From the Ground Up

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Utah native Thomas G. Alexander earned a PhD in American history from the University of California at Berkeley. He is currently the Lemuel Hardison Redd, Jr., Emeritus Professor of Western American History at Brigham Young University. He specializes in Utah history, western history, environmental history, and Mormon history and is the author of more than 120 articles and the author, co-author, editor, or co-editor of 22 books and monographs including A Clash of Interests: Interior Department and Mountain West; Mormons and Gentiles: A History of Salt Lake City (with James B. Allen); Utah, the Right Place: The Official Centennial History; The Rise of Multiple-Use Management in the Mountain West: A History of Region 4 of the Forest Service; Grace and Grandeur: A History of Salt Lake City; Things in Heaven and Earth: The Life and Times of Wilford Woodruff, A Mormon Prophet; and Mormonism in Transition: A History of the Latter-day Saints, 1890–1930. Winner of numerous awards, he is a fellow of the Utah State Historical Society and of the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters and former chair of the Utah Board of State History. He has served as president of the American Historical Association–Pacific Coast Branch, the Mormon History Association, and the Utah Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters. He is formerly chair of the Utah Humanities Council Advisory Board and president of Phi Alpha Theta. Alexander is also a member of the council of the Western History Association and a member of the Organization of American Historians and the American Society for Environmental History.

John Barton grew up in the Uinta Basin. His master's thesis at Brigham Young University was “Antoine Robidoux and the Fur Trade of the Uintah Basin.” He currently serves as a senior lecturer of history for the Uintah Basin Campus of Utah State University, where he has taught history since 1988. He was named as the Teacher of the Year (1999) at USU-UB and has received recognition as an outstanding teacher on the CON/NET system of distance education. In 2004 he received the Extension Award for “Innovative Practices in Teaching.” Barton is a recipient of a Merit Award from the Utah Humanities Council for the Outlaw Trail History Project and
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a Western History Research Fellowship from the Redd Center of Western Studies at Brigham Young University and was named by Governor Olene Walker to serve on the Utah State History Board. He is the author of numerous articles and reviews as well as three books: A History of Duchesne County; From Tabernacle to Temple: The Story of the Vernal Utah Temple; and Buckskin Entrepreneur: Antoine Robidoux and the Fur Trade in the Uintah Basin, 1824–1844. In 1991 Barton became the founding editor of The Outlaw Trail Journal, and he is a popular lecturer on topics ranging from outlaws and mountain men to Ute culture and perspective.

A native of Salt Lake City, Martha Sonntag Bradley-Evans earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Utah, her master’s from Brigham Young University, where she has also taught, and a PhD from the University of Utah, where she is currently associate professor of architectural history and the director of the Honors Program. She has contributed articles to various books and journals including Utah Historical Quarterly, Sunstone, Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought, and the Journal of Mormon History. Bradley is the author of several books including Four Zinas: A Story of Mothers and Daughters on the Mormon Frontier; Kidnapped from the Land: The Government Raids on the Short Creek Polygamists; and Pedestals and Podiums: Utah Women, Religious Authority, and Equal Rights. She also wrote the histories of Beaver and Kane Counties for the Utah Centennial County History Series. A History of Beaver County provided the foundation for her chapter in this volume.

Hal Compton is a Utah native who holds a BS degree in communications from the University of Utah. He served as a second lieutenant in the United States Army Signal Corps in Korea. He worked for CBS Radio and Television in Hollywood, California, and in public relations for GTE in California. Compton became interested in mining while exploring the gold country of northern California, and in 1987 he retired to Park City, Utah, where he currently serves as the research historian for the Park City Historical Society and Museum. In 1998 he was named the Museum Volunteer of the Year by the Utah Museum Association. The Park City mayor and city council have also designated him Park City’s historian laureate. He is a member of the board of directors of the Park City Historical Society and Museum and president of the Glenwood Cemetery Association. Compton works in the Park City Museum and Visitor Information Center and gives historic walking tours of Park City’s Main Street. For several years he conducted underground tours for the Silver Mine Adventure in the Ontario Mine.

