

Script for **Green Gate Village Tour**

Introduction

The Mormon colonists who settled St. George laid out the town on a grid based on LDS leader Joseph Smith's Plat of Zion. Individual home lots were clustered in the town center, surrounded by fields held in common by the villagers. The blocks in the historic heart of St. George are 528 feet square, with an area of 6.4 acres, and major streets are 90 feet wide. Each block was originally divided into 8 lots, 132 by 264 feet, with an area of 8/10 of an acre. In addition to a house, each town lot contained gardens and orchards for food production, and pastures, pens, and corrals for domestic animals, along with outbuildings such as barns and granaries.

The Advenire Hotel, 25 West St. George Blvd



This 4-story hotel opened in January 2020 with 60 rooms, according to General Manager Hank Van Orden. It is part of Marriott's Autograph line of hotels, which ties into a local history theme of "Pioneer Sheik." The windows in the hotel were styled after Erastus Snow's Big House, once located across the street. On the main floor, is the Wood Ash Rye Restaurant and a bar. There is a hot tub on the roof top terrace.

Closet Revival, 79 N. Main

A clothes boutique that has been in operation for about two years, according to store manager Sarah Ripplinger.



St. George Co-op Mercantile (Bear Paw Cafe), 75 N. Main

Completed in 1876, this building housed the St. George Co-op Mercantile

Bear Paw was started in St George in 1998 by the Pizzuto family who still owns it today. Rani Tarlton has been a manager here since 2003 and has seen it go through a lot of changes. The cafe is also currently managed by Jo Miller who has been at the head since 2012. The Pizzuto family moved into this building following Mama Edy's reign here. You can still see the initials, ME, carved in the wood at the front cash stand. Bear Paw originated in Anchorage AK. There is a painting of the original building in the south west corner of the dining room. The artwork on the walls is the owner's personal collection and is very much admired by all.



Bear Paw Cafe that for over 50 years housed the St. George Co-op Store.

Riggatti's Wood-fired Pizza, 73 North Main



Hometown Lenders, 61 North Main

has been at this location since 2017, according to Manager Shane Eagan and Loan Officer Pete Morrow. It also serves as the offices of **Mission Firefly**, a non-profit organization that digs water wells and builds schools in Guatamala. "We kick butt on loans, Eagan said, "It's all about service. Services stays forever."

MoFaCo (Modern Farm and Artisan Co-op), 55 N. Main

Owned by Kat Puzey. In the rear part of the building **6Bit Creative LLC** plans to open around Thanksgiving, according to co-owner Brian Jensen. Ed Nelson is owner of the building. This is the same location where the **Garden of Edith** florist shop operated for many years.



Wide Angle Gallery, 51 N. Main

owned by Nathan Watkins. The business opened in 2003 . "I take pictures of pretty places in Southern Utah," Watkins says. "I like to find places that are off the beaten path."



Main Street Antiques, 49 N. Main

sell antiques that are 60 years old or older. Jerry Christensen is the owner. Also sell old coins, silver, gold, furniture, etc.

Forever Young Fine Jewelers, 41 N. Main

Jeremy Young, an employee of McArthur Jewelers bought out Tom (Jr.) and Allison McArthur in 2016, and he and his wife Megan Young owned and operated the jewelry store until Jeremy passed away in 2018. Megan Young is the sole owner today.

According to the McArthur Jewelers website, the idea of McArthur Jewelers was born when World War II ended and Tom McArthur was stationed in northern Italy. He went on leave to Switzerland where the clocks and watches intrigued him. He decided to pursue a career in selling and servicing watches and clocks, according to the online McArthur Jewelers website.

Upon Tom's return from the war, he enrolled in a watchmaker's school in Sacramento, California using the "GI Bill". At graduation, he began working for Steadman Jewelers in Murray, Utah until 1950 when he moved with his family to his hometown of St. George, and opened McArthur Jewelers on May 4 of the same year. The location was on Main Street next to the Dixie (movie) Theatre because, he thought, "the people will leave the movie theatre holding hands, they will see my diamond rings tempting them, and she will let him know the one she wants."

