and Crockett Shiras or Wyoming moose have been taken from Morgan County since 1958 when the first hunt was held.

A transformation of habitat from sage brush and grasslands to pasture and other agricultural products have reduced or eliminated the once-abundant native grouse species from Morgan County. Chinese ring-necked pheasants, California quail, chucker partridge, and Rio Grande turkeys have all been imported into Utah. Some species have been introduced into Morgan; others have migrated from surrounding counties. Currently pheasants and quail are very limited in quantity. Morgan County actively participated in utilizing state game farm and 4-H Clubs to raise and release pheasants into the area from 1932–1944. As agricultural practices change and suburban encroachment continues, Morgan's ring-necked pheasant population

and hunting opportunities will continue to decline as they have throughout Utah.

Early pioneer settlers found fish plentiful enough to help supplement their food supplies and vary their diets; however, unregulated fishing and changing natural stream flow for irrigation purposes caused populations to diminish. In 1870 the LDS Church appointed a committee on fish propagation. This committee was active in the early introduction of exotic fish into Utah, primarily to increase food supply in the territory. The law the committee enacted read as follows:

> To be posted in each settlement: From and after this date all persons are hereby prohibited from fishing with nets, traps, or any other contrivances except hook and line in the public streams and waters of Morgan County; unless duly authorized by license from county court of said county.[32]

Through the years different varieties of fish have been introduced into Morgan waters. An excerpt from the minutes of the Morgan County Commission meeting on 10 September 1906, states: . . . a letter from John Sharp, State Fish and Game Warden informed the court of an allotment of 75,000 "Native Mountain trout Fry" [small fish under 3 inches] had been assigned to Morgan County, 35,000 to Croydon Station, and balance at Morgan Station. To be planted by W.H. Toone and O.H. Randall.[33]

One of the early efforts to augment sport fish populations in Morgan County was the development of fish rearing ponds at Stoddard in the mid 1920s, supervised by Scott Avenue Hatchery of Salt Lake City. In 1936–38 during the depression, a $100,000 WPA project to improve the ponds was implemented:

> The first stages of construction work will be carried out under a grant of $25,000 as a WPA Project. This will necessitate an additional allocation of $75,000 as soon as the present sum is used up. When completed the hatchery will be one of the finest in the intermountain country. Commissioner Newell B. Cook declared that as soon as the hatchery is able to commence activities 25,000 German Brown spawners will be sent to the hatchery. These are expected to produce six million eggs per year.[34]

Permanent buildings were constructed on the property, including a home for a resident superintendent, a food house and refrigeration unit, and a garage. Improvements for efficiency were made in the 1946–48 period. During the lifetime of the Morgan hatchery operation, hundreds of thousands of sport fish, mostly rainbow and brown trout, were reared and released into Morgan County and adjacent public waters. Those who served as superintendents of the facility were Larry Calderwood, James Murdock and Lee Rollins. Following a public hearing in November 1960, Morgan Hatchery was closed and production was transferred to a newly expanded Midway Hatchery. The property was retained by the Division of Wildlife and is currently used as additional public fishing access. In recent years, this property has been improved by planting and protecting riparian vegetation to provide additional wildlife habitat.

Morgan's variety of wildlife, particularly non-game bird species, is indeed spectacular and valuable. River bottoms have become well known for wintering bald eagle populations found usually from November through March, as well as for nesting great blue herons occupying the same areas during the summer months.

In 1964 Gilbert Porter, Morgan County Conservation Officer from 1950 to 1970 wrote:

> Morgan County may be small, but it has contributed, and will continue to contribute greatly to the wildlife recreation of the state of Utah. In fact, because of the proximity of the heavily populated Wasatch Front, and the established excellence of deer hunting and trout fishing, it is possible that Morgan County entertains more sportsmen, per square mile, than any other county in the state.[35]

Because of its varied habitats, plentiful fish, and wildlife Morgan provides exceptional recreational opportunities for both its residents and its neighbors to the west.

Commercial Development: Early Merchandising

Morgan County's mercantile business had its beginning in the temporary settlement of Monday Town when a gentleman by the name of Sholes started a business providing limited goods. He sold the staples of wheat, flour, sugar, and matches. Settlers could also purchase calico, shoes, and a brass kettle.[36] Goods were very costly as

it was necessary to have them shipped by wagon from the East. William Eddington and a brother-in-law, John Fry, erected two small cabins near East Canyon Creek and also started a mercantile business on a very limited scale at Monday Town. In 1867 they moved the business to South Morgan. Eddington built a brick home and used the front part for a general merchandise store. Jane, one of his wives, was very instrumental in the success of the business.[37] After Morgan City was incorporated in 1868, the first mercantile license was issued to William Eddington.

John Fry also built a brick home in South Morgan. Located on the corner of 210 West Young Street, Fry used the front portion for a store. Fry expanded his business by producing home brew. Due to a city ordinance, this venture didn't prove favorable, and he sold his business. Oral history indicates Fry then moved to Ogden and located a brewery by the Ogden River. The business was later purported to have been sold to Becker's Brewery Company.[38]

In 1878 Catherine and David Coolbear established a millinery business in South Morgan. This enterprise offered other merchandise through the years and remained in business for forty years.[39]

As with all communities, the usual number of stables, restaurants, boarding houses, and saloons appeared in Morgan County. Some of these were established to accommodate travelers passing through on their journey to the Salt Lake Valley or areas further west. Some businesses operated a mere glimpse in the spectrum of time; others lasted a considerable length of time. Timothy and Lydia Metz owned one of these early establishments. It was known as a restaurant and feed stable and was located in the mouth of the hollow in North Morgan later named in their honor, Metz Hollow.

As more settlers came to this pristine valley, other businesses were established to provide pioneers with products that could not be made locally. There was also a need for residents to trade items they were able to produce for other goods since actual cash money was in very short supply; thus the era of commercial businesses developed. Morgan City became the hub of the business district for the county. Commercial businesses increased with the population and provided for almost all of the citizens' needs. Railroad service traversing the city provided goods ordered and shipped in from any area in the

country. It also allowed citizens a means to sell their products outside the area. For almost a century, seldom a need arose requiring travel outside of the county to purchase merchandise, facilitate repairs, or attend to minor medical needs. Few services or products could not be acquired within the county at a reasonable cost. However, the economic history of the county has come full circle. With the development of automobiles and highways that make travel to larger cities on the Wasatch front easy and convenient, Morgan County's business district has dwindled. The once thriving mercantile center on Commercial Street is now a fragmented shadow of what used to be.

J. Williams and Sons Company

Daniel Williams moved from Mountain Green to North Morgan in 1861 where he took up squatters' rights. In North Morgan, Williams operated a lime kiln near Williams Point. The quarry was successful and provided lime used in local buildings, the construction of the transcontinental railroad, and the Salt Lake City LDS Temple. Lime was an essential building material in the pioneer years.

Williams built a spacious two-story lime stone building, part of which was used as a home and the remainder as a store/tavern. Adjacent to the building, he built a sturdy stable enclosed in high protective walls to be used as a fort. The two-story stable had gunports for use in case of Indian attack; however, no Indian problems occurred. The stable was used as an exchange station for the stage coach and also for the Pony Express.

Circa 1868–69 Joseph, Daniel's son, bought his father's interest in the merchandising business. Joseph then built a new store on the west side of the railroad tracks at approximately 105 Commercial Street. He maintained a granary on the east side of the tracks. Local farmers came to the store with their produce, grains, and other tangible goods to exchange for credit or script. These products were stored and later shipped via the railroad to Evanston and Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Joseph Williams Jr. and his brothers Daniel and Albert worked in the store during the day and handled shipments of produce from the granary in the evenings. In 1908 Joseph Williams Sr. retired and Joseph Jr. assumed management of J. Williams and Sons Company in

The Daniel Williams residence which also served as a stage stop and tavern.

partnership with Daniel and Albert. As time passed, the business expanded to meet the needs of residents. Dry goods and a basic line of hardware were available, and in 1910–1912 a lean-to was built, and the store began selling some cut lumber. Until this time, the only lumber available was rough cut, obtained from the surrounding sawmills.

In 1933 electric refrigeration equipment was put into the store. In the spring of 1940, a locker plant was constructed. Residents could rent a locker space for their frozen food. In 1939 Joseph West Williams bought his Uncle Bert's interest in the business. Joseph West, Joseph Jr., and Daniel continued in the partnership until the death of Joseph Williams Jr. in 1956; at which time Joseph West and his sister, Faye Eliza, inherited their father's share of the business. They later bought their Uncle Dan's interest, expanding and modernizing the store, and hosting a grand opening in January 1961.[40]

For the 113 years of operation, five generations of Williamses served the residents of Morgan. In 1978 the family sold the business to J. Hamula and Sons. Then Roger Terry purchased the business and held a grand opening in August 1984. As sales increased, a larger facility was needed. Terry built a new store at 201 N. State Street. Rogers

Commercial Street circa 1915.

Thriftway was then sold in July 1996 to Gary Nelson of Wyoming, and the store is currently Morgan IGA.

Zion's Cooperative Mercantile Institution

The first step in the direction of LDS Church-sponsored cooperative merchandising was taken in September 1868, when Brigham Young suggested publicly that members of the Mormon Church should trade as much as possible with those businesses in full fellowship in the LDS Church. This policy also provided a means of uniting the Mormons and combating gentile merchants' inflating prices.[41]

In 1869 under the direction of Brigham Young, community-owned merchandising was established. Community-owned stores were to " . . . support the products of home industry and to sell goods, whether made by local manufacturers or from the States, as low as they can possibly be sold, and let the profits be divided among the people at large."[42] Merchants in Morgan, like other areas throughout the territory, were encouraged to combine their assets and take stock in the new enterprise. Stock shares were also sold to local residents. The organization, named Zion's Cooperative Mercantile Institute, became America's first department store. By 1870 the majority of settlements in the territory had a ZCMI store,

ZCMI and Meat Market on corner of Commercial Street and 125 North Street.

with a total of 150 stores. The parent institution was located in Salt Lake City.

In Morgan William Eddington was the first merchant to merge his business with ZCMI's capital stock of $1300 for a total of $5000 capital stock. The new institution occupied Eddington's place of business in South Morgan.[43] However, it was soon moved to 121 North Commercial Street where it was more accessible to the railroad. George A. Davis served as manager and salesman, succeeded by Fred Kingston and Richard R. Fry.

A local shoe shop and tannery (Cooperative Tanning and Manufacturing Company) was established with the following officers: Robert Hogg, president; Charles Turner, vice president; W. G. Smith, Richard Fry, and James Tucker. James R. Stuart, D. J. Ross, James T. Worton, and Fred Kingston were employed as shoemakers and cobblers. During the severe winter of 1869 with no bridge across the Weber River, James R. Stuart waded to and from his work at the shoe shop. The tannery failed since material could be imported cheaper than it could be produced locally. ZCMI assumed the failing shoe company's liabilities and incorporated it as part of their busi-

ness with James Tucker as manager. When the Morgan ZCMI store closed, Tucker bought the shoe shop business and continued the service with James R. Stuart and James T. Worlton as shoemakers.[44]

From Morgan's ZCMI's inception in 1869 to its closure in circa 1905, it served the people of the area for forty-six years. The business in Morgan was taken over under the name of Morgan Cooperative Mercantile Institute (MCMI) with W. H. Rich, president and manager; James R. Rawle, vice president; and G.Y. Robbins, secretary and treasurer. The company had the motto "No long waits. No short weights."

The corporation had 4000 shares at a value of $40,000. The business also included a lime quarry and lime kilns in North Morgan.[45] According to a June 1910 local newspaper, G.Y. Robinson managed MCMI at that time. The date the business was discontinued is not known.

The Golden Rule—J C Penney

In the late 1920s, in order to continue its rapid rate of growth, JC Penney began to acquire other chain stores throughout the West. Among the stores acquired during this period were the twenty Golden Rule Mercantile stores owned by the Johnson-Stevens Company. In 1914 George Robinson was manager of the Golden Rule in Morgan. In 1922 it was managed by Thomas S. Burton and located in the former ZCMI and MCMI building. Johnson had been one of Mr. Penney's partners in the company's first store, also called The Golden Rule, in Kemmerer, Wyoming.

One of the smallest stores in the Johnson-Stevens chain was Morgan's Golden Rule. Some comparisons with the chain's two other Utah Stores, one in Ogden and another in Brigham, as of 1 January 1927, make the store's size clear:

Inventories:	Ogden:	$193,122	Rent:	$950/mo.
	Brigham:	36,017		150/mo.
	Morgan:	15,765		60/mo.

When the store opened as a JC Penney Store in 1928, H.M. Neeley was manager. Whether Neeley was the existing Johnson-Stevens Manager (Golden Rule) or if he was brought in from another

JC Penney store is unknown, but Neeley remained in the store until 1933 when Roy T. Mairs was brought in from Ogden to replace him. It is likely that Mairs's objective was to liquidate stock and supervise the store's closing.

In its days as a JC Penney store, the Morgan location was never considered successful. Its first full year of operation showed a profit of $12.98 on just over $47,000 in sales. Its last full year, 1932, was during the Great Depression. Sales dropped to some $27,000 for a net loss of $1,381. The store closed 1 November 1933.[46]

Francis - Osgood

Dr. Charles Frederick Osgood came to Morgan in 1898. The first record of the Francis - Osgood store is a 3 March 1900, sales receipt issued to a C. Hansen for forty-five cents. Dr. Osgood and Arthur W. Francis established a business of wholesale and retail dealers in all kinds of merchandise and farmer's produce. Their place of business was a frame two-story building on the corner of New Street (125 North Street) and Commercial Street. The store motto was, "Small profits and quick returns."

A. W. Francis

In 1904 the Francis-Osgood partnership dissolved, and A.W. Francis became the sole owner of the enterprise.[47] The business, which proved to be profitable, provided the shopper with everything from mens' suits, ladies' apparel, coats, and shoes, to groceries. Arthur's family helped with all facets of the operation.

Until the 1920s, all merchandise for the store was shipped into Morgan by rail. Fred Toomer operated a team and wagon to transport freight from the railroad station to the store and to all other merchants in Morgan. The Francis store also purchased large quantities of produce, meat, and poultry from local farmers until the FDA (Federal Department of Agriculture) imposed stringent restrictions on these products.

In 1928 the store was completely rebuilt of brick. It was remodeled to a one story building, modern in every way. The store entered a new era wherein advertising became very important to the success

of a business. Specials were advertised in handbills and delivered to the homes in town.

Hard times of 1929 were harbingers of the Great Depression which was in full swing by 1933. A.W. Francis Store was unable to meet its debts, due to customers' inability to pay their accounts; consequently it went into receivership. All merchandise in stock was sold, settlement was made with creditors, and the business was closed. By 1936 A. W. Francis was able to reopen the store.

Arthur's health declined, and in 1937 he died. His son Harold and wife Vesta, who had been helping in the store, took over the business. In 1944 the deed was transferred to them.[48] The business continued to provide good service and quality merchandise to the citizenry of Morgan until the business closed. In September 1976, the building was sold to Lyle Smith and used for a variety store.[49]

South Side Store

Dr. Thomas Shore Wadsworth came to Morgan in 1889. In addition to his medical practice, Wadsworth built a small frame store at 12 North State Street where he sold merchandise and medicines. In 1916 he sold the store to Gilbert Francis for $500.[50] Francis operated the merchandise business, and in 1920 built a new brick building. The *Weber River Independent* dated 23 April 1920 ran the following article:

> New South Morgan Store
>
> South Morgan certainly must appreciate the effort that is being made by Gilbert Francis to give them such an establishment as he has, in place of the old shack which was their former trading place.

Roy, Gilbert's brother, managed the store for several years until Reed Nielsen became manager in 1946. Reed and his wife Shirley purchased the store and received title in 1957.[51] The Nielsens operated the business until 2 January 1959, when a close-out sale was held, and the business discontinued. The building later housed the Middleton Fabric and Drapery Store and is currently the home of Studio One, a photography studio owned by Gary J. Weitzeil.

Doyle's Grocery

In April 1948, Doyle and Catherine Tucker prepared for the

Grand Opening of their new store, Doyle's Grocery. The building was purchased from Doyle's brother Golden Tucker. Parkinson's Store had previously occupied that section of the building, and Earl Butters had a dry goods business in half of the building.

In 1956 Earl moved his business to South Morgan, and Doyle expanded into the vacated section. A remodeling took place, and in November for the reopening, breakfast was served to customers as well as a lunch smorgasbord of chili, sandwiches, and condiments. Customers drew tickets for free bags of groceries, candy, and a turkey.

The business continued until May 1974 when it was sold to Quinton and Barbara Whitear Palmer. They operated the grocery business until September 1977 when Ron and Christine Whitear purchased the store. Whitears continued a successful grocery business until 10 April 1979, when they liquidated the stock and closed the grocery business after which the building was sold and no longer used for a grocery store.

Earl's Market

In 1946 Earl and Farrell Butters opened an insurance office and sold stationary and office supplies in the seven feet by twenty-two feet building next to Hopkin's Cafe on Commercial Street. The building was owned by Irvin and Beulah Butters. As business increased, they expanded into dry-goods. In 1948 they moved their business into part of the old Parkinson building owned by Doyle Tucker. Tucker and his wife Catherine opened a grocery store in the other half of the building. With the additional space afforded Earl and Farrell Butters, they added new lines of merchandise to their stock, including such items as shoes, clothing, fabric, rubber boots, etc.

In September 1956, one of Earl's dreams came true when the business moved into the newly constructed 40 feet by 100 feet store at 139 North State Street. Earl and Farrell had built the new store on land that had been part of Earl's father's farm. About 375 local residents signed their names in fresh cement in front of the store.

Morgan City and Morgan County rented the north end of the building for office space while the new courthouse was being constructed in 1958–1959. The south end of the building had an insurance office added on in 1962. A barber shop was located in the north

end. In addition to groceries, the store carried hardware, books, stationary, and dry goods. In 1968 following the death of Farrell Butters, the store was leased to Ethel, Farrell's sister, and her husband Don Taylor. They operated under the name of Taylor's Market until their lease expired in 1975. During this time, Earl continued the insurance and realty business. Earl remarried, and he and his second wife Adele operated the grocery store for one year. Earl's son Paul and his wife Debbie then took over as operators, renaming the business Morgan General Store. They discontinued the enterprise in 1990. The building has since been sold to Stan Stuart, and the area occupied by the grocery store is currently the home of Coast to Coast Hardware operated by Douglas and Julie Duerden.

Slaughter Houses

Most early residents in Morgan butchered animals for their own use or had some cooperative arrangement made with their neighbors to do so on an exchange basis. With the growth in population, a need arose for a commercial slaughter-house to supply beef, pork, and sheep products to several retail businesses in Morgan City and nearby communities.

H. B. Crouch built the South Morgan slaughterhouse near his farm located on the southwest side of the city for which he was granted a business license. The operation was carried out in cooperation with Crouch's farm and feed yards located a short distance from his slaughter plant. Beef was the primary product handled. A large ice-cooled refrigerator stored and aged the meat. In addition to supplying meat to city markets and hotels, Crouch delivered meat to the Devil's Slide store and hotel. He also delivered products to Henefer and the hotel at Echo. Crouch's son, M.H. Crouch, carried on the business which continued to prosper until roads were improved and vehicles became available to make deliveries from Ogden. The slaughterhouse then closed.

H.B. Crouch Wholesale business was located in the brick building on the corner of Commercial and New Street (125 North Street). In 1906 the store provided a line of prime meats butchered in Crouch's slaughter yard. The store also carried potatoes, produce, and canned meats.

Morgan City Meat Market

A 15 December 1906, *Deseret Evening News* discussed Morgan City Meat Market as follows: "The oldest meat market in Morgan, conducted and operated by Heiner Brothers. A complete and up-to-date business handling all kinds of meat, mostly grown on their ranch, potatoes, butter, eggs, and produce. The Heiner brothers were also established in the coal." The market was operated by Roswell Martin Heiner according to a 1 January 1899, *Morgan Mirror* newspaper.

Drug Stores

Before Morgan had a certified doctor, midwives provided settlers with remedies and herbs to cure their ills. Dr. Kohler came to Morgan circa 1879 and provided some of the first medicines for those in need. The first recorded license to sell drugs and toilet articles was issued to Dr. Kohler years later in 1886. In 1889 Dr. T. S. Wadsworth came to Morgan. In addition to his medical practice, Wadsworth established a small business at 12 North State Street where he sold drugs and remedies until 1916. Dr. LeRoy Pugmire came to Morgan in 1902 and received a license from Morgan City as a druggist to sell sundries.

In October 1904, Morgan Drug Company recorded articles of incorporation signed by G. W. and Sara A. McCune, Mr. and Mrs Ed. Moorehouse, and Wm E. Newman. A 15 December 1905, issue of the *Deseret Evening News* ran the following article:

> The Morgan Drug Company.
>
> The proprietor Mr. Pugmire, who has had the management for the past two years, carries a full stock of patent medicines, a large assortment of fancy and toilet articles and a nice line of perfumes and stationery. A special feature is a fine line of holiday goods for those desiring the more expensive presents.

In May 1909 articles of incorporation for Morgan County Drug Company were recorded. The corporation with capital stock of $10,000 consisted of LeRoy Pugmire, W. D. Brown, J. Williams Jr., H.B. Crouch, and James A. Anderson. Frank F. Ulrich came to Morgan in 1909 to manage the Morgan Drug Company. Two years later when the drug store changed hands, Ulrich began working at

Red Devil Drug Store at Devil's Slide. The local newspaper *Morgan County Star* dated 20 July 1912, stated that the drug store at Morgan was managed by F.A. Lyman. While Ulrich was at Devil's Slide, he decided to return to school, and in 1912 he graduated from Northwestern University in Chicago as a pharmacist. He then returned to manage the drug department of Red Devil Drug Store which was managed by J. E. Rees.

Two years later in 1914, Ulrich leased Morgan Drug Company. On 23 October 1917, LeRoy Pugmire deeded the drug store at 109 North Commercial street to Frank F. Ulrich.[52] By 1920 Ulrich had bought out the store's stockholders to become sole owner. In addition to pharmaceutical items, the store carried cosmetics, toiletries, candy, and an ice cream and soda fountain. A Utah State liquor agency was also located in the store. Ulrich owned and operated Morgan Drug Store for over forty years. Ulrich was one of Utah's best-known and highly regarded druggists. Frank F. Ulrich passed away suddenly in December 1961, ending his service to the community.

In March 1962, Morgan Drug Company business and store were sold to City Drug Inc. of Evanston, Wyoming.[53] The business was operated by Pharmacist Jim Scott and was known as the Morgan Drug Company, a Walgreen Agency. The store carried the same line of merchandise but a major remodeling of the building took place. The Conoco gas pump Ulrich had installed in front of the store in 1920 was removed. The face of the building was remodeled, and the interior was also changed. A grand opening was held in August 1962. The store had a new modern prescription department that was simple, compact, and well lighted and that required one-tenth the space demanded previously. The ice cream and soda fountain were removed.

In June 1964 Scott left Morgan to work in Rock Springs, Wyoming. Merle Smith, a licensed pharmacist, and his wife Marriel moved from Evanston, Wyoming, to Morgan to manage the drug store. Ten years later in 1974, the store was deeded to the Smiths.[54] In 1989 the drug store was once again remodeled to include additional space to the west that had been leased to Marion Fisher for a beauty shop. Morgan Drug Store continues to be owned and managed by

Merle Smith, who follows in the steps of his predecessors by providing dependable, friendly service.

Graham Drug Store

As early at 1913 and until 1926, Graham Drug Store, located on Commercial Street in a building on the east side of the bank, sold over-the-counter drugs, stationary, candles, cigars, and other items. The store was owned by W. S. (Boss) Graham. In 1927 the building was deeded to John V. and Mary Stewart and became Stewart's Confectionery and Cafe.

Welch Furniture and Undertaking

Robert Hyrum Welch purchased a furniture and undertaking business from Roswell H. Stevens located in the Morgan (Heiner) Hotel on Commercial Street. Robert took a three-day course at Salt Lake City on the art of embalming. His instructor was said to have embalmed England's Queen Victoria. Soon after purchasing the business, Welch was informed that he would have to vacate the building as quickly as possible. He purchased land and constructed a new facility for his business on New Street (125 North Street), across the street from Valley Implement. Dr. Osgood approached Welch suggesting that he build an addition on the new building for a bowling alley, which he did. This bowling alley provided much fun for residents.

Welch operated his furniture and undertaking business for eighteen years. He bought a hearse from Larkins Undertaking Company in Ogden. The hearse was large and black with gold and black drapes, walnut floor, and a seat for the driver. On each side of the seat were large nickel plated lamps. Welch had a matched team of black horses and special harnesses to pull the hearse, and he wore a long-tailed black coat and high top hat when he drove for a funeral and burial. Fred Toomer also drove the hearse for Mr. Welch.

About 1916 Welch added another section onto his store where his wife Emily Fry Welch operated a millinery shop for three or four years. Due to ill health Emily had to close her business. Welch was elected Morgan County Treasurer and established his office in the furniture store where residents would pay their property taxes.

In 1921 Welch discontinued the mortuary business and moved to Salt Lake City. His son Albert continued operating the furniture business for several years. Albert was not a licensed embalmer, so morticians from Ogden provided this service for Morgan County residents. Following the closure of the furniture business, the building was used for various purposes. It served as the second home of Morgan County Library for many years and part of the building was used by Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Exchange Company.[55]

Walker Mortuary

Following the closure of Welch Mortuary, Morgan was without a local mortician until 1967 when Robert and Lola Mae Walker opened a new facility. The Walkers owned the Coalville mortuary and decided to expand their business to Morgan. They built a two-story Mortuary with a residence included at 45 West 200 North Street. From the beginning, the business was family operated, with Bob and Lola Mae performing all of the services of caring for the deceased and their families. In 1988 Walker's son, Mark, and his wife Janene moved to Morgan and became another husband-wife team to run the mortuary, following Mark's parents' retirement.

The business has continued for thirty-one years. Morticians from surrounding areas also serve the citizens of Morgan County when requested.

Livery Stables and Automobile Dealers

Livery stables were an essential part of a community. Morgan was fortunate to have a couple of excellent livery establishments which eventually evolved into automobile dealerships.

Creager Livery Stable

James Creager owned and operated Creager Livery Stable located approximately at the present site of Russ Carrigan Motors (308 East 125 North Street). The date Creager established his business is unknown. Jesse Little owned a blacksmith shop on the east, and Chris Gerber from Switzerland owned a leather shop located near the corner on the west side of the stable. An office for the Creager business was located separate from the stable near the Mill Race ditch.

The stable was well-equipped with buggies, harnesses, and four

teams of horses. Sixteen stalls for horses and a corral were situated behind the stable. Creager rented buggies, teams of horses, and riding horses. Drummers (salesmen) arriving by train would use Creager's services to travel to different communities to sell their goods. Creager's business also transported coal and merchandise from the railroad to merchants and citizens. Brick shipped from Ogden to build the 1904–1905 North Morgan and South Morgan two-story schools was hauled to the sites from the railroad station by Creager. He also hauled goods and equipment to mines in Hardscrabble. Following the death of James in 1910, his son, Sidney Merriel Creager, took over the business.[56] The date the business closed is unknown.

Heiner Livery Stable

Daniel Hamner Heiner started the Heiner Livery Stable, one of the early businesses in Morgan. The livery was located in a frame two-story structure at about 187 N. Commercial Street. The front of the main floor was occupied by buggies, harnesses, and other equipment. The loft provided storage for hay. Stalls for horses occupied the remainder of the bottom floor. Corrals were located behind the building. Mr. Heiner had four horses he used to hitch to a buggy or sleigh. These were rented out and also hired to transport drummers from community to community. Mr. Heiner and his son Garland drove the teams. Drummers arrived by train; then Heiner provided transportation to local communities and as far away as Echo and Coalville. He also rented saddle horses. Later Heiner added an office and garage where he sold Reo automobiles. *The Weber River Independent* issued the following report on 23 April 1920:

> Morgan Has $3000 Fire
>
> The Heiner Livery barn and Garage was completely destroyed by fire Wednesday at noon. Fire starting about 10:30 caused from a defective flue in the north east corner of the building occupied by Jake Perry, a shoemaker. The loft and the whole top of the building was in flame before Mr. Perry realized what had happened. While the recent snows has caused the stockmen to suffer great hardships, but still it is very fortunate for the business district of Morgan that a foot of fresh snow had fallen the night before. If it

Heiner Livery located at approximately 185 Commercial Street circa 1914.

had not been for this fact, no doubt the whole business district would have been destroyed.

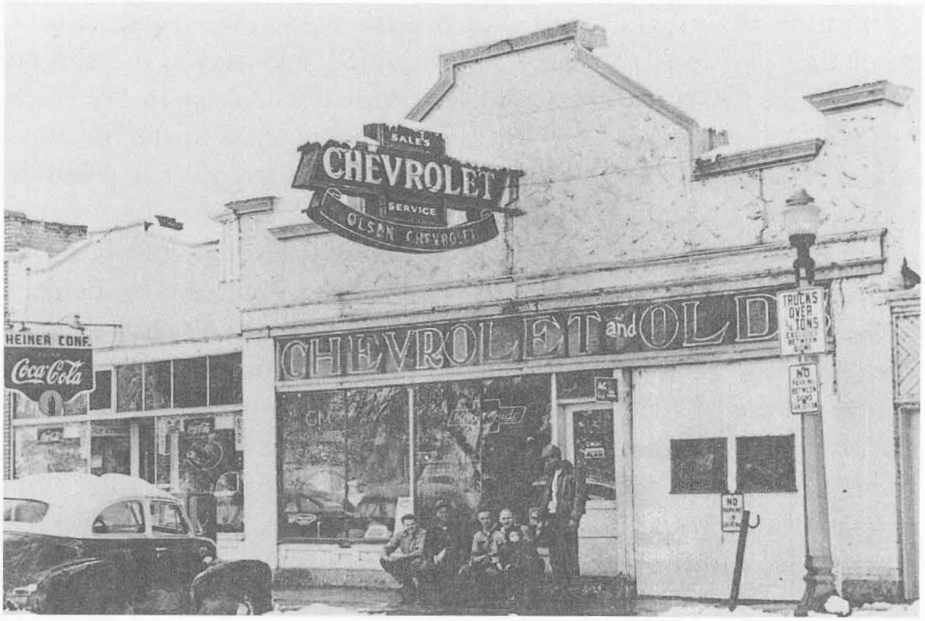
Just 13 years ago today a livery barn occupying the same space was destroyed by fire and it is only a few days ago that Mr. Heiner made a complete inspection of the building estimating the value as he intended tearing it down and rebuilding it.

Thirteen automobiles and a modern garage equipment were in the building when the fire broke out but due to the prompt response of citizens everything of this character was saved.

Because a gas pump was situated too close to the building, the insurance company would not cover the losses. Heiner paid off his creditors, but was financially unable to rebuild. He sold the property to John Heiner a brother of Daniel Hanmer Heiner.[57]

Heiner Ford

John Heiner had started an automobile business as a Ford dealer in June 1911. His business was located in a building between the hotel and Stewart's Cafe on Commercial Street. When he purchased the property from Heiner on which the livery had been located, John constructed a new building and relocated his automobile business



Olsen Chevrolet and Oldsmobile circa 1951.

there. *Weber River Independent* August 5, 1921, issue reported: "John Heiner Garage has been completed and a heavy coat of slate gray colored paint has been added to the roof, which makes it look very well."

Heiner Ford has continued in business for eighty-six years (1997), is the oldest Ford dealership in Utah, and is one of the oldest continuous dealerships West of the Mississippi. It has endured the challenges of the depression and two world wars, both perilous times for automobile dealerships. In 1928 John L. Heiner took over the dealership from his father. The business continued to prosper, and Hal B. Heiner picked up the mantle of ownership in 1974. From a family operated livery stable to a family operated modern automobile dealership, the business has spanned four generations of the Heiner family.

Olsen Oldsmobile and Chevrolet

In 1923 Seldon J. (Jack) Olsen came to Morgan as foreman for maintenance of ten trucks owned by Ford Trucking Company of Salt Lake City. These vehicles were being used by a crew resurfacing the road from Morgan City to Stoddard. Olsen stored the trucks in Jim

Compton's automobile repair shop on New Street (125 North Street). After the road construction was completed, Jack stayed in Morgan and became a partner with Compton in the repair shop. In 1925 Jack bought Compton's interest and became sole owner of the business which he named Olsen Motor Service. Jack was twenty-five when he bought the business and signed his first Oldsmobile selling agreement. He operated the business as mechanic, salesman, manager and owner. His first Oldsmobile was sold to W.O. Rollins a resident of Mountain Green. In the fall of 1926, Olsen paid $12,000 to purchase the Parkinson building located at 167 North Commercial Street. He converted the building to a sales office and automobile repair shop. For the grand opening, Olsen hosted a dance in the showroom on New Year's Eve. In January 1929, he signed his first Chevrolet contract and soon hired Roy Maxwell as a mechanic. During the 1930s depression, automobile manufacturers required repossession of all cars on which the payments were extremely delinquent. Jack reluctantly repossessed forty-one cars in twenty-one days.

In 1941 Olsen traveled east and bought used cars which he brought back to Morgan and sold. During this time, he also sold some clothing in the dealership showroom. The car business expanded, and in 1959 Olsen purchased the Welch apartments at 395 East 125 North Street which he rented until 1966 when they were demolished and the area converted to an automobile storage and sale lot. Olsen Oldsmobile and Chevrolet continued until 1977 when it was sold to Ed Lawson.[58]

Russ Carrigan Motors

Russell Carrigan, at the age of five, came to Morgan in 1917 with his family from Centerville, Utah. Russ showed an early interest in mechanics, and while in high school, he was employed part-time at Heiner Ford Garage. He had a keen interest in automobiles and developed into a master mechanic.

Carrigan worked for Heiner's for about twelve years before becoming manager of Morgan City Power Plant. When the plant burned down October 1945, he was ready to return to working with automobiles. Russ Carrigan and Roy Maxwell worked on vehicles in a building located at 120 North State Street (location of First

National Bank of Morgan, 1995). In 1946 Russ made application and secured a franchise from Chrysler Corporation. Next he arranged financing and purchased land at 308 East 125 North Street from Morgan City. Russ Carrigan and Roy Maxwell became partners and together built a new facility they named Russ and Roy's on the property in 1945–46.[59]

Prior to obtaining a full dealership, Russ and Roy's operated under the Associated dealership of Robert H. Hinkley Company located in Ogden, Utah. It was through Hinkley Company that Russ and Roy's obtained their allotment of cars. In 1946 just after WWII ended, there was a shortage of automobiles, and few were available on the open market.

For a two year period, Russ and Roy's also operated a dealership in Evanston, Wyoming. In 1957 they dissolved their partnership, with Carrigan buying out Maxwell's interest. The business was then named Russ Carrigan Motors and became an independent full dealer of Dodge, Plymouth, and Chrysler.

According to Russ, " . . . We had to raise mechanics. Keep the family enticed to stay in the business and work here for less money than they could work at another place."[60] In 1976 Russ's sons Allen and Roger, who had worked as mechanics, took over management of the company. Today they carry on the tradition of a family business with their sons Brett, Boyd, Clay, and Darin running the shop and parts department. Russ Carrigan Motors has also provided a wrecker service for the past 30 years. In June 1992, they expanded their business when they obtained a Jeep-Eagle dealership.

Hotels

Morgan City minutes indicate that when the railroad was constructed, almost anyone who had a spare room in his or her home requested a license for a boarding house. These requests were granted and boarding houses provided a needed service to visitors and some of those employed by the railroad or otherwise associated with its construction. Because the major route to the West traversed through Morgan County, there was a need for boarding facilities. Establishing hotels became a logical business venture. There have been three major hotels in the county.

Heiner Hotel

Twenty-seven years after Martin and Adelgundy Heiner and their children arrived in Morgan, two of their sons, Daniel and George, formed a corporation with a legal and binding contract to build a hotel on Commercial Street.[61] George Heiner recorded in his personal history: "In 1890, my brother Daniel and I built a three story brick hotel (Vallis Hotel). We formed a company and carried on a hotel business and also sold wagons and machinery for the Consolidated Wagon and Machine Company."[62] The corporation was officially formed 16 May 1890 and consisted of the following share holders: Daniel Heiner, George Heiner, Anthony Heiner, Samuel Campbell, H.B. Crouch, William Croft, John Croft, John Hopkin, and David S. Tracy.

Charles Turner recorded in his journal, "1890, this year I have sold to the Heiner Company over one-thousand dollars worth of bricks, lime and rock for their new hotel."[63] Thomas C. West of Round Valley, Morgan County, plastered the Heiner Hotel.[64] Heiner Hotel flourished and contributed to the economic growth and development of the community. It provided rest and comfort to many weary travelers.

Emma Staples Stuart operated the Heiner Brothers Hotel for approximately 20 years. She was an excellent cook and brought that quality to the job. At the time the hotel had eighteen rooms; a large dining room, kitchen, and an office. Emma hired local young women to help operate the hotel. Some of these employees were: Amelia Williams, May Bull, Fanny Maye, Ella Kingston, Isabelle Welch, Emily Fry, Mary Ann Eddington, and Emma's daughter, Louisa.[65]

Moroni and Harriet Clawson bought the hotel in 1912. Clawson had a watch repair shop located by the front window of the hotel. People walking by could see the small parts and watch Clawson as he worked to repair time pieces.

A theater with a stage on the main floor of the hotel provided a place where silent movies were shown there for many years. Mr. Clawson applied for a picture show license on 8 May 1917, from Morgan City. Milton Fry ran the hand-operated movie projector, and at times the movies were somewhat jerky or erratic. Sydney Heiner, born in 1914, remembers attending silent movies with captions at the

Vallis. When a reel needed to be changed on the projector, the lights came on, and a young woman played piano music until the projector was ready.

Before long films containing sound replaced silent movies; however, with the theater located next to the railroad tracks, when a train went through Morgan, the movies were once again silent as patrons could hear only the sound of the train. Sometimes this would happen three or four times during a show. Clawsons operated the hotel and theater until Mr. Clawsons death in 1935 when the building was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Stewart.

A Morgan County Newspaper dated 9 September 1937, stated:

> The new Vallis Theater opened Saturday with Metro Goldwyn Meyer picture, Born to Dance. For the comfort and convenience of its patrons, the Vallis has installed air conditioning, comfortable air inflated seats and an Intermountain research sound system. The theater will open every evening at seven. Milton Fry will be in charge of the operations. The furniture is of latest design. In every regard the entire building contains equipment and furnishings compared to those in the most up-to-date theater hotels and apartments in the West. It is beyond a doubt one of the best improvements made in Morgan. The winners of the contest to name the theater and hotel are Mable Welsh and Viola Porter Whitesides. They submitted the name "Vallis" which means Valley. They received a prize of $10.00 to be shared. Owners are Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Stewart.

Alva Dearden and wife Cecil leased the Vallis Theater from Virgil Stewart in June 1945. Deardens hired local residents to operate the theater. In 1948 The Deardens purchased Morgan Opera House from the LDS Church and converted it to a modern theater. This ended the movies in the Vallis Theater. Dearden closed the Vallis theater and opened the new business in South Morgan on 12 August 1949.[66] In 1978 the Vallis Hotel sold to William and Beverly Dahlquist and was converted into apartments.

Stuart Hotel

Emma Staples Stuart operated Morgan Hotel (Heiner Hotel, later Vallis Hotel) on Commercial Street for many years. In 1904 Stuart

purchased land and built Stuart Hotel at 451 East 125 North Street. She operated both hotels for several years.

Stuart Hotel consisted of four rental rooms up stairs, one rental room and a dining room on the main floor. A kitchen and lean-to were built on the back side of the building. Business was good, and it wasn't long until Stuart had an addition constructed to the building.

Mother Stuart, as she was affectionately called, was a renowned cook. When eight years old, she was placed as an apprentice in the kitchens of Queen Victoria of England, a school for culinary art. Prior to coming to Morgan, Stuart owned a bakery in Coalville, then worked for William Jennings of the Devereaux House in Salt Lake City where she prepared meals for Brigham Young and other notables of the day.

The big event of the year at the Stuart Hotel was the graduation dinner Mother Stuart prepared for young people who completed the eighth grade. Folktales recount how traveling men and salesmen from all over the United States often met in cities like St. Louis, and in the course of their conversation heard the same comment, "If you go West in or about Salt Lake City or Ogden don't stop to eat there. Go up Weber Canyon to Morgan for the meal of your lifetime at the Stuart Hotel."

Stuart Hotel provided work from many young ladies of the community. They assisted with meals, laundry, and upkeep of the hotel. Emma bottled all of her own fruit for the hotel and cured all of her meat—hams, bacon and corn beef—in barrels in the cellar. She was famous for her salted beans and was credited as the first person to decorate a cake with icing in Morgan. Mother Stuart shared the knowledge she learned as a student with others and proved invaluable in the early days of food preparation and preservation in Utah.

Stuart Hotel now stands as an apartment building, long past the glory of another generation. Emma represented women's abilities to successfully participate in the commercial world long before it became acceptable for women to engage in business.

Dexter Hotel and Park

Dexter C. Swartfager and his wife Ida owned and operated the Dexter Hotel located in Peterson. Swartfager was the Union Pacific

Station Agent at Peterson. The date the hotel was built is not known; however, Swartfager was deeded a title to thirty-six acres of land in 1906 and seventeen additional acres in 1909, bringing the total to fifty-three acres, more or less.

The hotel was a two and a half story frame building located on the west side of the Weber River, across from the railroad station. The hotel, situated in a grove of Cottonwood trees was part of the Dexter Park. A rock dam placed in the river made a pond for boating, and a boat house with boats available to rent was located on the west bank. There was also an open-air dance pavilion and areas under the trees for picnics. North of the hotel was a cleared area for a baseball diamond.[67] The park was the community gathering place for celebrations, especially those on July 4th and 24th.

For a short period of time in 1903–1904 Victor Randolph and Nancy Bohman resided in Dexter Hotel and operated it for shares of the income. They also operated the dance hall. During this time, the hotel was mostly used by railroad men. Besides operating the hotel, Nancy prepared the meals and was known as an excellent cook by patrons who frequented the hotel.

In 1911 Reinhardt and Josephene Olsen purchased fifty-three acres, more or less, including the Dexter Hotel, park area, boat dock, a creamery, and an area known then as Bond's and Jake's fields. The purchase also included water rights, other buildings, a piano, and other items necessary for continuing the hotel business. The selling price was $4,200. At the time of the sale, the Olsen's were living in Ogden, Utah.[68] Following the death of Reinhardt and his wife, the park and other acreage and buildings were deeded to the H. Hugo Olsen family. The park continued to be used by residents and visitors from out of the county. For many years Olsens operated the park as a place for people to camp, picnics, or fish.

Many residents of Peterson report that the hotel was burned to the ground; however, no records of when this occurred could be located. For many years, residents of the settlement walked around on the foundation which remained visible in the 1980s. Disposition of the other buildings is unknown. Most of the park area is now occupied by residential homes. Descendants of Reinhardt and Josephene Olsen live in some of these homes.

Barber Shops

Morgan has had many barbers through the years. Early barbers were also skilled in shaving customers with a straight-edge razor. Barber shops served for more than just cutting hair; customers could also obtain news of current events in the community. Barber shops became a substitute for blacksmith shops of earlier years where men could congregate and exchange news, stories, tips on farming, and an occasional joke. The barber may have been the most informed man in town. Local barber shops were well patronized, and quite often had standing room only, especially on Saturday evenings. Barbers often worked until midnight on Saturdays as farmers had to milk cows and do chores before heading into town for hair cuts.

Barber shops had an unwritten "men only" status for many years. Seldom did a woman go to a barber shop until following World War I when ladies' hair styles became shorter and the sanctity of the men only era began to dwindle. Many young girls received a page-boy cut and went home carrying long tresses of hair in their hands resulting in many teary-eyed mothers as they viewed their daughters' short hair, especially the mothers of those girls who were brave enough to have the disgraceful shingle-bob cut.

Early Barbers

Wallace Dickson was the first barber to open his shop at 139 North Commercial Street, in a building located on the east side of Stewart's Cafe. Wallace attended barber school in Salt Lake City and opened his Morgan shop in the late teens in the building owned by his father-in-law, Elisha Hardy. The building was divided with separate entrances, and the south side served as a pool hall and bar until it was later occupied by Johnson's Cleaners. In the late 1920s or early 30s Wallace and his son Bill were helping two men out of their overturned automobile in Richville. One gentleman dropped the car door shut on Wallace's hand, which caused permanent damage. Wallace returned to his barber business, but his hand never fully recovered, making barbering almost impossible; consequently, he closed the shop.

Ernest "Ern" Waldron started his barbering profession at the town of Devil's Slide in 1922. His shop was located in the front of the

club house building owned by the cement plant. In 1927 he moved to Garland and operated a shop there for thirty years. Ben Creager unofficially started practicing the art of barbering while he was still in school. Many of Ben's school chums returned to their homes with what Ben considered a classy haircut; however, horrified mothers were very unhappy at having their sons practically sheared.[69] Later Ben was employed at the cement plant as a kiln burner. When he was off shift, he found himself drawn to the barber shop of Ern Waldron. Ben seemed to have a knack with a straight razor and barber shears. He soon began assisting Ern on busy days. Ben decided he wanted to become a barber and subsequently graduated from barber school. He apprenticed under Ern, receiving his license in July 1923.[70]

When Ern Waldron moved from Devil's Slide, Ben took over the shop and operated his business there until 1939 when the cement plant closed the shop. He then moved his business to Morgan into the former shop of Wallace Dickson. The business continued until 1972.

Irvin R. Butters started barbering in 1918 at age nineteen. Wallace Dickson taught him the trade and Irvin completed his apprenticeship in Barber Dickson's shop at 139 North Commercial Street. After obtaining his license, Irvin opened a shop in the Welch building on 125 North Street. He later moved into his own building at 119 Commercial Street. Following a stroke circa 1963, Irvin suffered some paralyses, but continued to barber. Irv, as he was affectionately known, retired in 1972 after fifty-four years.

Morgan County has had many barbers through the years. The following is a list of those who cut hair as a profession: Bud Bedell, Cecil Burell, Irvin Butters, Ben Creager, Fred Crawley, Paul Dickson, Wallace Dickson, Fred Lundberg, George Redden, Paul Russell, Albert Robison, Charles Tribe, Earnest Waldron and Walt Waldron.

Newspapers of Morgan County

Publication of a newspaper in Morgan County began in 1896 with the *Morgan Mirror.* The book *Mountains Conquered* discusses this early publication:

> The following account taken from "The Republic," Nephi, August 29, 1896: "Morgan Mirror. With this issue The Mirror takes plea-

> sure in introducing to its patrons and the people of Morgan in general, Mr. J. W. Hyde of Logan, Utah, a practical printer and writer of some years experience. Mr. Hyde will be associated with the present proprietor in the publication of "The Mirror," and in all probability will move his family and locate permanently in our midst. . . . Editor Republic."[71]

A copy of the *Morgan Mirror* dated 25 March 1898 states; "With this issue the Morgan Mirror, it enters upon its third year." The paper also lists Orvil O. Davis as manager of the "only" paper in Morgan County.

In the formative years of the paper, it apparently changed publishers and owners several times. The 1 January 1899, *Morgan Mirror* lists Orson W. Covington as editor/publisher. In 1907 the paper was named the *Morgan Monitor* with P.M. Chester business manager and N.J. Peterson editor. According to the book *Mountains Conquered* in 1908 the paper was published by N. J. Peterson. Also Mr. Covington was to have sold the newspaper to H.B. Fry, F. L. Parkinson and Walter Bramwell. Mr. Fry became sole owner and sold the paper to Charles H. Ruble.[72] However, no copy of a 1908 paper has been located to verify this. The next issue of the local paper to be found is a 24 June 1910, issue of *The Morgan County Post,* successor to the *Mirror Monitor,* with John Stahle Jr., editor and proprietor. A 20 July 1912, issue of the local paper is named *The Morgan County Star,* published on Saturdays by Charles H. Ruble. The paper was depicted as "A fearless independent newspaper devoted to the interests of Morgan County."[73]

The paper may have been discontinued for a short period of time; then a paper dated 28 December 1919, appeared, bearing the name *Morgan County Independent,* published by Charles Ruble. Newspapers from April 1920 to June 1923 are titled *Weber River Independent.*

In October 1923, Ruble sold the newspaper to Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Wallace who titled it *The Morgan County News,* which name it presently retains. The paper was printed in connection with *The Coalville Times.* In December 1925, the paper sold to S. D. Perry and his son, C. K. Perry who set up the paper in Morgan then took it to Coalville to be printed. *Mountains Conquered* states:

> In March 1946, Mr. and Mrs. Albert W. Epperson of Kaysville took over the publication of The Morgan County News and the paper was printed in Kaysville for some time. Beginning with the November 24, 1950 issue the Eppersons, having built a new building and installed modern equipment, began printing the paper in Morgan.(361 East 100 North Street) Mr. Epperson died August 15, 1955, and Mrs. Epperson continued publication of the paper until December 31, 1955.
>
> On January 1, 1956, Mrs. Epperson sold the Morgan County News to Mr. and Mrs. H. C. McConaughy ["Mac" and Louise] of Omaha, Nebraska. At the present time (1959) they are printing three county papers in the shop: The Morgan County News, The Summit County Bee and The Park City Record.[74]

Of the fifty local newspapers published in the state of Utah, the McConaughys published three, for which they received numerous awards. Especially remembered was Mac's editorial column named "Ants Eye View."

