# BR: D4

What **pattern** can you see in the landscape in Utah that is from the early **Mormon Colonizing** days? Explain:

# Utah Studies

Settling the Great Basin

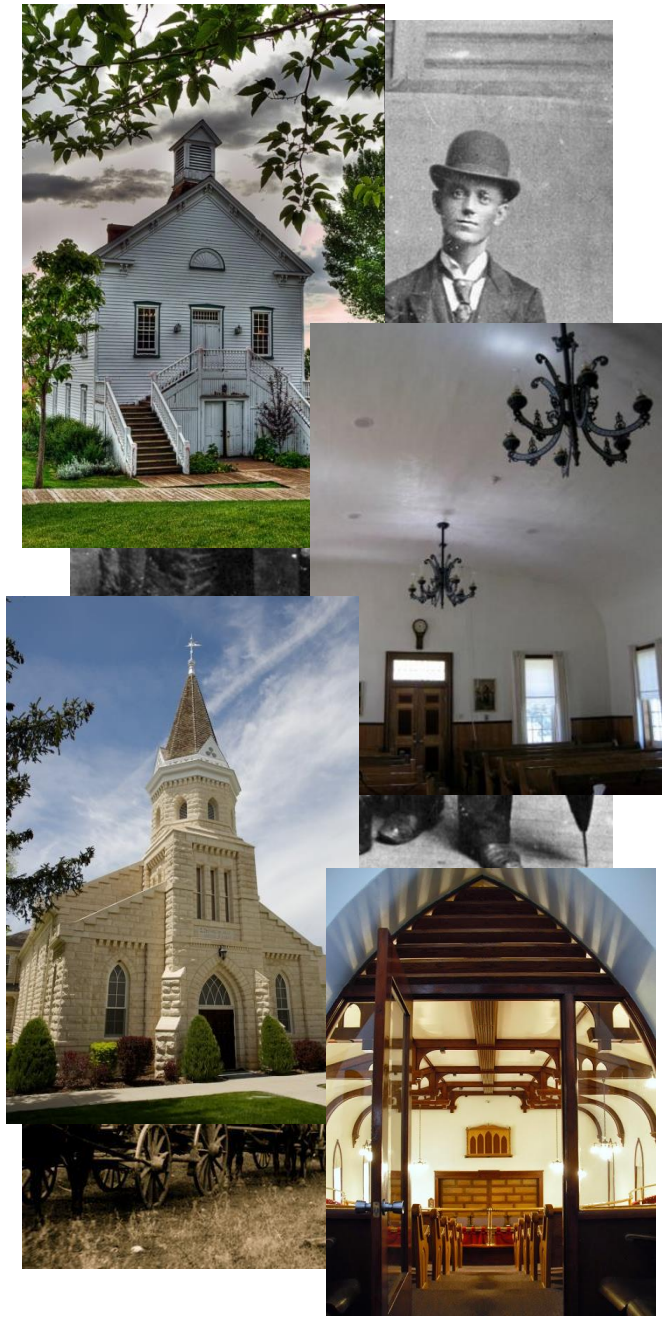
Ch. 7.2 Mormon / Latter-Day Saint Towns

# Gathering to Zion

Meanwhile, the **missionary work** of the LDS church continued. Missionaries were sent all over North America, as well as Europe, preaching to people to join them in Zion (Utah).

This gathering had other, less religious benefits to the Church and converts as well. This new land needed experts of all kinds to make it a success, and trained **weavers, architects, printers, stonemasons,** etc, would all be put to good use.

Even **shipbuilders** found use out in Utah! There are several LDS chapels for example that were built using **shipbuilding** designs, which were then **flipped** upside down. Examples: **Pine Valley Chapel**, near Saint George; **Spring City Chapel**, in Central Utah;



# Emigrants by the 1000s!

During the 1840s-50s, millions of **immigrants*** were **leaving** Europe and coming to the **U.S**. to find jobs, land and freedom from oppression.

