

John & Mary Ann Petersen Bushman
Utah - Arizona Pioneers



Prepared by Thomas Lee Palmer
Copyright 2014

Who are John & Mary Ann to ME?

This pedigree chart should help you decide . . .

John Bushman & Mary Ann Petersen

1843 -1926

1857 – 1885

John Lycurgus Westover & Maren Adele Bushman

1880 -1971

1881 – 1969

Elwyn Gus Palmer & Ruth Westover Palmer

1919 - 2013

1919 – 2011

Thomas Lee Palmer & Gretna Ann Phinizy Palmer

1943 -

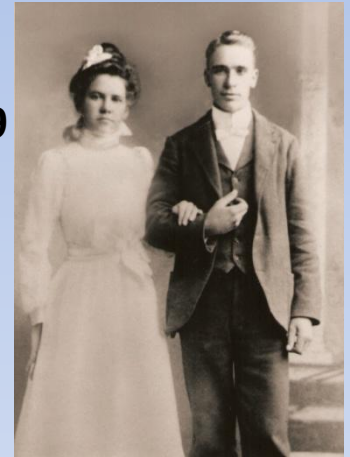
1943 -

Photos

**John Bushman 1843-1926 &
Mary Ann Petersen 1857-1885**



**John Lycurgus Westover 1880-1971
& Maren Adele Bushman 1881-1969**



**Elwyn Gus Palmer 1919-2013
& Ruth Westover Palmer 1919-2011**



**Thomas Lee Palmer 1943 - & Gretna Ann
Phinizy Palmer 1943 -**



The Story of a Pioneer Family

John Bushman and Mary Ann Petersen

Prepared by Thomas Lee Palmer (2014)

John Bushman was called by President Brigham Young in 1876 to help settle colonies in northern Arizona. It is hoped that this presentation will help our children and grandchildren turn their hearts to their fathers as they come to know those who have gone before and that they will come to love the temple of the Lord that resulted from the sacrifice and service of their ancestors. John's second wife, Mary Ann, is my great grandmother – she and Lois, his first wife, were dear friends, “sister wives”, and sustained each other in their roles in the John Bushman family.

Sources for the information found in this presentation include:

- *John Bushman Utah-Arizona Pioneer 1843-1926* (1975)
- *Stories of the John Bushman Family and Their Descendants* (1987)
- *Unflinching Courage*, Adele Bushman Westover and J. Morris Richards (1963)
- *Pioneer Pathways*, Volume 11, International Society Daughters of Utah Pioneers (2008)
- *Colonization on the Little Colorado*, Tanner and Richards (1977)
- *Faith Promoting Bedtime Stories from the family of John & Adele Westover*, Joyce Mabey

Many of the photos used in the presentation are representative of Pioneer Life and are not necessarily photos of the persons they represent – when photos are in fact of the persons or places mentioned that will be noted.

Aren't we all immigrants?

Our Father in Heaven's Plan provided for the creation of this beautiful earth that we might all experience mortality – thus, each of us have immigrated to earth from the home of our heavenly parents.

America, established by divine power, provided a welcome invitation to all seekers of truth, religious freedom, and adventure - the Statue of Liberty, a universal symbol of freedom and democracy, bears these words on its pedestal:



*"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"*

John Bushman's ancestors and his 2nd wife, Mary Ann Petersen, immigrated to America and were blessed by the freedom and the restored Gospel that they embraced on America's precious soil.

Ancestry of John Bushman

John's great grandfather, John Henry Bushman, immigrated to America from Germany in 1753. John's grandfather, Abraham (a son of John Henry Bushman), married Esther Franks in 1788. John's father, Martin Bushman was the 7th child of Abraham and Esther, born in 1802 (three years before the Prophet Joseph's birth) in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Martin was a farmer by trade - he married Elizabeth Degen in 1827. Elizabeth was born in Bern, Switzerland and lost her mother when she was only 4 years old. At age 14, in 1816, Elizabeth came to America with her father – a 17 week sailing voyage – Elizabeth worked as an indentured servant to pay for her voyage. Elizabeth's father established a home in Pennsylvania, but died 5 years after his arrival in America. Elizabeth, a hard-working strong pioneer young woman, learned to read and write English as well as her native tongue by age 24, cooked, sewed, milked cows and worked in the field.



John's ancestors immigrated to America from Germany and Switzerland

Martin & Elizabeth Bushman

Martin and Elizabeth Bushman, shown in photos below in later years,



had eight children while living in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. In 1840, Martin and Elizabeth met Elders from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and embraced the Gospel. None of their family members

joined with them. After helping Martin's parents get well settled, they traveled 1,000 miles by wagon and joined the Saints in Nauvoo in June 1842 along with their four living children. They met the Prophet Joseph and his brother, Hyrum, and Martin began working one day in ten on the Nauvoo temple while establishing a home and farm just east of Nauvoo. They both received patriarchal blessings from Hyrum Smith. On 7 June 1843, Elizabeth gave birth to John Bushman.

Troubled years in Nauvoo

By autumn of 1843 enemies of the Church were again stirring up false charges against the leaders. The Prophet Joseph was arrested many times and each time was acquitted. On 27 June 1844, when John Bushman was only one year old, the Prophet Joseph and Hyrum were martyred by a mob in Carthage and John Taylor was wounded. Under the direction of the Twelve Apostles, with Brigham Young as president, the work of the temple was hastened.



Nauvoo Temple

On November 30, 1845 part of the temple was dedicated and on December 10th holy ordinances were commenced.

**Martin and Elizabeth Bushman were endowed
in the Nauvoo Temple on Christmas Day, 25 December 1845.**



Leaving Nauvoo

The main body of Saints left Nauvoo in the cold winter of February 1846



Leaving behind their beautiful temple they had sacrificed so much to build.

Leaving Nauvoo and the temple

Martin and Elizabeth were seasoned farmers and were asked by Brigham Young to remain behind and farm thru the summer to provide food for departing saints. Before leaving Nauvoo in September 1846, Martin and Elizabeth took their children (John Bushman now only 3 years old) to the temple and let them feel of its spirit and they were particularly impressed with the baptismal font resting on the backs of twelve bronze oxen.



They were forced to leave their farm and harvest and taking all they owned in their wagon, they headed west to join the saints in western Iowa.

Destitute Years in Iowa

Martin and Elizabeth traveled with several other families in the cold and rainy autumn weather and many suffered from chills and fever. They buried two of their children on this very challenging journey – nine-year-old Elizabeth died on 12 October and their baby, Esther Ann died on 19 October – they were buried on the plains.



The family arrived in Highland Grove, near Council Bluffs, and built a cabin to survive the winter. They were in a small branch of 10-12 families and held Sunday meetings and socials in spite of their miserable circumstances.

Destitute Years in Iowa

Destitute and without supplies, Martin traveled 100 miles to find work splitting rails. He earned corn and pork and was able to provide for his family.



Council Bluffs on Pottawattamie tribal lands

Destitute Years in Iowa

In the Spring of 1847 the family put in what seed they could, after which Martin went again to Missouri to work while Jacob and the little boys (John was only 4 at this time) cared for the growing crops at home. During the next 4 years the family farmed (increasing the number of crops each year), attended a small school and made Highland Grove their temporary home – all the while planning and saving to make the journey to the Salt Lake Valley to join the saints there. Martin's family enjoyed the fruits of his labor in Missouri and in the farm work and their joint labor in farming and harvesting berries and nuts that were available naturally.



Journey West

In the Spring of 1851, Martin, Elizabeth and children (John was now approaching 8 years of age), had accumulated provisions for the journey west to join the saints – one wagon, two yoke of oxen and two yoke of cows + clothing, food and other provisions.



The family was assigned to Talsey's Company of 100, and Alma Allred's Company of 50. On the journey west they experienced very little illness – they met bands of Indians and large herds of buffalo, witnessing several stampedes.

Salt Lake Valley

The Martin Bushman family arrived in Salt Lake City in June 1851



Early Salt Lake City

John was now 8 and was baptized by his father in Key Creek and confirmed a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. After one week in Salt Lake City, they moved on to Lehi, Utah (30 miles south of Salt Lake City), and joined with 30 other families to make their home.

Evansville (Lehi, Utah)

In 1852, Sarah – the only living daughter of Martin and Elizabeth – married Alonzo Rhodes and Jacob, the oldest son, went with Major Holman, Indian Agent, to Carson Valley and then on to California (he was away from home for six years). This left the parents with three young boys, Martin Benjamin (11), John (9), and Elias Albert (3). Martin secured 20 acres west of Evans Valley and another 5 acres near Evansville and for the first time farmed using irrigation. They raised grain, corn, and vegetables.



Martin secured logs from trees in the canyon and built a one-room home for the family – they moved into the home in the fall of 1852. The cabin may have been like this one.



School and work for the boys

The community built a log school house near the Bushman home and Martin Benjamin and John were enrolled in school in the fall of 1852. Their teacher was a 6 foot 4 inch man, Preston Thomas, who taught everything from alphabet to long division.

School house may have looked like this one in 1800s



In the spring of 1853, the family expanded their farming and Martin Benjamin helped with the farming, while John herded cows north of Lehi along the Jordan River – John would continue this for 4 or 5 years.



Indian troubles

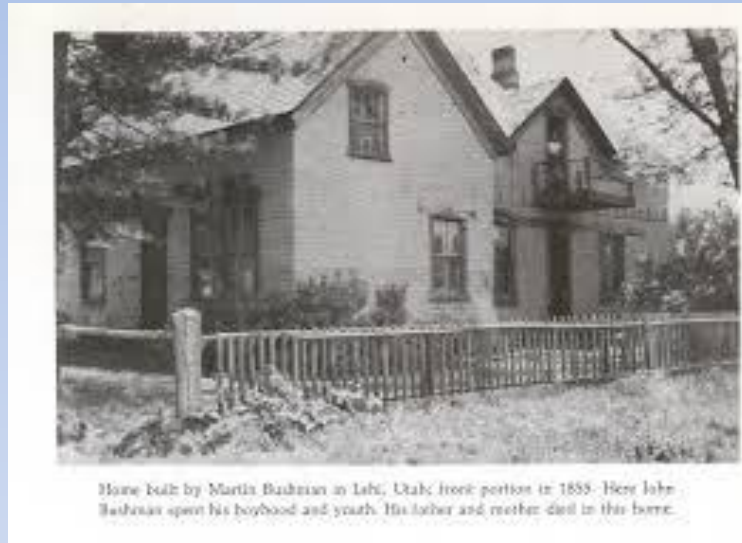
Due to trouble with the Indians, the Saints were advised in the fall of 1853 to move close together. They moved their homes into a fort – 114X111 rods in size. The cattle were secured inside the fort area during the night and men were assigned to guard the fort at night.