The store grew and changed over the years. In 1968, a major addition and remodel added more than double the space. Tom Jr. came on full time moving from BYU (Provo, Utah) in 1972 when dad asked him to come help just for the summer, and as Tom Jr. says "the summer never ended." In 1983, Tom Jr., and his wife, Allison contracted to purchase the business and building from the "folks" taking the business to the 2nd generation.

In the third generation with Keena, Megan, Celeste and Malea - four McArthur daughters worked in the business and added energy and vision to the company until its sale to Jeremy and Megan Young.

Arts to Zion and Dixie Watercolor Society, 35 N. Main

share the front office space at **35 N. Main**. Arts to Zion represents local artists. Ron Brown and Bobby Wan'kier with Arts to Zion help make this an arts destination. Meanwhile, Sean Rowley is manager of the Dixie Watercolor Society.

Other tenants in the rear of the building include: LearnKey, ArtProvides.com and Creative Well Design, which are all located in the **Wadsworth Building**, built in 1927. It has been home to a number of businesses: *Dixie Theatre, Jimmy's Fountain & Lunch, Rex's Fountain, R.M. Reber Insurance Agency, Reber Investment Corp., Wadsworth Apartments, Wadsworth Fountain, Wadsworth Theatre.*

Dixie College students often rented the apartments in the Wadsworth Building. Around 2005, the building was known as the **Main Street Theatre & Ballroom**. The theatre/auditorium had been gutted and was being used for storage. The upper floor

was being used as a ballroom. There were retail businesses and a TV station on the main floor. **Twenty-Five Main (Cafe)**, 25 N. Main

has been opened since 2010 and is owned by Jason and Lori Legg.

KW St. George Keller Williams Realty (Prado), 21 N. Main

This building was constructed in 1873. The building, which also includes **City Wide Loans/Vanguard Title Insurance Agency**, 15 N. Main, is owned by Patrica Bishop, according to Marilyn Marquez, real estate agent.

Gold Ore Store, 7 N. Main

is a precious metals store, opened in 2012 and is owned by Gred and Melodie Neel. The Neels began by purchasing mining claims in Beaver County with the goal of selling gold, silver and other mining ores. Eventually, they decided to open a storefront in St. George. The store also carries coins, old currency, collectibles, antiques and other items not found in a box store. They also include products for the natural healing arts, including books, teaching aids, crystals, stones, rocks and other metaphysical items.

Annie's Vintage Garden, 3 N. Main

owned by Annie Whitney.

One Hot Grill of Dixie, 14 West Tabernacle

has been owned by Dona Lane Brady since 2012. It features hamburgers, hot dogs and Italian beef sandwiches.

The **George and Leonora Worthen** home 16 West Tabernacle

This home has been torn down and replaced by **City View St. George** apartments at approximately 16 West Tabernacle. The Worthen home was built and owned by Orson Pratt. Orson Pratt sold it to Joseph Bentley, who married Maggie Ivins, sister to Anthony W. Ivins. According to Cleon Skousen, a well known LDS scholar, his mother was a Bentley and she was born in the little back bedroom of this house. When the Bentleys and the Ivins moved to Mexico, the house was bought by George W. Worthen, who with his wife, raised a family in the home.

In this simple two-story adobe home, George and Leonora raised nine children who slept upstairs. One day while George was serving a mission in West Virginia, Leonora found a sack of flour on her doorstep and cried because she hadn't had enough food for her children. After his mission, George worked as a driver of the temple wagon, then later served as patriarch. Youngest daughter Lucille was playing next door when she lit a match, dropped it on her gingham dress, then ran to attempt to extinguish the blaze. Neighbor Mrs. Jewell caught her, wrapped her in a blanket, and smothered the flames. Both Lucille and Mrs. Jewell suffered serious burns. In this house, daughter Maida was married in 1914, then in 1926 George and Leonora celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.



George and Leonora Worthen home. Has been torn down.

