

Robert Dockery Covington Timeline

- 1815 Robert Dockery Covington was born August 20, 1815 in Rockingham, Richmond County, North Carolina to Thomas B. and Jane (Thomas) Covington.
-Sources: Genealogy of Robert D. Covington; Robert Dockery Covington Family Histories.
- Elizabeth Ann Thomas was born April,21 1820 in Marlboro County, South Carolina to John Pledger & Sarah Thomas.
- 1815-34 Robert Dockery Covington grew up on the family farm in Rockingham, Richmond County, North Carolina.
-Source: Robert Dockery Covington Family Histories
-Notes: Family Histories differ a bit as to his life growing up on the Covington farm. Also, Thomas Covington, Robert's father, inherited 100 acres, 1 slave boy, 1 horse, 1 saddle and 1 bridal from his father John Covington's estate according to John's will. The John Covington plantation was dispersed to Thomas and his 8 siblings around 1826 after Nancy Covington, Thomas's mother, died. In the 1850 Census Thomas Covington is registered as a farmer, no real estate owned, but owned 15 slaves ranging from 5 to 90 years old.
- 1834-39 Robert Dockery Covington moved to Noxubee County, Mississippi.
-Source: Robert Dockery Covington Family Histories.
- 1839 Robert Dockery Covington was married to Elizabeth Thomas on February 20, 1839 in Noxubee County, Mississippi.
-Sources: Mississippi Marriages, 1800-1911; Robert Dockery Covington Family Histories.
- 1839-45 Robert Dockery Covington was living in Noxubee County, Mississippi. Robert & Elizabeth were baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on February 3, 1843 by Benjamin Clapp in Noxubee County, Mississippi. They received their endowments in the Nauvoo Temple on January 20, 1846.
-Sources: Genealogy of Robert D. Covington; Robert Dockery Covington Family Histories; 1840 United States Federal Census, Noxubee, Mississippi.
-Notes: The records show that Robert Covington was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints February 3, 1843 in Noxubee County, Mississippi. The 1840 Census shows a R. Covington living in Noxubee County, Mississippi, but this is questionable as to if R. Covington was really Robert Dockery Covington. His wife is missing from the Census

and it also brings into question if this was a farm, plantation house or an overseer/slave quarters. The census list 9 slaves along with R. Covington.

- 1845 Robert Dockery Covington and family moved to Nauvoo, Illinois in the fall.
-Sources: Genealogy of Robert Covington; Robert Dockery Covington Family Histories.
- 1846 Robert Dockery Covington and family moved to Winter Quarters, Nebraska.
-Sources: Genealogy of Robert Covington; Robert Dockery Covington Family Histories; Bishops Report of Winter Quarters 7th Ward.
- 1847 Robert Dockery Covington and family moved to Salt Lake City, Utah. Elizabeth Covington died September 7, 1847
-Sources: Genealogy of Robert Covington; Four ten Company Roster; Robert Dockery Covington Family Histories; Billion graves.com.
- 1848 Robert married a widow Melinda Allison Kelly, on September 26, 1848 in Washington, Utah. Melinda was the daughter of Isaac & Jane Hunt Allison from Crawford, Kentucky. Covington moved to Mill Creek in 1848, he was appointed as counselor to Bishop Ezekial Lee of Big Cottonwood (Holladay) settlement where he accumulated land and livestock
-Sources: The Red Hills of November: A Pioneer Biography of Utah's Cotton Town;
- 1856 Sealed to Elizabeth Thomas, Malinda Alison, and Nancy Roberts in December 1856
-Sources: Genealogy of Robert Covington
- 1857 At the General Conference at Great Salt Lake City, April 1857, some twenty-eight families and a number of young men were called to settle in Washington County. At the time of organization in Salt Lake City, Robert Dockery Covington was called to take charge of the traveling company. On the 5th of May they arrived and camped near what was Adair's Springs, in the valley where the town of Washington has been located. On the 6th of May they were organized as a branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day saints, Robert D. Covington being appointed to preside, with Harrison Pearce and James B. Reagan to assist him.
-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.
- 1858 Robert Dockery Covington, was ordained Bishop of the Washington Ward.
-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.

- 1858-1859 Robert Covington served in the Legislative Assembly of Territory of Utah as a representative from Iron and Washington Counties.
-Source: Territory of Utah Legislative Assembly Rosters, 1851-1894, Utah State Archives.
- 1859 On March 7, 1859 a herd ground, 8 miles square, was granted for one year to Robert D. Covington in Dameron Valley, “said grant not to conflict or interfere with the grazing of any other settlement or previous rights. Albert W. Collins called as first counselor to Covington.
-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.
- 1860 Robert L. Lloyd called as second counselor to Covington
-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.
- 1861 Mormon apostle George A. Smith reported in 1861 that Bishop Covington kept cotton specimens from each crop, which showed improvement that indicated the specimens were adaptable to soil and climate. Robert and Malinda acquired an Indian child 2-3 years old in exchange for a horse. She grew accustomed to living after the manner of white folds, and shunned any association with others of her own race. She died when 15 years old of “one of the children’s diseases to which the Indians seemed to have little to no natural immunity.”
-Source: Larson, Andrew Karl, I Was Called to Dixie
-Notes:
- 1862-1865 Robert D Covington, as Bishop of Washington Ward, with his Counselors, Albert W. Collins and Robert L. Lloyd were presented and ratified at area conferences.
-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.
- 1863-1864 Robert Covington served as a selectman for the Probate and County Court.
-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.
- 1865 On August 12, 1865 Covington’s Counselors, Albert W. Collins and Robert L. Lloyd were honorably released and Robert F. Goold and Niels Sorensen chosen in their stead.
-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.
- 1866-1868 Robert D Covington, as Bishop of Washington Ward was sustained
-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.
- 1869 Elder William Leany, of Harrisburg Branch of Washington Ward accused the course and policy of President Erastus Snow, of this mission, and against Bishop Robert D. Covington of Washington Ward and Elder James Lewis, of Harrisburg

Branch.... James Lewis and Robert Covington submitted the following letter “We prefer against William Leany the following charges, to wit: 1st. Wicked and malicious conduct. 2nd. Slander. 3rd Lying and false representations.” Elder William Leany was cut off from the church, until a second hearing by order of Brigham Young was held to allow Leany to bring witness. Leany limited charges to those he could substantiate, and then choose to withdraw complaints and ask forgiveness to be allowed to retain his membership in the church.

-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.

1869-1870 Served a mission to the southern states in the fall of 1869 and returned in spring 1870.

-Sources: Genealogy of Robert Covington

1877-1886 Robert Covington was made a Counselor of the Priests’ Quorum.

-Source: James Bleak, Annals of the Southern Utah Mission.

1902 Robert D. Covington dies June 2, 1902 and was interred in the Washington City Cemetery