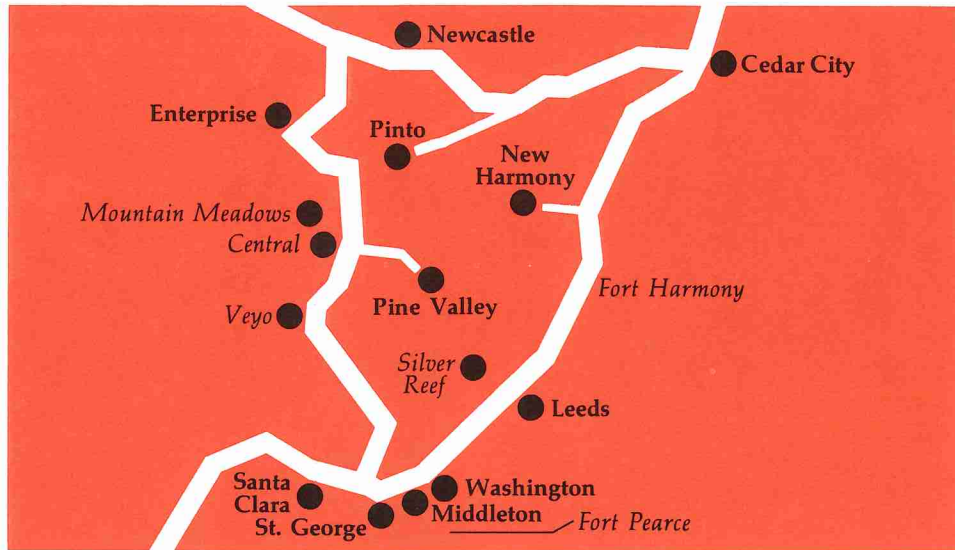


## Dixie – Pine Valley Tour

**Length of tour:** 160 miles roundtrip  
**Time to allow:** two days  
**Season:** all year, winter weather in Cedar City permitting

**Accommodations:** St. George, Santa Clara, Cedar City, Washington



**ST. GEORGE:** see St. George Circle Tour, page 31.

**SANTA CLARA:** Jacob Hamblin and others settled here in 1854, joined seven years later by Swiss settlers sent to the Dixie Mission.

**Jacob Hamblin Home**, highway 91. Built in 1863 of red stone, sturdy enough to withstand an Indian attack. Hamblin dedicated himself to the promotion and maintenance of peace between white settlers and Indians. Now a State Park. **Open** M-Sat. 8:30-5. (N)

**PINE VALLEY:** discovered by Isaac Riddle in 1855 while looking for a strayed cow. The first settlers came to operate a sawmill, using the excellent lumber in the valley, which furnished lumber to much of the southwest area and supplied logs for organ pipes in the Salt Lake Tabernacle. The brick used for building in Pine Valley has a lovely clear red color unlike bricks in surrounding towns.

**Pine Valley Chapel**, Main Street and Grass Valley Street. Built in 1868 by Ebenezer Bryce (who discovered Bryce Canyon), a shipbuilder. The walls were assembled flat on the ground, then raised and fastened together. Excellent example of "New England" L.D.S. Church architecture. **Open** Sundays. (N)

**Pine Valley Tithing Office**, Main Street and Grass Valley Street. Built in 1868, this brick building is representative of a structure required by the Mormon pioneers' barter economy. (N)

**George Hawley Home.** The original one-room sawed-log house was built in 1857; the remainder (sawed log with batts) was added later. In 1966 the entire house was covered with aluminum siding. It boasts the first bathroom in Pine Valley, installed in 1932. (C)

**MOUNTAIN MEADOWS HISTORIC DISTRICT:** Located on the upper drainage of the Santa Clara River, these meadows were an important recruiting area for

the livestock of travelers. They were used by traders on the Old Spanish Trail, John C. Fremont in 1844, Mormon pioneers, gold seekers, and others.

The tragedy of Mountain Meadows occurred September 11, 1857, during the excitement of the "Mormon War" (word had come in July that Johnston's Army was marching to occupy the Territory), when immigrant trains from Arkansas and Missouri were traveling through Utah enroute to California. Mormon-Indian alliances, Mormon emotionalism and fear of an impending invasion, Mormon hatred for Missourians and the indiscretions of members in the wagon train, and an inadequate communications system, combined to set the stage for the massacre.

