

Transcript of Interview with Ula Marie Nelsen Cobb
Interviewed by Larry Douglas and Joann Penson March 29, 2007, Brigham City, Utah
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Larry Douglas: We're at Ula Cobb's house at 559 N. 100 E. in Brigham City. Today is March 29, 2007, and we're going to ask her a few questions about Brigham City's history and about her life here.

Ula, it's a pleasure to be here at your home today. Tell us about your parents immigrating to Utah and your early childhood.

Ula Cobb: Well, we came when I was four years old. My dad and my oldest brother came over and were working here in Brigham for a year. Then they sent enough money for us to come - my older four brothers and Mother and I. We came to New York. It took us 18 days on the water. Then we got into New York and into Ellis Island. The Statue of Liberty was the first thing we saw, which still stayed in our minds all these years. At Ellis Island they wouldn't let us off the boat until we all had shots. I've still got the mark on my shoulder from the smallpox shot. Then we got on a train and rode the train from New York to Brigham City. My dad had a place for us, and we lived up town right there where Ken Jensen's store was on the corner of 1st South and Main. There was a Mother that had come before we did, and he had a photography shop there, and we lived in part of their house for quite a few years.

LD: What year was that?

UC: When I first came to Utah, it was 1913 or 14. I was only 4, and I'm 98 now. From there we went out to Harvelly's. They had a shop up town. Do you remember Harvelly's?

LD: Yes.

UC: Well, my dad and brothers were to work for the man on a ranch in Provo, and we went out there for five years, and that was the best five years of our lives. I was 10, and my younger brother was 9. When the drenchers would come out, we'd have to hook up a team of horses and drive five miles up the canyon to get water and bring it back when the windmills were out down at the place. We'd haul water to the drenchers, and my mother fed them while they were there. We went out there for five years, and we learned to ride horses. My brother and I took care of a man from Logan who had a ranch out there. He'd go home and get us in cones and ride out there and feed his stock for him when he was gone. John Adams had a big farm out there, and my dad and brothers would help him in the hay and grain, too. My brother and I would go on horseback and go for a ride out to the lake and go swimming in the lake and get up all over us and come. Then we'd go up on our other place that was five miles up in the mountains and play around the cedar trees and play hide-and-seek on horseback. One time we were up there gathering the service berries on the big bush. We came around, and here came a little bear around the other way. Boy! We got out of there in a hurry! That was Provo, too.

After we were out there five years, we moved into Brigham on the Valentine fruit farm down on 8th West. We lived in an adobe house that's still there, down the lane. We lived there when I was going to high school. From there we moved up on 1st South and 1st West just above the high school, but where the high school is now was our orchards. There were pear trees all the way around and then peaches.

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ARTIST

Cobb, Ula