By spring 1854, Lehi saints numbered 500. They built a mud wall around the fort – 6 feet wide at the bottom, 3 feet wide at the top, and 12 feet tall. On the 25th of February a party of 15 men rode along the west side of Utah Lake providing protection from Indians who were taking their cattle. That evening, Indians attacked the party and 3 of the 15 lost their lives.



Establishing home in Utah

The saints were industrious, improving their homes, cultivating more land and establishing Zion. Dry goods, including clothing, were hard to come by as it was a 1,000 mile trip to secure them – all were in need of supplies.



Martin Bushman home in Lehi

(John spent most of his youth growing up in this home)

In June 1857, the family took a 60 mile trip south to visit friends at Nephi. They visited William Cazier, who was then a Patriarch, and John received his first Patriarchal Blessing on 21 June 1857

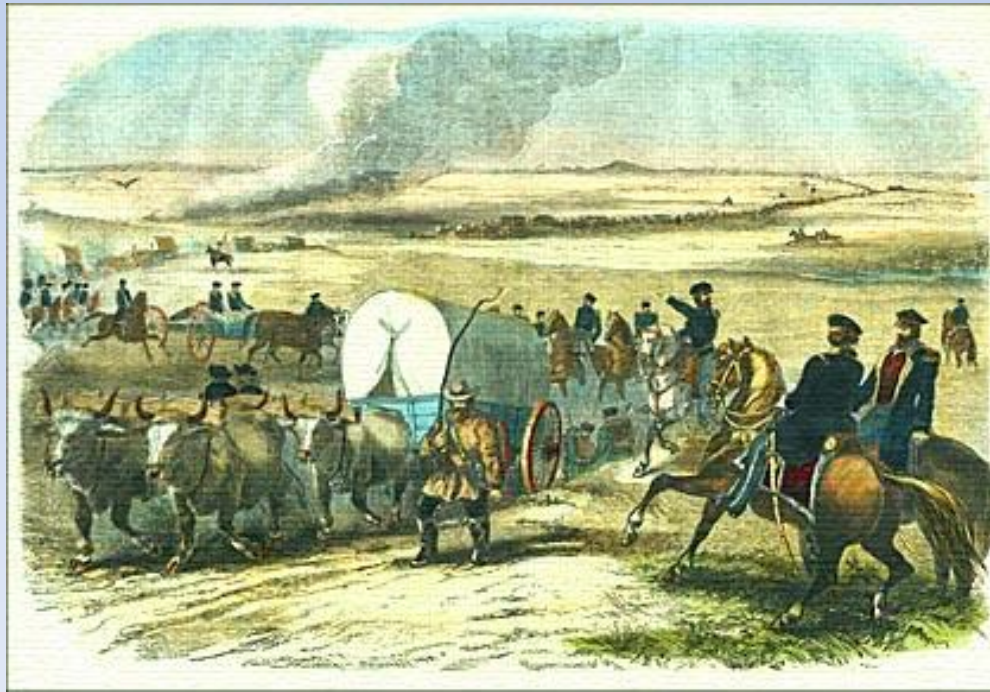
“UTAH WAR”

False accusations about the activity of the saints in Utah were raised to US government leaders and in time it raised concerns among members of congress and the president. It is amazing that anyone would believe the false accusations after the mob-driven saints provided 500 men for the “Mormon Battalion”, established their possession of the Utah territory under the name of the United States, and prominently displayed the American Flag declaring their clear allegiance to the United States of America.



“UTAH WAR”

President Buchanan and Congress yielded to the prejudice and sent an army of 2,500 men in July 1857 (just 10 years after the saints arrived in Utah) to address the alleged wrongs. The saints received word of the approaching army, which would soon be referred to as “Johnston’s Army”, because Albert Sidney Johnston became their leader. The army boasted that they would hang Brigham and the Church leaders and take their wives.



“UTAH WAR”

Church leaders made preparations to address the intruding army by constructing barricades in Echo Canyon to make entry into valley difficult, by driving off their animals, burning supply wagons, and in general slowing their march.

Echo Canyon



Lot Smith led a group of saints who successfully delayed the army and soon Winter set in and Johnston's Army was forced to spend the winter at Fort Bridger.

“UTAH WAR”

During the winter of 1857-8, Brigham Young was in communication with General Johnston, and it was finally agreed that the army could enter Utah, but could not camp within 40 miles of Salt Lake City. The army passed through Salt Lake City finding no opposition and a virtually abandoned city. Over 30,000 saints had moved from the Salt Lake area to settlements south of Lehi. Johnston's Army came through Salt Lake City and set up Camp Floyd (about 18 miles southwest of Lehi).

The Utah War has been referred to as “Buchanan's Blunder” in reference to the president's failure to ascertain the truth before acting. Buchanan had come under considerable pressure from Congress to end the crisis. In February 1858, Senator [Sam Houston](#) of Texas stated that a war against the Mormons would be “... *one of the most fearful calamities that has befallen this country, from its inception to the present moment. I deprecate it as an intolerable evil. I am satisfied that the Executive has not had the information he ought to have had on this subject before making such a movement as he has directed to be made.*”

On 19 June, a newly arrived reporter for the [New York Herald](#) somewhat inaccurately wrote, “*Thus was peace made – thus was ended the 'Mormon war', which...may be thus historisized: – Killed, none; wounded, none; fooled, everybody.*”

“UTAH WAR”

The Saints returned to their homes and farms in the Salt Lake City area. The army's needs for housing and supplies while camped at Camp Floyd provided work for the saints and blessed them greatly until the Army was called “home” with the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861. As the Army return to the east, the saints were able secure many of their supplies at greatly reduced prices. The cost of the “Utah War” to the saints was still devastating and required much to rebuild and re-establish their farms and homes.



“Hauling Stone for the temple”

In November 1861 John Bushman (now 18) and others from Lehi were called to haul granite stone with ox teams from the quarry in Little Cottonwood Canyon for the Salt Lake Temple.



Granite Quarry



Oxen teams haul granite for temple
Each stone for the temple foundation
weighed 2,000 – 6,000 pounds

“To the rescue”

Early in the spring of 1862, John Bushman and four other young men from Lehi were called to drive ox teams back to the Missouri River to help immigrating saints. They were part of the John Murdock company.



John R. Murdock

They left in early May and faced deep snow in the mountains and high waters in the streams and rivers. John R. Young was the chaplain of their company and John Bushman was called on to pray at one of the company gathering's –

it was his first “public” prayer and he was so nervous he pulled up grass around him all during his prayer.



Return to Utah

The John Murdock Company arrived at the Missouri River on 9 July 1862, prepared and loaded freight and passengers and headed west on 24 July. John Bushman had nineteen passengers assigned to his wagon – all walked except two older women. Later that fall, John Bushman was sent to Nevada with a load of grain on President Young's contract. Just before Christmas John went to Ogden and then on to Cache Valley where he enjoyed reunions with many friends and at the Morehead home met his future wife, Lois A. Smith. He returned to Lehi in February 1863. During 1863 and 1864 he farmed with his brother, Jacob and helped haul wood for his parents. During this time his industry rewarded him with his own team and a piece of land east of Lehi.



Marriage and a New Home

John married Lois Angeline Smith and was sealed to her by Apostle George Q. Cannon in the Endowment House at Salt Lake City on 11 February 1865.



John Bushman in 1865



John and Lois

They had a two room “dobie” home built while John continued his farming in the valley – the home might have looked like this one -



John called to militia to help protect settlements from Indians

Indian war parties began stealing cattle and attacking settlers throughout Utah – sometimes referred to as the Black Hawk War. John and others were called to the militia during 1865-67 on several missions to help the saints in Strawberry Valley, Sevier Valley and other Utah locations.



Family life

John and Lois had three children by 1870: John Albert (born 28 May 1866, who died 3 December 1866), Homer Frederick (born 6 August 1868) and Maria Elizabeth (born 17 December 1869). The family enjoyed earnest and faithful worship in the home and in the Church. Family prayers and scripture study were important to their family. John's father, Martin, loved the scriptures – this photo of his bible shows that it had much use:



John loved the Gospel and was invited in 1871 to attend the School of the Prophets each Monday afternoon. He was later ordained a Seventy on 24 January 1872.

Family life

John continued to farm, expanding his acreage to 30 acres of farm land. In addition he served for several years in Lehi as a Peace Officer and was popular with the old and the young. In 1870 John got logs from the west mountains and put up a barn measuring 30 feet by 20 feet, perhaps like this one –



In addition to his farm work, he hauled ore from the mines and machinery for the mills. On 6 April 1871 John and Lois were blessed with another son, Martin Lester (named after his grandfather who died the year before). Little Martin struggled with illness and died 10 September 1871. On 28 June 1872 John and Lois welcomed their 5th child, Lois Evelyn.

Family life

John and Lois welcomed another son into the world on 10 February 1874, Wickliffe Benjamin. On 8 May of that year they attended General Conference and the saints were invited to live the United Order – John became a director of these efforts in the Lehi area. On 9 October 1875 John attended the dedication of the new Salt Lake Tabernacle, which was said to be the most wonderful building for acoustics in America.

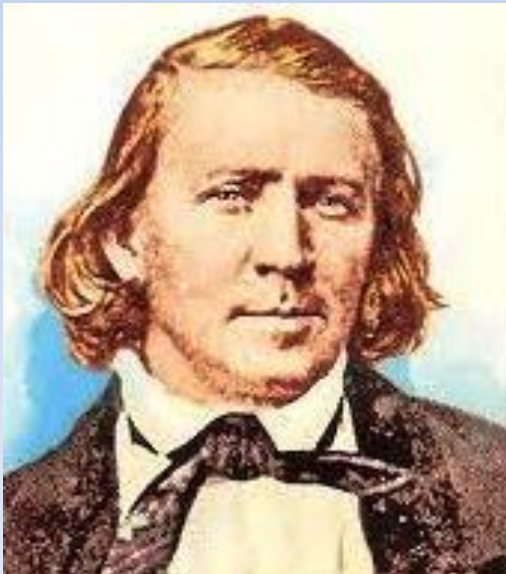


The Salt Lake Tabernacle (1875)

On 11 December 1875, Preston Ammaron was born to John and Lois.

