

Mormon Pioneers

and Mormon Battalion member

Andrew Jackson Shupe (1815 – 1877)
and
Mary Elizabeth Creager (1820 – 1900)

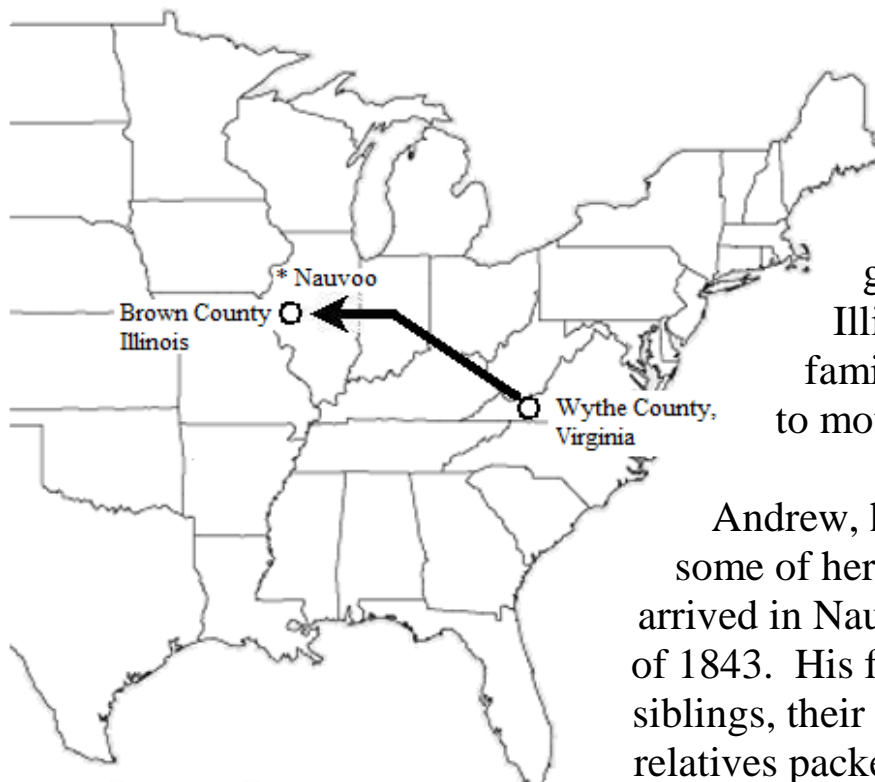


Family History Coloring Book

Andrew Jackson Shupe's **mother**, Sarah Wright Shupe, was the first of the family to join the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1839, when Mormon missionaries came through their part of Virginia. They lived in Wythe County.



Her joy in the gospel influenced the rest of her family. Her husband, Peter Shupe, joined the Church in 1841 as did others, including her son Andrew Jackson Shupe and his wife Mary Elizabeth Creager (Betsey). At the time Andrew Jackson and Mary Elizabeth had two young children, Dorthula and John.



The family learned about a letter from the Prophet, Joseph Smith, calling all Latter-day Saints to gather to Nauvoo, Illinois. The Shupe family made preparations to move.

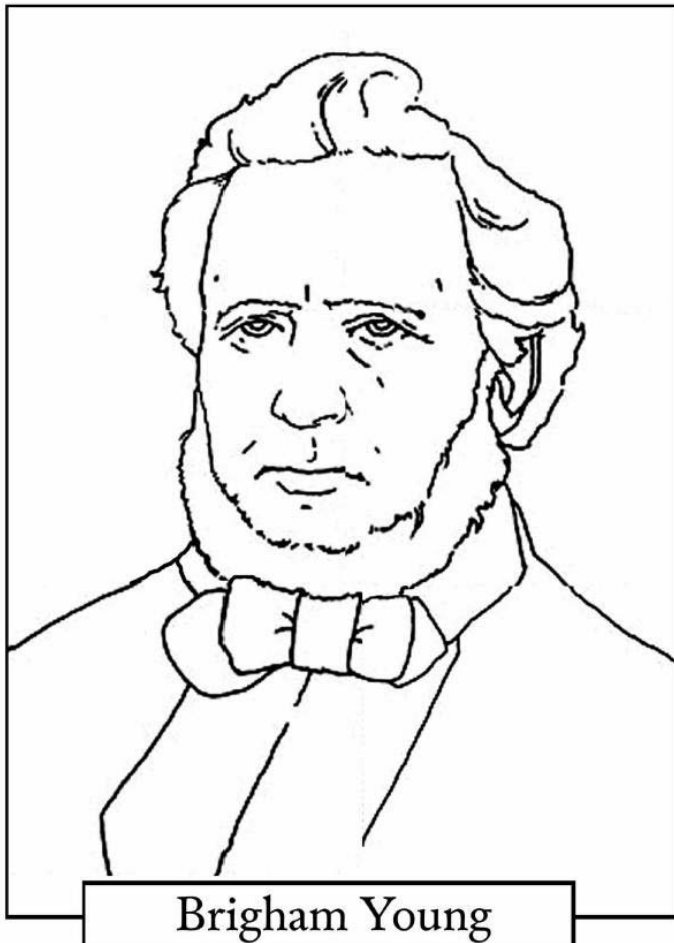
Andrew, his wife Betsey, and some of her Creager family arrived in Nauvoo in late summer of 1843. His father, mother, siblings, their spouses, and other relatives packed up and moved to Illinois also. They stopped along the way in Kentucky and Indiana to work and earn money to buy needed supplies. After checking in at Nauvoo, they settled in Brown County, Illinois about 50 miles from Nauvoo. There were lots of other Mormons moving into Illinois also.