McConaughys, reaching a time for retirement, sold the newspaper in November 1976, to Richard and Susan Buys of Heber City who moved the operation of the paper to Commercial Street in the "old post office building" on the corner of 125 North and Commercial Street. Ken and Marie Adams worked as publisher and editor for the Buys until 1982, when they bought the newspaper. Ken and Marie then purchased the former bank building at 157 North Commercial Street where they located the news office. In August 1995, Adamses moved the *Morgan County News* into their new building at 243 East 125 North Street.

As of 1996, one hundred years after the first local newspaper, Morgan County News has a circulation of 1720. The newspaper's goal continues as stated almost a century ago in an 1898 issue:

> Our endeavor shall be to labor early and late, for the intersts [interests] of this community, along all lines, and shall make the Mirror a welcome home visitor at all firesides in our chosen city, acquainting you with all the local happenings of interest, and to the consumation [consummation] of this desirable end we pledge our time, our talent, and our two cent faber. Mirror Publishing Co.[75]

In 1997 the newspaper business was sold to Howard and Bonnie

Stahle of Bountiful, Utah. Stahles are descendants of John Stahle Jr., editor and proprietor of the 1910 *Mirror-Monitor.*

Other Businesses

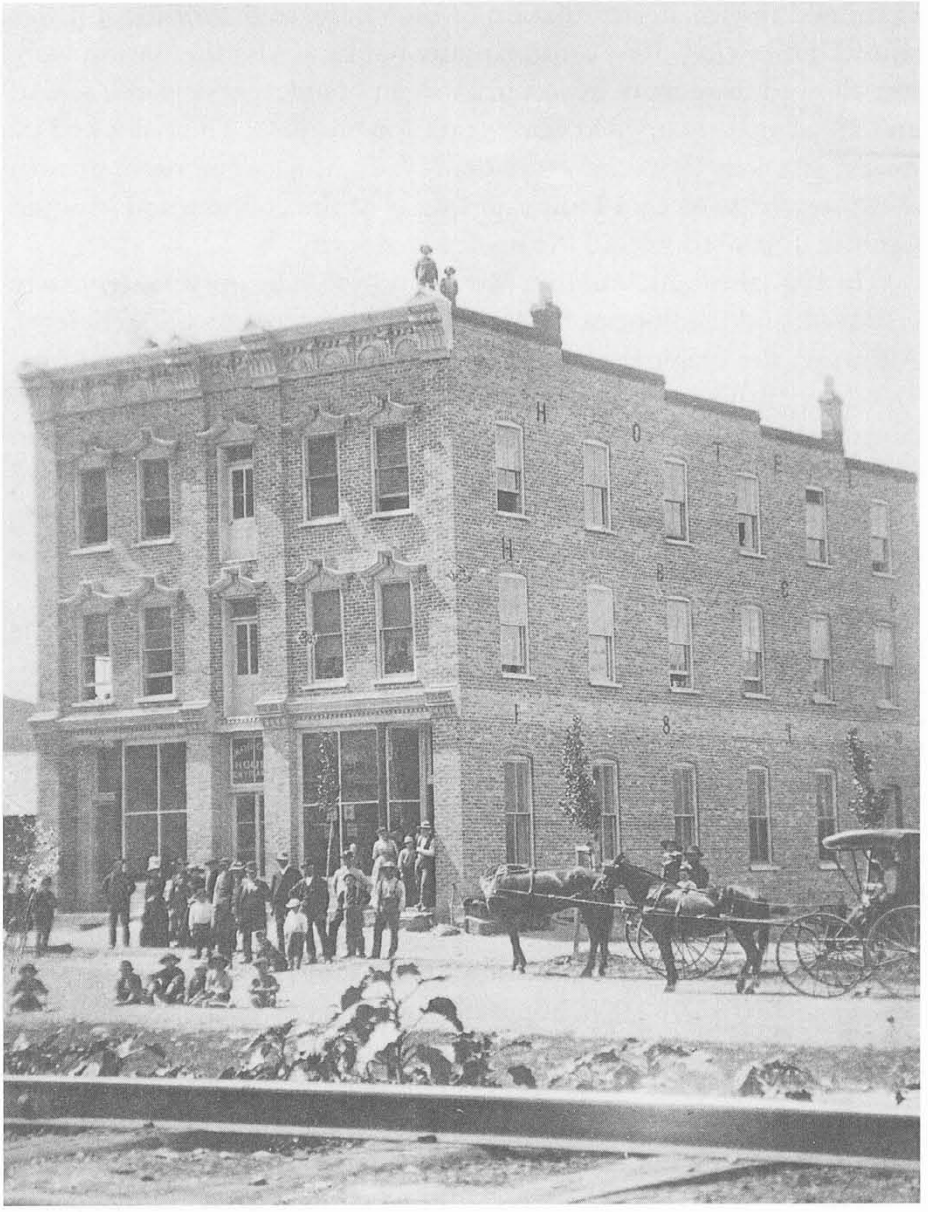
Before an official bank facility opened in Morgan, the Morgan City Corporation and County Treasurer often kept municipal funds in a vault located in the ZCMI building. There was a need for a financial institution; thus the banking business was established locally.

The First National Bank of Morgan

A group of prominent citizens and businessmen of Morgan met together under the direction of James A. Anderson to establish a bank in Morgan County. James Pingree, a resident of Ogden was selected to be the first president of the bank with Joseph Williams and Walter Bramwell as officers. The First National Bank of Morgan started with a capital stock of $25,000 and a surplus account of $10,000.

On 3 August 1903, the bank ordered plates to print ten and twenty dollar currency bills. From 1863 to 1935, banks were allowed to print National Bank Notes. Although the requirements changed some during those years, banks were allowed to print and circulate notes depending on the value of the securities they deposited with the United States Treasury. Banks were generally required to back their notes with United States Bonds up to ninety per cent of the value of bonds, and in 1900 the percent was increased to one hundred. From 1908 to 1915, other securities could be used to back the notes. In accordance with these regulations, Morgan First National Bank was allowed to print $6500 worth of National Bank Notes. These were signed by Chas Heiner cashier and Daniel Heiner president. One of the main reasons for issuing bank notes was that private and state banks were greatly increasing in numbers. Many of these banks were unsound, and some were out and out swindlers. The public's faith in money was at an all time low. National Bank Notes were guaranteed.[76]

In September 1903, The First National Bank of Morgan moved into offices at 157 N. Commercial Street. The formative years of the bank were no different than for any other new business. During those years, only small dividends were received by the stockholders. In 1929



Heiner Brothers Hotel circa 1904.

at the time of the stock market crash, Herbert B. Crouch was bank president. Black Holiday was declared by the government, and all banks were required to close for one to two weeks. A controller then

examined the financial situation of each bank to determine if it was sound. Following these audits, many banks across the nation were not allowed to reopen; however, Morgan's bank was declared sound and consequently opened once again for business. The bank had its lowest assets in 1940. Since the depression, it has seen rapid growth and prosperity. As economic conditions of the country and Morgan County improved, so did the bank's prosperity.

In 1937 the bank building was remodeled. The outside steps were removed, and the floor of the building was lowered to sidewalk level. Although the original vault was made with fireproof brick, it provided very little other security. Officials determined that anyone with time on his or her hands and a good screwdriver could have broken into the vault. The remodeling provided a new cement-reinforced vault with a substantial vault door. The front exterior of the building was changed and faced with brick. Total cost of the renovation was $4700.

In 1956 another renovation took place. The building was enlarged with a forty foot addition on the back. Interior changes provided more adequate service to customers. The 1936 vault door was retained even though the size of the vault was doubled. During the remodeling, business was conducted as usual in the showroom of Heiner Garage. Total renovation cost was $28,000.

In 1963 as growth and financial prosperity continued to increase in Morgan, bank President Gilbert Francis purchased the lot at the corner of 100 North and State Street (120 N. State Street). A goal was set to build a new bank building on that lot five years later when assets reached $5,000,000, hopefully by 1973; however, the figure was achieved in 1972, and plans were commenced.

In June 1973 after seventy years of banking, the business moved from its original home in North Morgan to the modern, new facility. The building provided more space inside and parking outside. Customers were given the advantage of a drive-up window service and night depository, along with all other modern banking conveniences. In 1990 the bank made a major change by converting to a computerized banking system, and in 1997 an Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) was installed. For ninety-three years (1996) The First National Bank of Morgan has served area citizens. It has also

provided jobs for many residents. Currently the bank employs eleven full-time and three part-time employees, all of whom live in Morgan.

Bank Presidents

James Pingree, first president of the First National Bank of Morgan served in that capacity until 1912, when Dr. Charles Frederick Osgood became president for a one year period. He was followed by Daniel Heiner, who held the position for thirteen years. In 1926 Herbert B. Crouch, a large stockholder in the bank, became president. After approximately twelve years Crouch sold his interest to Gilbert Francis. Gilbert had served first as a bank director, then as cashier, and finally as president of the firm for thirty-five years before his retirement in 1978. In 1968 Grant Francis, Gilbert's son, became Chief Executive Vice President (CEO). In 1978 he was also made president, a position he held until his retirement in January 1989.

In 1961 George Francis began working for the bank. He was made President and CEO in 1989. After thirty-five years service at the bank Francis retired in 1996. Following his retirement in February 1996, Stanton Reed Nielsen took the helm as president and CEO and is currently serving in that capacity.

Browning

In 1878 at the age of 23, John M. Browning created his first gun: a single shot, lever operated, breech loading rifle. This gun, known as the Winchester Model 1885 High Wall, was soon followed by forty-three more guns sold to Winchester. With his four brothers and one gunsmith, Browning commenced production in 1881, playfully labeling his small shop in Ogden "The Largest Arms Factory Between Omaha and the Pacific." The shop's first sale for twenty- five rifles netted $700.[77] From 128 patents, Brownings has developed more than eighty separate firearms. Browning's military designs include the .30 and .50 Caliber Machine Gun, the Colt .45 semi-auto pistol and the BAR Automatic Rifle.

Browning's move from Ogden, Utah, to Morgan County was not based on the usual criteria, i.e. labor, energy costs, transportation costs, environment, etc. Instead, the move was based almost entirely on practicality, the need for a rural area with space for a shooting

range. Mt. Green satisfied Browning's practical criteria at the time. In addition, its close proximity to Ogden afforded most of Browning's Utah employees an easy commute.

Prior to moving to Morgan County, Browning's executive offices had been located in the First Security Bank building in Ogden and the R & D facility at 250 Grant Avenue, Ogden. In 1959 Browning introduced a center fire bolt action rifle to its line but lacked facilities at the Ogden location to test fire this new model. When Browning wanted to conduct shooting studies involving rifles, it was necessary to take them to Salt Lake to use one of the outdoor police ranges, which was quite inconvenient. It was also inconvenient for the R & D shop to be separate from the executive offices as there was considerable communication conducted between the two.

In late 1960 or early 1961, the U.S. Government decided to build a new Federal building in Ogden and took an option on property bounded by 24th and 25th Street, Kiesel Avenue, and Grant Avenue. At this time, Browning management determined that finding a new location where the company could combine the executive offices and the R & D shop would be wise. Officials decided that a 646 acre farm in Morgan County would be ideal for Browning. It had flat areas that could be used for building a facility, foothills that could furnish a backdrop for an outdoor shooting range, and a location separated by a considerable distance from residential homes.

Management negotiated to buy this farm in the spring of 1961. John Val Browning contacted Morgan County Commissioners, who promised to upgrade an existing road at the mouth of Cottonwood Canyon where Browning planned to build his facilities. The move into the new office building began in April of 1964. Morgan County took another year to upgrade the road to satisfactory condition.

In 1968 the decision was made to move Browning's sales and data processing divisions from St. Louis, Missouri, to Morgan, Utah. At the same time, Browning began to expand its product line to include outdoor clothing, boots, knives, different varieties of firearms, and hunting accessories. Browning dropped "Arms Company" from its name in May of 1972 and is now known simply as Browning. The company then expanded by purchasing a fiberglass fishing rod company and archery producing facility. In 1972 both the

archery factory from Chula Vista, California, and the Fishing Rod Plant from Costa Mesa, California, were moved into a new 39,000 square foot facility built next to corporate headquarters in Morgan.

In 1977 Fabrique Nationale, a Belgium arms maker of many of Browning's firearms, acquired ownership of Browning from the Browning family and stockholders. Although Browning became a foreign held corporation, operations for Browning in North America were still controlled from Morgan, Utah, corporate offices. In January 1991, GIAT Industries, a French manufacturer of military products, acquired Browning through its purchase of Fabrique Nationale. In the fall of 1992, the decision was made to sell Browning's fishing division in a worldwide license agreement with Zebco Corporation, wherein Zebco would market rods and reels with the Browning name.

Browning continues to expand its core hunting and shooting line of products with annual sales increasing steadily. Browning's product lines now include shotguns, rifles, pistols, gun safes, gun accessories, gun cases, knives, flashlights, clothing, boots, and a complete line of archery equipment. For over thirty-one years, corporate headquarters have resided in Morgan County. In 1996 Browning employed 280 employees at the Morgan facility. Cradled in the same Wasatch mountains where its founder drew his inspiration, Browning is still the largest arms company "between Omaha and the Pacific."

F.E. Schumacher

On 20 August 1965, a dedication program was held at the opening of the F.E. Schumacher plant in Morgan. F.E. Schumacher enterprise was established to cut and size wood and eliminate any defects before shipping it on to the main plant in Ohio, thus saving on shipping costs by decreasing the weight of the lumber by one-third. Governor Calvin L. Rampton gave the welcome speech. Dignitaries from the home plant in Hartville, Ohio, were on hand for the program. The first plant manager was Carlos Halls. The company is still in operation, and as of June 1996 has five employees, with Scott Follett serving as manager.

Stewart's Confectionary and Cafe

John V. and Mary Stewart purchased the store east of the bank on Commercial Street from Mrs. Graham in 1926–1927 and established the Stewarts Confectionery and Cafe.[78] John and Mary operated the business with their son Virgil until 1938 when title was deeded to Virgil.[79] The building was remodeled, and the dining area enlarged.

Virgil operated the business with the help of Mable and Reed (Farmer) Welsh. Mable, an excellent cook, began working at the cafe in 1928 and continued for twenty-nine years. Farmer started working as bartender in 1934 and continued for forty-three years. The business flourished and became known as Buzzy's, Virgil's nickname.

In 1977 the business was sold to William A. Dahlquist, Lee Welch, and Don Smith.[80] William A. and Beverly A. Dahlquist became the sole owners of the business and other properties in June 1983. Since that time they have made many improvements on the facilities, including expanding the dining area.

Hopkin Cafe & Confectionery

Jay Hopkin and his father had always envied a man who owned his own business. In 1936 after prohibition, Jay, who had been an employee at the cement plant at Devil's Slide and was laid off each winter, obtained one of the two licenses issued to sell beer in Morgan City. In about 1936, Jay opened a business in the building located between the drug store and J. Williams store where Earl Williams had operated a business. In 1938 Jay's father demolished the two small buildings north of the drug store. These were the former Frank Smith's Lunch Counter and Tom Burton's, Tom's Cash & Carry. Mr. Hopkin then built a new modern cafe on the site which he named Hopkin Cafe & Confectionery.

The new building had a nice kitchen and dining room. Jay's mother who was the cook prepared delicious home cooked food for cafe patrons. A small section of the building was also used for groceries and some produce. Through the years, the interior of Hopkin's building was changed and remodeled several times. Work at the cafe usually started for Jay at four A.M. when he began preparing coffee for early morning customers. His day ended between midnight and one

A.M. Hopkin's remained open on Sundays and Wednesdays when other businesses in town generally were closed. Many businesses closed on Wednesdays when baseball games were played because everyone wanted to attend. On Friday nights after high school ball games, Hopkin's was the hot spot in Morgan for teenagers to hang-out.

Hopkin's Cafe, or Jay's as it was also known, was a family operation for fifty-three years, employing many local residents. Many of Morgan's youth gained their first working experience at the cafe. Jay's daughters operated the business in its final years. It finally closed in 1990–91, ending an era of friendly service and quality food.

Another dream of Jay's was to own a fast food drive-in. In 1958 his dream came true when he opened Jay's Drive-in at 50 North State Street. This was the first—and has remained the only—drive-in restaurant in Morgan County. Jay's daughter Stephanie leased the business in 1968. In 1973 she purchased the business and is the current owner. Stephanie has remodeled the building to include indoor dining and has expanded the menu from the early years. She has also changed the name to Steph's Drive-in.

Morgan Bottling Works

Alma Thackeray opened the Morgan Bottling Works circa 1920 and commenced making soda water. His operations started in the Woodsman of the World (W.O.W.) building located on the east side of the railroad tracks across from the railroad station. For the first few years, soda water was bottled in other soda water companies' bottles. Many Utah Bottling Works' bottles were used. The bottles were cleaned by a conveyor belt-operated bottle washer designed by Alma. Joseph Williams was one of the first men employed to operate this bottle washer.

The business operated in the W.O.W. building for only a short period of time before it was moved into garages located by Johnson's Laundry on 125 North Street. In 1928 Laurel Rock bought the business for $1200. He ordered bottles made especially for his company with the name "Morgan Bottling Works, Morgan, Utah," embossed on them. The Bottling Works made many different flavors of soda,

and the recipes were divulged to only a select few employees. Morgan Bottling Works company also sold Coca-Cola.

Soda water was sold to stores and cafes in Morgan County and the surrounding area. Laurel Rock delivered the pop from a Model-T truck until 1929 when a new Model-A one and a half ton truck was purchased. Rock made deliveries to Summit, Kamas, Oakley, and Hoytsville, Utah. He also delivered soda to Evanston, Cokeville, Castle Rock, and Sage Junction, Wyoming. Some of the Bottling Works' employees were Charles Little, bottler; Harvey Porter, truck driver; Harold "Tye" Little, Francis Porter, Carlos Porter, Cliff Spendlove and Dean Sherman. Frank Hardy was Mr. Rock's number one man in the soda water bottling business.

The Bottling Works business was very successful, but due to personal difficulties, Rock sold the company in 1932 to Lewis Welch. Welch operated the business for a couple of years during the summer months; then he discontinued the operations.[81]

J.J. Johnson Cleaning Company

In 1929 John Johnson came to Morgan from Coalville, Utah. A tailor by trade, he opened a tailoring and press shop at 139 Commercial Street. A coal fired boiler operated the clothing press. Other equipment consisted of two Singer treadle sewing machines and two pine show cases brought from his former business in Driggs, Idaho. Johnson hung the beautifully pressed clothing in the show cases. Dry cleaning was sent in boxes to Myers Cleaners in Salt Lake City, Utah. The clean clothes were returned to Morgan where J.J., as he was affectionately called, pressed and finished the clothes. Mending and alterations were also made in the local shop, and made-to-order clothing could be purchased through the business.

Johnson and his son decided to build their own facility, including a cleaning plant. In 1947 the J.J. Johnson Cleaning Company opened for business at 389 East 125 North Street. When John Johnson passed away in 1949, his son, John C. took over the business.

Following WWII the government paid each veteran $90 a month to learn a skill which would help them reenter civilian life. Using the G.I. Bill, George Pratt and Kent Rich joined the dry cleaning business with their brother-in-law John. During this time, a bi-

weekly pickup and delivery route was established to Devil's Slide, Croydon, Henefer, Echo, and Coalville. Eventually, George and Kent found other employment, and John bought out their interest in the business. John hired June Porter who was a dependable worker for twenty-five years.

In the 1950s, a coin operated laundry was installed in the front section of the building, and the dry cleaning moved to the rear. In 1980 Johnson sold the business to Richard and Dona Spohn from California who renamed it Keep You Neat, but due to society's change to wash-and-wear clothing, the small dry cleaning business was no longer successful. In 1990 the business returned to the Johnsons who completely remodeled the building in 1990, converting it to a self-service laundromat which operates under the name of Johnson's Laundry.[82]

Community Stores

Within the boundaries of Morgan County, fourteen settlements were established. Roads were crude and dangerous to travel in the early years of settlement. Even up until the Interstate was constructed through the county, including upper and lower Weber Canyon, traveling between communities and especially outside the valley for merchandise was not very feasible, especially for everyday items. Just traveling to Morgan City business district for convenience items was troublesome; thus stores were established in the outlying communities. These stores had their beginning in the early years of settlement, and some continued well into the twentieth century. Many of these business were Mom and Pop operations that provided basics along with a few convenient foods and other items. Some stores stocked drug items. Many supplied gasoline for automobiles, and a few provided cabins for overnight lodging, camping, and picnic areas. In some instances, the small stores were also the location of post offices and bus stops. By today's standards, these early stores would be considered mini marts.

As roads improved and travel became more convenient for residents, the small stores slowly disappeared. Because small establishments were unable to stock all of the items larger businesses could provide; they were no longer profitable; however, as population

increased in the northern section of the valley, once again a demand for small stores arose. Currently two modern convenience stores are located in outlying communities, one in Peterson and the other in Mountain Green. Also, during the construction of Trapper's Loop Road, many people traveled into the county from Huntsville en route to Ogden and Salt Lake City, creating further opportunity for small businesses to be profitable.

Mom and Pop Stores

Following are brief histories of the Mom and Pop enterprises that at one time constituted the heartbeat of the small communities:

Peterson General Store

Peterson store was located on the east side of Old Highway 30, on a hill directly east of Union Pacific Railroad depot. According to the book *Mountains Conquered,* "Early owners of the General Store were Isaac Bowman, Edwin Williams, John Croft, Joe Greenough, J.B. Robbins, Axcel and Oscar Olsen, and the last to keep the store in operation were A.F. Bohman and his daughter, Esther Thompson."

Isaac Bowman was granted title from the United States of America to one hundred sixty-two acres of land in 1875 on which Bowman was already established.[83] The date Peterson General Store went into operation is unknown. Also, the date Edwin Williams acquired the one and one-eighth acres of land and the store or how long he operated the business is unknown. In 1890 Williams sold the land and store to John Croft for $900.[84] Joseph B. and George Robbins bought the general store from Croft in July 1899 for $1300.[85] George was the postmaster, and Robbins lived in the back of the store. The store did not provide enough income for two, so Joseph bought out George's interest. Joseph then became postmaster. Jim Williams helped Joseph get logs from the nearby mountains. The logs were sawed into lumber to build a barn and ice house. Joseph and his family built and moved into a small house south of the store. From 1899 to 1906 Joseph's children helped deliver groceries to miners in Cottonwood Canyon.

In March 1906, Joseph Robbins sold Peterson General Store to Axcel and Oscar Olsen for $1,000.[86] They owned the store for only a

short period of time, and in December of 1906, the property was sold to Alfred Bohman for $2000. The Bohman family continued operating the store until the 1950s.

Peterson General Store was a typical country store, providing most necessities needed by residents, including friendly conversation. The northeast corner of the store was petitioned off for the post office. The storekeeper was the postmaster who sorted mail for residents of Peterson, Mountain Green, and Enterprise. In the 1950s the post office closed; thereafter mail was sorted in Morgan and delivered by Albert Welch to area residents.

Peterson General Store contained a butcher shop in the southeast corner of the store. Ice cut from ponds and the Weber River during the winter was covered with sawdust and stored in an ice house where it remained until needed in the shop to keep meat, cheese, and other items refrigerated.

Peterson General Store changed with the times and owners. At one time a small refreshment stand located outside on the south side of the store operated in summer months to provide mugs of root beer, other soda pop, beer, cup cakes, bread, and sandwiches. In about 1926, a pool room was added to the store. It contained two large pool tables, card tables, and chairs for customers to sit in while they relaxed and visited. When Union Pacific Railroad laid double track through Morgan County in 1926, the pool room was a popular spot for residents and construction workers.

Men working in the mines in Cottonwood Canyon stopped at Peterson General Store when they brought their dumpboard wagons loaded with ore to the railroad depot. They purchased supplies and took them back to the miners. Sheep outfits came with four or five pack animals to get supplies for a couple of weeks stay with the herds.

During prohibition several bootleg whiskey stills were known to be located in the county. Peterson General Store maintained a large sugar stock. Still operators often purchased pickup truck loads of sugar at a time. It was whispered among residents that if a person wanted to know who had a still, he merely had to watch who was making large sugar purchases.

With the advent of automobiles, two gas pumps were added to the south side of Peterson General Store. Residents could also pur-

chase their winter supply of coal from the store. In addition, the store sold Greyhound Bus tickets. When someone wanted to board the bus, a red flag was hung outside on the porch signaling the bus to stop. The store was the heart of the community and was greatly missed when its doors closed in the 1950s.[87]

Penny's

The neighborhood store operated at Peterson by Otto and Vonda Pendleton got its start as a small snack stand near Dexter Hotel, selling picnic supplies, soda pop, and candy to those using Dexter campgrounds and park. As a young man of seventeen, Otto operated the stand for one year. With the permission of Reinhardt Olsen, Otto Pendleton moved the stand south, near to the Peterson Weber River bridge and enlarged it to handle a larger variety of merchandise. The business was called Penny's, Otto's nickname.

In 1947 Otto and his brother Lyle decided to increase the size of their store and thus built a new 20 x 20 feet building on Highway 30 north of the junction of Peterson road with Highway 30. Here they added the service of gasoline pumps. Annie and Lawrence (Ma and Pa) Pendleton helped operate the business. For approximately two years, Thomas and Anna Pendleton Calvin leased and operated the business. They added a hamburger grill and sold sandwiches.

In 1956 when the lease on their property expired, Otto Pendleton became sole owner and moved the building about one-quarter of a mile south on Highway 30 to property leased from the LDS Church. An automobile lube bay was added to the building. When the interstate highway was constructed through Morgan County, the store was dismantled.

In April 1969, Otto and Vonda Pendleton hosted a grand opening of their new store located at 4275 North 3800 West Peterson, which they named Pendleton's Country Store. In April 1985, Pendleton's sold the store to Randy and Darral Hinds. The name of the business was changed to Hind's Quick Stop. It presently remains in operation.

Porterville-East Canyon Cash Grocery

In 1909–1910 Joseph Bott and his wife Maggie Fife purchased property in Porterville on which they build a grocery store/home.

When completed, one large room for the store was situated on the south side facing the county road. Part of the room was used for groceries and the other side for dry goods. The north end of the building comprised the Bott family's living quarters, consisting of a kitchen, dining room, and three bedrooms. Just a few feet from the store, a long room with a counter was built for use during summer months to sell ice cream, drinks, and candy. In later years, this room was used for town meetings, water meetings, scout meetings, and as a voting place for general elections.

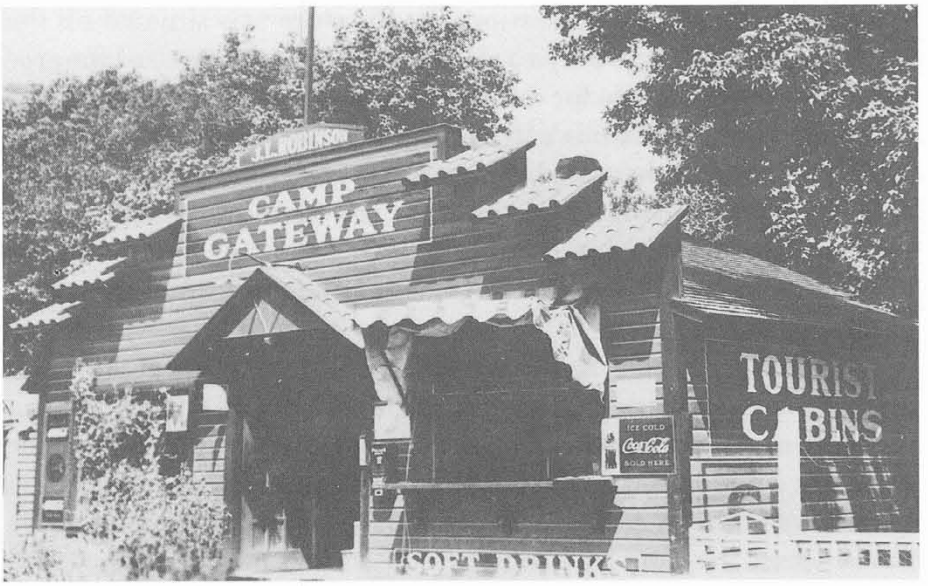
In 1919 Porterville-East Canyon Cash Grocery was purchased by Samuel Stephens Florence, his wife Minnie Giles, and their oldest son Henry Samuel and his wife, Abigail Hintze Florence. Late in 1920 the store was sold to Fred and Lydia Rich Parkinson. It was operated by Norris Wadsworth. Al and Mable Bott Hintze and Myran and Lida Carter leased the store for a short period of time. Parkinson then sold the store/home to Lee and Nancy Raspesom Richards in 1923. At this time, the Richardses discontinued selling dry goods and installed a gas pump outside the front of the building near the road.

In the summer of 1926, William A. and Janet Fife Bridges purchased the country store. Their grandson, William Bridges Hunt, helped with the store. In 1934 following the death of his grandfather, William B. Bridges operated the store until 1938 when the business was discontinued.

In 1948 the store/home was completely remodeled by new owners Val and Della Weston and Porter and Sarah Carter. Booths were installed where patrons could purchase and eat hamburgers and other foods. Eventually, Lottie Hunt, an employee of the new owners, and her husband William Hunt leased the business for a period of time. In 1959 Phillip Saxton bought the store and operated it for about a year. Phillip's son, Bud, and wife, Mary Saxton managed the store for three years. Bud permanently closed the store following the death of his wife, thus ending another family operated county store.[88]

Gateway Store

John Heber Robison and his wife Lenora built the small Gateway store in 1911, near the Gateway (Strawberry) railroad bridge. Highway 30 passed directly in front of the store. In 1921 Robisons



Gateway Store owned by J.L. Robison in August 1933.

added a small apartment on the back of the store. Robisons were always ready to give assistance to travelers who had wrecked their vehicles or taken an unscheduled plunge into the Weber River. Like a light at the end of a tunnel, travelers heading east up Weber Canyon knew they were safe when they could see the lights of the store, which acquired the nickname of The Travelers' Rest.

In 1928 following the death of Lenora, John Heber Robison sold Gateway store to his son James and his wife Mary. The new owners capitalized on the beautiful, peaceful setting of the store and constructed several small cabins and a picnic area in the grove of Box Elder trees. The store was then known as Gateway Camp. In the summer months, a snack counter separate from the store sold snacks, drinks, hot dogs, and hamburgers. During the winter months, concessions were sold from inside the store.[89] In 1938 following the death of James, his daughter, Floris, and her husband Fred Allgier took over the business. They added a sixteen by sixteen foot partially enclosed dance area to the building which they later fully enclosed. The store became a popular spot on weekends for dancing and socials.

In 1940 the store was sold to Lincoln Smith who eventually sold

it to Margaret Nestler who then sold it to John and Marge Hampton. The Hamptons owned the business until 1960 when the building was torn down to make room for construction of the interstate highway. All that remains today is a small portion of the grove of trees. The area is located north of where the Interstate Mountain Green west bound on-ramp merges with the west bound lanes.

The Wheel

A business establishment that would play a major role in the history of Mt. Green began circa 1923–24 when Homer Hoffman set up a tent and sold ice cream, soda pop, hamburgers, hot dogs, etc., located approximately one quarter mile east of Old Farm Market, on Old Highway Road. The next known business at this location was a country store and gasoline station operated by H. E. Vincent who moved a small building from Uintah to the site for that purpose. In 1939 Etta Watson Vincent acquired title to the business. For a short period of time in 1940, Bernice "Ma" Pringles operated the business.[90]

In 1943 Vivian A. and Annie Taylor acquired the land and business.[91] Vic (Vivian) Taylor made improvements on the building, and the cottonwood grove was developed into a picnic/camping ground. Taylor named his establishment The Wheel. He expanded the business to include a grocery store, cafe, lounge, and gasoline pumps. By 1946 a motel was built, and in the 1960s a trailer court was added.

Through the years, the picnic grove was used by clubs and other organizations for parties and reunions. Some groups who used the area were the Elks club, Naval Supply Depot employees, and Hill Air Force Base employees. An old sandstone LDS Church building located behind the store was renovated into a dance hall. The store served as a bus stop for the Greyhound bus line and also a pickup stop for dry cleaning articles.

The Wheel eventually closed and all buildings removed from the property, but the business had been an asset to the community. Through the years The Wheel was owned and/or operated by the following: Vivian and Annie Taylor, Helen and Dave Schmalz, C.L. Johnson, Hyrum J. and Cleo E. Fromm, Vernan E. Heber, William E. and Bessie Francis, Mark and Dorothy Kingston, and Gary and DeEtta Hansen.

Stoddard Store

William Smith, a single man, acquired property in Stoddard located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Stoddard Lane and Highway 30 and built a small 16 by 40 foot one-room store with gasoline pumps in front. For approximately two years, Smith operated the store and slept in the small basement. Title was then transferred to J. Williams and Son Company, and Earl Williams operated the business for a short period of time.

In early 1930, George Preece leased the store from Joseph Williams Sr. George slept nights in the basement. One night when he was away, the store was robbed of everything. Preece was forced to acquire a loan to restock the shelves. In 1931 George married Geneva Robinson and enlarged the store and added living quarters. In May 1937, George and Geneva purchased the store from J. Williams and Sons.

The store was closed for three years while the Preeces lived in Ogden. It was then reopened, and in the early 1950s, it was leased to W.N. (Bill) and Florence Isle. Bill and Florence operated the business until 1960–61 when it was closed and moved to make room for the interstate highway. The building was relocated to the north at 1495 West Old Highway Road. Don and Carol Preece ran the operation from 1962 through 1965. For the next few years, several other people operated the business until it was sold to Don Smith in November 1976. Smith ran the business for a period of time, then converted the entire building into a lovely home.

Taggart's Camp

Taggart's Camp was located on Highway 30 five miles east of Morgan and three miles west of Devil's Slide. The area was originally known as Sharps Flat and in 1865 was owned by the Union Pacific railroad. In 1925 George Albert Taggart and his wife Mabel purchased the land. In 1935 Dewey Taggart acquired the land, and he, along with his brother, Howard, went into business at Taggart's as the area had become known. They built a service station that today would be considered a mini-mart where customers could purchase hamburgers and groceries. Soon Taggarts added a room with booths and a soda fountain to the station.

Taggart's next addition was five, one-room cabins with wood burning stoves, built in a large picturesque grove of trees. Despite the nation's depressed economy, Taggart's business flourished, and more cabins were built for a total of fourteen. Some of the new cabins were larger with as many as three bedrooms and a bathroom and were heated by natural gas. Cement fireplaces with grills for cooking and picnic tables were scattered in the grove. An area known as The Flat became a baseball field. Taggart's Camp was used by tourists, hunters, and many local clubs and organizations for parties. In 1947 when Ideal Cement built a new facility, all of the cabins were rented to construction workers, and The Flat filled with mobile homes of employees.

Fred Singleton and Howard Taggart built a grocery and dry goods store on the property where fishing and hunting supplies could be purchased. The store also had a bar on one end. In 1963 an explosion caused by combustion of oil and gas rags,[92] blew out the east wall of the service station. The fuel tanks exploded, sending gasoline and oil debris over a half mile area. A large mushroom cloud of smoke billowed into the sky. Spectators jumped into the Weber River for safety. Fortunately no lives were lost. Traffic was stopped along the highway and cars were lined up for miles in each direction.

Howard's nephew, Dude Taggart, owned a bobcat named Mackey that became a main attraction at Taggart's. Mackey was photographed by most of the residents of Morgan County. Tourists also photographed Mackey and in later years inquired about him. Mackey lived for fifteen years at Taggart's. Construction of the interstate road system through Morgan County in 1965 brought an end to the era of Taggart's Camp. Taggart family members retained sufficient land for their homes and to build another bar and small service station.[93]

Croyden Stores

In 1878 Croydon had four stores: Walker's, Swan's, Hopkin's, and Thackeray's. Walker's store located at the eastern bend of Banana Slope mountain also offered accommodations for travelers. The store operated until circa 1900.[94] Swan's Store stocked herbs along with other basic items. Mrs. Swan, who helped attend to the medical needs of other residents, often prescribed herbs as treatment for her

patients. George Thackeray's rock home housed a general store until circa 1916 that supplied basic needs for residents.[95] No information on Hopkin's store could be obtained.

Milton's Country Grocery Store

The first store known in Milton was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Parkinson from a log cabin located at 2350 Line Creek Road. The inventory of the store was minimal but children could always buy candy and goodies there, funds permitting.[96]

Joseph and Matilda Jensen owned a farm at 2270 West Stoddard Lane. Matilda sold goodies from a truck: candy, gum, and pink popcorn balls. Jensen's farm was destroyed prior to 1917 by flooding of Weber River. In 1917–1918, Joe and Tildy, as the Jensens were affectionately known, built a small store next to the Milton school at 1250 North Morgan Valley Drive. They lived in two rooms of the building. The room used for a store was later converted into a living room for Jensens, and two more small rooms were added to the store. The Jensens built a shed in back of the store where ice used for refrigeration was covered with sawdust and stored. The store was the community gathering place and contained the only phone in Milton for many years. Anyone could use the phone for the price of a nickel for a local call. The store closed to business circa 1935, and the building was converted into a small home.

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CHAPTER 7

COMMUNICATION, TRANSPORTATION, AND OTHER SERVICES

Once the pioneers entered Weber Valley, they were virtually isolated from the rest of the world. Traveling to Salt Lake City required a full day's journey and was often accomplished on foot. Sometimes travelers had to camp along the way. Even after the road through lower Weber Canyon had been improved, the section through Devil's Gate remained treacherous, especially during high water seasons; thus travel and communication with people outside the area was very limited.

Until the gristmill was built in Richville in 1866, settlers sometimes carried wheat over the mountains to have it ground into flour. News brought back from the other valley was likely almost as appreciated as the flour. If a newspaper was brought back, it circulated through the entire community. Travelers entering the valley from outside areas often stopped for a short rest and told of incidents taking place in regions beyond Morgan. Mormon Pioneers often brought letters to settlers from their families and friends still living in the East or over seas.

The entire west was somewhat isolated from eastern states; con-

sequently, enterprising individuals soon formed companies to accommodate the need for better communication. Out of necessity, a variety of methods were attempted to enhance communication.

The Pony Express

In April 1860, the Pony Express was established and provided a much needed service; however, it operated for only eighteen months. The main route of the Pony Express riders traversed Echo Canyon, (Weber Station), through Henefer, went up Main Canyon, and entered Morgan County at Hogs Back Summit. Here the trail went down Dixie Hollow to Dixie Hollow Station. After acquiring a new mount, the rider traveled on to Bachman Station, located at the mouth of Little Dutch Hollow. The trail then continued up East Canyon Creek to Mormon Flat and turned right at Little Emigration Canyon to Big Mountain Summit, leaving Morgan County. Verbal history passed through generations supports a spur route of the Express which traversed from Echo, (Weber Station) down Weber Canyon, through Morgan City and on into Ogden.

During the young riders' meteoric charge across the western landscape, they carved a niche in history that underscores the importance of communication. They carried nearly 35,000 pieces of mail during the short eighteen month duration of the Express. Termination of the Pony Express in October 1861 coincided with completion of the telegraph link, which provided a new means of communication.[1]

Other modes of communication and mail delivery included the overland stage. Weber Canyon Road Company contracted with the stage for use of its route through Morgan Valley and past Devil's Gate. One stage station was located in Enterprise and another was operated by Daniel Williams and his wife Harriet in conjunction with their store/tavern in North Morgan.[2]

During 1867 Charles S. Peterson and others took contracts to build two mail stations in Weber Canyon and to provide 120 tons of hay for the draft animals. Philemon Merrill had a contract to build one mail station four miles above Round Valley and furnish 60 tons of hay. According to Andrew Jenson in 1867, "Wells Fargo Company

would soon run their line up the canyon (Weber) from Great Salt Lake City intercepting the old line at Echo Canon (Canyon)."[3]

United States Postal Service

Pain, sorrow, joy, hope, and longing were all conveyed in letters of the pioneers.[4] Early Mormon settlers residing in Salt Lake Valley established the first post office on 9 August 1850, just three years after their initial arrival.[5] With the spread of Mormon agricultural communities came the proliferation of postal service. Five new post offices were established on 26 March 1851, at Ogden, Farmington, Provo, Manti, and Parowan.[6]

Charles S. Peterson holds the distinction of being the first postmaster at Weber City (Peterson) circa 1864. From 1868 to 1871, the post office was apparently located in Enterprise, then it was moved back to Peterson. Monday Town (1862–1864), predecessor to South Morgan settlement, had a post office. No documentation describing this office exists, but it was probably located in the corner of a home or in a section of a small store. In 1862 Abraham Lincoln appointed T.R.G. Welch postmaster.[7] Mr. Welch moved to South Morgan circa 1864, and the post office was also relocated there. Welch remained postmaster until 1867–68, working for an annual salary of $8.00.[8]

For a unknown period of time, Harriet Williams, wife of Daniel, operated a post office out of her two-room log home, located at approximately 294 N. 600 East Street.[9] It was then moved into their two-story home/tavern/store located near the lime kilns in North Morgan.

When the railroad was constructed through Morgan, the South Morgan Post Office was moved to North Morgan to be near the railroad station. With rail service came a new era in postal service. Mail was delivered and dispatched on a regular, dependable schedule. The railroad devised a unique method of mail pick-up and delivery when the train was not required to stop for other reasons. Frank Bohman gave the following description:

> The first class mail was thrown off a passenger train going East in the morning and West in the afternoon. The mail train as it was called, never stopped and sometimes the mail bag would bounce under the train and be cut to pieces. All parcel post and packages

Reinhart Olsen, Postmaster, and the Peterson Post Office.

> were delivered by the train called "The Local" which traveled between Ogden and Park City. Out going first class mail was placed in another locked canvas bag. The bag was tied in the middle with a leather strap. On each end of the bag was a large ring that was used to attach it to a fish hook like device on a two armed metal pipe stand next to the tracks. When the mail train passed a man would extend a "U" shaped metal arm that would catch the pouch and pull it into the train car. Occasionally they would miss and the pouch would drop to the ground and have to wait for the next train.[10]

At one time, post offices operated in as many as seven locations within Morgan County: Peterson, Devil's Slide, Croydon, Porterville, Littleton, Morgan, and Lee (Milton).[11] Today only the Morgan Post Office remains. Rural delivery service gradually supplanted local post offices in Morgan County.

The first rural mail service was inaugurated in the county on 15 April 1905, with Reinhardt Olsen mail carrier. He traveled by horse and buggy on a route from Morgan City to Porterville on the east side of the valley; then he crossed to the west side and traveled

Albert C. Welch, mail carrier for the entire county of Morgan.

north to Milton. Here he crossed over Stoddard Lane and returned to the Post Office at Morgan.[12] The route was eventually extended to include the Peterson area for a total of twenty-four miles round trip. Olsen would start in Morgan and travel to Peterson, spend the night, then return on the opposite side of the valley to Morgan the next day. Olsen often carried a small supply of tea, coffee, and other convenience items for people who had difficulty getting to the store. With improved gravel roads and the use of an automobile, Olsen was able to complete the route in one day, six days a week, for an annual salary of $720.[13]

Albert C. Welch succeeded Olsen as mail carrier in 1929. The roads were eventually paved, and the route was extended to include the power plant in lower Weber Canyon. Welch was paid three cents per mile for use of his car on the mail route. For a short period of time during the depression, this was temporarily decreased to one cent per mile. When Welch retired, the route encompassed sixty-six miles per day. Beginning with a Model A Ford, Welch traveled nearly a half million miles delivering mail between 1929 and 1965.[14] Over the years as population increased and roads improved, rural mail service was extended to other areas of the county, including Hard-

Last community post office located in Croydon, Utah, closed October 1986. Photo taken shortly after.

scrabble, Mountain Green, the Highlands, and the Browning Arms Company. As service increased, additional sub-rural carriers were hired to deal with the work load. Increases in population required initiating additional mail routes. In 1971 rural route number two was added, and in 1986 route number three was also added.

Local post offices, once a mainstay of small, rural communities, have since gone the way of general stores and community schools: one-by-one they have been closed. Consolidating small post offices into one centralized location has become more practial and cost effective. The last small post office in Morgan County, located at Croydon, closed 3 October 1986, after serving that community for ninety-eight years. On the eve of its closing, area residents expressed sadness at the passing of a community tradition.

From the arrival of the railroad until 1971, all post offices in Morgan City were located in North Morgan near the tracks. A late 1800s photo shows the post office located in a small building on the east side of the J. Williams store, currently 100 North and Commercial Streets. In 1913 a Sandborn map of Morgan City places the post office at 117 N. Commercial Street in the former James

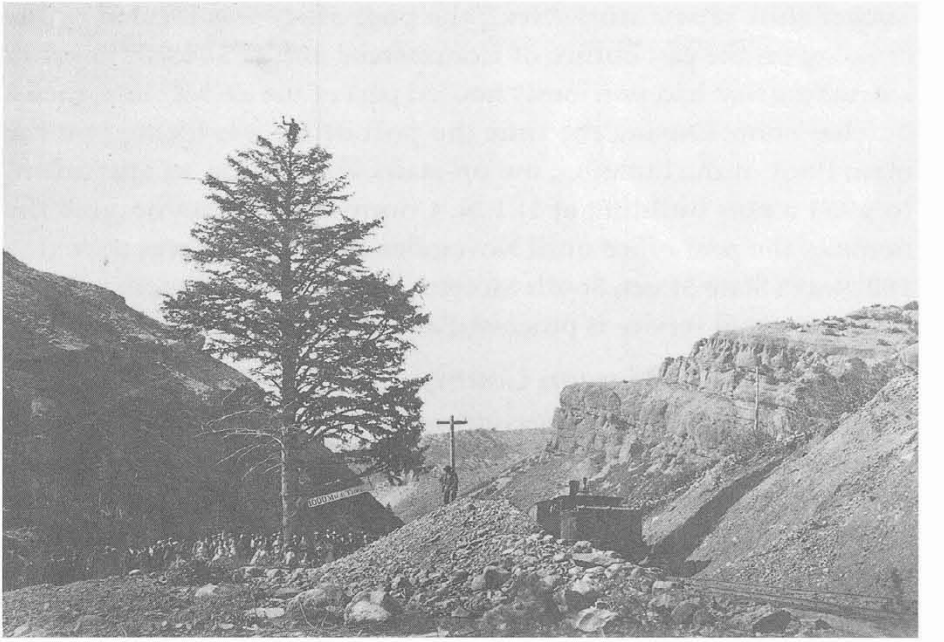
Tucker shoe repair store. Next, the post office was located in the building on the east corner of Commercial and 125 North Street in a structure that had previously housed part of the ZCMI store, then a butcher shop. During the time the post office was located on the main floor of the building, the up-stairs was used as an apartment. In 1964 a new building at 181 N. Commercial Street became the home of the post office until November 1971 when it was moved to 188 North State Street, South Morgan, where it remains today. Today all county mail service is processed at Morgan City post office.

The Railroad in Morgan County

The history of the transcontinental railroad through Morgan County began in 1864 when the route for the railroad was originally surveyed. Construction on the railway had begun that same year, after passage of the Pacific Railroad Acts. The Acts promised railroad companies financial incentives and land grants for each mile of track laid.[15] They received every other section of land along the route. These turned out to be the odd numbered sections and were sold by the railroad to local residents for what seemed to be nominal prices. If these sections were already owned, sections located in other areas of the county were awarded to the railroad.

In the spring of 1868, LDS Church President Brigham Young signed a contract with the Union Pacific to grade the railroad from the head of Echo Canyon to the Great Salt Lake. Contracts were enormous, considering the era in which they were awarded. Young's contract was reported to be about $2,250,000. Tunnelling was paid for at $15.00 per [cubic] yard, while loose earth removal was $.30 per cubic yard. Men working under contracts were paid slightly less, ($.27 per [cubic] yard of loose earth) with the balance to be used for management and sub-contractor's wages. Once the initial contract was signed, work was divided into sub-contracts, most of which were directed by Joseph A.Young, one of Brigham's sons, and Bishop John Sharp.

Leaving Henefer, Summit County, the railroad enters Morgan County two miles above Devil's Slide at a narrow gorge called par excellence, The Narrows. Surveying this section of the railroad grade had to be done principally from boats in the Weber River. The wagon



1000 Mile Tree located in Weber Canyon, Morgan, Utah. Designated 1000 miles of track laid by the Union Pacific from Omaha. (Utah State Historical Society)

road in 1868 went around Banana Slope Mountain and through Croydon, thus by-passing The Narrows. Not until 1900–01 was a road for wagons constructed through this difficult gorge.

It was in The Narrows that Union Pacific reached a milestone of 1000 miles of construction from Omaha, Nebraska. A large conifer tree growing at the site was designated "1000 Mile Tree." This tree was removed in 1926 when double track was laid through the county. Another conifer has been planted at the location along with a marker telling of the 1000 Mile Tree. Echo and Weber Canyon presented the most difficult terrain through which the Union Pacific had to build.[16] A considerable amount of blasting and heavy work had to be done in the narrow gorge. Using powder, the average tunneling progress was less than two feet in twenty-four hours. Using glycerine, a daily tunneling average of six feet could be achieved at about one-third the expense.[17] Mormon workers became experts in the use of nitroglycerine "blasting oil" and other explosives neces-

sary to blast and tunnel through the rocky formations of the hillsides.[18]

Union Pacific had four original tunnels on the route from Omaha. Number one tunnel was located 680 miles from Omaha at St. Mary's Creek. Number two tunnel was located at Echo Summit. Number three and number four tunnels were located in Weber Canyon, Morgan County, three-quarters of a mile apart, three miles west of Devil's Slide. Number three was 508 feet long on a three and one-half degree curve while tunnel number four was 297 feet long on a four degree curve. Both were cut through sharp spears of black limestone and blue quartzite.[19] Nitroglycerine greatly expedited the work which was begun in September. Number four was finished in January, but longer tunnel number three wasn't completed until April.

