

MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA (MPNHA)

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in partnership with

MPNHA recognizes diverse audiences and communities

Several episodes of the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area's TV show *Discovery Road* have been forwarded for consideration to be included in a new National Parks Service publication to be published in early 2017.

If they are approved, "Engaging Diverse Audiences and Communities in the NPS" will include references and links to those episodes along with information about MPNHA programs.

In "Paradise on the Prairie," viewers learn about Clarion, a lost Jewish colony from a century ago.

In "Wasatch Academy," they meet the Rev. Duncan McMillan, an educator who clashed with the Mormons, and in "Native American and Sacred Water," they learn the history of a small-town hot springs connected to ancient Native American culture.

These episodes highlight the diversity of the heritage area and allow the public to engage with a historic corridor of Utah that was critical in the shaping and development of the state as it is today.

Other stories told in the *Discovery Road* TV series include "Blackhawk War," a conflict that grew out of tensions between Mormon pioneer settlers and Native Americans, which included members of the Ute, Paiute, Apache, and Navajo tribes.

In 2015, the MPNHA sponsored a two-day event, "The Soul of the Native American Artisan," which highlighted the artistic talents of David K. John, a local Navajo artist.

The history of Butch Cassidy and his relationship to the area is explored in the episode titled "The Apostle and the Outlaw."



Discovery Road Show Producer James Nelson with Oscar winner Gerald Molen, who Nelson interviewed for "Paradise on the Prairie."

In addition to relationships with Native Americans, “Discovery Road” has produced episodes with other groups, including African Americans in “The Black Experience.”

“Discovery Road” addresses and shares differing viewpoints than those typically seen, such as the reverence that Native Americans show for natural resources, such as water, which is highlighted in the episode, “Native Americans and Sacred Water.”

The MPNHA relies heavily on input from its Native American ombudsman and Utah’s director of Indian affairs to address issues with sensitivity.

Another project designed to give voice to the diverse population in the region was a book titled Legends, Lore, and True Tales in Mormon Country, edited by MPNHA Director Monte Bona.

“From Duncan McMillian, the indomitable Presbyterian minister, to Chief Blackhawk, leader of the Indian band that lived in part of what is now the heritage area, to the Jewish settlers of Clarion to Mammy Chloe, the African American nanny who crossed the plains with a Caucasian convert to Mormonism, the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area pays homage to a tunic of many cultural colors that tell our heritage story,” Bona said.



Historian Donna Glidewell at Wasatch Academy. Glidewell is an expert on the Rev. Duncan McMillan.

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The Mormon Pioneer Heritage Area is a federally designated area of central and southern Utah running along the beautiful and historic U.S. Highway 89 — including the All-American Road Utah State Route 12, and Capitol Reef Scenic Byway Utah State Route 24, which both intersect with U.S. 89 and together form the MPNHA’s Boulder Loop. The area includes the counties of Sanpete, Sevier, Piute, Wayne, Garfield and Kane.