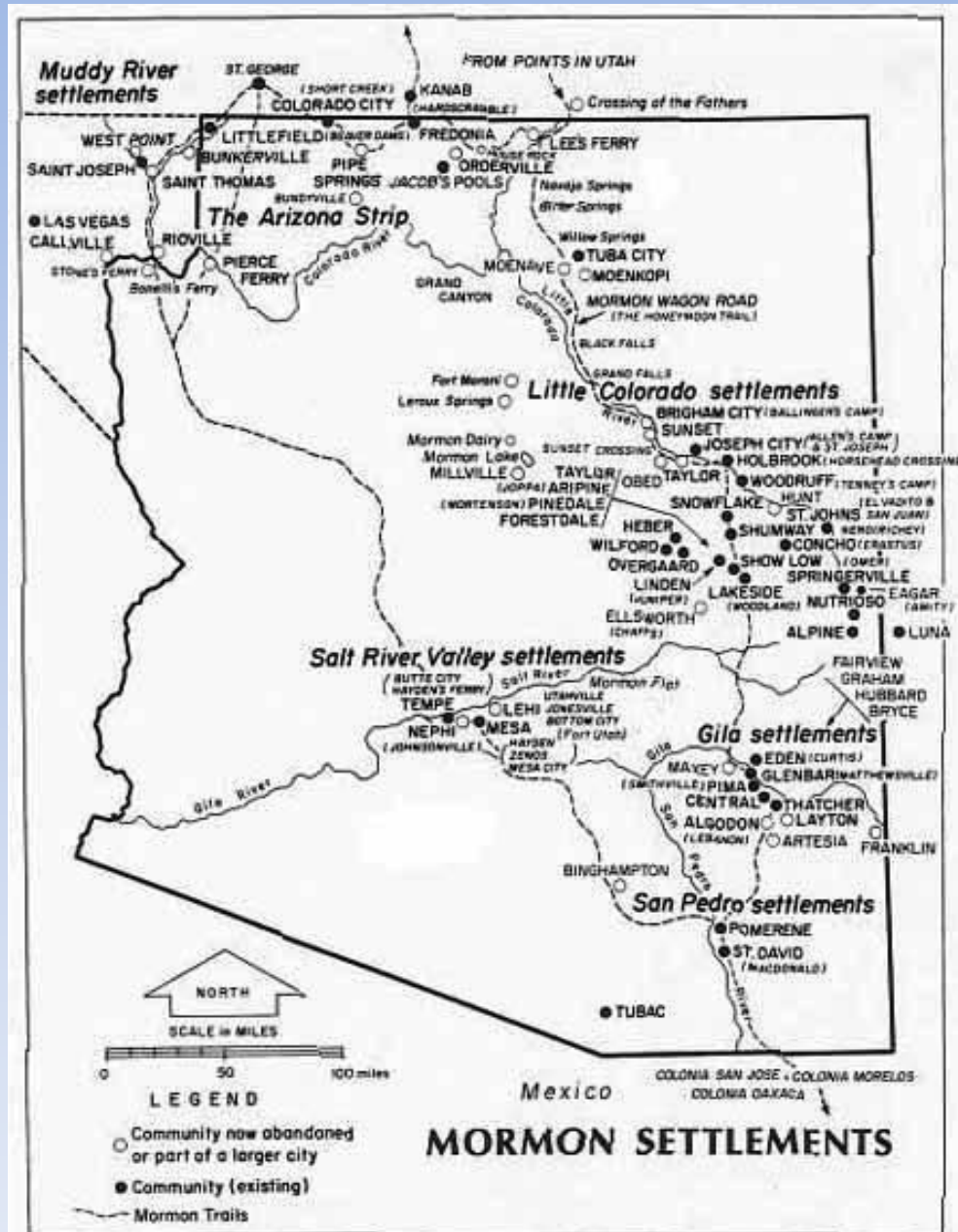
Colonization of the West

The Saints felt they had “arrived” at Zion – here they could at last be settled, free from persecution, and welcome others as they “gathered” with the Saints in the tops of the mountains. The Lord’s vision was much broader. The Saints were to colonize the West and go into the world to establish “Zion” where the pure in heart could gather, build the kingdom, and erect temples as “the mountain of the Lord’s house”. I have sensed strongly that the colonization was not just to provide places to establish homes, develop the land, build cities, and raise families, but rather it was to prepare for the building of temples as the Lord’s people have always done. The sacrifices of our ancestors in colonizing the West have not been in vain – their efforts,



their faith, and their obedience to calls prepared the way for temples in Kirtland, Nauvoo, Salt Lake City, St. George, Mesa, Snowflake, Gila Valley, Gilbert, Phoenix and soon Tucson – how they must must rejoice as each new temple is announced in the areas they sacrificed to established.

Colonization of Arizona



Mission Call from the Lord

On 23 January 1876 John Bushman, James Robinson and Peter Christofferson (all of Lehi) were called on a mission by President Brigham Young to settle Mormon colonies in northern Arizona along with 200 other men and their families. Six days later on 29 January President Young invited all of the newly called “Arizona Missionaries” to meet with him personally in Salt Lake City. “Peter, James and John” all attended. They were invited to “make their homes in Arizona” and to work together in the United Order. President Young appointed four captains: George Lake, Lot Smith, William C. Allen, and Jesse O. Ballenger. They were instructed to leave for Arizona as soon as possible.

John sold some of his property and prepared for the mission. The advance party, with 30 teams, included only 3 women. They left Lehi on 9 February and stopped in Orderville, where the people had been working with the United Order for two years. They learned from them as they would be establishing the Order in Arizona. While there, John sent \$5 to help with the completion of the St. George Temple then under construction.

The Little Colorado River

On 15 March 1876, the Arizona missionaries reached the Little Colorado River and then followed the river 120 miles and began establishing the first settlements on the Little Colorado.



Little Colorado River



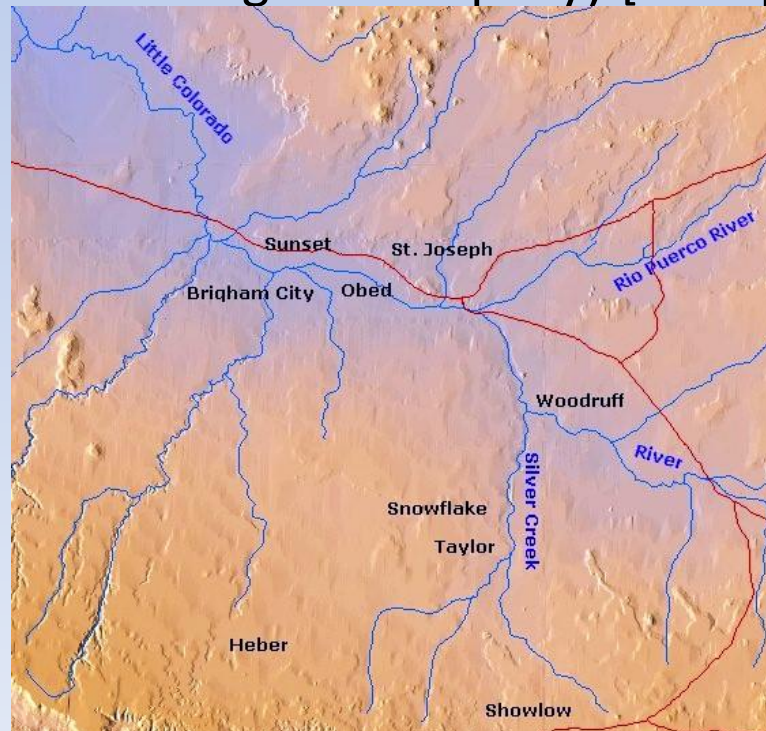
Grand Falls on Little Colorado

The Little Colorado River would prove to be a tough river to tame, but would provide much needed water for irrigation and the establishment of the settlements.

Little Colorado River Settlements

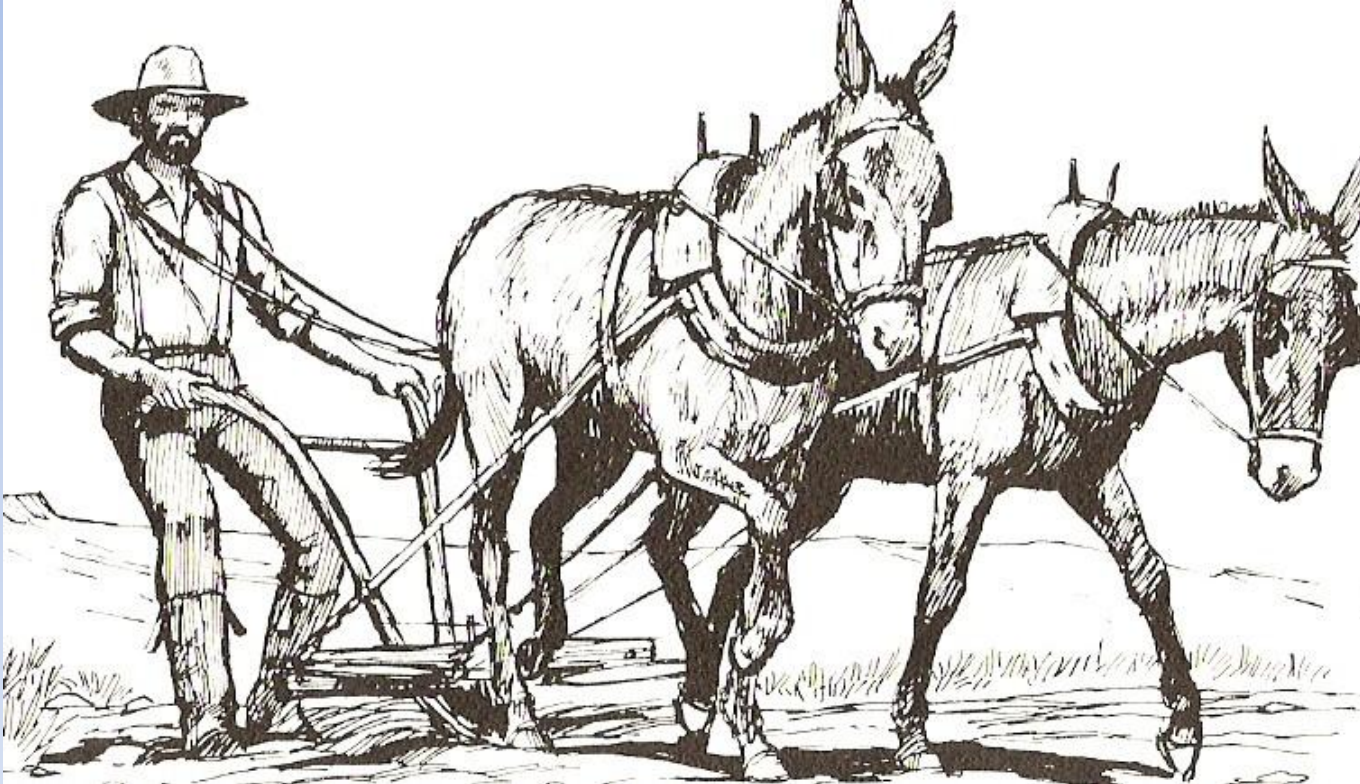
The four companies established the following settlements:

- Sunset (Lot Smith's company) [near present day Winslow]
- Allen's Camp, later called St. Joseph, then Joseph City (William C. Allen company)
- Obed (George Lake's company) [now part of Joseph City]
- Brigham City (Jesse O. Ballenger's company) [near present day Winslow]



Establishing Settlements

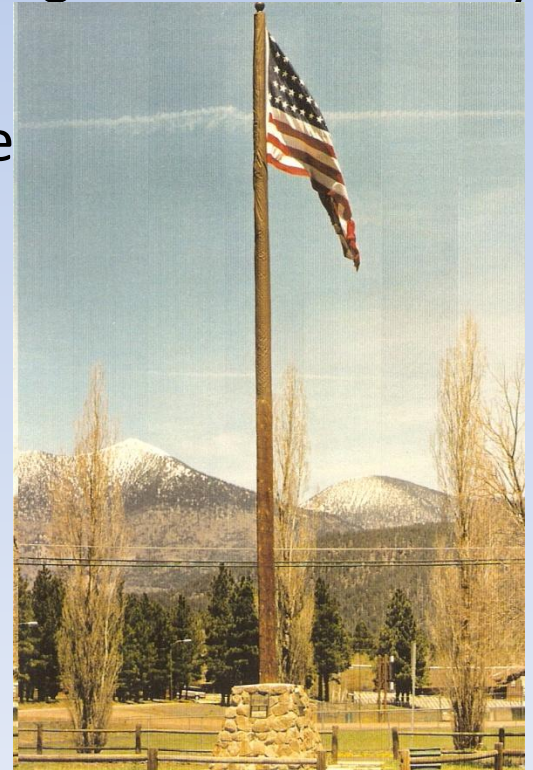
The day after arriving was the Sabbath and they held meetings at 10am and 7 pm. The following day they began plowing and cutting logs for a dam.



On 3 April John Bushman sowed the first wheat that was planted by the settlers. He had traded his horses for mules on the way to Arizona.

Establishing Settlements

John Bushman led a company of men (with three teams from each of the four settlements) back to Kanab to get some of the provisions and supplies they left there on their journey south. They returned to Allen's Camp on 7 June 1876. A large company from Massachusetts passed through the Mormon settlements and went on to establish holdings in Fort Valley – northwest of where Flagstaff now is. They celebrated the 4th of July by stopping near the opening of Fort Valley and trimming a pine tree and raising a United States flag there – thus the name, “Flagstaff”. A monument was constructed in that location by Michael Palmer for his Eagle Scout Project – dedicated by Governor Bruce Babbitt on 4 July 1986 in memory of the 1876 flag raising.



Establishing Settlements

On 11 July 1876, John Bushman, President Allen, Peter Hansen and Pleasant Bradford took four horses and a light wagon on an exploratory trip going south to the forest areas. They went to the Stinson ranch (where Snowflake was later settled), to the Cooley's (where Show Low is now located), and then westward about 50 miles along the rim of the Tonto Basin. They left their wagon at the rim and went off the rim looking for good farming land – returned to their wagon on finding no suitable land and then traveled 200 miles through pine forests, returning to Allen's Camp on 23 July. The saints in camp were quite discouraged because the dam had washed away. With provisions running low, several were excused to return to Utah to get their families – included in this return trip were Peter, James and John. They arrived back in Lehi in September 1876 in time to help their families with harvest.



Tonto Rim

Mary Ann Petersen

With Lois' poor health and frail condition, Church authorities advised John Bushman to marry a second wife. John and Lois agreed that this would be a blessing to the call to serve and to Lois and their five young children. On 31 December 1876, John obtained the consent of Miss Mary Ann Petersen and her parents for Mary to become John's second wife and to go with him back to Arizona. Mary Ann was 19 years old, having been born in Vinstrup, Randers, Denmark on 24 May 1857. Her parents, Jens and Maren Sorensen Frost Petersen were converted to the Church and immigrated to Utah, settling in Lehi. John, Mary Ann, and John's daughter, Lois Evelyn, traveled to St. George with other companies, going the final distance with the John Hunt company. On 2 March 1877 John Bushman and Mary Ann Petersen were married in the St. George Temple by Apostle Erastus Snow. The next day John took his daughter Lois into the Temple to see

the font on the backs of the 12 oxen. His father had given this opportunity to him at age 3 in Nauvoo.



St. George Temple baptismal font



Back to the Little Colorado Settlements

On 5 March 1877 they continued their trip to Arizona – the following day they caught up with the John Hunt company and Lycurgus Westover (my great grandfather) family. On 20 March they crossed the Colorado River at Pearce Ferry →

then onto the Beale Road and past the San Francisco Peaks →



They rested at Fort Valley until all of the company was together again and then left on 24 April for the Little Colorado settlements, arriving at Sunset Crossing on 29 April. On 30 April John Bushman and Lycurgus Westover (my two great grandfathers – my grandparents are Maren Adele Bushman and John Lycurgus Westover) and families drove on to Allen's Camp.

Taming the Little Colorado River

One of the great challenges of establishing the Mormon Settlements on the Little Colorado River was the River itself. In August and September every year when the rains came the river would rise high and wash out the dams. Many became discouraged and left to plant their roots elsewhere – if it had not been for the United Order and the cooperative effort of the Allen's Camp saints they might have all abandoned the settlements.

Year after year they rebuilt dams. The one shown at the right was the 8th dam at St. Joseph and took 3 years to construct – finally finished in 1894.

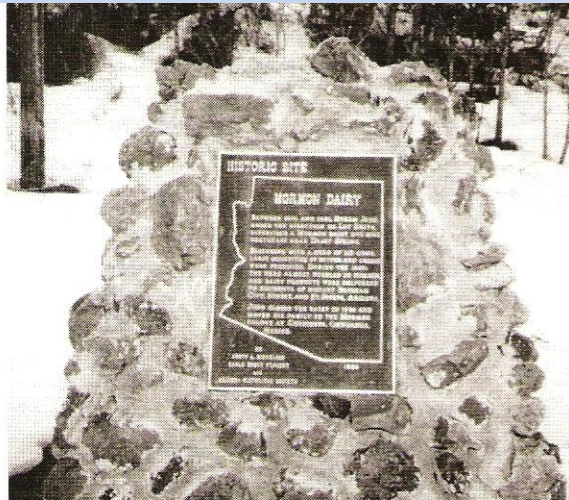


The 8th earth-fill diversion dam built on the Little Colorado River by Mormon pioneers of St. Joseph, Ariz. It was begun in March, 1891 and is shown after completion on 10 March 1894. The natural rock spillway is at the left.

Life in Allen's Camp (St. Joseph)

The four settlements all worked together to establish a sugar cane mill, a saw mill, a tannery and a dairy and many other enterprises. The dairy was established in 1878 at Pleasant Valley (50 miles southwest of Sunset – now called Mormon Lake) and provided milk, cheese, butter and from the beef cattle, much needed meat. John Bushman and Lot Smith were regulars in helping maintain this enterprise – in years to come this would be the center of the Lot Smith family holdings.

The mountain climate provided cool summer weather and much needed forage for the animals. In the 1980s Scott Mickelson (for his Eagle Scout Project) established a monument at Mormon Dairy to remember the saints who were blessed by this beautiful area.



Monument at Mormon Dairy - Scott Mickelson Eagle Project



Mormon Lake Valley
[Called "Pleasant Valley" in 1878]

Navajo and Hopi welcome saints

The Navajo and Moqui (Hopi) living in the area of the new settlements joined with the saints in their building of irrigation ditches, planting and harvesting crops, and establishing Zion. Many of the Navajo and Hopi were baptized and embraced the Gospel. John McLaws and Henry Despain were missionaries to the Indians and worked well with them.



On 3 January 1878, the threshing of the 1877 grain crop was done. The people of St. Joseph produced 662 bushels of wheat and 18 bushels of oats.

Some died and many were born

On 6 November 1877, Edwin Lycurgus Westover died leaving a wife, Joanna, and two children. Just prior to his death Lycurgus was on a hunting trip with his friend, Henry Despain, and knowing he would soon die Lycurgus asked Henry to marry Joanna and raise children unto him (Lycurgus). After Lycurgus' death Henry wrote to Joanna, who had returned to Salt Lake City, and told of his agreement with Lycurgus. After much thought and a dream, she agreed and returned to St. Joseph – 7 children were born to them and they carried the “Westover” name. The First Presidency advised that they do so and when the oldest of the 7 children, John Lycurgus Westover (my grandfather), went to Salt Lake City to be sealed to Maren Adele Bushman his marriage licensed showed “John Lycurgus Despain”, but he was sealed as John Lycurgus Westover.