For a few months, trains crept dangerously around sharp curves on a temporary track at the edge of the turbulent Weber River.[20] The railroad crossed the Weber River several times through the canyon. Wooden trestles were used until permanent trusses could be brought from Chicago.[21] By 27 April 1868, four of the eight Howe Truss bridges were in place below Lost Creek.[22]

Weber Canyon also necessitated a deep sixty to seventy foot cut through solid rock. According to Richard T. Fry, an engineer by the name of Mr. Carlyle surveyed the territory and laid out the grade through the canyon. The deep cut was named Carlyle Cut in his honor.[23] The railroad then entered Round Valley, where three construction camps were located. The camps were named Bishop Keckenlooper's Mill Creek Ward, the 6th Ward, S.L. City, and another, the name of which is unknown.[24]

Richard Fry and T.R.G. Welch contracted to grade the terrain for the mile extending from Carlyle Cut. William Parker and Philemon C. Merrill contracted to grade a mile from Williams Point to Morgan City. Richard Ballentyme and sons are said to have had a contract in the lower end of the valley. Other small contracts were also held in the county. John Taylor entered into a contract for construction work and employed between 500 and 600 men for which he received a million dollars.[25] His construction camp was headquartered in Mountain Green. Terms of Taylor's contract included three miles which ran

along the north side of the Weber River. A Salt Lake newspaper reported the following:

> Joining Mr. Taylor's contract is one taken by Bishop C.S. Peterson, close by Weber City Bridge; and next to it that worked by Hons. S.W. Richards and Isaac Groo.
>
> There appears to be considerable cultivated land along the bottoms of the valley [Morgan], but the locust have been able to destroy as fast as the husbandman could see the fruits of his labors growing up; and the earth, where crops had been planted, looks bare and uninviting.[26]

The work provided by railroad construction carried residents of Morgan through a devastating time when their crops were destroyed and their survival in peril. Farmers planted their crops as usual in 1868. The seeds sprouted promisingly, but anticipation of a bounteous harvest was short-lived. Without warning, swarms of grasshoppers so massive as to appear like clouds in the sky, shadowed the earth from the sun, and swept down onto the beautiful green fields. In no time at all, vegetation was devoured without a vestige of life remaining. An entry dated 12 May 1868, from the journal of pioneer Charles Turner described this devastating event: "Grass hoppers have took off most of Bro. R. Richardson wheat and are chopping it off in lots of places. I see they are very numerous indeed."

Every conceivable means was used to thwart the marauding hordes of hoppers, but to no avail. Man's resources simply were not capable of controlling the natural disaster that struck. Turner's journal entry dated Monday, 18 May 1868, continued, "Assisting to destroy grasshoppers but not to much effect as the hoel [whole] earth seems all to alive with them much of our crops are all ready eat up and not a green spear left were [where] they have been." Many residents would have had to leave the area, but the railroad provided jobs and a means for local families to survive.

Some of the women washed and mended clothes for construction gangs. Families sold milk, butter, and eggs to railroad camp cooks. Often railroad officers gave their cast-off clothing to residents, and women altered the items for their families. Other families took in boarders for a means of income.

The settlement of Richville became a railroad tie center. Wooden ties from the surrounding canyons were brought to Richville. Timber from Hardscrabble Canyon provided tens of thousands of ties. Men living in camps in Hardscrabble Canyon hewed the logs, which were cut into eight foot lengths. Some of the men, after hauling ties to Echo, went on to the mines at Coalville and brought back a load of coal.[27]

Lyman W. Porter had a contract to furnish ties. The timber was cut on the hillsides, dragged with horses to the mill site in Hardscrabble, cut and loaded into wagons, then taken to the construction site. Three days were required, including the return trip, to haul ties to Echo.[28] Sixteen ties qualified as a standard load. Wages were $10.00 a day per trip for man and team. Robinson's family sawmill in Mt. Green also supplied ties for the railroad. Daniel Williams, who operated a lime kiln, burned and provided lime used in the construction through Morgan. Lime was used in culverts, foundations for railroad buildings, etc.

Much of the labor on the railroad was performed by Mormons from outside Morgan Valley. An estimated 5000 Mormons participated in building the railroad in Utah, with at least 1,400 of these at work in Morgan under the leadership of Bishop John Sharp and Joseph A. Young.[29] Construction contracts included not only earthwork, but bridge building, masonry and trestle construction as well.

At the time of the railroad construction, the boundary between Weber, Davis, and Morgan Counties near Devil's Gate wasn't clearly defined; however, Devil's Gate was considered part of Morgan County. Building the railroad trestle over the river at this location was crucial but hazardous. Several men were killed during the grading of Devil's Gate in Weber Canyon.[30] The trestle was made of wood and iron which was tied to both banks with cables, but the construction crew and bridge engineer feared the bridge would present problems. Their fears were not unfounded:

> The canyon walls constricted the river here, and the Weber, swollen by melting snow, put a serious strain on the bents, or vertical supporting pilings. Extra timbers were bolted in place and guy ropes strung to both banks. It was all to be in vain. On May 5, just a few days before the planned ceremony at Promontory, heavy

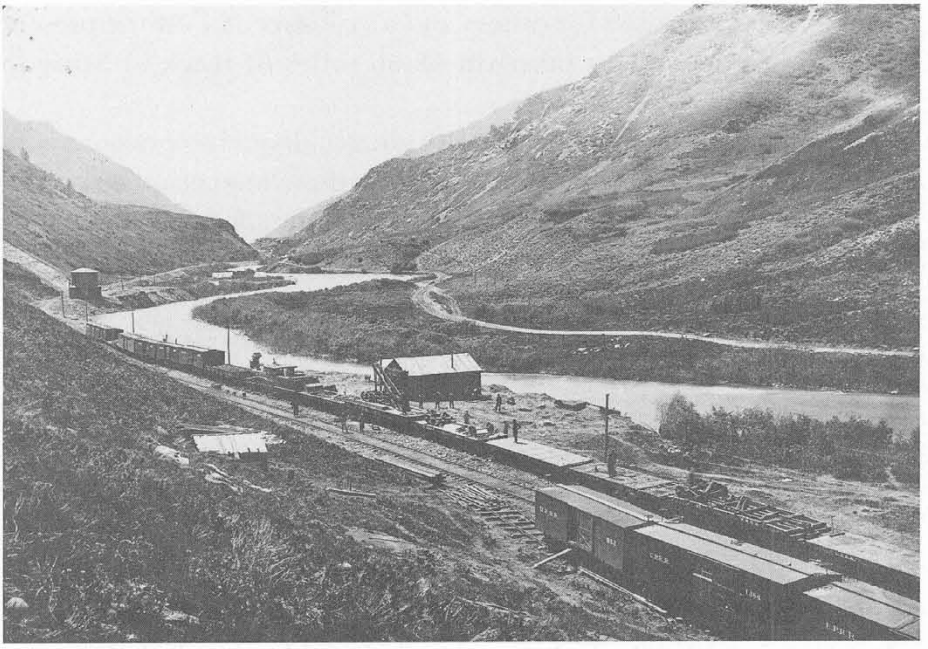
> rains swelled the already rushing waters and undermined several supports. Union Pacific officials destined for the ceremony [to be held May 8] were caught on the wrong side.

The trestle was in danger of collapsing, and the private rail cars of Thomas C. Durant, U.P. Vice President and General Manager, John Duff, and a U. P. Director, Sidney Dillon were stranded in Weber Canyon.[30] Engineers decided that the 132 ton steam engine was too heavy to cross the trestle, but the U.P. officials' lighter, private cars were individually rolled across the shaky structure to the other side where another engine connected to the cars and continued on to Promontory. Durrant, Duff, and Dillon arrived for the ceremony celebrating completion of the transcontinental railroad, which was delayed until 10 May 1869. A Howe Truss span, a specifically designed bridge, was later installed at Devil's Gate during the summer of 1869.[32]

W.T. Nelson, a fourteen year old of Morgan, was one of the many men who helped with construction of the railroad through Morgan County. He drove a team on a grading scraper. He was also present at the driving of the golden spike on 10 May 1869, at Promontory Point. Fifty years later, Nelson was honored at the Golden Jubilee held in Ogden, Utah. He was presented a replica of the golden spike in honor of being one of the few surviving "builders" of the railroad. In October 1923, Nelson was hit by a freight car at Morgan Station. He died in 1924 from injuries received on the railroad he helped to build.[33]

The arrival of the railroad in Morgan brought many economic benefits. Tourists came into the area. Farmers shipped produce, agriculture crops, and livestock outside the county for resale. The train also brought luxuries to the area. Morgan County was fortunate to have three stations located within its boundaries: Peterson, Devil's Slide, and Morgan City. Peterson Depot was located next to the tracks by the river bridge. When it closed in 1940, Russell Rock purchased the abandoned building, moved it, and converted it to a home.

The station located at Devil's Slide, originally called the Croydon Station, was later closed. Morgan City Station, sometimes referred to as Weber Station, was also a passenger depot. In 1926 when double



Railroad down Weber Canyon just below Strawberry Ford or as it was later known as Gateway—looking west toward Devil's Gate. (The Andrew J. Russell Collection, courtesy of The Oakland Museum of California)

track was laid through the county, a modern brick passenger terminal was built, and the previous building was converted to a freight station.

Section houses and water towers were located at approximately two to four mile intervals along the track. Section maintenance crews and their families resided in these houses. Stops where passengers could board the trains were located at Stoddard, Strawberry, and Gateway. Some histories have referred to these stops as passenger stations; however, they were never passenger stations of the same magnitude as those at Peterson, Morgan, or Devil's Slide. In 1926 the railroad constructed two steel and concrete bridges to provide under crossings for traffic on Bridge Street (State Street) and the highway about one-half mile east of Morgan City. The cost of the new passenger station and other improvements was $70,518.00. The last station at Morgan was closed in 1982. The station is currently owned by Morgan City Corporation, but located on railroad property. The

building has been used for offices and a visitor center. At the present time, the railroad pays taxes on 48.66 miles of track in Morgan County.

In the past forty years, several train accidents have occurred in Morgan County, and although disastrous, these too comprise part of the county's history. In January 1951, a train derailed about one mile west of Peterson crossing. Twenty-one cars immediately behind the engine piled up and spilled cargo over the right-of-way.[34] In March 1951 fifteen train cars jumped the rails in east Round Valley.[35] In February 1952, at a location five miles east of Morgan City on Highway 30, the rear section of a double semi trailer broke off and careened through the guard rail onto the west bound track. The morning mail train later crashed into the gasoline-filled trailer. Ten train cars were engulfed in flames and fire crews from Morgan, Ogden, and Hill Air Force Base worked to extinguish the fire. The accident caused the largest loss of mail in the history of the United States up to that date.[36] The road was closed for five hours; consequently, eighty-five to ninety school students were unable to reach Morgan and missed school part of that day. In October 1973, nineteen U.P. freight cars stacked up in Peterson when a train wheel broke. Three days were spent in concentrated clean-up while rail traffic was routed through Idaho.

Devil's Slide area has been the site of two derailments. One derailment of twenty freight cars occurred in August 1976 located near the Devil's Slide village.[37] Forty-two freight cars were derailed in November 1979 due to damaged track that resulted when a bridge was hit by a front-end loader which moved the rails out of line. [38]

A brake lock-up on a U.P. train one and one-half miles north of Morgan caused six rail cars and two locomotives to leave the tracks. Two railroad employees were slightly injured in 1980.[39] On 8 June 1986, along Commercial Street, eighteen rail cars left the tracks between Heiner Ford and the west-bound overpass. Overheated bearings on a car caused the accident. Fortunately this happened on a Sunday morning when few people were in the area. A total of twenty-one automobiles were damaged or totaled in Heiner Ford's parking area. No injuries were reported.[40]

Morgan County Airport

The first "flying machine" landed in Morgan in 1923. The plane landed in a field owned by Robert Chapen. People from all over the county came in sleighs, cars, and wagons to see the plane.[41] In November 1945, the Civil Aeronautics Administration evaluated the state of Utah and, considering the expected increase in private airplane use, recommended the construction of thirty-seven landing strips in the state. Morgan valley was recommended for a Class 2 field.[42] According to the book *Mountains Conquered,* in 1945 a group of airplane enthusiasts including George Neuteboom, Douglas M. (Mac) Crouch, Kenneth and Golden Tucker, Cyril Wiggins, John and Harry Wilkinson, Dale Durrant, and Bert and Gilbert Francis arranged for some buddies from the Ogden Airport to fly to Morgan. Leaflets encouraging the citizens of Morgan to help provide an airport were dropped from the planes; however, county officials at that time could not foresee the need for an air field.[43]

In March 1946, S. J. (Jack) Olsen and Joseph W. Williams, both licensed pilots, and Gilbert Francis hired two 65 horsepower Piper Cub trainers from West American Airways to land in Morgan. The planes set down in a 1200 foot long field owned by Olsen, located in North Morgan. These three men were interested in establishing a pilot training school and airport in Morgan. Although many local residents went to see the planes and some had the opportunity of flying over the valley, no plans for local instruction or a landing field developed at that time.[44]

In late 1946 and early 1947, another effort was implemented to construct a local air field. Douglas (Mac) Crouch, President of the Morgan Flying Club, circulated a petition to present to Governor Maw requesting approval of state support for the air field. The VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) and the local flying club sponsored an air show over Morgan. Eight planes dropped leaflets explaining the need for an air field.[45]

The next recorded effort came in 1954 when Don Phillips and Willis Packard, representing a group of citizens interested in acquiring property on upper Field Street for a plane landing project, met with county commissioners. Again, officials took no action.[46] By 1957

interest in the air field had increased, and county officials recognized a need. A final effort to convince county leaders was made by Dale Durrant, Donald C. Phillips, Edison and Betty Rose, Joseph Williams, Jack Olsen, Cole Wilkinson, Harry Wilkinson, and Ray Thackeray.[47]

The possibility of crash landings and emergency landings in fields or on county roads was a great concern; therefore, selection of a site was the first obstacle to overcome. Land near Island Road was considered, but unobtainable. In September 1957, the Aeronautics Board and State Engineers approved a site at the mouth of Cottonwood Canyon, Mountain Green. Land was then purchased from Mable and Elwood Williams and some land was donated by Harry and Dorothy Wilkinson, to total 31.37 acres.[48]

The first cost estimate for an airport was $18,406, with the county's portion being $3000.[49] After final approval and grants were obtained, construction of the airstrip was under way in late 1957. The completed cost totaled $26,000. The county's share was $13,000. However, due to donated labor by area pilots and their families, the use of private equipment, and labor and equipment provided by Morgan County, the county was required to pay only $2000.

In 1959 a hanger was built at the airport. Harry Wilkinson served as first airport manager. He was succeeded in 1975 by his son, Wayne Wilkinson. To keep up with needed improvements, etc. an Airport Advisory Committee was formulated in 1978. By 1985 there was a need for more land at the airport on which to build additional buildings and other related facilities. The county, through court decision of eminent domain, secured 31.47 acres of land from Douglas R. and James E. Williams at a cost of $122,733.[50] The airport has been an asset to Morgan County.

In 1986 county commissioners and the State Department of Transportation Aeronautical Operations Division entered into a contract for $82,000 to provide a hard surface on the runway and to fence the perimeter of the airport. In April 1993, Morgan County Commission formally adopted an airport master plan. This plan provided for the airport to remain in the current location and be developed according to the master plan and for efforts to be expended to make the airport a viable long term county asset.[51] Some renovation work on the airport was completed in October 1994 by Gibbons and

Ella Neuteboon switch board operator at the telephone office at 379 E. 125 North Street.

Reed. Airport tenant pilots donated $9000 of the $13,300 county obligation for the work.[52] Morgan County Airport is currently classified as a General Utility Airport. Credit is due to the dedicated citizens of Morgan who helped obtain and support the facility through the years.

Telephone

In January 1901, Morgan County Telephone Company petitioned Morgan County Commissioners for a right-of-way to erect telephone poles along the roads around the county. The petition was signed by O.S. Osgood, president of the local telephone company. The county granted the petition for a right-of-way for the system.[53] The book *Mountains Conquered* reports that Cooperative Stock Company Phone became operational in 1903. Cooperative Stock Company Phone apparently consisted of the same group of citizens who formed Morgan County Telephone Company headed by O.S. Osgood, each having invested $25 to finance the company and install the system.

> Two wires were then strung around the county forming one big party line with about 25 to 30 subscribers. There was no central

> office. Each phone had its own bells and batteries. Each phone had a good, loud ringing bell, and when a person called someone it would ring all the telephones on the line. Each subscriber was designated by long and short rings. If anything went wrong with the line, all of the phones were out of commission.
>
> For about two years subscribers could call around the county, but were unable to call anyone outside. In 1905 the Bell Telephone's transcontinental line went through Morgan County and Hyrum Williams had a phone installed in his restaurant, enabling a person to call "outside." A year later, in 1906, a franchise was granted Morgan and a switch was installed in the back of the Williams restaurant. For a small fee a person could place a long distance call through by calling Mr. Williams, who would flip a switch and get an Ogden operator.[54]

A franchise was granted to the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Company in 1905.[55] However, according to the county minutes, the company had some difficulties in the installation of their own telephone system.[56] It wasn't until 1908 that the system was fully operational. The central office was located in the Welch building on 125 North Street. Earl J. Welch, at the age of eighteen, was the first day and night operator of the switchboard.[57]

By 1955 the system was out-dated, and a new dial telephone switching building was constructed at the rear of 389 East 125 North Street. On 15 April 1956, switchboard operators' jobs were eliminated when the old system converted to the new dial system. There were 650 telephones in the county at that time.[58] In 1973 Morgan County's telephone demands required a new facility in Mt. Green to handle the 325 phone customers in Mt. Green, Peterson, and Enterprise. These areas were then given an 876 prefix. All other areas in Morgan County retained the 829 prefix.

Mountain Fuel

In 1922 an abundance of natural gas was discovered in Southern and southwest Wyoming and also in Northern Colorado. A substantial market for gas existed in Salt Lake City and Ogden, placing Morgan County in the middle. By 1925 a thin-wall, large diameter transmission pipe that was strong enough to withstand the pressure of natural gas had been developed. In 1927 more gas was discovered

in Rock Springs, Wyoming, providing the final incentive to transport gas to Utah. In order to supply the Wasatch front with gas, a transmission line traversing Morgan was required.

Western Public Service Corporation was formed in 1928. This holding company had three subsidiaries: Mountain Fuel (the production company), Uinta Pipeline Company (the transmission company), and Wasatch Gas Company (the distribution company for Salt Lake valley and smaller communities of Utah, including Morgan.) This organization paved the way for the tremendous undertaking of building the pipeline from Wyoming to Salt Lake City and Ogden.[59]

On 24 December 1928, Morgan County Commissioners granted John McFadyen, President of Mountain Fuel Supply Company of Delaware, and L. B. Denning, Vice President of Western Public Service Corporation, a franchise to construct a natural gas pipeline through Morgan. Morgan City issued a franchise 5 March 1929, to Wasatch Gas Company for construction of a gas distribution system. Both franchises were in effect for fifty years and were renewed by Mountain Fuel in September 1978.

In 1929 Uinta Pipeline Company began construction of the 345 miles of gathering, transmission, and distribution pipeline at a cost of $24 million. Building the line through Morgan County provided one of the most challenging sections of the project. Brian Winterowd, an employee of Mountain Fuel, discussed the difficulties: "In one twenty-eight mile stretch, mostly in Morgan County the 1600 pound sections of pipe had to be maneuvered through twenty-one major river crossings, eighteen creek crossings, and eleven double-track railroad crossings. Half of the river crossings were made in solid rock.[60] The line was started in January and completed in August 1929, just eight months later. Wasatch Gas Company assumed responsibility of distributing the new form of energy to customers along the pipeline route. Being located along the main-line placed Morgan at the right place at the right time.

The 1929 line became known as Mountain Fuel Supply Company's Mainline #1. From 1964 to 1973, the line through Morgan County was replaced in sections with a new sixteen inch wrapped steel pipe that still follows the original route except in the Devil's Slide area. In this difficult area, rather than following the

Weber River, the line was rerouted from Henefer over the mountains to Round Valley, a twenty mile section. A line was also run from Henefer to Croydon and the cement plant. Major taps to service customers are located at Round Valley, Morgan, Stoddard, Peterson, and Gateway. In 1975 another major line was built through the south end of the county to Bountiful. Although only a transmission line, one tap designated as Mortensen tap, was installed to service a couple of homes on Highway 66 in East Canyon.

Distribution History

The first identifiable employee of the gas company in Morgan County was Oliver Richard Stuart. Pipe and various gas-related supplies were stored in a shop behind Stuart's home. Arletta his wife performed the Wasatch Gas Company clerical duties from an office located next to the telephone company office at approximately 395 East 125 North Street Morgan City. These two individuals received some initial help from a Salt Lake office, but during the infant years of natural gas in Morgan, they represented the gas company.

Stuart was listed in company records as foreman when the first natural gas hook-ups took place. The original work orders for installation of natural gas pipe in Morgan were dated 16 December 1929. These orders stated that 105 customers had each paid a $10 deposit and had agreed to use gas for some purpose within ninety days after it became available. The orders authorized 1400 feet of four inch low-pressure mainline and 13,300 feet of two inch intermediate high-pressure line be installed for an estimated cost of approximately $10,000. The same project performed in 1987 would run as high as $200,000.

The first residents to receive natural gas in 1930 were located on South Bridge Street (State Street). One of the residents was Walter Dale Francis. Arthur, Walter's son, remembers "getting a new Meuhler Furnace, a Kelvenator gas refrigerator, a Chambers gas range, and a Rex water heater." Many people considered natural gas to be a great advantage, but some referred to it as "cold heat," and many of the new appliances weren't very efficient.

Gas meters were placed at property lines with small wooden sheds built over them as shelters. Residents referred to these shelters

as "green dog houses." After many complaints about the dog houses, the gas company moved the meters from property lines and placed them next to homes.

O. R. Stuart left the gas company to pursue other interests in the mid 1930s. Samuel Arthur Francis then served for twenty-three years as the district agent, laborer, fitter, and gas serviceman. In 1948 Francis became the first official Mountain Fuel district agent for Morgan and remained in that capacity until August 1956. Leah, Francis's wife, did the clerical work.

In the 1930s, the Gas Company office was relocated to a building located next to Irvin Butters's barber shop at 117 Commercial Street. Eventually the office was moved to the Francis home at 10 East Young Street with their granary being used as a warehouse. Patrons could pay bills at the office, or, for convenience, at Ulrich Drug Store.

In 1956 Norm Elkins who had been working for the company in Coalville became the new district agent at Morgan. That same year Mountain Fuel purchased property at 268 E. 300 North and built a home. The Elkins occupied the residence in which an office for company business was located in a room on the front.

In 1961 Kay Hale became district manager, and his wife, Marjean, was employed as office clerk. They served in Morgan until 1965 when Wayne Saltzgiver and his wife Helen took over the duties. Harold Wacker and his wife, Eleanor replaced the Saltzgivers in 1966. The Wackers were employed at Morgan until 1972 when the gas company discontinued its Morgan office. In 1973 the home that had served as Mountain Fuel office for sixteen years was sold, and clerical work was handled at the Ogden office, twenty miles away. Payments could still be made at Morgan Drug store until 1978, when that service was also discontinued. During the summer of 1973, gas lines were extended to Richville and Porterville residents. In 1981 Enterprise became part of the system.

A freak natural gas accident occurred in September 1963 at the cement plant in Devil's Slide.

> . . . a high-pressure gas line had ruptured and had gone undetected. The line was 200 feet from a building, and the gas apparently followed a water line into that structure. On the morning of October

> 2, Ray Richins of Henefer entered the then dark building and struck a match so that he could see. The ensuing explosion burned him terrible, and he died four days later on October 6. Other than that one accident, the safety record of Mountain Fuel Supply has been very good.[61]

In 1930 Mountain Fuel Supply Company had 105 customers in Morgan County; in 1987 there were 1376 customers. Morgan has experienced sixty-nine years (1998) of uninterrupted high quality gas service. In 1994 Mountain Fuel Supply Company became a subsidiary of Questar Corporation.

Morgan County's First Garbage Service

The first privately owned organized garbage pickup service in Morgan County was initiated by Dale Bohman of Peterson, Utah. In February 1966, the business commenced in the north end of the valley with forty original customers. Bohman's equipment consisted of a pickup truck modified to have sides four feet high. Bohman acquired permission from Morgan City and Morgan County to use their dump site at Enterprise to dispose of the garbage. He charged a fee of $1.50 per month for each family dwelling and $.75 per widow. The business area included the community of Peterson and was soon expanded to cover Milton and Stoddard. When residents of Porterville and Richville, requested garbage service, the business again expanded to include those areas. By May of 1966, garbage collection had grown to where it was necessary for Bohman to purchase a one-ton truck to which a van-type bed was added. The truck was also equipped with a dump hoist. Garbage was collected once a week. Garbage collection was a family operation, with Mrs. Bohman driving the truck and other members of the family loading the garbage.[62]

When Morgan City and Morgan County's lease on the garbage dump site expired, city and county officials, along with Bohman's business, tried to find another dump site, but no one wanted to sell or lease any land for that purpose. On 1 February 1979, Morgan City and Morgan County took over the responsibility of gathering and disposing of waste material. They contracted the service out to privately owned companies who contracted with dump sites outside the county. This practice continues to the present date.

Community Water Systems

According to state law, a community water system is a public drinking system which serves at least fifteen service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least twenty-five year-round residents. The following is a list of community water systems (excluding Morgan City Water) that operate in Morgan County. Where possible the year the system was implemented is also listed.

Croydon 1910
East Canyon Resort
Enterprise Estates Water 1969
Highland Subdivision
Monte Verde 1960
Mt. Green Water Assoc. 1961–62
Peterson Pipeline Assoc. 1934–36
Richville Pipeline Co. 1912
South Littleton 1932
South Robinson Spring Water 1909
W. Enterprise Water Assoc. 1969
Wilkinson Water Company 1970

ENDNOTES

1. *Pony Express Gazette,* 3 April 1992, 2.

2. Fern Palmer, Life History of Thomas and Ruth Palmer, n.p., on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

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4. Abbott E. Mikesell, History of the Postal System in Morgan County, n.d. n.p., on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

5. John S. Gallagher, *The Post Offices of Utah* (Burtonsville, Maryland: The Depot, 1977), 7.

6. Ibid.,

7. Mary Chadwick, *Pioneering Morgan County* (Morgan: Morgan County News, 1947), 40.

8. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered* (Morgan: Morgan County News, 1959), 150.

9. Hattie Robinson, History of North Morgan, on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

10. Frank W. Bohman, "Peterson General Store," n.d., n.p., on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

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15. Bradley W. Richards, MD., The Railroad in Morgan County, n.p., n.d. copy on file at Morgan County Historical Society,

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28. Grace Kilbourn, "History of the Porterville Church 1864–1948," 26–27, on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

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35. Ibid., 23 March 1951.

36. Ibid., 9 February 1952; 25 April 1952.

37. Ibid., 27 August 1976.

38. Ibid., 23 November 1979.

39. Ibid., 5 December 1980.

40. Ibid., 13 June 1986.

41. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered,*161.

42. *Morgan County News,* November 9, 1945.

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44. *Morgan County News,* 29 March 1946.

45. Ibid., 27 December 1946; 31 January 1947.

46. Morgan County Commission Minutes, 1 February 1954, County Clerk's office.

47. Ibid., 4 February 1957; 19 March 1957.

48. County Recorder's Office, Book, R, 156, 542.

49. Morgan County Commission Minutes, 3 September 1957.

50. Stan McGrew, Chronology of Significant Events relating to the Morgan County Airport, 18 July 1985; 14 March 1986, on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

51. Ibid., 20 April 1993.

52. Ibid., 15 October 1994.

53. Morgan County Commission Minutes, 7 January 1901, 450–451.

54. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered,*155.

55. Morgan County Commission Minutes, 30 December 1905.

56. Ibid., 7 July 1907, 544; 7 August 1907, 546.

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58. *Morgan County News,* 30 September 1955.

59. Brian Winterowd, "The History of Mountain Fuel Supply Company in Morgan County, Utah," August 1987, on file at Morgan Historical Society.

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CHAPTER 8

MORGAN COUNTY RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

As in other Utah counties, Morgan County's political and socioeconomic development has been intertwined with the growth of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. That affiliation began immediately upon the Saints' arrival in the Intermountain West and has continued through the territorial period and well beyond the advent of statehood. The close link between the LDS Church and Utah's public institutions has often led political analysts to characterize the system as a theocracy similar to the early Puritan oligarchy in colonial Massachusetts.

Early LDS Church Organization

Within a year following the 1847 appearance of the Saints in the Great Salt Lake Valley, church president Brigham Young began calling priesthood leaders to explore and colonize remote sections of the intermountain region. Lorin Farr was among those selected to extend church influence into the territory north of Salt Lake City.[1] In 1850 Farr was chosen to settle Ogden City in the lower region of the Weber River and to preside over church operations in the territory's north-

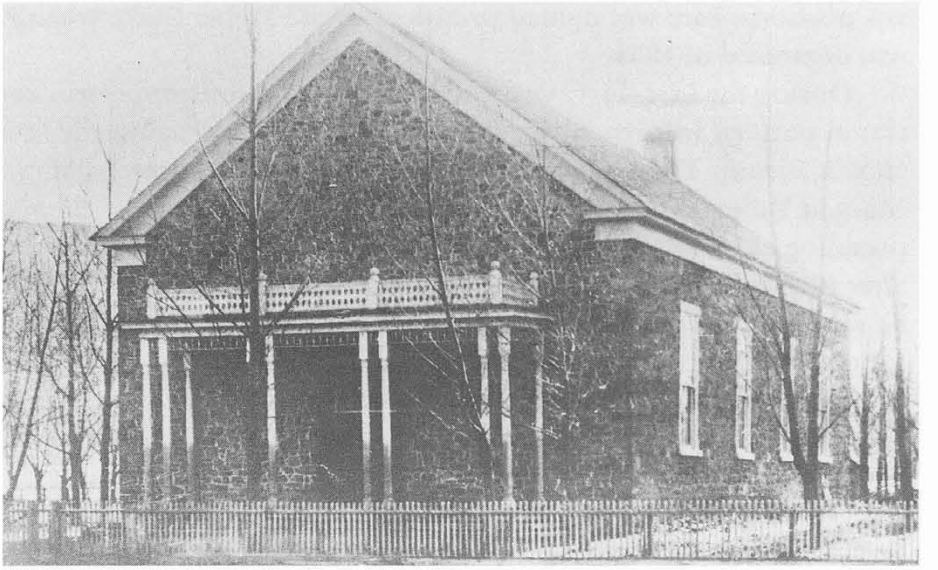
ern portions. Farr was named president of the Weber Stake when it was organized in 1851.

During the first thirty years of settlement, no uniform organizational pattern informed the church's local units. During the late 1850's, Bishop Thomas Jefferson Thurston presided over Saints in Morgan Valley. Under his direction, Charles S. Peterson was named presiding elder for the Saints in Weber City (Peterson) area. Shortly after Richard Fry moved to the Morgan vicinity in September, 1860, he was called as a counselor to Bishop Thurston At a meeting in the Mountain Green school on 21 October 1860, President Lorin Farr organized the Saints of that neighborhood into a branch with Charles Peterson as its president. During the following week, John Parsons and Thomas S. Johnson were called as Peterson's counselors.

On 8 December 1861, at a second meeting in Mountain Green, President Farr delivered a proposal from the First presidency of the LDS Church to organize the county into two wards to serve members residing in the valley. Charles Peterson was sustained as bishop of the Weber Valley Lower Ward which covered the northern half of the valley, including Mountain Green, Weber City (Peterson), Enterprise, North Morgan, Round Valley, and the northern portion of Milton. Bishop Thurston presided over the Morgan Ward Saints who lived south of the Weber River and in the Canyon Creek neighborhoods. South Morgan, Littleton, Porterville, Richville and the southern section of Milton comprised the new Morgan Ward.

While the Croydon area is located in Morgan County, it remained under the jurisdiction of William Hennifer, the presiding authority in Henefer, Summit County. Under Hennifer's direction, Lost Creek residents were organized as a branch in October 1863, with George Shill serving as presiding elder. Due to the small numbers of members in the two communities, their meeting places alternated on a weekly basis. The two branches operated in that manner until Croydon Branch was formed in 1865 with James Walker sustained to the branch president's office. That same year, Willard G. Smith of Salt Lake City was called to replace Bishop Thurston, and William W. Cluff was named presiding bishop for Morgan, Summit, and Wasatch Counties.

Morgan Saints were reorganized in 1867 when the entire Milton



Morgan LDS Tabernacle at 20 West Young Street. First conference held in building May 1882.

area was assigned to Peterson Ward while North Morgan and Round Valley were placed within the jurisdiction of Morgan Ward. A short time later, Milton members were returned to Morgan Ward.

Among special home missionaries who were called by the church's General Authorities to serve in the locality in which they lived with the responsibility of strengthening members in the small settlements of Morgan County were Edward Stevenson, a native of Spain, (1865–77) and Jabez Woodard from St. George, Utah (1869–70). Local members called to that same capacity at a November 1875, conference in Peterson included John Robinson, Joseph Card, Lars Anderson, F.G. Nielsen, Charles Turner, John Wells, Alma Porter, and Jens Hansen.

Until the Church initiated a uniform priesthood reorganization in 1877, Morgan and Summit counties were under the general supervision of Salt Lake Stake. Although the first branches and wards in the county had been organized by authorities in Weber Stake, the two counties were presided over by Bishop Elijah F. Sheets of Salt Lake City 8th Ward until 1865 when Bishop Cluff was called to preside over the three county area.

Priesthood Organization after 1877

During the last several months of his life, Brigham Young was inspired to create order among the existing stakes of Zion. Throughout the spring and summer of 1877, he organized the territory into twenty stakes. Eleventh on President Young's list to be established was Morgan Stake whose boundaries he set to coincide with those of the county.

Presiding Bishop Cluff requested priesthood leaders in Morgan County to gather on Sunday, 1 July 1877, at the home of William Eddington where church apostles Lorenzo Snow and Franklin D. Richards provided counsel regarding the organization of the new stake. At that meeting the stake presidency and ward bishops were chosen and sustained by those in attendance. Later that day, Elders Snow and Richards offered instruction about the stake organization and operation to Saints assembled at conference.

Willard G. Smith was sustained as the first president of the stake with Richard Fry and Samuel Francis as his counselors. The nine wards created and their bishops included Croydon, John Hopkin; East Porterville, Joseph R. Porter; Enterprise, John K. Hall; Milton, Eli Whitear; North Morgan, Wyman M. Parker; Richville, Albert D. Dickson; South Morgan, Charles Turner; Weber (Peterson), Charles S. Peterson; and West Porterville, whose bishop, Thomas Brough, was named a few weeks later. Following Bishop Peterson's move from the valley several months later, Lawrence Robinson was called as his successor in the Weber Ward.

Thus was created an organization which administered the temporal and spiritual affairs of Morgan County Saints until the Morgan Utah North Stake was established in 1981. During its early years, Morgan stake and its wards and branches were more than ecclesiastical units. They served the community as influential political, economic, educational, and social-cultural institutions, rivaled for importance only by the family. A lengthy epistle sent to priesthood leaders throughout the church in mid-July 1877, outlined churchwide uniformity of organization and operating policy. Among those precepts emphasized in the directive was the importance of educa-

tion to the youth of the church. Following its inception, eight men served as president of the county-wide Morgan Stake.

Willard G. Smith (1877–1893)

Willard G. Smith's administration was marked by the growth of stake auxiliaries whose purpose was to provide instruction and support for those serving as ward auxiliary officers and teachers. The stake Sunday School was formed in July 1877, with John K. Hall as superintendent. In addition to her duties as president of the Morgan Ward Relief Society, Lydia Ponds Rich was installed as first president of the stake Relief Society when that auxiliary was organized in August, 1878. At the same conference, William Brough was sustained president of the stake Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association and Sarah Rawle was named to head the stake Young Women's group. During October 1880 stake conference, Harriet Welch was called to become Morgan Stake's first Primary Association president. She served in that office for twelve years while continuing to preside over Morgan Ward Primary.

At a priesthood leadership meeting in March 1878, President Smith informed those present that the church's general authorities had mandated the construction of a stake meetinghouse which would accommodate much larger member attendance at stake conference sessions. Work on the new county courthouse already under construction at the time was suspended in favor of the stake meetinghouse. While early expectations called for the building to be ready for the 1878 October conference, work came to a virtual standstill that year with the widespread outbreak of illness throughout the county. Hardships continued to plague the county for several years when frost, drought, and grasshoppers took a heavy toll on 1879 farm produce. The following year, Morgan County was devastated by a diphtheria epidemic. The building was yet in an unfinished state when the Saints congregated there for the 1882 May conference.

Following the 1879 wheat crop failure, the Relief Society, acting in its role of caring for the community's temporal needs, provided emergency storage grain to be used as seed for the 1880 crop. During that summer Morgan Stake Relief Society sisters raised some $275 for

construction of a South Morgan granary to store grain as a hedge against future shortages.

In many Morgan County neighborhoods, church meetings were conducted in the same facilities where children learned their school lessons. At the June 1883 stake priesthood meeting, discussion centered on lack of building space to adequately house church and school functions which were sometimes scheduled on the same days. Those in attendance were warned of the grievous sin of sending their offspring to gentile (public) schools. Under the direction of principal Albert N. Tollestrup in December 1888, Morgan Stake Academy opened in the county courthouse, offering a comprehensive curriculum founded in theology.

Fired by the church's doctrine of plural marriage, the decade of the 1880s witnessed a growth of tension between ecclesiastical and civil authority following passage of the Edmunds Tucker Bill. Legal defense funds were established to assist county residents charged under the new law. Upon completion of a four-month prison sentence, Samuel Carter of Porterville "reported his mission to the state Pen." The 1890 Manifesto issued by LDS Church President Wilford Woodruff eased tension to some extent except among those committed to the patriarchal order of marriage who viewed the Manifesto as a bow to unrighteous civil authority. Local leaders were urged to consider erecting buildings dedicated solely to religious purposes in response to complaints of church/state conflicts in neighborhoods where schools had been used for worship meetings.

While dealing with church/state issues, local ecclesiastical authorities also contended with internal problems. Concerted efforts to strengthen the Saints called for renewal of member commitment to basic church doctrines, including the Word of Wisdom forbidding the use of alcohol and tobacco products, and celestial marriage in the House of the Lord. Contributions of Morgan County Saints to the construction of the Salt Lake Temple which was dedicated in 1893 aided in restoring church ideals among members in the county.

Richard Fry (1893–1900)

A few days following the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple, the Morgan Stake presidency was reorganized. Richard Fry was called to

succeed President Smith on 15 April 1893. Following an April 19 meeting with President Woodruff in the new Salt Lake Temple, President Richard Fry with counselors Samuel Francis and William H. Rich were called to be the new Morgan Stake presidency. Fry's term of office began rather inauspiciously when the new stake meetinghouse caught fire the same day. Fortunately, members attending Sunday School at the time quickly formed bucket brigade and carried water from the courthouse ditch to quench the flames. The badly burned roof collapsed, but the remainder of the structure was saved and rebuilt. Because of fire damage to the stake meetinghouse, quarterly conferences were held in Simmons' Hall until May 1895. The forty by sixty foot frame building also served the community for socials, dances, dramatic productions, roller skating, and traveling medicine shows.

When the stake presidency change was announced, some of the high council members argued that they should have been consulted. At least one high council member objected when a sustaining vote was called at the May 6 meeting of the council. During the priesthood session of quarterly conference the following week, Apostle Francis M. Lyman taught the brethren that the Presidency of the Church had the authority to make whatever changes they deemed necessary and appropriate. Following his instruction, the new stake presidency was unanimously sustained.

Due to excellent train service between Salt Lake City and Morgan, one or two general authorities usually attended stake quarterly conferences counseling the Saints to honor their priesthood and to be charitable to their neighbors, always reminding them to teach their children well by setting proper examples. At the February 1895 meeting, Elder Lyman noted that bishops should not be acting in multiple offices. As a consequence, Fred W. Clark replaced Bishop John K. Hall as stake Sunday School superintendent. When the May 1895 conference was returned to the unfinished stake center, members were urged to use their means wisely and to place a higher priority on the building project.

While rapid expansion of residential construction may seem to be a dilemma unique to modern planning commissions, a similar concern was registered a hundred years earlier in President Fry's

response to a questionnaire soliciting evidence relating to an apparent trend of families moving away from Utah Territory. Noting that ninety percent of those living in the county earned their living from agricultural pursuits, Fry described 1894 conditions in the Morgan Stake in the following statement: "All our tillable land is occupied. For fifteen years families and young people about to marry have moved to Bear Lake, Star Valley, and Unitah (sic) County, to settle on land for farming. For twenty years our population has not increased on account of so many moving away."[2]

A November 1896 letter from the church's general authorities directed members to change their monthly day of fasting and prayer from the first Thursday to the first Sunday. Soon after the Saints' first appearance in the West, one day each month had been reserved for that purpose with the members encouraged to share generously of their means for the relief of the needy. In many communities, Thursday meetings conflicted with school classes conducted in the same buildings.

During the nearly five decades prior to Utah's admission to the Union, political philosophy in the Territory was sharply divided along the lines of church membership. Political debate regarding many issues was closely intertwined with religious ideology. While most non-LDS people affiliated with the Liberal Party, active Saints usually sided with the People's party. As statehood became a more realistic possibility, LDS members were urged by general authorities to align themselves with national party organizations in 1893. While most Saints leaned toward Democratic Party ideology, church members were instructed to avoid the same sort of division that had occurred between the Liberal and People's parties; thus many who held no strong Democratic convictions were encouraged to join with the national Republican Party. The old conflict between Mormons and non-Mormons could not continue if the Territory was to develop credibility for its statehood petition. As a Democrat, President Samuel Francis of Morgan Stake served as a county representative at the constitutional convention and was one of the signers of the Utah constitution.

Dissension occurred among church members when Moses Thatcher, a member of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles, declined to

sign the Political Manifesto issued by the First Presidency on 6 April 1896. At the February 1897 stake conference, the Morgan Saints heard Francis M. Lyman and J. Golden Kimball condemn Thatcher's rebellion against church authority as they were warned not to dispute policies handed down by the presidency. Lyman portrayed Thatcher as a self-appointed "apostle of freedom" whose agenda called for a strict separation of church and state.

While the Manifesto prohibited LDS general authorities from seeking political office without permission from the church presidency, no such restriction applied to local church leaders. Daniel Heiner, a member of Morgan Sunday School presidency was elected to the first state legislature as a Morgan County representative.

Following the organization of the stake in 1877 and the turn of the century, LDS church membership in the county grew from 1,492 to 1,783. The only boundary change within the stake was effected in August 1897 when East and West Porterville wards were consolidated under the leadership of Bishop Joseph Durrant. Almost immediately construction was begun to erect a new brick meetinghouse large enough to house the combined congregation. By 1900 that ward served 316 members.

Soon after Lorenzo Snow assumed the presidency of the church, a renewed emphasis was placed on the importance of members' paying a full and honest tithe on their income. Nearly all speakers at the June 1899 stake conference addressed the law of tithing. At that time, money was in scarce supply and most of the contributions were made in the form of property, labor, or produce, the latter being stored in bishops' storehouses. Stakes were directed to discontinue the use of ward storehouses and to build stake tithing houses, shifting responsibility for managing the facilities from bishops to stake presidents who were accountable to the Presiding Bishop of the church. Produce and labor donations were assigned monetary values by bishops as they issued receipts for contributions.

Local priesthood leaders often spent much time transporting produce, much of which was perishable, from their wards to the stake storehouse. The process was so cumbersome that the centralization policy was changed in 1900 with the responsibility for accounting and storage reverting back to local bishops and their storehouses.

During that period, stake members were called to sacrifice their time to the missionary effort. Some served six-month stake missions while living at home; others were assigned abroad on work missions constructing buildings, roads, and canals. Many were sent to various parts of the United States and foreign nations to preach the Gospel. Often times married men with families and businesses were asked to leave them behind for the duration of their service. Charles George Turner left a bride of two weeks to teach in Alabama where he contracted malaria. After seven months, he returned home and died five weeks later. Young Hyrum Carter was also sent to the Southern States mission where he was stripped and lashed by a mob. Soon after he fell ill and died in the mission field.

Due to a lack of medication, illness often ravaged throughout the county. Epidemics of diphtheria, influenza, scarlet fever, and measles were especially difficult for the elderly. A smallpox outbreak during the late winter of 1898 caused a three-month suspension of all public meetings in the county. On occasion entire communities were under quarantine to inhibit the spread of disease.

Responding to the 1900 request of Wyoming Governor DeForest Richards and his Secretary of State to colonize the Big Horn Basin, President Lorenzo Snow invited Utahns to settle there. Of the seven companies organized for the enterprise, one was composed largely of Morgan County residents with George H. Taggart as their captain.

After attending the 1900 general conference in Salt Lake City, President Fry returned home suffering complications of his asthmatic condition as a cold quickly developed into pneumonia. On April 15, his sixty-ninth birthday, Fry succumbed to his ailments after having served seven years as Morgan Stake President.

Daniel Heiner (1900–1923)

The agenda for the September 1900 conference included the reorganization of the stake presidency. During a session conducted by Elder George Teasdale, the Saints were informed that Daniel Heiner had been called to serve as their new president. William H. Rich and William W. Francis were sustained as Heiner's counselors with Samuel Francis ordained as a patriarch.

In March 1901, the new stake presidency proposed a uniform

schedule for all meetings. Bishop's councils were to be held Monday evenings; the young men and young women were to conduct their activities Tuesday evenings; Wednesday night was to be reserved for choir practice; on Thursdays, families were encouraged to remain at home and study church doctrine; Friday night was for entertainment, and Saturday evenings were to be used in preparation for the Sabbath. During the years since, similar schedules have accommodated the advent of new programs such as home teaching and family home evening.

At a general priesthood meeting in February 1901, the new stake presidency announced plans to complete work on the stake meetinghouse at a cost of $2,000. The structure was dedicated by President Joseph F. Smith during a December 15 session of stake conference that same year.

From 1901 to 1905, quarterly stake conferences were conducted on Sunday and Monday. In December 1905, the meetings were shifted back to Saturday and Sunday. Typically the sessions included stewardship reports from each ward bishop as well as the stake presidency, leaders of priesthood quorums, and stake auxiliary presidents. Recently returned missionaries were invited to report the events of their service. Visiting authorities not only delivered inspirational discourses on church doctrine but provided counsel pertaining to the temporal welfare of the Saints as well.

During a special meeting of members from the North and South Morgan areas on 15 July 1906, the two wards were consolidated into the Morgan Ward under the leadership of Bishop Alonzo Francis. By the time a newly constructed North Morgan meetinghouse was dedicated by President Smith in June 1913, the ward was again divided into the Morgan and North Morgan Wards. Before that time, most baptisms in the stake were conducted at Como Springs or other outdoor locations. The new, overly large font in the North Morgan building doubled as a swimming pool for the ward's young people. Steady population growth in the county during the 1910s prompted construction of more chapels and continual boundary changes to achieve a relatively balanced number of members in each ward within the stake.

At the August 1912 conference, Elder David O. McKay expressed

concern for those who were employed at the pea canning factory that had opened eight years earlier. While it was a boon to the county's economy, the busy harvest and processing season required employees to work on Sundays. To accommodate factory workers'schedules, sacrament meetings in Morgan Ward were held late Sunday evening.

Upon recommendation from the general authorities in 1913, bishops throughout the stake were instructed to conduct priesthood meetings and Sunday School each Sabbath morning. During February 1916 stake conference, it was reported that ward priesthood meetings were not being conducted appropriately; in fact, several wards were not holding the meetings at all. Attendance at ward sacrament meetings was ignored except by female members. The stake presidency sought to improve ward performance by emphasizing the importance of home teaching, genealogical research, and temple work.

During World War I, LDS leaders urged their members to render aid in the war effort, especially with regard to conserving food stuffs. To that end, the Relief Society presidency taught members throughout the stake to preserve food and to use substitutes for items in short supply.

In December 1917, the stake presidency and high council occupied the recently finished stake office building. Several times during his tenure, Morgan Stake President Heiner was requested to report the condition of Saints in Morgan County in LDS general conference, first in April 1903 and later in October 1918 meetings. Each time, he related the remarkable progress of the relatively small stake, describing the appreciation of property values in the county and the beauty of the landscape.

Although President Heiner had suggested as early as 1900 the formation of a prayer circle once each month at a meeting of the stake presidency and high council, it was not until 1923 that Elder Richard R. Lyman came to accomplish the task. Stake leaders were taught the importance of setting the proper example for Morgan Saints by obeying all church doctrine. Participants were instructed to wear temple clothing at the special prayer sessions. The prayer circle practice continued in Morgan until the 1970s when church general authorities instructed President Keith Little that the newly dedicated

Ogden Temple was a more appropriate site. With prohibition becoming a national issue by 1908, Mormon leaders at all levels urged their followers to observe the Word of Wisdom issued by Joseph Smith in 1833. Originally offered as sound health advice, obedience to the Word of Wisdom as doctrine became a qualification for participating in the ordinances of the church and for functioning in leadership positions. Morgan was the first Utah county to prohibit alcohol sales following the legislature's passage of a state prohibition bill in 1917.

