



Phineas Wolcott Cook

Family Organization

Newsletter

September, 2020

Elder Quentin L. Cook Celebrated Phineas W. Cook's Life at Reunion

**Talk given August 24, 2019 By Elder
Quentin L. Cook,
Bonneville Glenn Meeting House,
1500 East Bonneville Drive, Salt Lake City**

I wanted to express my appreciation for being invited today and also for our family—it is great to be with cousins. I am grateful for the Family Leadership and the Cook Family Organization. I want to thank Dawna McMillan, my assistant (Bryce, her husband, is a P.W. Cook descendant), and Clint Melander who helped me in a number of ways.

I also wanted to thank the family genealogists and writers, Bryson Cook, Janet Peterson and Sherry Cook who have provided us with so much information. My cousin, Gary Cook, a Church historian, and film writer, provided a short history which has helped me.

We are assembled today to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of Phineas Wolcott Cook who was born on the 28th day of August 1819, in Goshen, Connecticut.

Phineas was the seventh generation, of the Cook family, in New England. The first Cook, Henry Cooke (spelled with an "e"), is identified in Salem, Massachusetts in 1638. Henry was part of a massive immigration of English Puritans to Massachusetts.

The Great Migration

There were approximately 21,000 immigrants between the years of 1630 and 1641 that crossed the North Atlantic Ocean. These were called the "eleven years tyranny." Charles I of England, tried to rule England without a Parliament and Archbishop Wil-

liam Laud purged the Anglican Church of its Puritan members.

In 1640, the flow of population stopped because of the Civil War in England. The emigrants who came to Massachusetts in the great migration became the breeding stock for America's Yankee population. They multiplied at a rapid rate, doubling every generation for two centuries.

Their numbers increased to 100,000 by 1700, to at least one million by 1800, six million by 1900, and more than sixteen million by 1988—all descended from 21,000 English emigrants who came to Massachusetts in the period from 1629 to 1640.

The children of the great migration moved rapidly beyond the borders of Massachusetts. They occupied much of southern New England, eastern New

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Elder Cook's Address

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Jersey, and northern New York. In the nineteenth century, their descendants migrated east to Maine and Nova Scotia, north to Canada, and west to the Pacific. Along the way, they founded the future cities of Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Paul, Denver, Seattle, San Francisco, and Salt Lake City. Today, throughout this vast area, most families of Yankee descent trace their American beginnings to an English ancestor who came ashore in Massachusetts Bay within five years of the year 1635¹.

Most of Phineas' ancestors migrated from Salem to various parts of what is now Connecticut. But the four generations preceding him, lived in the vicinity of Goshen Connecticut. One of them Captain Daniel Cook, Phineas Wolcott Cook's grandfather, served in the Revolutionary War. In Phineas' journal he records, "Grandfather's name was Daniel Cook, and grandmothers name was Elizabeth Porter.... [Daniel] was about sixteen years old when he enlisted in the army—he served his country faithfully for seven years, or to the end of the war². He died in 1809 and "his name appears "Capt. Daniel Cook" on his headstone³.

"At age 15, Phineas went to learn the carpenter's trade from a man by the name of Augustus Mory [Murray]. He worked with this trade for five to six months and then left due to a misunderstanding about wages. It is significant that he learned the trade at such a tender age because carpentry became his vocation some years later. Shortly after leaving Mory's employ, Phineas and his brother Daniel traveled on foot to join their father in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The trip took several days. Phineas reports that when they arrived their feet "were blistered from heel to toe. This was October 1837."⁴

It is interesting to read about the economic havoc in both Connecticut and Michigan in 1837. That worldwide panic was devastating.⁵ Joseph Smith in Kirtland, Ohio was blamed by many in the Church of Jesus Christ, but he had little control of the outcome in the National financial crisis.⁶ "Phineas was engaged to Ann Eliza Howland for two years. They were married January 1, 1840."⁷ "While they remained at Winter Quarters, Phineas worked at the farm maintained to help sustain those traveling to the West. On May 19, 1848, they left Winter Quarters with Brigham Young's company. He drove one of