HOME of JOANNA WESTOVER in JOSEPH CITY



Joanna & children
in 1890 (John, my
grandfather, on
the right)

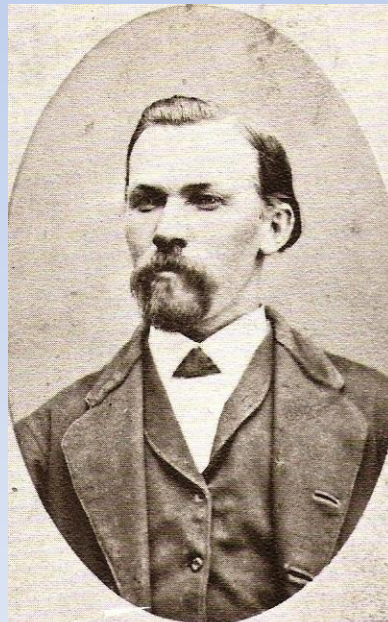
John and Mary Ann Bushman welcomed their first child, Elsie May, on 14 Feb 1878.

Establishing the Church on the Little Colorado

On 26 January 1878, John W. Young, first counselor to President Brigham Young, arrived in Sunset and called a conference of the saints in the Little Colorado colonies. The Little Colorado Stake was formed on 27 January, with Lot Smith as president and Jacob Hamblin and Lorenzo Hatch as counselors. John Bushman was called as the Bishop for the St. Joseph ward, Andrew Smith Gibbons as the president elder for the Moencopi branch, and Levi M. Savage as Bishop of the Sunset Ward. John Bushman would serve as Bishop of the St. Joseph Ward for 28 years [His son-in-law, John Lycurgus Westover (my grandfather), would later serve as Bishop for 23 years of the Joseph City Ward].



Lot Smith



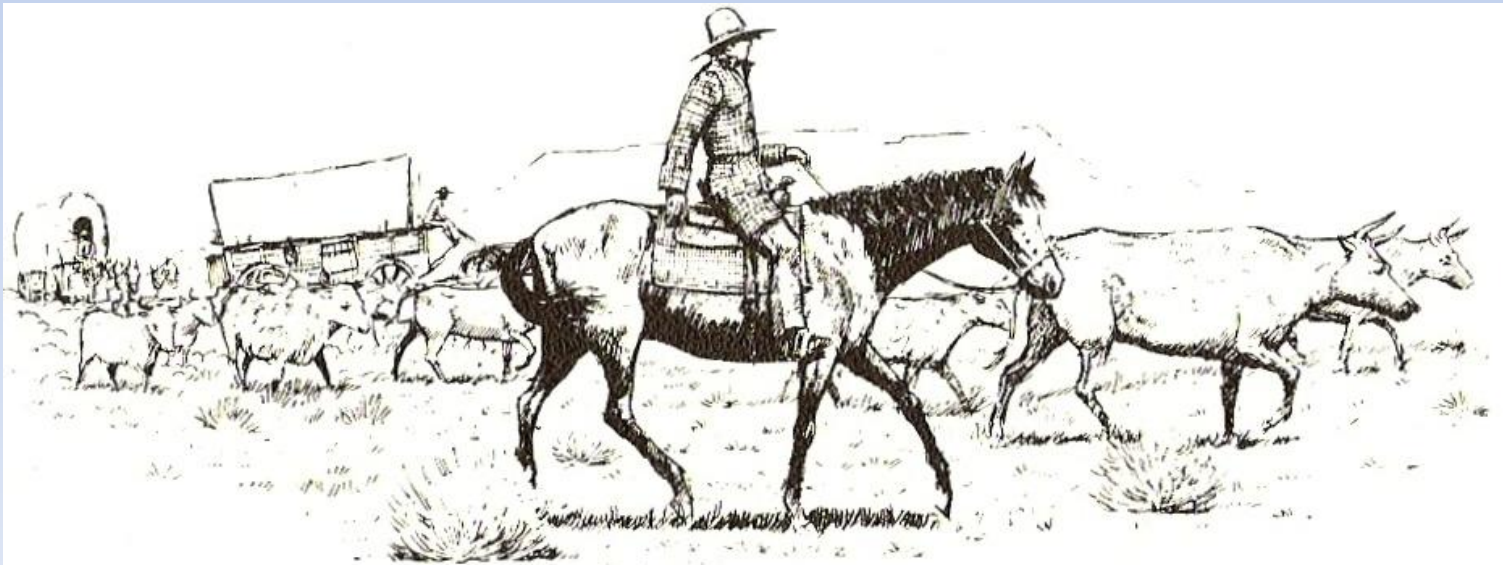
John Bushman about 1880.



Levi Mathers Savage

Back to Utah to get family - return to Little Colorado in 1878

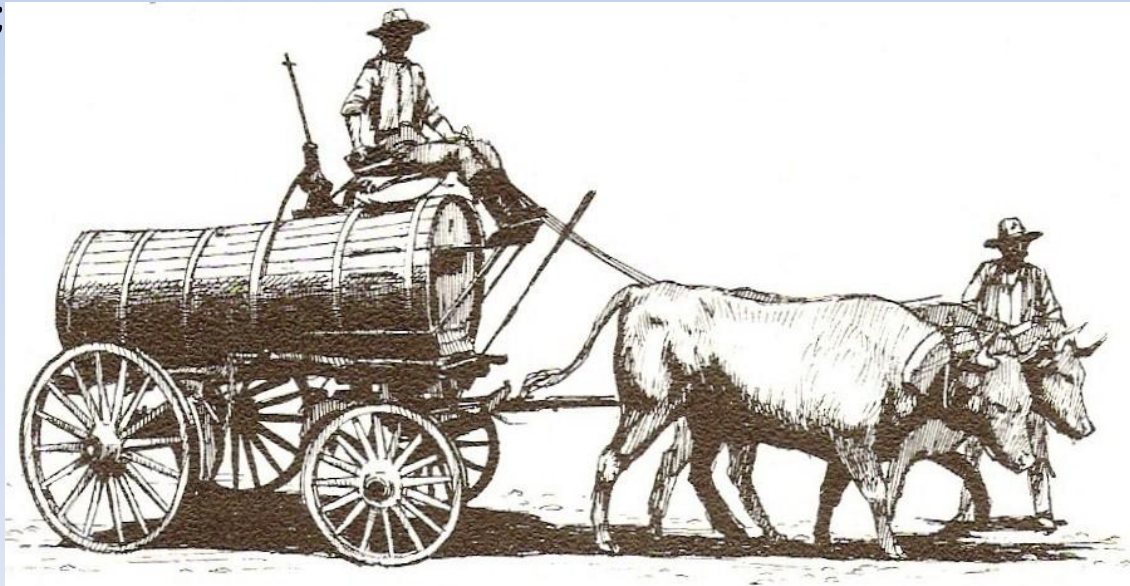
In the spring of 1878 John, Mary Ann, little Lois and their new baby, Elsie May, returned to Lehi, Utah, to get Lois and the children. John's mother, Elizabeth, was quite ill and passed away on 21 May 1878 at 76 years of age. In the fall John and family (Lois and Mary and their children) made the 600 mile trek back to Arizona – they had 5 span of horses, 3 wagons loaded with provisions, clothing, farm tools, home-making supplies, one riding pony and 21 head of cattle. They arrived home on 7 December – a long, cold, tiring journey – but all did well.



John Bushman moved his young family to the new settlement in Arizona.

Settling the family in St. Joseph

Henry Despain invited the John Bushman family to use one room of his cabin until they got their home built. With brethren assisting, they soon had a two-room log house. At a conference of the Little Colorado Stake held on 28 February 1879, John Bushman was sustained as a counselor to Lot Smith in the Stake Presidency – he continued as Bishop. John attended a quarterly stake conference meeting on 31 May with Joseph W. Young and Apostle Wilford Woodruff in attendance. Apostle Woodruff remained in the area for some time and enjoyed breakfast at the Bushman home on 25 June. He encouraged the saints to not buy anything they could make – home industries sustained the saints in their new settlement – flour mill, sawmill, dairy and tannery; they grew broom corn, cane molasses, raised sheep for wool, from which the sisters made over 500 yards of cloth in a single year. In general, the saints were very self-reliant.



Water for families in the St. Joseph fort was hauled in a wooden tank wagon.

Settling the family in St. Joseph

During the years 1879 through 1882, John Bushman was involved in the community in many ways, was the superintendent of farming for the settlement, and continued in leadership roles in the stake and the ward – he attended conferences for both the Little Colorado and Snowflake stakes and often spoke. In his diary at year end 1880 he wrote that he was thankful to Heavenly Father for the health of his family and the comfortable circumstances in which they lived and served. His two wives were amazing in the way they worked together to sustain each other in every need – they became close and were dear friends throughout their lives. Many new children came to the family in these years. The children of each wife are as shown below:

Lois(1844 -1921) (Married - 11 Feb 1865)

John Albert Bushman 1866-1866
Homer Frederick Bushman 1868-1936
Maria Elizabeth Bushman 1869-1953
Martin Lester Bushman 1871-1871
Lois Evelyn Bushman 1872-1949
Wickliffe Benjamin Bushman 1874-1897
Preston Ammaron Bushman 1875-1949
June Augusta Bushman 1879-1950
Jesse Smith Bushman 1881-1956
Florence Cordelia Bushman 1884-1888
Alonzo Ewing Bushman 1885-1967
Jacob Virgil Bushman 1889-1950