Following the death of his counselor, William H. Rich, and because of his own lengthy twenty-three years of service, President Heiner's request to be released was honored at quarterly stake conference in December 1923. During those same sessions, Melvin H. Randall was sustained as the fourth president of the Morgan Stake.

Melvin H. Randall (1923–1942)

On 9 December 1923, Melvin H. Randall, William W. Francis, and George S. Heiner were sustained by the Saints of the Morgan Valley to serve as their stake presidency. Retiring president, Daniel Heiner, was called to serve as patriarch. Morgan Stake was then comprised of 2,120 members organized into nine wards: Croydon, Milton, Mountain Green, Morgan, North Morgan, Porterville, Peterson, Richville, and Devil's Slide.

LDS leaders were involved in the education of young people from the earliest settlement in the county as witnessed by the organization of neighborhood schools, the counsel not to attend gentile schools, and the development of the stake academy. During the late 1910s and early 1920s, a new church-sponsored program spread across the state following the birth of seminary instruction at Granite High School in 1912. Following a May 1925 high council meeting, a Morgan Stake Board of Education was formed to establish a seminary program for high school students in Morgan County. The general superintendent of church schools granted approval, and a site near the high school was purchased for construction of a seminary building. On 14 September 1925, sixty-five students attended the released-time seminary temporarily housed in the stake tabernacle's Junior Sunday School chapel. The first year's curriculum consisted of classes each in Old Testament and New Testament studies. In 1926 instruction in

Morgan LDS Seminary building on the northwest corner of Young and 200 East Street was completed for classes November 1926.

church history was added as enrollment nearly doubled to 126 students. The new seminary building was sufficiently finished for the classes to relocate in November 1926 although it was not paid for and dedicated until October 1931.

Randall's administrative efforts centered on the principle of keeping the Sabbath day holy and reserving Sunday as a day of worship and spiritual activity. Not only were members prone to work on that day, there was growing interest, especially among the young men, to play baseball on the Lord's day. In February 1928, a plan was drawn to gain control of the situation by formally organizing a league in which each ward would sponsor a team through the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association. In spite of those efforts, the Sunday baseball problem was not entirely resolved. During the early 1930s, athletic activity and patronizing local resorts on Sunday continued to plague church leaders who were admonished to set a proper example for all Saints. In 1933 the baseball league expanded when the Summit Stake was invited to participate. Records from 1934 depict a league of twelve teams, five representing Morgan Stake—Devil's

Slide, Milton, Morgan, Peterson, and Richville—and seven from Summit County.

Baseball and resorts weren't the only influences that pulled the Saints' attention from their sanctioned Sabbath activities. In 1932 the stake had purchased a Western Electric sound motion picture machine for entertainment of county residents. A commercial movie theater opened in 1937 showing films on Sunday. Not only was there competition between the two enterprises for business support, church leaders viewed the commercial movie venture as an unwarranted distraction to the Saints of the county. Ward members were asked to pay their allegiance to church-sponsored programs which were shown two nights each week and to avoid the commercial show house on Sundays.

During the 1920s and 1930s, population growth and shifts continued to prompt ward and branch boundary changes as well as acquisition and construction of new meeting places. A new chapel was dedicated in Mountain Green in 1927. Following closure of several of the county's neighborhood public schools, the LDS church purchased Richville school in 1928 and remodeled it for meeting house use. Peterson Ward occupied a new meeting house in 1929. The following year a new building was dedicated for Milton Ward. In 1931 a new chapel was dedicated in Croydon. Nearly 1,000 attended ceremonies at which LDS President Heber J. Grant rededicated the remodeled and expanded Morgan Stake Tabernacle on 10 July 1938.

During the 1930s, the Great Depression placed tremendous stress on church resources in helping to satisfy basic economic needs of its members. Saints were instructed to be frugal in their consumption of all products, to recycle as much as possible, and to plant large gardens to ease the burdens of all. Crop failures, insect infestations, and floods contributed to problems in the county. In 1933 the LDS First Presidency requested stake presidents to inventory the resources of their respective stakes. At the 1933 April general conference, a new security plan was unveiled to meet the welfare needs of church members. The proposal, which in 1938 was designated as the Welfare Plan, called for voluntary contributions of cash, food stuffs, clothing, and bedding to be redistributed to those in need. By 1937 regional sewing and canning centers were organized under the direction of the Relief

Society which was directed to train women to cook, sew, and preserve food efficiently. Bishops' storehouses were assigned responsibility for collecting and distributing food, clothing, and fuel.

Morgan High School hosted a multi-stake session in March 1937 at which Harold B. Lee, Chairman of the Committee for the Church Security Plan, outlined a five-point program. Every priesthood quorum was to initiate a welfare project and insure that none of its members was idle; all were to learn self sacrifice; the Saints were to master the art of living and working together; priesthood holders were asked to practice brotherhood in its fullest meaning; and all members were to learn courage to meet problems of the day. Production of cauliflower and squash was listed among welfare farm projects begun by quorums in the Morgan Stake.

In the midst of the depression, much emotional energy was devoted to public debate related to issues of prohibition and repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, which had done little to curb the distribution of alcoholic beverages. In February 1933, Congress passed legislation to repeal the prohibition amendment. Before the year was out, the Utah legislature voted to make Utah the thirty-sixth state to approve the act, ratifying the Twenty-first Amendment. Morgan residents had voted in the special election to support President Heber J. Grant's arguments against prohibition's repeal. After its repeal, they were encouraged to continue their opposition to liquor sales and to obey the Word of Wisdom.

Under provisions in "A New Plan of Missionary Work in the Stakes of Zion" in 1936, the Church's First Presidency directed that stake missions be organized under the leadership of the First Council of Seventy. In June of that same year, Morgan Stake mission was organized and headed by Frank Turner who had been called as a seventy, a special calling or assignment in the LDS church for preaching the gospel.

Morgan Saints were convened in a December quarterly conference in 1941 when news spread that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. As with Americans elsewhere, Morgan County residents were again placed on short rations in support of the war effort. These tragic events marked the close of President Randall's administration. Due

to the deterioration of his health, President Randall was released as stake president on March 15, 1942.

George S. Heiner (1942–1947)

Randall's successor as stake president was his counselor, George S. Heiner, who chose Charles C. Geary and Clarence D. Rich as counselors. Almost immediately President Heiner passed along to members of Morgan Stake instructions from general authorities regarding local conservation procedures to support the nation's war efforts. Stake meetings were limited to a few representatives of quorums and boards as a means of saving gasoline and tire rubber; some meetings were discontinued altogether. County residents were urged to plant large victory gardens and to conserve fuel of all types as a hedge against the approaching winter. Home missionary programs were abandoned, and bishops were instructed to conduct sacrament meetings only on second and fourth Sundays each month. Recreational activities were increased within local units to reduce travel costs for functions beyond community boundaries. Scouts and schoolchildren scoured the county in search of milkweed pods whose floss was used to replace Kapok in flotation jackets worn by servicemen.

Everyone, young and old alike, felt the discomfiture of war, but none so much as those families who sent sons and daughters, husbands and fathers to far corners of the planet, some of whom still lie in unmarked graves. How sweet it must have been for those who did return to the beautiful mountains surrounding the peaceful Morgan Valley, to be home at last!

With the official ending of the war, little time was wasted getting stake and ward activities back to normal schedules with the restoration of social, recreational, and cultural events that county residents had forsaken for four terrible years. Even so, continued sacrifice was required as the Relief Society engaged in collecting clothing, bedding, and food for Saints overseas whose homes and lives had been devastated by the ravages of war. President Heiner relayed instructions from the general authorities that welfare budgets be increased by fifty percent and that all produce be submitted rather than cash. Of interest to note is the 1946 South Morgan Ward budget which listed 508

bushels of barley, 6,000 pounds of cabbage, 1,800 pounds of squash, and 1,300 pounds of mutton.

By the summer of 1946, the church baseball league was in full swing, the stake Beehive girls were swarming in Salt Lake City, and Primary Trailbuilders trekked to the capital city. All were sure signs of return to normalcy.

Morgan County and all of Utah captured attention throughout the nation in 1947 in celebration of the Saints' first arrival to the western mountains and valleys a century earlier. Community fix-up projects, building renovations, athletic tournaments, parades, fairs, and centennial balls were organized as county citizens remembered the past hundred years and rejoiced in the joy of living in Utah. Spring stake conference that year also saw the end of President Heiner's five-year administration.

Clarence D. Rich (1947–1952)

In stake conference on 18 May 1947, Clarence D. Rich was sustained sixth president of Morgan Stake with Raymond P. Larson and Fernando C. Jensen as counselors. Recovery from World War II and welfare efforts in relief of Saints at home and abroad were a major theme of the Rich administration. Remodeling the North Morgan chapel, which had been postponed during the war, was resumed until the building was ready for dedication by Elder Spencer W. Kimball on 29 February 1948.

Stake leaders continued to urge restricted sale and use of alcohol. While not prohibiting sales altogether, in 1948 Morgan County commissioners followed the lead of Morgan city council by passing an ordinance restricting the sale of liquor throughout the county on Sundays.

During the Rich administration Morgan Stake continued to sponsor many programs that provided entertainment and recreation for members of the LDS community and others. Stake Mutual Improvement Association leaders organized three dances each year which Saints eagerly anticipated. The Gold and Green Ball of January, a highlight of the winter season, provided a welcome formal diversion after the busy holiday season. St. Valentine's Day set the stage for the annual Sweetheart Ball in February while the Rose Prom pro-

vided a sort of social debut for MIA Maid girls aged fourteen and fifteen. With the possibility of an All-Church championship, M-Men basketball quickly became a favorite form of recreation for adult males. Ward-produced road shows called on the dramatic, comedic, and musical talents of MIA youth. Even welfare work projects furnished opportunities to socialize. The prime objective of all ward and stake activities was the building of fellowship ties among church members.

Scouting continued to be a major influence in the education of young men in the county. In 1950 an Explorer Scout from Morgan, Robert Sherwood, became the first Latter-Day Saint youth to represent a five-state region in making an annual scouting report to the nation as he met with President Harry S. Truman.

In 1951 President Rich was presented a silver dollar paperweight by the Primary children of the stake. The dollar was one of 1,000 made from Utah silver given as a birthday gift to LDS President Heber J. Grant who in turn donated them for construction of the new Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City. The souvenirs were awarded to those who made a hospital donation of at least $100. Morgan children sponsored bazaars and parades to raise funds for their contribution to hospital construction.

Spring of 1952 found many Saints digging debris from their homes and barns as record flooding and severe windstorms damaged crops and property. Neighbors banded together to salvage their possessions. The season also developed into one of mourning as a life threatening illness which extracted its final toll during the waning days of July struck President Rich. Only forty-one years of age at his death, President Rich left a widow with three young children.

Raymond P. Larson (1952–1972)

On 13 September 1952, Morgan Stake was reorganized under the direction of Elders Mark E. Peterson and John Longden when Raymond P. Larson was called to preside over the stake with Fernando Jensen and Donald P. Brough as his counselors. During Larson's leadership, a significant change in the agenda of quarterly conferences was made in 1968 when the church's First Presidency

announced that only one Sunday session would be conducted instead of two as had been the previous practice.

During the twenty year Larson administration, Morgan Saints participated in several major building projects, many beyond the political boundaries of the stake and county. A fund raising campaign initiated in 1953 helped construct a new recreation hall at the stake center. The addition included a stage, kitchen, classrooms, a Relief Society room, and offices for the stake presidency as well as a multi-purpose recreation hall. Following a construction period of two years, the facility was dedicated in September 1955.

Rapid development of new housing in the northwest sector of the county led to a building project in Mountain Green as a new chapel was raised for the Peterson Ward between 1961 and 1963. The building, dedicated in September 1967 by Elder Ezra Taft Benson, later became the home for a newly organized Mountain Green ward. A new chapel was approved for the Milton community in 1963 and dedicated in December 1966 by Elder Mark E. Peterson. A new seminary building containing two classrooms and two offices was constructed between 1966 and 1967 at 30 North 200 East across the street from the high school.

After the LDS Church decided to construct a new medical facility in the Ogden area, members in Morgan and Weber counties were requested to raise twenty-five percent of the projected building cost. Morgan Stake was assessed $19,000 for the new McKay-Dee Hospital which began to receive patients in July 1969.

Church officials made a long-awaited announcement on October 1967, that a new temple would be built on the site of the Ogden Tabernacle. Fund raising projects were begun throughout the temple district which included Morgan County. Nearly two and one-half years after construction was commenced, the Ogden Temple was dedicated in January 1972.

Steady population growth continued to necessitate ward boundary changes in Morgan Stake. Devil's Slide Branch which had held ward status until 1956, was dissolved in 1961 and united with Croydon Ward. Richville Ward was discontinued in August 1964, when its members merged with those of Morgan Ward. From time to time, other neighborhoods were shifted from one ward to another.

In 1959 stake leaders initiated classes in religious education for adults through Brigham Young University's extension services. During the ensuing years, adult education programs have included the "Know Your Religion" lectures, education days, and a series of weekly classes. Until 1970 LDS general authorities had reserved the privilege of setting apart those called to missionary service, but because the number of missionaries had increased dramatically, the responsibility was shifted to stake presidents at that time.

Young women of Morgan stake enjoyed a banner year in 1969. They participated for the first time in the Campcrafter program at Shingle Creek near Kamas in July and observed the centennial celebration of the Young Women's Mutual Improvement Association with a period costume ball at the stake recreation hall in November.

The quarterly conference in March 1972 saw the release of President Larson and his counselors. A release from service was also given to Roy E. Francis who had devoted fifty-four years of his life as clerk of the Morgan Stake.

Keith R. Little (1972–1981)

Elder Gordon B. Hinkley issued the call to Keith R. Little to serve as next president of Morgan Stake. President Little was also to be the last to preside over all the Saints in the county. Robert W. Walker and Eugene Jones were sustained as his counselors along with Frank Rich as clerk and Larry Wilson as executive secretary.

During President Little's leadership, an extensive building program was initiated which included a new stake center to house two wards, a new chapel in Porterville, an addition to the meetinghouse in Mountain Green, and extensive remodeling of the Milton, Croydon, and Morgan 1st and 2nd ward facilities. The full proposal with a projected cost of $1,125,000 was approved at a priesthood meeting on 25 June 1972.

President Little and his counselors were highly regarded for the keen interest they took in the progress of young people. These leaders set an excellent example for youth by actively participating in many of their activities. Prior to 1980, annual youth conferences had been hosted and conducted by Brigham Young University. Since that time, most of those conferences have been held within the county, draw-

ing upon local initiative and talent for the instructional sessions and social activities.

The same principles of self reliance were applied to other programs in the stake. Local members, rather than paid referees, were called to officiate athletic contests. Mondays were reserved for family home evening programs with no interference from scheduled church meetings. In 1974 stake presidents were authorized to ordain priesthood members to the office of a seventy and to set apart presidents of seventies quorums. The following year they were empowered to ordain bishops. Following church policy to name stakes in a manner reflective of geographic location, the name of Morgan Stake was changed to Morgan Utah Stake in 1974.

On 13 December 1975, ward and stake priesthood leaders along the Wasatch Front were invited to a Solemn Assembly in the upper hall of the Salt Lake Temple where they were instructed by general authorities in the fundamental and eternal principles of the church. Not until 1984 did local leaders again have that opportunity.

Following the rupture of Idaho's Teton Dam in June 1976, bus loads of stake members flocked to the aide of those whose homes and farms had been devastated by the raging flood waters.

Many social events of 1977 revolved around Morgan Stake's centennial celebration. The highlight of the celebration was the July 1 reenactment of the conference session at which the organization of the stake was originally created. Priesthood leaders in period costumes played the roles of those who had participated on the program a hundred years earlier. Elder S. Dilworth Young expressed the theme of the celebration in his address: "I've always had the feeling that in Morgan County you have maintained your pioneer heritage better than most. You've kept the feeling of your ancestors. Your ancestors didn't settle this valley to lose it to apostasy. They didn't come here and strive and suffer that their grandchildren might go the way of the world."[3]

A revelation given through President Spencer W. Kimball on 9 June 1978, allowed church authorities to confer the priesthood to all worthy male members without respect to race. In 1979 the schedule of quarterly conferences was abandoned in favor of semiannual meetings. At about the same time, stake leaders received approval to

sponsor a name extraction program through which records were to be examined for the purpose of identifying persons whose names were to be processed in the temples of the church.

Members of the church throughout the world celebrated the sesquicentennial anniversary of the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The 1980 observance got under way in Morgan County with the production of the musical play *Because of Elizabeth* portraying the life of a young woman from the British Isles who travelled to America and participated in the exodus west from Nauvoo.

One of the most memorable events of President Little's administration was the appearance of Elder Marvin J. Ashton at the March conference in 1974 when he paid tribute to the Morgan High basketball team who won the state championship that same weekend. Elder Ashton returned to the community later that year to speak at the funeral of one of the players, David Rogers, whose body surrendered to the ravages of leukemia.

At the March 1981 stake conference, Elder LeGrand Richards released President Little and his counselors as part of an extensive reorganization of the Saints in the Morgan Valley. Elder Richards announced that the stake was to be divided with a new Morgan Utah North Stake created to serve those Saints in the Enterprise, Milton, Mountain Green, Peterson, and Stoddard neighborhoods. Coincidentally, Elder Richards's grandfather, Franklin D. Richards, was present when he and Lorenzo Snow first organized Morgan Stake in 1877.

Since the 1981 reorganization, Morgan Utah Stake has been led by three presidents: Jay B. Taggart (1981–83), Lorin C. Tonks (1983–1990), and Verl Mecham (1990–1997). Morgan Utah North Stake has had two presidents: Robert W. Poll (1981–1990) and Jerry Peterson (1990–present). Their administrations have witnessed steady membership growth and increasing member activity during the past decade. A distinguishing feature of recent church operations has been to move more of the spiritual and temporal administrative responsibilities to priesthood quorum leaders, allowing bishops to focus their attention on the youth of their wards.

The ambitious building program initiated by President Little has

accommodated Morgan County's LDS population growth admirably well with meeting houses in the two stakes housing two or three wards each. A major remodeling project at the old Morgan Tabernacle preserved and beautified that magnificent historic stone structure.

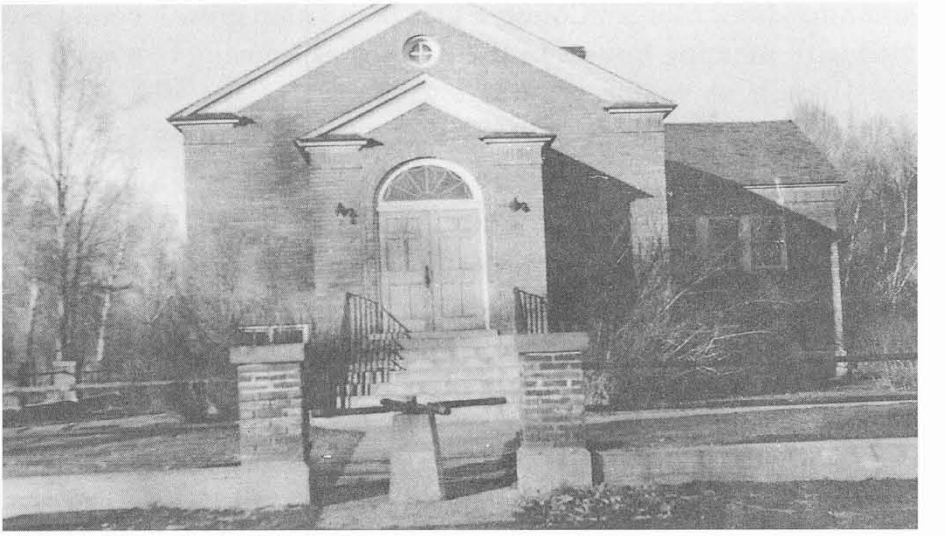
Morgan Valley Christian Church

Morgan Valley Community Church was organized as an outreach ministry of the Clearfield Community Church and Shared Ministry of Utah. The first service was held on Easter Sunday, 3 April 1983, at the Now Care Center in Mt. Green. The Reverend Harly D. Hunt, Pastor of the Clearfield Community Church officiated.

In April 1985, several members formed the Morgan Valley Christian Church. It was incorporated on November 1985. The first few meetings were held with Clearfield Community Church. The first meeting in Morgan county was held at the Daughters of Utah Pioneers building in Morgan City on 21 April 1985 with Pastor Larry Dobson, from Clearfield Community Church, officiating. The congregation was also blessed to have dedicated lay speakers Milse Mann, Dianne Kerschser, Rod Malone, and Pat Baker.

During the summer of 1985, the Women's Circle organized a bake sale and the church sponsored a children's game booth for the 4th of July as a fundraiser for a church building fund. The search continued for an interim pastor, and on 19 July 1985, Reverand Gilbert B. Moore arrived. He was brought to Morgan under the Ministers-at-Large program through the American Baptist Churches/USA Inc., and was to serve as pastor for seven months.

In December 1985, Morgan Valley Christian Church congregation celebrated the birth of the Lord and Savior in a new, permanent home. The congregation had purchased the former Peterson L.D.S. Ward Chapel, located at the corner of 4500 N. and 3800 W. in Peterson. To have a large sanctuary, Sunday school rooms for the youth program, fellowship hall, and kitchen was a great blessing for the congregation. Friends and members of Morgan Valley Christian Church gathered for several clean-up days to prepare for the first worship service on 8 December 1985. Individuals involved in this endeavor were Reverend Gilbert Moore, Harold and Marge



The Morgan Valley Christian Church purchased the old Peterson LDS Ward Chapel. The building was constructed in 1929.

Thompson, Stan and Barbara Steuri, Al and Linda Howard, Buford (Mac) and Dorothy McQuiddy, David Franz, Monica Brown, Susan Winter and Tim and Elly Mahon. In February 1986, Reverend Moore returned to his home in Wyoming.

On Sunday, 2 March 1986, Reverend Ken Bidwell, a pastor of the Baptist Church in Joshua Tree, California, became the new interim pastor, again under the Ministers-at-Large Program, through the American Baptist Churches/U.S.A. Inc. program. Members were doubly blessed to also have his lovely wife, Jerri, as part of their church family.

During the summer of 1986 Morgan Valley Christian Church had two major blessings from the Lord: a beautiful Baldwin organ that was donated by the Ted London family (this organ had been used in the former L.D.S. chapel in Croydon), and a Whitney spinet piano donated by a family from Hill Air Force Base who was moving to Germany. These were wonderful additions to the sanctuary. On Sunday, 23 November 1986, the dedication and consecration of the newly renovated sanctuary was held. Reverand Ken Bidwell, pastor of the church, gave the dedicatory address.

Beginning in 1987, Morgan Valley Christian Church and the

Layton Community Church joined in a parish ministry program. The two churches shared a minister and complete church program while retaining each church's identity. At this time Pastor Bidwell and his wife moved from Morgan to Layton.

Morgan Valley Christian Church Women and Community United Methodist Women of Washington Terrace co-sponsored a retreat, "A Day Apart" on 27 June 1987. The retreat facilitated renewal through music, prayer, bible study, and fellowship.

On Sunday, 6 September 1987, Reverend and Mrs. Al McGuire came to Morgan Valley Christian Church from Helix, Oregon. Reverend McGuire also served a two-parish ministry with Morgan Valley Christian Church and the Community Church in Layton. On 8 November 1987, a special installation service was held for Reverend McGuire and his wife, Carol. Reverend Dr. Dwight Neuenschwander, Area Minister for the Intermountain Area of American Baptist Churches of the Northwest was the featured speaker.

Morgan Valley Christian Church participated in the Celebration '87 commemorating the 10th anniversary of Shared Ministry in Utah by displaying its banner in the parade of banners held Saturday, 28 September 1987.

In the fall of 1987, Reverend McGuire held bible study classes at the church, and a church school for the younger children was initiated, led by Carol McGuire. Reverend McGuire served as pastor until June 1989 when a party was held to bid the McGuires farewell.

In February of 1988, Morgan Valley Junior Girl Scout troop was formed and met at the church. Lorrie Bishop and Carol McGuire were troop leaders. The Girl Scout program was again established in Morgan County in 1990 by sponsorship from Morgan Valley Christian Church. Two troops were formed: the Daisys and Brownies. They were to grow to four age levels and create their own service unit.

Without spiritual leadership, membership dropped, and much prayer and determination by a few members were necessary to continue God's work. Prayers for a new minister were answered. In September 1990, Jerry Schmick relinquished his duties at Clearfield Community Church to serve in Morgan as lay minister (pastor without pay). An installation service for Pastor Schmick was held Sunday, 15 November 1992.

Fran Holm came to Morgan Valley Christian Church as Associate Pastor in January 1993. Pastor Holm had been very active at Clearfield Community Church for many years and felt called to the lay pastor training. Associate Pastor Fran Holm was installed as the new pastor on 22 May 1994. At the present time, the congregation numbers sixty-three; happily twenty-five of those are children. Over the years, God has blessed this congregation with many of his fine children.

Morgan County Community Church

Decades ago, Morgan Valley was an isolated enclave of Americans who cherished the beauty, solitude and isolation of this awe inspiring area. Early settlers were largely members of the LDS Church organization, but the magical lure of the valley's scenic wonderland was not lost on others. Slowly, almost imperceptibly, outsiders visited the area, loved what they saw, and forged plans to purchase property and settle in the area.

Those who were Mormons found spiritual succor in local wards, but many of the newcomers, military personnel among them, had been affiliated with major Protestant denominations, or the Catholic or Greek Orthodox Churches. If these people were spiritually hungry, their only recourse to fulfill that need was to drive to Ogden or to Hill Air Force Base.

Inevitably, these non-Mormons made their desires known to religious leaders in Ogden and its environs for a locally established Protestant Church. These desires did not fall on deaf ears. Sometime in early 1983, officials of Clearfield Community Church and its pastor, after prayer, concluded that a mission under the church's auspices should be established in Morgan Valley. The Shared Ministry in Utah Council heartily endorsed the proposal, but a place for worship was needed that would be accessible to families from Morgan City on the southeast to Mountain Green on the northwest.

In God's providence, a medical facility known as the Now Care Center had space to accommodate a worship center. Dr. Charles Caton, co-owner of the Now Care Center invited the Clearfield Church to use the facility on Sundays at no cost. The offer was gratefully accepted.

Area families received news of this projected venture by mail and word of mouth. Posters about services were also circulated. Churches which were a part of Shared Ministry offered to supply church furniture and a small organ, and Clearfield Community Church and others arranged to supply speakers until such time as a viable congregation could procure its own pastor. Mrs. Marge Thompson offered to play the organ for services. Thus, on Easter Sunday 1983, the first services were held at this mission which became known as the Morgan County Community Church, and as one writer exclaimed " . . . it was a glorious time."

Offerings were collected and deposited in an account overseen by the Clearfield Church. Funds would be used to pay a salary for some future pastor and for a potential building fund. A steering committee including Mr. David Franz, Mrs. Bonnie Julian, Mr. Sam Barber and others was established to conduct church affairs. Services attracted families from a wide area. A Sunday School class was also initiated, particularly to benefit area children. Average attendance for the first six months hovered around twenty. Speakers, both lay and ordained clergy, came from Ogden and filled the pulpits, but in the absence of a resident pastor, attendance began fading.

At this juncture Sam Barber, who then owned High Country Oldsmobile-Chevrolet of Morgan, suggested the need for a resident pastor. "But who?" he was asked by congregants. Mr. Barber suggested that the mission contact the Reverend Berge A. Hoogasian, a retired Air Force Chaplain, living in nearby Enterprise. The Committee appointed Sam to pursue the matter. When Mr. Barber approached Chaplain Hoogasian about the possibility of his becoming pastor, even offering financial support, Mr. Hoogasian demurred. "Sam, I'm gone too often, I'm writing for publication, and I don't need the money." Nevertheless Mr. Barber persisted, since the two had been good friends for several years. After promising to pray about the matter, Chaplain Hoogasian agreed to meet with a pulpit committee at the home of Mrs. Lynda Howard in Morgan.

Mr. Hoogasian met with Mr. Franz, Mrs. Julian, Mrs. Howard and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Thompson. He stated his reasons for hesitating to accept the position, citing the fact that he would be gone on a long trip to Europe, but he would preach the next three Sundays

without charge to the congregation. "While I'm gone, you pray about the matter, and so will I, and we'll see how God leads."

On Mr. Hoogasian's return Mr. Franz and Mrs. Julian contacted the Chaplain saying, "The congregation is unanimous in asking you to be their pastor, whether you're here every Sunday or only once a month. Mr. Hoogasian, feeling this must be God's leading, accepted the position but added, "I can't promise you I'll stay for more than a year, and it will be only on a part-time basis. Within a year you should be well established and should look for a permanent pastor." The representatives and the congregation agreed. For the next year, with periodic absences, Mr. Hoogasian assumed duties as pastor. Teachers were procured for Bible study classes and the church grew.

Chaplain Hoogasian strongly recommended that a permanent officer staff be selected to oversee church administration. Then, Air Force Major Henry Jones was selected as church chairman. Mrs. Howard was to be the church secretary; Mr. Gordon Memory, church treasurer, and Mr. Sam Barber was to head a finance committee. Mrs. Eunice Memory offered to care for the altar and provide for monthly communion services. The church conducted worship services each Sunday at 11:00 A.M.

Before long, attendance rose nearly 100 percent. Prior to Christmas, the church joined in a bazaar sponsored by Morgan County personnel. Christmas items for sale were made by Mrs. Astrid Pitcher, Mrs. Leo Vetica, Mrs Henry Jones, Mrs Lynda Howard, Mrs. Alicia Hoogasian and others. The ladies also manned the booth, making friends for themselves and the church.

The following summer, children from the church were invited to attend Vacation Bible School sponsored by Washington Heights Baptist Church in Ogden. Adult members, including Mrs. Henry Jones, offered to assist in teaching the children. This also established a good working relationship with Washington Heights and its Pastor, Les McGee who, along with others, filled the pulpit in Chaplain Hoogasian's absences.

By September 1984, the church had grown large enough to step out on its own. The Clearfield Congregation was informed and agreed to the mission's desires. Mr. Hoogasian alerted the church of his desire to resign owing to some friction within the body, but the

church, headed by Major Jones, refused to accept his resignation. The friction ultimately resulted in Morgan Community Church severing its formal ties with Clearfield Church. Altar and other furniture were returned to their original sources, and MCCC was on its own. Major Jones implored Chaplain Hoogasian to remain with the church. After much prayer, he agreed to their request, with the proviso that they begin looking for a full-time pastor. Meanwhile, Mr. Hoogasian continued. Mr. James Pratt of Salt Lake City assisted him. Pratt had heard of the young church's existence and desired to participate, to teach and even to preach in Mr. Hoogasian's absences. Mr. Pratt was a graduate of Denver Theological Seminary, working in a secular job, but he wanted to be of service to God, without charge, driving to Morgan each Sunday with his wife Judy and their daughter, Rebecca. The church gratefully accepted the Pratt's offer. Judy Pratt, an accomplished guitarist, offered to lead song services and the church prospered.

Some of the original church members, dissatisfied with the break with the Clearfield body, left Morgan County Community Church. A new slate of officers was selected and governed the church for the next three years. Mr. Pratt ably assisted in Chaplain Hoogasian's absences. The church continued to grow. By this time, however, Mr. Hoogasian was extended a call to another area of service. The church having been earlier admonished to do so, sought to find a replacement for their pastor. Mr. Pratt declined an invitation. When the church body was unable to find another pastor, the doors closed, church property was given to communions in Ogden, and finances were donated to other mission works.[4]

ENDNOTES

1. This section on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Morgan County is largely a condensation of salient events published by the Morgan Utah North Stake, *Morgan Stake 1877–1981* (Salt Lake City: Publishers Press, 1988).

2. Ibid., 50–51.

3. Ibid., 224.

4. Berge A. Hoogasian, Chaplain Lt Col. USAF (ret), Morgan County Community Church, on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

CHAPTER 9

MORGAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Early Community Schools in Morgan County

Not unlike early Puritan settlers of Massachusetts, Mormon pioneers who established settlements in Morgan County placed a high value on the merits of education. Within a few short years of their arrival in Morgan's Weber River valley, cottage schools were in operation, teaching children the basics of English, reading, writing, and numbers. Most of those schools were managed by young women of the neighborhoods. Probably the first to provide that service in the county was Thomas Jefferson Thurston's daughter, Cordelia.[1]

Hulda Cordelia Thurston attended school until she was eleven years old. After moving to Morgan, she had the honor of doing the first school teaching in Weber Valley. She first taught some immigrants and their children to read and write the English language. This was done in her father's home until a log school with a dirt floor and willow roof, heated by a fireplace, was built in 1864. Hulda then taught twenty-five students in the log school. Most of the students were Scandinavian and were very attentive and learned quickly. Other

school teachers at Milton were Miss Hall, Sarah Mecham, Charlton Goldsberry, and Mrs. Parkinson.[2]

The first school instruction at Littleton took place in the LDS Tithing building adjacent to Deep Creek. Eli Whitear was the teacher. In 1862 Mrs. Anna Wood taught a small school in her home in Porterville during summer months. Joseph R. Porter taught in the winter months.

While the interest of Americans was focused on a general Union offensive in the great Civil War that ripped apart the nation, citizens of Morgan County were addressing the educational needs of their children.[3]

Even before the school districts were formally organized, simple log structures raised in communities throughout the county served as schools, meetinghouses for religious services, and social or political gatherings.

Characteristic of the multi-purpose community buildings constructed in the early days is the one described in the Porterville settlement: " . . . a log room was erected where meetings and school were held. The furniture was nothing elaborate—a fire place for warmth, and slabs with legs put in the rough side for seats—but it answered the purpose, and the children received a good start for an education."[4]

The school term in those early years usually extended no longer than the long winter months when children were freed from the necessary chores associated with planting, cultivating, and harvesting crops. Even after school sessions were lengthened, work assignments on the family farm took a higher priority than school attendance. Some of the first teachers boarded around at various family's homes in the settlement where they were teaching. They were often paid $45 per month. Families were charged a $2.50 fee for each of their children who attended, and students were required to provide their own learning materials as well.[5] Because most pioneer families were comparatively poor, those with large numbers of youngsters found sending their children to the neighborhood school a difficult, if not impossible, proposition. The tuition system of school finance was phased out by 1866 when each of the small districts began taxing real property to pay for construction, maintenance, and operational costs under provisions of a 1852 Territorial Legislature Act. By 1870 taxes

on land amounted to approximately five cents per acre.[6] As might be expected, taxes levied at a level rate on real estate generated revenues according to property value with those districts encompassing properties of greater value receiving proportionally higher revenues. The county commissioners attempted to alleviate the inequity to some degree by granting each district jurisdiction over railroad properties where practicable.[7] Nearly all monies raised for schools were expended for salaries of teachers who were usually expected to maintain their classroom buildings as well as provide instruction for the children.[8]

Typical of school schedules was the one posted for Stoddard School District for its 1893–94 term. The district journal indicates a first session was conducted between November 20 and February 16 followed by a second session which ran from February 19 through March 23. Olga Edholm was contracted to teach the three-month term for $90 while David Clawson (district board chairman) was paid $2.50 per month for house rent. Expenses were financed by a levy of .75 per cent on the property within the district.[9] Other teachers in Stoddard included J.T. Davis, Belva Slater, Charles Condie and Mrs. Molly Grisby. Alice Thurston taught music.

As settlements grew, so did the number of school districts within the county. In the two years following the organization of the county, the number of districts doubled to nine. By 1888 " . . . there were thirteen districts in Morgan County with three trustees in each district. The districts were Peterson, Mt. [Mountain] Green, Littleton, Milton, South Morgan, North Morgan, Richville, East Porterville, West Porterville, East [North] Round Valley, South Round Valley, and Croydon. Later there were schools at Stoddard and Devil's Slide."[10]

Charles Rich delighted in telling the trick some of the boys would play to get out of school. The boys would stuff gunny sacks down the chimney, causing the schoolroom to become so filled with smoke that students had to be dismissed. Students always enjoyed a yearly hike to Head Springs, located in Taggart Hollow. On the way they dug sego lily roots and picked squaw gum from squaw bushes. They took their lunch for this day-long activity. During recess time at school, the children played Danish Rounders or Old Duck if the weather was

good. In the wintertime, they played fox and geese and rode sleighs down the hill behind the school.

During the 1890–91 term, total enrollment of pupils in districts throughout the county was numbered at 611. Mary Chadwick noted that all of the teachers and the vast majority (542) of the students were of the Mormon faith. The curriculum was not uniform in all the schools and was undoubtedly dependent upon the talents and interests of the teachers. Certainly to be expected as basic to course offerings were reading, writing, spelling, English grammar and composition, geography, and United States history. A few teachers gave instruction in drawing, elocution, and music. As in most single-room schools throughout the nation, instructional patterns in Morgan County districts were based upon ability grouping rather than age. Learning groups were usually organized according to the level of reader the youngsters had mastered. As might be expected, thoughtful teachers engaged advanced pupils in tutorial activities with those who were less capable. Forde Dickson provided the following testimony of the value for multiple levels of students in the same classroom.

> I was promoted into first grade [after a primary year in Morgan], and about this time our school was held in Richville with eight grades in the one-room, red brick school house . . . It was a lot of fun going to school with the older kids, for as they read and wrote the arithmetic problems on the board, we would hear them read and do their arithmetic, and so seeing and hearing them do their lessons made it easy for us to also learn. In fact, I think we learned as much that way as we did in our own classes.[11]

An analysis of the 1891 county school budget administer by Superintendent Charles A. Welch reveals revenues of $6,165 received from local taxes, tuition and fees, and contributions from the territorial legislature. Expenditures included $372 for improvements; $482, current expense; $182, trustees' compensation; $96, janitorial wages; $2,472, teachers salaries which averaged $46 per month. The total value of school property was listed at $13,942.[12] Because some members of the community were unable to raise dollars to pay school taxes, they were permitted to contribute labor in an amount

commensurate with their tax liability.[13] The Stoddard school's ledger for 1903–04 provides insight into the annual financial activity of the county's small independent districts. It shows receipts from three sources: county taxation, $115.71; state taxation, $126; and special taxes, $233.40.[14]

According to 1899 enrollment figures, nearly four-fifths of the eligible children in the county were enumerated on school rosters while an average of slightly more than half attended regularly.[15] By the turn of the century, the nation's annual per-pupil education cost was $16.67, and the average salary for public educators (including classroom teachers, principals, supervisors, and other non-supervisory instructional staff) was $325. The 1899 publication of John Dewey's book, *School and Society*[16] sparked the onset of the progressive education movement which was to influence American schools for most of the next century. The new school of liberal progressives placed a higher value on students' social progress than on their academic achievement with chronological age the criterion for school promotion rather than intellectual competence.

In addition to Philemon C. Merrill, among those who served the county as superintendents or commissioners of public schools during the years before consolidation (1908) were J. P. Porter, T.R.G. Welch, John K. Hall, H. Mason, J. Stevenson, Alonzo Francis, Charles A. Welch, Alva Porter, Thomas R. Condie, Emily Bohman, M. Croft, and Rachel C. Farley.

Consolidation

As Morgan County moved into the twentieth century, its citizens were called upon to address issues related to the organization of their schools. Each issue was characterized by economic, social, and political dimensions. The central theme of each problem was quality education for the children of the communities.

The first organizational issue was consolidation of the county's independent school districts into a single county-wide system. Although operation of the independent community districts was under the general supervision of the county superintendent, each district was an autonomous unit with decision-making authority vested in a board composed of persons from the immediate community.

Consolidation mandated that those autonomous units should be dissolved, and the policy-making powers shifted to a single administrative unit. From an economic perspective, the action was intended to reduce administrative costs and treat each precinct equally financially. An additional advantage could be preserved if the newly consolidated district continued to operate neighborhood schools at no social cost or loss of community identity to residents of each attendance area. However, if the new administration chose to cease operation of some schools, those neighborhoods could be forced to undergo a degree of social charge to compensate for the loss of one of their vital social institutions which was a disadvantage. The third dimension of the issue was political power. Each neighborhood district held the political authority to make policy decisions related to its school under state-established guidelines, supervised by the county superintendent. Consolidation would reduce the number of positions on school boards from thirty-nine to five; some residents of voting precincts stood to see their representation reduced from nine or twelve board members to a single one. Citizens often viewed such loss of participation and representation as an attack upon democratic principles of local control.

By the time Utah's State Superintendent of Public Instruction, A.C. Nelson, presented the subject of consolidation to the Morgan County commissioners, a sentiment existed among many residents to resist loss of control of their schools. In an 13 April 1908, meeting with the commissioners, Superintendent Nelson outlined the advantages of dissolving the small districts in favor of a single administrative structure for the entire county. He cautioned the board about the gravity of their decision and advised them to carefully weigh their circumstances before a choice was made; they should make no move to consolidate unless they were thoroughly convinced of its merits.

A related issue at the same meeting compounded the dilemma. A petition was presented to close Mountain Green school because of insufficient enrollment and to unite that district with Peterson District. Although action proposed by the petition was granted, it was received with such stiff opposition by Mountain Green residents that their district was restored a short time later.

The dispute spawned considerable debate throughout the county,

but as discussions continued, the prospect of consolidation gained wide favor. Commissioners decided at a special meeting 21 September 1908, that the proposal had enough merit to warrant a pubic referendum to settle the issue, and they called for a consolidation resolution to appear on the ballot at the upcoming general election. At the November 9 meeting, commissioners canvassed the ballots and adopted the following resolution:

> Whereas the question as to whether the School Districts of this County should be consolidated, and the entire county created into a county school district, was submitted to the voters of the county at the general election held on the 3rd of November this year, and whereas a great majority of the legal and registered voters of the county voted in the affirmative on said question and whereas the Board deems it for the best interest of the children and schools of this county that such county school district be created—Now therefore, be it resolved that all school districts of this county be and they are hereby consolidated into one school district, to be known as the Morgan County School District, and such Morgan County School District is hereby created.[17]

Additional provisions in the resolution adopted, included maintaining the Peterson, Milton, Canyon Creek, Morgan, and Croydon precincts as representatives within the new school administrative structure. Victor R. Bohman, James Johanson, Joseph Durrant, H.B. Fry, and Thomas Condie were appointed members of the County Board of Education with annual salaries of $50 each. The last provision adopted by the commissioners required that properties (including all records) belonging to the dissolved districts be conveyed to the Morgan County Board of Education by the 30th of December.[18] Unfortunately for future historians, few of the old district records were transferred to the custody of the new district board.

During their first meeting on 17 December 1908, the board was formally organized with Joseph Durrant elected to serve as president; Thomas Condie, vice president; H.B. Fry, treasurer; and V. R. Bohman as clerk.[19] At the November 1908 general election, Annie S. Dickson was elected by the citizens as the first superintendent of the consolidated district. The consolidation referendum did not require

8th grade graduating class, 1905. Photo taken in front of the Morgan Hotel.

the centralization of the county's schools, which took place later in 1936.

Morgan Stake Academy

By the close of the nineteenth century, the only secondary schools in the state were located in Salt Lake City and Ogden. High schools in those two cities collectively served more than 1,500 students at the turn of the century. While the need for advanced study was recognized among Morgan County residents, no mechanism existed for the organization of a county-wide high school, and the small local districts lacked the resources and student numbers to warrant such schools. LDS Church (Mormon) officials in the Morgan Stake advanced the notion of opening an academy to provide post-elementary education for older students throughout the county.

Morgan Stake Academy opened for enrollment on 3 December 1888, with Albert N. Tollestrup acting as its first principal. The academy was first housed in the upper room of the county courthouse, but as enrollment increased, it was expanded into South Morgan

School building. In addition to theology courses (New Testament and Book of Mormon), the curriculum consisted of instruction in arithmetic, bookkeeping, composition, geography, grammar, United States history, music, orthography [spelling], penmanship, physiology, and reading.[20]

The motivating principle in the foregoing preface to one of America's first public education statutes, commonly known as Massachusetts' 1647 "old deluder Satan" law, established mankind's eternal salvation as a high priority for schools:

> It being one chiefe project of ye ould deluder, Satan, to keepe men from the knowledge of ye Scriptures, as in formr times by keeping ym in an unknowne tongue, so in these lattr times by perswading from ye use of tongues, yt so at least ye true sense & meaning ofye originall might be clouded by false glosses of saint seeming deceivers, yt learning may not be buried in ye grave of or fathrs in ye church and commonwealth, the Lord assisting or endeavors . . . [21]

Similarly, ecclesiastical leaders in Morgan County were concerned that Latter-day Saint youth not only have the reading skills requisite to scripture study, but they desired to provide also for continuous, direct instruction in texts which provided a foundation for their religious beliefs. They saw in the Academy an effective vehicle to assist their followers to achieve that end and the ultimate objective of eternal life.

As was common to educational theory of the period, the Academy's curriculum and instructional strategies aimed at building positive habits as a means of correcting the assumed bad/active nature of human beings. Chastity, honor, integrity, love, and truthfulness were among those habits emphasized through rules published by Morgan Stake's Church Board of Education on 9 January 1889:

> 1. The use of tobacco and liquors is prohibited amongst the students of the Academy.
>
> 2. All students should attend at least one Sacramental meeting each Sunday.
>
> 3. Students should be at home by 9 o'clock every night except Sunday night, and by 10 o'clock on that night.
>
> 4. Students of the Academy will be given the privilege of

attending four dances each term, two of which will be given in the school by the Board of Education.[22]

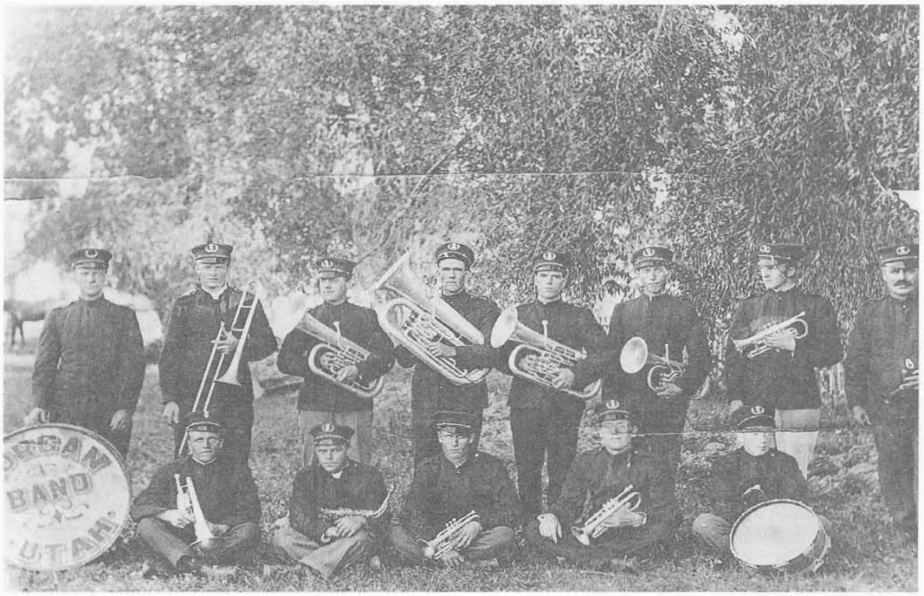
Students and teachers were invited to participate in social parties in the homes of parents. Monthly dance parties conducted at the Academy encouraged students to be on their best behavior; only those who exhibited the best moral character were allowed to attend. Church standards were to be observed at each event which was commenced with prayer. School discipline was managed via an honor system which expected students to behave according to the sacredness of their personal honor. The Academy's Polysophical Society, a literary organization, sponsored debates, lectures, musical recitals, and dramatic readings to which the public was invited.