Only a few months after the Shupe family found a place to live in the Nauvoo area, tragedy struck the Church.

Joseph Smith, the Prophet, was killed by a mob in Carthage on June 27, 1844.



Persecution of the Mormons got worse after Joseph Smith was killed, especially for those living in the outlying areas. In the fall of 1845, the Shupes moved into Nauvoo to escape threats of mob violence.



Brigham Young began to lead the Church after Joseph Smith was killed. He was head of the Church's Twelve Apostles.

Persecution of Mormons continued. The Illinois State Government would not protect the Mormons. Brigham Young and other leaders decided to finish the Nauvoo Temple and then move west into the Rocky Mountains to escape the enemies of the Church.

← <http://ayearoffhe.blogspot.com/2011/07/2011-wk-29-brigham-young.html>



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Andrew Jackson and Mary Elizabeth now had 4 children. Rosanna Minerva was born before they moved from Wythe County, Virginia. Brigham Hendrick was born in Brown County before they moved into Nauvoo.

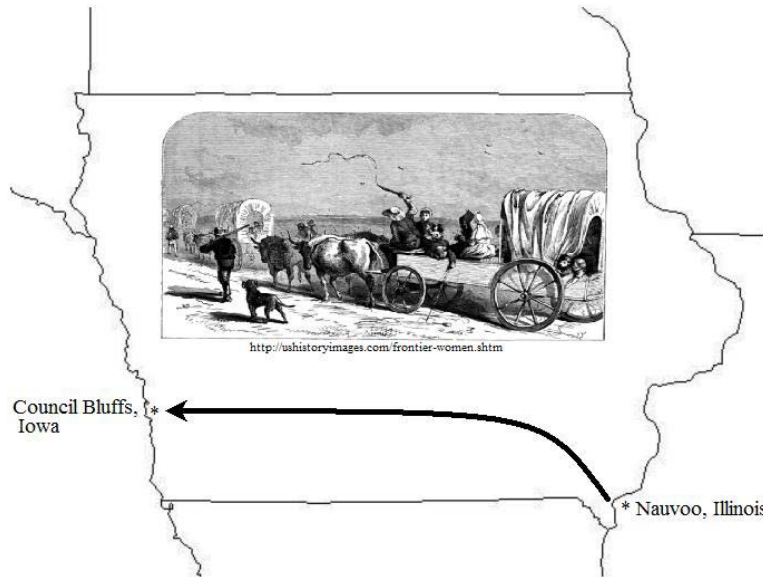
While the temple was under construction, Nauvoo was a busy place. Church members wanted to receive temple blessings before they had to evacuate the city.

Many wagons were needed to move everyone in Nauvoo to the Rocky Mountains. Almost everyone helped build wagons.

Andrew Jackson Shupe worked in his father's blacksmith shop in Nauvoo. They built lots of parts for covered wagons.



Today, in Historic Nauvoo, the reconstructed Webb Brothers' Blacksmith Shop gives demonstrations of how blacksmiths helped make wagons. The blacksmith tools in that shop are the actual blacksmith tools used by Andrew Jackson Shupe and his family in their Nauvoo blacksmith shop in 1845. He transported them to Utah and used them in his Ogden blacksmith shop. Descendants donated them to the Nauvoo Restoration project.



