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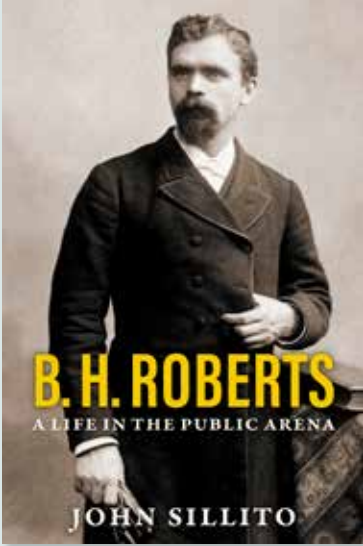
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B. H. Roberts

A Life in the Public Arena

John Sillito



SUMMER 2021

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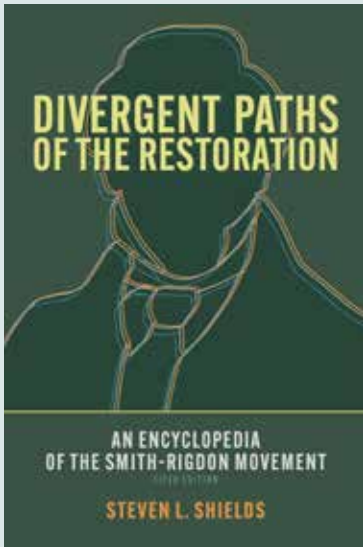
Without question, Mormonism's most influential scholar during the first half of the twentieth century was B. H. Roberts (1857–1933), historian, theologian, public intellectual, and member of the First Council of Seventy of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Outside of his official church duties and his passion for research and writing, Roberts was an active figure in partisan politics, having run for Congress twice, elected once, but due to opposition from both political parties over polygamy, was never seated. This biography by prize-winning historian John Sillito, the fullest and most scholarly assessment to date of the controversial church leader, examines Roberts's entire life, with particular attention to the public figure who remains influential, even today. Born in England to LDS convert parents, Roberts served as a missionary and several years after his call as a general authority, at age sixty, began serving as a chaplain during World War I. From 1922–27 he presided over the church's Eastern States Mission. Although a hero to many even today for his scholarly output—a feat still rare among those called to church leadership—modern assessments recognize antiquated views on race and women's suffrage. Yet Roberts remains a deeply compelling figure worthy of study.

John Sillito is professor emeritus for libraries at Weber State University (Ogden, UT). He earned a BA in history and an MA in political science from the University of Utah. He is editor of *History's Apprentice: The Diaries of B. H. Roberts* and co-editor of *A World We Thought We Knew: Readings in Utah History*, *Letters from Exile: The Correspondence of Martha Hughes Cannon*, and *Mormon Mavericks: Essays on Dissenters*.

Divergent Paths of the Restoration

An Encyclopedia of the Smith–Rigdon Movement (Fifth Edition)—Ebook

Steven L. Shields



When Joseph Smith founded the Church of Christ in 1830, he declared it to be God’s restoration of true Christianity, the Kingdom of God on earth. Although he foresaw opposition to such bold claims, he could not fathom that time and unforeseen circumstances would help to spawn hundreds of off-shoots and competing denominations—all claiming their origins in a movement born and sustained originally by Smith and Sidney Rigdon. Many of these groups have endured and boast multiple congregations of believers in many countries; others came and went quickly and have long since been forgotten. Some have survived but have only appealed to a handful of believers. Steven L Shields has for decades chronicled the various origins and paths of all known Restoration movements. This fifth edition of his encyclopedic study, offered as an ebook, includes recent groups born as internet communities. That so many groups and individuals have been unsatisfied with the more mainstream Mormon churches, yet cling to tenets of the Smith–Rigdon movement, speaks to the strengths of the restoration concept and the naïve view that one denomination can successfully meet all the needs of believers.

Steven L. Shields is a member of Community of Christ, has worked full time for the church in Asia, and was a missionary, pastor, and founding president of the church’s East Asia Mission Center. Now retired, he is currently president of the Royal Asiatic Society’s Korea branch.