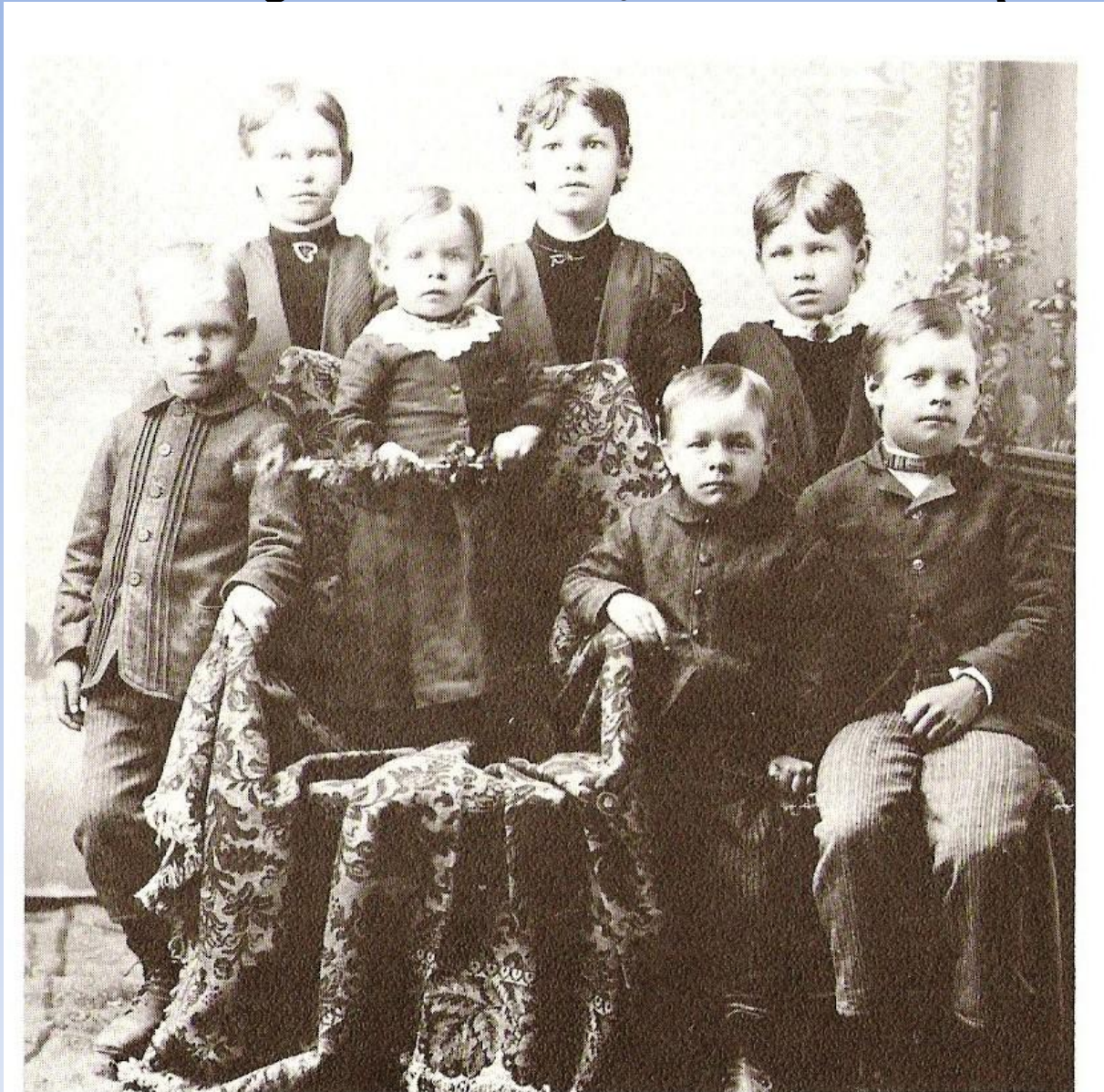
Mary Ann (1857 -1885) (Married – 2 March 1877)

Elsie May Bushman 1878-1880
Lillian Ann Bushman 1879-1964
Maren Adele Bushman 1881-1969
John Lehi Bushman 1883-1967

[Maren Adele is my grandmother. John was working on the dam when she was born - 18 August 1881 – Philip Evans hurried to the dam and told John to “go home and take care of your babies”]



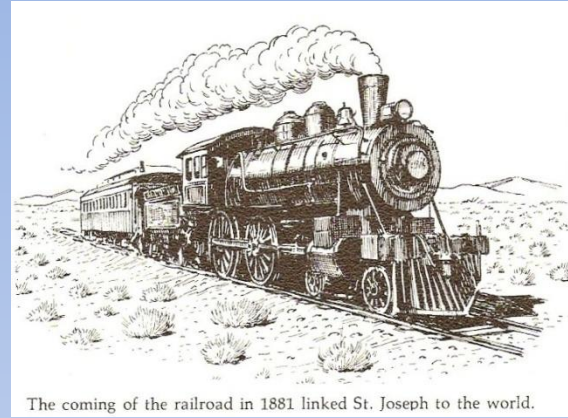
Settling the family in St. Joseph



Bushman children born in St. Joseph, Arizona. *First row:* John L., J. Virgil, Alonzo E., Jesse S. *Second row:* Lillian Ann, June A., Maren Adele.

The Railroad

The Railroad came to Joseph City in 1881 and made travel by the saints to distance places more feasible. The trip to Salt Lake City was shortened from a 4-6 week journey by wagon to a 2-3 day journey by train. In 1881, President Brigham Young sent his son, John Young and a company of 60 men and their families to Fort Valley, near Flagstaff, to fulfill a contract with Atlantic and Pacific Railroad for grade and roadbed construction and for 50,000 railroad ties. Due to Apache raids at Pleasant Valley, the Young party built a fort for protection of the families as they worked to fulfill the contract – the fort was named Fort Moroni. After the railroad reached Flagstaff on 1 August 1882, John Young's workers homesteaded and formed the Moroni Cattle Company (which eventually became the Arizona Cattle Company – later called A-1 Operation). They had approximately 16,000 head of cattle. John Young left the Arizona Territory in 1885. Eventually A-1 was purchased by the Babbitt family.



The coming of the railroad in 1881 linked St. Joseph to the world.



Two views of the fort which gave Fort Valley its name. It was built in 1881 by John W. Young to shelter tie-cutters working under contract with the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad. The camp was originally a group of tents and cabins, but with reports that the Apaches were restless, Young built the stockade and named it Fort Moroni. It later became headquarters for the Moroni Cattle Company and later, the Arizona Cattle Company.



Fort Moroni

Pleasant Valley (Mormon Lake) and Heber

In 1882, Lois returned to Utah with several of her children for a visit. In August of that year John and Mary and the remaining children went to Pleasant Valley (Mormon Lake) to care for the stock there for 2 months – this was a real paradise for the cattle, horses and sheep – the combined settlements had 200 dairy cows at the Pleasant Valley dairy, in addition to the horses and sheep.

On 30 October of that year John Busman and four others went south to search for water and suitable places to settle. On the night of 4 November 1882, John dreamed they were looking for water and it was getting late – following up a creek bed he saw the stars shining in some water. The next day at dark he saw stars in the water of a creek, just as he had dreamed. The following spring several brethren from St. Joseph went back to where John had found this water and located the future settlement of Heber.

On 9 November, John took a pack animal and riding horse and went to the dairy at Pleasant Valley to look after the stock. The country was all covered with snow and it was very cold. He was gone 10 days.



Meadow in Heber

Eating “on the run”

On 28 March 1883, the stake presidency of the Little Colorado Stake, Lot Smith, William C. Allen and John Bushman made a trip to visit outlying units. They traveled up Shevelin Canyon, then along the Tonto Basin Rim to a settlement named Wilford, then on to Heber. They encountered considerable snow and cold weather. Their provisions ran out, so John shot a large turkey that saved the day and they went on to their meetings.



Church Growth

Mary Ann gave birth to a son, John Lehi Bushman, on 14 September 1883. On 1 October, John boarded the train for Salt Lake City to get his wife, Lois and the children with her. John took Lillian with him. John was able to attend the General Conference while in Salt Lake City. President John Taylor urged the saints to learn about the Gospel and to do temple work for the dead, urging the saints to be pure and holy – worthy to enter the holy temples. President George Q. Cannon read the current membership of the Church by stakes – In 1883 there were 27 stakes and 11 missions in the Church. Membership totaled 160,000 in 1880.

John bought a new wagon (for \$110) for the overland trip back to Arizona. They left on 8 November and arrived in St. Joseph on 7 December, finding all of the family well.



A troubled time for the Bushman family

Shortly after John's return and the family being reunited in St. Joseph, it was discovered that Mary Ann had developed a large lump or tumor under her arm, which was causing considerable pain. Local attempts to reduce the swelling failed and Mary Ann became quite weak.

In late February 1884, Mary Ann received word that her father, Jens Petersen, had passed away on 19 February – he was loved and respected by all who knew him.

Jens Petersen



On 2 July 1884, John took Mary and most of the children to the forests near Heber, believing the mountain air would be good for Mary's health. They enjoyed the week together. In late September it was decided that Mary should go to the Deseret Hospital in Salt Lake City to see if they could help with her failing health condition. After receiving blessings from John, Mary Ann and two of her children, John L. and Adele, boarded a train for Salt Lake City. She arrived back home on 21 November feeling very poorly – little John L. was also not well. John continued to work on the farm, but was greatly concerned about Mary. Mary continued to decline in her health and passed away at the young age of 28 on 5 July 1885. At her funeral those who spoke referred to her exemplary life and said "she was better prepared to go than any of them" – leaving her children behind weighed most heavily on her during her last days. Lois took her children in as her own and felt the loss of her sweet friend and "sister wife".

Two years later on 5 July 1887 the family returned and placed a headstone on her grave and on the grave of Elsie May.



Church Growth and building a home

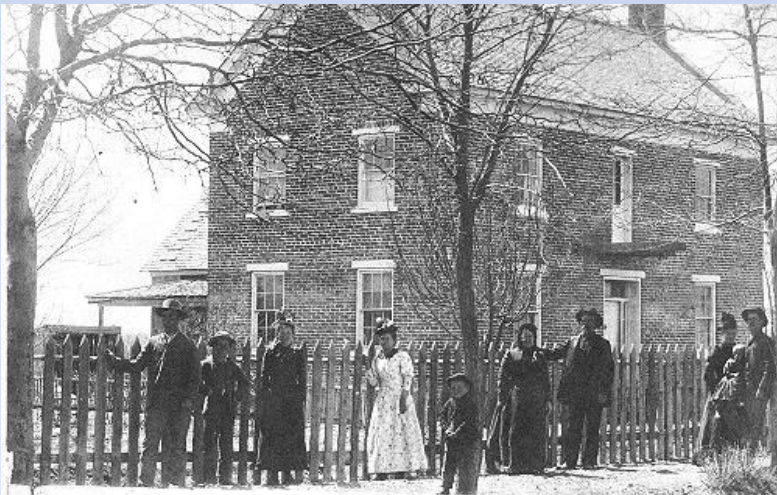
In December 1887, the Little Colorado Stake was reorganized and the Little Colorado wards became part of the Snowflake Arizona Stake. John Bushman continued as Bishop of St. Joseph Ward. In 1888 the United Order was dissolved – John Bushman chaired the committee to settle all accounts.