President Young's wagons and after a difficult and dangerous journey arrived in the valley. They made their first home in the Old Fort in Salt Lake City."⁸

"In 1848 Phineas W. Cook arrived in the valley and rented the Charles M. Deuel cabin in the fort. It was 10' x 20' and served their needs well. When Deuel wanted the cabin back, Phineas arranged to live in one of Brigham Young's cabins in the fort."⁹

The cabin is the only remaining pioneer log cabin. It was moved to Temple Square, near the present north entrance of the South Visitor's Center and remained there for almost 50 years. "In 1986 it was restored and moved across the street to 45 West Temple where it can be visited today."¹⁰

"Phineas worked as a millwright, carpenter, and cabinet maker, and worked on the first grist mills (Neff's and Chase's) built in the Salt Lake Valley in 1849 and 1850. He located in Sanpete Valley in the fall of 1850 and became one of the first settlers of Manti, where he built the first grist mill in connection with Brigham Young and Isaac Morley. This mill was burned by the Indians in 1853. Phineas built a rock house in Manti and returned to Salt Lake City in the spring of 1853. In the fall of 1851, he was commissioned to build a home for Brigham Young in Manti. Apparently, President Young was pleased with the job, because two years later, after having moved back to Salt Lake City, Phineas was commissioned to build another home for Brigham Young, this time for his second wife, Zina Huntington."¹¹

"Phineas later worked on the Beehive and Lion Houses and made some of the first furniture manufactured from Utah pine. He made a bureau for Brigham Young which is now in the museum in Salt Lake City. It was also during this period that Phineas became water master and consequently got involved in the historic and continuing controversy over water in Utah."¹²

"On December 18, 1853 Phineas took two wives in plural marriage, Amanda Polly Savage and Catherine McCleave. They were both seventeen years old. Prior to marrying the girls, Phineas sought the direction of the Lord for enlightenment as to what he should do. After so doing, he was fully satisfied as to the veracity of the principle and entered into plural marriage committed to live it fully."¹³

Amanda is my great-great grandmother.

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Elder Cook's Address

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Catherine later received a divorce and had a subsequent marriage.

"In 1863 he moved with his two families to Bear Lake Valley where he settled at Swan Creek. He was among the first settlers in this area. He made a hand mill to grind wheat and built a grist mill in 1865. Later he built a sawmill, a wool carding machine, etc. He married Johanna C. Poulsen as a fourth wife on September 13, 1878."¹⁴

Conflict over Polygamy

"Phineas Wolcott Cook was living happily with three wives and their children from the ages of one to the married families of Anne Eliza's older children, then he was suddenly in conflict with the law. He could see no other way but to separate himself and live with only one wife, even though the families were accepting of each other, prosperous and happy to be near each other. For the first time in his life his financial situation was finally secure, but to avoid prosecution he had to sell out and leave Rich County."¹⁵

Johanna Poulsen's daughter left this account:

*"Mother said that when father was brought into court, to be sentenced, having previously been tried and found guilty of having more than one wife, he looked unusually pale and trembly, and the judge remarked, 'Well, Mr. Cook, it appears like you are not going to be long with us. We shall therefore give you a short term and we hope you will never come before this court again, on a like charge. You are therefore sentenced to serve thirty days in the Utah State Penitentiary.'"*¹⁶

"Being arrested and convicted of so-called unlawful cohabitation, he served a term in the Utah Penitentiary after he was seventy years old."¹⁷

Afton Wyoming

Phineas was not safe from arrest, so in 1889 he took his youngest family to Afton, Wyoming. "State officials [there] were unwilling to prosecute men for polygamy because the Territory of Wyoming was trying to increase their population so they could be admitted into the Union. Federal marshals, anxious to continue the hunt taking place in Utah, were turned

away."¹⁸

"Six weeks after [the birth of a new baby] ... they left Logan and headed for Afton. Before leaving he sold his house in Logan for \$1,000, bought a new wagon and a bore machine for making a leaning fence. His plan was to go into the dairy farming business."¹⁹

