

Skyline Drive — Sanpete Valley

Length of tour from Thistle: 175 miles roundtrip; add 20 miles each way, Provo-Thistle

Time to allow: one to two days, plus travel time to Thistle

Season: June to October for Skyline Drive section; all year for Sanpete Valley

Accommodations: Fairview, Mt. Pleasant, Ephraim, Manti

Added hints: no supplies of any kind along Skyline Drive; avoid drive when wet



THISTLE: railroad and highway junction, settled in 1898 and named for thistles growing in the valley.

FAIRVIEW: settled in 1859 by pioneers from Mt. Pleasant.

Fairview Museum, 85 North 1st East. Formerly Fairview Sandstone School, erected 1900, now houses fine collection of pioneer and Indian memorabilia. **Open** upon request to Golden Sanderson, caretaker. (S)

MT. PLEASANT: a leading Rambouillet sheep center and home of Wasatch Academy, a coeducational private school.

William S. Seely Home, 150 South State. Built in 1861, was one of the first homes to be built outside the town fort. Two-story stuccoed adobe with 12 rooms and a basement. Presently serves as the Mt. Pleasant Pioneer Historical Association headquarters. **Open** upon request to Mrs. Edgar Nelson. (S)

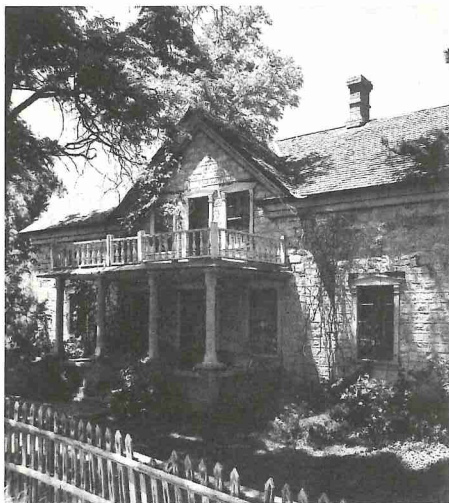
Rasmussen Home, 417 West Main. Built c. 1875 by Morten Rasmussen, member of the original group of Mt. Pleasant settlers. The spacious brick home has retained much of its original character, is presently owned by a granddaughter of the original owner. (C)

SPRING CITY: twice groups of colonists were burned out of this area by Indians, but the third group of fifteen families was able to stay in 1856. Spring City is one of the early pioneer towns in Utah still relatively unaffected by progress; many of the original buildings remain to present a homogenous picture of a 19th century pioneer town.

Spring City Ward Chapel, Main Street. Built in 1902 of quarry-faced ashlar, the chapel holds a commanding position and adds to the unique charm of the town. A square entrance tower is topped by an octagonal spire. **Open** generally Tuesdays and Sundays. (S)

City Hall, Main Street. Built of limestone in 1893, was originally used as a schoolhouse until 1900; then it was used as the city hall and still fills that purpose. **Open** upon request to John Baxter, mayor, at Baxter's Confectionery. (S)

Beck Home, Main Street. Built in 1883 by Isaac H. Behunin for Simon J. Beck, one of the leading men in the community. The eight-room house, of cut



Peter Monson Home

limestone, has had a porch added. Present owner is a son, Osmer H. Beck. (S)

Orson Hyde Home, Main Street. Built between 1852-57 of limestone, has changed little. Several upstairs and attic rooms have the quarter-round windows that seem to be unique to this valley. As the house was built during a time of repeated Indian attacks, it has a spring in the basement so the house could be used as a fortress. (S)

Peter Monson House, 1st East. Built in 1883, it is an excellent example of a large house built by a prosperous man of that time. The two-story T-shaped house is almost unchanged, presently owned by a daughter of the builder. Interesting date plaque set into a north gable. (S)

EPHRAIM:

Ephraim United Order Co-op Mercantile Institution, Main Street. Built in 1864, was one of the earliest United Order structures. It has served since as a co-op, grocery store, social hall, movie house, garage, Sanpete Academy (1888), and the first home of Snow College. Now owned by the Sanpete Development Corp. (S)

Canute Peterson Home, 10 North Main. Built in 1869 of sun-dried yellow

brick with polygamy pits under the floor. Unusually beautiful cornice molding. Now owned and being restored by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nibley. (S)

Hansen-Sparks Home, 75 West 1st North. Two-story eight-room rock and adobe (stuccoed) house was built in 1862 for Hans Hansen, one of the early settlers of Sanpete County. It remains nearly intact, including a unique stairway with winding bannister carved from a single piece of wood. (C)

MANTI: was founded in 1849; the name is from the *Book of Mormon*.

Manti Temple. Designed by William H. Folsom, built during 1877-88, the temple holds a commanding position over the town and the surrounding valley. Built of cream-colored limestone, it is noted for its unique architecture and craftsmanship and boasts a very fine spiral staircase. (N)

Parry Home, 50 North 1st West. Jezrell Shoemaker built this limestone house before 1866; it was purchased in 1880 by Edward L. Parry (who was a stonemason for the Salt Lake Temple, St. George Temple and Tabernacle, and the Manti Temple). It has been carefully restored. (S)

Frederick Walter Cox Home, 1st West and 1st North. 2½-story limestone house was constructed by Mr. Cox over a period of seven years (1860-67). The home, built for four of his wives, was divided into separate apartments; a work-room is in the attic. Mr. Cox was a member of the Territorial Legislature and officiated in laying the N. W. cornerstone of the Manti Temple. Now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Maynes. (S)

SKYLINE DRIVE: for nearly 100 miles, Skyline Drive winds along the upper reaches of the Wasatch Plateau, passing through forests and meadows or along mountain ridges. Most of the drive is at elevations of above 9,000 feet, some as high as 11,000 feet. Though none of the drive is paved, it is passable in summer and is intersected by roads leading down to Sanpete and Castle valleys.