During the Academy's second year of operation, it functioned in part as a normal school whose role included training teachers. Principal Tollestrup provided the normal training for four students participating in a Teachers' Institute program directed by Dr. Karl G. Maeser and Dr. Joseph M. Tanner who made frequent visits to the school. Teachers-in-training assisted the principal in administrative duties and taught two classes per day.[23]

The Academy outgrew its space in the county courthouse and was moved into the public school located in South Morgan where it continued to meet the secondary education needs of the community until a public high school was built. Since the district had not yet organized a public high school, the board agreed to the arrangement: " . . . At the School Board meeting held 10 May 1909, President Alonzo Francis and William Rich, representing the Stake Presidency and the High Council requested the use of two rooms in the South Morgan School House for the purpose of running an Academy. The request was granted."[24]

Public Education Continues

The Utah legislature was concerned about quality and efficiency of schools throughout the state and directed its Morgan County representative, Joseph R. Porter, to express the legislature's sentiments to the local school board. It was noted that Morgan County was one of only two counties in the state whose superintendent was not certified with at least a high school endorsement.[25] Financial problems which



Morgan Utah Band, 4 July 1911.

had plagued the district through the years continued, and in 1910 an eight mill property tax generated $12,350 which left the school budget with a $3,290 deficit at the beginning of the 1910–11 school year. Cement plant Superintendent A.F. Krabbe urged the board to improve what he considered sub-standard non-graded instruction at Devil's Slide school; subsequently, the plant provided funds to hire a second teacher to upgrade the school's effectiveness.[26]

In 1911 the board approved salaries for fifteen teachers ranging from $60–85 per month. Present day attention to gender equity issues would have raised protest as female teachers were paid $60-$70 while their male counterparts received $75-$85.[27] Shortly after Superintendent Dickson informed the board that the state superintendent's office had authorized Morgan County District authority to grant high school credit to those who completed the ninth grade course of study, Henry B. Fry volunteered to offer a high school curriculum for $1,000 per year. Upon estimating that 15–20 students would probably enroll, the board accepted Fry's offer, and high school classes were scheduled to begin on 18 September 1911, in the South Morgan school building.[28]

The 1911–12 term operated under new leadership after former board member Victor R. Bohman replaced Annie S. Dickson as county superintendent. In his mid-year report to the board, Bohman voiced a continued concern about attendance, which was as low as only two-thirds of those enrolled in one school.[29] By the end of the term, the number of school-age students had risen to 757.[30]

With increased enrollment in the high school course of study, Principal Fry urged the board to employ a part-time teacher to establish a domestic arts and science department. The high school operation was subsidized by $5 tuition fees for regular academic work and a charge of $2.50 for the new domestic arts and science classes. In 1913–14 the district purchased a sewing machine and flatiron. District patrons called for an expanded practical arts curriculum at the school with an emphasis on agriculture-related courses including animal husbandry, dairying, poultry raising, and farm mechanics. High school attendance gained popularity especially among those who lived in the immediate vicinity of Morgan City. Some students from other communities in the county boarded with city residents during week days, so they could attend high school classes. With increased enrollment and enthusiasm for high school classes, a movement arose to construct a high school building, and the decision was taken to the public in a special election on 10 June 1913, in which the voters, by 173–109, authorized the school board to issue bonds in the amount of $20,000 to construct a high school building.[31] The total cost of the completed building was approximately $25,000.

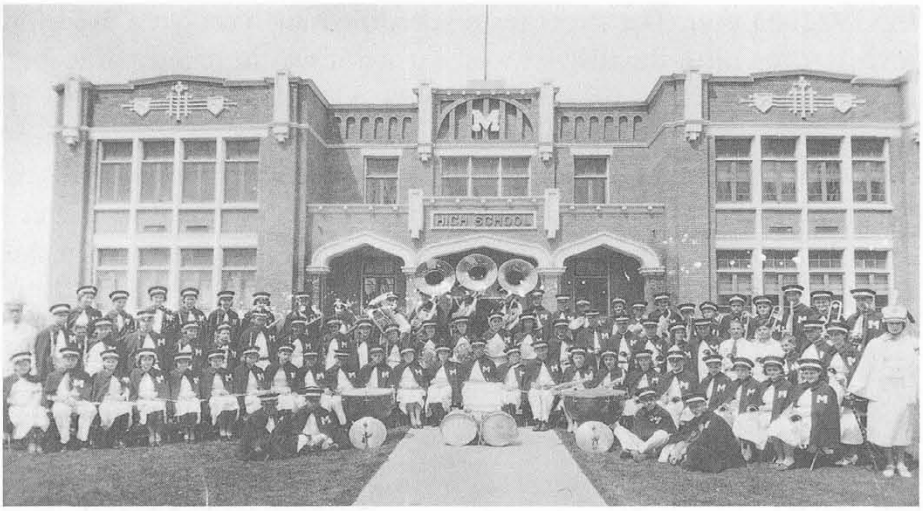
During the 1913–14 term, Principal Fry reported to the board that fifty-eight students were enrolled in the three-year high school course of study. The curriculum had been enlarged to provide instruction through a commercial course which had required the purchase of two typewriters. At the February 1914 board meeting, Fry proposed that the district consider the possibility of expanding the high school curriculum with a fourth-year program.

On 16 January 1915, Charles M. Croft resigned as superintendent to take a seat in the Utah state legislature. At the February board meeting, George A. Seamon was appointed to succeed Croft and occupied an office in the new high school building. The number of students continued to grow throughout the county, but perhaps not

so much as in Littleton where fifty-two youngsters were being crammed into the school wagon. In his March 1916 report to the board, Superintendent Seamon proposed that school populations warranted the establishment of junior high school classes in conjunction with high school courses of study. The board approved Seamon's recommendation. Junior high age students from Milton, Morgan, North Morgan, Richville, and Stoddard schools—those primarily affected by the new organization—were bussed to Morgan City.

Following the entry of the United States into World War I, a state of emergency was declared in Morgan County school district. Teacher contracts were cancelled with the temporary closure of the high school on 27 April 1917; teachers were awarded half their salaries for the remaining months of the year. On July 13, William Aplanalp was named superintendent of Morgan County district and directed his full attention to the schools. His annual salary of $1,200 included compensation for service as clerk of the district board. Following an inquiry to the state superintendent, the local board of education decided that schools in the county would be in session six days each week with junior and senior high classes in recess for a week in October to accommodate the harvest of agricultural crops. A petition from Milton school to operate on a five-day schedule was denied at the board's December meeting. In July 1918, the school board reverted back to a five-day week for the 1918–19 term with a proviso that the six-day calendar could be reintroduced at mid term if needed.

During late summer, the board met with Francis W. Kirkham, Utah Director of Vocational Educational Guidance, and I.B. Ball, the state's Director of Agriculture, to discuss the implications of the Smith-Hughes Act which had been passed by Congress on 23 February 1917. The act established a Federal Board for Vocational Education and provided for the federal government to make grants-in-aid, matched by individual state contributions, to promote instruction in agriculture and the trades. Monies awarded under that legislation were designated for training and salaries of instructors, supervisors, and directors of agriculture, home economics, and trade and industrial courses in the public schools. The board determined



Morgan High School Band, 1933, class "B" winners. Director J. L. Terry, far left, second row.

that qualification for a Smith-Hughes grant was in the best interest of the district's patrons and prepared to hire certified vocational teachers on a twelve-month contract preliminary to receiving the federal aid. Because vocational teachers assumed responsibilities to provide services throughout the community, an automobile was purchased with Smith-Hughes funds for travel to farms and ranches in the county. A portion of the grant was spent to acquire equipment used to teach nursing skills.

John G. Gubler was selected to become the new Morgan High School principal for the 1918–19 term. When district schools were in recess during November for a severe Spanish influenza epidemic, teachers who assisted health care providers during the flu outbreak were maintained by the district at full salary; those who did not participate in rendering aid were reduced to half-pay. Under Gubler's administration the organizations of the junior and senior high schools were combined as a money-saving strategy.[32] Gubler's year-end report enumerated 101 students enrolled in high school classes.

The first several years of the Roaring '20s found the county schools suffering financial difficulties. As a cost-saving measure, board members approved a shortened session of thirty-two weeks for

the 1922–23 year. The short term schedule may have been used for several years until the district was warned it was in danger of losing first class status if it did not extend its calendar to a minimum of thirty-five weeks.[33] In the midst of the financial turmoil, a new superintendent was hired to steer the course of the district for what was to become a career of more than twenty years. The mantle of the superintendency rested upon the able shoulders of J.R.Tippetts from the economically trying times of the 1920s and 1930s through much of the World War II period. Despite financial struggles in 1923, the public voted to bond for the construction of a new gymnasium and repair to other district buildings. The permissive attitude which held many Americans in its grip during the '20s had apparently made its influence felt among Morgan High students. Principal Joseph Mills made a plea for the school board to support resolving the problem of increased cigarette smoking by his students.

In a decision which would incur the wrath of the 1970s womens' liberationists and rankle the ire of numerous federal agencies, the 1927 county board adopted a teacher hiring policy based upon marital status. Unless no other teachers were available, no married women with husbands to support them were to be hired for the approaching year. Until the advent of unionism and salary schedules in the 1960s, the practice of offering employment and higher wages to heads of households was rather common, especially in small rural districts.

Superintendent Tippetts was an advocate of lifelong learning and petitioned the board to support an adult education program. He felt the district had an obligation to adults in the community as well as to young people. This brought about lecture series and exhibits to which the public was invited at no charge. In the 1930s, a decade later, approximately thirty adults were attending Wednesday and Saturday evening courses in farm mechanics and agriculture.[34]

Athletics

Among the first competitive high school sports to be organized was basketball. Forde Dickson's description of a 1918 trip to Summit County calls to mind the efforts of schools to reduce travel costs after the oil embargo of the early 1980s.

Morgan High School first football champion team, 1935.

. . . The teams in our division . . . were North Summit, Park City, and South Summit. We would catch the train early in the morning and arrive at Park City at 4:00 P.M. The reason we were so long on the trip was because the train would stop at all the roads to pick up milk . . .

After the basketball game, we went back to the hotel, where we stayed all night . . . Well, that next morning after we had eaten our breakfast, we were loaded into a bobsled and taken over the hill to Kamas . . . It was an extremely cold morning. The temperature was fifteen degrees below zero. So to keep the blood circulating, we would run part of the way . . .

At Kamas we were housed in the only hotel in town, where we had to dress for the game. After getting dressed, we ran across the road to the school house to play . . . After the game we ran back to the hotel, got our street clothes, and because there was no facility there for us to bathe or shower, we took our towel and ran down the back stairs of the hotel, rolled in the snow, then mopped ourselves off with our hands and ran back upstairs to finish the detail of dressing before attending the school dance . . .

> It might be interesting to tell something about the rules by which we played. The only fouls that a player could commit was "double tackle" and "slugging." One night when we played in Evanston, we persuaded a man "drummer" to go with us, for he had never seen a game of basketball. The next day he said, "I have seen men out in the dirt trying to kill each other, but I've never seen men try to do it on the hardwood floor before.[35]

It was nearly a decade after that basketball excursion to Park City and Kamas that Morgan High School sponsored a football team. Only after being pressured by local citizens and other schools in the region did the board finally agree to underwrite the costs of a football program.[36] The first games were played without protective padding on the football field located just west of the high school building.

Sports through the years have been a large part of Morgan schools activities, and participants have received support from the citizens. In the 1970s competitive athletic programs were implemented for the female students. Currently Morgan County schools sponsor teams in the following sports: boys' football, soccer, basketball, baseball, cross country and track, girls' basketball, volleyball, softball, cross country, and track and field events. Morgan county teams have won many region and state championships. A exibit in Morgan High School gymnasium displays all of these awards.

Education and The Depression Years

In 1932 the devastating effect of the depression prompted Morgan County teachers and district administrators to accept the board's recommendation of a ten per cent wage reduction and full year work schedule. A proposal to apply for federal aid through the Works Progress Administration for building construction under Presidents Roosevelt's New Deal programs failed to receive community support at the November election. This would have paid 70 per cent of the cost of a new elementary school building. Eighteen months later, the district petitioned the government for assistance under the Federal Emergency Relief Fund, which by then would only subsidize forty-five per cent of the cost with the local residents'

approval of bonding for the remainder. The issue was again put to a public vote and was approved. A tally showed a swing of popular support, and the proposal to bond for $127,500 carried by a 3:1 margin (297–104).[37] Following completion of the 1936 centrally located schools, Morgan County School District was recognized as Utah's first consolidated/centralized district, even though nearly a decade would pass before the closure of Devil's Slide school in March 1945. At their 10 March 1945, meeting, the school board received a report that the Devil's Slide school heating system had rusted beyond repair. Board members declared that the school was to be closed and that the few remaining pupils were to be transferred to the central elementary school in Morgan City. That action completed the consolidation process, and all Morgan district's pupils then received instruction in Morgan City.[38] Popular unsubstantiated rumors in circulation at the time suggested that the Devil's Slide boiler had been sabotaged to force permanent evacuation of the building.

By 1940 the population of school-age children (6–18) in Morgan County had risen to 701, and the nation was on the brink of a second world war. As World War II drew manpower from the county, schools were called upon to help cope with the farm labor shortage. High school classes were shortened by twenty-five per cent, permitting young men to return home an hour and a half earlier each day to help with farm work. Near the end of the war, the federal government subsidized a community canning center to be opened by the school district. The facility was used to can fruits and vegetables for use in the schools' hot lunch program. The canning center was also available for public use if people furnished their own produce and paid for the cans, etc.[39]

In 1943 Louis W. Christensen was selected to replace superintendent J.R.Tippetts. During the war years, the board experienced some difficulty hiring fully qualified teachers to provide instruction in the district's school system. The same problem seemed to exist in districts throughout the state. Some instructors were employed on special permit with the stipulation that they participate in an extension course during the 1944–45 term. Upon request from Superintendent

Christensen, the board allocated $100 to help defray the cost of the course.[40]

In a 1949 bond election, district patrons supported an issue to generate revenues to expand the elementary school building by adding a new lunch room and kitchen as well as band and art rooms for use by the high school. The proposal carried by a count of 295 for and 62 against.[41]

An organizational change in 1956 provided for the operation of a summer kindergarten. Two sections of pupils were enrolled in the six-week session; those who required bus transportation attended morning session while those within walking distance attended afternoon session. Three years later, the program was expanded with the addition of a second kindergarten teacher and a remedial reading specialist hired to assist those pupils reading below their grade level.[42]

In 1958 the district initiated a massive needs assessment project to determine the infrastructure required to facilitate projected school operations for the next three decades. A central planning committee composed of representatives from community and civic organizations determined the building space and design was inadequate to accommodate the requirements of a modern educational program. Following lengthy deliberations over reports, the planning group concluded that a secondary school should be constructed to house a minimum of 500 students and that the building should include a gymnasium as well as an auditorium to seat at least 1000 persons.[43] With approval of the voters, a new high school was slated for construction, and the contract was awarded to Saunders Construction Company for $999,990.[44]

Following the retirement of Superintendent Christensen, J. Lloyd Eldredge was named his successor on 1 July 1971. Eldredge remained at the helm only one year and was replaced by long time district employee and high school principal, Raymond P. Larson. In 1975 Jay B. Taggart, assistant superintendent of Weber County School District, was employed to succeed Larson as Morgan County's chief school administrator. As school enrollment continued to increase, a need for more space became apparent. A major concern at that time related to housing junior high age students in the same environment with senior high students. Heeding national discussion of middle school

development, Morgan County board resolved to evaluate reforms such as methods of solving impending enrollment problems. In October 1976, constructing a new elementary building and converting the 1936 elementary school to accommodate a middle school system were underway. The summer of 1976 was devoted to fine-tuning the expansion and reorganization plans. The district was to operate three schools: an elementary school with grades K-4; a middle school, grades 5–8; and a 9–12 grade high school. At the October 15 board meeting, the construction contract was awarded to Salt Lake City's Tekton Company for $1,132,400.

The middle school began operation in 1978 and has since proven to be a prototype model for the state and nation. Under the direction of Principal Jerry Peterson, students were organized into two instructional configurations. To accommodate students recently arriving from the self-contained classrooms of the elementary school, a nurturing environment was provided for fifth and sixth graders by placing them in a similar situation at the middle school. In a fashion similar to the well-tried core homerooms of the traditional junior high school, first and second year students were instructed by their teachers in basic course work during morning sessions before being separated into specialty groups for the remainder of the day. Under this system, students experienced a degree of security in their relationships with the teachers assigned to them, and they also had the opportunity to be taught by others who comprised the grade level team, as preparation for the largely departmentalized instruction they would receive in grades seven and eight. The curriculum covered a broad spectrum of humanities, fine arts, social and physical sciences as well as practical arts and physical education. The school board made an early decision to exclude interscholastic sports and competition from middle school activities. The new middle school plan seemed to be effective, and for several years the principal and faculty were invited to address groups throughout the nation on the merits of the Morgan model.

During the past five years, two bond issues have been brought to the public for approval. The first, for construction of an elementary building on school-owned property located in Mountain Green, was defeated. Enough voters were concerned about what they viewed as

"de-consolidation" to block the proposal. The second bond issue involved erection of a new middle school on the site of the 1936 elementary school campus and was approved by an equally narrow margin. The 1936 elementary school building was demolished to make room for the new school. The new Morgan Middle School was equipped and ready for occupancy one week after the opening date of the 1994–95 year.

Since Superintendent Taggart's departure from the district in 1982 to assume the superintendency of the Weber County schools and later Utah's State Superintendent of Public Instruction, three men have served as county superintendent. Dr. Roy L. Rummler held the post between October 1982 and June 1985. During Rummler's administration the first modular classrooms appeared at the elementary school. The decision to use modular classrooms was made after lengthy debate concerning the alternative of more efficient building use through year-around scheduling. In 1985 Dr. Joseph K. Ball began a four-year term in the superintendent's office. His administration was highlighted by the introduction of innovative instructional strategies based upon current learning research. In 1989 Dr. J. Dale Christensen occupied the superintendent's chair as the district's leading educational professional. The major project of his administration has been the design and construction of the new middle school. Much of this five million dollar project was under the direction of Business Administrator Bruce Williams. In 1997 Ron Wolf was appointed superintendent of the district.

For nearly a century and a half, the Morgan education system has served its constituency well. While some of the opportunities commonly found in larger urban districts have not been readily available to Morgan students, the tradeoffs for small class sizes and the personal interest of dedicated instructors have proven invaluable. Morgan County students have consistently scored at or above national norms on standardized tests. The high school has graduated its share of Sterling Scholars, service academy appointees, and university scholarship recipients. Its students have competed well in academic and athletic competitions against individuals and teams from much larger schools.

While students, teachers, and administrators often receive pub-

lic recognition for their accomplishments, patrons of Morgan County School District can take satisfaction in knowing they were the people who made those accomplishments possible through their financial and moral support.

Through rapid advances in technology, the future education in Morgan County has potentially unlimited educational opportunity for all community members. The Internet has put the universe and the accumulated knowledge of humankind at the doorstep of each classroom. The possibilities are well beyond the wildest dreams and most fertile imaginations of those pioneers who, in 1862, congregated in a tiny log structure to organize the destiny of the county's schools.

Technology in Morgan Schools

During the past ten years, technology has made an impact on the school system in Morgan. Television became an important part of classroom instruction at the middle school. Students could actually produce their own video tapes in the studio using equipment provided by the local cable company and the school district. Students were also involved in developing morning news casts.

With the introduction of personal computers, Morgan Middle School became one of the first schools in the state to have a computer in every classroom. The school district, with a grant from Apple Computer Company, provided a computer for every teacher to have in his or her home. In order to receive a computer, Apple required sixty hours of in-service instruction. All teachers in the school district participated in the program.

As technology developed, it has been incorporated into the school under the direction of Director Dale Porter. Many class rooms have mini-labs, and each school has writing and research labs. During the summer of 1995, all buildings in the district were connected (networked) with fiber optic cable. This provides for software sharing between schools, reducing the cost of duplicating software for each facility. Students are able to access information using CD ROMs, the Internet, electronic encyclopedias, and printed material. Today's information center (Media Center) is a hive of activity.

Utah Medical College

Incredible as it may seem, Morgan County was once the site of a medical arts college. Legal papers of incorporation for the Utah Medical College were officially drawn and filed on 31 January 1880. The documents named Wyman Parker, a Mormon bishop, as president of the college with Anthony Peterson, a bishop's counselor, and James M. Mason as secretary of the corporation. Superintendent of the college was Dr. Frederick S. Kohler who had moved from Ohio to establish a medical practice in the county the previous year. He appears to have been the first *bone fide* graduate physician to settle in the valley. A passage from *Mountains Conquered* offers a brief description of Kohler's services as a general practitioner.

> Dr. Kohler did all kinds of medical work including extraction of teeth, delivering babies, setting broken bones, treating all diseases, compounding medicines, and preparing dead bodies for burial. He rode horseback to see his patients or was called for by buggy or wagon in an emergency, and returned home again after the trouble was over. His charge for confinement [delivery of babies] was $5, often paid in wheat, potatoes, chickens, or whatever the farmer had.[45]

Members of Utah Medical College faculty included Dr. Kohler, his son, Dr. Benjamin R. Kohler, S.W. Howard, and Emeline Grover Rich. The curriculum as described in *Mountains Conquered* was limited to first aid training, the delivery and care of babies, and the treatment of post partum mothers.

> The course offered was general medical practice with emphasis on midwifery and home nursing. The first course began March 10, 1880 and ended in November the same year. This was followed by a second course ending in the spring of 1881. After the course was completed these students went to Salt Lake City, where an examining board of seven doctors gave the final examination. Those passing were given diplomas making them certified midwives.[46]

The audacity of Dr. Kohler to consider such an endeavor in the remote environs of Morgan County must have raised the ire of the established medical community in Salt Lake City. It certainly caught the attention of the print media in the capital city: "*The Salt Lake*

Herald was very much opposed to Dr. Kohler's Medical College and wrote many articles criticizing it. It closed after two years of operation."[47]

Medical care was of great concern to those who ventured to settle in regions far from the services available in growing cities. While Dr. Kohler's enterprise was short lived, its influence was felt for the next several decades. At least one graduate of the college remained in the county and provided medical assistance during smallpox and diphtheria epidemics which raged through the county. After helplessly watching two young daughters die during the 1880 diphtheria outbreak, Hulda Cordelia Thurston Smith studied with Dr. Kohler and was licensed to practice medicine. For a number of years, Smith was the only licensed practitioner in the county.

Morgan School District Transportation

Transporting school children to their neighborhood schools was accomplished when the school board established eleven pick-up routes manned by teamsters who contracted their wagons to the district for $20-$30 per month. During the cold winter months, the canvas-covered wagons were carpeted with straw for the youngsters to snuggle under while a small stove bolted to the floor puffed wood smoke through its chimney pipe. Present-day patrons cringe at the vision of unruly children in a wagon-box with a stove surrounded with combustible straw as the vehicle was pulled by a team of horses over the rough, unpaved roads of the county.[48] Gratefully, there are no reports of serious misfortune other than occasional frost-bitten noses and toes beleaguering the cargoes of those early school busses. As he reminisced about his primary school years, Forde Dickson provided insight into school experience in the early 1900s.

> I started school my first year in Morgan. It was at this time that there was talk of consolidating the schools. The school house that I would be going to was located just north of the courthouse in Morgan City.. . We were hauled to Morgan (from Richville) in sort of a wagon box with seats along the sides. The top was fashioned something like a sheep camp with narrow boards shaped like a U and fastened through metal into the side of the wagon box. A canvas cover was stretched over the bows to protect us from the

> weather. During the winter when the roads were covered with snow, the box was built so that it could be put onto a bobsled . . . [D]uring the wet weather the roads became terribly muddy. With no gravel on them the ruts got really deep, and it took the horses a long time to make the trip. As I remember we were on the road nearly two hours to go the three and a half miles.
>
> . . . There were about thirty of us in two grades. I didn't learn much that first year, only how to swear and I believe very proficient. Our school was out at 2:00 and we had to wait around until 4:00 for the school wagon to take us home. While waiting around for two hours to go home I learned lots of naughty things when there was nothing to do. I don't know why we all called the school wagon "The Gut Wagon," but we did.[49]

Some time later, the district purchased a light-weight wagon to carry the children that was balanced on springs and had seats along both sides. The wagon had previously been used to transport a band.

The 1920s witnessed the demise of the school wagon as the vehicle of choice for transporting children to and from school. In 1923 the district purchased two one and one-half ton International trucks to be outfitted for that purpose. An unfortunate bus accident three years later resulted in the death of student Berlie Voss.[50] Another fatal accident took the life of M.T. Winsor in 1929. A coroner's jury found that the mishap was unavoidable and consequently exonerated the bus driver.[51]

By 1924 the school district owned one Dodge and three International busses. All four busses were four-cylindered and equipped with a governor to keep their speed under eighteen mph. The Dodge was equipped with a starter; the others were started with a crank. Joseph Rees was in charge of the first fleet for two years. Jim Compton, one of the drivers, took over the position held by Rees. Compton drove a bus along with maintaining the fleet of buses, doing the repair work in his back yard.

> At this time there was no anti-freeze, just water in the radiators. In the winter they would have to drain the radiator each night and refill it in the morning. Mr. Compton recalls one night it got down to 40 degrees below zero. It took an hour and a half to start the bus. He was staying at the Crouch ranch at the time and he would

Jim Compton, who drove one bus and maintained the bus fleet, poses with Morgan County's first school busses in 1926.

> cover the radiator until he got down to Croydon, and then uncover it. But by being careful, they never cracked a radiator. Also at this time the roads were all dirt and gravel, and in the winter the snow was never pushed off. So driving one of these buses was a real challenge.[52]

Originally there were four bus routes in the county: Porterville-Richville, Peterson-Mountain Green, Croydon-Devil's Slide, and Milton-Stoddard. From 1929 to 1932, Albert Dewey Taggart was in charge of the fleet, followed by Roy Maxwell. In 1946 six busses transported about 350 students. At that time Albert (Bert) Carrigan became transportation supervisor, a position he held for thirty-three years until 1979. Carrigan made all repairs on the busses, including body work, seat repairs, glass work, and engine overhauls. Richard (Dick) Randall was employed as a driver in 1945 and took over as supervisor when Carrigan retired. Randall held this position until 1987 when Burton Lewis was promoted from assistant supervisor to supervisor.

In 1980 Morgan School District operated twelve busses, each holding from sixty to seventy-two students. Eleven drivers made

White-washing the "M" the first time, 1915—Victor Nelson, Delmar Dickson, Earnest Hamilton, and Elbern Dickson.

forty-five runs a day, carrying about one thousand students approximately eleven-hundred miles a day.[53] The school transportation department is a very important part of the school system. Morgan County school transportation equipment has always been kept in excellent condition. The 1931 issue of the Morgan High School yearbook Utopian states, "Of the essential divisions for a successful high school year, our bus drivers rank foremost." The bus drivers have experienced many humorous incidents through the years. They have also made some good memories for the many students who have traveled in their care and developed friendships that have lasted through the years.

Creating a Landmark

Superintendent H. B. Fry suggested placing a large block M on the hill southeast of the newly built Morgan High School as a landmark recognition of the school. With the help of Dasil Smith, a school teacher who did the engineering, the graduating class of 1915–16, girls and boys, all hiked to the site on the hill where they

removed the brush and dug a trench in the shape of a block M. They then filled the trench with rocks. John Compton who participated in the construction of the M related that, "The 'M' must have been built in the spring as water from a snow drift in Fry Hollow [to the east of the M] was melted to mix with the calcimine which was used as whitewash. . . . Weeds grew between the rocks. It was also difficult to paint and maintain as livestock grazed in the area and would misplace the stones."[54]

Students hiked to the M once a year to replace the rocks and paint the letter. In 1920 male students started to cement the letter. Cementing was done in sections, one section a year until completed in 1953. Horses and students packed twenty-five pound sacks of gravel to the site. The young men spent two days working on the M, one day to do the cement work and the next day to whitewash the finished work and remaining rocks. M Day became a tradition when one day each year senior boys had the honor of traveling to the M to do maintenance work. On graduation night, the M is illuminated with burning pots of fuel and can be seen throughout the valley. The M is a local landmark and a beacon to returning travelers.

School Lunch Program

The present school lunch program is the product of the ingenuity of mothers facing challenges. In 1933 six community schools in the county located at Peterson, Milton, North Morgan, South Morgan, Porterville and Richville housed grades one through seven in which students brought lunch from home. Most lunches consisted of a sandwich. During the depression years, some children got far too little to eat at home. Ada Phillips, a Porterville resident, and Mary B. Nelson, a resident of Milton, are credited with implementing the first lunch programs. Phillips and Nelson decided it would be nice for the students to have a bowl of hot soup to go with their sandwich. Other mothers were enlisted to serve the soup to the children. Children brought their own bowls and spoons, and families donated what ingredients they could spare. Mothers living closest to the school prepared the soup and took it to the school at lunch time.

With the help of PTA president Sophia Heiner Anderson, a hot bowl of soup was served to parents one night as a sample of what the

mothers wanted to serve to school students in the precincts. Parents approved the soup program. Porterville and Milton were the first schools in the county to serve hot soup. None of the schools were equipped to prepare or serve lunch, so cooks had to improvise.

> It was reported to the board by the superintendent that a unit of the CWA [Civilian Work Administration] lunch service had been going for two weeks past at the Porterville school in cooperation and under the direction of the local CWA committee as an experiment. It was reported as highly satisfactory and the request was now being made to extend the service to all schools of the district with the exception of the Slide and high School. After an explanation of some of the details of finance and management the board accepted the arrangement to extend the service.[55]

> Mr. Shaw reported that pressure was coming to him for hot lunch during school hours for grade school children and that he understood a movement representative of the whole district was underway. The Board expressed a sentiment that until proper supervision and equipment could be provided it would be unwise to assume such expense and responsibility.[56]

By 1935 parents were ready for a lunch program in all precincts; however, the program was not fully approved and implemented until November of that year.

> Mr. Tippetts reported that the State Relief Organization through their local office were planning to serve a hot dish at lunch time for the school children of the District beginning on the first of November providing the district with the teachers and parents would cooperate. The board members expressed themselves as being willing to cooperate.[57]

Legislation in 1935 authorized the Department of Agriculture to purchase surplus farm commodities and distribute them to the school lunch program. Products delivered to the schools included canned meat, butter, powder milk, cheese, and canned fruit. Other food items were purchased from local stores.

When the 1936 elementary school building was completed, it was equipped with a kitchen and lunch room on the second floor.[58] The first school lunch supervisor was Carma Francis Newbold. A cannery

was built with WPA funds in 1944. Lunch room employees and others employed by the school district canned vegetables for the lunch program.[59] The National School Lunch Act was legislated in 1946, permanently authorizing school lunches. In 1950 a new lunch room was added to the elementary school. All students, including high school students, ate at the elementary building lunch area. Today all three schools in Morgan district are equipped with a modern kitchen and eating area. One supervisor directs the district program, and each school has a lunch manager.

Those individuals who have been employed as school lunch supervisors are Carma Francis Newbold, Mary Giles Whittier, Evelyn Mortenson, Eliza Halls, Florence Spendlove Carter, Marjorie Rawlins Rose, Joyce Weaver and Alice Preece. Through the years, many dedicated, friendly school lunch ladies have prepared more meals than anyone would want to count. Currently sixteen employees in the district prepare and serve lunch to Morgan students.[60] The first bowls of soup cost three cents each. Current cost for school lunch at the high school is $1.25, middle school 1.15, elementary school $1.00, and the charge to adults is $1.85.

ENDNOTES

1. Mary Chadwick, *Pioneering Morgan County* (Morgan: Morgan County News, 1947), 27.

2. Hulda Cordelia Thurston Smith, A Sketch of the Life of Thomas Jefferson Thurston, 5, on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

3. Morgan County Historical Society, *Morgan County School Buildings*, (Salt Lake City: Publishers Press, 1989), 5.

4. Mary Chadwick, History of the Early Settlement and Later Development of Morgan County, Utah, compiled by Daughters of Utah Pioneers, South Morgan Camp, October 1930.

5. Annie Smith Dickson, *Sketch of the Life of Annie Smith Dickson* (Morgan: Morgan County News, 1962), 23.

6. Ibid., 24.

7. Morgan County Historical Society, *Morgan County School Buildings,* 26.

8. All references to monetary amounts are reported in current dollars. None of the financial information has been converted to constant dollars to compensate for the fluctuation of the dollar's value over the course of time.

9. Stoddard School District Journal, 1893-1908, Handwritten document in possession of Jake Pentz family, Morgan.

10. Annie Smith Dickson, 4. Dickson stated that thirteen districts existed, but only twelve are identified by name.

11. Forde Dickson, The Life and Works of Forde Dickson, n.p. 40.

12. Chadwick, *Pioneering Morgan County*, 27-28.

13. Stoddard School Journal, December 20, 1894.

14. Ibid.

15. Chadwick, *Pioneering Morgan County*, 28.

16. John Dewey, *The School and Society,* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1899), *

17. Chadwick, *Pioneering Morgan County,* 28.

18. Ibid.

19. Morgan County Historical Society, *Morgan County School Buildings,* 6.

20. Chadwick, *Pioneering Morgan County,* 74.

21. Massachusetts School Law of 1647, Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, 2:203.

22. Chadwick, *History of the Early Settlement*, 76-77.

23. Ibid., 75.

24. Morgan County School District Board of Education Minutes, 10 May 1909, on file in Morgan County School District superintendent's office, n.p.

25. Board of Education Minutes, 1909, 34.

26. Raymond Wiscombe, "One Hundred Years of Education in the Morgan County School District," Unpublished master of science thesis, University of Utah Department of Educational Administration, August 1966, 74-75.

27. Board of Education Minutes, 11 March 1911.

28. Wiscombe, 76-77.

29. Board of Education Minutes, 13 January 1912.

30. Ibid., June 1912.

31. Wiscombe, 78-79

32. Board of Education Minutes, January 1919.

33. Ibid., March 1928.

34. Wiscombe, 88, 96.

35. Dickson, 43-45.

36. Wiscombe, 88-89.

37. Board of Education Minutes, October 1935.

38. Ibid., 10 March, 1945.

39. Wiscombe, 98-99.

40. Ibid.

41. Wiscombe, 100.

42. Board of Education Minutes, April 1959.

43. Ibid., 28 July 1958.

44. Ibid., 19 May, 1964.

45. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered* (Morgan County: Morgan County News, 1959), 126.

46. Ibid., 125.

47. Ibid., 125-126.

48. Ibid., 88.

49. Dickson, 39-40.

50. Board of Education Minutes, October 1926.

51. Ibid., 8 December 1929.

52. *Morgan County News*, 22 August, 1980.

53. Ibid.

54. John Compton, interview by Linda H. Smith, June 1986, on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

55. Morgan School District Minutes, 10 February 1934.

56. Ibid., 8 June 1935.

57. Ibid., 14 September 1935.

58. Morgan County Historical Society, *Morgan County School Buildings*, 75.

59. Ibid., 136-138.

60. Morgan County School District Office files. Information received from Pat Peterson, 20 July 1995.

CHAPTER 10

PUBLIC HEALTH

Since their arrival in 1847, health care had been a major concern for early Utah settlers. Medical science was in its infancy. A common practice in the world of medicine was to bleed a person to rid him of impure blood believed to cause disease; however, this treatment was often much worse for the patient than the illness, and the practice wasn't commonly used by the Utah pioneers.

In 1849 Mormon doctors formed a Council of Health to promote botanic medicine, and the region was searched for native medical plants. In the early years of Morgan's settlement, home remedies made up the major medical practices of the day. Brigham Young advised LDS members to "know their own systems, understand the diseases of their country, understand medicine and [he continued] they ought to treat themselves and their neighbors in that way . . ."[1] He also counseled members, "when your children are sick, instead of calling for a doctor, you should administer to them by laying on of hands and anointing with oil, and give them mild food, and herbs and medicines that you understand."[2]

For the early pioneers who had faced many hardships crossing

A.W. Francis General Merchandise, Dr. Marsteller dentist office and the Mint Saloon. Dr. Pugmire's office is on the second floor of the Francis store.

the plains, death had been a constant companion whether they traveled by wagons or hand carts. It has been estimated that more than 6000 died on the journey to Utah. Even after the pioneers settled in the territory, illness and death continued to take its toll. Olof and Mary Rose, residents of Richville had two sons, a five year old and a two-year old, die within thirteen days of each other while crossing the plains. After the Rose family arrived in Utah and settled in Morgan County, they buried three more children, victims of diphtheria. Circumstances like this were not uncommon to early settlers.

Journals and early histories indicate that all settlements within the county were fortunate to have at least one resident to assist them with medical needs. Even though these people were not professionally trained and certified, they alleviated much pain and suffering and helped deliver uncounted numbers of babies.

In South Morgan, early resident Robert Hogg was called upon to set broken bones.[3] His wife, Janet, often assisted in nursing the sick.[4] Ann Richardson Chapen, a midwife of Monday Town in 1862

extended care to the sick and delivered many babies.[5] Sarah Jane Green cared for the residents of Enterprise.

Croydon was fortunate to have several residents who could care for their medical needs. Fanny Swan, Helen Thackeray, Jemima Toone, Margaret Emily Hardy Toone, Mrs. Mortenson, and Mrs. Blackwell were some of these angels of mercy. Fanny Swan had worked for a Dr. Davis in England. Before she left the country, he gave her medical lessons and instruction books, and told her she would be a great help in the new country where she was going. Along with her midwifery practices Swan prescribed herbs for many illnesses. The Swans owned a small store that stocked these herbs.[6] These early care-givers often administered to the needs of the sick, ignoring dangers to their own well being. Loyd Toone stated, "The women of Lost Creek learned very early to cope with the situations [medical]. Loyd's grandmother always tried to help those in need, until she contracted the fever from one patient. This resulted in her death."

In pioneer times, pregnancy was never discussed in public. Often children within a family were unaware of the possibility of a new brother or sister. Loyd told this incident about his Mother Margaret Emily Hardy Toone:

> When I was a kid I remember somebody coming to the house and asking my mother very quietly, so I couldn't hear, if she'd come to their house and look at his wife. Pa hooked up the team and Ma came out with stuff under her apron and we went up Cedar [Canyon]. We drove up there and Pa wouldn't get out because he had to sit there with us kids. Ma went into the house. I still remember that old stone house. Ma was gone quite a little while. The man came out and whispered something to my Pa. In a while Ma came out. Pa ask, "How was it?" Ma said very sadly, "She lost her baby." On the way home I just couldn't figure it out, my folks driving away. I never could figure out why somebody didn't go hunt the baby the lady had lost.[7]

Esther Francis also acted as a practical nurse and midwife. She was fortunate to have a background in the use of medicinal plants and brought some with her from England.

The pioneers in Morgan suffered the same illnesses, accidents,

and epidemics that others experienced throughout the territory. Out of concern, Morgan County Court took precautions to protect the health and welfare of the local citizens. In 1870 a Health Commission was formed to stop the spread of smallpox. Members of the commission included representatives from Milton, Mountain Green, Enterprise, Richville, Porterville, Stoddard, Round Valley and Croydon. County officials quarantined Weber City (Peterson) in June 1870. No person was to be allowed egress or ingress without a permit from Health Commissioners.[8] The success of quarantines was a matter of life and death. By 1873 once again Morgan County had several cases of smallpox. In Morgan City a post was placed in the middle of several streets, designating quarantine areas. A watchman was hired to see that no unauthorized person passed quarantined limits.

During quarantine times, individuals were hired as messengers to deliver supplies to families within the restricted areas. Hired guards enforced quarantine laws. The local government appropriated money to assist isolated families and to provide medicines, cleaning and purifying agencies, and liquor used for medicinal purposes. The LDS Church also offered assistance during epidemics.

Morgan City passed an order that, " . . . no dog shall be allowed to run at large within the city limits which Small Pox prevailed in city, under penalty of death."[9] It is assumed the death was to be that of the animal and not his owner. Settlers believed animals could further the spread of disease.

Many died in the smallpox epidemic of 1873. A journal entry in February 1873 records the burial of a small boy who died from the disease. "Nobody to be seen in the city. The continued death is a heavy cloud."[10] Only those who were also quarantined or had recovered from the disease were able to assist in burying each other's dead. When it was determined that the disease had run its course in a household, the home was fumigated. Following a quarantine, people removed all their clothing for cleaning then sometimes rubbed whiskey all over their bodies as a disinfectant, after which they dressed in fresh clean clothing.

By May of 1873, the county passed an ordinance stating, " . . . no communication be allowed with families having the small pox except through health officers or guards or messengers appointed by said

officers. It was further moved that all urine, excrement, and water from washing their bodies or clothing be buried in a pit dug for the purpose and covered over with earth."[11]

In 1874 residents of Croydon had a good harvest of crops but they were extremely concerned about a possible small pox epidemic. Nearly all school children were vaccinated. John Toone, painter, musician, community doctor and health officer obtained vaccine the following way: "When his young son, Richard, got smallpox John took the smallpox germ and inoculated a calf from which the vaccine was made. He inoculated about 60 residents of Croydon.[12] How successful Toone's vaccine was is not known.

It seems Morgan communities passed through one medical crisis only to be confronted with another one. In 1878 Croydon residents were plagued with an epidemic of diphtheria, from which many died. Members of the LDS Church held a special fast and prayer.[13] Although no journal entries exist in the county and city minutes of all the epidemics, when disease appeared in one community, it was likely experienced throughout the entire area.

In 1879 the first trained physician arrived to practice medicine in Morgan County. Dr. Frederick S. Kohler came to Morgan from Ohio. He had graduated from medical college in 1873 and was seeking the arid climate to help improve his own health. He later founded the first medical college in Utah, located in Morgan. Even after the arrival of this professional in the field of medicine, local midwives continued to aid settlers and work closely with doctors. Martha Lythgoe Mikesell, who celebrated her 100th birthday in May 1998, was one of the dedicated ladies who practiced home nursing. Until 1942 she assisted Dr. Abbott and Dr. High deliver babies and care for the mothers and children after birth. Many registered nurses and ladies in the communities have carried on the tradition of assisting their neighbors when needed. One doctor was not capable of caring for all the medical needs of Morgan citizens. Fortunately from 1879, Morgan County has always had a medical doctor located in its boundaries as well as many qualified nurses.

Hulda Cordelia Thurston Smith, wife of Willard G. Smith, describes some of the hardships their family endured which were similar to those of other settlers in the county.

> Quite early in the spring of 1880 the terrible scare of diphtheria broke out in our valley and people did not know how to treat it. Death took a terrible toll wherever it went. I was frightened terribly of it and, of course, looked very closely after our children. But finally, the last of June it came to us. My second daughter, Amanda, had it. I immediately treated her thoroughly for a sore throat, not knowing what it was. She was getting better when little Sarah, my seventh child, came down with it. And when I found out it was truly the diphtheria we had, I was perfectly unnerved, and did not know one thing to do for it. At that time in Salt Lake City, Davis, Utah, and Cache Counties, we could hear of whole families dying with it, and in our county two and three seemed to be taken out of every family. I was truly distracted. No one dared come to the house. Those passing on the street would hold their noses and take the opposite side [of] the road. We had no drug stores and were three miles from stores of any kind or a railroad station. Amanda got better but little Sarah died on the 3rd of July, 1880, and was buried on the 4th. Our little daughter Deseretta, then six years old, was coming down with it and she died July 26, 1880, and was buried on the 27th. My oldest daughter Cordelia, went to the burial but was sick coming down with it. I thought surely that all were going to die and all that I desired was to be able to live and wait upon them all till the last minute to see them laid away and then go too. [Cordelia recovered and then her sister Delia contracted the disease and also escaped death.][14]

From 1885 through 1888, Morgan County experienced epidemics of diphtheria. In 1885 Dr. Kohler was appointed quarantine physician by the county at a salary of $40 annually. All areas of the county were quarantined at one time or another. In 1887–1888 Dr. Kohler had public notices posted, forbidding all public gatherings and school classes. Quarantine laws were enforced. Many deaths occurred because of this dreaded disease. Morgan county government continued to be concerned with the health of its residents. In June 1890 county officials appointed Dr. Osgood as a member of the County Board of Health under the direction of the county commissioners. Morgan County constituted one health district. T.R.G. Welch was chairman of the Board of Health.

It must have been between 1889 and 1892 when settlers discov-

ered a correlation between illness and unsanitary conditions. Residents were notified to move out-houses and pig pens away from main water ditches. No seepage from corrals into water ditches could be tolerated because some residents obtained their culinary water from this source. In 1898 the County Board of Health, in accompaniment of a physician, were to examine Morgan City to locate any unsanitary areas that could possibly cause sickness and disease. Meat markets were advised to clean up around their establishments and to keep them clean to prevent illness.

By 1900 state laws regulated quarantines, and Morgan adhered to these laws. In 1901 the county commissioners constituted the County Board of Health with Dr. Osgood as secretary. By 1903 residents were advised of the necessity of a good water supply. In 1908 the Utah State Board of Health requested that Morgan send its health officer to an annual conference in Salt Lake City as part of an effort to help counties apply some preventative health measures.

By 1910 schools became aware of some practices that could be causing health problems for the students. Annie S. Dickson, Morgan County Superintendent of Schools, instructed all teachers that due to health reasons, they should discontinue collecting pencils each day and redistributing them the next day. Students' use of a pencil handled by a different person each day was considered an unhealthy practice. Superintendent Dickson also requested abolishing the common drinking cup for all students. However, the main concern was poor ventilation in the schools. Teachers were instructed to open windows at recess and noon to allow fresh air to circulate through the school. People believed that foul air in the rooms was the cause of much illness among students. Officials hoped good ventilation would curtail the spread of scarlet fever and other contagious diseases.

Also in 1910, a letter was received by the superintendent of schools from the State of Utah Department of Public Instruction, A.C. Nelson, Superintendent, calling the district's attention to a portion of law from the Compiled Laws of Utah 1907:

> . . . that there shall be established in the normal schools of the state, and in the public schools, beginning with the eighth grade, a course of instruction upon the subject of sanitation, and the cause

> and prevention of disease. The state Board of Health prepared a course of study which was available at a cost of 42 cents per copy. Classes were to be organized at once.[15]

Citizens and county officials continued to battle contagious diseases. The local Board of Health and county physicians conducted sanitary inspections and implemented quarantines. No other services were provided by the county. Although these measures seemed somewhat effective in stopping the spread of disease, none of the locally initiated precautions prepared residents for the influenza epidemic of 1918–1919. The Spanish Influenza outbreak was world-wide in its effect, and it contributed substantially to the number of American losses during World War I.[16]

Residents of Morgan experienced the tragic effects of the influenza during 1918. Only a few households were not affected by its path of death. Public meetings were not allowed during the flu epidemic. Often no funerals were held for the deceased. By 1919 after taking its deadly toll, no apparent influenza existed within the boundaries of Morgan City or County, but the disease was still prevalent in communities adjacent to Morgan, The following notice was issued in an effort to prevent a recurrence of the disease in the county.

> First; Officers of the city will discourage people from coming into Morgan City or Morgan County.
>
> Second; In the event that people find it absolutely necessary to come into Morgan City; they must submit themselves to be placed in solitary quarantine, under guard, in a place of confinement, and at their own expense, for a period of FOUR days.
>
> Third; Persons entering the city on the train, must leave the train at the regular stopping stations, and in the event, that they do not do so both they and the Railroad Officials, in case of collusion, will be prosecuted.
>
> Fourth; Any persons or person within Morgan City, riding on the train to any point in Morgan County, will be subject to the Quarantine Regulations.
>
> Fifth; Any person, residing within the limits of Morgan City, who shall after the date of this Notice, visit any of the Cities or Towns outside of the boundaries of this County, shall upon their

return be placed under Quarantine for a period of at least FOUR days, for and not including the date of their return.

Signed Thos. W. Butters, Mayor of Morgan City, Utah[17]

Despite efforts of public officials and citizens, the influenza epidemic returned in 1920 but apparently for a shorter duration. An article in the *Weber River Independent* newspaper made reference to the Farm Bureau trained nurses doing a splendid job during the influenza epidemic. Members of the LDS Church Relief Society also offered assistance during the tragic time. The number of deaths during these two influenza sieges is unknown. An article in the newspaper stated that during the epidemic, Dr. Pugmire visited over 200 patients each day, keeping him busy day and night.[18] How Dr. Pugmire accomplished this is almost incomprehensible.

As county nurse programs began taking form in the early 1930s, the public schools became more and more the focus of preventative health care. As early as 1926, Morgan County Board of Education, Utah State Board of Health, and local officials met to discuss the possibility of hiring a nurse for Morgan County. The group failed to reach a consensus at this early meeting, but sometime during the next year, Ione Alder Coray was installed as county nurse. Mrs. Coray served only briefly. In May 1927, Morgan County Commissioners accepted her resignation.[19]

The major drawback of employing a full-time county nurse was probably funding; consequently, the nursing program was not fully established until the Federal Emergency Relief Administration made finances available in 1934. The Social Security Act of 1935 provided later funding. Morgan County Board of Education, State Board of Health, and Morgan County Commission held meetings in April and October 1935 with FERA officials at the meeting. LaMar Criddle Olsen, who had been practicing as a nurse in the county, was selected to become the official county nurse. In 1937 Morgan County Commission granted Miss Criddle a six month leave of absence to pursue further training in nursing. The commission appointed Pearl Baker as interim nurse.[20] Beginning in 1937, LaVerna Peterson took charge as a regional director of the county nursing program. Peterson

had charge of the northern counties in the state, including Morgan County.

LaMar Criddle Olsen initiated a baby program within the county. Maternal health care had been one of the earliest programs in which the federal government had participated. In 1922 the United States Congress passed the Sheppard-Towner Act which provided federal monies to states for maternal and child health. In Utah the Relief Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints spearheaded the program. Using the Relief Society, an organization already in place, was a natural choice for carrying out the program. Eventually the Relief Society operated 194 clinics throughout Utah.[21]

Although some headway had been made under the Sheppard-Towner Act, LaMar Criddle Olsen found little attention being given to mothers and babies in Morgan County. Olsen contacted Dr. Eugene Smith, a pediatrician friend of hers from Ogden, Utah, and convinced him to travel to Morgan County once a month to conduct a clinic. The response was overwhelming, and eventually clinics were offered on a weekly basis.[22]

Due largely to the cooperative efforts of early county nurses like LaMar Criddle and LaVern Peterson, as well as the school board, county commission, and civic and church groups, county health and nursing programs in Morgan County became "the envy of many adjoining counties."[23] LaMar Criddle Olsen was the key figure in this achievement. Olsen aided Rich County in the development of its nursing program, traveling by motorcycle from Woodruff to Randolph and over the divide to Laketown and Garden City in order to help establish the program.[24] In 1954 after twenty years of service, Olsen retired from her duties as Morgan County nurse. Morgan County Commission honored her for her years of service and for the "outstanding work she had accomplished."[25]

Even after her retirement, LaMar Criddle Olsen remained active in the profession. At the request of LaVerna Peterson, Olsen continued to develop nursing programs in Weber County. Joyce Stuart Lucas succeeded Olsen as county nurse. Lucas noted in August 1955 that she had visited 486 patients throughout the year. During her tenure as county nurse, Joyce Stuart Lucas worked hard to develop a mental health program in the county. Lucas met on several different

occasions with the county commission to convince them of the program's necessity. Following her tragic death in March 1964, with assistance from Utah State Board of Health and backing from Morgan County Board of Education, Morgan County Commission adopted the proposed mental health program by February 1965.[26]

In April 1964, the county commission installed Evadna R. Francis to the position of county nurse. Francis served in that position for fifteen months before being succeeded by Jacqueline Lee Hulet in August 1965.[27] As new medical practices appeared almost daily, the county commission authorized Hulet to attend several workshops and conferences to better prepare her for her new position.[28] Under Hulet's leadership, an amblyopia (lazy-eye) clinic was initiated in the county.

