

Mormon Battalion Association™



2020
Historic Trails
Awards

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1. Requirements

REQUIREMENTS



MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION

HISTORIC TRAILS AWARDS



MAIN HISTORIC TRAILS AWARD PATCH

- [] 1. Read a history of the U.S. Mormon Battalion in the 1846-7 Mexican War. (www.mormonbattalion.com).
 - [] a. Search for living descendents of Battalion members if possible.
Find out if you are related to a Battalion member at www.relativefinder.org.
 - [] b. Have a Mormon Battalion descendant give a report on his ancestry.
Or go to YouTube and watch a Mormon Battalion video.
 - [] c. Reflect on personal traits you may like to embrace in your own life.
Discuss this with your family or leaders.
- [] 2. Visit a Mormon Battalion monument, museum, a point of historic interest or a grave site.
(Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award Guide. Section 5 Historic Museums...)
(If there are none near you, view one on line.)
- [] 3. Hike a section of the Mormon Battalion Trails or local trail. (If physically challenged, do your best.)
 - a. Where possible, obtain a detailed map of the area you plan to hike, and plot the route you will take.
 - b. For PIONEER TREKS: Where practical, plan and carry out a rescue mission. You may want to use battalion stories for camp fire programs. (www.mormonbattalion.com).
- [] 4. Complete a service project on your hike. (What you bring in, you take out.)
- [] 5. Prepare a meal similar to that of Mormon Battalion soldiers. Use any items from the food list.
(Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Awards Guide - Section 4 Food List.)

TRAIL SEGMENTS AWARDS

- [] 1. Read a history of the Trail Segment you like. See Mormon Battalion Routes Map.
(Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Awards Guide - Section 2 Bibliographic Resources.)
- [] 2. Hike a 15 mile section of the Trail. This requirement may be modified for children under 12, or those with disabilities by substituting horseback, biking, or non motorized methods of travel.
- [] 3. Complete a service project on your hike.
- [] 4. Prepare a meal similar to that of Mormon Battalion soldiers.

A Super Segment Boot pin may be attached to the Segment Patch for each additional hike on the same trail.

The pin or pendent may be worn for any Historical Trails Award.

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Historic Trails Scout and Main Patch Awards



Historic Trails Segment Awards



Pin and Pendant



Super Segment Boot

50 Mile Hike Award

- [] 1. The 50 Mile Hike Award can be earned by hiking 50 miles.
- [] 2. All the Trail Segments Awards requirements apply.

You can add the previous miles from all the Trail Segments Awards hikes to add to the 50 mile requirement.



Historic Trails Awards Certificate



APPLICATION FORM



MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION™



HISTORIC TRAILS AWARDS

COMPLETE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH APPLICANT.

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____ Apt/Condo/Unit _____

City _____ State _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Leader Signature _____ Date _____

Sponsoring Organization _____

Whitch trail segment did you hike? _____ Other _____

Comments _____

[] Lapel pin \$2.00 ea. [] Pendant \$2.00 ea.

[] Non Scout patch \$10.00 ea.

[] Scout patch \$10.00 ea.

[] Trail segment patch name \$2.00 ea. _____

[] Boot pin \$2.00 ea

+ Shipping Total _____

For more information on memorabilia , please see www.mormonbattalion.com (memorabilia)

Thank you for your interest in the Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Awards.

[Your certificate will be e-mailed to you.](#)

Mail Application to: Major Tomas Griggs 495 Holdbrook Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83401-4168

OR Email to: tkragriggs@msn.com

Fun Suggestions/Ideas



MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION™



For Historic Trails Awards

RESEARCH

- Ancestor
- A Mormon Battalion Member
- Living descendants
- A special experience
- A segment trail
- A period group or culture
- Special points of interest

ACTIVITIES

- Make period clothing. Make a clothing repair kit.
- Make a wooden musket, artifacts.
- Make foot coverings.
- Play games, dance, music/song
- Play a musical instrument - harmonica, rocks and sticks for rhythm, etc.

CAMPING

- Use flint and steel to start a fire.
- Learn how to pan for gold.
- Prepare and use a bed role.

CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS

- Stories about ancestors, Battalion members.
- Games
- Songs
- Special guest speaker

COOKING

- Different dishes
- Group cooking feast
- Tasting samples
- Learn to use primitive cooking skills and equipment.

HIKES

- Hike a Mormon Battalion Trail if possible. 15 miles was the average daily distant for the Mormon Battalion.
- Modify requirements for children or physically challenged by substituting non motorized methods of travel for instance: horses, bicycles, skates etc.
- Stand guard for 2 hours. Take turns.
- Take a virtual hike

MAKING JOURNALS

- Write your experience. What did you learned, how you felt, what did you do? What did you see?
- Draw a picture.
- Make a map.

PIONEER TREK RESCUE PARTY

- Use a separate party for the rescue, like church leaders, parents, older youth.
- Don't use the participants.
- Make the food simple from the Battalion food list.

PHOTO HISTORY

- Scrap booking
- Video

SERVICE PROJECTS

- Clean up trails.
- Make trail markers.
- Repair damaged trails.
- Remove debris.
- Repair markers or monuments.

Mormon Battalion Association™



2. History of the Battalion

Mormon Battalion Short History

By Kevin Henson

At the beginning of the Mexican-American War (1846-1848), United States President James K. Polk approved recruiting an infantry battalion from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, whose outcast members were emigrating from Nauvoo, Illinois to the high desert mountains of Mexican Alta California. Polk stated that his purpose was “to keep the Mormon people conciliated” to the nation during the conflict. When War Department orders reached Fort Leavenworth, Indian Territory (now Kansas), Colonel Stephen W. Kearny, commander of one of three new U.S. armies, the Army of the West, sent dragoon Captain James Allen, Jr. to recruit 500 Mormon soldiers to follow him to California.

Upon learning of the President’s request, Brigham Young and other Church leaders recruited volunteers from the Mormon camps along the western Iowa Mormon trail. Allen remained at Council Bluffs recruiting there. On 16 July 1846, the Mormon Battalion was mustered into federal service at Council Bluffs, Iowa Territory. They marched to Fort Leavenworth, were issued supplies, and continued to recently captured Santa Fe, 900 miles away. The untimely death of Allen resulted in First Lieutenant Andrew J. Smith offering to temporarily command the Battalion which offer was accepted by the Battalion officers.

The Battalion arrived in two groups on October 9 and 12, then Col. Cooke took command on the 13th for the rest of the march to California. When an express messenger informed Kearny of Allen’s death, he sent Lieutenant Colonel Philip St. George Cooke back to take charge. After the Battalion arrived in Santa Fe on 9-12 October, Cooke took command for the second part of the march. Because there were so few supplies and draft animals in Santa Fe, the Battalion was poorly outfitted despite the best efforts of the leaders and quartermasters.

Departing Santa Fe on 19 October, the Battalion proceeded south down the Rio Grande and turned west. Taking 20 supply wagons, they had orders to build a wagon road to San Diego (California) through some of the most inhospitable and unknown areas of North America. Led by some of the best scouts available to the Army, the Battalion persevered, creating “Cooke’s Wagon Road” and linking it to existing trails as the first southern wagon route to California.

After much physical hardship, the main command arrived in California on 29 January 1847 with only eight wagons left. They had marched about 2,060 miles from Council Bluffs to San Diego in 148 days. They averaged 14 miles per day, about the usual daily distance traveled by infantry units when on a sustained march.

Detachments

A total of four groups were “detached” for various reasons. Three detachments were sent back to winter at Pueblo (now Colorado) with a small group of Mormons from Mississippi. In total, one-third (about 160) of the men and all the women except four were sent to Pueblo.

1. The Higgins Family detachment (created 16 September) escorted most of the women and children to Pueblo. This was done to protect them from the dangers anticipated further along the route.
2. The Brown Sick detachment (created 18 October) was comprised of many sick men, the laundresses, husbands of many of the women and a few healthy men..
3. The Willis Sick detachment (created 10 November) added another group of sick men and a few healthy men.
4. A final detachment of 15 soldiers escorted General Kearny from California back to Fort Leavenworth (13 May-22 August).

