

Factual information on Samuel Judd and the Middleton (Utah) Limestone Kiln site.

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“Samuel Judd, an experienced brick and lime burner, had joined in the building work. The Judd family had for generations been brick and lime burners in England. With the ability and knowledge acquired in their homeland, they soon became factors in the building program of St. George. Samuel Judd had arrived from England in 1862 and was joined by his family in St. George in 1864. They erected a lime kiln at Middleton to supply the needed lime for the buildings then being erected, and later to provide all lime for building the St. George Temple.

They made and burned brick in the south west part of the valley which was used in the building of the two upper stories of the court house, with the use of rock trimmings at the openings. By the use of this brick material the building could be completed at a reduction in cost, and less time in the erection.

The building was commenced in 1866 and completed by 1870.”

Under the Dixie Sun; A History of Washington County By Those Who Loved Their Forebears, Washington County Chapter Daughters of Utah Pioneers, Garfield County News, Panguitch, Utah, 1950, p. 327.

“Here was beautiful building rock, timber waiting the sawmill, or the skilled mechanic, gypsum to prepare for the interior finish, and on a round red rock knoll just west of Middleton was a great collection of suitable lime rock laying scattered over the surface of the hill. Where it came from no one knew. All this needed material was waiting for the work of the skilled workmen.

There had arrived from England, a man whose family, for generations had been brick and lime burners, Samuel Judd. He and his sons were to play an important part in the building of the Tabernacle, Temple and Court House.

Through the cooperative assistance of young men who joined them in burning lime and brick, it was possible to complete these buildings. When they were completed the supply of lime rock was exhausted and it looked as if an unseen hand had provided the lime rock for use in these structures.”

Under the Dixie Sun, p. 329-330.

“It was not until 1875 that the interior of the Tabernacle was finished. Contributing to its simple but striking beauty were the many who had brought it to completion. There was Miles Romney, master builder and architect and designer of the famed circulator stairways, who had general charge of its construction; William Burt who with his sons did the plastering and decorations in plaster of paris and gold leaf which included artistic circles of acanthus leaves, wreathes [sic] of floerettes, grape clusters and rosettes that adorned the walls and ceiling; David Milne who brought to Dixie his painting skill; Archibald McNeil, expert quarryman; Edward L. Parry, chief mason; Samuel Judd, lime burner and many others. It was a brilliant array of artisans and craftsmen who built the Tabernacle.”

Andrew Karl Larson, *I Was Called to Dixie; The Virgin River Basin: Unique Experiences in Mormon Pioneering*, The Deseret News Press, 1961, p. 575, citing Albert E. Miller, *The Immortal Pioneers*, p. 91-95.

“The same craftsmen who worked on the Tabernacle worked on the Courthouse. Samuel Judd burned the lime at his kiln in Middleton.” *I Was Called To Dixie*, p. 579.

“A limestone deposit had been discovered at Middleton by teenager Albert C. Foremaster.¹¹ The limestone, after being burned in a kiln built by Samuel Judd and his sons and combined with sand from the river, would become mortar for the temple.”

Blaine M. Yorgason, Richard A. Schmutz and Douglas A. Alder. *All That Was Promised; The St. George Temple and the Unfolding of the Restoration*, Deseret Book, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2013, p. 83.

Footnote 11: Spencer Truman, “Albert Charles Foremaster, My Grandfather,” n.d., n.p., typescript, Daughters of Utah Pioneers McQuarrie Memorial Museum, St. George, Utah.

“Samuel Judd and his sons, converts from England, had built the lime kiln in Middleton where the lime for both mortar and plaster would be burned.” *All That Was Promised*, p. 96.

“As for the mortar, one day in the mid-1860s, as young Albert Foremaster was riding through the hills west of Middleton he noticed a ledge of limestone that seemed out of place “on a round knoll [near] ... the east portal of the water tunnel west of Middleton.”¹⁷ This information was passed along to Samuel Judd, who with his sons soon built a lime kiln on the site¹⁸ and began burning lime from the limestone.¹⁹ The lime was mixed with sand from the Virgin River and made into a very durable mortar, which was used on the tabernacle, courthouse, and temple, as well as many homes then being built in the area.

Interestingly, as the temple project came to an end, “the supply of limerock was exhausted and there was no other section in the [St. George] valley where good limerock could be found, as it all had too much [additional mineral] formation and would not make lime.”²⁰

Albert and his uncle Ett Wiltbank not only hauled the burnt lime from Judd’s kiln to the temple but also hauled to the temple many of the heavy lava stones from behind the Black Ridge.²¹

All That Was Promised, p. 120-121.

Footnote 17. Spencer Truman, “Albert Charles Foremaster, Grandfather of Spencer Truman,” n.d., n.p. Typescript, Daughters of Utah Pioneers McQuarrie Memorial Museum, St. George, Utah. See also Kate B. Carter, comp., *Heart Throbs of the West* (Salt Lake City: Daughters of Utah Pioneers, 1941), 3:203, 230-231.