Jacqueline Lee Hulet resigned her position in Morgan County to accept a position in Weber County in October 1970. Betty Purnell assumed the position of county nurse in Morgan County until 1973, followed by the appointment of Adele Creager. Over the course of the next year, Morgan County began a series of cooperative programs with Weber County.[29] In December 1974, Morgan and Weber counties signed a joint contract to unify their health programs. Under the program, a bi-county health supervisor was hired to oversee the program in both counties. As outlined in the agreement, Morgan County would receive the same services as Weber County.[30]

A healthy Morgan County populace has always been a concern of local government. From the quarantines of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, through the inauguration of county health boards and county nursing programs, local government has sought to provide support for the well being of Morgan County's citizenry. Health programs have progressively become more expensive. In 1937 the county commission budgeted a total of $700 for the county health program.[31] By 1959 the cost had risen to over $7,000.[32] The county bore part of this expense, with the state and federal government assuming the remainder. Since the depression of the 1930s local, state, and federal agencies have continued to accept responsibility for the health and general welfare of the people. Programs implemented during the Great Depression and continuing after World War II have resulted today in a particularly healthy popula-

tion. The epidemics of small pox and diphtheria that decimated pioneer populations in Utah have been eradicated, and although new diseases present continued challenges, the cooperative efforts of government and health care professionals also continue to provide an effective means of defense.

Public Health and Morgan School District

Morgan County School District has always been concerned about the health and well being of its students. While the depression was in full swing in 1936, the Federal Government decided to expand its PWA (Public Works Program) to include a much needed Public Health program,. All states were invited to participate, and the program was designed to reach all citizens in each county. Utah State Board of Health was assigned to administer the program in Utah with Federal money financing the majority of the project. Each county employed a nurse as administrator of the program. Morgan was part of the Northern Region.

When the health program began, no specific guidelines had been established. LaMar C. Olsen, Morgan's first public nurse, felt the place to get the local public health program off the ground would be in the schools. At that time, Morgan district contained eight school precincts. Olsen's first objective was to identify any health problems, then to care for them. According to Olsen,

> . . . The big mistake I made was not going to Mr. Tippets in the first place. I just started working in the schools with out doing that, assuming that it was all right. He caught me in one of the schools one day and wanted to know what I was doing. I told him and he said there was nothing for me to do, if there was he would call me, and in the meantime stay out of the schools, and I was floored. I knew I had done wrong by not going to him immediately. But, it just happened that within a week there was a case of scarlet fever and he closed the school. Then he called me to see how soon he could open the schools. I just told him that in the first place closing the schools was stupid, that it was no way to control an epidemic. All it did was to throw the kids out on the streets to play together in groups and they had more of a problem than if they were in the schools and under supervision where they could be observed. Well, he reopened the schools immediately and

> dumped it in my lap. He said, "Okay, it's your baby. If there is an epidemic you're the one to blame." Scared the socks off from me. I think I lived at that school for the next two weeks, and I was lucky we didn't have anymore cases. We got along swell. But, after that Mr. Tippets was one of my best friends. He let me do anything I felt needed doing.[33]

From this start, the program grew rapidly and was accepted by the residents of the communities. Immunization programs for whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus, smallpox, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Typhoid Fever, and later polio were implemented. The program grew to where all school students were given general physical and dental check-ups and also audio and vision evaluations. If anything unusual was found during the physical exam or tests, parents were notified. Any necessary follow-up could be provided by family doctors.

All programs benefitted the public; however, none of these programs would have achieved success except for the generosity and dedication of many volunteers and doctors. Local doctors and dentists participated at little or no cost while performing their services. Many parents spent hours helping conduct clinics. Through the years many individuals have been involved, and local non-profit organizations have also participated in the program. Following vision clinics, Morgan Lions Club paid for eye glasses for students whose families were financially unable to pay. During depression years, the clinics provided the only medical help some families received, due to financial problems of that era. Morgan School District even helped cover the cost of dental care for those needing help.

Many dedicated nurses facilitated the public health program in the county and schools. As time passed and circumstances changed, federal funding for the public program was reduced. The county nurse gradually spent less time in schools and more with county programs. Eventually the public program was abandoned. Clinics and immunization programs remained available through Morgan County Public Health Administration but not through the schools.

Currently each of the schools have what is called a sick room with a cot, but no nurse is provided to offer first aid or other assistance. All medical care and screening is left to parents or guardians.

Each student has a card on file at school with the names of several people to be notified in case of an emergency or illness. When necessary, one of these individuals is contacted to take a student home or to a facility where the student can receive medical attention. School officials evaluate each situation, and in an emergency, they call an ambulance and notify appropriate people.

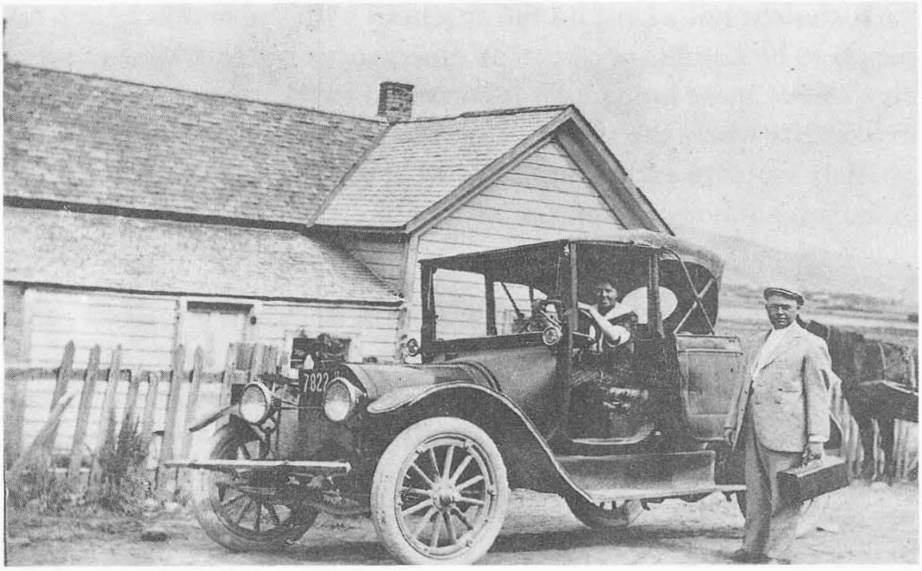
Medical Doctors

Following are brief descriptions of the dedicated physicians and dentists who have served the residents of Morgan County.

DR. FREDERICK S. KOHLER practiced in Morgan from 1879 to 1887 when he moved to Idaho. Dr. Kohler attended to the medical needs of the pioneers of Morgan County. He earned his medical degree from Eclectic Medical College in Pennsylvania in 1860. He practiced medicine in the Civil War and graduated from Medical College of Ohio in Cincinnati in 1873. In 1880 with the help of LDS Bishop Wyman Parker, Dr. Kohler established Utah Medical College in Morgan.

DR. THOMAS SHORE WADSWORTH was born 5 October 1839 in Yorkshire, England. A convert to the LDS Church, he and his family traveled to Utah and settled in Ogden in 1853. Wadsworth graduated from a college of physicians located in Keokuk, Iowa in 1877. In 1881 he settled in Lehi, Utah, and was, "The first real doctor to practice in Lehi."[34] In 1889 Wadsworth moved to Morgan with his wife and children. He was active in many civic ventures and also operated a small log structure store located at 12 North State Street from which he sold medicine.[35] Dr. Wadsworth served the citizens of Morgan for many years until his death in Morgan on 1 May 1920.

DR. CHARLES FREDERICK OSGOOD came to Morgan in 1898 where he practiced medicine for one year before returning to Missouri to be married. Dr. Osgood then returned to Morgan where he continued in the field of medicine for six years. He also invested in the mercantile business with A.W. Francis. They owned a store at 129 North Commercial Street. Osgood's medical office was first located in the Morgan Hotel on Commercial Street. In 1900 it was relocated to his home at 95 W. Young Street.[36] In 1904 Osgood moved



Doctor Dorland makes a house call to deliver a baby. Mrs. Romansky, the doctor's mother, is the driver.

his medical practice to Ogden where in 1910 he was shot and killed by a demented patient.[37]

DR. LEROY RICH PUGMIRE attended medical school in Philadelphia. He completed his training in 1903 and established a practice in Morgan in 1905 where he remained for about four years before he moved to Austria to specialize in eye, ear, nose, and throat medicine.

DR. C.C.R. PUGMIRE, brother of LeRoy Rich Pugmire, studied medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He moved his family to Morgan in 1910 and practiced medicine until 1920 when he left the area.[38]

DR. ETHAN MARSH ABBOTT, a native of Farmington, Utah, graduated from Western Reserve Medical School in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1920 he came to Morgan and began his medical practice, buying out Dr. C.C.R. Pugmire's business. Abbott especially enjoyed the outdoors and was loved for his quiet, unassuming sympathetic qualities. Dr. Abbott died in 1951.

DR. C. EDISON DORLAND's home was in Baron, Wisconsin. He graduated from Northwestern University School of Medicine in

1907. That same year, Dorland traveled to the cement plant at Devil's Slide seeking employment. When company officials learned that Dorland was a medical doctor, he was appointed company physician at the age of twenty-seven. Not only did he care for company employees, but he was also doctor to residents of Morgan and Henefer. Dorland held the rank of Captain during World War I and almost lost his life in the 1918 flu epidemic. Dr. Dorland died 19 August 1930, at the age of fifty as a result of an automobile accident.

DR. HARLAN T. HIGH was born 10 December 1906. A native of Montezuma, Iowa, High attended college at the University of Iowa where in June 1930 he graduated third in his class. High did his internship at St. Mark's Hospital in Salt Lake City. In 1931 he came to Devil's Slide to become the cement company's physician. He served the people of Morgan County and Summit County. He also had patients who came from Wyoming and Idaho for care. Adele, Dr. High's wife, often assisted with patients. On 23 October 1984, Dr. High died at the age of 78.

DR. JOHN R. MARTINEAU was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, 4 December 1922. He attended University of Utah and graduated from Tulane School of Medicine in Louisiana, receiving his degree in 1946. Martineau did his internship at the Dee Hospital in Ogden, Utah. He practiced medicine in Ogden from July 1947 until he moved to Morgan in 1948. Dr. Martineau served as a captain in the Army Medical Corp in 1953 and was stationed in Germany. Following his discharge, Martineau returned to Morgan to resume his medical practice. In October 1957, he moved into a new medical facility built behind his home. Prior to this, his office had been located in the front section of his family home. Dr. Martineau's wife Eloise, a registered nurse, often assisted her husband in his practice. Dr. Martineau served the residents of the county for many years until his death in September 1995.

Dentistry

An early photograph (see blacksmith section) verifies that a Dr. White operated a dentist office adjacent to Tonks Blacksmith Shop located on the corner of Young and 200 East Street. No other refer-

ence can be found concerning Dr. White, his practice, or the period of time he was in Morgan. According to the book *Mountains Conquered,* Dr. Snowden was Morgan's first dentist, and he traveled the county in a covered wagon accompanied by Bob Richard, who drove the wagon and helped care for the horses.[39] Other dentists known to have practiced in Morgan were Dr. Hooper, who moved to Ogden; Dr. W. E. Marsteller, who came to Morgan in 1905, from Salt Lake City; Mr. Elmer Christiansen, who moved to Ogden,[40] and Dr. F.L. Maramore[41] History on these early dentists is very limited. During the mid 1970s, D.D.S. Don B. Heninger practiced in Morgan. Following are brief biographies of other dentists who practiced in Morgan.

WILFRED ARTHUR CLARENCE VISICK came from Salt Lake City to Morgan in 1884, and started a dental business, which he operated from a covered wagon. After four years, he moved to Coalville, Utah. In 1907 Visick and his wife Florence Wright returned to Morgan, where he continued his dental practice for twenty-five years. At one time, Dr. Visick had his office above the mercantile store on the corner of Commercial and 125 North Street. He was active in civic affairs, helping to organize the Boy Scout movement in Morgan County. In 1931 Visick, his wife, and their five children moved to Salt Lake City where the doctor continued in his dental profession. Dr. Visick died on 20 December 1937.

BENJAMIN RICHARD McKINNON, D.D.S., a resident of Randloph, Rich County, Utah, graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania. In 1927 McKinnon established a practice in Morgan where he worked until he retired in 1963.[42] His first office was located in the Welch building on 125 North Street. He later moved his office to a building on front street, owned by J. Williams, (current location of Hopkins Cafe). McKinnon then moved his office to the former Stuart Hotel building at 451 East 125 North Street. In 1929 he married Margaret Baker who taught elementary school in Morgan for many years. The McKinnons had three children. Dr. McKinnon was also one of the early fur ranchers in the county. He died in 1986.

DAVID JOHN CARRUTH, D.D.S. graduated from Northwestern University. Carruth served in the United States Marine Corps from 1951 to 1953 and in the Marine reserve unit until 1959. He practiced

in Morgan City from 1960 to 1967 in the office building of Dr. John Martineau. Beginning in 1966, he also worked for the Job Corps.[43] In addition to this practice, Dr. Carruth operated a dental office part time in Mountain Green.

FARRELL W. KIRK Jr. D.D.S. graduated from Loyola Dental School in 1962. Prior to opening an office in Morgan, he practiced dentistry in Salt Lake City and Coalville, Utah. His Morgan office was located in the north end of the Parkside bowling alley building where he practiced until 1974, when he was employed by the Veterans Administration.[44]

THERAN L. CROWTHER D.D.S. graduated from Case Western Reserve in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1970. He operated his first dental practice in North Dakota while serving in the Air Force. He then moved to Farmington, Utah, in 1972 where he operated his dental office. In 1975 Crowther established a dental practice in Morgan. His office was located in the Parkside bowling alley building on 125 North Street until 1983 when he built a new facility on the corner of 100 North and 200 East Street. Dr. Crowther and his wife Judy currently live near Deep Creek and are the parents of four children.[45]

Nowcare Center

The Morgan Valley NowCare Clinic located at 4100 W. Old Highway Road was built in 1982 by Peterson resident Dr. Charles Caton, and contractor Mick Rasmussen. The facility was leased to NowCare Ambulatory Medical Clinic, a subsidiary of St. Benedict's health system. The 4000 square foot clinic opened December 20, 1982, providing a minor surgery and emergency room, X-ray facilities, and additional examining rooms.

The clinic was staffed by Dr. Charles Caton, Dr. Jim Arango, Dr. Bart Nelson, Dr. Keith Wagment, Dr. Jess Wallace, and Dr. Rick Martin. They were assisted by a physician's assistant, registered nurse, practical nurse, X-ray technician, and clerical staff. The clinic remained open only a few years.

Morgan Health Clinic

In December 1990, the Morgan Health Center, owned by the St. Benedict's Hospital, opened for patients' convenience at 166 N.

State Street. The staff included one physician, Dr. Franklin Newhouse; a registered nurse, a licensed practical nurse, and two clerk-receptionists. The clinic provided Morgan with a much-needed emergency room with two beds, and five examining rooms. In the first six months, the clinic averaged twenty to twenty-five patients per day.

Due to an increase in the number of patients, in the fall of 1993 Dr. Bruce McClellan joined the staff. In 1994 the clinic was sold to Health Trust of Utah. In the spring of 1995, Dr. Newhouse moved his practice to Ogden. Currently the staff consists of Dr. McClellan, one physician's assistant, two full-time registered nurses, one office manager, and three office personnel. Morgan residents are fortunate to have this much-needed medical clinic in their community.

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CHAPTER 11

MORGAN CULTURAL AND SOCIAL LIFE

Life for pioneer men, women, and children in Morgan County paralleled that of settlers throughout the territory. Morgan Pioneers encountered many of the same hardships and struggles as those settling nearby areas. This hardy generation met the challenges with determination, ingenuity, and faith. Obstacles became stepping stones on which to progress and improve circumstances and lifestyles. Many settlers had left comfortable homes furnished with the most modern conveniences of the era. They had also enjoyed cultural activities, and their children had attended established school systems. Men had left regular employment and farms equipped with the most up-to-date implements for cultivating the land. Other settlers came from situations of extreme poverty. All of the pioneers left their life styles and circumstances behind them to begin a new life in the West. Those who came to the Rocky Mountains started with the few necessities they could bring in covered wagons or handcarts. The majority of pioneers entering Utah were an unwanted, despised group of people called Mormons who came with a desire for peace

and harmony free from persecution in this untouched country far from civilization.

Houses and Living Quarters

Settlers lived in their wagons which had been removed from their wheels and placed on the ground, or they lived in tents until a dugout, lean-to, or cabin could be constructed. Pioneer women courageously endured many hardships. Before Anders Neilson (later changed to Nelson) could complete his family's log cabin, his wife, Dorothea, gave birth to a son, Hyrum, in the covered wagon in which they had traveled across the plains, then on to Milton, and which now served as their temporary home. Hyrum was born in December 1861 while the wagon was located in front of a small log cabin owned by John Olson. The cabin was considered part of Thurston Fort. Following the birth of the child, mother and baby were moved into the Olson cabin. A fire in the cabin made it warmer than the wagon outside; however, the weather was rainy, and pans were placed on the bed and around the cabin to catch the water as it came through the dirt roof. Before the rain turned to snow, Olsons were scooping the water up off the dirt floor.[1]

Although the first settlers in the valley arrived in 1855, later settlers also endured hardships. Many settlers used dugouts as a first home. The history of Elizabeth Ann Geary, wife of Edward Geary, verifies that the family moved to Round Valley in about 1863 and lived in a dugout for a period of time until a one-room log home was built. The history also states that Elizabeth Ann, " . . . ground wheat and corn in a coffee mill and sifted [it] through a beautiful silk veil she had made and brought with her from England."[2] In 1867 the Peter Rock family was also living in a dugout in Stoddard when one of their children was born.[3] As late as 1870 Emma Matilda Wold was born at Milton in the dugout of her parents, Ole Olsen Wold and wife Ellen Maria Wold.[4]

The first log homes were chinked with mud. Rafters consisted of logs with willows laid on them. Straw or wild grass was then placed on the willows and covered with dirt. Sometimes the roof offered little protection from heavy rains and melting snow. After a storm,

dirt floors inside were sometimes muddier than the gound outside, requiring substantial time to become dry again.

A brief history of Daniel Bull written by Evelyn B. Christensen describes Bull's first home: "First home which he [Daniel Bull] built was on his farm on East Canyon Creek, just across the creek and east from Littleton. This was a large one-room log house with a large stone fireplace at one end. The first door was a buffalo robe hung over the entrance."[5]

Another account of a pioneer cabin in Croydon is given by Helen Thackeray Rees in 1922:

> The house that my great grandmother, Mrs. Helen Thackeray, lived in was so crudely built that they put cowhide on the roof to keep the mud dry so it wouldn't leak through and wet things. My grandmother sat with an umbrella on her head.
>
> Harry Toone stated, . . . "when we awoke in the morning we would find snow on the bed because the house was so poorly built."[6]

North Morgan was known to have some rock homes. Clara Gibby lived in a rock house with her parents. She said their roof didn't leak, but on cold winter nights after the fire burned out, frost would collect on the inside of the outer walls. The frost was so thick family members could scrape it off with their fingernails. When the fire warmed the walls in the morning, the frost melted and ran down the [rock] walls.[7] This home was located in the vicinity of the mill pond on 300 East Street.

As more people moved into the area and became established, sawmills were set up, and cut lumber was provided for building. Several brickyards were established which provided another material for constructing more comfortable homes. Sandstone was also quarried from nearby canyons and used in construction of private homes and commercial buildings.

Food

Food was scarce for early settlers who gathered and cooked thistles, nettles, dandelions, wild mustard, pigweed, and turnip tops as greens. Sego lily bulbs were cooked or eaten raw.

> Often a bacon rind would be boiled for a short time with the vegetables, then be removed carefully dried, and saved to be used again. Potatoes and beans that were raised in the first years were kept for seed. Mother said she was a big girl before she tasted a cooked potato. On special occasions, the well-saved bacon rind or ham bone would be boiled with a few potatoes or a cup of beans and a thin soup would be made for the family dinner. Bread was very poor for there was no screening of the wheat or removal of the bran. Seeds of sunflowers and other weeds were ground with the wheat and the result was dark, course flour that made bitter tasting bread."[8]

Janet McNiven Hogg's history states, "The first year in Morgan (1862) they had only one sack of flour to do them through winter."[9] Early settlers often gathered hops that grew along the river and sloughs in Morgan. The hops were steeped in water until they foamed and were then used to make yeast. The yeast could be traded for a bucket of flour.[10] Some settlers gathered hops and took them to Salt Lake City to be sold or traded for goods.

Clothing

In order to survive, pioneer women necessarily did some work traditionally considered to be men's work, but the jobs were given back to men as soon as circumstances allowed. In the early years of settlement, all family members contributed in order to provide essentials for existence. Females had an internal struggle between performing the necessary tasks for the survival of their families in this untamed land and trying to maintain their feminine traditions. Women and girls had to wash wool after it had been sheared from sheep. They carded it, spun it into yarn or thread, dyed it with concoctions brewed from curious plants, wove it into cloth, then made it into clothes for themselves and for their men folks. The sewing was done by hand as there were no sewing machines. An excerpt from an interview with Richard R. Fry illustrates the versatility of the early women settlers:

> What did they do for clothing, other than weaving? Well most of it was homespun. They would twist the yard (wool) into yarn and then they would have looms. Of course they traded for buck-

> skins. One woman had two sheep. They sheared the sheep and she wanted her husband to have a pair of very fancy pants for the 4th of July so she went out and gathered the blossoms from the sage brush. She spun the wool, wove the cloth, cut it out, but she never had any thread. She pulled her own hair out and used it for thread. He had a very fancy pair of yellow pants for the 4th of July.
>
> I'll tell you it was rough on women. Those poor women had to work. A girl was expected by the time she got married to have enough rags saved up to make a rug to cover the dirt floor. She would have to braid them and sew them together. She was expected to know how to make bread and a lot of other things. Milk cows and churn butter, in fact if they had chickens she had to have the courage to go out and chop the heads off the chickens, clean them and cook them.[11]

During summer months, children went without shoes, not only to play, but to do chores. Some of the Scandinavian children wore shoes made by their father. The shoes had wooden soles and a strip of leather on the top. Following the death of her mother, Matilda Nielson Peterson worked for sixty cents a week milking ten cows both morning and night. This she did barefoot. She said that when a cow stepped on her bare feet, it really hurt. The pioneers of Enterprise experienced the same hardships as other settlers in the valley:

> Thomas Palmer told that their clothes were made of cloth spun from flax grown by his father. There was a Swedish man who lived down by the river; he would throw the flax into the slew [slough] until it cured. then he spun the flax and weaved the cloth with a wooden loom. It resembled burlap. Thomas laughed, saying "The pants and shirts that were made from that cloth scratched so bad, we would get running so fast to get away from it, that we could not stop."
>
> Thomas Palmer Sr. bought two buffalo robes from the Indians, or traded a pony for them. Thomas said they laid one robe down with the hair up, and put the other over them with the hair down, and this was his and his brother Will's bed for years, until the hair was almost completely worn off from the robes.[12]

In the Peterson area, a tannery was operated first by Phillip Pugsley then by Charles Peterson and his sons. Some of the leather

they produced was later made into coverings for the feet of the settlers by Peter Nielsen.

Domestic Life

Grain and hay were the main crops grown by the pioneers. Seed was broadcast by hand then raked in with a wooden rake. Settlers helped each other with the harvesting which was done with a scythe and cradle. Pioneer farmers in the Richville area had a unique way of determining when it was time for the noontime meal. When a farmer's shadow was straight in line with a rounded peak just west of Durst Mountain in the North Morgan hills, he knew it was time to head for home for a meal to replenish his energy.

A tradition learned from the Indians which became important to early settlers was to look for the Snow Pigeon. Indians watched for this marker as they came into the valley each spring. When they saw that the melting snow had left a bird's perfectly formed outline on the mountain ridge in Porterville, they knew all danger of high water had passed. In late April or early May, the figure was always there, standing guard for three or four weeks. Because farmers had experienced many years of flooding, this phenomenon of nature served as a guide and a protective sign to residents. Today residents of Morgan still look for the Snow Pigeon, and use it as an index of the end of the spring flood season.

The ladies worked together at quilting bees. According to community lore, a humorous incident occurred at a quilting bee held at the home of Fanny Taggart in Richville. Fanny's husband, George Washington Taggart made coffins. One of George's handcrafted coffins was being used as a bench inside his home. Levi Waldron and George Dickson intended to play a prank on the ladies by hiding in the coffin. They carefully propped the lid open a crack for breathing purposes and waited for the proper moment to make their presence known. To their dismay, however, some ladies sat on the coffin, breaking the stick used to prop the lid open. The boys were then trapped in the coffin and were forced to reveal their hiding place which ruined their well-planned prank.[13]

All family clothing was made by the women. They made lye from ashes, starch from potatoes, and molasses from beets. Most settlers

had no sugar. They made their own soap and candles and braided the rugs they laid on their floors. Some pioneers had homemade braided rugs in every room. Pioneer women also made their own quilts. Every strip of material in the rugs and every block of a homemade quilt had a family history.

Before the arrival of a mortician in the area, women were responsible for preparing the dead for burial. Often women from the LDS Relief Society washed and clothed the body in the deceased person's home. Women also sat with the deceased through the night, placing rags dipped in saltpeter water on the face of the deceased to keep it from turning dark. Burial usually took place the day after the death.

Agriculture kept both adults and children busy. Daily chores for children included herding cattle and livestock to and from grazing areas located away from homes. Because there were no fences, children were required to help keep the family's animals on their property. Victor R. Bohman recorded that he and his brothers took the cows to the mountains each day to graze. They then played games while they watched the animals. Girls often knitted or crocheted during these long hours. Other duties of children included milking cows, weeding vegetable gardens and churning butter. In Croydon children gathered bits of wool that clung to bushes after herds of sheep went through on their way up Lost Creek.[14] One of the duties of Jessie McNiven, a young pioneer girl who lived in South Morgan, was to walk to their farm in Littleton and carry lunch to her father each day. This was a distance of three and one half miles each way.

With all the chores to be done, boys seemed always to find time for seemingly harmless pranks. A history of and John and Dorcas Gibby recorded the following humorous incident:

> There was much talk and sermons on the plagues and calamities and famine that would come in the last days. John believed it was near at hand. As Al and George Gibby listened to the warning, a plan began to form in their minds to play a joke on their father. George and Al were not only half brothers but were friends and playmates. They were full of mischief. What one didn't think of, the other would. (George was the son of John and Ellen and Al was the son of John and Dorcas) The boys cut some letters and numbers from a calendar and with paste, and making sure no one fol-

lowed or saw them, they searched in the orchard for a large green apple that would get plenty of sun. When they found the right one they pasted the words FAMINE 1900 on it. They could hardly wait for it to turn red. They watched and waited. At last, the day arrived, the apple had turned a dark red. They removed the letters and there in bright green was the word FAMINE 1900. Gleefully they took it and showed their father. His reaction was all they expected. He believed it was a warning from the Lord. He first showed his neighbors and the boys became concerned and then dismayed when their father took the apple to priesthood meeting to show the brethren. They had not anticipated all the publicity. They were caught in their own net. They did not want to embarrass their father and make him look foolish by being taken in by the trick. They knew he would be angry.

Some of the brethren agreed with John, that it was a warning from the Lord, but Br. Richard Rawle, the Stake Patriarch, sensed it was a boy's trick, but could give no explanation of how it was done. George and Al didn't know how to stop the joke without making their father look foolish, but decided it had gone far enough. When their father instructed them that they were to go back to the fields and glean every stalk of grain that had been missed they confessed and as expected John was very angry. Eventually, however he was able to laugh with others as the story was retold.[15]

Entertainment and Recreation

Entertainment and recreation have always played an important part in the growth and development of Morgan. In addition to enjoying outdoor sports and athletic games, citizens young and old participated and supported the more artistic means of relaxation such as music, drama, and dance. Following a hard day's labor while crossing the plains, the pioneers always found energy and time to listen to the musicians in camp and participate in dancing. The pioneers in the valley were happy when Daniel Bull and his son settled in South Morgan; both were musicians. Hulda Cordelia Thurston's history states: "Mr. Bull was a musician (violinist) as was one of his sons, and times became brighter."[16]

In each of the settlements in the valley, there seemed to be several musicians who provided entertainment for their neighbors. They

Morgan Girls Baseball team, circa 1911.

often met at the end of the week to socialize and dance. These events were held either in the small log cabins or out-of-doors.

Baltzar Peterson's two-story home in Richville was considered one of the finest homes in the area and was used for dances and parties by the young folks. Baltzar and Charles were exceptionally fine fiddlers.

After one-room school houses were built, these structures were used by residents for social activities. Eliza Dickson Rich tells about the unforgettable days when the young people danced in the Richville schoolhouse to the music of Charley Taggart and Nels Peterson playing the violins.

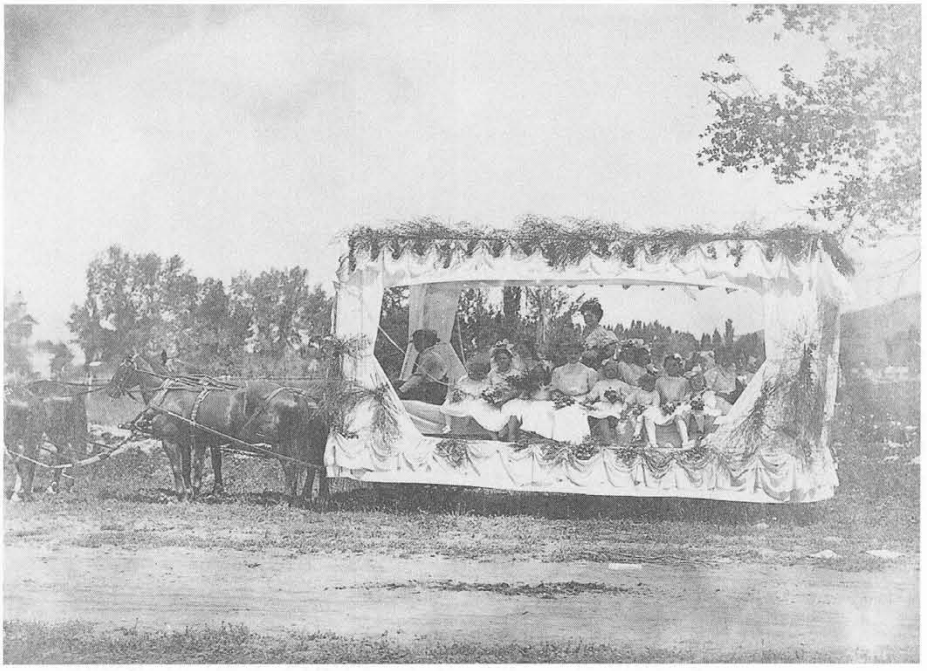
> We usually had two waltzes during the evening. We danced around the stove that stood in the center of the room. It was impossible for everyone to dance at once so the men were given numbers and danced when their number was called.
>
> Sometimes the ladies wore a ribbon bow and brought one just like it in a sealed envelope. Each man would draw a bow from an envelop and then look around to find the matching one. In this

> way he found his partner. We also had basket dances in which the ladies furnished a pretty basket with lunch in it and the men bid on the baskets. Then there was a curtain or toe dance. All the girls would line up in a row behind the curtain. Each girl would put one foot just far enough under the edge of the curtain that her toe would show. Each boy selected a toe and placed his foot beside it. The curtain was drawn aside and the boys claimed their partners. To add to the fun the girls would sometimes exchange shoes.[17]

Some communities felt a need to have a building other than the school/church in which to hold their socials. A meeting in Milton held January 5, 1891, to discuss building a public hall was attended by Peterson and Milton residents. L.P. Edholm, acting chairman of the meeting, made a speech about the necessity of having an amusement building in the community. The hall, eventually built across the street from the LDS Church building, was approximately thirty-three feet by fifty-seven feet and fourteen feet to the square. Dances held there often lasted all night; however, through the years, the use and atmosphere of the hall changed to that of a tavern. The hall was destroyed by fire of an unknown nature, rumored to have been set by unhappy wives.

Celebrations

Each settlement held celebrations on the 24th of July, a holiday commemorating the 1847 arrival of the Mormon pioneers in Salt Lake Valley. At that time of the year, the first ripe cherries would be shared at the gathering. A big barrel of lemonade with a tin cup for everyone to use provided a cool refreshing drink. To keep the lemonade cold, some of the men would go by horseback to the surrounding hills and bring back a large sack of snow. Each celebration featured homemade ice cream. The celebration in Richville was held in the Dorricott Grove at about 2200 South Morgan Valley Drive, west of the highway near East Canyon Creek. The celebration in Croydon found residents turning their main North-South street into a horse racing track. Men of Croyden took pride in racing their best horses on that special day. Events included singing by the choir, orations by the men, recitations by the children, dancing by everyone, and a variety of amusements. In 1875 residents of Croydon had prospects of an



July 4th Parade float: Soph Turner, Goddess of Liberty; Bert Turner, driver. Circa 1908. Float was decorated with asparagus plants.

abundant harvest. Their little valley seemed like a paradise. The snow had been gone a long time, but residents were continually reminded of the previous harsh winter by bleaching cattle bones around the area.

Matilda Peterson describes a celebration in Milton as follows:

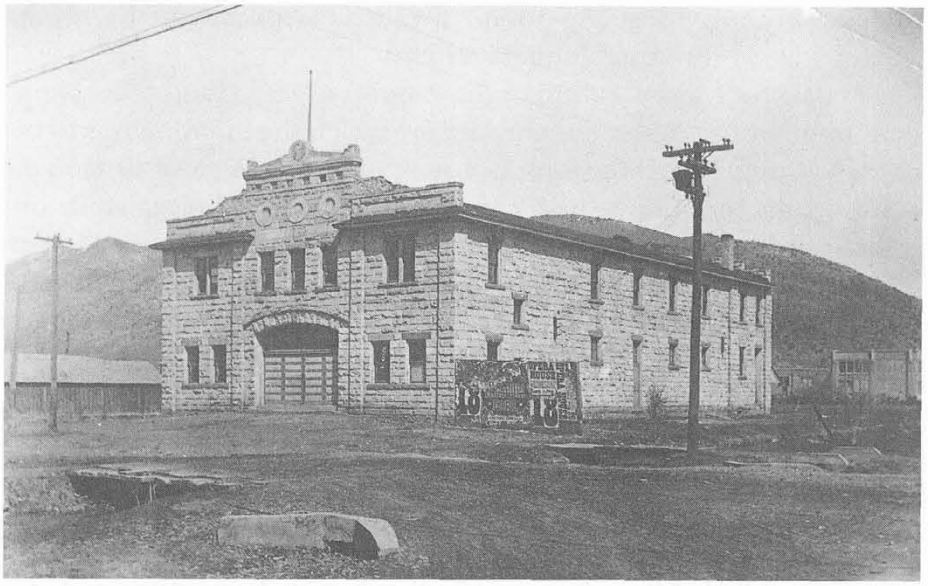
"I can never forget how we used to celebrate the 24th of July. We would form an emigrant train to show just how we came across the plains. Some would have only three oxen to show as one had died on the trip. We would walk and some of the women would have their aprons full of buffalo chips to build fires with when we camped at night. We would end up with a dance, and we would all have to dance in our bare feet. If you think that is fun, just try it."[18]

Christmas parties were also held in the communities. Often a lunch was served at noon followed by a dance for the children while adults visited. In the evening, adults enjoyed dancing while the children watched. Often the dances lasted through the night.

Band traveling around entertaining from a wagon. (Photo courtesy of Emma Loo Bell)

In 1898 a meeting was held in the Milton Hall to organize a band. A committee of G. H. Criddle, J. F. Spendlove, and Almer Olsen was appointed to make up a Code of By-Laws. At that time Almer Olsen was appointed instructor to teach the members what he knew about music. M. Hanson offered his hall for the Milton-Littleton Band to use for practices.[19] Sunday afternoons were appointed for band practice. Each member contributed money in amounts ranging from ten cents to fifty cents for the band fund. On 10 April 1898, the Milton and Littleton Band was formally organized. Eli Whittier was then paid to be music teacher.[20] This band entertained residents throughout the county.

Many settlers came from a highly cultural society in England or the Eastern United States. As soon as basic needs were provided, they began to develop activities they had enjoyed prior to emigrating. The evolution of entertainment and the entertainment business followed a general trend throughout the county. First it started in the home, then migrated to the school/church and finally became a commercial public enterprise. In order to fulfill people's desires for entertainment, residents constructed buildings to accommodate these activities. In the settlement of South Morgan, the first private establishment was



Morgan Opera House, located on the corner of State Street and Young Street, was built in 1906.

a small frame building known as Simmons Amusement Hall, built at 241 Island Road (300 West Street) by George and William Simmons. This facility provided a place for plays, dances, and other social activities. Refreshments were sold at Simmons, and for many years the business accommodated residents' needs.

By 1906 the population of Morgan County had grown to 1807, and a large group of citizens decided there was need for another facility to accommodate the social welfare of the residents. It was their intent to build a new, larger facility in which to hold social activities.

Morgan Opera House

A group of county residents met 26 March 1906, and organized the Peoples Opera House Company. The company was incorporated with capital stock set at $10,000; the value of each share set at $10.00. Forty-five share owners subscribed to the stock, purchasing from one to fifty shares each, paying in either cash or labor. As construction proceeded, finances mandated the necessity to amend the incorporation and raise the capital stock to $15,000 in order to complete the

interior and provide adequate furnishings to operate the building. This step was taken on 1 January 1908.

Articles of Incorporation of the People's Opera House Company, item number five, states the purpose for which the building was to be used: " . . . theater, exhibitions, lecture, public parties, and all kind of amusements that can be had, controlled, and carried on lawfully on said premises." The first officers of the "People's Opera House Company" were President Alonzo Francis, Vice President H. B. Crouch, Secretary-Treasurer Walter Bramwell, Directors Fred W. Clark, T.U. Butters, and Joseph T. Williams.

The decision was made to locate the building near the center of the valley, adjacent to the county courthouse and the LDS Tabernacle. In 1906 George Hogg, a mason, received the contract to build the Opera House. The building was constructed from grey sandstone quarried in Deep Creek, and trimmed with red sandstone. The foundation was built of limestone quarried at Como. The outside dimensions of the building were 100 feet long by 50 feet wide, with a height of 30 feet to the square. The front and back were raised to the height of the oval truss-roof.

The Opera House was a specially designed two-story building. The lower story was used as a theater and contained a sloped floor for good viewing. Four metal posts were located in the seating area to support the upper floor. There was a large stage, dressing rooms, a front foyer, a ticket office, and a room for checking coats and hats. A stairway led off from the right entrance of the foyer to the upper floor.

The upper floor was uniquely designed for dancing. A good hardwood floor was laid and maintained immaculately. Along the side a raised area about six inches high and four feet wide provided space to accommodate chairs for spectators. A three foot high orchestra stand occupied the east end. The ceiling remained unfinished; the timber trusses made to hold up the roof were visible and painted white.

Adequate windows to provide light and ventilation were placed in the upper walls. Gas lamps provided inside lighting until electric lights were installed in about 1915. Outside toilets were located at the back of the building until city culinary water was available and inside

rest rooms were installed. Coal furnaces located in the basement provided heat for the building.

Construction of the Opera House occurred at a most beneficial time, both to enrich the lives of the adult citizens and to fill the education needs of students, until a high school with a gymnasium and auditorium was built. A respectable environment was maintained in the Opera House, and no rowdyness was allowed. The edifice was recognized for its cleanliness and the friendly hospitality shown to all who attended.

While the Opera House was primarily used for theatrical performances and dancing, it was also utilized for political and other public gatherings. Numerous variations of drama and opera were presented by local school and church groups. Professional performances were scheduled throughout the summer with Chautauquas, Lyceum Companies, and special entertainers. Both local and professional groups provided the music. The Opera House also served as headquarters for political torch-light rallies and for hosting state and national office holders.

For a short period of time, until the high school gymnasium was available in 1915, league basketball games were played on the second floor of the Opera House. The floor was covered by a canvas. The building, however, never met basketball floor standards because of its low ceilings. Although Morgan teams adapted to shooting the ball through the rafters, visiting teams played with a disadvantage.

By 1920 automobiles were being used for pleasure, and other economic and social changes had taken place which decreased residents' interest for activities at the Opera House. Other buildings had been provided to accommodate all school, social, and athletic activities. Como Springs had been developed into a prominent public resort. This left the LDS Church as the primary user of the Opera House. Income did not justify continued operation of the building; consequently, a decision had to be made.

On 15 March 1924, the People's Opera House Company officers agreed to an arrangement in which forty-nine per cent interest in the building was deeded to the Morgan LDS Stake, and fifty-one per cent was deeded to the South Morgan LDS ward. A church committee was appointed to operate the building which was rented to individuals

and groups. Rent monies were used for upkeep of the building and for janitorial services

About the time the church took control of the building, the advent of the picture show came about. The first movie shown at the Opera House was entitled *The Birth of A Nation.* Some minor interior remodeling was done to provide a screen and a booth to house the projector and equipment. The church committee entered into a contract with Mr. William (Bill) Warman of Salt Lake City to produce a weekly Wednesday evening picture show. This type of entertainment became very popular with the public. Bi-weekly movies were shown and patronized. After several years, the church committee decided to secure the necessary equipment, rent the film, and operate their own picture show business. About 1929 sound added to pictures stimulated the motion picture industry.

The Opera House had competition when Moroni Clawson began operating a picture show in the Vallis Theater on Commercial Street, and local citizens took advantage of the improved highway to travel to Ogden to see new shows. Also the depression of the 1930s cut down on family budgets for entertainment. Conditions created by World War II during the late thirties and early forties made operating the facility without a financial loss impossible. During the middle forties, Morgan Stake made plans for remodeling the LDS Stake Tabernacle and constructing a new building to handle recreational and social activities of the church. As a result, the Opera House stood idle for several years.

In 1948 Alva Dearden and his wife Cecil of Henefer, Utah, purchased the Opera House building from Morgan LDS Stake. Deardens facilitated a major renovation and remodeling to make the building into a modern theater. It was converted from a two-story structure to one-story. The dance floor was removed, and the ceiling raised. The floor was sloped for better viewing. The entrance was changed to include a new foyer and ticket office. A confectionery booth and room for projection equipment was built. New heating and lighting systems were installed along with a larger screen and modern opera seats. Deardens purchased the latest and best projection equipment to insure good productions. Morgan was proud of its first-class picture show theater.

Fortunately for the owner and the public, color films made their debut. During the next decade, the motion picture industry enjoyed one of its most successful eras. Many outstanding productions, such as *Gone With The Wind, The Ten Commandments* and others were produced. Western movies were also very popular with the public, and box office receipts flourished. Owners, Alva and Cecil Dearden cooperated with the sentiment of the community in securing and showing the best quality pictures available. No shows were run on Sundays. During most of this era, movies were shown on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. After several years, movie nights were reduced to twice a week. With the advent of television during the late forties and fifties, the popularity of the picture show business decreased. This situation continued until 1970 when Morgan Theater closed.

The old Opera House building once again stood idle for several years before it was purchased by Sherdon Woolstenhulme, who remodeled it into a modern restaurant, The Spring Chicken Inn. Larry Wiggill, present owner and operator, purchased the building and business in August 1987.

Morgan County Fairs

According to the memory of the late Richard Fry, life-long Morgan resident, the first county fair in Morgan was held in 1894. It was sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as a fund raising project with the proceeds going to finish the partially completed South Morgan church vestry. Exhibits consisted of handwork made by ladies and some farm produce; there was no livestock. One special attraction was an ostrich egg brought from Australia by a former LDS Missionary.[21]

In May 1908, Morgan County was invited to join the Intermountain Fair Association and bring exhibits to Ogden. A four-county fair involving Morgan, Davis, Weber and Box Elder Counties for the purpose of improving the quality of agricultural products, livestock, horses, etc., and for bettering the general conditions of the producers of the same.[22]

County commissioners held a special session on 27 August 1910, to organize a Big County Fair to be held September 5, 6, and 7. The

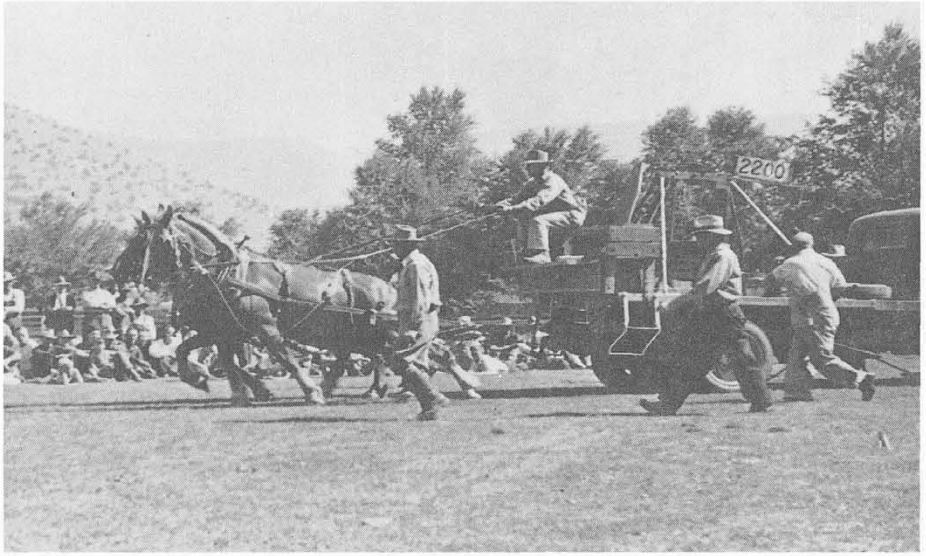
fair was held on the Public Square where livestock was shown, and local boys provided a rodeo at which they rode bucking horses that farmers supplied. Domestic displays were in the South Morgan School building. Horse races were held on Popular Street (100 West Street), and community baseball games were played on the square.

The first known official fair board was organized 2 June 1927. H.H. Crouch was appointed chairman, with Oscar W. Rollins, M.H. Randall, Frank S. Porter and James S. Hopkin associate members. The board faced the problem of providing buildings for county fair exhibits.

In April 1929, the fair board was deeded eight acres of ground near Como Springs from John and Mary Stewart for $1330.[23]

Rodeos were then held regularly at the new fair grounds. Each year the owner of the Rees Ranch in Woodruff rewarded his many cow-hands by allowing them to transport his horses to different communities to stage an afternoon rodeo. The community was required to provide a pasture for the horses. Earl (Spike) Mecham remembers that after the cowboys had ridden the bucking horses, a roper would lasso the horses and take them to the one large corral. The community paid Mr. Rees $500 from which he gave each participant $2. The date the first buildings on the fair grounds were erected is not known; however, minutes of the fair board meeting held 17 April 1928, verify approval of painting fences and buildings on the fair grounds. The fair board also approved construction of a covering for the existing grandstand located next to the road leading into Como. On 26 August 1929, county commissioners budgeted $500 for the exhibit building. In 1933 an outstanding balance of $1160 on the new buildings at the fair grounds was reported.