The Shupes crossed the Mississippi River and headed 300 miles west across Iowa, together with thousands of other Mormons in the spring of 1846.

on the banks of the Missouri River, Captain James Allen of the United States Army began recruiting a battalion of infantry soldiers to help fight the war with Mexico.

Shortly after the Shupes arrived at Council Bluffs,

Andrew Jackson Shupe and his younger brother, James Wright Shupe joined the Mormon Battalion. John's newly wed wife, Sarah Coats Prunty, was allowed to go with the battalion as a laundress. John and Sarah drove the commissary wagon.



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But Andrew had to leave his wife Betsey and their four children behind. They didn't even have a cabin to live in. They had to use their covered-wagon box for shelter from the weather.

Fortunately, Andrew's father and mother stayed near them to give help.

The Mormon Battalion walked 200 miles from Council Bluffs, to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas where they received tents, training, and U.S. Army flint-lock muskets.



Instead of uniforms, they received clothing allowance money, which they sent back to the Church in Council Bluffs.

Then they marched hard and fast for 750 miles to **Santa Fe**. The weak and sick began to straggle behind. The soldiers were exhausted. At Santa Fe, they got a new commander, Colonel P. St. George Cooke. He knew the next part of the march to California would be very difficult. He had the health of every man evaluated. Those who were too sick to go on to California, and the women and children were detached from the battalion and sent to Pueblo for the winter, under the command of Captain James Brown.



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Andrew Jackson Shupe was assigned to be one of the escorts of the “sick detachment.” His brother James was also assigned to the detachment, perhaps because James’s wife, Mary, was about 4 months pregnant. So, the Shupes left the main body of the Mormon Battalion and went north to Pueblo with the battalion’s “sick detachment.”

There were other Mormons at Pueblo. A group of Latter-day Saints from Mississippi made it to Pueblo on their way to join Brigham Young for the trek west. The Battalion's "sick detachment"

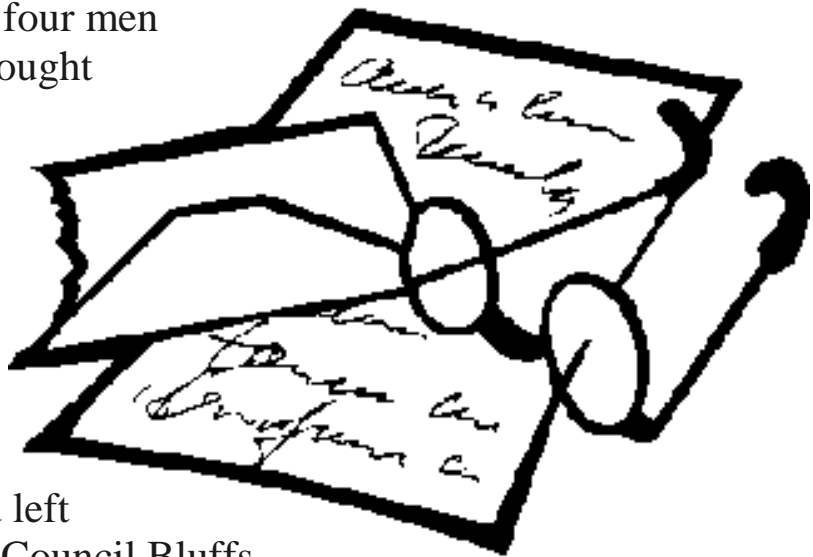
arrived in Pueblo on November 17, 1846 and immediately began building log cabins to stay the winter.



Andrew recorded in his diary, "We went to cutting timber to build houses to live in."

After overwintering in Pueblo, the Mormons were anxious to join the trek west with Brigham Young. After getting permission, they left Pueblo on May 24th and began traveling north toward the Platt River.

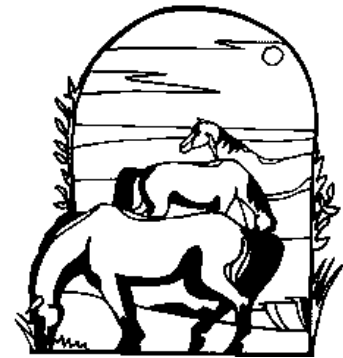
Along the way, they met four men from the Church, who brought them news and some mail. Andrew got a sad letter from his wife, Betsey. She said **Andrew's father and mother had died!** Now he began to worry more about his wife and children, who he had left in destitute conditions at Council Bluffs.