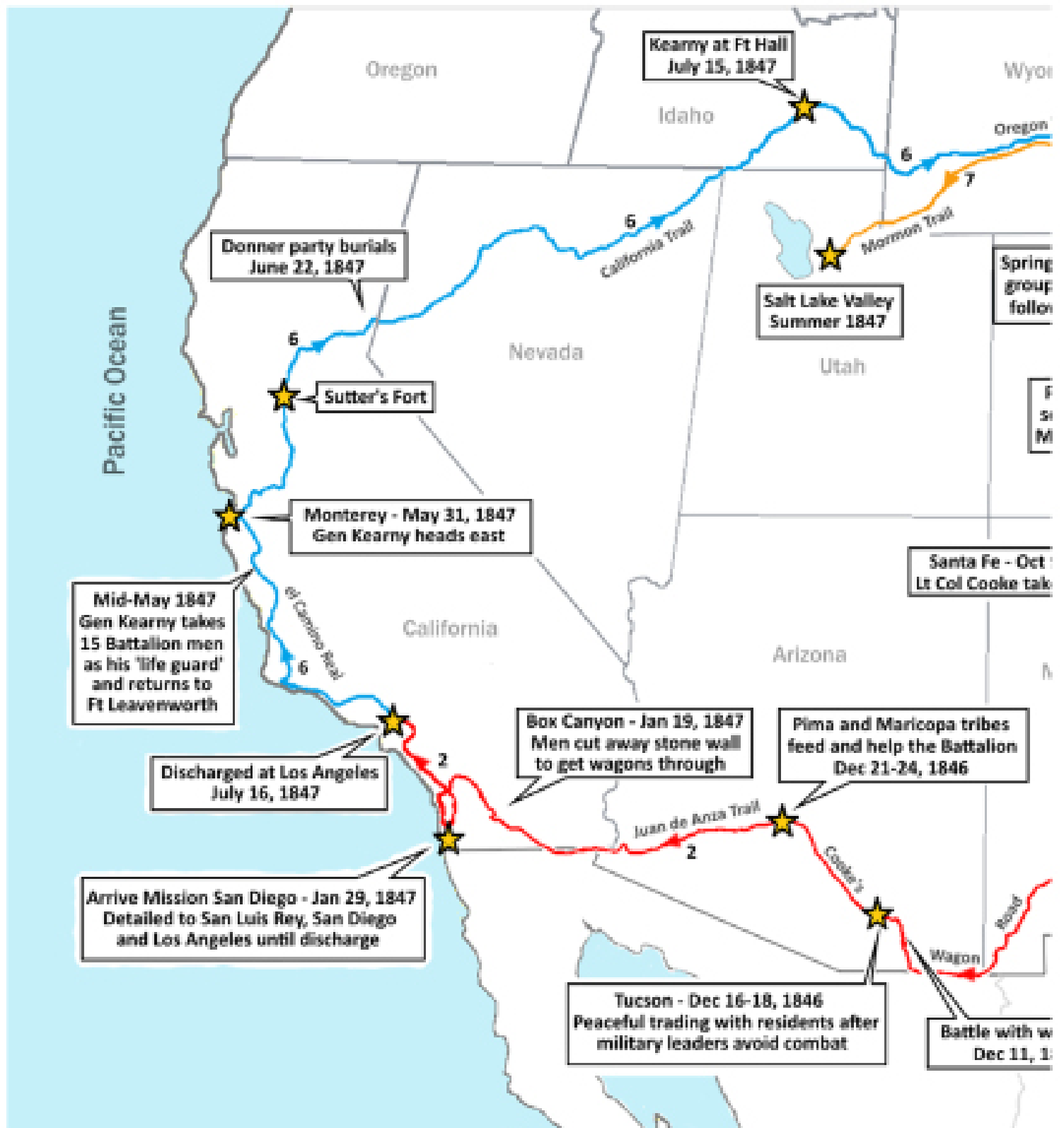
After one year of service, the Battalion mustered out of service at Los Angeles on 16 July 1847. Some 82 men reenlisted for a few more months of military service. Some men chose to stay in California. Others took different routes at different times to Salt Lake or Council Bluffs to rejoin family and friends.

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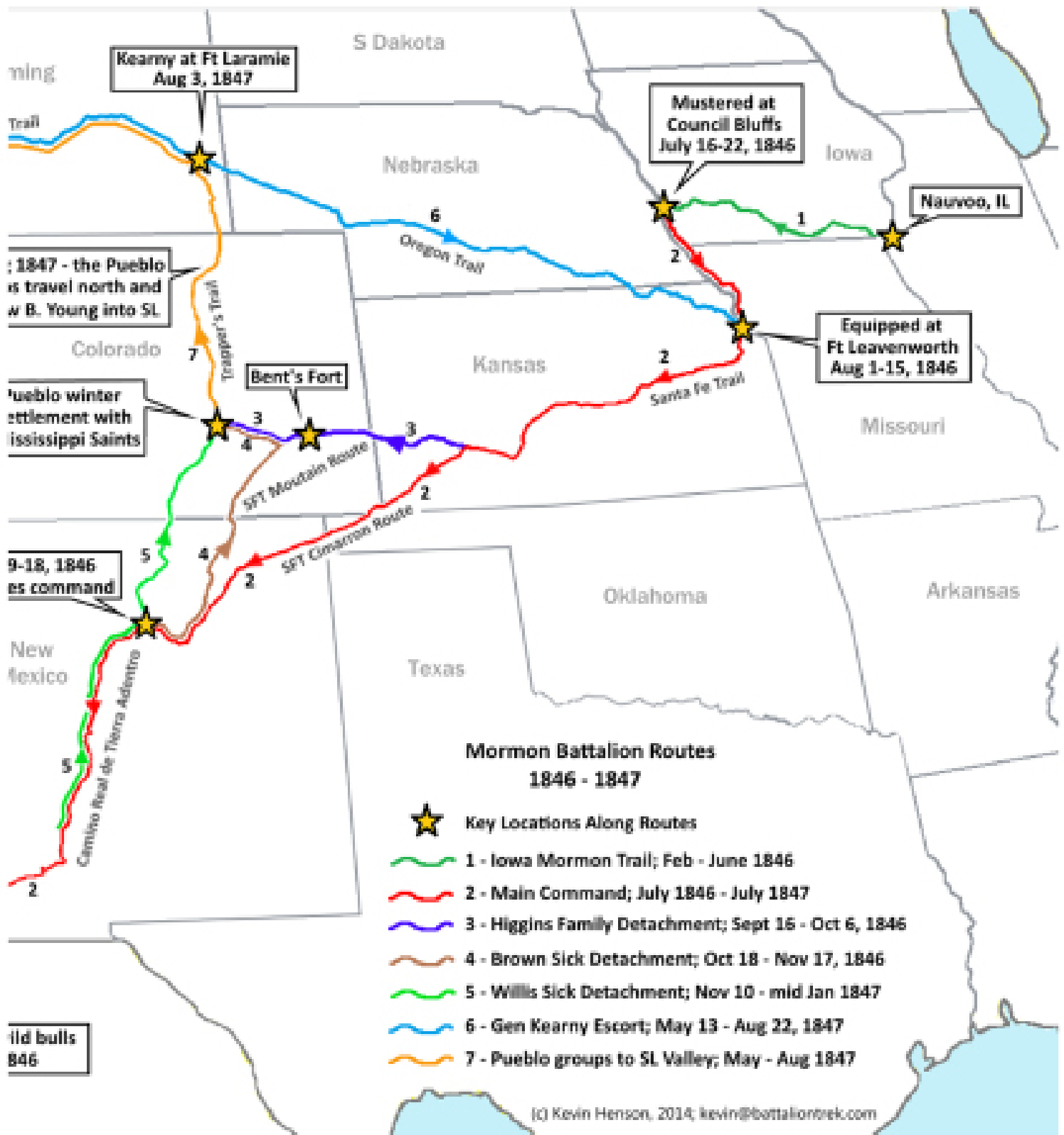


3. Journal and Bibliographic Resources

Mormon Battalion



Routes Map



Iowa Mormon Trail Segment

By Kevin Henson



As the Latter-day Saints started abandoning their city of Nauvoo, Illinois in February 1846, they travelled west, following and building wagon roads and river bridges across southern Iowa Territory. Brigham Young and the Mormon leaders wanted to get to the Rocky Mountains in 1846, but bad weather and difficulties crossing Iowa proved too much. The lead elements of the migration didn't arrive at the Missouri River until 14 June, too late to move a large group further that year.

In mid-June, Dragoon Captain James Allen was commissioned by Gen Stephen Kearny to recruit a 500-soldier infantry battalion of Mormon volunteers for a year. Traveling from Fort Leavenworth, he found some Mormons on 26 June at a small temporary camp called Mt. Pisgah half-way across Iowa. But without approval from their leaders, the men wouldn't enlist. Allen then travelled three days westward to find Brigham Young and Church leaders at the Missouri River camps near present Council Bluffs.

Upon hearing the President's request and what was being offered, the Church leaders promised to raise the men. They set out by wagon and horse, holding recruiting meetings in four days along 110 miles of the Iowa Mormon Trail back to Mt. Pisgah. When the leaders explained the situation, 75 men volunteered and started for Council Bluffs. Once there, some were asked to stay and help at the Bluffs, and others decided not to go or were in such bad physical shape that they were refused. But by 16 July, about 450 men had joined; and by the twenty-first, the remaining men had become part of the new "Mormon Battalion."



Mormon Battalion – Main Command Route

By Kevin Henson



On 16 July 1846, the Mormon Battalion officially came into existence under Lieutenant Colonel James Allen, Jr. at Council Bluffs, Iowa Territory. They began their march to Fort Leavenworth on 21 July. By hiking about 14½ miles a day, they covered the 171 miles south along the Missouri River to arrive at Fort Leavenworth on 1 August. There they received their military equipment and prepared to begin the long march to Santa Fe.