"[Phineas Wolcott Cook] died a faithful Latter-day-saint July 24, 1900, at Afton, aged 81 years. [He] was the father of 28 children, 16 sons and 12 daughters. He was survived by 11 sons and 4 daughters who were all faithful members of the church."²⁰

Phineas Wolcott Cook's conversion to and faithfulness to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

I love one part of Phineas' diary. In his diary he notes that he had made a covenant with the Lord to serve Him if he could find the right way. He attended many churches and at one was asked to "testify...join the church...be a Christian." His response was he "could not tell which one to join, there were so many." One doctrine that was of particular significance to him was "...sometimes they found fault with me because I wanted a more liberal salvation for the family of man. I could not believe the Lord had made a part to be saved and a great part to be damned to all eternity."²¹ Because of this doctrine he allowed his name to be taken off the records of one Protestant religion. When the LDS missionaries taught him the true doctrine of the Plan of Salvation in 1844, he was baptized."²²

The missionary who taught him the Plan of Salvation, was David Leonard Savage, Amanda Savage's, father.

In addition to his faithful day to day service and commitment a few events are especially noteworthy.

- His close association with Brigham Young and other senior leaders.
- His service as bishop of the Goshen Branch.
- His carpentry work in the Logan Temple and the temple ordinance work he performed for his ancestors and others.

As important as these were his incredible endurance and commitment to his faith—even though he endured overwhelming trials and challenges—is what stands out most to me.

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Elder Cook's Address Concluded

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After speaking, Elder Cook then pronounced upon the family an apostolic blessing that included all of Phineas Cook's ancestry, including those present as well as those who were not present. Everyone was greatly uplifted and gratified by Elder Cook's warm visit with the family and the spirit of the Lord that he brought with him and shared with us.

Notes

¹ Avid Hackett Fischer, *Albion's Seed: Four British Folkways in America*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1989), 16-17.

² See <http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/PhineasWolcottCookFamily/Chronology/index.html>, 1737-1837 Goshen, Connecticut, 4. See also, Phineas Wolcott Cook journal.

³ See <http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/PhineasWolcottCookFamily/Chronology/index.html>, 1737-1837 Goshen, Connecticut, 5. See also, Joyce Mackenzie Cropsey, Register of Soldiers and Patriots in Litchfield," Mary Floyd Talmadge Chapter, Hartford, 36. Identified as "Daniel Cook, b 8-14-1760 d 8-14-1809 #35." (Family History Library book 974.61 V22c).

⁴ Gary H. Cook and Sherry B. Cook, Phineas Wolcott Cook: Amanda Polly Savage, in *The Life and History of Phineas Wolcott Cook; Latter-Day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia*, Volume 3, 53.

⁵ See <http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/PhineasWolcottCookFamily/Chronology/index.html>, 1837 Connecticut to Michigan, 1. See also https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panic_of_1837.

⁶ Ibid, 1.

⁷ Gary H. Cook and Sherry B. Cook, *Phineas Wolcott Cook: Amanda Polly Savage*, 2.

⁸ Ibid, 4.

⁹ See <http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/PhineasWolcottCookFamily/Chronology/index.html>, Phineas Wolcott Cook Locality Project, Salt Lake City, 1848-1850, 2. This article written by Oliver B. Huntington and reprinted in *The Old Fort: Historic Mormon Bastion: The Plymouth Rock of the West*. Compiled and published by Dr. Nicholas Groesbeck Morgan, SLC, UT: 1964, Family History Library book 979.2258 H2mm.

¹⁰ Ibid, 2-3.

¹¹ Gary H. Cook and Sherry B. Cook, *Phineas Wolcott Cook: Amanda Polly Savage*, 4.

¹² Ibid, 4, 5.

¹³ Ibid, 5.