James E. Fell, Jr., earned a BA in chemistry from Colby College and both an MA and a PhD in American history from the University of Colorado in Boulder. He has taught at several universities, including Regis University School for Professional Studies; Metropolitan State College of Denver; Colorado School of Mines; University of California, San Diego; Colby College; and Arapahoe Community College,
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and is currently adjunct associate professor of history at the University of Colorado at Denver. He has also served as an editor for Arizona and the West (now the Journal of the Southwest), Business History Review, and Cordillera Press. Fell was a Harvard-Newcomen Fellow in business history in the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration and manager of communications for United Banks of Colorado (now a division of Wells Fargo Banks), a chemist for the Eastman Kodak Company, and a research historian for Historic Preservation and Exhibits for the Colorado Historical Society. He is the author of numerous journal and encyclopedia articles and four books: Ores to Metals: The Rocky Mountain Smelting Industry; Arthur Redman Wilfl ey: Miner, Inventor, and Entrepreneur, in collaboration with Jay E. Niebur; Aurora: Gateway to the Rockies, with Steven F. Mehlis and Carol J. Drake; Mining the Summit: Colorado’s Ten Mile District, 1860–1960, with Stanley Dempsey. He also served as coeditor with P. D. Nicolaou and G. D. Xydous of Book of Proceedings: 5th International Mining History Congress.

A native of Centerville, Utah, J. Wallace Gwynn received BS and PhD degrees in mineralogy from the University of Utah. Since graduating in 1970, he has spent most of his professional career working with the Great Salt Lake. For the last 30 years he has worked as a saline-minerals geologist with the Utah Geological Survey. Gwynn is the author of numerous publications dealing with Utah’s natural resources. Published topics include bituminous sandstones of the P. R. Springs area, oil-well brines of the Uinta and Paradox basins, subsurface brines of Sevier Lake, low-temperature geothermal resources along the Wasatch Front, and the brines and mineral resources of Great Salt Lake. He has served on the Great Salt Lake Technical Team and the Bonneville Salt Flats Technical Review Committee and he enjoys working with students on science-fair projects.

David Hampshire is the director of communication programs for Questar Corporation. A Park City resident, he is coauthor of the books A History of Juab County and A History of Summit County for the Utah Centennial County History Series and of No Western Parallel: The Story of the Questar Corporation and has written many articles on local history and preservation for Utah Historical Quarterly, Utah Preservation, and Beehive History.

Laurence P. James earned a bachelor’s degree with honors from Stanford and a PhD in geology and geochemistry from Pennsylvania State University. His wide experience ranges from teaching at universities in the United States and Asia to research in government geological organizations to working for private mineral companies in this and several other countries. He has published and lectured widely on geology and the impacts of ore discoveries on economy and history. His major works in mining history include articles in Journal of the West, Utah Historical Quarterly and the Journal of Geochemical Exploration. Along with James E. Fell, he is writing a study...
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of metal mining and entrepreneurship in the western Wasatch Mountains of Utah. James currently works with NewWest Gold Corporation providing expertise in mining property evaluation, regional exploration concepts, and mapping geology in the eastern Great Basin.

A Utah native, BRIGHAM D. MADSEN holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Utah and a master's and PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. He is currently a professor emeritus from the University of Utah, where he served as chair of the History Department, director of libraries, academic and administrative vice president, and dean of the Division of Continuing Education. He is the author or editor of many articles and several books including The Bannock of Idaho; The New Generation: Student Essays on Social Change in the Sixties; North to Montana: Jehus, Bullwhackers, and Mule Skinners on the Montana Trail; The Lemhi: Sacajawea's People; The Northern Shoshoni; Corinne: The Gentle Capital of Utah; Gold Rush Sojourners in Great Salt Lake City, 1849 and 1850; The Shoshoni Frontier and the Bear River Massacre; Chief Pocatello, the “White Plume”; Exploring the Great Salt Lake: The Stansbury Expedition of 1849–50; and his autobiography, Against the Grain: Memoirs of a Western Historian.