On Friday, 5 October 1888, John Bushman baptized John L. Westover (my grandfather and John Bushman's future son-in-law).

John L. Westover



In 1888 John finished making and baking 40,000 bricks for their new home (the first bricks made in that part of Arizona). They finished the home in 1890 and dedicated it on 10 February 1890.



John Bushman Home & Family 1894

John Bushman's home, built by him in St. Joseph, Arizona was dedicated in 1890. *Family members from left to right:* Wickliffe, Jesse, Lillian, June, Virgil (by tree), Lois and John. On the right are Sariah and Homer with son, Fred. Taken in 1894.

Temple Service

John and Lois Bushman found great joy in researching their family history and in doing work for their ancestors in the temples of the Lord. From his first visit to the Nauvoo Temple as a 3 year old boy, John Bushman had a love for the House of the Lord and the work for the living and the dead that is done therein. Over the years, from his wedding to Mary Ann Petersen in the St. George Temple in 1877 to the end of his life, John and Lois Bushman took every opportunity provided to them to search out their family history and do the temple work for them – they did work for their ancestors in all four of the operating temples in Utah during their lifetime.



St. George Temple

Dedicated 6 Apr 1877

by Brigham Young



Logan Temple

Dedicated 17 May 1884

by John Taylor



Manti Temple

Dedicated 17 May 1888

by Wilford Woodruff



Salt Lake Temple

Dedicated 6 Apr 1893

by Wilford Woodruff

John made several trips across the country to gather family history information and then would go to temples whenever he could to do the work for his family – he felt driven to accomplish this work. John and Lois Bushman participated in the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple.

Friends

In these early pioneer days of the Church, John Bushman and his family were strengthened by bonds of friendship that developed during their service and their trials. One example of such a friend was Levi Mathers Savage [Levi M. Savage was the only son of Levi Savage Jr. and Jane Mathers Savage, born to them in 1851 – his mother died later that year and Levi Savage Jr. was left as the caregiver of his infant son. Levi Mathers Savage was left in the care of his father's sister, Hannah, while Levi Savage served a 4 year mission to the Far East (including India), and then assisted the Willie Handcart Company on their 1856 historic handcart trek]. Levi Mathers Savage was raised in Lehi and was one of many called by Brigham Young to settle Northern Arizona. He served as Bishop of the Sunset (Winslow) Ward while John Bushman was serving as Bishop of the Allen's Camp (St. Joseph) Ward. Later, Levi Mathers Savage became the principal of the Snowflake Stake Academy and later the Bishop of the Woodruff Ward.

On 2 February 1894, John Bushman was in route to Snowflake to fill a missionary appointment with his 4-horse team and a load of wheat. Just before Woodruff, John reached forward to urge the lead team on and slipped, falling under the wagon – the lines caught his food and dragged him about 80 feet gashing open his scalp. He wrapped some clothes around his wound to stop the bleeding and drove on to Woodruff where his good friend, Levi, and others cared for him.



In later years Levi M. Savage and John Bushman and their wives would serve together in temples of the Lord in Utah. John was good to travel often to visit the friends he had developed over the years.

Devotion to raising a righteous family

John and Lois Bushman, and Mary Ann while living, were devoted to raising their children in righteousness. Their sons were prepared for and served missions for the Lord and their sons and daughters were prepared for the blessings of the temple. Their daily private and family worship and the strength of the saints in their ward and stake instilled strong testimonies in the hearts of their children.

On 8 October 1896, Lillian Ann (oldest living child of John and Mary Ann) was married in the Salt Lake Temple to Wesley Palmer (son of my great grandparents, Alma Zemira and Alzada Palmer)



Church authorities changed Fast day from the first Thursday of the month to the first Sunday of each month effective 6 December 1896.

John, Mary Ann and Lois worked with their children, worshiped and served with them in the Church, and lived the Gospel in their home. They taught by example the pathway of discipleship to the Lord, Jesus Christ. John used the priesthood to bless them with ordinances and in their times of need. They instilled in their children a love for the Lord and for His Holy Temples.

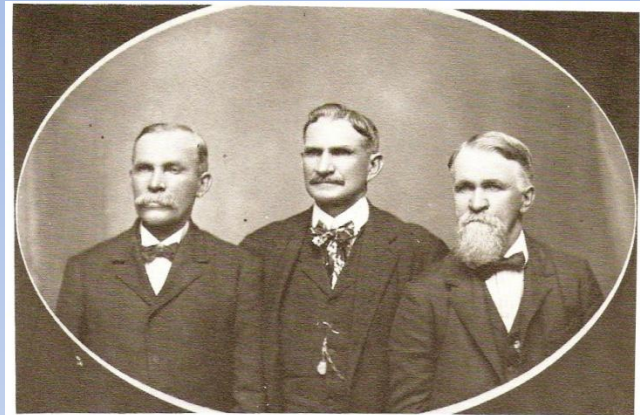
Serving

In addition to his 28 years of service as Bishop of the St. Joseph Ward, John farmed, served in many community assignments, and accepted other calls to serve.

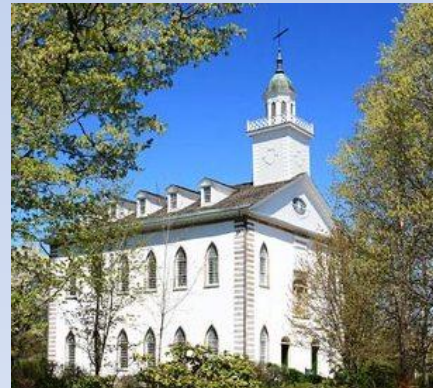
One such call came in 1902, when the general authorities issued a call to John Bushman and his brothers, Martin and Albert, to go on a mission to gather genealogical data – they gathered family history information in Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Indiana.

They visited John's birthplace just east of Nauvoo and later the Kirtland Temple and found much information on their family and others. John had the privilege in his lifetime of seeing all of the temples of the Church in early Church history in Kirtland, Nauvoo (as a 3 year old boy), and in Utah.

They returned to their homes about 5 weeks after leaving on their research mission. They would serve in temples for many years doing the work for many of those of their family that they identified on this mission.



Three Bushman brothers—John, E. Albert, and Martin B.—while on a genealogical research mission to Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Indiana in 1902.



Remembering . . .

The ability to capture many of the events of history are made possible only because some kept journals, took photographs and created “remembering moments”. John Bushman kept a personal journal and the early Little Colorado saints celebrated their history on many occasions. On the 25th anniversary of their arrival at the Little Colorado, the saints held a big celebration – chaired by John Bushman . Because the 24th was on a Sunday, the celebration took place on Monday, 25 March 1901. Many friends and early settlers returned to join in the celebration, including: Jesse N. Smith, Lorenzo Hatch, John Hunt and Levi M. Savage. This tradition of remembering continued in later years. I still remember attending the Centennial celebration for the city of Joseph City in 1976, at which many of my Bushman and Westover relatives were present. I remember U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona was present for the celebration.

The desire to keep accurate records, do family history work, and remember our family and history was passed on to John’s daughter, Maren Adele Bushman. She would later participate actively and diligently in family history research and in the publishing of a book that tells the story of Joseph City – *Unflinching Courage* by Adele B. Westover and J. Morris Richards

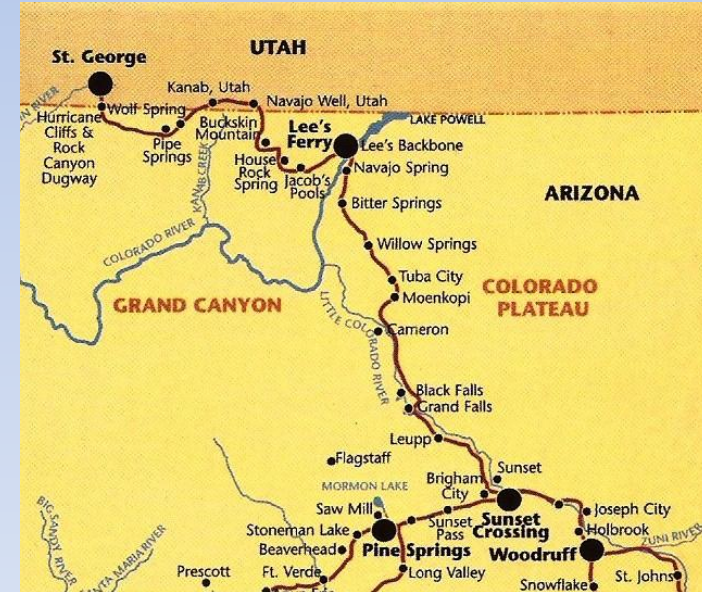
The Honeymoon Trail

On 1 October 1902 two more of John Bushman's children were married in the temple – Preston A. Bushman married Anna Smith and Adele Bushman (my grandmother) married John L. Westover in the Salt Lake Temple. Their company traveled from Joseph City to Salt Lake City (following for a time the famous "honeymoon trail") in covered wagons.