¹⁴ Ibid, 5.

¹⁵ See <http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/PhineasWolcottCookFamily/Chronology/index.html>, 1883-1889 Logan, Utah, 1.

¹⁶ See <http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/PhineasWolcottCookFamily/Chronology/index.html>, 1883-1889 Logan, Utah, 7. See also, Eva Covey Madsen, "The Logan Period, 1883 to 1889, appendage #3, A-21. *The Life and History of Phineas Wolcott Cook*, Second Edition, PWC Family Organization, Brigham City, Utah.

¹⁷ Libbie C. Hayward and Helen C. McAllister, *A Glimpse of our Progenitors*, August 1978. See also, <http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/phineascook2.html>.

¹⁸ See <http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/PhineasWolcottCookFamily/Chronology/index.html>, 1883-1889 Logan, Utah, 9. See also Eva Covey Madsen, "The Logan Period, 1883 to 1889, Appendages #3 and #4, pp; A23-24. *The Life and History of Phineas Wolcott Cook*, Second Edition, PWC Family Organization, Brigham City, Utah.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Libbie C. Hayward and Helen C. McAllister, *A Glimpse of our Progenitors*, August 1978.

²¹ Phineas Wolcott Cook, *The Life and History of Phineas Wolcott Cook*, 2nd edition, 19-20.

²² Ibid.

Celebration for Phineas Included Speakers, Videos

The 2019 Phineas Wolcott Cook family reunion was held on August 17, 2019 in Salt Lake City, Utah with Elder Quentin L. Cook of the Quorum of 12 apostles as the keynote speaker. Elder Cook spoke in the main session of the 2-session event.

Held at a chapel near the Bonneville Glen on 15th South in Salt Lake City, the event began with an address from Elder Cook, who is a descendant of Phineas Wolcott Cook.

Other addresses during the first session were given by Bryson Cook, family genealogist and event organizer and Dan Ditto, organization president

The second session included a video presentation on Goshen Connecticut by Marcia Marshall and a joint presentation by Bryson Cook and Janet Porter on the Religiosity of "Phineas W Cook's ancestors

Another video presentation on Goshen, Utah was presented by Janet Porter and David Cook.

After event, videos were presented for participants to watch, highlighting many of the locations and the history from Phineas' life and are now featured on the Cook Family Organization website (cookfamilyorg).

Following the event, participants were able to eat lunch in the church building and outside in the Glen.

The Chapel at Bonneville Glen was chosen as the location for the reunion because of its proximity to the 5-acre lots through which Red Butte Creek runs. It was in that area Phineas was asked by Brigham Young to build a grist mill when he first lived in Salt Lake City.

Cook Organization President

Dan Ditto, Gives Remarks at Reunion

In Celebration of Phineas Wolcott Cook's 200th Birthday

In our family when we have a birthday, we have a tradition of each sharing what we love about that person. So, I would like to share a few things that I love about Grandfather Cook.

First, I love how Grandfather Cook came to know who he was: The Son of a living God and that if he was faithful, God would help him through every challenge and trial.

He had many difficulties and challenges throughout his life, but he learned to rely upon God to get him through and the Lord always came through.

For example, he struggled with some doctrine, but he did something about it. He studied and he prayed with faith and God answered his prayers. He either confirmed the truthfulness of the principle Grandfather was seeking or he gave him a dream or otherwise answered his prayers in a way that Grandfather Cook could understand it and he was able to resolve those issues in his heart and move on.

He also had tremendous financial challenges. But he knew that God would provide. For example, after he joined the church and wanted to leave home and join the saints, his parents did all they could to stop him and hedge up his way so he couldn't go. They tried to sow doubt in his heart. When that didn't work, they essentially stole the resources he needed to make the journey. As Grandfather Cook was preparing to leave, his mother pointed out that he did not have the necessary resources to make the move. Grandfather knew that God would get him through. He said: "I told her that the God that I served was rich, for the earth was his and the fullness thereof and I had no fears but what I should get away inasmuch as I [had] done the best I could, the Lord was bound to open the way for me and he surely would do it." Well, of course he DID do it.