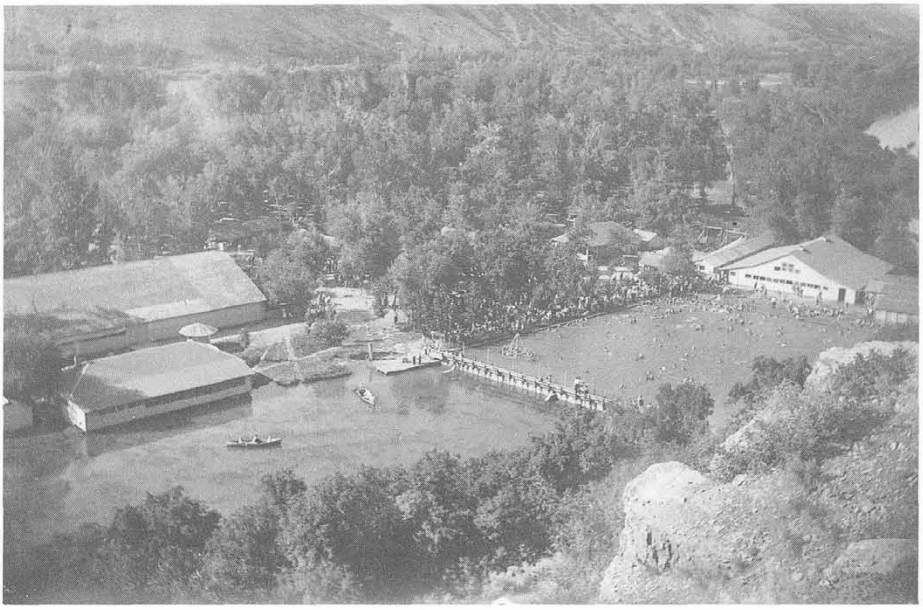
Because of the lack of finances during the depression, whether or not the fair would be held in 1933 was questionable; however, the county commission advanced $1000 to make the fair possible that year. In December 1935, the county purchased an adjoining four acre parcel of land from John V. and Mary R. Stewart at a price of $1200.[24] In August 1938, a building was constructed to house poultry, rabbits, etc. Pens to display fur bearing animals were also included. Residents agree that one of the most memorable events of the fair throughout the years has been horse pulling contests. Traditionally, this event



Morgan County Fair horse pulling contest, circa 1946.

opened the fair. Men trained their teams by having them pull skids made from lumber and piled with rocks. The horses were shod with high corks on their shoes so they could dig into the soil. For many years Utah State University brought a large truck to the fair for this contest. The truck, equipped with a double transmission and weights, was put into gear and the wheels rolled up on a skid. The horses were then hooked-up to the truck, and by means of a pulley were required to lift the weights and pull them a designated distance. Additional weights were added after each competition until a winning team was determined. Some contests were so close, the winning team was only separated from the runner up by a quarter of an inch. There was a light, medium, and heavy weight class. During the event, men could not whip their horses or swear at them, which required a great deal of restraint. At one fair, a contestant used a swear word on one of his animals. The judges were going to disqualify the participant for his abusive language; however, the man explained he was not swearing, but only calling the horse by its name. The man was not disqualified.

Baseball games comprised another part of fair entertainment. Each community in the county had a team. During the summer, the teams played each other, with the championship game being held at



Como Springs Resort. (O. R. Stuart)

the fair. People would be lined up at the gates when game time came. One year, a game between Richville and Morgan lasted so long it had to be called because of darkness.

On the second day of the three-day fair, all animals entered in fair competition participated in a livestock parade around the fair grounds. The grandstands were full of spectators wanting to see the finest animals in the county. Sometimes the animals did not want to cooperate, providing a very entertaining parade.

To supply fair patrons with the all-time favorite hamburgers, a beef was purchased and killed. It was taken to J. Williams and Sons store and ground into hamburger. Runners hurried back and forth from the fair ground to the store to get the meat as it was needed. In early years, hamburgers sold for fifteen cents each.

By 1940, better access to the fair grounds became necessary. Morgan County obtained a right-of-way from Mary, Virgil, and Zilphia Stewart and Como Springs Resort. The road, which was fifty feet wide, ran along the northeastern side of the fair grounds.[25]

During the 1940s, evening talent programs were presented by local residents. A platform was erected for these productions and

lights were brought in. On the closing night of the fair, a Candy Dance, complete with an orchestra, was held at the pavilion in Como Springs Resort. In the early 1940s, male dancing partners were scarce, as nearly all local young men were serving in the armed services. In the late forties, rodeos replaced the evening shows. By 1947 the rodeo chutes area was enlarged to better accommodate the animals, and general maintainence repairs were made on the grand stand. In 1948 at a cost of approximately $11,000, lights for night activities were installed. The VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) helped raise funds for the project. Other local civic groups aided in the installation. By the 1950s, rodeos had grown in popularity. Professional rodeo companies provided the livestock, and cowboys came from surrounding areas and paid fees to participate.

The 4-H program has always played a major part in the fair. Boys and girls brought their cooking, sewing, crafts, hobbies, and animals for exhibition. In 1986, a 4-H building was constructed to display their articles.

Unselfish volunteers make Morgan County Fair possible. Throughout the years, thousands of hours have been donated by hundreds of volunteers. These individuals have made the fair a successful celebration anticipated by the community each year.

Como Springs Resort

Swimming has always been a favorite recreation for the young and young at heart. Each settlement in Morgan County had its favorite swimming hole along the Weber River or creek that passed through their area. The very young would test their aquatic talents in the irrigation canals and ditches until they could advance to deeper ponds and river. Swimming entered a new era when Como Springs was developed.

In March 1883, Samuel Francis and his close friend, Richard Fry, jointly purchased eighty acres of land from the Union Pacific Railroad Company for $200.00.[26] This land described as N 1/2 of SW 1/4 Sec 31 T4N R3E and located near the east boundary of Morgan City included geo-thermo springs of volcanic origin with water temperature of 82 degrees.

Prior to the settlement of Morgan County, during periods of

high water in the Weber River, flooding occurred, and the river washed around the mountain next to the springs. This formed a natural pool or lake which was named Como Lake after Lake Como located in Northern Italy at the foot of the Alps, the birthplace of Esther Francis, Samuel's wife. A hollow on the land was named Fry Hollow in honor of Richard Fry. These two names have endured the test of time and still designate the areas.

The land was primarily used for raising livestock. The warm-water lake provided a favorite fishing spot for boys in the winter months and an excellent swimming hole in the summer months. The LDS Church also used the warm pond as a site for many baptisms.

Using the warm-water lake for commercial gain wasn't considered until around 1887. Dr. Fredrick S. Kohler, a graduate from the Medical College of Ohio, analyzed the spring water and found it contained properties valuable in curing skin diseases. He recommended the water be used for bathing and swimming; however, no efforts were made at that time to promote the spring water.

Dr. Thomas Shore Wadsworth, who came to Morgan in 1889, also had the spring water analyzed. It was again determined that the water had some health values. Wadsworth suggested that if the area were improved, it would be an attractive place for a resort. In 1889 Samuel Francis, Richard Fry, and Dr. Wadsworth formed a company with capital stock of $1500 to develop the area. Dr. Wadsworth was employed to be general manager for the development of the resort.[27]

Forty of the original eighty acres purchased were designated for development of the resort. Dense underbrush was cleared from around the large cottenwood trees. A large pond was excavated on the east end of the lake. A lumber partition filled with soil was built to separate the swimming area from the lake. The fresh spring water flowed into the plunge bath area first and then into the large lake portion used for boating and other related activities.

A small store was built near the pool where confectionery items were sold and swimsuits could be rented. Several months were spent preparing the area for opening on 15 August 1889. By the next summer season, a large pavilion was built to be used for roller skating and dances. The owners had created a pleasant resort.

Local groups and organizations took advantage of the near-by resort to hold celebrations. July 4th and 24th celebrations were often held at Como. Samuel Francis' journal entries states:

> July 4, 1891, Saturday We had a grand celebration; long procession, all the county joined with Morgan. Held meeting at Stake House. In the afternoon all the family and E.E. Rich's family went to Como. We had a good time, but at 5 o'clock the rain came and stopped our fun and made it disagreeable.
>
> July 24, 1891, Friday, Celebrated the 24th at Como. Worked hard all day to make things pleasant.
>
> July 25, 1891, Saturday, The Brass Band held a concert at Como and big company attended. We had a splendid time. I spent the most of the day at Como. Held a dance in the evening.

The LDS Stake Sunday School held its anniversary at Como in 1891. Other journal entries state:

> August 28, 1891, Friday At home in the morning. In the afternoon went over the river and to Como to get everything ready for the meeting of the Sunday School at Como on the 29th.
>
> August 29, 1891 Saturday, Sunday School Union held their anniversary at Como. I was at Como all day. Worked hard all day until ten o'clock in the evening, sold over sixty dollars worth of fruit, candy, soda water, and ice cream.

By September 1891, Fry and Francis had bought out Dr. Wadsworth's interest in Como.[28] In 1892 Samuel Francis secured a $1000 loan from a good friend, D. H. Perry of Ogden. The funds were used to prepare the resort for the coming season. In June Samuel made a trip to Salt Lake City to purchase swimsuits to be rented at the resort.[29] The years of 1892 and 1893, were busy years for the resort. On 17 July 1892, Samuel met at Como with a committee of the Sons of St. George, which was headquartered in Ogden. The group planned to hold a gathering at Como on July 25th. In preparation for this event, a foot bridge was built over the Weber River on 22 July 1892.[30] On August 30th Samuel met with a committee from the LDS Tabernacle Choir to plan for a celebration at Como.

> . . . Extra preparation was made for this event and the Morgan Brass Band was invited to perform during the day. An extra supply of goods to be sold was ordered from Ogden. Extra slabs of lumber were hauled to Como to give adequate seating in the picnic area for members of the choir. The choir arrived by railroad with a special fifty-cent round-trip rate from Salt Lake City. The choir and their friends-more than 800 people- filled the park, and they were a happy, relaxed group.[31]

Commencing in 1894, economic conditions in the nation were critical. Money for recreation wasn't available. By this time, Samuel Francis and Richard Fry were devoting much of their time to interests other than the resort. Due to economic conditions and the owners' lack of attention to the resort business, the area fell into a state of disrepair. It soon became overgrown with vegetation, and the pavilion was destroyed by arson. Although the buildings were gone and no services were provided, local residents often used the area for swimming and baptisms.

In April 1900, following the death of Richard Fry, Samuel Francis purchased Fry's interest in the land on which Como was located. A quitclaim deed for Fry's share in the eighty acres was obtained from his heirs.[32]

> The resort remained in a static, forgotten condition until 1904, when Samuel turned over his interest and properties in Como Springs for stock in S. Francis and Sons Company. No one in the Samuel Francis family seemed to be interested in re-developing the resort. It remained dormant in the hands of S. Francis and Sons Company until 1920 [1921], when it was sold for $8,000 to the Heiner family of Morgan, Utah, who developed it into a popular resort.[33]

Como Redeveloped

On 29 March 1921, John Heiner, Charles Heiner, G.S. Heiner, Sumner P. Nelson, and B. W. Heiner formed the Como Springs Resort Company. The business and pursuit of the corporation was:

> . . . to maintain and operate a pleasure resort, park, groves, and other similar grounds and places of entertainment, recreation and amusement, and to conduct at such places theatricals, entertain-

> ments, dances, concerts, games and sports of all kinds, to maintain and operate a hotel or hotels, a sanitarium or sanitariums, cottages, or tents, restaurants, cafes and any and all accessories as are customary and usual to a hotel and sanitarium business; . . . operate ice ponds and ice plants, the necessary devices and machinery . . . to bottle, manufacture and dispose of mineral water.[34]

On 16 February 1921, a deed was drawn up to convey the 34.67 acres in the Como recreation area to the Como Springs Resort Company.[35] Prior to the Heiner's purchase of the property, it was being used as a feed ground for stock. The Como Resort Company was capitalized for $100,000. Heiners went to work to make Como Resort one of the best in the country. Discussing the quality of water at Como, *Weber River Independent* newspaper reported, "Dr. Beatty, State Board of Health says; . . . it [Como's water] is one of the purest waters that has ever come under his observation.[36] The following articles appeared in the county newspaper:

> Too much cannot be said about Como Resort, which is rapidly nearing completion under the able management of Sylvester Heiner. Already 100 dressing rooms have been completed. They are well built and first class in every respect; are in two separate buildings, 50 in each. One for the women and one for the men. The lumber is of the best material, grooved lumber being used for partition and doors, shiplapping for the flooring.
>
> The large pool 112 x 116 [feet], is completed and has eleven pipes conveying the hot sulphur water into it with sufficient flow so that when the pool is entirely empty it can be filled to its full capacity in 24 hours and the large lake for boating every 55 hours.
>
> A force of men is rushing the work on the dancing pavilion, which will have a floor 60 x 100 feet. It is expected by the last of May that 35 cottages will be nearing completion.[37]
>
> Gates at Como Resort Officially Thrown Open
>
> The Como Resort has its official opening day Wednesday June 22nd. . . . There were fully 1500 people gathered there following the ball game between Morgan and Devil's Slide. . . . The "High-Dive" ad [and] "Slippery Slide" were new features added to the bathing pool. Spencer Rogers of Peterson taking the prize for the most graceful and highest diver. The benches through the grove

> were all taken. . . . In the evening the pervillion [pavilion] was filled to capacity, a closely contested prize for the best couple in the Fox Trot went to Mr. Blain Spencer and his sister Verna. William Clawson and his wife carried off the prize for being the best waltzers. The Lilian Thatcher Orchestra were at their best during the evening.[38]

In July 1921, a building that contained the cafe and boat house was built on the shore of the lake. Irene Heiner operated the cafe which became known for the delicious meals served there. At about the same time, a footbridge was completed across the river at the resort, making it possible for people coming by train to more easily access Como.[39] By August the resort company was building a road from the Lincoln Highway (Highway 30) to the banks of the river, making the resort even more accessible to patrons.[40]

Como was a thriving resort, and Heiners continued to make improvements. In 1922 two new attractions were added: the shooting gallery and the live Shetland pony merry-go-round.[41] Two homes and two picnic pavilions were added in 1924. Additional cabins were also built. An advertisement in a May issue of the local paper attributed Como as having the largest concrete plunge in the state.[42] A covered indoor pool provided swimming even when the cool canyon winds chilled the air. It was also used for LDS baptisms.

Another busy construction year at Como was 1936. A dance hall/roller rink was built to replace the dance pavilion that had been destroyed by heavy snows in the winter of 1933.[43] Additional cabins, new dressing rooms, and showers were built. The original hot dog stand was replaced with a new structure which Nola and Florene Heiner operated for many years.

The bowling alley was built in 1939. There was a snack counter on the front of the building with a partition dividing it from the four bowling lanes. Four pool tables were situated along the south side of the bowling lanes. The bowling pins were set by hand, and the pinsetter had to remain alert to avoid being hit by the pins or the bowling ball. D.A. and Cliff Grover, brothers who helped maintain the grounds at Como, worked as pin setters for many years. During World War II, the bowling alley became a gathering place to get an update on friends who were serving in the armed services.

Circa 1950–53 a cafe was built onto the bowling alley with same type of building materials, so the entire building appeared to have been built at the same time. The kitchen was modern in every way and was run primarily by Rex L. and Vance Heiner. Rex had learned the art of cooking while he served in the navy. Heiners often prepared meals for large groups and conventions. The Utah Fur Breeders Association hosted their summer educational schools at Como during the 1950s and 1960s. Dignitaries from fur auction companies and ranchers from all over the United States attended. A banquet was prepared and served in an outdoor bowery. At one summer meeting, a dignitary from one of the fur auction companies consumed twenty-three cobs of corn and had to be attended by a doctor. The renowned cafe/bowling alley was destroyed by fire in 1980, and a new cafe was built on the same site.

The swimsuit stand/snack counter that can still be seen today was built in 1948 along with 4744 square feet of new dressing rooms. No patron of Como will ever forget calling Key Girl or Key Boy to gain access to his or her dressing room. The large pool was divided into three separate pools in 1949 to comply with state health codes. The brick ten-unit motel was built in 1953–55. Between these major construction projects, improvements were continually being made, including new rest rooms, rides, shelters, etc. At one time, a 1904 model small steam engine train provided a one-half mile ride around the lake.

Como hosted the Red Cross Life Saving School in July 1937. Seventy-five students, consisting of men and women swimming instructors from all over the entire Western U.S. registered for the event. Participants stayed in the cabins while enrolled in the class.[44]

The John Heiner family bought out Como Resort Company circa 1939–1943. No exact date could be ascertained, but the resort swimming pools remained open to the public until 1985 when the doors closed permanently at this favorite summertime activity spot for residents and visitors. Through the years, Como had provided entertainment and recreational activities for thousands. The majority of Morgan's youth learned to swim by attending swimming lessons at the resort. Como also provided excellent summer jobs for many residents, especially the youth of the county.

In 1990 the dance hall/roller skating rink was converted to a modern water bottling facility. The bottled water is sold under the name, "Annie Heiner Pure Rocky Mountain Mineral Spring Water."

Milton Park

In May 1905, members of the community of Milton started plans for a three-acre recreational area. Citizens made donations to purchase land owned by F.A. Little and N.J. Peterson. The community used the park for years as their gathering place for neighborhood activities, reunions, picnics, and ball games. Some of the earliest celebrations held in the community were the July 24th activities.

In 1936 the county purchased a portion of the park to improve the existing county road by removing sharp curves through the area. In order to keep the park at its original three acres, N.C. Peterson donated a portion of his land for the road. Since that time, many improvements have been made to the park.[45] The bell from the belfry of the 1906 Milton School building is on display at the entrance to the community park.

Morgala Days Rodeo

The Morgala Days Rodeo traditionally held each year in June had its humble beginning in 1949. That year Morgan High School band needed uniforms. As a fund raiser, the Morgan Lions Club formed a rodeo committee and hired the services of the East Side Rodeo Company of Promontory, Utah, at a cost of $700 for a two night event. A makeshift arena, corrals, and chutes were assembled on the baseball field at the county fair grounds. The rodeo proved successful, and money was acquired for the uniforms. [46]

The annual event continued and by 1953 more substantial facilities were built and moved east. Eventually they were located at their present site. Early rodeo seating sometimes consisted of bleachers transported by Lions Club members from the State Fair Grounds for the local event.

In 1954 a contest was held to name the annual rodeo. The late Beulah Butters submitted the suggestion Morgala Days Rodeo, which was selected as the official name. The first queen contest was also held in 1954, and a young lady who was visiting a friend in Morgan

entered the contest and won the title of Queen of Morgan Days Rodeo. Since that time, rules have been established wherein only single female residents of Morgan County can participate in the contest. In the formative years, following the contest, the queen was crowned at a well attended street dance held at the corner of Commercial and 125 North Street. Currently the contest is held on the first night of the rodeo along with the announcement of the reigning queen.

The rodeo has been a popular event each year in Morgan County. It has been featured on Newswatch 2 and attended by many V.I.P.'s including the late former governor Scott Matheson and his wife Norma. Out of sixty-nine queens, 1962 Queen Carol Russell and 1964 Queen Lynn Crittenden were also crowned Miss Rodeo Utah.[47] From profits made at the rodeo, the Lions Club has made many improvement to the rodeo area and fair ground facilities. Through the years, the Lions Club has also used proceeds on various projects for community betterment.

Parkside Bowling Center

When Robert Welch built his store circa 1906 on 125 North Street, he also had a small section on one side for a bowling alley. Little is known about the establishment other than it existed and was well patronized. The next bowling alley was built at Como Resort and was very popular with county residents.

By the 1960s, the need for a modern facility was realized. In August 1964 Kenneth Tucker and Kay Hale held a grand opening for the newly completed Parkside Fun Center. The facility, located across the street from Riverside Park, was modern in every way from its automatic pin setters to the billiard room. The building also housed Blain Dopp's Barber Shop, Taylor Maid Hair Styling for women, and space for a dentist office. The bowling alley is still in operation. Ownership has changed, but the facility continues to provide entertainment for all age groups.

Riverside Park

For many years the area in Morgan City on the east side of the Weber River between the river bridge on 200 East Street and the river

bridge on State Street was an eye-sore filled with garbage, old cars, tree trimmings, and every sort of refuse. In the mid 1940s, Faye Williams, Daisy Crouch, and Eliza Ulrich had a dream to reclaim the area and make it into something useful. These ladies formed a citizens' committee and made plans to implement construction of a park; however, city officials determined the cost to reclaim the area and develop it into a park to be beyond the city's ability at the time. Consequently the project was placed on hold.

Some twenty years later, in 1962, former city mayor and Lions Club President Russell Porter revived the ladies' idea for a park. He proposed a community betterment project, and preliminary plans were started for the development of the park. At that time, part of the proposed area was used by the Morgan County road crew. Their road shed, along with a storage area for gravel and building materials, was located on the southeast end. The northwest area was still covered with debris.

In October 1963, the county purchased buildings that had belonged to the canning company and moved its road equipment to this location, using one of the buildings as a road shed. The Community Betterment Committee asked Lorin Tonks to formulate a master plan for the park. Town meetings were held and community support grew as civic and service clubs joined in the endeavor. City and county governments also agreed wholeheartedly to support the proposed park.

The first project to be started was the skating rink, under the direction of Jim Compton. Prior to this, each winter Compton prepared an ice sheet on the vacant lot at the corner of 100 South and 200 East Street. He did this at no charge, but simply for the enjoyment of the youth of the county. Civic organizations, clubs, and private enterprise all helped in the construction of Riverside Park. Hundreds of loads of fill dirt were hauled into the area. Equipment, operators, and general manpower were all donated.

In 1971 Florene Heiner won a contest to name the park by submitting the name Riverside Park. On 4 July 1971, during an evening program, the park was dedicated with a prayer offered by Morgan LDS Stake President Raymond P. Larson. Since that time, improvements have continued to be made at the park. In 1976 an open the-

ater was built in conjunction with Morgan's celebration of the bicentennial of the United States. The theater was dedicated 30 June 1976. Dena Rich described the construction and development of Riverside park as follows:

> There must be an idea, a seed of thought, nurtured in the minds of someone, or some group of people. That seed must be turned over again and again—ideas formed, added upon, revised and shared with others, who in turn add their thoughts and help the plan to mature. Only through the help of many, can a really great project be formed mentally, and carried out materially. Our beautiful "Riverside Park" was no exception.[48]

Kent Smith Park

Walter I. Baker, a resident of the Highlands, realized the great need for a recreational facility in the Mountain Green area. At Walter's suggestion, JoAnn, Kent Smith's widow, and her children considered the idea of a public park. In 1988 the Smith family agreed to donate seven acres of land located opposite Mountain View Subdivision on Old Highway Road for a community park. Walter and JoAnn arranged a park committee to promote the idea and to construct the improvements. Many local residents were involved and instrumental in the implementation of Kent Smith Park.

When Trappers Loop Road was completed and dedicated in 1989, a celebration was held at the junction of old Highway 30 and Trappers Loop Road. The celebration was first called Trappers Loop Rendezvous, but the name was later changed to the Trappers Loop Western Festival. It was held for several years with the proceeds used to help finance construction and development of the park. The state of Utah also provided a grant to help with improvement costs.

Kent Smith Park is an asset to the community it serves. It is equipped with a picnic area, pavilion, rest rooms, kitchen and storage room. The park also includes a baseball field, soccer field, a sand volleyball pit, and playground equipment. Improvements continue to be made as funds become available.[49]

Round Valley Golf Course

During the fall of 1967, a group of promoters purchased, on contract, the Tonks Farm owned by Frank and Flora Tonks and Lewis and

Marie Tonks. The land was to be used for a golf course. Work on the course began in 1969, and a club house was soon built. Mark Ballif, Jr. designed the first nine holes. The initial plan was to sell 500 memberships and establish a private club; however, that goal was never reached, and Round Valley Golf Course was opened to the public.

In 1977 the Small Business Administration foreclosed on the loan and sold the course to the Moore Family from Salt Lake City. It was purchased in 1981 by the present owners (1996), brothers Ray and Les Berg from Evanston, Wyoming, who built an additional nine holes in 1992. The course is very popular and used by Morgan County citizens as well as visitors from other areas of the state.

East Canyon Gorge

The first information about the present site of East Canyon Dam was recorded in July 1846 by the Bryant-Russell party, who sought a route avoiding upper Weber Canyon. They followed the dangerous Indian trail above the gorge suggested by friendly Indians in the area.

East Canyon Gorge was not considered an asset until Utah Territory became more populated and agricultural crops needed late fall watering. Because of rapid development in the arid country, more than 100 canal companies formed by 1896 were diverting water from the Weber River or its tributaries and establishing water rights of the river's normal summer flow. These included ditches outside Morgan County in the lower valleys. Settlers in Davis County area were prompted to explore higher country for a site to build a water storage dam to provide for their fall water needs. East Canyon Gorge was selected in 1894 as an ideal site to construct such a dam. Construction began in 1896 and was completed in 1899 by the Weber and Davis Canal Company. The first dam was constructed of dirt and rock with a 1/2 inch plate steel core. The dam reached sixty-eight feet above the bed of the creek and stored 3834 acre feet of water (or 167 million cubic feet). Cost of this dam was $50,000.[50]

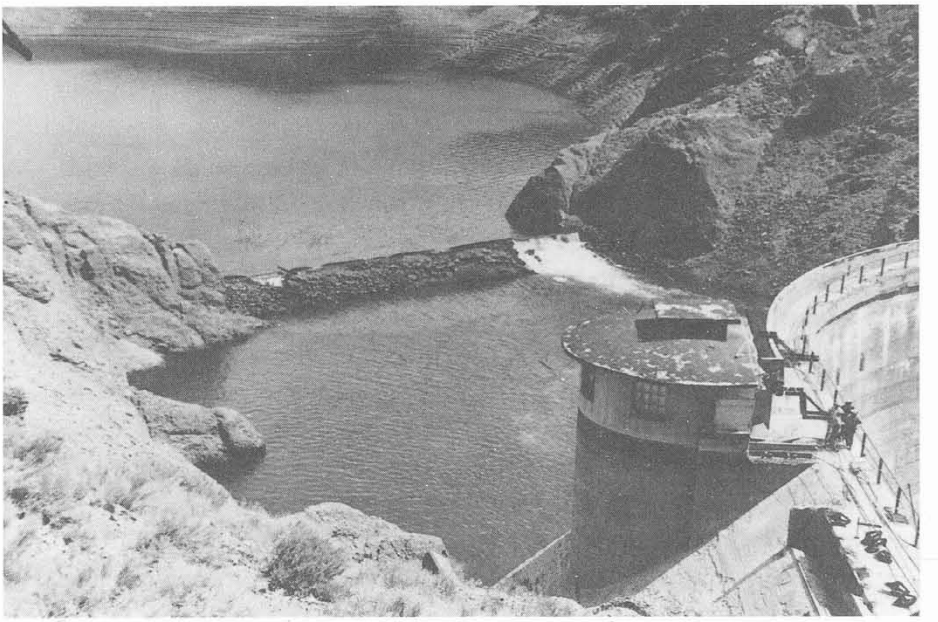
Octava Ursenback, a Morgan resident, was employed to do blasting work with explosives in the rock sides. He described some of the work:

> The heavy shooting at the early stage of the dam was to build a tremendous background for a steel core that was to go across the

> canyon. I recall a huge stone weighing perhaps 100 tons, that slid into the slope, lodging in key-like on either side of the canyon. This alone would be strong enough to withstand the water that would be forced against it. . . .
>
> A tunnel was being bored through a hugh cliff on the east side of the dam itself, as an outlet for the water through steel-screw gates, and the work was pregressing nicely. Excavation for the steel core had been dug to bed-rock, that is where the cliffs on either side met. Here we placed several thousand bags of cement and sand until the bed-rock was raised to water level. This however, proved to have been perhaps premature, for the water was rising so rapidly and would soon flood the tunnel. The only solution was to do deep water blasting [so] that an outlet [could] be opened on the rubble masonry. This I mention that for seventy-two hours we worked shoulder deep in water in one shift, the longest shift of my experience. It was twenty degrees below zero, and the water was warmer than the air.[51]

The height of the dam was raised twenty-five feet in 1900 which increased the water capacity 387 million cubic feet. Two years later, another seventeen feet were added, increasing the capacity to 13,800 acre feet (or 600 million cubic feet). By 1912 the dam provided water to twelve thousand acres of farmland in Davis County alone.

The Reclamation Service (later the Bureau of Reclamation) began in 1915 to construct an arched reinforced concrete dam below the site of the original dam. Work was completed in 1916 at a cost of $175,054. This dam raised 140 feet above the outlet of the old dam and stored 28,000 acre feet. Construction material for the dam was shipped by train to Morgan City, then transported by team and wagon to the job site. Because of the deterioration of the concrete in this dam, in 1964 the Bureau of Reclamation built another thin arch concrete dam immediately below the old dam. The new dam, 210 feet high, increased the storage to 52,000 acre feet. Water storage in the reservoir began on 21 December 1965, and the dam was fully operational in January 1966.[52] The reservoir behind the dam became a very popular recreation area with 684 water surface acres; thus the stage was set for a future recreational area.



Overhead view of the first earthen dam (steel-lined) with water flowing over it to be caught by the first concrete dam.

East Canyon State Park

Nestled in the mountainous region of the Wasatch range east of the Great Salt Lake, East Canyon State Park supports a sport fishery and a wide variety of recreation opportunities. East Canyon reservoir area is managed by Utah Division of Parks and Recreation for outdoor public recreation purposes. The fishery is stocked by Utah State Division of Wildlife Resources. Weber and Davis Canal Company, along with Weber Basin Water Conservancy District and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the dam and outlet works.

After completion of East Canyon Dam, National Parks Service recreational development was begun. In 1967 basic recreational features were constructed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the site was then turned over to Utah State Division of Parks and Recreation. In 1969 water and electricity were added to campgrounds and other service areas.

In the spring of 1976, new and improved recreational facilities

were opened to the public. These new facilities and enhancements were developed by the State of Utah with the assistance of a federal grant and included additional parking, an improved boat ramp, additional day-use facilities, and an upgraded group use area with ceilings on the pavilions, barbecue grills, and lighting. A new entrance station, wider road, storage yard for boats, and a maintenance building were also constructed. In 1990 new rest room facilities were built and in 1993 courtesy docks were added.

Recreational features of the reservoir now include thirty-one developed campsites in three loops at the north end of the lake. This area includes modern rest rooms, picnic tables, drinking water, grills, and a sewage disposal station. A concrete boat-launching ramp, paved parking area, and two group sites with shaded pavilions and barbecue pits complete the facilities. In addition, there are 300 primitive campsites along the lake.

Records show generally increasing visitation to the park since it opened in 1967 with approximately 9,000 visitors. Fluctuations exist that reflect several low water years and changing management practices; however, recent years indicate a fairly steady visitation rate of approximately 150,000 visitors each year.[53]

East Canyon State Park is currently open year-round. This dam designed for irrigation purposes now provides visitors with camping, swimming, boating, picnicking, snowmobiling, ice fishing, and cross country skiing opportunities. The park can be reached by traveling State Highway 66 south through Morgan City. Coming from Henefer or Salt Lake City, State Highway 65 leads to the park. Both roads are asphalt and well maintained.

In September 1997, Goldfleck Corporation donated eighty acres of land Fee Simple to East Canyon State Park. This land has historical significance because it was part of the major route to Salt Lake City and California. It contains part of the trail for the ill-fated Donner-Reed group, Mormon Pioneers, Johnston's Army, the Pony Express, and travelers heading to the gold fields of California. While no prehistoric sites have been recorded within the East Canyon Reservoir Management Area, the area was undoubtedly visited, if not inhabited, by hunter-gatherers of the Archaic Period, probably the Fremont and early Ute groups of Native Americans.

Lost Creek State Park

Lost Creek Reservoir is located about fifteen miles northeast of Morgan City. In 1963 the earthen dam was completed by the Bureau of Reclamation. The reservoir provides irrigation water and has a storage capacity of 22,510 acre feet of water. The maximum surface area is 365 acres. There are 705 acres of Reclamation-owned lands surrounding Lost Creek Reservoir. The dam is operated and maintained by Weber Basin Water Conservancy District.

Administration of recreation in the area was conveyed to Utah Department of Natural Resources on 8 March 1973. In May 1975, an agreement was reached wherein the responsibility for recreational use of the reservoir surface and surrounding area was given to Utah Division of State Parks and Recreation. At that time, the area was designated Lost Creek State Park.

Prior to 1973, the Bureau of Reclamation had developed a boat launching ramp, pit toilets, and a parking area on the south shore of the Francis Canyon arm of the reservoir. These facilities have been used extensively by fishermen, campers, and other recreationalists. The Division of Wildlife Resources stocks the reservoir with fish, making it a popular fishing site during summer and winter months. Limited visitor facilities meet basic visitor needs. Environmental resource assets at Lost Creek Reservoir are monitored and protected.

Clubs and Organizations

Cultural activities for Morgan County residents have been nurtured by organizations dating back to December 1871 when a Debating Society was organized in Porterville with Charles Graves Porter serving as president. This organization continued until a Young Men's Reading and Literary Society was organized on 11 April 1874. The society met weekly for about two years. Home dramatic clubs were also formed and several plays were produced and presented in communities throughout the county.

Now, more than 120 years later, clubs and organizations continue to actively promote cultural and social activities. These groups are also involved in civic projects that benefit the citizens of the county. Some of these organizations are Agriculture Soil Conservation Service (A.S.C.S.), 4-H, Search and Rescue Patrol, Utah Home-

makers, Tykonis (former Les Mai Gai), Literary Club (Alpha and Beta), Morgan Valley Poets, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Council and the Morgan Business Association. Other groups include the following:

Farm Bureau

The State Farm Bureau was formally organized in December 1916 with D.D. McKay of Huntsville as president. Farmers in Morgan County soon followed suit, organizing in 1917 and becoming active with Joseph T. Waldron president, Wallace R. Clark secretary and representatives Victor Bohman, Peterson; Carl Phillips, Porterville; Lee Peterson, Littleton; Clarence Thurston, Milton; and Oscar Rollins, Mt. Green.[54] Morgan County Farm Bureau, however, wasn't officially registered with the state until June 1924.[55]

Agriculture provided the major economy in the county. If local farmers were to compete economically and gain fair market prices, a cooperative effort was needed. Farmers joined the Farm Bureau as a way to collectively compete and thus be able to support their families.

Attorney Frank Evans played a major roll in drafting the necessary bill for approval by the State Legislature, making it legal for non-profit organizations similar to the Farm Bureau to function.[56] Farmers could market their products collectively under this legislation. From this legislation Utah Poultry Association, Weber Central Dairy Association, and Utah Fruit and Vegetable Association were formed.

Of major significance to farmers was the retirement of attorney A.B. Ross in Pennsylvania. Ross traveled by horse and buggy visiting with farmers. From these interviews he learned the needs and concerns of agriculture producers. Intern Ross shared this insight and volunteered his services to Dr. Spillman of the Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. Ross's goal was to convey new information and developments to local farmers of the nation. Ross was hired as the first Agricultural Agent in the United States. From there local county agents were employed help the local farmers.

Morgan Farm Bureau petitioned Morgan County Commissioners and eventually a local agent was employed. The agent was to assist

local farmers in their operations by providing information about the most modern techniques and improvement in the field of agriculture. The Farm Bureau continues to work closely with the local agent.

By 1918 the Farm Bureau also helped farmers by negotiating contract prices for farm commodities, thus insuring them a fair price for their products. Locally, negotiating more fair prices for sugar beets and pea crops boosted local agriculture economy. Education provided farmers with the knowledge to increase crop yields per acre. Farmers were encouraged to purchase certified seeds and to improve irrigation of their land. They learned how to test dairy cows for butter fat production and received recommendations for improved feeding practices.[57] To help improve herds, local Farm Bureau members collectively purchased a registered dairy sire. The sire was transported by trailer to area farms. The Farm Bureau sponsored a community potato cellar built east of the railroad tracks and depot where any farmer could store his potato crop.

From its small beginning eighty years ago, both the Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau Auxiliary have either sponsored or been involved in many activities or projects to benefit the community. These projects are too numerous to list; however some that stand out are Morgan County fairs, school lunches, fair ground improvements, baseball leagues, life insurance, fire insurance, health insurance, top farmer contests, talent contests, safety education, leadership training and off highway gas tax refund. One major accomplishment that has helped maintain farm ground from commercial and residential development was the passage of legislation creating the Greenbelt tax law. This provides for farm acreage to be assessed at production value, not at sale value, thus allowing many farmers to stay in the agriculture business.

The Farm Bureau continues to assist the agriculture man, woman and family pursue their dreams, desires, and pioneer heritage to cultivate the land, raise livestock, and rear their children on the land they have grown to love.

American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars

The American Legion, a national program, was founded in France at the conclusion of World War I. Morgan Post had its begin-

ning in 1924 in a small room over the post office on Commercial Street.[58] The first commander was Francis Bray with John Compton adjutant. The goal of the organization was to sponsor programs for the welfare and betterment of its members, the community, and the nation. American Legion also aided and offered encouragement to veterans, the sick, aged, and needy.

Through the years, programs promoting patriotism and honoring veterans have been presented in the schools. Legions members make sure any veteran buried in the county has a permanent marker placed on his or her grave. Military honors are also presented at grave-side services for all veterans buried within the county. Each Memorial Day, American Legion places a small flag on Veterans' graves, honoring their commitment to their country. In the 1940s VFW began participating in these two activities.

Post 67, with the help of the Morgan County Commission, erected a granite marker placed on the courthouse grounds in 1941, honoring those who served in World War I. About a month after it was dedicated by Governor Herbert B. Maw, the United States entered World War II. The Post received an award for carrying out the "Crusade for Freedom" and "Radio Free Europe" campaigns in the county. The Legion started a program to send youth to Boys State. They continue to sponsor this activity, where young men learn fundamental operations of state government along with leadership abilities. In 1959 in lieu of erecting a granite monument memorial, veterans, together with the American Legion, contributed a considerable amount of money to have a veterans' room included in the new Morgan City and County building. Veterans continue to hold their meeting and functions in this Veterans Memorial Room.

American Legion Auxiliary

American Legion Auxiliary was organized in February 1934 to assist the American Legion with its many programs, including community service, child welfare and rehabilitation of veterans and their families. The first priority was to give aid to sick and disabled veterans, both in and out of the hospital. In the 1940s and 1950s Poppy Day was a big event. Disabled Veterans made small red crape-paper replicas of the Flanders Field poppies of World War I. These were

then sold by the auxiliary ladies with proceeds used for rehabilitation and child welfare purposes.[59] Until the local auxiliary's charter was discontinued in the early 1990s the local organization sponsored girls to attend Girls State. Girls are now sponsored by the state auxiliary.

Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary

The VFW was organized in Morgan County in 1947 with John Johnson commander. In May 1953, Morgan VFW Auxiliary was organized with Mary Williams president. The main objectives of the groups were to assist post members with their projects and to perform community service. Some of the projects sponsored by the groups were the popular hopscotch and marble tournaments. Youth of the county anticipated these two activities each year. VFW Auxillary also sponsored poppy sales for the benefit of veterans and children. Many residents benefited from the efforts of these two groups, especially disabled veterans and school age children.

Morgan Lions Club

The Morgan Lions Club Charter was signed by thirty-five members on October 29, 1929. The purpose of the club was and has continued to be to plan and implement civic projects and to create goodwill and fellowship within the club and county.

To provide finances for many civic projects the club has held fund raisers. In its formative years and up until 1966, annual minstrel shows, wherein members produced and participated with blacked-up faces, were held. J. L. Terry directed the professional production which was a success for thirty-one years. The annual turkey shoot is held at the rifle range as another fund raiser, and many winners take home turkeys. The annual basketball tournament which started with high school and college students has changed to involve seventh and eighth graders' participation. In 1949 the club sponsored and produced a three-day rodeo to help purchase band uniforms for the high school. The event was a great success and has continued to the present. In 1954 it was given the name Morgala Days and has proven to be the club's largest money-making event of the year.

Adhering to the club's objectives, Morgan Lions have given assistance where they could, helping to make the city and county a better

place to live. Some of the projects financed by the club have included providing scholarships to deserving high school students and helping children with sight problems. Each year the Lions Club sponsors a visit by Santa for all children living within the county. The annual Easter egg hunt has been a huge community project wherein members of the club color thousands of eggs and give baskets to the lucky-numbered-egg recipients. In recent years, because of concern for food contamination, plastic eggs have been hidden.

Other projects sponsored by the club have included Rocky Mountain tick immunization clinics, vision clinics and assistance in purchasing an electron microscope for the Utah Lions Eye Research Laboratory. The list continues with the club installing picnic tables, boweries, back stops, dug-outs for Little League Baseball, sprinkling systems, rest rooms and a basketball court, all at Riverside Park. Lights for Morgan High School football field and tennis courts involved the Lions Club sponsorship, and members have made many improvements to the rodeo arena and fair grounds. Street signs and addressing by numbers was another project accomplished by Morgan Lions Club. In recognition of its contributions and accomplishments benefitting the community, Morgan Lions Club has been the recipient of the prestigeous D.A. Skeen award.

In the early 1960s two Lion's Club members, Golden Tucker and Gilbert Francis, donated property by Whites Crossing in East Canyon for a club house. Members then constructed a clubhouse that is also rented at a reasonable fee to the public.

Morgan P.T.A.

Following much research of PTA Associations throughout the state, Morgan Parent Teacher Association was formed in the spring of 1936. This early spring start allowed the group to be functioning for the opening of school in the fall. Also in 1936 the consolidated elementary school in Morgan City opened. Children from all over the county were bussed to the central location; thus a need for hot lunches at the school was apparent to the new organization.

The lunch program commenced under the direction of the WPA and PTA with assistance from the Farm Bureau. Lunches cost three cents. During the war years, 1938 through 1946, the local PTA was

inactive. In February 1947 it was reorganized with the same goal: "Helping the children and youth and better relationship between teachers and parents."[60] The organization has grown with school enrollment and needs. PTA members continue to undertake many projects and activities for the betterment of the students and the community.

Daughters of Utah Pioneers

In April 1918, under the direction of Flora B. Horne of Salt Lake City DUP, Morgan County Camp of DUP was organized. From this beginning, four local camps currently function in the county, Mt. Joy, Morgan, Hardscrabble, and Weber River. One of the goals of the DUP organization is to collect and preserve pioneer relics. Use of two rooms in the Opera House was donated by its owner, the LDS Church, to store this collection and to hold meetings.

The DUP obtained the cabin in which the birth of the first white boy in the county occurred—Roswell Stevens, born 23 September 1857, in Peterson. The cabin was moved from its location and placed on the LDS Tabernacle grounds in July 1931. Charles Young build a pioneer marker at the site of the cabin. A mill burr from the gristmill at Richville and rocks gathered from historic sites and areas of the county are included in the marker. The cabin and marker were dedicated 24 October 1937.

Another major project for the DUP was building their own facility at 33 North State Street. Following several years of fund raisers, the completed cinder-block building was dedicated 26 April 1953. The purpose of the club continues to be to preserve relics, pictures, papers, etc. of pioneers who arrived in Utah Territory prior to the completion of the railroad in 1869, especially those who came to Morgan County.

Fine Arts Study Group

This group was organized and membership accepted in 1947 in the State Federation of Women's Clubs. The goal of the organization was to maintain a group of women for the purpose of education, social, and civic advancement and achievement and to cooperate in community activities. The group has sponsored many projects to

benefit the community. One of their major accomplishments was writing and publishing the history book *Mountains Conquered* in 1959. This book has become the catalyst from which all other histories have derived. Although this club no longer functions, their contributions will always be appreciated.

Culturette Club

The Junior Womens' Club was organized 1 March 1951, as a project of the Fine Arts Study Group. This organization embraces the same goals as their sponsors. They have accomplished many community service projects for the betterment of Morgan County which have included providing baptismal clothing for the LDS Church, sponsoring senior boys and fathers dinner, placing books in the library and setting up the Tot-lot at Riverside Park.

Boy Scouts

The LDS Church was chartered as an official sponsor of the Boy Scout of America in 1912. In 1915, Edward H. Anderson Jr. was stake president. Troop #1 of South Morgan applied for a charter as part of Ogden Gateway District of the Boy Scouts of America on December 14, 1923. The charter was accepted and N. Frank Kearns was appointed scoutmaster. The LDS Church was and continues to be the sponsoring organization for the scout groups in the county. The troop committee consisted of W.E. Francis, William Chadwick and A.O. Durrant. There were twenty-five members of Troop 1. North Morgan Troop #2 was organized at approximately the same time. Hewell B. Cook was scoutmaster of this twelve member troop. The scouting program in Morgan County has flourished. In 1928 Troop #1 was changed to Troop 180 and Troop #2 to Troop 181.

Circa 1948 the area name was changed to Lake Bonneville Council. This title remained until January 1993 when it was changed to Trapper Trails Council. Morgan groups included in this council are in the Weber River District. There are currently thirteen troops and cub scout packs in Morgan. Morgan youth continue to be active in the scout programs, and many young men have received the rank of Eagle Scout. Also many adult leaders have received the Silver Beaver Award.

Girl Scouts in Morgan

Established in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low, the Girl Scout program in the United States is dedicated to inspiring girls to achieve their full potential by strengthing character, providing community service and developing girls into productive citizens.[61]

The earliest record of a girl scout troop in Morgan appears in *Mountains Conquered.* The troop was established in the community of Devil's Slide with leaders Mesdames David M. Edwards, Robt. Pearson and Wm. B. Morgan. The Brownies troop was also implemented at Devil's Slide with Mesdames Thomas Reed and Irwin.[62]

In the 1980s several troops were formed; however, they were small in size and were dissolved after a couple of years. As population in the county increased, by 1990 a major emphasis was placed on establishing a Girl Scout program in Morgan. The program began with a Daisy and Brownie troop. They participated in many local programs and events. During the next several years, enrollment increased and more troops were formed. By 1995 five troops with sixty girls were registered in Morgan County. That same year the Utah Girls Scout Council established a service unit for Morgan with director Beth Christian. The next couple of years enrollment continued to increase to over one-hundred girls and community involvement also expanded. In 1997 the Morgan Valley Service Unit received the Presidents Award from Utah Girls Scout Council for outstanding performance by a service unit.

In the fall of 1997, the local director resigned and within a month the local service unit was disbanded by the state council. Currently members and their leaders are linked with the Wasatch Service Unit located in Ogden.

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CHAPTER 12

MORGAN COUNTY AND THE WORLD

Military Service

In 1840 provisions were granted under the incorporation of the Mormon city of Nauvoo, Illinois, to the city council to organize the inhabitants of the city subject to military duty to perform the same amount of military duty as other bodies of regular militia. They were to submit to the call of the governor for public defense.[1] After leaving Nauvoo and coming west, the necessity to have a defense against hostile Indians who resented the encroachment of Mormons and foreigners on their territory became apparent.

Militia in Morgan

In 1857 an order was issued by Lt. Gen. D. H. Wells dividing the territory into military districts. Allen Taylor was appointed to organize Davis County with Philemon C. Merrill as district commander. James Brook, captain of the militia of Davis County in 1867, reported reviewing the men at Morgan, then a part of the Davis County group:

> . . . First Brigade, Militia of Davis Military District, mustered at Morgan City on October 15, 1869, give [gave] the following members: Willard G. Smith, Charles S. Peterson, T.R.G. Welch, Timothy Metz, Charles Bull, Joseph R. Porter, L.P. Christenson, Richard Fry, Joshua Williams, Samuel Porter, Gillispie Waldron, George A. Davis, and W. G. Smith. Headquarters of the regiment was Morgan City, Utah Territory.
>
> The names of George A. Davis, George Southam, George Simmons, Ephriam Robison, Thomas Grover, Thomas Rich and Thomas Adams were recorded at the armory in the office of the adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, Station of Battalion, Morgan County, October 26, 1863.[2]

In special orders of 18 October 1865, Lt. Gen. D. H. Wells stated: "A well regulated militia is necessary to the security of a free people."[3] Many capable Morgan residents volunteered for this service. Among these men was Captain George A. Davis who came with his family into Morgan valley in 1860 from Massachusetts. His son, Charles A. Davis stated:

> . . . he had heard his father speak of the early militia in Morgan, and how the men used to drill on the flat, south of town, near the warm springs [Como Springs]. His father was a captain and used to wear badges with eagles on his hat and shoulders like those worn in the time of Abraham Lincoln.
>
> Regimental returns of the Second regiment, First Brigade were: one captain, two second lieutenants, five corporals, 90 privates, one lieutenant, five sergeants and eight musicians. As to arms and equipment the records show that the militia had 29 revolvers, 30 rifles, 21 shotguns and muskets, and 1420 rounds of ammunition, six trumpets and two drums. W.G.Smith was commander and T.R.G. Welch was adjutant.[4]

Thomas Adams came to Utah in 1861, his wife in 1866. Mrs Adams remembers Thomas drilling with the militia on the city flat. The drilling field consisted of approximately five acres of land located west of Fry Hollow along the southeast boundary of Morgan City. In order to use the area, six-foot-high sage brush had to be cleared. After many drilling exercises, the leveled red clay soil had compacted and became as smooth and hard as a brick floor. When

drilling encampment convened, enlisted men from around the county came to participate. To serve as lodgings, men pitched tents around the field. During drill practices, many local families drove their buggies to the field to watch. When the drilling field was not being used by the militia, it functioned as a community baseball field.

During the Black Hawk Indian War, members of the militia who went south to participate in the war received pensions. The Morgan militia was ordered to stay at home to protect the residents in case of an Indian attack. These men never received any militia pensions even though at times they were stationed at different locations around the county to watch for hostile Indians. As no official records of the men from Morgan could be located, Annie S. Dickson researched and interviewed individuals and was able to compile the following partial list of those who served in the militia during the Indian problems of 1867.

