



# NEWSLETTER

November, 2017

## John and Annie Cox Begin Their Life in Zion

By Janet Porter

May, 1866, the ship *Caroline*,  
Diary of William Driver:

"Monday 21st Morning very rough, ship rolling fearfully, just threw me off a stool and broke a glass tumbler. 2 o'clock p.m. ship still rolling fearfully; pots, dishes, pails, provisions thrown across the gangways in promiscuous heaps creating great confusion amongst the passengers. A child of Brother Cox's from London has just died

... Another fearful lurch, tins flying in every direction. Brother Cox's child was buried at 8 o'clock p.m."<sup>1</sup>

And so the journey to Zion began for John and Annie Cox.

On June 11, 1866, after a five week voyage, the ship came to the port

of New York City. The 389 saints on board traveled by train to the church outfitting area in Nebraska, and John was assigned to the Chipman Wagon Company. John bought a cow and shared the milk with neighbors all along the trail.<sup>2</sup> They arrived in Salt Lake City September 15, 1866 and immediately made their way to Centerville where John built a house at 483 East 100 South. The house still stands, originally of stone, now with stucco.



**The house in Centerville at 483 East 100 South built in 1866 by John Cox Jr.**

John's building skills were in demand in Centerville, and he helped build several struc-

tures there.<sup>3</sup> But that was not to



## Cox Reunion, 2016 In Barnes Park, Centerville, Utah

On August 13, 2016, we enjoyed getting together with many of our Cox relatives at the Barnes park. After dinner and some time to visit, we listened to Janet Porter teach us about John Cox Sr. and his origins in England. Janet sold copies of her new book about that subject. It was fascinating to learn about the history of England prior to John Cox Sr., and during his lifetime. Ivy Peart, and her daughter, Patti Lichfield were in attendance. They shared with us their stories about their trip to England several years ago. They visited many sites where John Cox lived, and even saw his original home.

Our next reunion will be at the Barnes Park in August of 2018. We look forward to being with you there!

# Children of John Cox, Sr Begin A New Life In Utah and Wyoming

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be his only contribution. Within three years he was working on the construction of the Salt Lake Temple



**Granite blocks being prepared to haul to the Salt Lake Temple site. (Courtesy “studydroid com-1872”)**

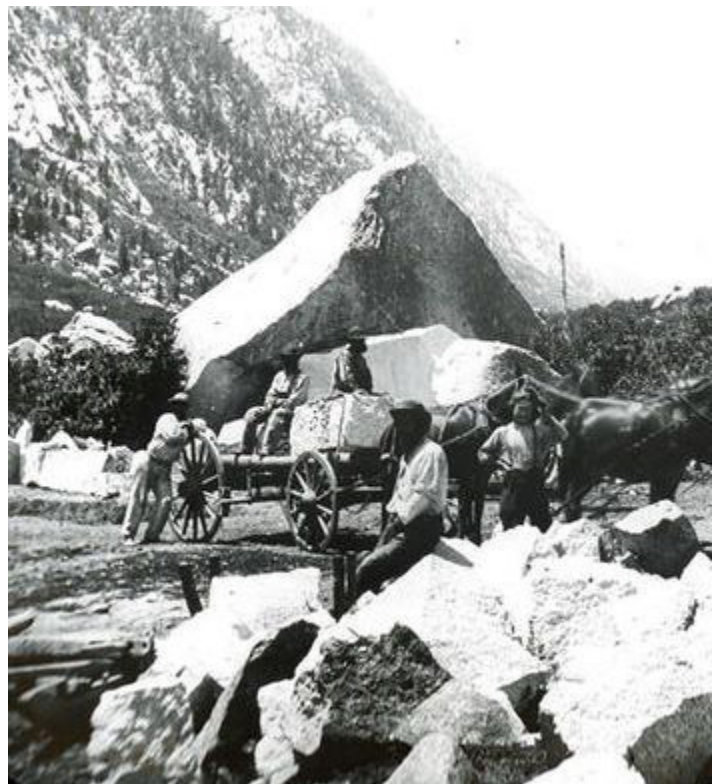
from 1871 to 1873, hauling blocks by wagon from the quarry. The blocks were often several tons, and the wagons were especially strong to handle the job.<sup>4</sup>

While John worked on the temple project, his brother Edwin came to America with his wife Harriet, their son William, and his two sisters. Edwin had accepted the responsibility of caring for his father's family in England. When his father died in 1869, Edwin took John Cox Sr.'s second wife Elizabeth and her children into his household where they appear together in Southampton on the 1871 census.<sup>5</sup>

Soon after his step-mother Elizabeth died, Edwin made arrangements to emigrate. He left Liverpool 26 July 1871, arriving in New York August 8, 1871 with his wife Harriet, (age 32), his son William (age 11) and his sisters Elizabeth (age 4) and Sarah (age 19)<sup>6</sup>. Thus, four members of the family of John Cox Sr. were in America, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Edwin would die in a min-

ing accident at Almy, Wyoming in 1895. John would die in Woodruff in 1915 in an accident as he worked in a gravel pit at age 79.

Their full sister Sarah became the plural wife of George Henry Knowlden. She was the mother of eleven children when she died in 1937 in Salt Lake City. Their half-sister Elizabeth married Aaron Butte.



Wagons hauling granite from the quarry to the temple site had wheels almost as tall as a man. (Courtesy Deseret News Apr 3, 2011)

He died in the same mining accident as Edwin Cox, and she remarried William Bell of Almy. She was the mother of nine children, and died in Salt Lake City in 1941.