In mid-August, the Battalion left the Fort, intercepting the Santa Fe Trail south of modern Lawrence, Kansas. The trail trended southwest across Kansas to one of the “middle Arkansas River crossings” just west of Ingalls. There the Higgins Family Detachment departed for Pueblo while the Battalion crossed the river into Mexican territory. General Kearny had ordered all units to use the shorter “Cimarron” route which on today’s maps nicks the southeast corner Colorado, Cimarron County, Oklahoma, and enters northeast New Mexico. From Leavenworth to Santa Fe, they travelled about 780 miles, averaging 16 miles per day over the 48½ travel days.

At Santa Fe, Lieutenant Colonel Philip St George Cooke assumed command with orders from the General to lead the Battalion to California, building a wagon road as they travelled. Before leaving Santa Fe, the Brown Sick Detachment was formed and sent to Pueblo, to winter at the growing Mormon settlement there.

Departing Santa Fe on 19 October, Cooke proceeded south with the main command, down the Rio Grande to the vicinity of modern Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. There, the Willis Sick Detachment was formed and sent back to Pueblo. On 11 November, Cooke turned the remaining 350 men of the Battalion westward near Garfield, New Mexico. Their route to Tucson, Arizona would create a pronounced southern ‘dip’ rather than proceeding directly west. This dip became known as “Cooke’s Wagon Road” and in 1853 provided the logic for the Gadsden Purchase boundary.

Cooke’s route entered extremely dry, sandy and mountainous terrain – not high mountains for the most part, but very rocky and difficult terrain. The guides were only vaguely informed of the area and were daily exploring to find water and food for the animals; the lack of either would have caused the expedition to fail. As they advanced, the situation got

progressively worse. Some sections were so daunting that at times even Cooke himself doubted they would be able to find a way through.*

Eventually reaching the San Pedro River near today's Herford, Arizona, they followed old paths going north. A mile or so north of the ghost town of Charleston is where the 'Battle of the Bulls' started. At modern Benson, they picked up an old trail leading west to Tucson where they arrived on 16 December. Cooke and the local Mexican military commander narrowly managed to avoid a direct confrontation while the Mormon soldiers traded for food with the town's inhabitants.

After Tucson, the journey became more of an endurance test instead of an expedition of discovery. Daily they cleared sagebrush, cacti, and rocks to help mark out the road for those who would follow. They stood guard at night and herded the animals along in the day, always hungry, thirsty and tired.

To reach the Gila River required four days to cross a 75-mile stretch almost devoid of any water. Upon reaching the Gila, they were met by the Pima and Maricopa tribes who were generous and peaceful towards the American troops. The route forward lay west, across the dry Gila Bend for three days. Upon rejoining the Gila River, they followed it to the junction with the Colorado River at modern Yuma, Arizona. By 5 January 1847, their food was almost gone with only four ounces of flour a day and some poor meat. Nathaniel Jones was weighed and had lost 30% of his weight.

Crossing the Colorado River on 10 January, the Battalion next faced the worst part of the entire journey. Ahead were six days of crossing an 86-mile stretch of the Imperial Desert. It was nearly waterless, hot in the day, freezing cold at night with only a poorly marked trail to follow through the dust and sand. Mules died by the dozens and many men faltered, but the strong helped the weak and all eventually made it through safely.

The pack trails they followed into southern California were cleared and improved only as much as necessary to get the eight remaining wagons through. Three final barriers to the wagons remained; two tall ridges and a "box canyon" where the rock walls had to be chipped away.

On the afternoon of 21 January, the famished and weary Battalion arrived at Agua Caliente, Warner's ranch, where they rested for a day, washing, eating their fill of good, fresh beef and relaxing. There were still fears they might have to fight the Mexicans, but at Warner's, the day was peaceful and refreshing.

Resuming the march, Cooke strategically decided to head for Los Angeles since General Kearny was supposedly there. Three days later, a dispatch from the General (who had moved to San Diego) found the Battalion at the Pechanga tribal village of Temecula. Turning south towards San Diego, they passed the old Catholic Mission San Luis Rey on 27 January, spied the Pacific Ocean later that day and finally reached Mission San Diego the evening of 29 January.

Their march had consumed 198 days of their year-long enlistment period – six months and eighteen days. Preparations at Council Bluffs, Ft Leavenworth, and Santa Fe had taken 24 days of those days, meaning they were "on the trails" for 174 days. Of those, they had marched 158 days (91%), travelling at least 2,064 miles.** On average, they had one rest day to eleven days of hiking.

Col Cooke's commendation of the Battalion's march, that "History may be searched in vain for an equal march of infantry" wasn't about the distance, but in recognition of the overall difficulty.

* Note: If you could experience southwest New Mexico for one week the way they did, you would better appreciate their statements that they were amazed that they succeeded.

** Note: Camps were sometimes made up to a mile off the established trail. Without information to know where camps were actually located, we have opted to just measure the distance along the established historic trails. Thus, 2,064 miles is the minimum distance the Battalion marched.

Higgins Family Detachment

By Kevin Henson



Higgins Family Detachment Route

While travelling up the Arkansas River on 12 September 1846, the Mormon Battalion met six men of the “Mississippi Saints” headed eastward. They told acting commander First Lieutenant Andrew Jackson Smith that a temporary Mormon settlement had been made at the ‘el pueblo’ trading settlement – modern Pueblo Colorado. For their safety, Lieutenant Smith determined to send almost all the Battalion’s non-military women and children to Pueblo.

The decision was not popular with some of the Battalion men at the time, but military considerations were paramount and most modern writers feel Smith’s decision saved many lives.

A small detachment commanded by Captain Nelson Higgins was ordered to accompany the families, see to their safe settlement at Pueblo, then rejoin the main command at Santa Fe. The Higgins detachment departed the morning of 16 August from a camp location a few miles west of modern Ingalls Kansas.

Following existing wagon roads and remaining in American territory on the north side of the Arkansas River, the Higgins group traveled westward. It appears the group stopped at Bent’s Fort to have wagon tires set, then continued west, arriving at el pueblo on 6 October 1846. They covered the 240 miles in about 18½ days, averaging about 13 miles per day.

Once at Pueblo, the men worked to help establish cabins for the families. Higgins and some of the men eventually went south from Pueblo to report to the Army command at Santa Fe. Because they took the Taos/Trapper Trail route, they apparently bypassed the Brown Sick Detachment traveling north from Santa Fe to Pueblo via the Mountain route over Raton Pass. They also arrived too late to rejoin the main command of the Battalion, which had departed on 19 October. Higgins was ordered to return to Pueblo and draw provisions from Bent’s Fort where most Battalion supplies had been originally sent.

In the spring of 1847, almost everyone sent to Pueblo proceeded to the Salt Lake valley.

Brown Sick Detachment

By Kevin Henson

Upon taking command of the Mormon Battalion at Santa Fe, Lieutenant Colonel Cooke conferred with Dr. Sanderson regarding the men's health. It was felt that many of them were too ill to continue to California, and the officers planned to discharge these 'inefficient men' from military service as usual. Colonel Doniphan, in command at Santa Fe, intervened and ordered the sick men, the laundresses, their husbands and children to be sent to Pueblo instead to join the Higgins family detachment at the Mississippi Saints temporary settlement.

Departing Santa Fe on 18 October, the Brown detachment retraced their route to the Mora River, then turned north following the Santa Fe "Mountain" route, crossing Raton Pass into modern Colorado.*

After following the Purgatory River for two days, their route then diverged onto the high desert prairie, stopping at watering sites each night.

Upon reaching the Arkansas River on 8 November, the group rested a day while Captain Brown and others conferred with Army officers at Bent's Fort. Most of the Battalion supply wagons had been sent to Bent's Fort the previous June. Colonel Doniphan had given permission for the men to draw supplies from those stored at the fort. As a result, the Pueblo detachments were fed and supplied much better than the Main Command headed to California.

Resuming their journey, the route lay on the north side of the Arkansas River and westward to the "el pueblo" settlement near which the "Mormon Town" was starting to grow. Arriving at the Pueblo area on 15 November, Captain Brown conferred with the Higgins Family Detachment, the Mississippi Saints, and the Pueblo leaders. On the 16th, the first "sick detachment" rolled into Mormon Town and started working to build log cabins for the people. As the ranking officer, Capt. Brown was in charge of all the Battalion men sent to Pueblo.

A recent analysis of their actual travel distances indicates they needed 28 travel days to cover the 350 miles from Santa Fe to Pueblo, an average of 12.5 miles per day.



* NOTE: In Colfax County, New Mexico, their path passed very close to where the Boy Scout Philmont Ranch is located.

Willis Sick Detachment

By Kevin Henson

Travelling south on the Rio Grande for four difficult weeks, Lieutenant Colonel Cooke had watched his men pull wagons through deep sand while their food rations were reduced. After conferring with Dr. Sanderson and the guides (who had some idea of how bad the route ahead was), Cooke decided the remaining sick men had had enough.

On 10 November and under the command of Lieutenant William Willis, another 57 men (about 37 sick men with 20 “healthy” guards) and one woman were ordered back to Santa Fe. They retraced their route to Santa Fe arriving on 1 December. Colonel Sterling Price ordered this second “sick” group to Pueblo where they would join the other Mormon detachments for the winter.