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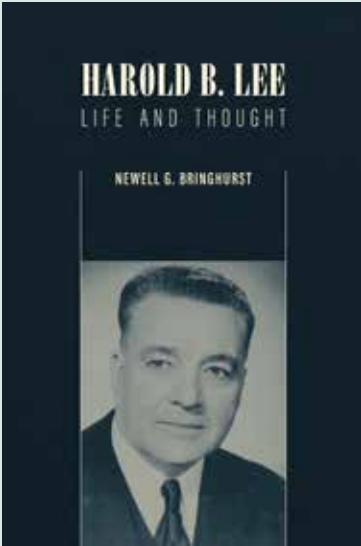
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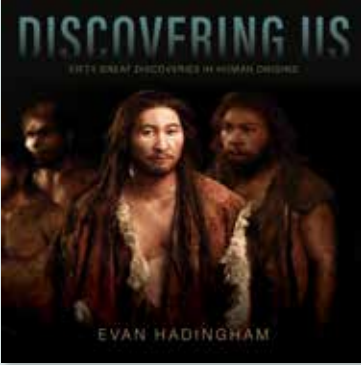
The Mormon Hierarchy:
Extensions of Power

While Harold B. Lee served as president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for a mere one and half-years—among the shortest tenure of any church leader—his impact on the modern LDS Church remains among the most profound. Lee implemented the Church Welfare Program, which provided relief to suffering church members during the 1930s Great Depression and continues to impact the lives of church members today. As a high-ranking general authority from 1941 to 1973, he championed other innovations, the most important being Correlation. Lee acted in response to the church's record growth and increased diversity to consolidate and streamline churchwide instruction and administration. As a teacher/mentor, he promoted conservative church doctrine and practice, which influenced a generation of church leaders, including future presidents Spencer W. Kimball, Ezra Taft Benson, Howard W. Hunter, Gordon B. Hinckley, and Thomas S. Monson. Noted historian Newell G. Bringhurst succinctly narrates the major, defining events in Lee's remarkable life, while highlighting Lee's important, lasting contributions. This is the first volume in Signature's new Brief Mormon Lives series.

Newell G. Bringhurst is professor emeritus of history and political science at College of the Sequoias in Visalia, California. He has served as president of both the Mormon History Association and the John Whitmer Historical Association. He is the author/editor of thirteen books, including *Saints, Slaves, and Blacks: The Changing Place of Black People within Mormonism*; *Brigham Young and the Expanding American Frontier*; and *Fawn McKay Brodie: A Biographer's Life*. He and his wife, Mary Ann, are the parents of one daughter, Laura (son-in-law, David), and grandparents to two grandsons. He is the 2021 recipient of the Leonard J. Arrington Award for lifetime achievement from the Mormon History Association.

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Over the past fifty-plus years, researchers have made extraordinary discoveries that help us understand who we are, where we came from, and what makes us human. *Discovering Us* brings our shared history to life and tells the stories behind fifty of the most important human origins discoveries ever made. Illustrated with stunning full-color photographs, this book celebrates science, exploration, and the search for what it means to be human.

The Leakey Foundation is a non-profit organization formed in 1968 to fund human origins research and to share discoveries. Since then, the foundation has awarded more than 2,500 grants for research in 110 countries. *Discovering Us* highlights the thrilling fossil finds, groundbreaking primate behavior observations, and important scientific work of The Leakey Foundation researchers.

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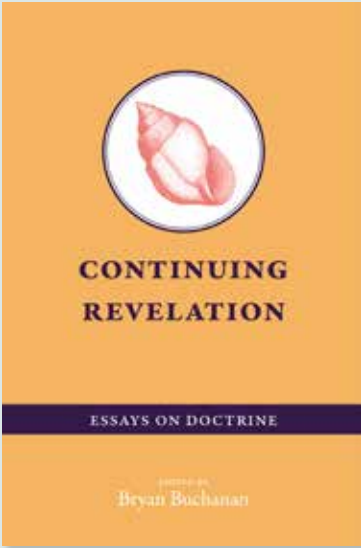
Mary swept the rest of the soil away to reveal an almost complete, thick, robust skull. Louis's first reaction was disappointment. At first look, the enormous teeth actually resembled those of australopithecines, the extinct creatures that had been found in South African caves; although they were upright walkers, he regarded them as too primitive and ape-like to be part of the human family tree. A few hours later, continuing to study the huge skull back in camp, Louis spotted a few human-like details. He was seized with excitement.