I love this quote from President Eyring: "You need never be discouraged or afraid. The way through



difficulties has always been prepared for you, and you will find it if you exercise faith." Grandfather Cook knew the reality of this principle. He had faith, he trusted God and, while life was never easy, he was able to get through all his trials and challenges by trusting that God would provide a way.

Something else that I love about Grandfather Cook is that, come what may, he was determined to follow the Living Prophet and knew that he and his posterity would be blessed for it.

Grandfather Cook had an experience which I previously shared in our newsletter, where during the difficult months in Winter Quarters, some close friends saw that he was ill and impoverished, and they urged him to "go down to Missouri (with them) to get an outfit for another year. I told him I had been counseled to stay there. He said if I (went with them), (I) would (have) a chance, if I got away at all. I told him I had suffered everything almost that man could live through to get with the church and I was determined to do as I was told.

He said that men would counsel me to give them my birthright if they could get it by so doing. I told him that . . . I was determined to do it, let the consequence be what it might. He then left me to my own way and that was to welter in my poverty and sickness." He continues: "But I did not remain so long."

He had been counselled by Brigham to stay and build up the area. Although it would have been easier for him if he had left, Grandfather Cook followed counsel and stayed there. He was miraculously healed. This example burns brightly through the years and continues to bless us and our posterity today as we seek to move forward, to overcome our own challenges and do good in the world by following the counsel of prophets.

Finally, I love Grandfather Cook because his Faith in Christ and his Courage to follow the Savior enabled him to receive and perform miracles.

Many times, Grandfather Cook was in such difficult circumstances that only God could deliver him through miraculous means.

For example, as he was travelling to meet with the saints, one of his oxen had taken ill. He would not drink or eat. He said that "finally the thought came

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The Cook Media Links Listed

The Cook family Website is a source for information on the both the life of Phineas W. and on the organization. Look below for a list of the links to many of the features on the website, including information from the 2019 Cook O Rama including a video of the 2nd session and links to the many location videos produced for the event.:

Cook Family Website at <http://www.cookfamily.org> , the main web page for the site

Bookstore: <http://www.cookfamily.org/store/index.html>, to purchase Cook Family History Materials

Histories and Journals: <http://www.cookfamily.org/historiesandjournals.html>

Dan Ditto, Continued

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into my mind to lay my hands on him and pray for him which I did and while my hands were on him I heard a rumbling noise inside of him which I took to be a testimony that my prayers was answered. When he went out the next morning to check on his ox, he was up and eating grass.

On another occasion while in Winter Quarters, Eliza became so sick it appeared certain that she would die. He said: "I pled with the Lord to save her that I might not be alone entirely in the world." He felt impressed to have Elisha Groves come and give her a blessing which he did and she was healed.

Through his faith, Grandfather Cook was able to overcome illness, poverty, ignorance and persecution. He was able to trek to these mountains and build homes and establish communities and raise a righteous posterity. As Moroni recounts: "Wherefore whoso believeth in God might with surety hope for a better world, yea, even a place at the right hand of God, which hope cometh of faith, maketh an anchor to the souls of men, which would make them sure and steadfast always abounding in good works, being led to glorify God" (Ether 12:4)

Thank-you Grandfather Phineas for helping us to know who we are. Thank-you for following the prophet through difficult times and thank-you for overcoming through your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Your example has given us a powerful example and great hope and helped to show how we can live our lives and find true joy and receive the blessings of the eternities. We are all grateful to you. We have truly been given a "noble lineage, a royal heritage, a noble birthright." Dear Family, I know that Jesus Christ is real. I know that He lives and loves us and ever stands ready to help us. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Family pedigree chart: http://www.cookfamily.org/tree/pedigree.php?_t=1&show_full=1&PEDIGREE_GENERATIONS=4&talloffset=1&ged=Cook

Interactive Family Tree : <http://www.cookfamily.org/webtrees.html>

Family History Vignettes: Short biographical information:

<http://www.cookfamily.org/vignettes/index.html>

Cook O Rama 2019 Session #2 <http://www.cookfamily.org/cook-o-rama/2019>

Links to the Location videos produced for the 2019 Cook O Rama

<http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/PhineasWolcottCookFamily/Chronology>

Find us on social media!