Leaving Santa Fe on 4 December, the Willis Detachment travelled a different route to Pueblo than did the Brown Detachment.* They took the “north branch” of the Old Spanish Trail pack mule trade route to California past Taos into the San Luis Valley (Costilla County, Colorado). There they picked up the Trappers Trail which led over a high mountain pass of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and into the Arkansas River valley. The last sixty miles were all downhill, warmer, and dryer. Along the last stretch they met settlers and bumped into a hunting party from the Mormon settlement.

Since severe winter weather was setting in, Willis seems to have been determined to move quickly. All along the route, some of the men could not keep his pace and the group split on several occasions. Four deaths occurred along their route, the most trail deaths for any Battalion group. This is an indication of the poor condition of the men, how hard the trail was and how bad the weather was.

Lieutenant Willis and the “fast” hikers began arriving at Pueblo just before Christmas. They covered about 442 miles in about 38 days. This was an average of 11½ miles per day, but had the most variation; there were many short days and many long days. Part of this diversity was due to short winter days, strong snow storms and difficult terrain over the pass in deep snow.

The last Battalion men finally arrived in Pueblo on 15 January 1847. These men left Simeon Turley’s settlement just 2½ weeks before the Taos Rebellion of 19 January. Had they remained, they would likely have been killed like Turley and his friends on 20 January.



* NOTE: Most maps show the Brown and Willis sick groups following the same route to Pueblo, but this is not correct. The maps in our publications are correct depicting the various routes.

Kearny Escort Detachment

By Kevin Henson

General Stephen W. Kearny had been instructed to capture and secure California, then return to Fort Leavenworth as soon as practical. By mid-April of 1847, Kearny had wrapped up his work and made a final tour of the troops. Kearny had decided to take Captain John C. Frémont east for court martial. At Los Angeles, Kearny ordered Major Cooke to accompany him, as Cooke would be needed to testify to witnessing Captain Frémont's insubordination.*1

As Frémont had a large party with him, Kearny decided it prudent to bring an escort loyal to himself. He instructed Cooke to assemble fifteen able and dependable men from his Mormon Battalion and have them rendezvous at Monterey from where they would leave for the east. Three men travelled with the general by ship, while the majority went by horse, led by Lieutenant William T. Sherman (later of Civil War fame). The land route from Los Angeles to Monterey was 335 miles taking 12½ days, for an average of almost 27 miles per day.



After preparations at Monterey were completed, the Kearny Escort started east on 31 May. Leaving Sutter's Fort on 15 June, the General's party numbered nearly 70 people and travelled 68 days in a row without taking a day off. At Truckee Lake, they paused briefly to help bury some of the Donner Party.*2

They then took the Sublette Cutoff of the Oregon Trail, missing the westbound Brigham Young Vanguard Company of pioneers by about a month. They traveled at a very rapid pace – 30 miles per day on average. Just east of Fort Laramie, they encountered other companies of Mormon pioneers. Kearny's Adjutant, Cpt Henry S. Turner, recorded the number of wagons, people and animals in the companies and provided interesting details. A few men were discharged by the General while on the trail so they could join their families in the Great Salt Lake Valley.

The Kearny Escort reached Ft. Leavenworth on 22 August 1847, after travelling about 2,050 miles from Monterey. The General kissed his wife, inspected the troops at the fort, completed some business, then left for Washington, DC the next day.

* NOTE: *1 Upon resigning command of the Mormon Battalion, Cooke reverted to his rank as Captain in the First Dragoons and was promoted to the rank of Major in the dragoons.

*2 Pvt Levi Savage was NOT a member of the Kearny Escort though – for artistic purposes – he was cast that way in a movie called “17 Miracles” by T. C. Christensen. Savage was still in California at Los Angeles.

Pueblo to Salt Lake

By Kevin Henson



By the time the winter of 1846-1847 finally broke, the Saints at Pueblo had received letters from the LDS church headquarters at Council Bluffs. They knew they were to meet Brigham Young on the way to the valley of the Great Salt Lake.

In early May, at least seventeen of the Mississippi Saints left Pueblo by retracing their route back to Fort Laramie following the Trapper's Trail which runs east of the Rocky Mountains. This small group reached Fort Laramie in mid-May. Brigham Young's Pioneer Company reached the fort the afternoon of 1 June.

Back at Pueblo, the Battalion personnel and most of the remaining families left Pueblo between 24 and 29 May with Captain James Brown commanding. The timeline that follows mainly relies on the journal of Private John S. Steele.

On 2 June, they camped where Denver Colorado was later built. Following the South Platte River northward, the trail passed four major abandoned trader posts - Forts Lupton, Jackson, Vasquez, and St. Vrain and then crossed the South Platte and Cache Poudre Rivers. From there, the route passed north over the high desert. There were

only a few streams for water.

At Lodgepole Creek on 11 June, they were overtaken from behind by Battalion couriers Thomas Woolsey and John Tippets bringing LDS leader Amasa Lyman whom Brigham Young had sent from Ft. Laramie. The two parties had missed each other a few days before and the Lyman group had found the trail at Ft. St. Vrain. The Lyman group then hurried to catch up to the detachments.

The detachments from Pueblo had all arrived at Fort Laramie by 16 June. They left the next afternoon, proceeding westward over the 'Black Hills' section of the Oregon, California and Mormon trails. About fifteen men went ahead to catch Brigham Young's Vanguard company.

The fourth of July was celebrated at Devils Gate. The happy occasion was combined with the wedding of Martha Jane Sargent Sharp (Private Norman Sharp's widow) to Private Harley Mowrey of Company C.

They passed Fort Bridger on 19 July and crested Big Mountain on 28 July, where the largest group saw the valley of the great salt lake for the first time. They arrived in the valley on 30 July "in Military order; ...Officers first, Infantry next with martial music, then followed the Cavalry with the Baggage Wagons bringing up the rear."

At a camp meeting the next day, Brigham Young told the soldiers that, "Your going into the army has saved the lives of thousands of people." Within a few hours, the entire camp was busy, beginning to build their new "Zion" in the valley of the Great Salt Lake.

From Pueblo to Salt Lake City, the total distance was about 815 miles. It appears this distance was covered using 48 full days of travel, suggesting an average pace of 17 miles per day.*

* Note: We have combined the partial days of travel to arrive at this number of "whole days" of travel. The details are scanty and may refer to different groups at times, so our suggested rate of travel for the group is approximate.



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4. Foods List

Mormon Battalion Foods List – Single Page Version

Detailed version gives more source quotes and notes. [http://www.mormonbattalion.com/Rations ---Other-Food](http://www.mormonbattalion.com/Rations---Other-Food)

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Grains, Beans & Legumes

Beans, dry (unknown variety)
Beans, “English” (possible)
Bread, “cake”
Bread, “Johnny cake”
Bread (form not specified)
Bread, Tortillas as “cake”
Breads, “hard” bread
Breads, “light” bread
Breads, ashcakes
Breads, dough on a stick
Breads, Mesquite
Breads, Pancakes
Breads, salt rising
Breads, Tortillas
Breads, Tortillas as “pancakes/flapjacks”
Corn (unspecified)
Corn, boiled
Corn, grain
Corn, green
Corn, ground meal
Corn, hominy
Corn, parched
Corn, roasted
Flour, gravy
Flour, wheat
Hops, wild
Mesquite, mush (“pudding”)
Mesquite, raw & roasted
Oats, wild
Peanuts
Peas
Rice, unspecified
Wheat, boiled
Wheat, cakes
Wheat, grain
Wheat, ground
Wheat, parched

Spices

Ginger, ground
Herbs, “bitter”
Lemon, extract
Molasses, cane and Saguaro
Pepper, black
Pepper, cayenne
Peppers, red
Saleratus (baking soda)
Salt
Vinegar

Not included on this page

Medical, Logistics, Other (See full version)

Meats & Nuts (proteins)

Acorns
Antelope
Bacon (? Salt pork)
Bear
Beef, “melt” [sic – “milt”] or spleen
Beef, dried, smoked, or jerked
Beef, entrails
Beef, fresh
Beef, hide
Beef, soup
Bird, Chicken
Bird, Crow or Raven
Bird, Duck
Bird, Geese, wild
Bird, Pelican (probable)
Bird, Turkey
Bird, Turkey Buzzard
Buffalo, fresh
Buffalo, pot pie
Clams Cactus, Saguaro
Deer (venison)
Eggs, chicken
Eggs, duck
Fish, dried
Fish, fresh water
Fish, salt water
Goat
Horse, raw
Leather/rawhide, chewed or as broth
Mule
Mussels
Nuts, pine
Oxen (beef)
Oysters
Pork, fresh
Pork, salt (“pickled”)
Rabbit
Sardines
Sheep, “lights” (lungs)
Sheep & lambs
Snake, roasted (rattlesnake?)