Evan Hadingham is the senior science editor for the PBS NOVA series produced at WGBH, Boston. He has an MA in prehistory and archaeology from the University of Sheffield. His books on archaeology include *Circles and Standing Stones*, *Secrets of the Ice Age*, *Early Man and the Cosmos*, and *Lines to the Mountain Gods*. His feature articles have appeared in *National Geographic*, *Smithsonian*, *The Atlantic*, *Discover*, and elsewhere. At NOVA, he is responsible for the editorial accuracy of the science content in the award-winning series.

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Determining what is and what is not Mormon doctrine is a difficult endeavor. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints embraces four books of scripture as its canon, but also believes the church is led by a living prophet. Additions to the canon have been rare since the death of church founder Joseph Smith. Joseph Fielding Smith, tenth church president, said that if the prophet ever contradicts canon, canon prevails. On the other hand, Ezra Taft Benson, the church's thirteenth president, said that the living prophet's words are more important than canon. Such messages create no shortage of confusion among church members.

The question "What is doctrine?" opens the door for theologians and historians to wrestle over the answer, and to do so thoughtfully and insightfully. In *Continuing Revelation*, editor Bryan Buchanan has compiled essays that seek greater understanding about what doctrine is and why it matters. Contributors include:

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Bryan Buchanan works at Benchmark Books in Salt Lake City. After graduating from the University of Utah with a degree in Middle East Studies (emphasis in Hebrew), he has been consumed by Mormon history. Among other projects, he is currently editing the diaries of LDS Church president George Albert Smith and compiling a documentary history of the first fifty years of fundamentalist Mormonism.

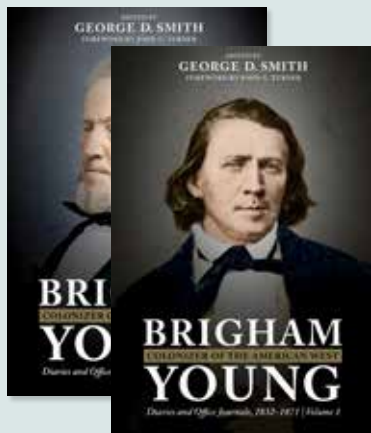
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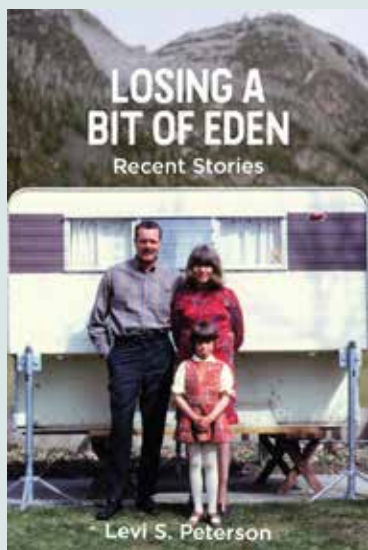
“There are thousands of memorable details in this magnificent compilation. Reading this definitive, marvelously annotated edition of Brigham Young’s diaries is like standing astride the river of Time, watching History flow by.”—Alex Beam

George D. Smith is the author/editor of several historical books, including *An Intimate Chronicle: The Journals of William Clayton* and *Nauvoo Polygamy: "... But We Called It Celestial Marriage,"* recipient of the John Whitmer Historical Association’s Best Book Award. He holds an honorary doctorate of humanities from the University of Utah, as well as lifetime achievement citations from the Mormon History Association and the John Whitmer Historical Association.

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In these ten stories (three of which appear here for the first time), Levi S. Peterson demonstrates his continuing engagement to take seriously the duty of the fiction writer to illuminate and entertain. His subject remains Latter-day Saints caught between the polarities of conscience and passion. Among the stories are sober tellings of rape and misogyny, defiant statements of ascendant feminism and the worship of Heavenly Mother, and—most abundantly—narratives about impermissible love that sometimes lead to heartbreak and other times forges unexpected couplings destined to last a lifetime. Once again Peterson shows himself as a peerless master of the English language, the tools of his craft, and the artistry of creative fiction.

