

# Joshua Holden Cook

Joshua Holden Cook was born 16 May 1857 in Nephi, Juab, Utah Territory. He was the second of ten children of David Cook and Mary Ann Holden.<sup>1</sup> The family was farming in Nephi in 1860<sup>2</sup>, but moved to Washington, Washington, Utah Territory, by 1870.<sup>3</sup> Joshua married Elizabeth Maria “Betsey” Bybee in 1877 in St George, Washington, Utah Territory. They had grown up together and both worked in the woolen factory before and after their marriage.<sup>4</sup> They had thirteen children.

Joshua built a log cabin at Pahreah, Kane, Utah Territory, where Betsey cooked for his two brothers. By 1878 they had moved back to Washington. On the 1880 census, Joshua was a farmer, living with his wife and two children in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory.<sup>5</sup> They heard about the fine country in Wayne County, so they and their extended family members moved to Thurber. Not liking the colder weather, they moved to the Blue Valley country (near Hanksville, Wayne, Utah Territory) but soon moved back to Thurber.<sup>6</sup> In 1886, they were living in Hooper, Weber, Utah Territory. They soon moved back to Thurber and then to nearby Lyman.

Joshua was called on a church mission in July 1893.<sup>7</sup> On his return, he built larger and nicer homes for his family. They raised grain, cows, sheep, chickens, and berry bushes. They were the first to have a phone, the first to have a pulley in the top of their large barn, which took the hay to the top and unloaded it.<sup>8</sup> On the 1900 census, Joshua was a farmer, living with his wife and ten children in Lyman, Wayne, Utah.<sup>9</sup> In 1909, they moved to Delta for Betsey’s health.<sup>10</sup> Joshua was farming in Burtner, Millard, Utah, with his wife, seven children and his father, in 1910.<sup>11</sup>

They were living in Delta in 1920<sup>12</sup>; Betsey died of anemia in 1923 and was buried in the Delta City Cemetery.<sup>13</sup> Joshua married Mrs Emma Louisa Taylor Jenkins in 1924 in Manti, Sanpete, Utah.<sup>14</sup> They moved to Delta in 1925.<sup>15</sup> By 1930 they were living in Provo, Utah, Utah; Emma died that year.<sup>16</sup> She was buried in Goshen, Utah, Utah.<sup>17</sup> Joshua died of bladder cancer on 24 February 1931 in Springville, Utah, Utah. He was buried next to Betsey in the Delta City Cemetery.<sup>18</sup> Joshua was an

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<sup>1</sup> Utah Missionary Department Missionary Registers, 1860-1930.

<sup>2</sup> United States Census, 1860.

<sup>3</sup> United States Census, 1870; *Millard County Chronicle*, 26 February 1931.

<sup>4</sup> Life sketch of Joshua Holden Cook and Betsy Maria Bybee, by daughter Geneva C Pace.

<sup>5</sup> United States Census, 1880.

<sup>6</sup> Life sketch of Joshua Holden Cook and Betsy Maria Bybee, by daughter Geneva C Pace.

<sup>7</sup> Utah, LDS Mission Calls and Recommendations, 1877-1918; Utah Missionary Department Missionary Registers, 1860-1930; *Millard County Chronicle*, 26 February 1931.

<sup>8</sup> Life sketch of Joshua Holden Cook and Betsy Maria Bybee, by daughter Geneva C Pace.

<sup>9</sup> United States Census, 1900.

<sup>10</sup> *Millard County Chronicle*, 26 February 1931; Life sketch of Joshua Holden Cook and Betsy Maria Bybee, by daughter Geneva C Pace.

<sup>11</sup> United States Census, 1910.

<sup>12</sup> United States Census, 1920.

<sup>13</sup> Utah Death Certificates, 1904-1964.

<sup>14</sup> Utah Marriages, 1887-1935.