Beverages

Alcoholic, Brandy
Alcoholic, Mescal
Alcoholic, Whiskey (unknown grains)
Alcoholic, Wine
Chocolate, hot – American style
Chocolate, hot – Mexican ‘Champurrado’
Coffee
Tea, ginger
Water

Vegetables

Agave, raw & baked
“Bread root”
Cabbage
Mescal leaves, baked
Mustards, boiled
Onions
Parsley, boiled
Potatoes
Pumpkin
Pumpkin, “sauce”
Pumpkin, dried
Pumpkin, stewed
Squash
Watermelon

Fruits

Apples
Apricots
“molasses”
Cherries
Coconut
Currants
Dates
Figs
Grapes, red
Grapes, “raisin kind”
Melons
Olive trees
Orange
Peaches
Pears, dried
Pears, fresh
Plums
Pomegranates
Quince
Rasins
Tomato

Dairy & dairy products

Butter
Cheese, goat
Ice cream
Milk, cow
Milk, goat

Confections

Honey
Penoche or Penuche (Anglo);
Cajeta (Spanish)
Pies
Sugar

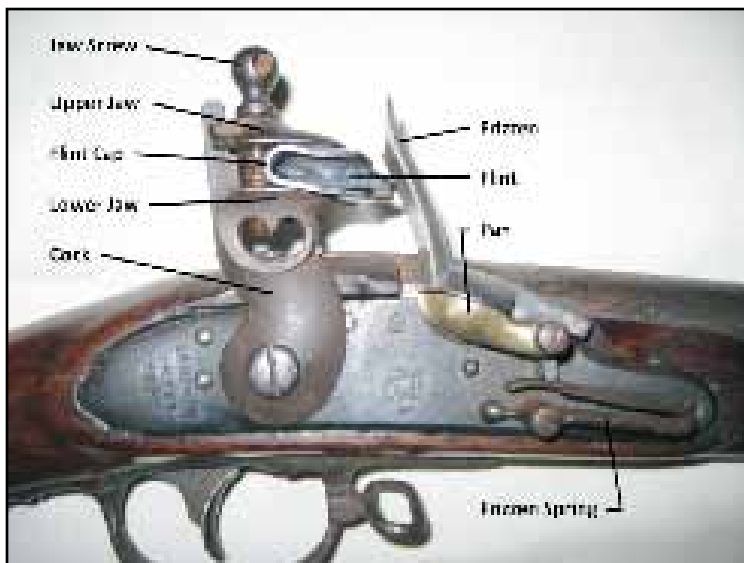
Mormon Battalion Association™



5. Mormon Battalion Historic Equipment

4. Mormon Battalion Historic Equipment

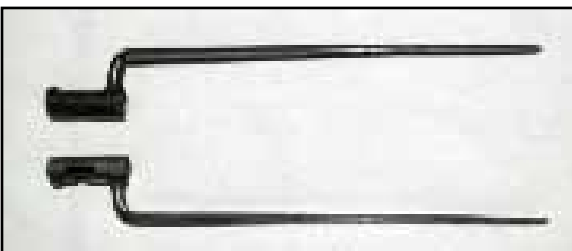
Arms



United States Model 1816 Smoothbore Flintlock Musket - This .69 caliber weapon was the primary weapon used by Regular and Volunteer Infantry Troops during the Mexican- American War, and standard issue to the Mormon Battalion. These weapons were produced by Harper's Ferry and Springfield Armories, as well as several contractors.



Model 1839 Musket Sling – The musket sling was made out of russet leather with a standing loop at one end and “J” hook at the other. It had squared corners where the “J” hook attached, versus the taper of later models.



United States Model 1816 Bayonet – Angular style socket bayonet made for the US Model 1816 Flintlock Bayonet. This triangular blade exhibits a spear shape and has no locking ring at the socket.



United States Rifle Model 1803 – A limited number of .54 caliber flintlock half-stock rifled muskets from the Harper's Ferry Arsenal were issued to a few members of the Mormon Battalion. Because their wooden stock only covered half their barrel, they were commonly referred to as "half-stock" flintlock rifles. They were used to help secure food along the trail.



United States Percussion Rifle Model 1841 – A limited number of .54 caliber "jager" (hunting) percussion cap rifled muskets from the Harper's Ferry Arsenal were issued to a few members of the Mormon Battalion. Commonly referred to as "Mississippi Rifles," they were used for sharpshooting and hunting.



Dragoon Saber Model 1840 – A limited number of dragoon sabers were issued to officers and NCOs of the Mormon Battalion. These sabers were used in the US from 1840 through the Mexican War, the Civil War, and finally the Plains Indian Wars of the 1870's and 1880's. Because of their heavy weight, they were not well-liked by the mounted soldiers and earned the nickname "Wrist Breaker."

Accoutrements

Volunteer and regular Army units were issued the following accouterments:



Bayonet Scabbard, Pattern 1839 – This black leather scabbard with a brass tip and heavy brass throat was used to carry a 16 inch long triangular shaped bayonet.

Bayonet Scabbard Belt, Pattern 1839 – Also known as a baldric, this long, 2¼ inch wide white buff leather strap was slung over the right shoulder to support the bayonet in its scabbard on the soldier's left hip.

Bayonet Scabbard Belt Plate, M-1828 – This decorative embossed brass eagle breast plate was fitted to the outside of the bayonet scabbard belt.



Brush and Pick – Each soldier was issued a combination horsehair whisk and sharp iron pick on a small brass chain, which was suspended from a hook that passed through a convenient hole in the bayonet scabbard belt. They were used to clean black powder residue from the flintlock musket's vent and pan.



Infantry Cartridge Box, Pattern 1839 – The heart of the accoutrement system was made of smooth black leather and held forty .69 caliber paper cartridges.

Cartridge Box Belt – This long, 2¼ inch wide white buff leather strap was slung over the left shoulder to suspend the cartridge box on the soldier's right hip.

Cartridge Box Plate - This decorative oval brass plate stamped "US" was attached to the outer flap of the cartridge box to help it closed when unfastened.



Waist Belt, Pattern 1839 – This 1½ inch wide white buff leather waist belt held the crossing cartridge box and bayonet scabbard belts in place tight against the soldier's hips when marching, especially at the "double quick."

Waist Belt Plate – This small brass, lead-filled oval shaped plate stamped "US" acted as a buckle for the soldier's waist belt.



U. S. Flintlock Musket Screwdriver /J-Tool – The individual musket tool was used to change flints and disassemble a soldier's musket.

U.S. M1816 .69 Caliber Musket Wiper – Resembling a corkscrew, this individual musket tool was designed to hold a wad of tow (flax, hemp, or jute fiber), then attached to the end of the ramrod to clean, dry, and oil the inside of the musket barrel.

U. S. M1816/1842 .69 Caliber Musket Ball Screw – This musket tool (issued to each group of ten soldiers) was used to clear lead balls from misfired weapons.

U. S. Pre-1855 Musket Spring Vice – This musket tool (issued to each group of ten soldiers) was used to depress the frizzen and main springs so the soldier could easily disassemble his musket for cleaning and routine maintenance.

Extra Flint Caps – Each soldier was issued extra flints for his musket. They were held in place by an elongated, pure lead oval of sheet lead, designed to fold in half over the back half of the musket flint.

Additional Equipment

Volunteer and regular Army units also issued a number of personal items. These items represent their “luggage,” or their means to carry other essentials.



Haversack – A white cotton bag, carried over the right shoulder with a strap, contained a soldier's issued rations. In addition to food items, haversacks were also used to carry other essentials, such as a knife, fork, spoon, and tin plate. A one-pint tin cup, known as a “dipper” or “coffee boiler” was often tied to the outside of the haversack and used for drinking and cooking.



Canteen – Two of the more common style canteens issued during the Mexican-American War were: (1) a wooden “drum” canteen with wood or metal bands, and (2) a tin drum with a convex face stamped “US” inside an embossed circle. It is not known which style of canteen was issued to the Battalion. It is likely that soldiers added gourd canteens along their line of march through the Southwest to replace standard issue canteens that had broken, dried out, cracked, or been lost or stolen.

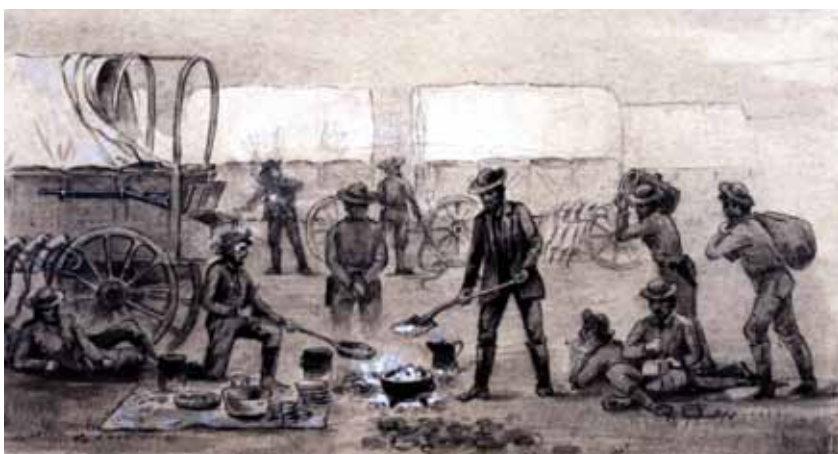


Knapsack—A knapsack, or “blanket bag,” was used to carry a soldier’s personal items such as a toothbrush, extra socks and clothing, candles, books, soap, writing materials, a razor, a comb, a mirror, etc. The knapsack also held a soldier’s blanket. As with canteens, the exact style of knapsack issued to the Mormon Battalion is not currently known, although the M1825 soft pack is was the most common pattern used during the Mexican-American War.

