

Small Historic Towns across America

as presented by Mr. Stadt's on-line Freedom Project Education U.S. History classes in the Fall and Winter of 2014. You can learn more about our classes by visiting us at:

www.fpeusa.org



Brief History of Brigham, Utah.

In 1850 William Davis, a Mormon pioneer who had come from the U.K., first explored Brigham city area, and returned a year later with his family and others to build homes and live there. In 1853 Brigham Young, then Governor of Utah Territory and President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, sent Lorenzo Snow to create a self-sufficient city at the site that William Davis had started. Lorenzo Snow originally called the city Box Elder in 1855, but in 1877 Brigham Young gave his last address before dying, and the name of the town was changed to Brigham City in honor of the church president.

As of the 2010 census population is 17,899, and Brigham City is head quarters for the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation.

Location and Driving Directions from closest major U.S. Airport(s).

Brigham City is located on the west slope of the Wellsville Mountains and to the north of the Great Salt Lake, in Box Elder County, Utah. From the Salt Lake City International Airport get on I-80 E from Crossbar Rd then drive from I-15 N to Box Elder County. Take exit 362 from I-15 N. Follow US-91 N/W 1100 S and S Main St to East 20 South in Brigham City. If you fly into the Brigham City Municipal Airport just get onto Promontory rd. until you reach Main Street on the right.

Who was President when this town was founded? And, what was the political environment in America at that time.

When Brigham City was founded in 1853 Democrat Franklin Pierce was President of these United States of America. Our country was growing and Washington Territory separated from Oregon Ter. America also bought New Mexico and Arizona territory from Mexico for \$10 million.

Utah was not a State until 1896, but there were 31 states.



Oldest businesses/largest business today.

A successful Co-op ran from 1864-1896. During WWII the U.S. federal government created the Bushnell General Hospital, which would serve during the war for soldiers and after the war as a boarding school for Native-Americans until 1984. Today the largest employer is ATK Launch Systems , a company that creates defense systems and the rockets for the Space Shuttle.

City government.

Brigham City is run on a Mayor-Council-Administrator form of government and runs on a City Code. There are five members of the City Council, the Mayor, and one City Administrator. City Council meetings are held every first and third Thursdays of the month at 7:00 P.M. MDT in the City Council Chambers at 20 North Main. Minutes of meetings can be available all the way back to 1867! To see current minutes simply go to *Agendas & Minutes* under the *Government* tab on the city's website.

Historic attractions in the area. Festivals and Events.

Around Brigham City is the site of the Gold Spike, where the Central Pacific Railroad and the Union Pacific Railroad came together to create the Transcontinental Railroad, an historic railroad than ran from the east coast of these United States to the South. Four actual golden spikes where used to link the railroads together on May 10, 1896. Each year a reenactment of the Gold Spike takes place on the annual anniversary (<http://www.nps.gov/gosp/index.htm>).

Where can we stay if we visit Brigham City?

The first tithing house in Brigham City has been remodeled in 2004 as an historic B&B in beautiful downtown Brigham City. (<http://jmbmedia.com/websites/brighaminn/>).

There is also Springhill Suites by Marriot in nearby Logan, UT.

Why would I want to visit this historic small town.

I would like to visit here to see The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' Brigham City Temple. It is beautiful, and its grounds are amazing! I was able to view its dedication which took place Sep.23, 2012. This temple stands as a testimony of Christ in the community, and I am LDS so I would enjoy visiting it. I would also enjoy visiting the Tabernacle across the street from the temple.

Links you may wish to visit.

<https://www.lds.org/church/temples/brigham-city-utah?lang=eng#gallery>

<http://brighamcity.utah.gov/business.htm>

http://www.utah.com/nationalsites/golden_spike.htm

