

Cedar City Stake Timeline

Church Leadership:

Stake Presidents

- Isaac C. Haight (counsellors: John M. Higbee, Jonathan Pugmire; clerk: George K. Bowering)

Officers of the Iron Works Company:

- Erastus Snow - President
- Franklin O. Richards - Secretary
- Thomas Tennant -Treasurer
- Isaac C. Haight - Manager
- James Lewis - Clerking in the Store

1851

11 November -- Settlement created.

1852

12 May -- City City Ward established.

1854

- ~~“In the spring of 1854 Cedar City was organized into a stake of the LDS church.”~~
- ~~Stake boundaries included all settlements south of and including Johnson’s Springs (Enoch). Included in the stake were Johnson’s Springs, Cedar City, Shirts Creek, Kanarraville, Harmony, Santa Clara, Washington, Pinto and Pine Valley, and all of the settlements on the Virgin River.~~
- ~~Isaac C. Haight was appointed and sustained as president of the Stake. Jonathon Pugmire became his first counselor and John M. Higbee his second.~~
- ~~Philip K. Smith was made the first bishop of Cedar City at that time, with Jas. Whittaker and Benjamin Hulse as counselors.¹~~

1855

20 May -- Pres. B. Young and Council being at Cedar City. “Isaac Haight was chosen President of that stake of Zion which embraced Cedar City, Harmony, and Johnson’s Fort 6 miles north of

¹ Luella Adams Dalton, History of the Iron County Mission and Parowan, (City and Publisher not available, 1962), p. 121

Cedar City, & chose his own counselors.” High council called. Wm Reese Davis ordained bishop at **Fort Harmony**.²

Minutes:³ mp:700319 “I.C. Haight for President.” Call high council, including 7 from Cedar, and 4 from Harmony “as Cedar will include Fort Johnson and South.” Wm Reese Davis ordained bishop of Harmony, IC Haight as president of “Cedar Stake of Zion.”

1856

Stake Conference held before General Conference. President Haight stated that this meeting was being held to allow an opportunity for those brethren who would not be attending General Conference the chance to manifest their faith by voting to uphold the Authorities of the Church and sustain, Brigham Young.

George A. Smith was sustained as Historian of the Church.

Vote to sustain Isaac C. Haight as President of Cedar Stake and Jonathan Pugmire as his first, and John M Higbee as his second counselor.

Vote to sustain Phillip K Smith as Bishop of Cedar with his counselors James Whittaker and Samuel McMurdie.

Vote to sustain William R. Davies as Bishop of Fort Harmony and his counselors Barney and John R Davies.

20 November -- The Female Benevolent Society of Cedar City was organised by President Isaac C. Haight. “Most of the ladies of Cedar assembled in the Tabernacle with Pres. Haight, his first counsellor, John M. Higbee...”⁴

It was voted that Mrs. Lydia Hopkins would act as President of the Female Benevolent Society. She then chose Mrs. Anabella Haight for her first counselor, and Mrs. Rachel Whittaker for her second counselor. It was then voted that Ellen Lunt act as Secretary for the Society and Alice Randle act as Treasurer. Presidents Isaac C. Haight and John M. Higbee then blessed Sister Hopkins as President of the Society and as a midwife to the sisters, with power to wash and anoint the sick, and of laying on of hands. They blessed Anabella Haight as her second counselor, to wash, anoint, and lay hands on the sick. And also blessed Francess Willis, as a midwife, to have power to wash, anoint, and lay on hands, for the recovery of the sick.

² Wilford Woodruff, Synopsis of journey of President Young and company while on their visit south, *Brigham Young office files*: Journals, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 73 folder 9 p.5, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=ea6dab4a-600f-4001-b105-050632a26592&crate=0&index=5>

³ *General Church Minutes*, CR 100 318 box 3 folder 4 image 91-96, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=dd038821-c013-4b0a-81cf-5ebc600c300f&crate=0&index=90>; *Cedar Ward general minutes*, V.1, Church History Library LR 1514 11

⁴ Relief Society (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints), Cedar City Stake, 1856, *Cedar City Stake Relief Society Notes*, 19th Century, MSS SC 1543, L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, 1.

1857

Sept 7 1857: Mountain Meadows Massacre. In addition to John D. Lee, many leaders of Cedar, including Pres. Haight, likely had some involvement.

Interesting news clippings from the Deseret News surrounding the events of the Mountain Meadow Massacre.

- Deseret News July 30, 1875 “Depositions of Presidents Brigham Young and Geo. A. Smith concerning the Mountain Meadow Massacre.”
- Deseret News March 28, 1877 “Lee’s Statement”

Johnson’s Fort: JH Johnson leaves on a mission, PE William Dalley

1858

Apr 10: Toquerville settled, sent by Cedar Pres. Isaac Haight

Around this time, **Harmony Ward** has authority over the new branches in Pinto, Pine Valley, Washington, and Toquerville. Bishop Wm. Rees Davies.⁵

Isaac C. Haight is present at several events in Washington County, suggesting that Cedar Stake has jurisdiction there, even when Washington and Santa Clara become wards.

1859

April: Virgen City settled, Pres. Isaac C. Haight appoints Nephi Johnson PE, attached to Harmony Ward

July 29: Cedar Stake disorganized by George A. Smith, Henry Lunt ordained Bishop of Cedar Ward⁶ A letter from Smith (CR 100 397) mentions visiting Cedar City, but doesn’t say what he did there.

Johnson’s Fort mostly abandoned

⁵ James Bleak, *Annals of the Southern Utah Mission*, V.1 p.61, Church History Library MS 318, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=3faee6c9-545e-42fd-9c67-41745a5e3622&crate=0&index=63>

⁶ *Historian’s Office history of the Church*, Church History Library CR 100 102, box 12 V.29 (1859) p.618, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=a56f3efa-3e22-4d0f-94bd-06623694e03c&crate=0&index=643>