Green Gate Village

The Green Gate Village is a unique collection of eight pioneer and early Victorian St George homes (circa 1862-1881), some of which are on the National Register of Historic Places. Self-guided tours of the grounds are available daily. Green Gate Village is owned by Peg Development and the Gulbranson Family, according to Jared Gulbranson. Vertex is the property manager of Greene Gate Village

Green Gate Village: Judd's Store

Located across the street from the Woodward school, Judd's store has been a favorite place of every kid in town since 1911. The home behind the store was built in 1879 by William Bentley. Richard Bentley added the store at a later date. In 1911, the store was purchased by the Judd Family and became a general mercantile and "sweet shop." Judd's Store is the oldest ongoing business establishment in St. George. Until it was taken over by the Green Gate Village, it was the oldest family-owned business in St. George. Founded as a general mercantile, the store handled basic supplies -- both groceries and dry goods, including clothes, kerosene, hay dry goods and fabrics. Gas was even pumped at the curb, and one of the original pumps is now renovated and located in front of the store at its original location. The wood floors, and custom shelves and drawers are all original. This building was built using the same thick, adobe construction methods used in the completion of other local homes. After constructing the store, Thomas Judd bought out the inventory located in the store maintained by the Bentley's in the Pratt-Bentley Home. This inventory was then moved into Judd's Store. The store was very successful, carrying general merchandise, and catering to the needs of the sheep and cattlemen which were numerous in the early days of Dixie. At some point, the Store was connected to the front of the house (William Oscar Bentley Home), but that connection was later removed to restore the store to its original condition. When Thomas's son, Joseph Judd, took over, he continued to run the store, but boarded up the William Oscar Bentley Home. The store remained in the Judd family possession until 1982. At that time, the city wanted to condemn the store and turn it into a parking lot. Cooler heads prevailed, and Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene purchased the building making it into a focal point of their Green Gate Village. Still open for business, visitors can enjoy hearty soups, warm breadsticks, nostalgic candy and glass bottled sodas for lunch in the nostalgic setting.



Thomas Judd Store.

Green Gate Village: Orson Pratt/Richard and Elizabeth Bentley home

In 1862, the Pratt family built the large (for the times) house directly north of the public square where the St. George Tabernacle and Woodward School would be built. It was the first permanent home built in St. George. The building had two stories and was constructed with a black lava rock foundation. The walls were 18 inches thick and made of locally produced adobes with the sand and gravel laboriously mixed by hand, poured into molds, and then dried in the hot Dixie sun. As with most buildings of the time, the adobe was used in double thicknesses throughout the structure. The Pratt family lived on the second story. The ground floor was fitted as both a small dry goods store and St. George's first post office.

In 1864, Pratt was called on a mission to Austria. Before he left, he traded homes with Richard Bentley in Salt Lake City. The Bentley family continued to operate the small store out of the room on the west end of the first floor. But they also converted the main portion of the downstairs into living quarters. Bentley's wife, Elizabeth, was in the forefront of the ladies called to develop the silk industry in Utah's Dixie and one large room upstairs was devoted to this ill-starred adventure. Elizabeth hatched silkworm eggs and fed the worms local mulberry leaves gathered by her grandchildren.

After Richard Bentley's death, the building passed into the hands of his son, prominent local businessman, William Oscar Bentley, whose family lived there until the early 1920s when he built a more modern home just around the corner. When the family moved out, the house was divided into apartments and suffered several unsightly "modern" changes and additions. By 1981, the building was in a state of complete decay and marked for demolition by the city.

In 1981, the place was purchased by Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene. This home was made a centerpiece of the Green Gate Village bed and breakfast complex. The walls and woodwork are the original and the prize-winning restoration has remained true to the period and the memories of the older people. This home was put on the National Register of Historic Places on August 11, 1983.