Footnote 18. The remnants of this kiln were located, probably for the first time in many years, by Stanford S. McConkie in the present-day St. George Tortoise Reserve and can be reached only after approximately a mile of quite strenuous hiking. To more easily see the remnants of the kiln, on **Google Earth enter north latitude 3708.272 by west longitude 1133.029**, and you will find yourself looking down at the level area directly in front of the old kiln. Location information, including coordinates, was provided by Stanford S. McConkie.

Footnote 19. An undated description of this process has been left by Lewis Earl Christian, who wrote: “We would haul wagonloads of lime rock to the kiln site [and] stack the kiln full and shut the oven door. A fire would then be kindled in the fire box and kept roaring hot for about 72 hours. This meant someone had to tend the kiln night and day to keep the fire going After 72 hours of steady firing, the kiln would be sealed up or ‘mudded’ in, to allow the lime to finish cooking and the kiln to cool down. When all ... the heat was gone, the kiln would be opened up. Some of the lime would crumble into powder as soon as the air hit it. Other would stay in chunks. Also, some would be real white, while some would be almost gray. The white lime was used to whitewash walls of dwellings, picket fences, and chicken coops ... where it served as a cleansing and disinfectant agent. The darker lime was used for plastering and masonry work.... The buyers would slack this lime themselves before using [which] meant the adding of water and stirring it until it made a smooth thick mixture which could be applied with a brush... [When slackened] the lime would boil and bubble and heat up as soon as water touched it. With large mud hoes we had to keep stirring this mixture until it was thin and well mixed. If any of it should splash... onto our skin it could burn immediately unless we washed it off. If it ever splashed into our eyes, we really suffered.... All rock masonry was laid up with this lime to which sand was added... at the temple [and tabernacle], the Jacob Hamblin home, and all the black rock walls and ... foundations were laid up with this kind of mortar.”

Lewis Earl Christian, "Sandstone, Blackrock, and a Few Other Solid Matters," unpublished manuscript, 47-49; in possession of George Peacock, St. George, Utah.

Footnote 20. Carter, *Heart Throbs*, 230-231. See also Kate B. Carter, comp., *Chronicles of Courage* (Salt Lake City: Daughters of Utah Pioneers), 1:379.

Two pictures of the Old Middleton lime kiln are contained in *All That Was Promised*, p. 279. No photo credit is listed for either photo.

Sources providing information about Samuel Judd.

"Samuel Judd 1st, son of Thomas and Mary Dowler Judd; b. July 10, 1820, Cubbington, Warwickshire, Eng. Came to St. George, 1862, family came, 1864. Lime and brick burner, adobe maker. Home S.E. corner Tabernacle, 2nd East D. April 17, 1869.

Catherine Hindes Judd, wife of Samuel Judd I, dtr. Of David and Elizabeth Lunt Hindes; b. May 10, 1821, Manchester, Eng. Came to S.L.C. Oct. 4, 1864 with children, Came to St. George to join her husband. Nurse. Children: five d., Thomas, Joseph Samuel, Samuel II, Elizabeth, Catherine. After her husband's death she md. John Hyatt and moved to the Muddy, then to Glendale, Kane Co., where she d. 1896. A.K. Hafen, *Devoted Empire Builders (Pioneers of St. George)*, published privately, St. George, Utah, 1969. Lithographed by Sun Publishing Company, St. George, Utah, p. 65.

Samuel and Catherine Hines Judd Sr.

1862 St. George Pioneers-Stayed

"Samuel Judd was born 10 July 1820 at Cubbington, Warwick, England to Thomas Judd and Mary Dowler. He met Catharine Hines, who was born 10 May 1821 at Manchester, Lancastershire, England to David Hines and Elizabeth Lunt. They were married 18 Mar 1843 in St. Mary, Cubbington, Warwick, England.

Samuel and Catharine were converted to the Mormon Church in England. Samuel came to America two years before his wife Catharine and eight children could come. They arrived in Utah two years after in 1864.

In 1864, another call was made to go from St. George to the Missouri River for immigrants.... One of the teams furnished by Santa Clara had Samuel Wittwer as the teamster. On the return he brought to St. George the family of Samuel Judd, Who [sic] with his sons was to play an important roll [sic] in the development of Southern Utah's Dixie.

The Judd family for generations had been lime and brick burners in England. With the ability and knowledge and soon became a factor in the building program of St. George.