The Mormons from Pueblo continued traveling north. On June 16th, Andrew was assigned to go with 30 soldiers to recover stolen horses. When they got to Fort Laramie, they were able to get back part of the horses, but two of the animals had been traded to immigrants and were on the way west toward California.

They also learned that Brigham Young and the pioneers were west of them, heading for the Salt Lake Valley. So 13 of the soldiers, including Andrew, were assigned to quickly travel west to find the missing horses and Brigham Young.



On July 4th, 1847 they caught up with Brigham Young at the Green River Crossing, where the pioneers had built a ferry to get across the



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deep river. Brigham Young himself escorted the soldiers into the pioneer's camp. The soldiers lined up in a formation while President Young gave a formal greeting. Then the soldiers were enthusiastically cheered by the pioneers.

Andrew Jackson Shupe and 5 other soldiers remained with the pioneers and traveled with them into the Salt Lake Valley. He took over driving George A. Smith's wagon for the rest of the way, because the regular driver became sick. Andrew was one of a group that rode horseback down into the Valley on July 22nd for a quick look around. The next day, July 23rd, he drove the wagon into the valley. Brigham Young was sick, but arrived July 24th.



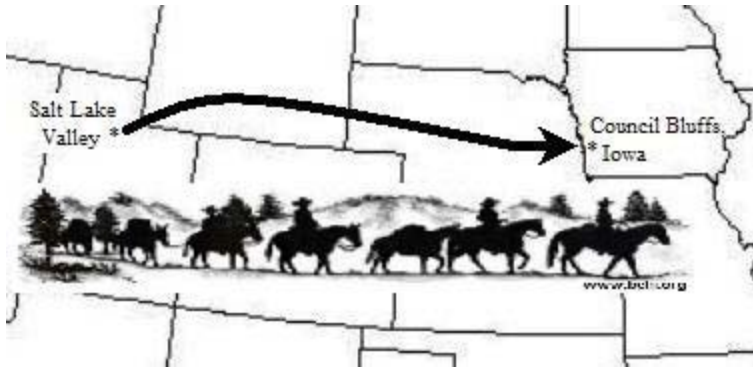
Andrew went to work immediately preparing for the settlement of the Salt Lake Valley by the oncoming Latter-day Saints. He helped plow the valley soil and plant potatoes. They diverted City Creek water onto the dry land to irrigate the crops.



Andrew's brother, James and family, arrived just 5 days later with Captain Brown and the rest of the Mormons from Pueblo.

Brigham Young asked the soldiers to build a 28' x 40' bowery on the Temple block, in which to hold meetings. On Sunday, August 1st, they heard Heber C. Kimball preach the first sermon in the bowery.

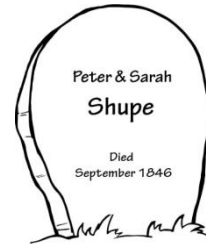
About 400 Latter-day saints were now in the valley and all busily engaged in "organized industry" to build a new settlement. Andrew knew it was time to go get his own family. So, on August 16th, with the counsel and blessing of Church leaders, Andrew and a group of others left the Valley for Winter Quarters (Council Bluffs, Iowa).



It was about 1,000 miles from the Valley to Council Bluffs. They had to hunt wild game along the way to survive.

Andrew's wife, Betsey, had spent the winter in a covered wagon with her four little children. They had to gather roots and bulbs to eat. Betsey put herself to work spinning, knitting, making leggings from deer hides, and making family clothing.

She got help from Andrew's parents at first, but a serious illness afflicted people in their area. Chills and fevers (malaria) made people very sick. Those difficult months were made more tragic when her in-laws, Peter and Sarah Shupe, died from the illness within hours of each other. Peter and Sarah were buried in the same grave. Jonathan Browning and Orson Hyde were particularly good friends to Betsey and her children during their tough times.

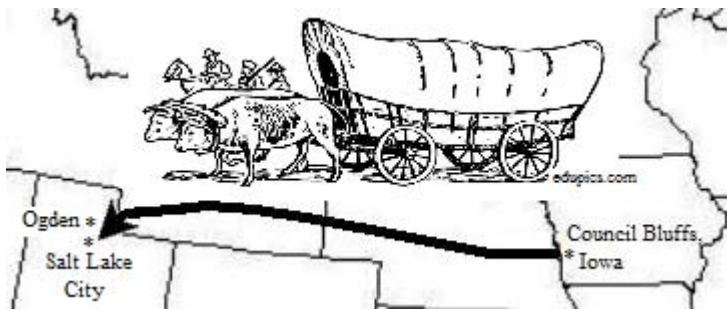


Andrew probably arrived in Council Bluffs in early October, 1847. He said, "...in the evening, after sunset, I came to the place where my family lived. I found them all well. I rejoiced to find my family all alive..." His youngest



was 2 ½ years old by then. Betsey's strength and courage preserved her little family.