The Orson Pratt House is significant as the only remaining house in Utah associated with Orson Pratt, one of the most influential and important leaders in the first half-century of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Pratt, as a member of the first Quorum of the Twelve, the governing body of the church under the First Presidency, was involved not only in directing ecclesiastical and settlement activities but also, as a philosopher and intellectual, made unique contributions to Mormonism by articulating and systematizing religious philosophies of the church. Self-educated in a

wide range of disciplines, he gained international recognition for some of his published mathematical and astronomical theories and was a leading proponent of education in territorial Utah. He served for 13 terms in the territorial legislature and eight of those as Speaker of the House. Orson Pratt had this house built in 1862, while helping direct the settlement of St. George and the Cotton Mission, the LDS Church's attempt to establish a cotton industry in the warm southwestern corner of the state. Although he lived here for only about two years, residing in Salt Lake City for most of his years in Utah, none of his other houses in Utah are still standing.

This home is currently used by "**Scout Cloth**" store.



Orson Pratt home.

Green Gate Village: Joseph and Margaret Bentley Home

William Oscar Bentley completed this house in 1876 for his bride-to-be, Mary Ann Mansfield. When he proposed to Mary Ann, he promised her a beautiful new Victorian-style home in the shadow of the Tabernacle. She accepted and construction began almost immediately. Her diary tells of how she enjoyed watching its construction and dreaming of the day when she would be mistress of this elegant structure with its spacious rooms and ornate woodwork. But, alas, Mary Ann was never to have this

privilege. Just two weeks before the wedding, William Oscar, without consulting anyone, sold the home to his brother, Joseph. Mary Ann's diary records her heartbreak: "I almost called the wedding off, but decided I was getting married 'for better or worse,' and I needed to learn that lesson right from the start."

It was one of Joseph Bentley's families which grew up within these walls until the family moved to Colonial Juarez. It is believed that a great deal of the social life in St. George took place here. The elegant Christmas decorations and adult parties were anticipated events of the season. In 1908, Joseph Bentley sold the house to pioneer businessman, Thomas Judd. In 1911, Judd built *Judd's General Store* in front of the house. The house was used for office and storage space. When Thomas' son, Joseph Judd, took over, he continued to run the store but boarded up the house.

The house remained unoccupied for over 50 years. Eventually, the city wanted to condemn the structure and turn it into a parking lot. Cooler heads prevailed and Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene purchased the building in 1982, making it into a focal point of their Green Gate Village. A long period of restoration followed during which hand painted doors and 'marble' fireplaces were discovered. The original stove was also found under a collapsed out-building. Today the house serves as the **Chef Alfredo Italian Restaurant**.



Joseph and Margaret Bentley home.

Green Gate Village: Charles and Mary Tolley cabin

Currently occupied by **"Twisted Silver" store**. The Tolley cabin was originally built on a small family farm in Nortonville, near Nephi. The two-room "broadside (a pioneer style characterized by a fireplace at each end of the house) was built by Charles and Mary Tolley. The house was the birthplace of 13 children. In the winter, the boys slept on the front porch enclosed with canvas and quilts. In the summertime, all the Tolley children slept outdoors under the apple trees. The Tolley home was moved to St. George in 1989 with the help of a historical architect who meticulously and catalogued each board, door frame and window sash before it was dismantled.



The Charles and Mary Tolley Home.

Green Gate Village: Thomas and Mary Judd Home/George and Victoria Miles home/Green Hedge Manor

Currently occupied by **Cedar Pointe Homes**. This house, built by Thomas Judd in 1872, originally at 238 South 200 East, was located in the midst of huge old mulberry trees and behind a tall untrimmed tamarack hedge surrounding most of the city block. Grape vines and rose bushes bordered the sidewalk to the house. After building his new store on Tabernacle (Judd's Store). Thomas Judd built a new family home on the corner of Tabernacle and 100 West. Judd sold this old house to the George Q. Cannon family who, in turn, sold it to George E. Miles. Miles lived there until he was 104 years of age. This house was put on the National Register of Historic Places on Jan. 31, 1978.

