

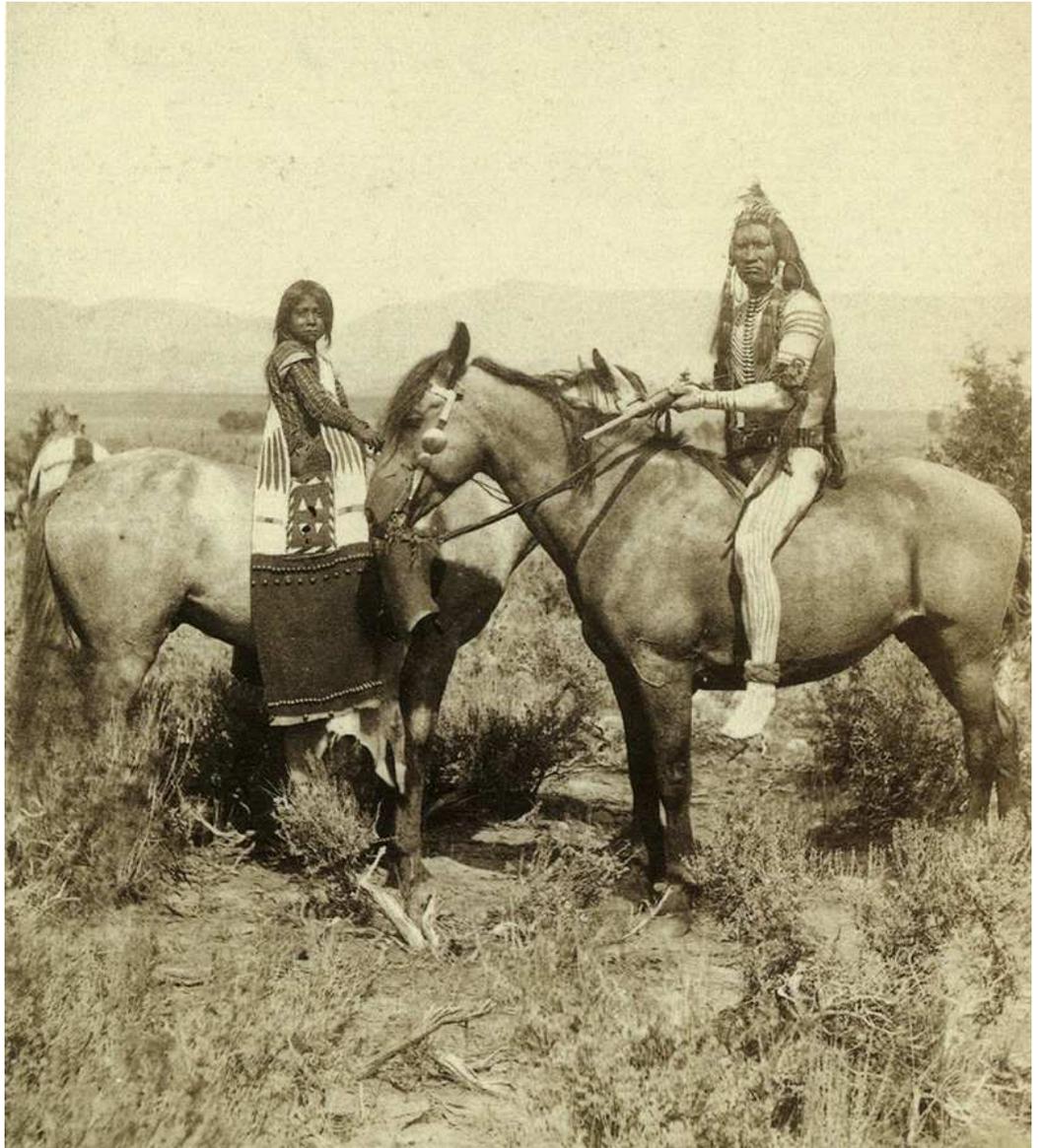
Background and Description of MPNHA

Introduction:

For more than 10 years, the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area has been making significant, sometimes essential, contributions to the preservation and interpretation of the history of south-central Utah along historic U.S. 89, known in Utah as the "Heritage Highway," and Utah State Routes 12 and 24, the "Boulder Loop." In so doing, it has aided both the economic and cultural development of the area. It has helped individuals and organizations fulfill dreams and passions of making sure the heritage of the area is remembered and celebrated.

For those who reside here, as well as for visitors, the MPNHA's efforts have instilled honor for, and connection to, the past: The rugged and sturdy pioneers who settled a largely untraversed land; the unforgiving landscape they encountered—staggeringly beautiful even in its defiance of such settlement; and the institutions the pioneers created to ensure the propagation of industry, education, culture and religion.

The MPNHA has inspired respect for the native peoples who for centuries maintained a reverence for the land, and who sometimes helped, sometimes hindered, the newcomers as they learned to survive in the newest of the New World.



One focus of the MPNHA has been telling the story of the interaction between Mormon pioneers with native peoples. This photograph, taken during the John Wesley Powell Expedition (1872-75), was displayed as part of an exhibit sponsored by MPNHA in Mt. Carmel, Kane County.

Just as the Mormon pioneers made the desert to blossom as an improbable rose, the MPNHA has, in its first decade, had laudable success in achieving the vision to which it aspires, as stated in its management plan:

Tell the story of the Mormon pioneers in order to instill pride in our communities and motivate people to build on their heritage and plan for the future by remembering the past.