**(emigrants leave, immigrants come)*

Many of these were **Mormons**, most being from **Canada**, the **British Isles**, and **Scandinavia**. It was a dangerous journey, because they had to come first by boat across the Atlantic, then by river, and finally by wagon.

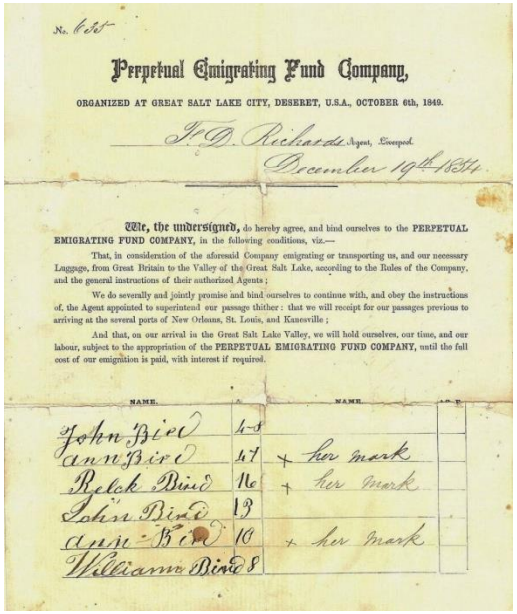
Each year, more and more Mormons arrived. The next year, another 3000 joined the saints in SLC, and by 1857, 35,000 immigrants had arrived, and many were sent out to settle other areas.

# Arriving, and Settling

The **Perpetual Emigration Fund** (PEF) was established to help pay for the settlers that were trying to come to Utah. Moving that far was no easy (or cheap) task. VID

The church sent **PEF agents** to areas with lots of Mormon converts, like England for example, who could issue loans to the converts, and they would be helped by other PEF agents in America when they arrived in the states, to furnish provisions like wagons, etc., for the journey West.

Meanwhile, when many of these converts arrived in the Salt Lake Valley, they were soon "**called**" to go and settle other areas in church meetings, depending on their **expertise**, etc. You didn't have to go of course, but if the Lord's prophet asked, well, you usually did.



No. 635

**Perpetual Emigrating Fund Company,**

ORGANIZED AT GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, DESERET, U.S.A., OCTOBER 6th, 1849.

F. D. Richards Agent, Liverpool.

December 19th 1854.

We, the undersigned, do hereby agree, and bind ourselves to the PERPETUAL EMIGRATING FUND COMPANY, in the following conditions, viz.—

That, in consideration of the aforesaid Company emigrating or transporting us, and our necessary Luggage, from Great Britain to the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, according to the Rules of the Company, and the general instructions of their authorized Agents;

We do severally and jointly promise and bind ourselves to continue with, and obey the instructions of, the Agent appointed to superintend our passage thither: that we will receipt for our passages previous to arriving at the several ports of New Orleans, St. Louis, and Kanesville;

And that, on our arrival in the Great Salt Lake Valley, we will hold ourselves, our time, and our labour, subject to the appropriation of the PERPETUAL EMIGRATING FUND COMPANY, until the full cost of our emigration is paid, with interest if required.

| NAME. | | NAME. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| John Bird | 45 | | |
| ann Bird | 47 | + her mark | |
| Relck Bird | 16 | + her mark | |
| John Bird | 13 | | |
| ann Bird | 10 | + her mark | |
| William Bird | 8 | | |

# Settling Utah, and Beyond!

Many people were called, but others also joined them who were not, such as friends, family, etc. Many settled with others from where they had come from, with many **Welsh** settlers moving to **Lehi**, UT, and **Icelandic** settlers going to **Spanish Fork**, UT for example. Many **Swiss** emigrants moved to **Midway**, UT, and many of these communities still celebrate that common heritage. VID

These towns were built for many reasons. Some were to be **trading posts**, others were to produce certain goods. **Cedar City** for example was settled to gain access to the **iron** deposits there, and **St. George** was settled to **cultivate cotton** and **flax** for clothing. **Sugar House** was planned to be a place to cultivate **sugar beets**.