In 1986, it was scheduled for demolition by a local builder with plans to build a condominium project on the property. Enough signatures from caring people in the community prevented the home's destruction. The house was moved to an empty lot, but was severely damaged. One of the most valuable discoveries from the property were portions of a green gate and fence, which for years had been hidden from sight behind massive hedges. For several years, the disassembled pieces of the home sat in piles, protected against the elements until its restoration in 1991. This home is now part

of the *Green Gate Village* and is known as the *Green Hedge Manor*. The Judd-Miles Home is historically significant as the home of two of Southern Utah's most prominent individuals. Thomas Judd, a well known businessman, and George E. Miles, a very popular local figure, who lived in the home for almost seven decades.

Architectural significance of the Judd-Miles Home stems from its being an outstanding example of a residential building style characterized by the "Dixie Dormer" which was unique to pioneer Southern Utah. The Judd-Miles Home, constructed of lava rock and adobe on the exterior, features three Dixie dormers and a large porch, both with decorative scroll work somewhat unusual for the period and region. With the broadside facing the road, the residence is otherwise typical, in plan, construction and detailing, compared to other houses built in the mid-1870's.

The home's second resident, George Edmond Miles, was born Dec. 9, 1866, in England. He came to Utah with his family in 1878. At the age of 16, he entered the St. George Stake Academy and eventually passed the teacher's examination. He taught school for a short time. Later he took up farming. Active in the community, Mr. Miles served as a St. George City Clerk for 18 years, juvenile judge for eight years, and as Justice of the Peace for three terms. He was a patriarch in the St. George Stake for nearly 30 years. Miles lived in the home for nearly 70 years and was a very popular local figure and legend because of his speaking ability and long-standing knowledge of the area. Miles was blessed with an unusually strong voice, and he would often shun the use of the microphone at gatherings and boom his message to captivated audiences. George E. Miles died in 1970 at the age of 104. His wife, Victoria Jarvis, raised seven children, and after World War I became the Washington County war historian. She was set apart by Apostle Melvin Ballard, then served as Relief Society president for 13 years.



Thomas and Mary Judd Home.

Green Gate Village: Orpha Morris House currently **“Signature Scents.”**

This house was built in 1879 for Orpha Morris on the corner of Main and 200 North, across from the St. George Opera House. It was a two-story home with a granary. Morris was a successful seamstress and clothing designer in the Los Angeles area. She was the only one of her siblings who wasn't married. When her parents became too sick to care for themselves, it was decided she would give up her career and return to St. George to provide them with proper care. She did and spent the rest of her life in southern Utah.

Over the years, the house fell into disrepair. In the early 1980's, it was scheduled for demolition to make way for the new (current) Post Office on 200 North Main, but Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene rescued it and had it moved to the *Green Gate Village*. It took more than a month after the purchase contract was signed to secure steel beams under the foundation. Cables were wrapped around the home, and it was moved onto a truck bed. With the help of St. George City, the house inched toward its Tabernacle address. Power lines were disconnected to allow the passage of the two-story home. It successfully made the turn from Main Street onto Tabernacle and was lined up perfectly in front of its new foundation. However, the task of moving the truck up and over the curb resulted in a broken axle, and the jarring snapped the cables. Nearly a century of memories fell into the courtyard in a thunderous crash. After surveying the heap, it would have been easier to carry the rubble to the local dump. But having already invested a significant amount of time and money and with the help of the trucker's great insurance, the house was rebuilt using as much of the original material as possible.

According to Debbie Dangerfield, author of *Paranormal Experiences in Utah*, the Orpha Morris house has only recently been haunted. It all began when Barbara Greene, owner of the house, acquired an old photo of Morris' parents. Greene rented the home to a prestigious couple from New York who were in town for the 1992 St. George Marathon. She had placed the photo downstairs in the house and planned to hang it somewhere but hadn't gotten around to it. The Sunday after the Marathon, the couple met Greene while she was making breakfast.

“You know,” the woman said, “We wanted to come in and tell you that we had a strange experience in that house.” They proceeded to explain how, on their first night there, they were lying in bed and felt something run across the bed. At first, they thought it was their cat but then they realized they weren't at home.

