

MORMON PIONEER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA (MPNHA)

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in partnership with

Discovery Road — Crossing Time

In the latest episode of Discovery Road, entitled "Crossing Time," viewers are taken across the historic Rockville Bridge in southern Utah to see efforts by residents to save the aging structure with the open air art competition that took place around the nearby ghost town of Grafton, Utah.

In 1866 Grafton was the county seat to Kane County, but a year later boundaries changed that, giving the honor to Rockville. Several intriguing stories have been discovered in and around the unique bridge and Grafton, including a German couple's worldwide journey in an RV.

There's the bicyclist from Louisville, Kentucky, who just had to see the 1924 bridge up close and the woman from France who saw it and wanted a photo of the bridge as a souvenir.

The amazing story of the Zion Park Tunnel is then told using historic black and white photographs. There is film of the construction and 1930 dedication ceremony.

Discovery Road then takes a ride through the portal that changed how people visit national parks. The program concludes with a fascinating story about the first tourists to visit Zions National Park.



A couple from Germany takes time from their worldwide venture in an RV to explore the Rockville Bridge just outside of Zions National Park. The vacationers are featured in the new Discovery Road Show Crossing Time.



John and Melissa Clark of Manti, Utah show their book "Opening Zion" which chronicles the whirlwind 1920 promotion trip of six University of Utah students to Zion National Park. The book is featured in the upcoming Discovery Road show Crossing Time.

The tourists' saga starts with a scrapbook discovered on eBay by a Manti woman and concludes with a book she and her husband wrote about six University of Utah girls who were selected to showcase the opening days of Zion National Park nearly a century ago.

The purpose of Discovery Road is to preserve, tell and interpret the stories and history of the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area. Monte Bona, director of the MPNHA says, "It's a great venue to tell these Mormon stories and it's way to encourage people to do what people did in my day: Go on a Sunday drive and explore the area. We hope this series will inspire people to drive our Heritage Highway and explore our heritage."

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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.