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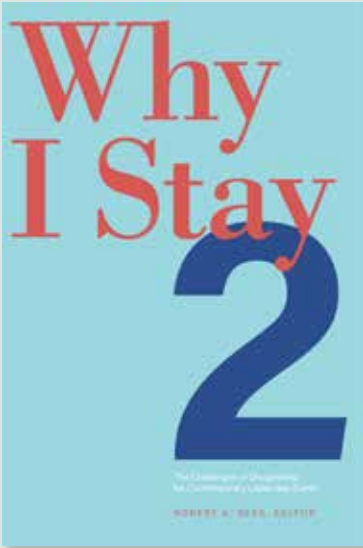
He said, “You better get back under the covers.” He switched off the room light. Ellen got into the bed and pulled the covers to her chin. She was reluctant to close her eyes. She wasn’t afraid of Giles, just embarrassed, as if going to sleep would exacerbate the adulterous suggestiveness of their situation. She stared at the ceiling for a long time. Gradually, she became warm and, despite her resistance, she began to feel sleepy. Then her peripheral vision caught a motion. She looked and, by the dim light coming from the crack in the bathroom door, she saw Giles rub his palms, then blow on them, and finally shove them into the pockets of his suit coat.

Levi S. Peterson is a retired professor of English presently living in Washington state. He is the prize-winning author of two earlier collections of stories, *The Canyons of Grace and Night Soil*; two novels, *The Backslider* and *Aspen Maroonery*; a biography, *Juanita Brooks: The Life Story of a Courageous Historian of the Mountain Meadows Massacre*; and an autobiography, *A Rascal by Nature, A Christian by Yearning*. He is often considered to be the doyen of Mormon literature.

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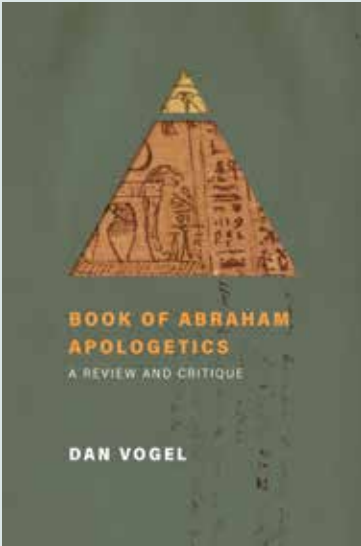
One's religious affiliation may be determined, at least initially by family and culture, but the ultimate choice to stay is, in the end, personal. This second volume of *Why I Stay* touches on the weighty decisions and complex issues people ponder in a faith journey and which fork in the road to take once they face them.

Twenty-one women and men discuss what it is about Mormonism that keeps them part of the fold. Their deep, unique experiences make their individual travels even more compelling. The contributors for volume two of *Why I Stay* are: Philip L. Barlow, Curt Bench, H. Parker Blount, Kathleen Cattani, R. A. Christmas, Alan D. Eastman, Jennifer Finlayson-Fife, Russell M. Frandsen, Jody England Hansen, Susan Hinckley, Charles Shirō Inouye, Mitch Mayne, Gloria Pak, Carol Lynn Pearson, Robert A. Rees, Ronda Roberts-Callister, Eric Samuelsen, Camilla Miner Smith, Kimberly Applewhite Teitter, Emma Lou Thyne, and Dan Wotherspoon.

Robert A. (Bob) Rees is Director of Mormon Studies and Visiting Professor at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California. Previously he taught at UCLA, UC Santa Cruz, and UC Berkeley, and was a Fulbright Professor of American Studies in the Baltics. He is the editor or co-editor of *Fifteen American Writers Before 1900*, *Proving Contraries: A Collection of Writings in Honor of Eugene England*, *A Reader's Book of Mormon*, and *Why I Stay: The Challenge of Discipleship for Contemporary Mormons*. He is the author of a collection of poetry, *Waiting for Morning*, *A New Witness to the World: Reading and Re-reading the Book of Mormon*, and *The Cost of Discipleship: The Dimensions of a Mature Mormon Faith*.