Others were settled as **missions** to different **Indian** groups, to convert them to Mormonism. **Las Vegas** was one of these, as were others. And some were a combination of things, like **Sanpete** was settled for **wool** and **sheep** production, but also as a **mission** to the local Indians. VID

They were all usually built with the **same** basic street **model** as SLC, and they focused on becoming self-sustaining farmers first.

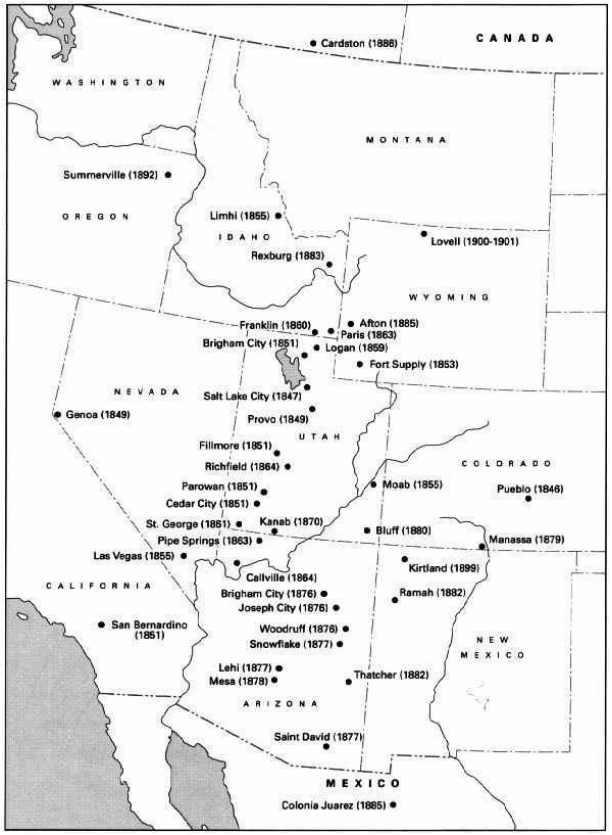
# Pattern for LDS settlements

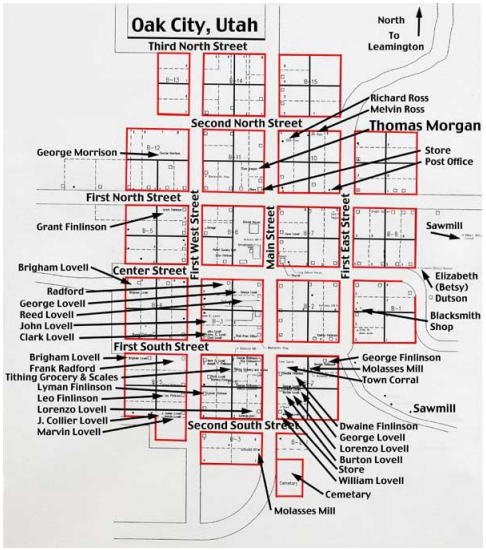
Unlike settlers to Oregon or California, who liked to settle far and wide, the Mormons wanted to live in towns, so that they could **meet** for **church**, **recreation**, **safety** from Indians, and **working together** on public projects. They believed that by working together, they could be more efficient.

They would usually build towns nearby where **mountain streams** came into the valleys, to have easy access to **water**. And as the Wasatch Mtns run north and south, the pattern of settlement followed this as well.

They built **churches**, **schools**, and **homes** of wood, brick, stone or adobe (depending on what was most easily available). Most Mormon settlements had each of the **following features**: Fountain Green, Spring City

- Streets followed a grid pattern.
- Streets were extra wide
- Irrigation ditches ran along most roads for crops
- City blocks were at least 4 acres large
- Squares (usually in the center of town) would have public parks, buildings, etc., used for gatherings or celebrations.
- Farmlands were planted around the city center, with poplar trees to shade the people and fields.



# Reminder:

Finish your EC Grid Pattern Assignment.

Intro to **Mormon Settlement Assignment**