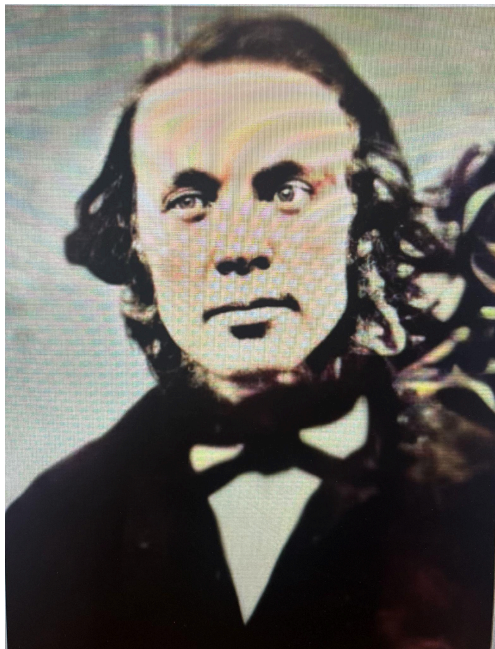
Samuel Judd and sons burned the lime in the kiln they had erected at Middleton. On a round, red rock knoll just west of Middleton, there was a great collection of lime rock laying scattered over the surface. Where it came from, no one knew. It was at that place Samuel Judd and sons built a limekiln and burned lime for the St. George Tabernacle, Washington County Courthouse and the Temple. When these three buildings were completed, the supply was exhausted, and it looked as if an unseen hand had provided the lime rock. They made brick, which they burned in the southwest part of the valley. These brick were used in the building of the two upper stories of the courthouse, with the use of rock trimmings at the openings.

It was in these buildings that the young learned their skills as stonecutter, mason, carpenter, painter, and artistic plaster plastering and paris decoration.

....Samuel and Catherine Judd's home in St. George was on the South East corner of Tabernacle, 2nd East. He passed away 17 April 1869 at age 49 years and is buried in the St. George cemetery.

Catherine remarried after Samuel's death to John Hyatt and they moved to the Muddy, then to Glendale, Kane County, where she passed away in 1896 at the age of 76 years of age."

Roberta Blake Barnum & Paul Peine, *Saint George, Utah Original Pioneers, December 1, 1861 - May 10, 1869 Histories & Pictures*, n.p. 1999, p. 334.



Samuel D. Judd Sr.

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/memories/KWJT-1LW>



Catherine Hindes Judd

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/tree/person/memories/KWJT-1L7>

Old Middleton lime kiln, where lime was burned by Samuel Judd and sons for the tabernacle, courthouse, many homes, and the St. George Temple. The lime supply ran out just as the temple was completed. Note the adobe brick lining still standing at the back of the kiln.



COURTESY STAN DIEDERSON, MCGONNIE



View from the limestone-capped ridge where limestone to be burned for mortar and plaster was quarried. The old kiln is about twenty feet below and to the left of this view. The wood to fire the kiln had to be freighted in by wagon and then hand-carried up the steep slope to the kiln.

Middleton lime kiln pictures, *All That Was Promised*, p. 278a.



Middleton limestone kiln looking from top to bottom of kiln, 12-12-23. Photo by Loren Webb



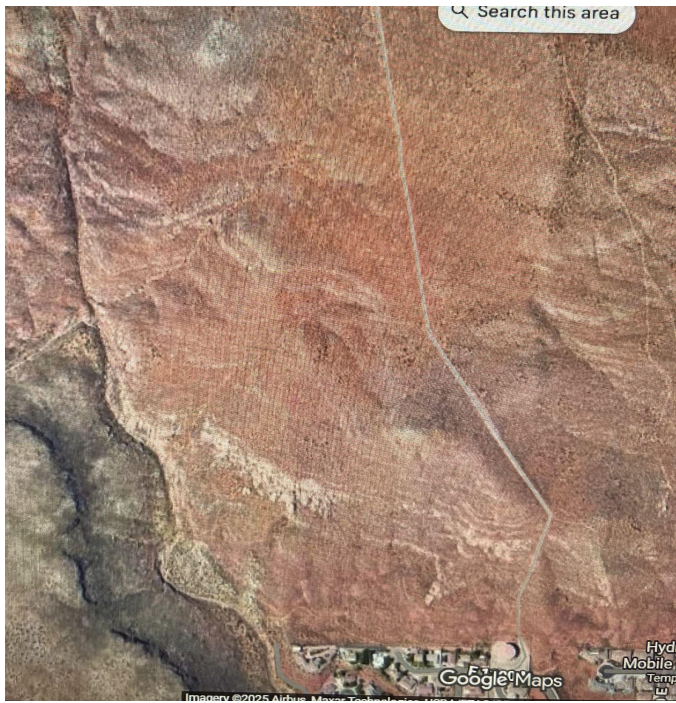
Middleton Limestone Kiln, looking from bottom to top of kiln, 12-12-23, Photo by Loren Webb



Aerial view of area around Middleton Kiln. Google map.



Middleton kiln, upper left, in relation to powerline road.
Google map.



Middleton kiln, upper left (white-colored) area,
With Middleton water tank, in lower right part of
Picture. Google map

