

**John Doyle Lee**

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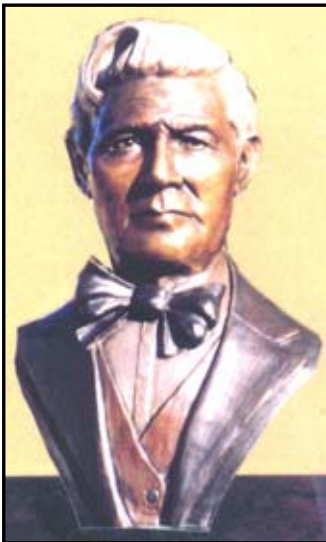
John Doyle Lee, a Mormon preacher who came through middle Tennessee on a mission in the early 1840's conducted debates and revivals in the Putnam-Jackson-Smith county area, and converted several people, among them David Young and his family. David was not only a farmer, but also a carpenter and gunsmith. These were valuable skills to the rapidly-growing Mormon community, and he was persuaded to move to Nauvoo, Illinois. In the summer of 1846 as the Saints were being forced to abandon Nauvoo, David and his family with hundreds and thousands of other, made the trek across southern Iowa. The hardships of the journey, coupled with adverse weather, caused much suffering and illness. There was a good deal of rain and people became ill with malaria, bronchitis, pneumonia, and other related ailments. Many people died on the way and were buried in little cemeteries along the trail. Winter Quarters was established at Kaneshville on the Missouri River, later to be called Council Bluffs. David, his wife, and son died during the winter of 1846-47 and are buried in Fair View Cemetery in Council Bluffs. The two daughters, Mary and Lavina, became the ninth and tenth wives of John Doyle Lee, their sponsor, and went on to Utah where they raised their families.

John Doyle Lee was a member of the Danites, a special group of men designed to support Brigham Young. Because of his special status, he was given jurisdiction over an area in southern Utah called "Little Dixie" where he became a sheep herder. Lee's Ferry is named for him, and the house at Pipe Spring National Monument near Fredonia, Arizona, is made of wood from Lee's sawmill.

In 1857 Lee became involved in a set of circumstances that eventually led to his undoing. A wagon train comprised of people from Arkansas and Missouri were traveling through southern Utah on their way to California. They were attacked and massacred, with only a few very young children surviving. The motive for the raid and the identity of the participants remained a mystery for twenty years. Finally, in 1877 when Utah was ready to become a state, the matter was settled. Lee was accused of masterminding and leading the raid and found guilty. He was the only person executed for the Mountain Meadows Massacre, although the details of the matter are still unresolved.

His 19 wives, including Mary and Levina Young, were given the option of renouncing his actions and remaining with the Mormon community, or staying loyal to him and leaving. Mary and Levina elected to continue as Mormons.

This bust was created by a son of Claude Melnot Lee, a son of James Young Lee who was a son of Polly Young and John D. Lee. The artist was



born and raised in the Gila Valley of southeastern Arizona where, known then as Elmo Lee, he graduated from Eastern Arizona College. During World War II he attained the rank of captain as a pilot and instructor flying the B-17 bomber. When the war was over Jim began as an agent for Prudential Insurance Company. Before his retirement in 1973 he had become Regional Supervisor for that company.

Living in Sedona, Arizona Jim had a chance at a few art lessons, quickly settling on his love, sculpting. When half-finished with his first piece he had a stroke which paralyzed his right arm. Not to be stopped by this, Jim learned to make use of his left hand. Over the years since, he has mostly sculpted horses, this being his first attempt at a subject's head.

Jim spent two years working at sculpting the bust of his ancestor. He said he could have given up many times but he had almost a compulsion to continue on. Motivated by his strong love and loyalty toward John D. Lee, Jim wanted to do what he could to try to bring him "the honor he deserves." He commented on the special feeling of closeness experienced as he labored to create a likeness of John D. Lee.



**John Doyle LEE** - (1814 - 1867)

*John had 19 wives he was a Mormon and the adopted son of Brigham Young*

Below is a list of his 19 wives:

Aggatha Ann WOOLSEY - (1814 - 1866) - 4006 descendants listed

Nancy BEAN - (1826 - 1903) - 428 descendants listed

Louisa FREE -(1824 - 1886) - 2 descendants listed

Sarah Caroline WILLIAMS - (1830 - 1908) -1196 descendants listed

Abigail Shaffer WOOLSEY - (1785/6 - 1848)

Rachel Andora WOOLSEY - (1825 - 1912) - 1936 descendants listed

Polly Ann WORKMAN

Martha Elizabeth BERRY- (1827 - 1885) - 76 descendants listed

Delethia MORRIS - (1812 - )

Nancy Ann VANCE - (1824 - 1851) - 2 descendants listed

Emoline Vaughn WOOLSEY - (1830 - )

Nancy GIBBONS ARMSTRONG - (1799 - 1847)

Mary Vance "Polly" YOUNG -(1817 - 1883) 502 descendants listed

Lavina YOUNG - (1820 - 1883) - 549 descendants listed

Mary Leah GROVES - (1836 - 1912) - 661 descendants listed

Mary Ann WILLIAMS - (1844 - 1882)

Emma BATCHELOR - (1836 - 1897) - 29 descendants listed

Terressa MORSE - (1913 - 1862)

Ann GORDGE - (1849 - ) -151 descendants listed



John Doyle Lee

The Mormons in History Quiz  
USA Weekend Newspaper – June 1-3, 2001



When Brigham Young guided the first of thousands of Mormon pioneer to Utah in 1846, he hardly envisioned an Olympic Village one day rising out of the desert. But Young, born 200 years ago this weekend, was one of the most significant colonizers of the West. Persecuted for its beliefs, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints might not have survived if not for him. Try a quick quiz by Kenneth C. Davis, author of 'Don't Know Much About the Bible.

True or false? (*Answers below*).

1. Church founder Joseph Smith was murdered by an anti-Mormon mob in 1844.
2. The Book of Mormon was discovered near the Dead Sea.
3. Hundreds were killed in the "Mormon War" of the 1850's, a conflict between federal troops and the Latter-day Saints.
4. The controversial doctrine of polygamy was abandoned in 1890.

*(Answers)*

1. *True – An Illinois mob killed Smith and his brother. Young then became leader.*
2. *False – Smith said an angel, Moroni, gave him the book in upstate New York. The book, Smith said, is a divinely revealed history of ancient Americans descended from the Israelites, written in an unknown language Smith translated. It was published in 1830.*
3. *False - On reports of a Mormon rebellion, US troops were sent to Utah, but no one was killed.*
4. *True and False – It was publicly abandoned in 1890 when the Supreme Court ruled it illegal; Utah then joined the Union in 1896. But some Mormon leaders remained secret polygamists for years. Young himself had two dozen wives and 58 children.*