

*Lot Smith: Mormon Pioneer and American Frontiersman*, by Carmen R. Smith and Talana S. Hooper (Salt Lake City: Greg Kofford Books, 2018)

This extensive biography of prominent pioneer and Latter-day Saint Lot Smith was written by mother-daughter team Carmen R. Smith and Talana S. Hooper. Both have had previous interest and experience in writing history: Carmen Smith was awarded the *Utah Historical Quarterly* Editor's Choice for her 1978 report on the rediscovery of the Mormon Battalion's Lost Well, and Talana Hooper has published several family histories and compiled and edited a history of the people of Central, Arizona.

Their involvement in this biography began with Jim Smith, Lot Smith's fifty-second son, who was born six months after his father's death and naturally had a deep interest in his father's life. This interest carried on to Jim's son Omer Smith, who continued the research and shared it with his wife and daughter, Carmen Smith and Talana Hooper. After Omer's death, Carmen and Talana carried on his work and compiled it into this biography. The personal, multi-generational investment of the authors and their years of sacrifice to pursue this research enrich the biography and the readers' experience with it.

The contents of the biography cover Lot Smith's time as a member of the Mormon Battalion; a minuteman in the Utah War; the color bearer general for the Nauvoo Legion; captain of the Life Guards who helped rescue the Willie and Martin handcart companies; a Civil War captain; a missionary to the British Isles; the first sheriff in Davis County, Utah; one of the first settlers of Arizona; and the most feared gunman in Arizona.

Though Carmen Smith and Talana Hooper have personal connections to Lot Smith, they do not shy away from

controversial topics such as polygamy, violence, and early settlers' relationships with Native Americans. All of these topics together make for an interesting and informative read. This book will appeal to readers interested in Church history, the Civil War, the history and settlement of Utah and Arizona, polygamist life in the nineteenth century, Native American history, and life on the frontier.

—Hannah Charlesworth

*The Earth Will Appear as the Garden of Eden*, edited by Jedediah S. Rogers and Matthew C. Godfrey (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2019)

*The Earth Will Appear as the Garden of Eden* is a collection of essays designed to introduce, review, illustrate, and promote research and scholarship on the environmental history of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The book well accomplishes these purposes in an honest and engaging fashion. While essays in edited volumes such as this are often uneven in terms of the quality and the contribution they offer, each piece in this work is remarkably well written and significant. As the book's introduction explains, Latter-day Saint environmental history is a relatively new discipline, ripe with opportunities and avenues for engagement. The introduction and Jedediah S. Rogers's opening essay constitute a wonderful primer for anyone embarking on Latter-day Saint environmental history research—I found myself wishing I had had these articles when I first began to dabble in the discipline.

The remainder of the volume is divided into three parts. Part 1 contains two essays, one by Sara Dant and the other by Thomas Alexander, a pioneer in this genre of history. These essays chronicle the history of environmental