Book of Abraham Apologetics A Review and Critique

Dan Vogel



Said to have been dictated by Joseph Smith as a translation of an ancient Egyptian scroll purchased in Kirtland, Ohio, in 1835, the Book of Abraham may be Mormonism's most controversial scripture. Decades of impassioned discussion began when about a dozen fragments of Smith's Egyptian papyri, including a facsimile from the Book of Abraham, were found in the New York Metropolitan Museum in 1966. The discovery solved a mystery about the origin of the Egyptian characters that appear in the various manuscript copies of the Book of Abraham from 1835, reproduced from one of the fragments. Some LDS scholars devised arguments to explain what seemed to be clear evidence of Smith's inability to translate Egyptian. In this book, Dan Vogel not only highlights the problems with these apologetic arguments but explains the underlying source documents in revealing detail and clarity.

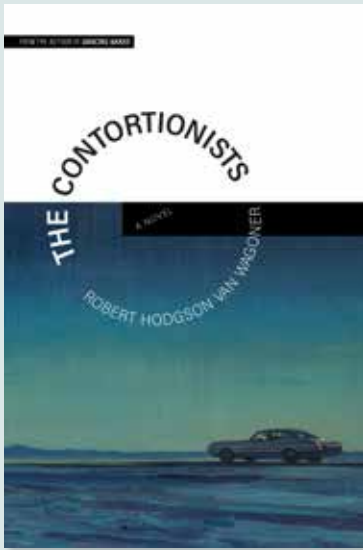
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Dan Vogel is the author of *Joseph Smith: The Making of a Prophet*, which won the Best Book Award from the Mormon History Association, and editor of the five-volume series, *Early Mormon Documents*, recipient of Best Documentary awards from both the Mormon History Association and the John Whitmer Historical Association. His other works include, as author, *Indian Origins and the Book of Mormon*, *Religious Seekers and the Advent of Mormonism*; and, as editor, *The Word of God: Essays on Mormon Scripture*, a critical edition of Eber D. Howe's *Mormonism Unveiled*, and the eight-volume *History of Joseph Smith and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: A Source- and Text-Critical Edition*. He is co-editor, with Brent Lee Metcalfe, of *American Apocrypha: Essays on the Book of Mormon*. He lives in Ohio.



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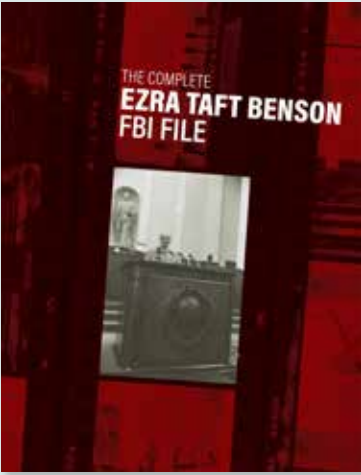
Robert Hodgson Van Wagoner

When five-year-old Joshua Christopher disappears off the street as he walks to a friend's birthday party, his family is forced to confront the unimaginable. What happened? Why? Who took him? The convicted sex offender caught lurking near the search? Why won't police leave his family, his parents, alone?

In his second novel, his first in twenty years, Robert H. Van Wagoner explores a family in extremis tottering at the edge of faith: in God and church, in family, and in marriage, in the institutions that promise safety and meaning. Both lyrical and explosive, *The Contortionists* unfolds as a page-turning mystery. Van Wagoner's wrenching narrative propels the reader forward, toward the novel's harrowing climax, while deftly unpacking its major themes—mental illness, sexuality, and substance abuse in a culture that would rather not confront them. Does the truth ever set anyone ultimately free? The stakes for Joshua and his family could not be greater.

Robert Hodgson Van Wagoner's debut novel, *Dancing Naked*, received the Utah Book Award and the Utah Original Writing Competition's Publication Prize. His short stories and interviews have appeared in periodicals, e-zines, and anthologies, and have been selected for various awards, including *Carolina Quarterly's* Charles B. Wood Award for Distinguished Writing, *Shenandoah's* Jeanne Charpiot Goodheart Award for Fiction, *Sunstone's* Brookie and D. K. Brown Memorial Fiction Award, and *Weber: The Contemporary West's* Dr. O. Marvin Lewis Award for Best Fiction. He resides in Washington state.