FIRST TRIP—Shown here are Mr. and Mrs. John L. Westover of Joseph City, as they journeyed by covered wagon from Joseph City to Salt Lake City to be married in 1902. Mr. Westover is at the far left and his bride-to-be is third from the right. Others in the picture, left to right, are: Vernon Heward, Suzanne Heward, Johanna Westover,

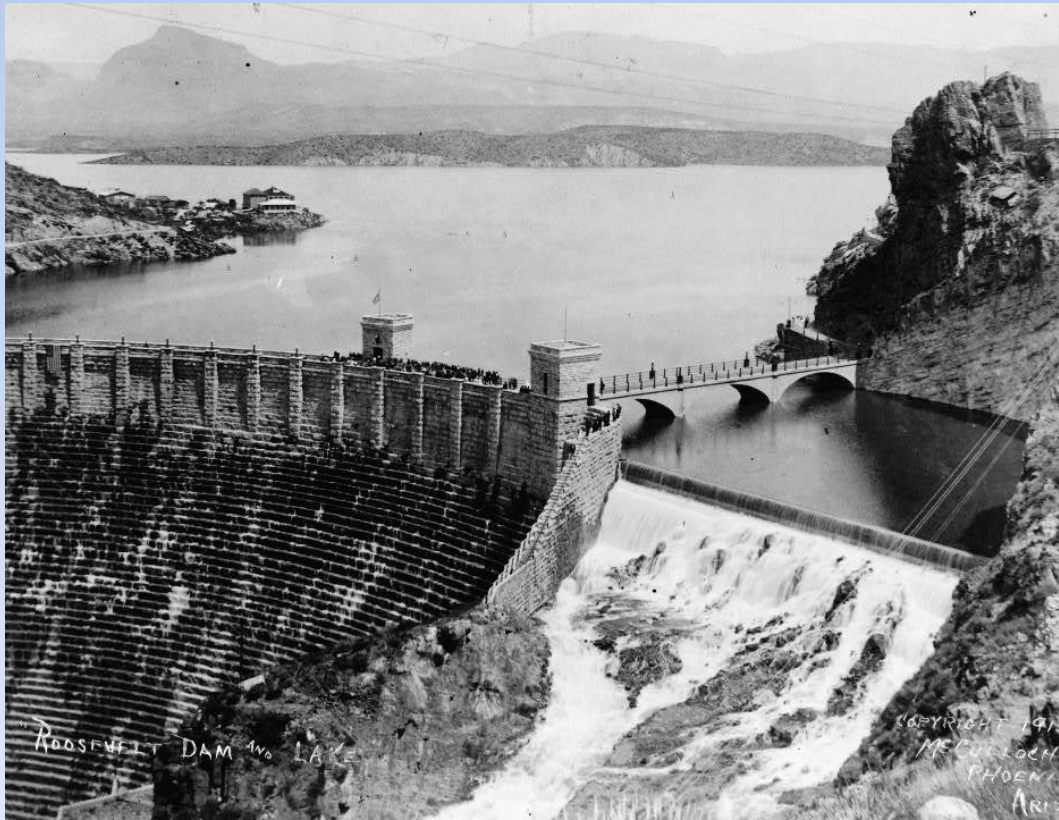
Franz Westover, Lehi Heward, Sesal Allen, Nettie Allen, and to the right of Adele Bushman Westover are Anna Smith and Preston Bushman. The picture was taken at Willow Springs, near Tuba City as the Hewards and Allens brought fruits and vegetables to the travellers.



Honeymoon Trail

A travelin' man

John Bushman traveled early by horseback and oxen or horse-drawn wagons – difficult and time-consuming means of travel. When the railroad came, it was like an open invitation to John Bushman to travel. He made several trips back and forth from Arizona to Utah and many trips to the midwest and east to visit family and gather genealogy. He and Lois went to two world fairs – one in St. Louis and the other in Seattle. They visited Yellowstone National Park. They attended the Arizona State Fair in 1913 and then went to the dedication of the Roosevelt Dam on their way home.



Return to Lehi, Utah

John and Lois Bushman returned to Lehi, Utah in 1914 and immediately engaged in temple work in the Manti Temple for many of their ancestors. They returned to Arizona in 1915 to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary among their dear family and friends in St. Joseph. In 1916 John and Lois settled their affairs in Arizona, John was released as Bishop and they moved back to Lehi, Utah to spend their time serving in the temples of the Lord. They helped form the first Bushman family organization – named, Martin Bushman Genealogical Family Organization. In 1920 John attended his first football game – University of Utah vs. Agricultural College at Logan (Utah State).



Lives of service to the Lord and family

John, Lois and Mary Ann Bushman committed their lives to the service of the Lord and to their family. They found great joy in each of their service opportunities. Lois and Mary Ann worked in the auxiliary organizations of the Church and John in numerous priesthood callings. Mary Ann died at the early age of 28 and Lois died on 19 September 1921 at the age of 77 – they were truly “sister wives” and exemplary in living the law of polygamy as the Lord intended it. They “mothered” each other’s children and loved them as their own and were dear friends and sisters as well.



After Lois’ death, John wrote sketches of the lives of his wives – Lois Angeline and Mary Ann and continued work in the temple.

Lives of service to the Lord and family

John made a visit in 1922 back to Arizona by automobile and then to Canada by train to visit friends, see the Cardston Temple which was under construction, and to encourage the saints in genealogy and temple work. John continued to work in the temple and engage in genealogy research upon his return to Utah. With his health declining, he divided his estate among his 11 children still living and put his affairs in order. John passed away on 30 May 1926. Funeral services were held in both Utah and Arizona and he was buried by his wives, Lois and Mary Ann in Joseph City, Arizona. My grandfather and John Bushman's son-in-law, Bishop John L. Westover, presided at the funeral in Joseph City. My mother, Ruth Westover, would have been in attendance – she was 7 years old.

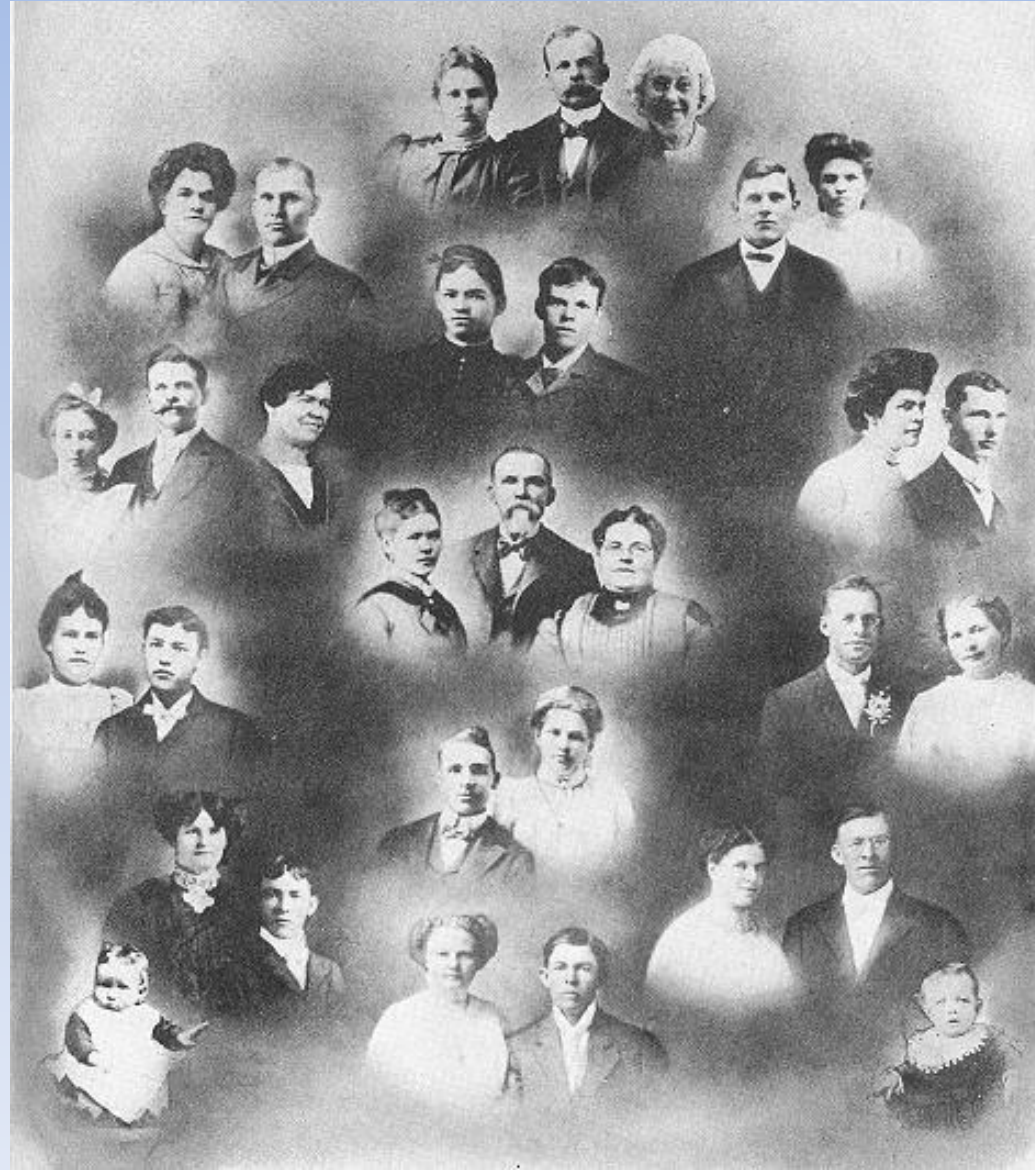


What a life! What a legacy! What a father!

The family of John Bushman

John in the center with his two wives – Mary Ann (left) and Lois (right)
Surrounded by their children and spouses

JOHN BUSHMAN FAMILY MEMBERS AND MATES—*Center, left to right: Mary Ann, John, and Lois A. Bushman, parents; Lower center: John L. and M. Adele B. Westover. Upper center: Roxie R. and Wickliffe B. Bushman (sealed after deceased). Clockwise, from top center: Sariah A. S. and Homer F. and Lily O. Bushman; John Walter and Lois E. B. Smith; June A. B. and Hyrum Smith; Jesse S. and S. Elva P. Bushman; Edith S. and Alonzo Bushman; Ruth C. F. and J. Virgil Bushman; Etna C. and John L. Bushman; Lillian A. B. and Wesley Palmer; Anna S., Preston, and Daphne D. Bushman; Maria E. B. and Silas D. Smith. (See also App. G.) Children shown are Elsie May, lower left, and Florence Cordelia, right.*



WHY?

Some may wonder **WHY** so many suffered, sacrificed and labored to establish settlements in what many viewed as desolate wild country.

The **Lord** answered the question by providing to the saints in 2002 a beautiful temple of the Lord in response to the establishment of the Church from Moenkopi to St. Johns and from Flagstaff to Eagar – now with 11 Stakes of Zion. The Snowflake Arizona Temple was dedicated on 3 March 2002.



The Snowflake Arizona Temple stands as a symbol of gratitude for those who went before. In the dedicatory prayer for the temple, President Hinckley expressed that gratitude: **“We are thankful for those who laid the foundations of this and other nearby communities. They struggled so desperately for so long against adversities of many kinds. Now their posterity enjoy the sweet fruits of their efforts, and crowning all is this magnificent and beautiful temple.”**