

## History of William Rowe

Birth: Feb. 20, 1826

Indiana, USA

Death: Jul. 24, 1906

Thayne, Lincoln County, Wyoming, USA

Son of David Rowe & Hannah Manning

Married Elizabeth Murdock, 9 Mar 1853, Salt Lake City, Utah

William Rowe was born 20 February 1826 in Indiana and baptized into the LDS Church on 3 July 1844.

His parents died in Salt Lake in 1852 and 1855 with their four adult children living and dying in Utah or Wyoming.

The family was at the Council Bluffs, Iowa area when the call for volunteers was made in the Mormon camps. Among those responding was twenty-year-old William Rowe, who enlisted as a Pvt. in Co. D of the Mormon Battalion on 16 July 1846.

He marched with the battalion to Ft. Leavenworth and then on to Santa Fe where he was separated on 15 October 1846 to go with Capt. James Brown's sick detachment to Pueblo where the earlier family detachment has been sent to spend the winter.

The sick detachment (91 soldiers, one doctor, 19 women and 10 children) left Santa Fe on October 18th and followed the mountain branch of the Santa Fe Trail to Bent's Fort where army rations were obtained. They turned west and followed the Arkansas River and arrived at Pueblo on 17 November 1846.

They constructed houses and a meeting house and spent the winter and early spring there. Army leaders in Santa Fe ordered the sick detachment to go to California and they started on 25 May 1847 after receiving their pay and two and a half months of army provisions.

They moved north to the Ft. Laramie on the North Platte River, and they followed the tracks of the Mormon pioneers westward with some of the advanced guard contacting the Pioneer Company. En route on 16 July 1847 the anniversary of their enlistment, they fired a small arms salute to mark the occasion.

Most of the sick detachment reached Salt Lake on 29 July 1847. They were released from their military service by Brigham Young, and Capt. Brown and an escort traveled to California to get their back pay and discharges.

Young Rowe married in 1853 and settled in Parowan in southern Utah at least through 1861 and then relocated to West Weber through at least 1868. He then relocated to Cache Valley and settled in Mendon where children were born to the family in 1872 and 1877.

The 1880 census had him as a farmer in Mendon, and in 1881 Tyler's book on the Mormon Battalion published in 1881 had him at Mendon, and the pension application of Gordon Beckstead had Rowe still living in Mendon in 1887.

Sometime thereafter he relocated to the Star Valley in Wyoming where his wife died in 1902, and on 24 July 1906 Rowe died at Thayne, Wyoming and was buried in the local cemetery.