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In November 1952, newly elected US president Dwight D. Eisenhower nominated Ezra Taft Benson (1899–1994) as his secretary of agriculture. This was an unusual move. For nearly a decade, Benson had been a sitting apostle in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Benson's church duties occupied his full attention and energy.

Shortly after Benson's nomination as agricultural secretary, the FBI began keeping a routine file on him, as they did other prominent Americans slated for Eisenhower's cabinet. Filled with letters, memoranda, newspaper clippings, speeches, published writings, and other items, the file spans Benson's eight-year tenure with the administration and well beyond. Some of the documents date past the Eisenhower era and even into Benson's years as president of the LDS Church (1985–94). The material not only deals with Benson's life and political views, but his association with the John Birch Society, its leaders, and even threats made against his life in the late 1980s. The 570-page dossier is as much a revelation about the workings of the FBI as about the man they were investigating.

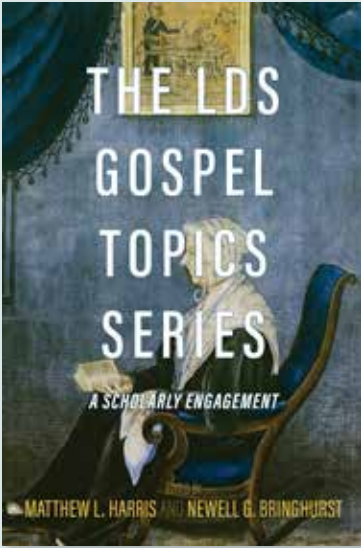
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and Newell G. Bringham

afterword by Armand L. Mauss



This anthology provides a scholarly, in-depth analysis of the thirteen Gospel Topics essays issued by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from December 2013 to October 2015. The contributors reflect a variety of faith traditions, including the LDS Church, Community of Christ, Catholic, and Evangelical Christian. Each contributor is an experienced, thoughtful scholar, many having written widely on religious thought in general and Mormon history in particular. The writers probe the strengths and weaknesses of each of the Gospel Topics essays, providing a forthright discussion on the relevant issues in LDS history and doctrine. The editors hope that these analyses will spark a healthy discussion about the Gospel Topics essays, as well as stimulate further discussion in the field of Mormon Studies.

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Matthew L. Harris is a professor of history at Colorado State University–Pueblo. He received BA and MA degrees in history from Brigham Young University and MPhil and PhD degrees, also in history, from Syracuse University. He is the author or editor of numerous books and articles, including *The Mormon Church and Blacks: A Documentary History*, co-edited with Newell G. Bringham; *Thunder from the Right: Ezra Taft Benson in Mormonism and Politics*; and “Watchman on the Tower”: *Ezra Taft Benson and the Making of the Mormon Right*. He is recipient of the 2014 Vera Jean and J. Talmage Jones Award from the Mormon History Association.

Newell G. Bringham is an independent scholar and professor emeritus of history and political science at College of the Sequoias in Visalia, California. He is the author of several books, including *Saints, Slaves, and Blacks: The Changing Place of Black People within Mormonism*, and *Brigham Young and the Expanding American Frontier*. His book *Fawn McKay Brodie: A Biographer's Life* won the Best Biography Award from the Mormon History Association in 2000.

Spencer Kimball's Record Collection

Essays on Mormon Music

Michael Hicks



At times jubilant, at times elegiac, this set of ten essays by music historian Michael Hicks navigates topics that range from the inner musical life of Joseph Smith to the Mormon love of blackface musicals, from endless wrangling over hymnbooks to the compiling of Mormon folk and exotica albums in the 1960s. It also offers a brief memoir of what happened to LDS Church President Spencer Kimball's record collection and a lengthy, brooding piece on the elegant strife it takes to write about Mormon musical history in the first place. There are surprises and provocations, of course, alongside judicious sifting of sources and weighing of evidence. The prose is fresh, the research smart, and the result a welcome mixture of the careful and the carefree from Mormonism's best-known scholar of musical life.