The wagons trains at the meadows were first attacked by Indians; later, however, settlers of the region became involved, and, under a flag of truce, disarmed the travelers and, with the Indians, massacred all but a few young children. Blame of the lamentable tragedy is difficult to assess, since complex issues involved many people and many events, yet only one man was convicted of the crime. (S)

**ENTERPRISE:** began under another name, in another place. The town of Hebron was settled on Shoal Creek in 1862, but it gradually declined. Orson Huntsman planned a reservoir on Shoal Creek and the removal of Hebron to its present site; in 1893 a company was organized and for 16 years the impoverished settlers labored by hand to build the reservoir. A few, discouraged, moved to the site of Enterprise. In 1902 an earthquake devastated Hebron; most of the people tore down their houses and rebuilt them at Enterprise. In the earthquake of 1906, the remaining houses at Hebron were shaken apart; at Enterprise, every house stood firm.

**PINTO:** founded in 1858 as an offshoot of the Mormon Indian Mission at Harmony. It was a natural stopping place on the Old Spanish Trail, and later became one of the stops along the stagecoach route from Silver Reef and from Cedar City.

**CEDAR CITY:** see St. George Circle Tour, page 33.

**FORT HARMONY-PETER'S LEAP HISTORIC DISTRICT:** about 9 miles south of New Harmony. Old Fort Harmony was built by John D. Lee and other Indian missionaries in 1854-55 of adobe. It was used until the heavy rains of 1862, which caused it to collapse, killing two of Lee's children.

From the fort a road was surveyed south over Black Ridge by Peter Shirts in 1856. He found a good roadway near the base of Pine Valley Mountain, except for the deep, steep-sided "Leap" Creek. When asked how he proposed to cross it, Shirts is reported to have said, "Leap across;" hence the name. The road was used for several years by early migrations to the Dixie Cotton Mission. Today one can hike from Old Fort Harmony to Peter's Leap and even to Pintura over portions of the old trail. (S)

**SILVER REEF:** became a boom town when silver was discovered in the surrounding sandstone, supposed to have been geologically impossible. The first claim was filed about 1870, but it wasn't until the Walker brothers, Salt Lake bankers, sent William T. Barbee in 1874 (he even found horn silver in petrified wood) that the excitement began. Bad times began in 1891, continuing until the town was abandoned in 1940.



Wells, Fargo Express Building

The most beloved figure in town was Father Scanlan, who came to town in 1877. It is said that an invitation was extended to Father Scanlan to hold services in the St. George Tabernacle; a choir was needed, so the Tabernacle choir learned the Latin words and music in two weeks so that High Mass could be sung in the Tabernacle.

**Wells Fargo and Company Express Building**, Main Street. Built during the mining boom of the 1870's of cut red sandstone. Now vacant, but generally solid. (N)

**LEEDS:** was settled in 1867. Early a fruit region, Leeds was famous for its "fire-eating" Dixie wine during the Silver Reef boom. Because of its proximity to Silver Reef, Leeds was probably the most prosperous of all the Cotton Mission towns.



*William Stirling Home.*

**Stirling Home**, main highway. This distinctive house was built about 1876 for William Stirling by Samuel Worthen and Sons. David Stirling, the present owner, was born there in 1882. The entrance porch, railed and with a rail around the flat roof, exemplifies a feature which has often been removed in other old Utah homes. The house is also noted for its three Dixie dormers. (S)

**George E. Angell House.** This house is nearly identical to the Stirling House, built at the same time by the Worthens

for Harles Wilkinson, using red brick from Kanarraville. Angell was Wilkinson's son-in-law. The house has stood vacant for a number of years.

**WASHINGTON:** the first settlement founded, in 1857, for the specific purpose of growing cotton. The cotton flourished, but the townspeople suffered greatly from malaria and the difficulties of controlling the Virgin River at flood.

**Washington Cotton Factory**, highway 91, frontage road. Built between 1865-70 of cut red sandstone and used until 1900, it represents the Mormon Cotton Mission story. Now badly in need of repairs, to be restored for commercial use. (N)

**Washington Ward Chapel**, Main Street on NW corner of block just north of Highway 91. Chapel was built in 1877 of red sandstone by early cotton missionaries; a new chapel has been added to the south. One of the very few chapels built by pioneers that is still standing and being used, but in danger of demolition. **Open Sundays.** (S)

**Robert D. Covington Home**, 2nd North and 2nd East. Built of red sandstone by the first bishop in Washington, about 1859. Stone masons were probably the Averett Brothers who also worked on the Cotton Factory. The home is similar in design to John D. Lee's house that was immediately to the west. (S)

**FORT PEARCE:** 12 miles south of Washington. Begun in 1866 and built at intervals by the Washington County Militia. During the Black Hawk War, the small rock fort overlooked Pearce Wash along which raiding Navajo traveled to the Dixie settlements. Though never used in combat, it was important during the three-year period of unrest. (S)

**MIDDLETON:**

**Alexander F. McDonald House**, Star Route. Mr. McDonald, who hauled rock for construction of the St. George Temple, built this house in 1872 of oven-baked adobe for three of his four wives. The original veranda has been removed, but the Dixie dormers and the small porch remain.