We are actively posting pictures and information about our ancestors as well as current research. Check us out:

On **facebook** we are "Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization" @CookFamilyOrg
<https://www.facebook.com/cookfamily.org>

On Instagram we are "Phineas Wolcott Cook" @CookFamilyOrg
<https://www.instagram.com/cookfamilyorg/>

On Twitter we are "Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Organization" @CookFamilyOrg
<https://twitter.com/cookfamilyorg>

Phineas' Legacy Outlined

At the Anniversary Event

After the death of his second daughter, a rumor began to circulate that that he might be apostatizing. Phineas Wolcott Cook then wrote in his journal that he knew the rumor "was of the devil." He then wrote, "I told them that I thought I had suffered about enough for once and the Lord was satisfied I had passed through. For indeed it was a great affliction although my faith was not tried in the least, only my patience."

Bryson Cook, Cook Family genealogist and organizer of the reunion, related this experience of Phineas and explained that "We give thanks for his legacy of faith and for the gift of life. But mostly for the example of his devotion to the gospel and the Kingdom of God."

Bryson explained his descendancy as the grandson of Phineas' only son with his wife Catherine McCleve. Bryson's grandfather, Samuel Bryson Cook was the son

of Phineas and a former representative of the Cook Family organization. It was from him that Bryson learned to love Phineas Wolcott Cook.

Phineas is "a point of eternal convergence" explained Bryson, between both his progenitors and his descendants.

It was he who first joined the church in Michigan and when he was leaving, he told his mother "I said that the Lord had called me to save my father's house and it was for her as much as any." Bryson said his conversion was for both the living and the dead.

Phineas's determination to serve God came from unique spiritual experiences through which he covenanted to serve the Lord.

He was not without trials or heartaches. He lost two daughters in Council Bluffs and faced many other challenges. He was taken advantage of. He struggled finan-

cially. On occasion he was misunderstood by friends. He faced challenges as a father of a large family. With all this his faith was never tried only his patience.

He was a true pioneer who crossed the plains and helped to settle Salt Lake, Manti, Payson, Goshen, Bear Lake, Logan and Afton Wyoming. He built the Lion House and the Beehive House, worked on the tithing house, three temples and built several saw, carding and grist mills. He was the first water master of Salt Lake City and helped to build the infrastructure and economic foundation of Zion.

After he left the employment of Brigham Young his fortune waxed and waned until he settled Bear Lake. It was there the family prospered and became economically viable. He taught his children to work hard and be industrious. He taught his children the gospel and did his best to rear them in

"the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

At the end of his remarks, Bryson explained that his greatest challenge came to him in his old age. He was forced to evade and hide from Federal Marshalls. He was ultimately caught, tried and convicted of unlawful cohabitation. He served six months in a Federal Penitentiary. To avoid further legal trouble he moved to and settled in Afton, Wyoming where he did all he could, given his age and circumstances, to establish his family there.

Bryson concluded his remarks by explaining that Phineas died In Afton "true to the faith and most appropriately on pioneer day, July 24th in his eighty-first year. "

He was faithful to his covenant. Bryson closed with Phineas' own admonition to all his children, "be faithful to God and your covenants and he will not hide from you the rich treasures of heaven."