> George A. Davis, captain; Philemon C. Merrill, David J. Ross, Colonels; Samuel Francis, recorder; Ephriam Robison, Thomas Grover, George Heiner, Daniel Heiner, David Coolbear, William Dickson, Thomas Rich, Walter Norris (Randolph, Utah), Benjamin F. Smith, Thomas Adams, George Simmons, Conrad Smith, Henry Rock, David Robison, William Robison, Daniel Robison, Wyman Parker, Truelove Manhard, Christopher Johnson, Andrew Poulson, Ole Gorder, Simon Murphy, Albert D. Dickson, Judson Dickson, Peter Peterson, Money Welch.[5]

Ephriam Robison, a member of the militia, related having seen a band of 500 Indians travel through Morgan in 1865. The group consisted mostly of warriors carrying long poles similar to fishing poles that had scalps hanging from them. One white woman was among the group. Robison later heard she was the only survivor of a company of immigrants killed between Green River and Rock Springs Wyoming.[6]

Duties heretofore carried out by the militia were assumed by the National Guard of Utah when a unit of the guard was organized in Morgan County 16 June 1894, while Caleb W. West served as gover-

nor of the Territory of Utah. The guard unit was known as Company G. A list of commissioned officers included

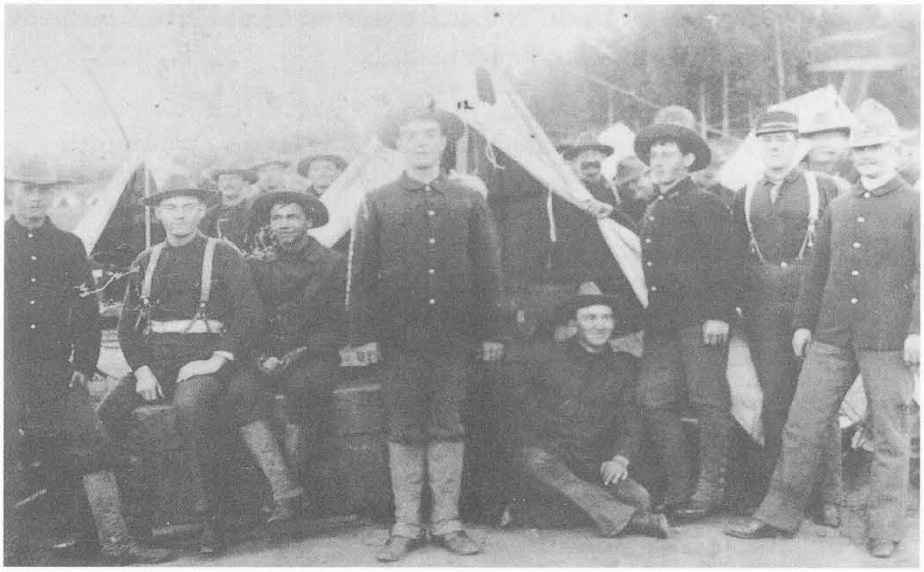
> T. S. Wadsworth, captain; M. J. Harrington, first lieutenant; Fred W. White, second lieutenant. The next year Capt. Wadsworth resigned and . . . Charles H. Criddle was elected captain. The strength of the company when mustered in was 36.
>
> The roll in July 1895 was as follows: C. H. Criddle, captain; M. J. Harrington, first lieutenant; Fred W. White, second lieutenant; J. T. Davison, Charles Clark, N. M Corbett, L. H. Durrant, Alfred Croft, first sergeants; P.A. Jackman, William Ovard, John Eddington, D.M. Anderson, corporals; W. A. Visick, Thomas Poulson, musicians; T. F. White, G. W. Platt, George Palmer, Walter Croft, Ernest Palmer, Fred Palmer, Kilburn Hall, John Wise, Lorenzo Eddington, H. W. Phillips, T. F. Wilcox, Eugene Hibbert, Joseph Spendlove, Angus Heiner, Frank Bremer, Ephriam Whittier, George Criddle, W. G. Smith, Jens Piegras, Mart Black, Frank Croft, Joseph Palmer, Herman Amundson, Joseph Carter, Joseph Wise, Charles Hibbert, Thomas Cottom, privates.[7]

The company drilled every two weeks or more often if possible on the city flat. Equipment and uniforms were on loan from headquarters and the quartermaster's store. E. W. Tatlock, inspector general of the National Guard of Utah, visited Morgan on several occasions to inspect the company which remained available and ready if called upon until the summer of 1897 when it was disbanded and discharged from service.

The Spanish American War

Seven Morgan men enlisted in America's efforts to ease the inhumane treatment and total disregard of the welfare of the Cuban people as they struggled for independence from Spain. In April 1898, D. M. Anderson, Reinhardt Olson, and George Criddle became the first to enlist from Morgan County. Herman Schmidt was already on active duty. Later replacements included Edward Norris Wadsworth, Angus Heiner, Charles Heiner, and Roy Tribe.

Reinhardt Olson and D. M. Anderson were assigned to Battery B Utah light artillery and sailed to Manila where they engaged in



Morgan men who served in the Spanish American War.

intense conflicts, some in which enemy guns scarred their guns with dents. They fought in constant battles until Manila was taken in August 1898.[8]

World War I

In 1914 Germany and England engaged in conflict. The United States didn't enter the war until 16 April 1917, when Germany implemented submarine warfare. The bloody war and Spanish influenza claimed many casualties. Fortunately all 134 Morgan men engaged in the war returned home safely.[9] It must be noted however, that P.F.C. Jared Dickson died of Spanish influenza while in training at Fort Logan Army Base, Colorado. Dickson's body arrived at the Morgan railroad station among eight box cars filled with caskets containing the bodies of other soldiers who had died of influenza at Fort Logan.[10] The war ended 11 November 1918, with the signing of the Armistice.

Morgan County Residents Participate in World War II

When the United States declared war on Japan on 8 December 1941, following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Morgan residents once again did their part to support the country. The following women

enlisted in the Waves (female branch of the U.S. Navy): Faye Eliza Williams, Marne Spendlove, Lola Mecham, Betsy Mikesell, and Leona Halls. Nida Taggart enlisted in the Wac (U.S. Women's Army Corps).[11]

Many young men from Morgan County served their country. From those men, fifteen paid the ultimate price for peace. Those buried in other countries or listed as missing in action included Richard Mikesell, Craig Hannum, Jack Elkins, Arthur Leatham, Norris Nelson, Thomas Giles, Riley LaMarr, and Ronald Lucky. Ronald Lucky participated in the Death March at Battan Bay, Philippines, and was one of the first servicemen from Morgan listed as missing in action. Family members later learned that Lucky died in a Kabantuan prisoner of war camp of malaria and malnutrition. Bodies of seven men returned home for burial included Wendell Carrigan, Max White, Burton Nelson, Chester Olsen, Roy Eastman, Malin Francis, and Robert Smith.

Former Morgan resident Norris Wadsworth was working for Del Monte Company in the Philippines when war broke out. He, his wife, and his two children were held prisoners of the Japanese for three years.

Korean War

A United States dominated United Nations coalition was sent to aid South Korea in 1950 due to North Korea's violation of the 38th parallel division made after World War II. U.S. involvement centered around the fact that North Korea was aided by the U.S.S.R. and was allied with Communist China. The Korean War was a Cold War conflict that ended in a stalemate and the restoration of the political status quo. The division of Korea remains as one of the physical legacies of the Cold War still in existence in the 1990s.[12]

Morgan County residents active in the Korean War were primarily veterans of World War II who had remained active in reserve forces. Many felt war-weary at the end of World War II and wished for normalcy to return to their lives.

Vietnam

The long, tedious, controversial Vietnam War began in the mid 1950s and continued until 1975. The fundamental conflict behind

this war entailed the existence of the Cold War between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. Spurred by heightened fears of an encroachment of communism on the world, the U.S. became increasingly involved in supporting the Republic of Vietnam in the south against the Communist Democratic Republic of Vietnam in the north. The war was costly in both dollars and human lives.[13]

Many young men of Morgan answered the call to serve in the armed forces. Others were deferred from the draft for various reasons such as serving LDS missions, educational deferments, marital status, or currently serving in a reserve unit. Mention should be made of the practice adopted by the LDS Church at this time regarding missions. The Church limited the number of missionaries leaving from each ward during the time of the draft to two and also placed a general limit at the stake level. Usually the two who were allowed to go were those who were the first to turn nineteen in their wards.

Morgan area returning veterans were usually honored in the paper and were not spurned by residents as was sometimes the case in other parts of the nation. Many U.S. citizens viewed the war as senseless. Despite the high human toll of the war in general, no men from Morgan were lost, although many were injured. One former resident of Morgan, Frank J. Lacy, who had moved before he entered the service was killed.

Gulf War

In August 1990, Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait and seized control of the country. By August 7, President George Bush had committed United States' troops to the Gulf as part of Operation Desert Shield. Alarmed by Iraq's aggressive move and the acquisition by Iraq of rich oil fields, the United Nations authorized the use of force if Iraq did not withdraw by 15 January 1991. Iraq did not withdraw and coalition air strikes led by the U.S. began on January 16 (Operation Desert Storm.) On February 28, coalition forces made up of troops from Britain, France, Italy, Saudi Arabia, United States, and more ousted Iraqi forces from Kuwait. Allied military operations were then suspended. War was never officially declared, but Congress did authorize "the use of force." Patriotism soared in the U.S. with a general approval of the war, save a few anti-war demonstrations and a few

hesitant Congressmen. Approval ratings of President Bush spiraled 91 percent during this period largely because of the short duration of the war and the incredibly low casualty numbers.[14]

Morgan county also caught this wave of patriotic support. Yellow ribbons, a common sight throughout the nation during this period, appeared all over town and on citizens themselves. Flags flew and people spoke of "doing it right this time," a reference made to supporting Desert Storm soldiers as a form of repentance for the nation's treatment of soldiers during the Vietnam War. Six citizens of Morgan County served during this time: Lt. Col. Steven Tucker, Clark W. Garn, Gene P. Bills, John Simpson, Ginger Johanson, Matt Franich (who worked as a civilian in Saudi Arabia), and Marlin Raphael. Morgan citizens in general supported these individuals and were lucky to welcome everyone of them back home.[15]

The Great Depression

The stock market crash of October 1929 catapulted the entire nation into an economic depression. Banks closed, industrial expansion ceased, and agricultural markets dried up. Utah was drastically affected. Only 33.5 percent of Utah's population was gainfully employed prior to the full impact of the 1930 depression. The only state with a smaller employment proportion was Mississippi. Agricultural prices declined drastically. Sugar beet prices went from fifteen dollars per one-hundred pounds to five dollars, beef prices dropped from nine cents to less than four cents a pound, and wool went from thirty-six cents to seven cents per pound.[16] Hog farmers of Morgan valley were being paid five dollars per head for reducing their sale of hogs by twenty-five percent.[17] Agriculture, which represented a large percent of Morgan's economy, was also affected by a drought. To add to the dilemma of the farmers in Morgan, the sugar beet crop was nearly destroyed by the beet web worm in 1933. DeWilt Harding who operated the Johnson farm located on Island Road remembers " . . . overnight the web worms hit the beet patch and leaves turned black loosing an entire crop."[18] Morgan's largest employer, Ideal Cement Plant closed its doors for eleven months, commencing in mid 1931, creating another hardship on Morgan residents until it reopened 1 June 1932.[19] Fortunately, The First National

Bank of Morgan did not close like many other banks that failed at the time; however, because of the shortage of money, acquiring a loan was very difficult.

Although agricultural communities suffered economically during the depression, agriculture helped Morgan residents through the depression. People were without money but were able to provide food for their families. Most families had a cow and a few chickens, and many were sustained on lots of " . . . potatoes and milk gravy, pigweed greens, and what a treat - dandelions early in the spring for salads."[20] Morgan young men missed several weeks of school each fall to help harvest crops. Some were paid in produce which helped with the family food supply. Young men and young women fortunate to have a steady job gave most of their wages, however small, to help their families survive. Neighbors helped neighbors by providing food and clothing. The barter system was used extensively. If a farmer had a successful growing season, he would often load his wagon with harvested row crops and take them to less fortunate individuals. Communities of Morgan County pulled together.

The Extension Service aided the women by teaching them sewing, cooking, and canning skills to help them sustain their families through the difficult times. Nothing was thrown away. A member of the First Presidency of the LDS Church, J. Reuben Clark, gave this counsel, "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without." Clothing was always recycled. If an article of clothing became too small, it was given to another family member or remodeled and worn.Good sections of worn out clothing were used in making other clothes, blankets, rugs etc. Keeping children in shoes was overwhelmingly difficult. When holes were worn through shoe soles, a new piece of cardboard was cut each morning and inserted into the shoe. Very few people had new clothes. Jeans were patched and repatched. Most girls owned only one dress to wear to school. One Morgan resident said he didn't know his family was poor until someone told him they were because everyone was in the same circumstance, having very little. As if the depression were not enough,

> Floods and drought seemed to alternate during the 1930 decade. In August 1930, Governor George H. Dern launched a drive to

> obtain $35,000 to aid the residents of 'devastated' counties in Utah. A terrible rainstorm had just the month before hit Devil's Gate where it "poured a torrent on the mountains which rushed down the steep canyons sending down huge masses of earth and filled the bottom of the main canyon in two places and covered the railroad over for six hundred feet and forty feet in depth."[21]

To aid families during the depression, in April 1933 the government implemented a new program called the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). "The program had three goals: alleviate unemployment, reclaiming and improving youth, and rehabilitating and conserving the nation's natural resources."[22] The CCC program functioned until June 1942 when the United States became fully involved in World War II.

During the CCC's existence, thirty-four CCC camps for young men between seventeen and twenty-three years old dotted Utah's landscape. Those enrolled were paid thirty dollars each month, of which CCC requirements stipulated a minimum of twenty-two dollars be sent home. Utah was allowed 2300 participants statewide and applications always exceeded quotas. Morgan County's first quota allowed for eleven young men. Those selected from Morgan worked at CCC camps mostly on forest lands outside the county. CCC camp work projects included reforestation, construction of trails, picnic tables, benches, fireplaces, shelters, fences, cabins, low standard roads, flood control work and insect control.

Due to the drought and dust storms of 1934, congress enacted a law creating the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), a new addition to the Department of Agriculture. This allowed CCC Camps to work on soil conservation projects on both public and private lands. In Utah five CCC Camps were assigned specifically to the SCS.[23]

A supposedly temporary CCC sub-camp of the Willard, Utah, Soil Conservation Service was established in Morgan on 24 April 1939. The camp remained in Morgan until 11 June 1941. Approximately thirty young men were assigned to the Morgan sub-camp, living in temporary wooden barracks located on property owned by Virgil Stewart just north of the fair ground, between the road to Como and the Weber River. The army furnished buildings and equipment and operated the commissary. The SCS directed work

schedules, projects, and programs.[24] One specific project in Morgan County involved fencing the Morgan City watershed area in North Morgan. The area had been overgrazed and trampled by herds of livestock on their way to and from winter and summer ranges. CCC men under the direction of the SCS reseeded the area with native grasses in an endeavor to rehabilitate the area.[25] Other projects included channel clearing work on Deep Creek and East Canyon Creek where corpsmen used a new type of live willow-mat revetment on the banks.[26]

Morgan benefited from another program implemented by the government, a Public Works Administration, implemented to provide employment during the depressed times. As a PWA project in 1936, the centrally located elementary school was constructed in Morgan City. Another PWA project called for the government to furnish equipment (while retaining ownership) for a canning center to can vegetables for the school lunch program. As early as July 1937 the former South Morgan Elementary school at 93 North State Street, owned by the LDS Church and converted to a church canning facility, was considered by the School Board for the site of the PWA canning project. In 1944, however, after careful consideration, officials determined the building wouldn't qualify and decided on construction of a new center to be built at 185 East 100 North Street, across from the new elementary school on .93 acres of land purchased by the Board of Education from William Chadwich for $300.[27] The completed facility was used by the school to can food for the school lunch program as well as by the LDS Church and private individuals. Anyone could use the facility but had to provide his or her own produce. Users purchased cans from the center. Also to assist Morgan residents,

> The Morgan Stake opened a storehouse 3 March 1937 in the Dale Pingree Produce building. (This building is located at 396 East 300 North Street). This is a part of the LDS Church Security Program, and is under the direction of the Stake Presidency, Stake Relief Society President and the Bishops of the wards. Donations of food and clothing will be accepted and the general public is urged to support the drive. The produce and articles collected are to be used for church people who are in need . . . [28]

> Under the Church Security Plan, organized on 28 June 1936 work projects were instigated to raise various agricultural crops. At a meeting on 7 June 1939, they were asked to support the planting of one acre of cauliflower. Stanley B. Rose volunteered an acre of his land. The bishops were asked to have ward members donate the labor for the planting and harvesting of the crop. That same year squash was also raised and canned in the stake.[29]

Since both U.S. Highway 30 and the railroad traversed Morgan County, many transients passed through at this time. They hitchhiked or rode the freight trains on or inside of box cars. When the trains stoped at Morgan, these drifters got off to look for work or to go house to house asking for food. Most residents generously helped them.

No money was available for anything not considered a necessity. Recreation during the depression centered around home, church, and school; in fact, people continued to enjoy themselves in spite of their circumstances. For children growing up during the depression, receiving an orange afforded a real treat. During this time, rag dolls became popular and were made by many mothers.

Morgan City and Morgan County officials along with the county school board and LDS Church leaders worked together for the welfare of all citizens. All made sacrifices and implemented programs for the betterment of the people. Residents of Morgan County pulled together and struggled through the depression years, helping each other.

Morgan County Today

Morgan County historically has been described as a Republican county when considering national and state elections; however, a majority of the residents do not vote a straight ticket at elections. Records indicate that citizens vote for individuals and their platforms, not for their party affiliation.

The registered voters of Morgan have established their reputation as concerned citizens. Voter turnout has always been commendable. In 1988 of the 2873 citizens registered, 2592 or 90 percent voted for national, state, and county candidates. However good this achievement may have been, it was not Morgan County's best.

History records that in 1952, Utah's 79.6 was the highest percentage for any state in the nation, and Morgan County's 91.1 percent was the highest for any county in the state of Utah. For this achievement, Morgan county received recognition from the American Heritage Foundation. Maintaining a high percent of voter participation over the years indicates true patriotism. Morgan County citizens have continued to show their presence at the poles. The 1992 general election showed a 91 percent voter participation.

When Morgan voters go to the ballot box in 1998, local concerns will be confronted. Major issues facing the people include whether or not to change the county government from a three member commission to a seven member board. Because Morgan is one of the fastest population growing counties in the state, growth and development stand as major concerns of its citizens, along with providing adequate facilities for education of the youth. Citizens from Morgan County take an active part in the issues facing the county and state.

ENDNOTES

1. Joseph Fielding Smith, *Essentials of Church History* (Salt Lake City: Deseret News Press, 1953), 272.

2. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered,* 96.

3. Ibid., 95–96.

4. Ibid. 96–97.

5. Ibid. 96.

6. Ibid. 98.

7. Ibid. 99.

8. Ibid. 100–101.

9. WWI monument located on Morgan County Courthouse lawn

10. Forde Dickson *The Life and Works of Forde Dickson,* n.p. n.d., 49, 50. on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

11. Fine Arts Study Group, *Mountains Conquered,* 102.

12. Lawrence T. Lorimer et al. eds., *Academic American Encyclopedia* (Danbury, Conn.: Grolier Inc., 1991); "Korean War," Roy K. Flint. *

13. This treatment is largely taken from class notes of Dr. Ross Peterson's class, Recent America, taught at Utah State University. Notes in possession of Morgan County Historical Society.

14. Roger East, et al. eds., *Record of World Events 1991* (UK: Longman

Group UK Limited, 1991), vol. 37, number , 37934–37943 and number 2, 37982–37990.

15. *Morgan County News,* 8 February 1991.

16. Leonard J. Arrington, "Utah, the New Deal, and the Depression," presented as a Dello G. Dayton Memorial Lecture, 25 March 1982.

17. Morgan Utah North Stake, *Morgan Stake 1877–1981* (Salt Lake City: Publisher's Press, 1988), 129.

18. Emma Harding, The Great Depression-1929, n.p., on file at Morgan County Historical Society.

19. Morgan Utah North Stake, 129.

20. Emma Harding, 31 March, 1995.

21. Morgan Utah North Stake, 129.

22. Leonard J. Arrington, 16.

23. Frank Bohman, Morgan Soil Conservation District (1937–1985) n.d. n.p., on file at Morgan County Historical society, 2,3.

24. *Morgan County News,* 14 April 1939.

25. *Morgan County News,* 24 January 1941.

26. *Morgan County News,* 15 December 1939.

27. Morgan County Recorder's Office. *Book of Deeds,* Book O, 447.

28. Morgan Utah North Stake, 130.

29. Morgan Utah North Stake, 132.

Appendix List

Note: Many early records did not list the given names of those who served in offices or other positions. The dates a person took office either by appointment or election were not always available. Sometime the names were gleaned from the text of the county minutes and those are the dates listed. In some instances the dates are the election dates and some are the dates they took office. It is possible some individuals who served in public office are not included on the lists. Every effort was made to make these lists as accurate as possible, any omissions were not intentional

PROBATE JUDGES: 1862 Charles Shreeve Peterson, 1864 Willard G. Smith, 1869 Jesse Haven, 1878 Willard G. Smith, 1882 Jos. R. Porter, 1886 Samuel Francis, (1887 the President of the United States appointed the probate judges rather than having them elected by the residents of the county.) 1889 Lars P. Edholm, 1894 Samuel Francis,

SELECTMEN (Serving with Probate Judges): 1862 Ira N. Spaulding, Philemon C. Merrill, Joseph Bradt, 1864 Jonathan Hemenway, 1865 John Robinson, 1868 Charles S. Peterson, 1869 Joseph Card, 1870 Joseph R. Porter, William Eddington, 1871 David

B. Bybee, 1873 Willard G. Smith, 1874 George Thackeray, 1876 C. S. Peterson, 1877 John H. Rich, 1878John Hopkin, 1879 John Croft, 1880 James Stewart, Charles Turner, Lyman W. Porter, 1881Jesse Haven, 1882 John H. Rich, 1883 Ole Gaarder, 1883 William H. Toone, 1884 Peterson Anderson, 1885 W. G. Smith, 1886 J. R. Porter, 1888 W. H. Croft, 1889 George Criddle, 1891 James Tucker, William H. Rich, 1893 T. U. Butters, Charles J. Toone, 1895 John Wood, 1896 T. U. Butters, A. F. Bohman, Christopher Kofford.

When Utah became a state in January 1896 Morgan county would no longer be governed by a probate judge and selectmen, but by three county commissioners. The three selectmen serving in 1896 continued to serve the county as commissioners until 1898 and new commissioners were elected by the citizens of the county. (Most of the dates given are election years) 1898 James W. Stewart, John Thurston, George R. Thackeray; 1900 John Wood, John Thurston, A. E. Rose; 1902 O. H. Randall, James Carrigan, Ezra B. Parish; 1904 W. H. Toone, W. E. Criddle, 1906 T. U. Butters, Joseph Durrant; 1908 W. E. Condie, George E. Carter; 1910 S. S. Florence, George E. Carter; 1912 Lyon L. Toone, Thomas W. Butters; 1914 Joseph A. Parrish, Thomas Palmer; 1916 Levi Waldron, John S. Turner; 1918 W. E. Criddle, W. A. Bridges; 1920 J. Melvin Toone, John S. Turner; 1922 Richard H. Rich, J. M. Toone; 1924 S. S. Florence, J. M. Toone, Richard H. Rich; 1926 G. S. Heiner, James Bertoch, E. A. Wilde, (completed term of J.M. Toone); 1928 J. Rich Waldron, Clarence Thurston; 1930 G. Sylvester Heiner, Clarence Thurston; 1932 Errol D. Eddington, Frank L. Whittier; 1934 James T. Palmer, George S. Heiner; 1936 Errol Eddington, James T. Palmer; 1938 Joseph W. Williams, James T. Palmer; 1940 Errol D. Eddington, G. S. Heiner; 1942 T. R. Bates, James T. Palmer; 1944 H. H. Crouch, Lincoln Jensen; 1946 Golden Porter, Lincoln Jensen; 1948 Herbert J. Whittier, Harold E. Little; 1950 James T. Palmer, Lee B. Rollins; 1952 Howard Taggart, Lee B. Rollins; 1954Dick L. Peterson, James T. Palmer; 1956 Glen Thurston, Dick L. Peterson; 1958 Paul Stuart, Joseph W. Toone; 1960 Ivan E. Carter, Joseph W. Toone; 1962 Russell C. Porter, Joseph W. Toone; 1964 Harry J. Wilkinson, Paul R. Stuart; 1966 Lorin Tonks, Lincoln Jensen; 1968 Ken W. Sommers, Harry J. Wilkinson; 1970 Lincoln Jensen, Ken Sommers; 1972 Dale Thurston, Ducloux (Duke)

C. Jones,(Ken Sommers died 1973); 1973 Paul Stuart (appointed); 1974 Paul Toone, Frank Bohman; 1976 Don Turner, Dale Thurston; 1978 Kenneth W. Nelson, Don A. Turner; 1980 Steven J. Hopkin, Frank Bohman; 1982 Kenneth G. Adams, Don A. Turner; 1984 Steven J. Hopkin, Kenneth G. Adams; 1986 Jeffery D. London, Carol L. Hardy, 1988 Dee Allan Waldron, Carol L. Hardy; 1990 Joan Patterson, Herb Crittenden; 1992 Dale C. Wilson, Herb Crittenden, Joan Patterson; 1994 Jan K. Turner, Jeffery D. London (resigned 1997); 1996 Mike McMillan, 1997 Sheila Wilkinson (appointed).

Since the organization of the county in 1862, during some periods of time one person served as clerk/auditor and recorder as one position. However, there are years when the office was divided with one person serving as clerk/auditor and another as recorder. From the available records we have tried to make this distinction as accurately as possible.

CLERKS: 1862 James Bond, 1868 Thomas Welch (clk & rec), 1870 Samuel Francis, 1886 Charles A. Welch, 1890 W. W. Francis (clk), 1893 Charles A. Welch, 1896 D. A. Robinson, 1898 James H. Taggart (clk), 1902 William Robinson (clk), 1907 O. B. Anderson, 1908 William Robinson (clk), 1910 Richard T. Fry (clk), 1913 Flaurie E. White, 1914 Athena Parker (clk), 1916 Oluf B. Anderson, Preston D. West; 1918 Kate Littlefield (clk & rec), 1920 Flaurie E. White (clk & rec),1938 Anna Sommers (clk & rec), 1952 W. Richard Thompson (clk & rec), 1958 W. Richard Thompson (clk & rec. died Nov 1960), 1960 Marjorie W. Rogers (appointed clk & rec), 1966 Mary O. Mecham (clk & rec until 1978),

CLERK/AUDITOR: 1978 Mary O. Mecham, 1982 Janis Widdison, 1990 Penny P. Taylor (resigned 1997), 1997 Pauline M. Green (appointed).

COUNTY RECORDER: 1890 James Durrant, 1900 William Eddington, 1904 A. W. Heiner, 1906 Thomas C. Harding, 1908 George Y. Robbins, 1912 W. Visick, 1916 Kate Littlefield, 1978 Betty L. Green, 1991 Florence Whitaker, 1994 Deborah Weaver (resigned 1997), 1997 Harold R. Laughter (appointed).

ASSESSORS: 1862 John D. Parker, 1864 John Boyden, 1867 T.R.G. Welch, 1874 J. Seaman, 1877Fredrick Kingston, 1881 Joseph H. Mason, 1884 Henry Eddington, 1891 Sandron E. Rich, 1898

Thomas Grover, 1900 T.G. Welch (died), 1902 Robert Welch (appointed), 1902 William B. Brough, 1904 George W. Brough, 1906 William Giles, 1908 O.M. Porter, 1910 A. B. Carrigan, 1912 George Brough, 1916 L. H. Durrant, 1918 James W. Carrigan, 1920 George W. Brough, 1922Lyman Mecham JR., 1926 George W. Brough, 1930 Ralph P. Warner, 1934 Albert R. Turner, 1958 Lincoln Jensen, 1962 Paul Turner and 1994 Gwen Rich.

COUNTY TREASURER: 1862 Isaac Bowman[Bohman], 1866 John Boyden, W. G. Smith, 1869 Richard Fry, 1870 Joseph Darke, 1871 Richard Fry, 1890 John Walls, 1894 James Durrant, 1898 Frank A. Little, 1900 Jas. R. Rawle, 1904 H. B. Crouch, 1906 Robert H. Welch, 1912 Henery Heiner, 1914 James R. Rawle, 1918 Charles E. Condie, 1920 M. Howard Randall, 1922 Lettie Ray, 1926 Frank Whittier, 1930 Jesse C. Little, 1934 Amelia L. Robison, 1938 Frank L. Whittier, 1946 Leonn Dingman Grover, 1950 Grace P. Eddington, 1954 Dorothy W. Richins, 1962 Florence Mae Richins, 1978 Janice Larsen, 1986 Gloria Anderson (resigned 1997), and 1997 Bonnie B. Thompson (appointed 1997).

MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF: 1862 Thomas J. Johnson, 1869 Isiah Eardley, 1871 W. M. Parker, 1871 David J. Ross, 1873 David Sanders (Saunders), 1880 Goodrich, 1886 John H. Dickson (resigned), 1886 Richard R. Fry (apt), 1889 John H. Dickson (apt), 1890Henry C. Eddington, 1897 Christian Kofford, 1900 David M. Anderson, 1902 Brigham Y. Robison, 1906 John Hopkin, 1910 E. E. Butters, 1916 Brigham Y. Robison, 1922 Joseph E. Littlefield, 1926 Thomas Fry, 1930 Thomas W. Fry, 1942 Bernard Dahlquist, 1950 T. J. Stuart, 1954 Porter A. Carter (retired 1971), 1971 Michael L. Evans (appointed), 1973 Ted London (Protem), 1973 Max Robinson, and 1985 Bert Holbrook.

NOTE: Dates listed prior to 1900 are not necessarily the dates the individuals became sheriff, but the year the person was listed as sheriff. Some of the early sheriffs were listed as elected, appointed, and others were simply mentioned as sheriff in the contents of the county minutes.

COUNTY ATTORNEY: 1862 John D. Parker, 1870 Samuel Francis, 1870 Joseph R. Porter, 1885 F. Kingston, 1890 James R. Stuart, 1892 Samuel Francis Sr., 1897 Joshua Williams, 1898 Charles

E. Condie, 1900 T. A. Condie, 1902 James Johanson, 1908 C. E. Condie, 1910 Joseph R. Porter (Died 1912), 1912 James Johanson (appointed), 1914 Samuel Francis, 1918 C.M. Croft, 1920 Warren W. Porter, 1936 James J. Connell, 1938 Francis E. Bray, 1940 James J. Connell, 1946 Sydney H. Heiner, 1950 Grant S. Nielsen, 1954 Bert S. Dickson, 1966 Clyde C. Patterson, 1973 Robert A. Echart, 1974 Phillip Patterson, 1986 Dwight King, 1991 J.D. Poorman. For a short period of time the county attorney also served as the county surveyor. Those who served in this duel position were:

*ATTORNEY AND SURVEYOR:*1922 Charles Calvin Geary, 1926 A. Golden Kilbourn, 1928 James J. Connell, 1929 A.C. Visick (appointed), 1930 James J. Connell, 1932 C. Jay Parkinson and 1934 James J. Connell.

COUNTY SURVEYORS: 1862 Arvin W. Stoddard, 1878 Henry Eddington, 1888 Charles A. Welch, 1890 Oluf B. Anderson, 1891 E. W. Hunter, 1898 Fred W. Clark, 1900 Oluf B. Anderson, 1912 Ralph O. Porter, 1914 Oluf B. Anderson, 1918 James W. Carrigan, 1920 Oluf B. Anderson and 1934 Harold G. Clark (elected consecutively through the 1970 election He died January 30, 1973)

Morgan City Officials

MAYOR: 1868 William Eddington, 1876 Richard Fry, 1883 Samuel Francis, 1890 George Heiner, 1893 James R. Rawle, 1894 Daniel Heiner, 1896 R. R. Fry, 1898,Charles Turner, 1900 H.B. Crouch, 1902 Thomas Harding, 1904 John Heiner, 1906 H. B. Fry, 1908 Richard R. Fry, 1910 W.S. Graham, 1912 G. Sylvester Heiner, 1914 Richard R. Fry, 1916 Thomas W. Butters, 1920 E. O. Kingston, 1922 H. B. Crouch, 1924 Richard R. Fry, 1928 Frank R. Ulrich, 1930 H. H. Crouch, 1932 Richard T. Fry, 1934 Samuel B. Dunn, 1938 Herbert H. Crouch, 1944 Don C. Durrant, 1946 Fred L. Parkinson, 1948 Richard Carter, 1950 Paul R. Stuart (resigned 1/5/59), 1959 Russell C. Porter (appointed 1/7/59), 1960 Russell C. Porter, 1962 Roy M. Maxwell, 1974 M. Dale Durrant (died 1980), 1980 George Francis (appointed), 1982 Abbott Mikesell, 1986 John C. Johnson, 1988 David Rich, 1994 W. Lee Dickson and 1998 Y. Marie Heiner.

CITY COUNCILMEMBERS: 1868 Richard Fry, Robert Hogg, Wyman M. Parker and Charles Turner, 1869 Abiah Wadsworth, 1870

Martin Heiner, 1872 Timothy Metz, 1874 Daniel Bull, George Heiner, W. Hemming, 1876 Daniel Robinson, Samuel Francis, 1883 J. E. Stevenson, James R. Stuart, William Hemming, 1884 James Tucker, Daniel Robison, James R. Stuart, William Hemming, J. E. Stevenson, Jas. R. Rawle, Conrad Smith, George Heiner, 1886 Charles R. Clark, 1888 Williams, Charles A. Welch, George Heiner, James S. Stuart, D. A. Robinson, 1890 James Tucker, James R. Rawle, S. Francis, 1893 W. T. Cook, James Littlefield, Jas Tucker, David Robison, James A Stewart, 1894 James W. Stewart, Charles Turner, Charles A. Welch, D.A. Robinson, A.D. Shurtliff, 1896 George H. Taggart, Thomas Palmer (resigned 11/96), Jas R. Rawle, D. Robinson, D.A. Robinson, J.V. Stewart (apt. 11/96), 1898 James Rawle, Richard Fry, Thomas Harding, T.U. Butters, James H. Taggart, 1900 C. A. Welch , E. O. Kingston, James H. Taggart, R.R. Fry, H. B. Crouch, Thomas Palmer, 1902 Durrant, Joseph E. Francis, William J. Eddington, Thomas Palmer, 1904 Issac Morris (resigned 6/1905), George Turner, David Coolbear, Charles Turner, C. F. Osgood, Thomas Palmer, 1905 H. B. Crouch, Oliver Kingston (apt 6/1905), 1906 T. U. Butters, Walter Bramwell, Charles Turner, Peter Rock, Joseph Rasmussen (resigned 2/13/1907), J.T. Waldron (apt. 3/4/07), 1908 T. U. Butters, Thomas Palmer, J.T. Waldron, Alfred O. Durrant, Peter Rock, 1910 Jas. B. Eddington, Thomas Palmer, Thomas C. Harding, Thomas W. Butters, Joseph T. Waldron, 1912 Thomas W. Butters, J. B. Eddington, Walter E. Francis, Jas. S. Welch, 1914 C.C.R. Pugmire (res. 1/8/14), Robert H. Welch, Joseph Williams Jr., George A. Taggart, Daniel Heiner, J.T. Waldron, 1916 Daniel Heiner, Herbert B. Crouch, T.W. Fry, E.O. Kingston, Wallace R. Clark, J. R. Rawle, 1918 W. Morgan White (died 10/1918), Horace Heiner, Peter Rock, H. B. Crouch, William Chadwick (apt 1/6/1919), 1920 William Chadwick, George A. Taggart, George C. Turner, Calvin Geary, Thomas Butters, Alfred M. Croft, 1922 William Chadwick (rsgn 9/4/1923), Frank F. Ulrich, Robert H. Welch, Brenton W. Heiner, George A. Taggart, George C. Turner (apt 9/4/1923), 1924 Wm. R. Eddington, Curtis Rogers Sr., Wallace Dickson, Thomas Palmer, John A. Compton, George C. Turner, 1926 Errol Eddington, James Palmer, Robert Chapin, Oliver R. Stuart, David Robison, 1928 Gilbert Francis, Walter G. London, Jesse C. Little, Austin A. Barlow, Robert Chapin, Errol Eddington,

1930 Richard H. Rich, Errol D. Eddington, Thomas C. Harding, Robert J. Richards, George C. Turner, 1932 Thomas Burton, Calvin C. Geary, John A. Compton, Albert R. Turner, Thomas C. Harding, 1934 Calvin C. Geary, John A. Compton, James T. Palmer (resgn 1/1/35), John R. Hopkin (apt 1/1/1935), Kate W. Littlefield (First woman elected to council resgn 1/1/36), Albert R. Turner, 1936 G. Theron Taggart (apt 1/1/36), Albert L. Williams, John L. Heiner, John A. Compton, C. C. Geary, 1938 Richard T. Bates, Lawrence Bell, Grant Eddington, Albert L. Williams, John Heiner, 1940 Grant Eddington, Lawrence Bell, Earl Butters, John L. Heiner, Richard T. Bates, 1942 Raymond Rich, Russell Carrigan, Lewis W. Christensen, James W. Compton, Grant Eddington, 1944 Curtis Rogers, Raymond P. Larson, Elroy M. Maxwell, Rulon Scott, Raymond Rich, 1946 Harold E. Little, Albert R. Carrigan, James E. Peterson, Rulon Scott, Curtis Rogers, 1948 William Turner (resigned 9/11/50), Errol D. Eddington, Horace Heiner, Morris A. Newbold, Harold E. Little (resigned 1/3/1949), Earl Halls (apt 1/3/49), 1950 John C. Johnson, Morris A. Newbold, Horrace Heiner, Benjamin E. Creager, William Turner, Dewilt Harding (appointed), 1952 Jay W. Porter, James W. Compton, Paul B. Brower, John C. Johnson, Morris Newbold, 1954 Margaret E. Abbott, Russell C. Porter, James W. Compton, Paul L. Brower, Jay W. Porter, 1956 Margaret Abbott, Russell C. Porter, James W. Compton, John C. Johnson, Jay W. Porter, 1958 Russell C. Porter (apt Mayor 1/1959), Francis E. Porter, Jay W. Porter, James W. Compton, John C. Johnson, Kenneth W. Sommers (apt 2/16/59), John R. Martineau (apt 10/2/61), 1960 Norman Elkins (resigned 8/21/61), Elroy M. Maxwell, Jay W. Porter, Kenneth W. Sommers, Francis E. Porter, l962 Wallace D. Green, Kenneth W. Sommers, Jay W. Porter, Robert F. Brimley (apt 1/8/62), 1964 Robert F. Brimley, James E. Scott (resigned), John R. Martineau, Kenneth W. Sommer, Wallace D. Green, John H. Thackeray (apt. 9/14/164), 1966 Kenneth W. Sommers, Dale M. Durrant, John R. Martineau, John H. Thackeray, Robert F. Brimley, 1968 Kenneth W. Sommers, Dale M. Durrant, Robert F. Brimley, Gordon B. Bond, Vernon J. Shaw, 1970 Dale M. Durrant, Dan H. Sommers, Gordon B. Bond, Vernon J. Shaw, Robert F. Brimley, 1972 Don H. Taylor, Ted Carter, John J. Johnson, Dale Durrant, Dan H. Sommers, 1974 George Francis, Jay Ellis Hopkin, Ted Carter, John C.

Johnson, Don H. Taylor, 1976 George Francis, Jay Ellis Hopkin, David Rich, Richard Sommers, Richard Porter (resigned 11/1977), Ted Carter (apt 11/77), 1978 George Francis, Vaughn Larson, Ted L. Carter, David Rich, Richard Sommers, 1980 David Rich, Jan K. Turner, Gene Carter, George Francis (apt. Mayor 1980), Vaughn Larson, Steve Carrigan (apt. 10/80), 1982 David Rich, Jan K. Turner, Gene Carter, Willis Packard, DeOrr Peterson, 1984 David Rich, Shirley Kay Carter, Ted Carter, Willis Packard, DeOrr Peterson, 1986 Shirley Kay Carter, Willis Packard, Ted Carter, David Rich, Ellis Rust, 1988 Dan Follett, Lynn Mickelsen, Marsha Martin, Ellis Rust, Willis Packard, 1990 Marsha Martin, Dan Follett, Neil Carrigan, Lynn Mickelsen, DeOrr Peterson, 1992 Marsha Martin, Dan Follett, Neil Carrigan, DeOrr Peterson, Lynn Mickelsen, 1994 Marsha Martin, Dan Follett, Lynn Mickelsen, Larry Johanson, Ray Little, 1996 Lynn Mickelsen, Larry Johanson, Ray Little, Corey Leishman (resgn11/30/96), Stephen Dickson, Marie Heiner (apt 12/18/96), 1998 Lynn Mickelsen, Stephen Dickson, Ray Little, Tony London and Neil Carrigan.

MORGAN CITY RECORDERS: 1868 T.R.G. Welch, 1886 James Durrant, 1896 Jas. Durrant, 1898 Lucy M. Baker (resigned), 1899 D. A. Robinson (appointed), 1900 Octave F. Ursenbach, 1902 Henry B. Fry, 1904 Hyrum Gibby, 1905 C.E. Condie, 1906 George Compton, 1910 Fred Coolbear, 1912 George Compton, 1916 W. Visick, 1920 W. Visick, 1922 Kate W. Littlefield, 1924 John A. Compton, 1928 John A. Compton (released), Norris Wadsworth (March - August), Richard T. Fry (Aug. to Jan 1929), 1929 W. Visick, 1930 Grace Graham, 1932 Annie F. Sommers, 1939 Louise Taggart (appointed), 1942 Goldie Waldron, 1848 Verda Rogers (appointed 1/9/48), 1950 Celeste Durrant, 1968 Dorothy W. Richins, 1974 Shirley Carter, 1981 Craig Little, Roy Worthen and 1988 Julie A. Lee.

MORGAN CITY TREASURER: Daniel Bull (resigned 1882), Hogg, Turner, 1893 James R. Rawle released 1894, 1902 James R. Rawle, 1904 Fred Parkinson, 1906 Annie Clark, 1908 Albert L. Williams, 1910 W.A.C. Visick, 1914 James R. Rawle, 1918 Jannette Durrant, 1920 Flaurie E. White, 1922 Lettie R. Ray, 1924 Eva M. Butters, 1928 Mary Chadwick, 1930 Albert C. Welch, 1932 Richard S. Rawle, 1940 Kate Littlefield, 1942 Harriet Tonks, 1944 Grace Graham,

1948 Mable J. Hemming, 1952 Wanda Cox, 1958 Margaret Abbott, 1966 Margaret W. Nielsen, 1975 Carol Woolsey, 1977 Pauline Kippen, 1978 Chris W. Ralphs and 1982 Marilyn Christiansen.

CITY MARSHALL: 8/1868 Philemon C. Merrill, 10/1868 Isa Toomer, 1870 David J. Ross, 1873 Thomas Lerwill, 1883 George W. Simmons, 1884 Robert Hogg, 1888 Thomas F. Welch, 1890 Richard R. Fry, 1894 Chas. J. Pentz, 1895 George H. Taggart, 1898 John Eddington, 1902 W.T. Cook, 1903 Richard R. Fry, 1905 Don E. Black, 1905 T. S. Wadsworth, 1906 John Hopkin, 1908 George E. Carrigan, 1910 E. E. Butters, 1914 William Robison (resigned 6/1/14), 1914 Brigham Y. Robison (Appointed 6/8/14; resigned 12/22/14), 1914 Wm. M. Clawson (resigned 11/1915), 1915 E. E. Butters (appointed), 1916 Charles Fry (resigned), 1918 Brigham Young Robison (appointed), 1920 W. R. Rich (apt 4/5/20), 1924 W. E. Francis, 1926 W. Visick, 1928 Butters, 1934 William Chadwick, 1938 William Chadwick, 1945 Delbert Robinson, 1951 Ivan E. Bell, 1958 Laurel Rock, 1960 Max L. Mecham, 1962 James R. Murdock (retired 11/1971), County sheriff over city till 7/1972, 1972 Douglas (Mac) Crouch (resigned 3/1976), 1976 Donald Dubovsky, 1976 Terry Orton (resigned 8/1977), 1977 Roger Johnson (appointed 8/1977) and 1979 Kent Spangler (appointed 8/1979).

NOTE: This list was compiled from the Morgan City Minutes. Records were not always made of the dates each new marshall took office . Dates listed indicate the individual was serving as marshall in that year. Following 1979 Morgan City entered into a contract for the county sheriff department to also be the law enforcement agency for the city eliminating the need for a city marshall.

State of Utah Legislators

House of Representatives

Daniel Heiner	1896
John Hopkin	1897–1898
Charles A. Welch	1899–1900
Richard R. Fry	1901–1902
James A. Anderson	1903–1906
C.M. Croft	1907–1908

Joseph R. Porter	1909–1910
James A. Anderson	1911–1912
H.H. Crouch	1913–1914
C.M. Croft	1915–1916
James S. Hopkin	1917–1918
C.M. Croft	1919–1920
H.H. Crouch	1921–1928
R. T. Fry	1929–1930
James W. Carrigan	1931–1932
Alonzo F. Hopkin	1933–1934
W. Mark Thackeray	1935–1938
Joseph E. Rees	1939–1946
Faye E. Williams	1947–1948
Joseph E. Rees	1949–1950
Clarence Thurston	1951–1952
Earl Butters	1953–1956
Golden Porter	1957–1960
Bert S. Dickson	1961–1962
Glen Thurston	1963–1970

Senate

Alonzo F. Hopkin	1935–1962

Secretary of Agriculture for the State of Utah

Joseph H. Francis	1965–1977

Selected Bibliography

The following selected bibliography lists the most easily assessable books and manuscripts used to write this book. For a more extensive catalog of works, the reader is referred to the endnotes accompanying each chapter.

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Linda H. Smith is a native of Morgan County and spent most of her youth in the community of Peterson. She is married to Verl Arnold Smith, and the couple has three sons. As a family, all are interested in different facets of history and antiques. Linda Smith was hired as Morgan County Historian in 1986, and she also was made director of the Morgan County Historical Society.

Linda has worked closely with the board of trustees of the Morgan County Historical Society to collect and preserve the history of Morgan County. She also has worked closely with Joseph H. Francis, founder of the society, to record the history of the county for posterity and to continue to research and record events. Each year, in conjunction with civic officials and others, the society has presented historical news articles, programs, and tours for the benefit of county citizens.

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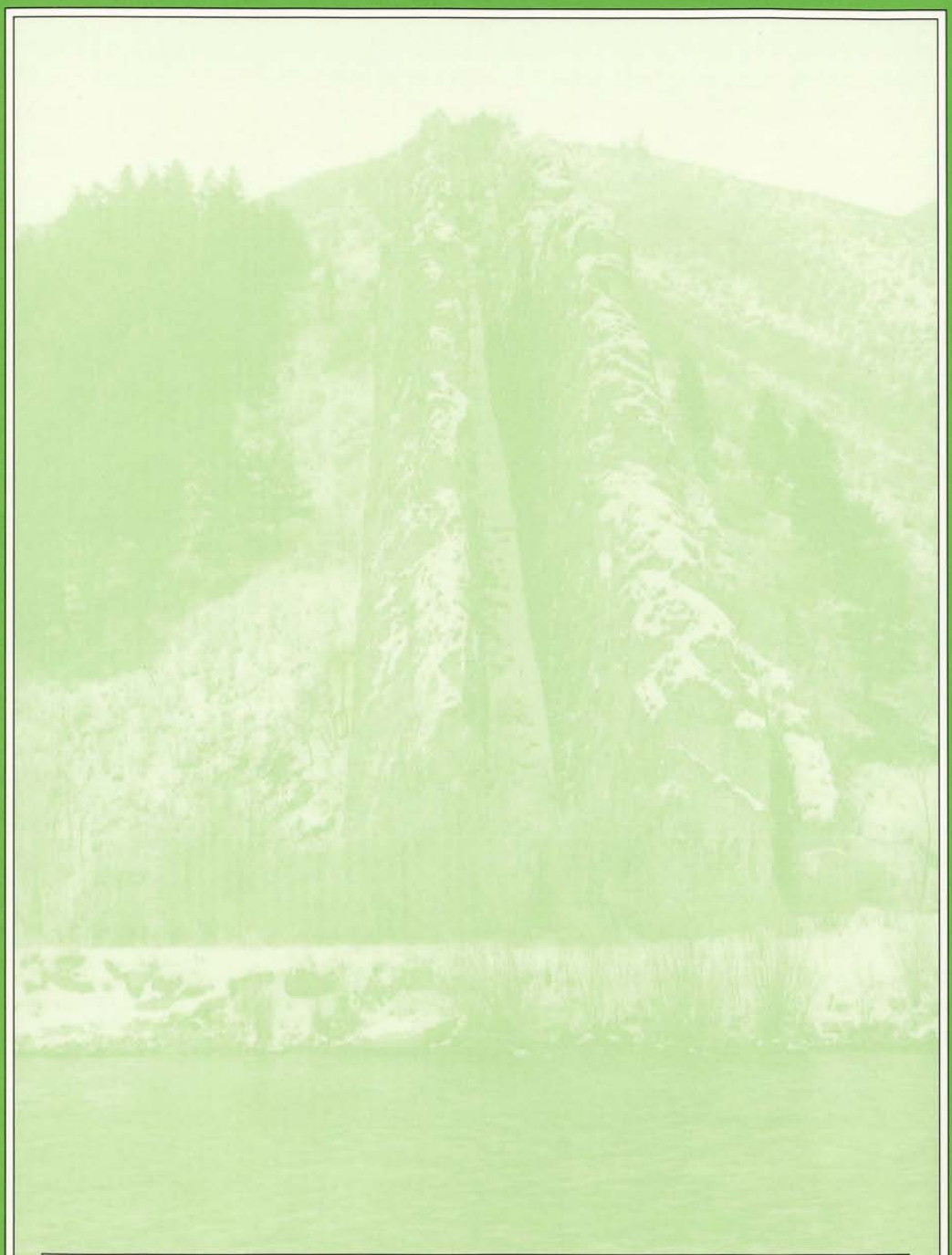

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