Blankets – Several types of wool blankets would be appropriate including: Trade “point” blankets, “homespun” center seam blankets, and the M1821 white wool blanket with dark blue end stripes. Some Battalion members write that they received two blankets while others clearly state one blanket. Military regulations called for one blanket to be issued. Many Battalion enlistees received no blankets until reaching Fort Leavenworth, but some procured civilian blankets from Indian sutler Peter A. Sarpy during their initial encampment near his trading post at Point aux Poules on the banks of the Missouri River.



Tentage – As per military custom during that time, the soldiers of the Battalion were divided into six-man “mess” groups. Each mess group was to eat, sleep, and cook together and received a single white canvas, open door, “A-Frame” or “Wedge” tent. This triangular style of tent typically measured 6 foot 4 inches in width, 8 feet in length, and 7 feet in height. These tents proved to be uncomfortably hot during the summer months, but, as with blankets, were cut and sewn into replacements for clothing and footwear later in the trek.



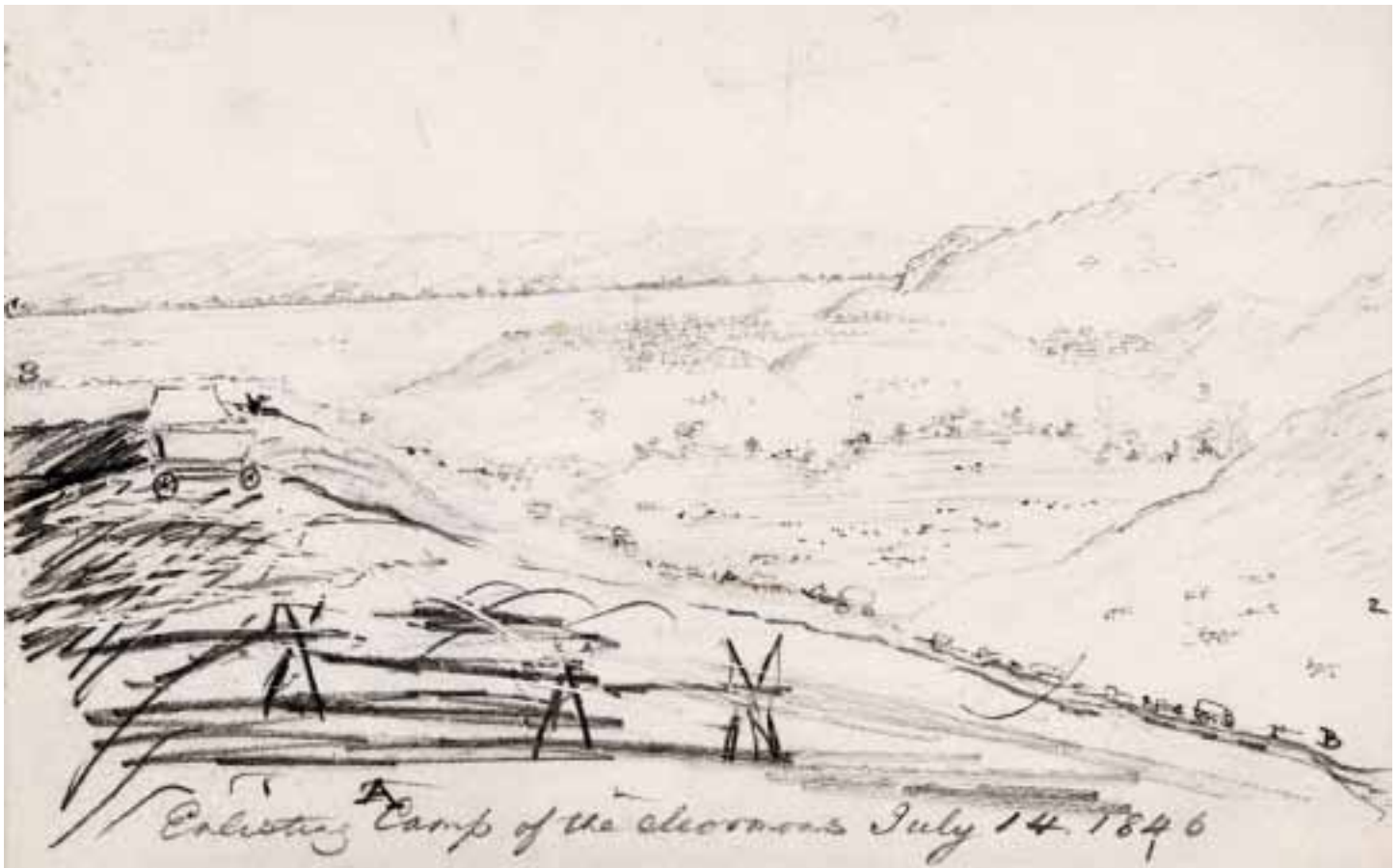
The Grub Pile, by W. H. Jackson

Cooking Equipment – Each six-man mess group received three camp kettles, a frying pan, a mess pan, a coffee pot, tin plates, and cooking utensils. The Battalion’s meager diet of flour and meat was occasionally supplemented or replaced by wild game or produce bartered from local Indian tribes. Rations were divided out to each man by the officers and NCOs in charge of commissary, and the cooking was performed by the men in each mess group.

Mormon Battalion Association™



6. Historic Museums and Key Locations



Mormon Battalion Historic Museums and Key Locations

Please visit our website:

**[http://www.mormonbattalion.com/
Museums_Monuments_Maps_and_Trails](http://www.mormonbattalion.com/Museums_Monuments_Maps_and_Trails)**

Mormon Battalion Association™



7. Mormon Battalion Memorabilia Price List

**CC-1002 - Large Group Historic Trails Awards
Package (For Groups of 50 or more).
Please allow 6-8 weeks shipping time.
Call Tom Griggs**

Order 50 or more lapel pins or pendants and receive
FREE:

- 1-5" Historic Trails Award Main Patch
- 1-5" Segment Trails Awards Patch (if applicable)
- 1-8 1/2" x 11" Historic Trails Awards Certificate PDF

*The certificate will be sent by email
with out a participant's name.
You can add participant's name after printing.*

Price per pin or pendant = \$2.00 + shipping and handling

Participants may purchase Historic Trails Memorabilia on
their own.



CC-1000 Main Historic Trails Awards Patch



CC-1001- Boy Scout Historic Trails Awards Patch

These two 5"x5" unique patches have 18 thread colors each. The center image is ED Fraughton's "Mormon Battalion Soldier". The background is Warner Pass, California, on the Mormon Battalion Trail. The trails and states are stitched in the sky. Artist, David L. Munford.

Price \$10.00 ea. + shipping and handling. Please allow 2-3 weeks shipping.

Must submit completed Award Application Form to receive patches and certificate.

HISTORIC TRAIL SEGMENT AWARDS

Each segment patch is 5" x 3/4".

Price \$2.00 each + shipping and handling. Please allow 2-3 weeks shipping.



CC1004 Iowa Mormon Trail Segment Award
(February-June 1846)



CC1005 Main Command
(July 1846-July 1847)



CC1006 Higgins Family Detachment
(16 September-6 October 1846)



CC1007 Brown Sick Detachment
(18 October-17 November 1846)



CC1008 Willis Sick Detachment
(10 November-mid January 1847)



CC1009 General Kearny Escort
(May-August 1847)



CC1010 Pueblo to Salt Lake Segment Award
(May-August 1847)



CC1011 Fifty Mile Hike Award



CC-1012 Super Segment Award Boot Pin
3/8" Antique copper color metal pin.

APPLICATION FORM



MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION™



HISTORIC TRAILS AWARDS

COMPLETE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH APPLICANT.

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____ Apt/Condo/Unit _____

City _____ State _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Leader Signature _____ Date _____

Sponsoring Organization _____

Which trail segment did you hike? _____ Other _____

Comments _____

☐ Lapel pin \$2.00 ea. ☐ Pendant \$2.00 ea.

☐ Non Scout patch \$10.00 ea.

☐ Scout patch \$10.00 ea.

☐ Trail segment patch name \$2.00 ea. _____

☐ Boot pin \$2.00 ea

+ Shipping Total _____

See page 8 for shipping and handling.

For more information on memorabilia , please see www.mormonbattalion.com (memorabilia)

Thank you for your interest in the Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Awards.

Your certificate will be e-mailed to you.