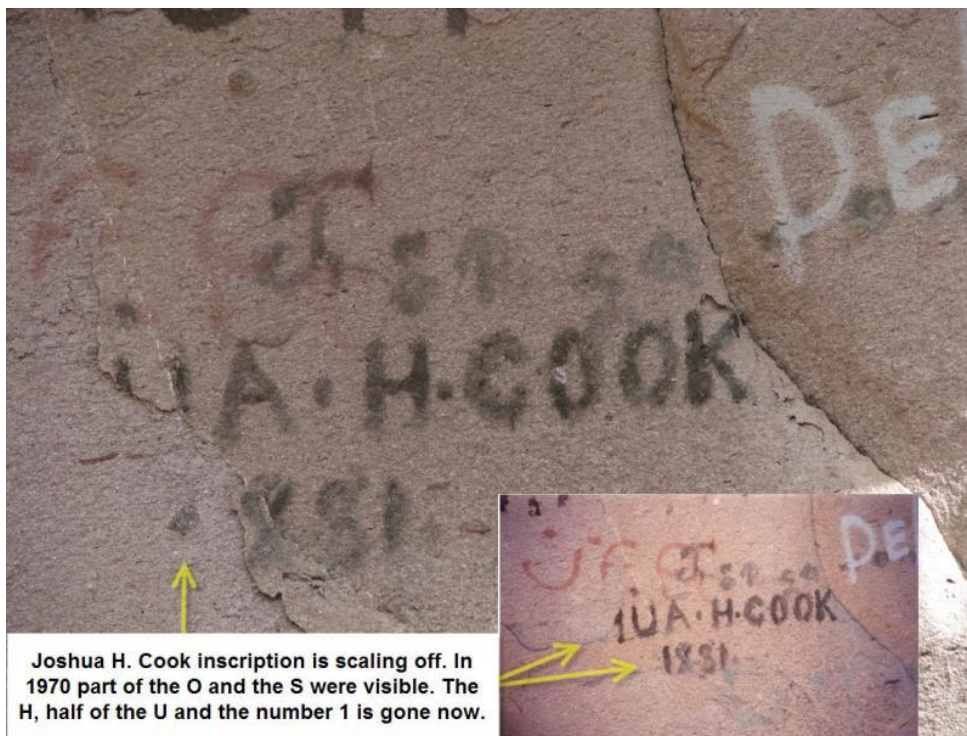
<sup>15</sup> *Millard County Chronicle*, 26 February 1931.

<sup>16</sup> United States Census, 1930; Utah Death Certificates, 1904-1964.

<sup>17</sup> Utah County, Utah Cemetery Index.

<sup>18</sup> Utah Death Certificates, 1904-1964.

artist and musician. He played the violin at most of the community functions and acted in plays for the townsfolk. His yard was wonderful to behold, with large metal animals, as well as an orchard.<sup>19</sup>



Comparison of the erosion of Joshua's inscription on a sandstone cliff (with that of his brother Joseph Ridley Cook above it), written in axle grease (image from *Familysearch.org*)



Joshua Holden Cook (image from *Familysearch.org*)

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<sup>19</sup> Life sketch of Joshua Holden Cook and Betsy Maria Bybee, by daughter Geneva C Pace; Millard County Chronicle, 26 February 1931; David Fuller Genealogy, by Neva Pace Robison Smith, 2005.



Joshua and Betsey Cook family (L to R) Mary, Joshua, Ellen, Lenora, Joshua, Betsey, Polly (image from *Familysearch.org*)



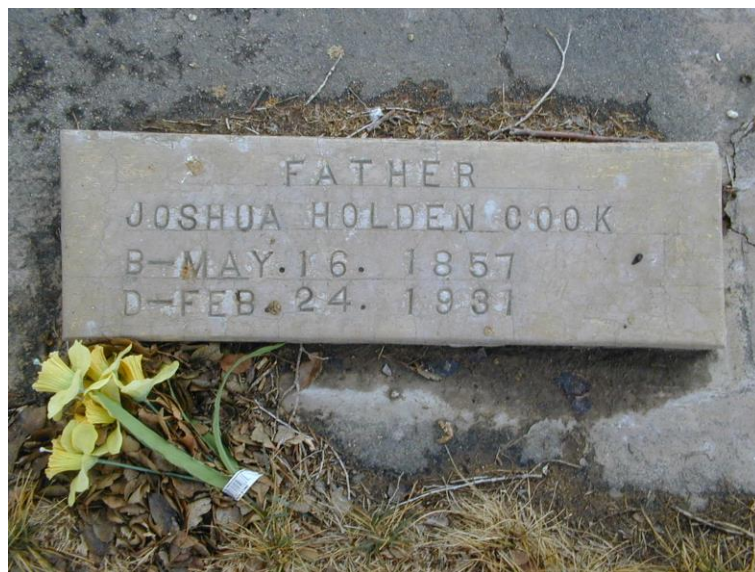
Joshua Holden Cook and Betsey Bybee (image from *Findagrave.com*)





Olive May Cook, first child on left. Her family and the home where she was born, Lyman, Wayne Co., Utah. Photo about 1907

Joshua Holden Cook family (image from *Findagrave.com*)



(Image from *Findagrave.com*)

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