PHILIP F. NOTARIANNA is currently the director of the Utah State Historical Society/Division of State History, where he has worked for the past 29 years. He also serves as a lecturer in the Ethnic Studies Program at the University of Utah. A resident of Magna, Utah, he received BS and MA degrees in history from the University of Utah, an MA degree in history from the University of Minnesota, and a PhD from the University of Utah in 1980. He continues to teach the Peoples of Utah class at the University of Utah that analyzes the ethnic and cultural diversity of the state. He has served as a member of the temporary faculty in cultural anthropology for the University of Calabria in Cosenza, Italy. Notarianni has published various books and articles, as author or editor, including The Avenues of Salt Lake City; Carbon County: Eastern Utah’s Industrialized Island; Faith, Hope, and Prosperity: The Tintic Mining District; “Italianita in Utah: The Immigrant Experience,” in The Peoples of Utah, ed. Helen Z. Papanikolas; “Places of Origin: Calabresi in Carbon County, Utah,” in Old Ties, New Attachments: Italian-American Folklife in the West, ed. David A. Taylor and John Alexander Williams; “Italians in Utah” and “Frank Bonacci,” in Italian American History and Culture: An Encyclopedia, ed. Salvatore J. LaGumina, Frank J. Cavaioi, Salvatore Primeggia, and Joseph A. Varacalli; and “Ethnic Folklore Studies,” in Folklore in Utah, ed. David Stanley.

WILLIAM T. PARRY was born, raised, and educated in Utah. After receiving BS, MS, and PhD degrees from the University of Utah, he worked for Shell Oil Company in Texas and then taught at Texas Tech University. He subsequently joined the faculty of the University of Utah, first in mining and geological engineering then in
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dgeology and geophysics. Parry received a number of awards for his teaching, including commendations from the Geology Department and College of Mines, a University Distinguished Teaching Award and a Presidential Teaching Scholar Award. He has published numerous technical papers dealing with mineralogy, chemistry, and ore deposits from Africa to Alaska. The geology of Utah is a favorite subject. He is now professor emeritus and continues to teach and write about Utah geology.

Allan Kent Powell was born in Price, Utah, and grew up in nearby Huntington. He earned his BA, MA, and PhD degrees in history at the University of Utah. He has worked at the Utah State Historical Society for more than 30 years, where he is currently the public history coordinator and editor of the Utah Historical Quarterly. He is also an associate instructor of history at Westminster College and has participated in the Utah Humanities Council Speakers Bureau and other programs for many years. Much of Powell’s career has been involved in researching and writing history. His books include The Next Time We Strike: Labor in Utah’s Coal Fields 1900–1933; Splinters of a Nation: German Prisoners of War in Utah; Utah Remembers World War II; and The Utah Guide: A Travel Guide to the State. His major editing projects have included The Utah History Encyclopedia, and, as general editor, the Utah Centennial County History Series, which was completed in 1999 and includes a book-length history of each of Utah’s 29 counties.

Robert E. Rampton is a native of Bountiful, Utah, and was educated in Davis County schools. After military service, he attended the University of Utah and earned a BFA degree with emphasis in journalism and radio and television broadcasting in 1950. He is a former staff writer and photographer for the Salt Lake Tribune and served as western regional correspondent for McGraw-Hill publications. Rampton’s professional career includes service in the public relations departments of United States Steel Corporation, Westinghouse Air Brake Company, and Ketchum Public Relations in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and with the Evans Group in Salt Lake City. He has written extensively for technical and trade publications serving the coal and metal mining, processing, and manufacturing industries. He emerged from retirement and joined W. S. Adamson and Associates in 1998. In 2004 he retired for the third time.

W. Paul Reeve holds a BA and an MA from Brigham Young University and a PhD from the University of Utah. His doctoral dissertation received “best” awards from both the University of Utah’s History Department and Brigham Young University’s Joseph Fielding Smith Institute for LDS History. He has published extensively in journals and wrote the centennial history of Enterprise, Utah. Reeve has also presented papers at numerous conferences, ranging from the Western History Association to the Conference on Expanding the Interdisciplinary Conversation. In 2006, University of Illinois Press will publish a revision of his dissertation under the title
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Making Space on the Western Frontier: Mormons, Miners, and Southern Paiutes. Reeve is currently an assistant professor of history at the University of Utah.

Popular author Raye C. Ringholz graduated from the University of Utah with a BA in English and history and has published many books on the West including Paradise Paved: The Challenge of Growth in the New West; Little Town Blues: Voices from the Changing West; The Wilderness Handbook; Diggings and Doings in Park City; Walking through Historic Park City; Park City Trails; On Belay! The Life of Legendary Mountainer Paul Petzoldt; Barrier of Salt: The Story of the Great Salt Lake; Guidebook to Canyonlands Country; and Uranium Frenzy: Saga of the Nuclear West, from which she drew her chapter for this book. She has also published dozens of articles in venues ranging from Salt Lake Magazine and the Salt Lake Tribune to Ford Times and Field and Stream.