Mail Application to: Tomas Griggs 495 Holdbrook Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83401-4168

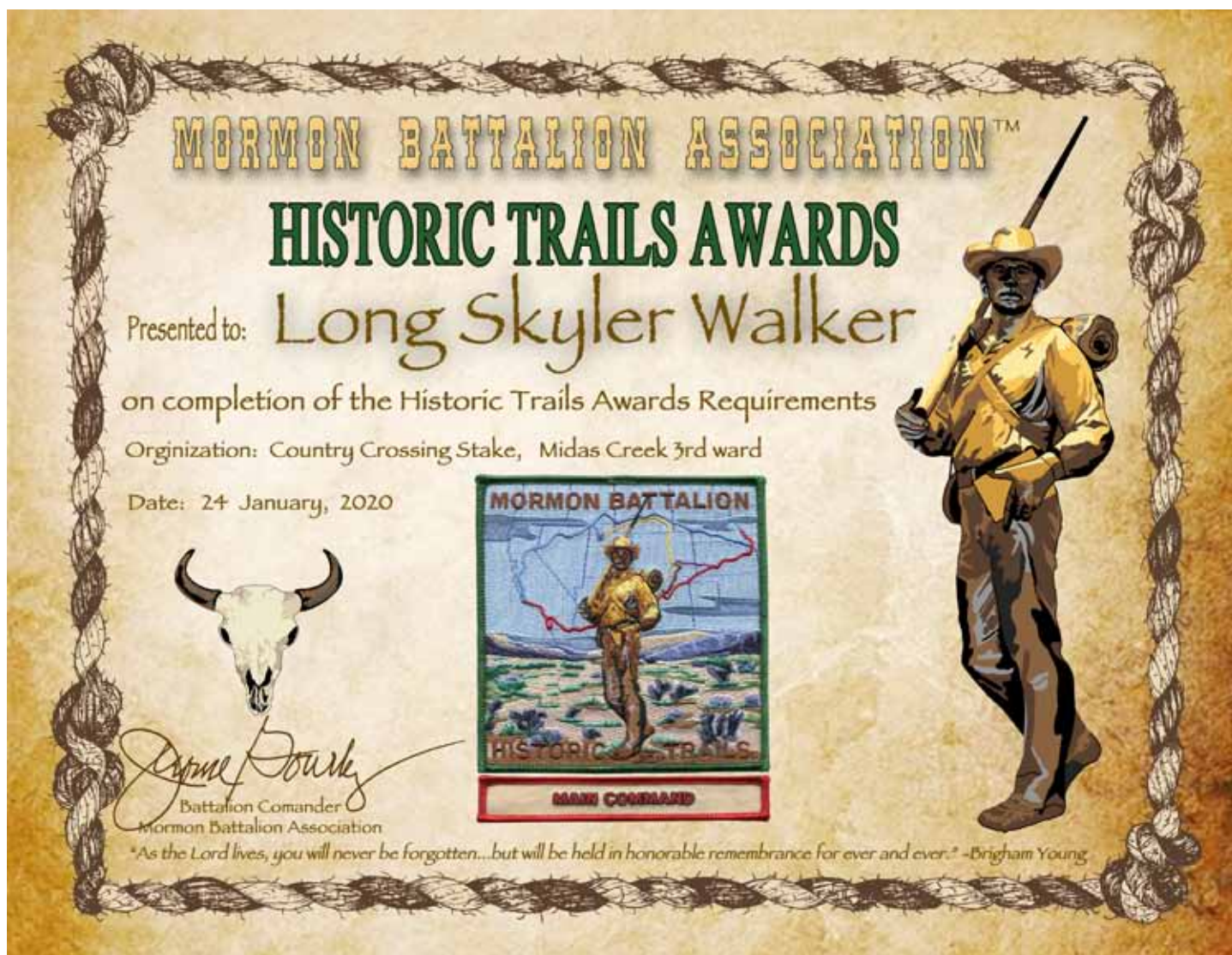
OR Email to: tkragriggs@msn.com

**8 1/2" X 11" CERTIFICATE
CAN BE CUT TO FITS IN AN 8" X 10" FRAME**

MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION™

HISTORIC TRAILS AWARDS CERTIFICATE

FOR MALE PARTICIPANTS



**8 1/2" X 11" CERTIFICATE
ALSO FITS IN AN 8" X 10" FRAME**

MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION™

HISTORIC TRAILS AWARDS CERTIFICATE

FOR FEMALE PARTICIPANTS



MORMON BATTALION PENDANT AND PINS

Please allow 2-3 weeks shipping time.



MD-001

Mormon Battalion Association
Size 1 1/2" x 3/4" Silver Soldier Pin.
[Available to the general public.](#)

Price \$5.00 + Shipping and Handling

SHIPPING AND HANDLING

Charges are based on the value
of your order.

Value	Shipping and Handling
\$2.00 to \$20.00	\$7.00
\$20.01 to \$40.00	\$14.00
\$40.01 to \$60.00	\$21.00
\$60.01 and up	\$25.00



CC-1002

Historic Trails Award
1 1/4" x 3/4" Antique gold colored metal pin.

Price \$5.00 + Shipping and Handling



CC-1003

Historic Trails Award
1 1/4" x 3/4" Antique gold colored metal
Pendant.

Price \$5.00 + Shipping and Handling



SA-61892

Mormon Battalion Association 3/4" x 1" ruby colored, Pin.

Price-\$5.00 + Shipping and Handling



Mormon Battalion Association 3/4" x 1" silver, ruby colored background, Annual Member Pin.
[Free with Membership,](#)

.SEE MEMBERSHIP FORM



Mormon Battalion Association 3/4" x 1" antique gold colored, Life Time Member Pin.
[Free with Life Time Membership](#)

.SEE MEMBERSHIP FORM



SA-62452

Mormon Battalion Neckerchief Slide
1 1/4" wide x 2 1/2" long x 5/8 deep 3 ounce, zinc alloy.

[Available to the general public.](#)

Price-\$10.00 + Shipping and Handling

MORMON BATTALION EAGLE SCOUT MEMORABILIA



SA-61558

Mormon Battalion Eagle Scout
Neckerchief Slide

Price-\$20.00 + shipping

⇐ 3" wide x 3" long x 2" deep. 3 ounces of white epoxy resin with stain and black paint, and unique sequential numbering and copyright notice on the back.

This Eagle Scout slide is only available to Eagle Scouts. They need to submit a completed application for slide and certificate.



SA-61893

Mormon Battalion
Eagle Scout
Parent Pin

1" x 3/4" oval

Price \$5.00 + shipping

MORMON BATTALION EAGLE CERTIFICATE AVAILABLE TO ANY EAGLE SCOUT





EAGLE APPLICATION



MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION

FOR CERTIFICATE AND NECKERCHIEF SLIDE

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____ Apt/Condo/Unit _____

City _____ State _____ Zip/Postal Code _____ Country _____

Date of Eagle Award _____ Troop # _____

Council Name _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Your Certificate will be emailed to you.

SA-61558

Mormon Battalion Eagle Scout Neckerchief Slide

Price-\$20.00 + shipping and handling

(Please allow 2-3 weeks)

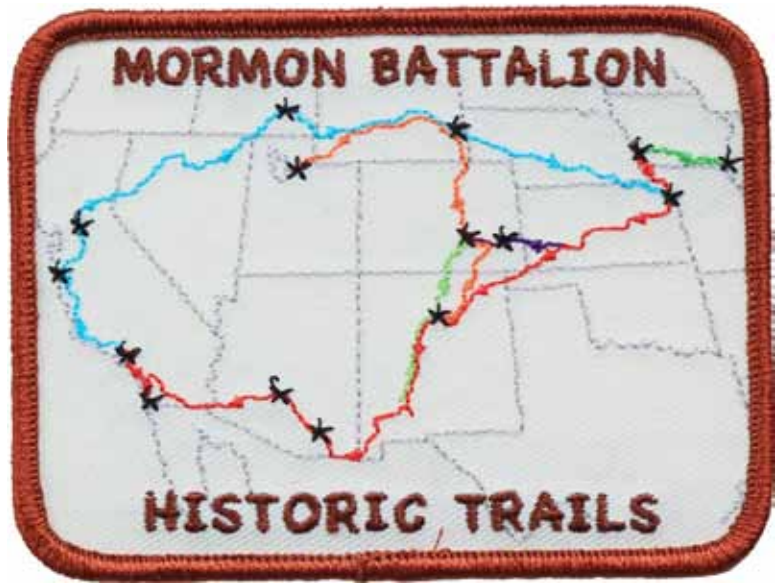


Mail Order to: Major Tom Griggs
495 Holbrook Drive
Idaho Falls, ID 83401-4168

MORMON BATTALION MEMORABILIA



Mormon Battalion Oval Patch
Actual size 3" x 4"
For left sleeve on uniform shirt.



Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Patch
Actual size 4" x 3"
For right sleeve on uniform shirt.

The ruby colored pin and two patches above are free with paid membership or dues.



CC-1015
Mormon Battalion Logo Patch
Actual size = 3" x 3"
Available to general public.
Price-\$3.00 + shipping



CC-1014
Mormon Battalion Logo Baseball Hat
One size fits all.
Available to general public.
Price-\$10.00 + shipping



MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION™



MEMBERSHIP FORM

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address _____ Apt/Condo/Unit: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

E-mail: _____ Birthdate(mm/dd/yyyy): ____/____/____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____

Name of Battalion ancestor, if any (not required) _____

☐ Would you like to help with the Mormon Battalion?