Goshen Journal, Part 13

Goshen

Part 13

In spite of rumors and agitation, the little group of settlers at Goshen continued to make progress. In May, 1858 Phineas proposed having a Water Master to manage use of the creek. At the time the little stream filled all their needs, and the other towns in Utah Valley had not even considered future claims. Phineas was ahead of his time in managing the water, having learned from his experience as Water Master of Salt Lake City. Goshen obtained the first rights on Salt Creek, also called Currant Creek, which have continued in force to the present time. By 1859 they had established a water company which to this day is known as The Goshen Canal and Irrigation Company and had made a claim for water rights, years ahead of the other communities in the area. Later, when other communities upstream diverted the water for themselves, Goshen had a legal claim they were compelled to acknowledge.

Johnston's Army had already marched into Utah, assessed the threat to national security to be minimal, and had made a permanent encampment fifteen miles north of Goshen at Cedar Fort. Yet the U.S. Army was not the greatest threat to the Goshen Saints. Beginning with the cost of land, continuing through the summer as some of the brethren complained about how the



Believing Mormons were rebelling against the laws of the United States, President James Buchanan dispatched 3,500 troops, nearly one-third of the entire S Army to suppress the rumored rebellion in the Utah Territory. No rebellion or war ever took place in Utah. The army stayed to monitor the Mormons, explore the western frontier and provide safety for immigrants moving west to California, Oregon and Washington (stateparks.utah.gov)



Cedar Valley was on the west side of Utah Lake, west of Lehi, but close enough to Salt Lake City to satisfy the needs of the US Army. There a complex was built to house thousands of soldiers and corral the animals

community herd was managed and the fences built, and dragging on into the winter of 1858-59, bickering in the town of Goshen seemed to threaten its very existence.

As early as August of 1858 Phineas cautioned the President of the lesser Priesthood "to wake up and bring those parties to their senses or he himself would be dropped." By the end of 1858, as the brethren seemed unable to stop quarreling in their Priesthood Meetings, Phineas simply discontinued the meetings. On 21 February 1859 he recorded:

Bishop Made some remarks(.) He said in answer to Isaac Webster's question, Why the meetings were stopt (stopped) was in consequence of the disobedience of some of the people(.) They had not obeyed council (counsel)(.) (Presiding) Bp. Hunter said we might have meeting but we must not preach anything but the first principles of the gospel and they had not done as they ware (were) told and he was not going to let the people come together to accuse one another(.) It was the duty of the people to worship God and if they could not meet fer (for) that reason they could not meet at all. ^[1]

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Goshen Journal, Continued

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Unfortunately, the little Goshen Ward could not stop arguing. Chauncey Webb, one of Phineas's best friends from Winter Quarters, and brother of the Elder who had baptized them in Michigan, moved onto the Goshen public grazing land and refused to consider relocating. Phineas did his best to convince his friend to take a farm as the rest of the brethren had, but Chauncey had a plan which did not include a small farm. The soldiers of Johnston's Army had permanently located themselves fifteen miles north of Goshen at Fairfield, near present-day Cedar Fort, and he intended to profit from their need to feed their stock.

Immediately Chauncey began cutting the community hay and selling it to the soldiers. In 1858 field grass was called hay, but we must understand how critical it was to utilize that grass as winter feed for their animals. It meant the difference between life and death for their herds. In the beginning the brethren of the town sided with Phineas in chastising Chauncey and asking him to move off their grazing land. But after unbelievable conflict for many months, Phineas wrote to Presiding Bishop Edward Hunter and in desperation finally excommunicated Chauncey Webb who was publicly denouncing Phineas as Bishop of the Goshen Ward.

Chauncey was a charismatic man, and spent considerable time convincing the other Goshen settlers their bishop was mistreating him and he had a right to their hay. Suddenly the other brethren began to side with the renegade who at that very moment was stealing their winter store of hay. Public opinion turned against Phineas and he began to realize he had lost favor with the Goshen saints. Somehow he couldn't even enlist their support when they stood to lose the most.

It was only the beginning of conflict among the brethren in Goshen. They seemed to be unable to reconcile any issue, no matter how insignificant, and Phineas W. Cook was caught in the middle of it.

