

February, 1983

Dear Community Member:

Dixie College and the Washington County Historical Society are working together to present a lecture series dealing with local history.

The full title of our project is "Impact of Social and Environmental Change in Washington County on Human Values" from early in the nineteenth century to the present. There are eight subjects, six of which will be treated twice, once in St. George and once in a neighboring town. The speakers, who will assess local historical change the accompanying impact on human value systems (or vice versa) have been chosen both for their formal training and their familiarity with the assigned topic. The first lecturer is Dr. Melvin Smith, Director, Utah State Historical Society. His subject is the Washington Cotton Mill: "What was the impression made on the lifestyle of local citizens by the construction and subsequent operation of the Washington Cotton Mill?"

Other subjects to be explored include Ranching methods, water uses and policies, transportation modes, construction and use of public buildings, nature and influence of local folklore, values found in the architectural style of county homes, and the impact of the Silver Reef mining enterprise. In all there are eight subjects; eight lecturers.

Dr. Smith's presentation will be held first at 8:00 p.m., Dixie College Liberal Arts Room 105, Wednesday, February 23. On Thursday, February 24 he will explore his subject once more at the same time in the Washington Elementary School.

The other speakers, dates and places of presentation will be announced.

There is a strong feeling among members of the local historical society that looking at the link between social and environmental change and the effect on people's values will help folk to know themselves and their surroundings better. Such information could lead to personal change and growth.

This series would not be possible without a grant from the Utah Endowment for the Humanities, a state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Because of such aid, the series is free to the public; furthermore, the local historical society is hopeful that you will make a sincere effort to attend each scheduled evening.

The local Historical Society will be making a special presentation at this meeting to Juanita Brooks, prominent historian.

Peggy Childs
Montrou Larkin
Gordon Storrs