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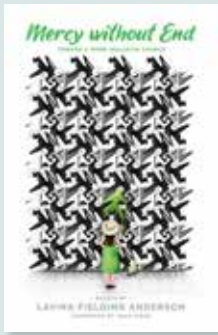
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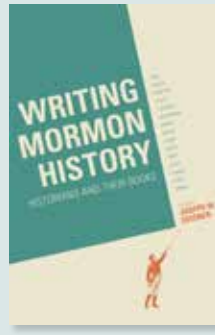
Michael Hicks recently retired after thirty-five years as a professor of music at Brigham Young University. He is the author of *Mormonism and Music: A History*, and *The Mormon Tabernacle Choir: A Biography*. His historical and analytical articles have appeared in books such as the *Encyclopedia of Popular Music of the World* and the *Oxford Handbook of Mormonism*, as well as in journals that include *Journal of the American Musicological Society* and *Journal of Aesthetic Education*. He has twice won the ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award (1994 and 2003) for his writing about music, and a third time as editor of the journal *American Music*, a post he held 2007–10. He and his wife, Pam, are the parents of four children and grandparents of fourteen.



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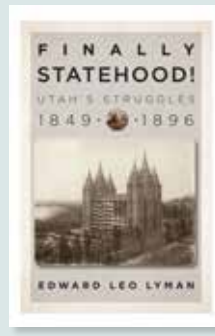
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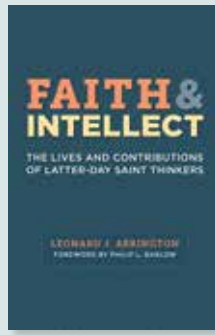


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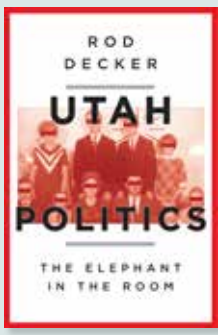


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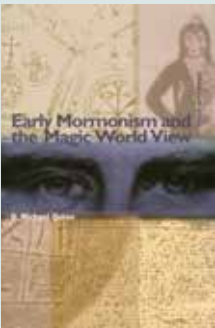


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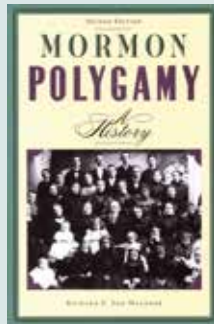
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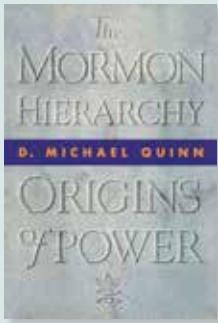


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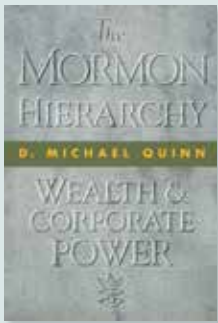
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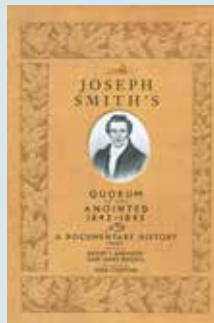
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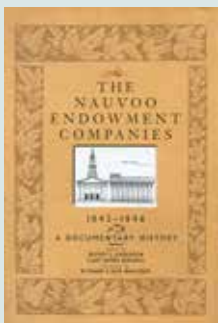
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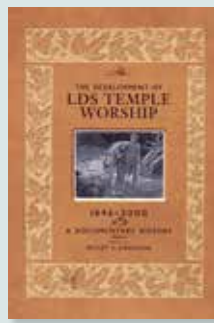
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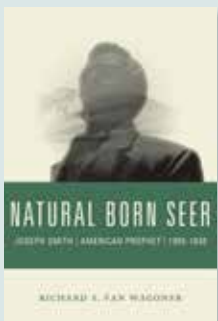
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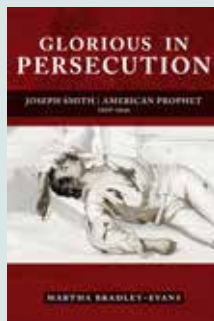
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