

SILVER REEF MUSEUM

Cosmopolitan Event

Saturday, June 27, 2026 - 10 AM



Murders & Massacres in Southern Utah

In 1869 John Wesley Powell was the first white man to boat the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. He started with nine other men, but after one dropped out at the Uintah Indian Agency in Utah Territory, three more men left towards the end of the three-month expedition, climbing out of the canyon and heading for Washington, Utah, about 50 miles distant through the desert. The three were never seen again. Most historians believe they were murdered, most likely in what is today Washington County. There is little consensus on who did the killing or why. This presentation will discuss the prevailing theories in light of the facts we know.

About the Presenter:

Doug Bowen has a BA in German Literature, is married To Debbie, with four adult children, and has lived in Southern Utah for the past 35 years. He's taught for the Institute For Continued Learning at Utah Tech University for 20 years, with courses on Mark Twain, German, and a number of historical topics, including one titled "Intermountain Massacres and Murders" which includes this session on the Powell Expedition murders.





Scan to Register

or

[Click to Register](#)



1903 Wells Fargo Road
Leeds, UT 84746

Silver Reef Museum is
supported by



Funded by
Utah Legislature



Utah Division of
Arts & Museums

Click to Register

<https://form.jotform.com/261634417109152>