In addition to being a prolific author, she has served as an officer or board member for many civic and academic organizations, including the Kimball Art Center, Writers at Work, the Park City Historical Society and the Park City Miner's Day Parade, the Wilderness Education Association, and the Junior League of Salt Lake City. Ringholz has been awarded the Paul Petzoldt Award from the Wilderness Education Association and both the Executive Committee Award and the Board of Directors Award from the Wilderness Education Association.

Janet Burton Seegmiller holds a BA from the University of Utah in journalism and an MA in information resources and library sciences from the University of Arizona. She is currently associate professor of library media and special collections librarian at the Sherratt Library at Southern Utah University. Her publications include “Walter K. Granfer: A Friend to Labor, Industry, and the Unfortunate and Aged,” Utah Historical Quarterly; A History of Iron County: Community above Self, a Utah Centennial County History; and Be Kind to the Poor: The Life Story of Robert Taylor Burton. She has made scholarly presentations and read papers to several groups including the Association of College and Research Libraries, Mormon History Association, Utah Library Association, Communal Studies Association, Iron County Sesquicentennial Lecture Series, and Dixie Heritage Lecture Series. Seegmiller is on the board of editors for both Mormon Historical Studies and the Journal of Mormon History and is a member of the American Library Association, Utah Library Association, and the Conference of Intermountain Archivists. She has served as president of the Iron Mission Historical Society, board member for the Iron County Museum Foundation, and council member, conference chair, and newsletter editor for the Mormon History Association.

A native of Providence, Utah, Carma Wadley earned a bachelor's degree from Utah State University and a master of arts in communications from Brigham Young University. She has worked for the Deseret Morning News as a writer and feature editor. Currently a senior writer, she frequently contributes articles and photographs dealing
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with her extensive travels. Several of the stories she covered for the News dealt with mining, including some of the industry’s greatest disasters. In meeting and talking with miners, Wadley became fascinated with their stories and tales and has collected mining folklore for years.

Delta, Utah, native Debra Wagner started working with Brush Resources in 1986 and has moved through the company serving as a clerk, an administrative secretary, and administrative assistant. Currently she is the company’s human relations manager. She is known throughout the company for her high standards and competence. Her duties over the years have ranged from working with customers and employees to organizing company materials to creating the history section of the company’s Web site, which she expanded to form this chapter.

Bruce D. Whitehead, a native of Statesville, North Carolina, is president and owner of W. S. Adamson and Associates, a pioneer public relations firm in Salt Lake City. The company was organized in 1950 by the late W. S. “Bill” Adamson to serve the public relations and public affairs needs of Kennecott Copper Corporation. The firm still provides public communications services to Kennecott Utah Copper and other Kennecott companies. Whitehead holds a BA degree in communications from Quincy University. He joined Adamson in 1966 after 20 years as an on-the-air personality; as producer and director with Illinois, Idaho, and Utah radio and television broadcasters; and of service with the Armed Forces Radio Service in Austria. His career encompasses 39 years of managing and supervising public relations, public affairs, and general communications programs for a variety of local, regional, national, and international clients. He acquired ownership of Adamson and Associates in 1989.

Born and raised in Ogden, Utah, Colleen Whitley holds degrees from Weber (then) College, the University of Utah, and Brigham Young University. She has taught students in every grade level from elementary school through graduate school, worked with Job Corps, and helped to open one of the first alternative high schools in the state. She recently retired from teaching for the English and Honors Departments of Brigham Young University and has lectured for the Utah Humanities Council Speakers’ Bureau. Widely published, she has written poetry, fiction, and newspaper, journal, and magazine articles, edited Worth Their Salt: Notable but Often Unnoted Women of Utah and Worth Their Salt, Too: More Notable but Often Unnoted Women of Utah. She also edited and wrote several chapters for Brigham Young’s Homes and coauthored The Silver Queen: Her Royal Highness Suzanne Bransford Emery Holmes Delitch Engalitcheff, 1859–1942 with Judy Dykman.