Watch the Videos Made for the Cook-O-Rama

Follow this link to find the videos mentioned below. Some are finished, some still need to be made

<http://www.cookfamily.org/histories/PhineasWolcottCookFamily/Chronology>

Finished films

[1737-1837 Goshen, CT](#)

[1837 Conn to Michigan](#)

[1838-1846 Kalamazoo County, Michigan](#)

[1857-60 Goshen, Utah](#)

[1889-1929 Afton, WY](#)

Films of the following times and locations still need to be made. Anyone interested in helping make videos of the following locations should contact Janet Porter at janetprtr@gmail.com

[1846-48 Winter Quarters, Nebraska](#)

[1846 Journey to join the Saints](#)

[1848 Crossing Plains to Utah](#)

[1848 Salt Lake City, Utah](#)

[1850-53 Manti, Utah](#)

[1853-56 Salt Lake City, Utah](#)

[1856-57 Spanish Fork, Utah](#)

[1862-1863 Cedar Valley, Utah](#)

[1863-1883 Bear Lake, Utah](#)

[1883-1889 Logan, Utah](#)

P.W. Cook Family Organization

Order Form

Organizational Dues				Date	
Suggested Annual Donation - \$20 per family - Tax Deductible					
Please select one:		My dues are current <input type="radio"/>	Pay dues now <input type="radio"/>	Do not pay dues <input type="radio"/>	
Item (20% discount on all items if dues are current or accompany this order)	Price	Discount Price	Order	Total	
NEW! Samuel Bryson's Journey book	\$15.00	\$12.00			
The Posterity of Phineas Wolcott Cook CD	\$10.00	\$8.00			
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree Book	\$10.00	\$8.00			
Amanda P. Savage Descending Pedigree CD	\$5.00	\$4.00			
Triumph of Testimony, 462 page history of PWC to Utah	\$37.50	\$30.00			
P.W. Cook Diary					
1 Copy	\$7.00	\$5.60			
2-6 Copies	\$6.00	\$4.80			
7+ Copies	\$5.00	\$4.00			
DVD (42 minutes) on the Life of P.W. Cook	\$12.00	\$9.60			
Cook Ancestral Tour Guides					
Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80			
Goshen & Litchfield Co., Connecticut (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00			
Wallingford, Connecticut (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80			
Wallingford, Connecticut (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00			
Salem, Massachusetts (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80			
Salem, Massachusetts (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00			
State of New York (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80			
State of New York (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00			
State of Utah (1-3 Copies)	\$6.00	\$4.80			
State of Utah (4+ Copies)	\$5.00	\$4.00			
Family Fireside Stories					
Book I (Illustrated Stories of PWC to Marriage)	\$9.00	\$7.20			
Book II (Illustrated Stories: LDS Conversion)	\$9.00	\$7.20			
Book III (Illustrated Stories: Winter Quarters)	\$9.00	\$7.20			
PAF CD with complete Cook and Porter genealogy and documentation	\$6.00	\$4.80			
Goshen Documents	\$6.00	\$4.80			
Total Purchases:					
Donations for Family Research (Tax Deductable)		Amount	Personal Information		
Phineas Wolcott Cook Family Line			Name		
Ann Eliza Howland Family Line			Street Address		
Amanda Polly Savage Family Line					
Catherine McCleve Family Line			City	State	Zip
Johanna Christine Poulson Family Line					
Other: Web Site, equipment, etc.			Phone	Email	
Total Donations:					
Totals		Mailing Information:			
Organizational Dues		Mail this form with check to:			
Purchases		PWC			
Donations		130 Twin Peaks Drive			
GRAND TOTAL:		Layton, Utah 84040			
Please note: All prices include postage. Make checks payable to "Cook Family Organization" and allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. For questions, contact Glen McMillan at (801) 529-3772 or glenandjanine@gmail.com .					
Committees					
I would be willing to work on one of the following committees:					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family History Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Research Committee		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Record Verification Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family Web-Master for website		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Typing Histories - Word Processing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Illustrator		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter/Mailing Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance Committee		