## Footnotes

<sup>1</sup>Diary of William Driver, Caroline, May, 1866 <http://mormon->

## John Cox, Jr, Brother Edwin And Two Sisters Gather to Zion

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[migration.lib.byu.edu/Search/showDetails/db:MM\\_MII/t:account/id:200/](http://migration.lib.byu.edu/Search/showDetails/db:MM_MII/t:account/id:200/)

keywords:Caroline#.UAtQUJHjAU:

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ourfamilylegacy.info/files/norriswilliam1819biography.html>

<sup>3</sup>(See Ada Randall history of John Cox, "The City In-Between: the History of Center-ville, Utah, by Mary Ellen Smoot, 1975, Family History Library 979.227?c1 H2s, p. 201)

<sup>4</sup>Conquerors of the West: Stalwart Mormon Pioneers, volume 1, Biography of John Cox by grandson LaVaun Cox



**The Cox half-sisters: Elizabeth Cox Bell is left; Sarah Cox Knowlden is right.**

<sup>5</sup>(Ancestry.com, 1871 British Census, Piece 1189, Folio 122, p. 32)

<sup>6</sup>[http://mormonmigration.lib.byu.edu/Search/showDetails/db:MM\\_MII/t:voyage/id:259/keywords:Nevada](http://mormonmigration.lib.byu.edu/Search/showDetails/db:MM_MII/t:voyage/id:259/keywords:Nevada)

## Family History Helps Available On Family website Coxgen.org

A variety of information is available at the Cox Family website. At [coxgen.org](http://coxgen.org), family members are able to find information on genealogy Reunions, past newsletters, and Cox family resources such as skits and books.

Based on the family of John Cox and Ann Baker from England, the website provides information, photos and documentation from the genealogy of the John Cox, Sr family, and his son John Cox, Jr and their descendants.

In addition, the website provides information on future reunions for both the John Cox, Sr family organization and the Bowns family.

Family resources are also available on the website, including skits and Family history books.

The books, "Path to Zion" books 1 and 2, are available for \$7 each.

### Welcome to the Cox Family web page

This page currently serves the descendants of John Cox Sr. and Ann Baker



### Cox Family Organization Mission Statement

**Remember, Honor, Unify. We will remember our heritage, honor our ancestors, and unify ourselves in gathering genealogies and histories.**

[Cox](#) Family History (genealogy)

Bowns [Family](#) Reunion Information

[Cox](#) Family Newsletters

[Cox](#) Family Personal Histories

[John Sr.](#) Family Pictures

[Janet](#) Porter web page this contains some great family reunion skits

John [Cox](#) Sr. Family Reunion Information

[Cox](#) Family Officers

[John Jr.](#) Family Information

[John Sr.](#) Family Information

John Cox Jr. Books [written by Janet](#) Porter

If you would like to contribute to this page, or you would like us to extend beyond John Cox Sr., please contact the family webmaster, C. Reed Scothern, at [reedscotcox@aim.com](mailto:reedscotcox@aim.com)

These books highlight the origins of the family in England, their path into the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, their families and immigration to America and eventually to Utah.

The books can be purchased from Julie Eckman. Contact her at [julie\\_eckman@yahoo.com](mailto:julie_eckman@yahoo.com) and make arrangements to purchase any books.

# A Trip to the John Cox Home In Upper Wield, England

By Patti Litchfield

In September 2002--Ivy Cox Peart and her Family traveled to England and went to Upper Wield, the home of John Cox Sr. and John Cox Jr.

Here is a story as told by Ivy Peart and written by Patti Litchfield about the trip.

We went to UpperWield. They had a map of where the house would have been. This was the place where John Cox Sr. grew up, and where John Cox Jr. was born and grew up. It is a quaint little village, with thatched roof cottages.

We were going to the church, but a house nearby was getting a new thatched roof. We went to "have a look", and take pictures. The kind lady invited us in, showed us her cottage. She said that it was built sometime in the 1600's. It was so kind of her to let us in.

It was very small, dark, the windows are small. At one time 2 families lived there. We were all so excited that the kind lady invited us to see it. We took pictures, exchanged addresses and went over to the church. We looked around and were about to leave, when a retired "warden" a keeper of the church showed up from nowhere. He told us many interesting things about the church and village.

One thing he said was if the people were poor, there proba-

bly wouldn't still be a headstone because the poor could only afford wooden headstones. That answered why we never could find grave markers. I believe that most



of our ancestors were on the poor side.

We showed him the map, we thought we had figured out where his house would have been but because no house was there it was probably long gone. He looked at the map and said that it was the very house that we had gone through. We were all so excited.

The warden kind of disappeared while we went and looked at the house again. After we were done talking to this Annie, her husband's name is Jon----what a funny coincidence, some of the family

didn't think that was the right house.

I showed mom a pond where her family might have been baptized and we walked around a different street by where the family thought the house would have originally been. There was a girl, about 25 outside, she asked if she could help us. We talked to her and showed her the map. She told us that a road used to be where the back of her house was now. When we told her about the conflicting information and that Brian Collins the "warden" told us that the house by the church was it, she said he would know----he

knew everything about the village and the church.

It was such a great day, I feel that our ancestors were there, sending the people out to greet us, showing us the way---kind of like welcoming us to their home.

What is really interesting, the night before, Bob Lichfield gave the thought and relied the experience Elijah had with someone when he said "There's more that be with us than against us"----Bob said that our ancestor's were with us----It was a sweet spiritual experience.