Men with certain skills were asked to stay in Council Bluffs to help others prepare for the move to the Salt Lake Valley. Andrew's blacksmithing talent kept him employed and busily engaged in helping the Church move forward to Zion.

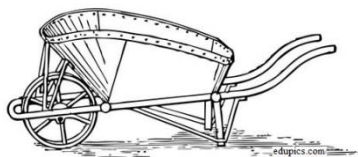


Their turn to move to Utah came in 1852. Betsey had delivered two more babies by then; Mary Elizabeth, followed by Louisa Maria. This strong woman was pregnant during their trek

across the plains to Salt Lake City. There they picked up Andrew's brother, James and his family. Together the Shupes moved north about 45 miles, to Ogden, where Andrew setup a blacksmith shop.

During the Utah War, the Shupes temporarily vacated to Provo with other Mormons to escape the U.S. Army.

When the railroad was built through Utah, Andrew made



many wheelbarrows, which were used by the construction workers.



On June 10, 1856 (which was soon after the Endowment House was built and dedicated) Andrew and Betsey traveled to Salt Lake City to be endowed and sealed to each other for time and eternity. They had 13 children in all. Two died before adulthood.

Andrew was active in his community. He served on the city council. He also served on his stake high council for the Church. He was recognized for his service in the Mormon Battalion. He even wore the battalion uniform on special occasions.



Andrew died in 1877, but Betsey lived another 23 years in Ogden. Two months after the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple,

Mary Elizabeth Creager Shupe and her living children gathered around the holy altar in the Temple to be sealed together as a family for eternity.

She died March 20, 1900. Her obituary declared that she “had simply lived out a long and well spent life.”

The content of this coloring book was corroborated with Holly T. Hansen’s 1995 self-published book entitled *Andrew Jackson Shupe 1815 – 1877 and Mary Elizabeth Creager 1820 – 1900*, 91 p., Shupe Family Organization, Croydon, Utah. (Available online at familysearch.org)

See Andrew Jackson Shupe’s diary and more information about his life at: <http://southwickresearch.com/Genealogy/AncestorsOnly/SouthwickHist/AndrewJacksonShupe.htm>

See more family history coloring books at: <http://southwickresearch.com/Genealogy/ColoringBooks.htm>

Unless otherwise indicated, the graphics in this coloring book are in the public domain or were acquired from Graphics Factory at www.graphicsfactory.com

Put a check mark next to your ancestors:

- Andrew Jackson Shupe (9 November 1815 - 8 March 1877)
- Mary Elizabeth Creager Shupe (2 January 1820 – 20 March 1900)

Their 13 children:

- Dorthula Catherine Shupe (27 December 1838 - 3 March 1911)
Married Captain John Brown 1856, James Oatha Stephens
- John Wetstein Shupe (9 September 1840 - 18 January 1910)
Married Emma Burch 1869
- Rosanna Minerva Shupe (5 August 1842 - 23 January 1855)
Died at age 12 years
- Brigham Hendrick Shupe (18 April 1845 - 6 June 1879)
Married Elizabeth Wagstaff 1871
- Mary Elizabeth Shupe (11 August 1848 - 19 March 1910)
Married Samuel Hensley Higginbotham 1867
- Louisa Maria Shupe (21 August 1850 - 25 September 1908)
Married Joseph Southwick, Jr. 1876
- Andrew Jackson Shupe Jr. (24 February 1853 - 13 July 1915)
Married Harriet Chalista Andrews 1875
- Peter Riley Shupe (25 March 1855 - 5 October 1914)
Married Sarah Jane Cordon 1880
- James Michael Shupe (5 July 1857 - 30 September 1914)
Married Mary Ann Marriott 1879, Louisa Hannah Dix 1884
- Sarah Jane Shupe (26 December 1859 - 28 March 1914)
Married George Grove Taylor 1876
- Isaac Shupe (17 August 1863 - 24 June 1920)
Married Matilda Elizabeth Deem 1883
- David Kendrick Shupe (4 December 1864 - 25 October 1865)
Died at age 10 months
- Emma Elizabeth Shupe (12 May 1870 - 20 February 1914)
Married Joseph Derry Harris 1886