- ☐ Community Enhancement – network with associated organizations to build your community.
- ☐ Service to Others – compassionate help for the needy, education, commemorating the original Battalion.
- ☐ Historical Studies – biographical research, trail research, graves memorializing, help publish *The Valiant Journal*.
- ☐ Youth Activities – participate in youth activities.
- ☐ New Concepts – help create new activities to keep the original Battalion in honorable remembrance.
- ☐ Other: _____

Tax Deductible Donation Enclosed (mail to address below):

- ☐ **\$30.00** Annual Individual Membership Dues (Renewal payment due 1st of March each year).
- ☐ **\$200** Lifetime Individual Membership or \$300 for a couple if both sign at the same time (One time payment).
- ☐ **\$60.00** Annual Family Membership up to 4 members, one address, one e-mail address and one telephone number.
- ☐ **\$120.00** Annual Associate Organization Membership Dues (group, organization, or multi-generation family).
- ☐ \$ _____ Sustaining Donation

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Mail to: Mormon Battalion Association: %Tom Griggs 495 Holbrook Dr. Idaho Falls, ID 83401-4168



Mormon Battalion Plaque

Is a 3" wide x 3" long x 1.5" deep, 12 ounces, solid bronze with multi color durable acrylic patina skull. It has a unique sequential numbering (BB xxxxx) and copyright notice on top of the head. It is mounted on 7" wide x 9" long x 3/4" thick walnut-stained alder with two anchors. Customer to install metallic plate information.

BB - 002 -Price = \$130.00 + shipping and handling.
Please allow 3-4 weeks shipping time.

These are available to the general public.

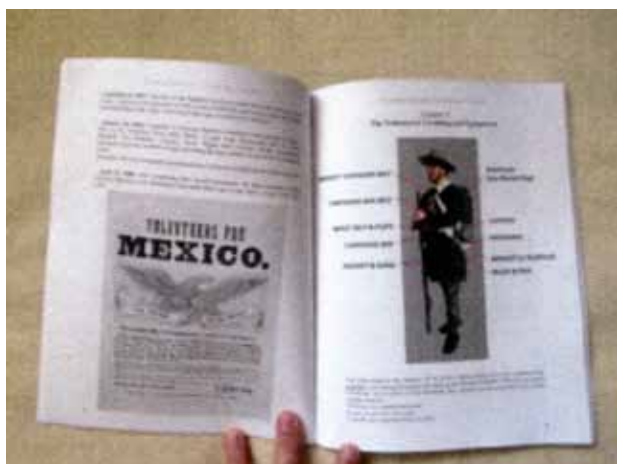
"The Mormon Battalion, Mexican War Volunteers," by Michael E. Anderson.

This richly illustrated book is used by "hands on" Mexican-American War re-enactors and living historians, those wishing to correctly depict the Mormon Battalion in art. It is an illustrated companion to Mormon Battalion history books.

Its detailed research correctly depicts a Mormon Battalion infantry soldier during the Mexican-American War - the weapons and equipment issued to him by the U.S. Army, what he carried in his knapsack and haversack, his civilian clothing, the rations he was issued, how he loaded and fired a musket, how he made cartridges, and how he started fire with flint and steel.

MA-0001 - The Mormon Battalion, Mexican War Volunteers.

Price = \$34.95 + shipping and handling. Please allow 2-3 weeks shipping time.



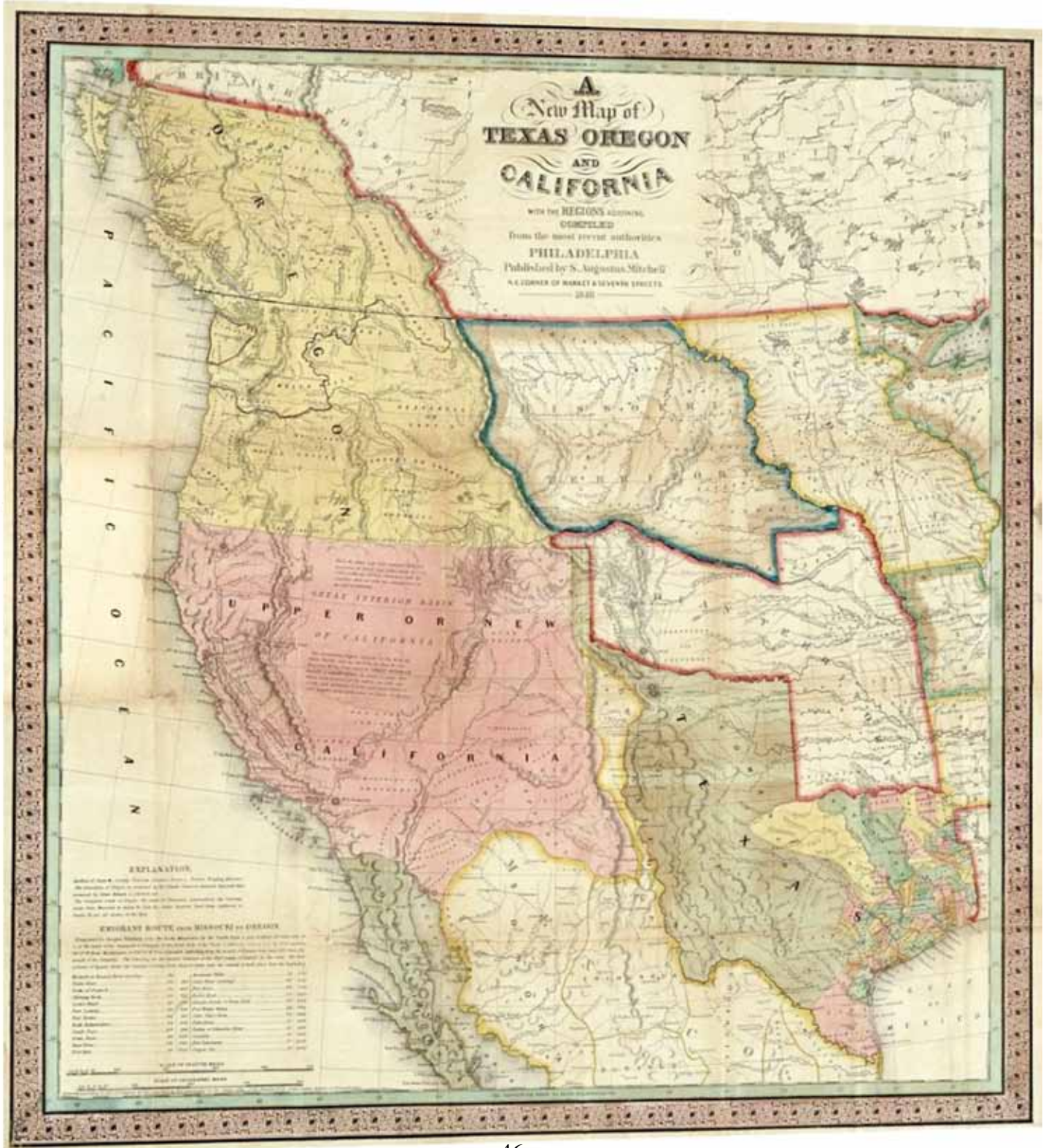
“Annotated S. Augustus Mitchell Map” Prints by Frances Moore, Jr.

The oldest known map placing gold in California and Mormons in Utah. Printed on heavy, acid free paper, with separate frameable descriptive front insert, back description/disclaimer/order information and descriptive flyer.

MB-005 - Unmounted map - 21” wide x 22” high = \$20.00 + shipping and handling

MB-006 - Acid Free Foam Mounted, Matted, and Deluxe Walnut Wood Frame Map, 31 1/4” wide x 39 1/2” high = \$300.00 + shipping and handling.

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Battalion Maps and Art

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“Mormon Battalion End of Trail” by Mark Stewart

The most authentic drawing ever done of the Mormon Battalion. Special prints of pencil and ink drawing.

MS-02 - 24” wide x 16” high, framed = \$150.00 + shipping and handling
Please allow 6-8 weeks shipping time.

MS-03 -30” wide x 20” high, framed = \$200.00 + shipping and handling
Please allow 6-8 weeks shipping time.
Special enlarged sizes are also available. Contact us for a quote.



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Published By Mormon Battalion Association™
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To only retrospectively honor the heritage of the original Mormon Battalion is but a hollow sham if we learn nothing from their humble sacrifice. To truly fulfill Brigham Young's prophesy, we must make their simple hymn of service reverberate and amplify within our deepest souls until it becomes our own great anthem whose crescendo reaches out to mold yet unborn generations. We too are pioneers, and must prospectively add our own humble legacy to theirs--rendering selfless and un-required service, compassion, and charity to "men and nations to the latest generation, worlds without end, forever and ever".

Mormon Battalion Association™



Mormon Battalion
End of the Trail
by Mark Stewart