

MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA (MPNHA)

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in partnership with

History of Sanpete County namesake explored in Discovery Road

Little is known about Chief Sanpitch, leader of the Sanpits, a band of Ute Indians who were living in the Sanpete Valley at the time Mormon pioneers arrived.

Chief Sanpitch, for whom Sanpete County was named, was the father of Black Hawk and brother of Chiefs Wakara and Arapeen.

In "The Lost Tomahawk" the newest show in the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area's award-winning TV series, Discovery Road, host James Nelson takes the viewer on a journey to find out who Sanpitch was and learn more about his life.

In telling the story of Sanpitch, "The Lost Tomahawk" he traces the journey of the chief's tomahawk, which has been handed down for several generations in a local family. Native American voices also offer insight into Sanpitch, what he fought for, and what he stood for in those long-ago battles.

In the show, a contemporary Ute tribal elder, Forrest S. Cuch, reads words spoken by Sanpitch during treaty negotiations: "Our people adapted to this land over centuries and it is a part of us. We're not willing to break away so quick, these lands are sacred to us. They're who we are, we're earth people. We're native people of the earth with our heart and soul."

"The Lost Tomahawk" is the third Discovery Road show focused on the Native Americans who were the first inhabitants of the heritage area.

"Utah's Blackhawk War—Cultures in Conflict" tells the story of the conflict that broke out as the American Civil War came to a close and the Territory of Utah erupted with violence as Ute Indians and Mormon settlers clashed over the same land.

"Native Americans and Sacred Water" highlights the importance of water in Native American culture and art.



Ute tribe story teller and Viet Nam veteran Larry Cesspooch at the warrior statue at the Bottle Hollow Veteran's Memorial on the Ute Reservation in Fort Duchesne, Utah. Cesspooch draws on his own war experience to comment on the long ago war story of Chief Sanpitch in the Discovery Road show "The Lost Tomahawk."

A new map of the Sanpitch OHV Trail, which covers the Log Canyon and Maple Canyon loop, has recently been produced by the Sanpete County Travel Office. The map highlights the burial spot of Chief Sanpitch along with historical points.

The Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area maintains a strong commitment to emphasizing the Native American history of our area. Through its management plan, which recognizes and seeks to educate the public about the contributions of the tribes who inhabited the area, its Native American ombudsman and other efforts, the MPNHA sponsors and supports programs that highlight this important aspect of the heritage area's history.

Discovery Road is aired regularly on the Utah Education Network (Channel 9) and on several local cable channels. "The Lost Tomahawk" is scheduled to air in July.

Points of Interest

Maple Canyon Maple Canyon is one of Utah's most scenic rock-altering canyons. It was originally called Enger but changed to Maple because there is already a town called Enger near Fall Lake City, "Yonkers" was what the settlers named. Eventually the village had a population of nearly 200. Although it was never incorporated as a city, it had a school, church, store, six half-acre plots, and a main square. Most of the houses were pre-1840, and many were built by the same family. The canyon is particularly scenic in places like Enger.

Maple Canyon

Maple Canyon Pipe Dream Cave

Maple Canyon Campground

Historical Markers

UTAH SPRING MONUMENT 300 West Center Street from Salt Lake City, Utah. This monument, built by the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area, commemorates the first settlement in Utah. It was dedicated on September 9, 1840, by Brigham Young. The monument is located on the site of the first settlement in Utah. It was dedicated on September 9, 1840, by Brigham Young. The monument is located on the site of the first settlement in Utah.

FOUNDERS GREEN MONUMENT Founders Green was settled in 1839 when pioneers built homes and started a settlement. In 1840, Brigham Young and his followers moved the first town and built. Although the Black Hawk, who temporarily lived with us, moved to Missouri for safety in 1840, they returned and built a lot in the fall of that year.

LEWIS LEWIS MONUMENT On June 1, 1847 Lewis Lewis, an eighteen-year-old boy, and his father were passing Red Mountain. Lewis was carrying a pack of supplies. He was carrying a pack of supplies. He was carrying a pack of supplies. He was carrying a pack of supplies.

MISSION FORT AND BARRION 1015 20th Main Street, UT. Mission Fort was built in 1847 by the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area. It was built in 1847 by the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area. It was built in 1847 by the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area.

Who was Sanpitch?

Chief Sanpitch was a leader of the Sanpitch tribe of Native Americans living in the Sanpitch Valley. He was a brave and a leader of the Sanpitch tribe. He was a brave and a leader of the Sanpitch tribe. He was a brave and a leader of the Sanpitch tribe.

Other Area Attractions

Maple Canyon Campground

Sanpitch OHV Trail

A new OHV trail map has been produced by the Sanpete County Travel Office to highlight the Sanpitch OHV Trail.

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About the MPNHA:

The Mormon Pioneer Heritage Area is a federally designated area of central and southern Utah running along the beautiful and historic U.S. Highway 89 — including the All-American Road Utah State Route 12, and Capitol Reef Scenic Byway Utah State Route 24, which both intersect with U.S. 89 and together form the MPNHA's Boulder Loop. The area includes the counties of Sanpete, Sevier, Piute, Wayne, Garfield and Kane.