The man didn't want to alarm his wife because he knew they had to spend one more night at the place. He shrugged the experience off but later told Greene, “I didn't want to tell her that I did feel it but I did.”

After the couple checked out, Greene went into the house to clean things up. She was thinking about what the couple told her and suddenly thought about the picture she needed to hang. As she went upstairs, she noticed the picture had already been hung -- right at the top of the stairs.



Orpha Morris house.

Green Gate Village: The Christmas Cottage

Occupied by “**The Barbers of Green Gate.**” The cottage was originally located behind Andelin’s Gable House Restaurant (206 E. St. George Blvd) and it is an original Pioneer House. The “*Christmas Cottage*” label stuck after Mike Andelin began selling holiday decorations from October to February in the home. Later, when the Gable House was sold and demolished, there was just enough time to convince the new property owners to not demolish the cottage. The cottage was taken down brick by brick and reassembled at Green Gate Village.



The Christmas Cottage

Green Gate Village: Carriage House and Granary

Occupied by “**Cosy House and Gift.**” This long rectangular adobe brick building is divided into two sections: the Carriage House and the Granary. The *Carriage House* stored the Judd family’s various forms of transportation. Originally, the only openings were large double doors that faced the alley. During restoration, a front entrance and windows were framed into the 18-inch thick walls.

The Granary was used as a storehouse for Judd’s Store. Bags of grain, storage bins, drop shoots, and a loading dock have been replaced by lace curtains and flowered

wallpaper. When the Granary was cleaned out of almost a century of accumulated odds and ends, lots of treasures were found, among them were 50 pairs of new shoes (circa 1900). Many of the items found in the cleanup are on display in Judd's Store.

Green Gate Village: Judd Bungalow home, *94 West Tabernacle*

Occupied by **The Book Bungalow** in the front and **Nature Study** in the rear. Thomas Judd, Sr., built this home in 1917 for his family. Eventually his son, Joseph, raised a family there. Joseph's son, Thomas Judd Jr., grew up in this house; his room was a screened in porch at the back of the house. The home remained in the Judd family until 1974. The style of this building, Prairie School Bungalow, had external walls of yellow brick, which was considered a luxury in this area at the turn of the century. The interior was finished off in the Arts and Crafts style made popular by Frank Lloyd Wright. Tapered columns and built-in cabinets with glass doors have been restored to their original luster. This house was purchased by Dr. Mark and Barbara Greene for inclusion in the Green Gate Village in the 1980s. It is known as the *Judd Bungalow*. The front portion was used as a doctor's office with a residence in the rear. It has been renovated and now is a book store.



Joseph Judd home.

**William and Hettie Bentley Home 46 N. 100 West
Today Carmall's Cottage Antiques and Home Treasures,**

The home was built in 1923 by William Oscar Bentley, Jr, who married Hettie Bentley. Bentley served as a member of the Utah State Board of Education for 22 years and was instrumental in transitioning Dixie Junior College from a private church school to a state school. He was director of the Pickett Lumber Company for 50 years. Every Thanksgiving, the Bentley grandchildren gather on the porch for a family picture. William and Hettie celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary in the home. William died in the home from a heart attack. Today the home is owned by Carmell Averett, the antique store has been in operation since 2015.



William and Hettie Bentley home.

Benjamin and Alice Pendleton Home, 60 North 100 West
today CityView Leasing office

Benjamin Franklin Pendleton was called by Brigham Young to come to Dixie as the community's blacksmith. To build this home, Pendleton, mixed his own adobe on the site where Dixie College now stands. Since he only had three brick molds, the bricks were laboriously made three at a time, dried and stacked. Then the process was repeated. Benjamin F. Pendleton died before the home was finished, but it was eventually completed by his son using the same technique. Alice Pendleton was the mother of eight children and lived in the home until her death from a lifelong struggle with asthma. The home is currently owned by the City of St. George and is being used for professional/retail offices.



Benjamin and Alice Pendleton home.