

## Thomas Greenhalgh

Thomas Greenhalgh was born 15 January 1821 in Worsley, Lancashire, England.<sup>1</sup> He was christened 4 March 1821 in Ellenbrock Chapel, Eccles, Lancashire, England.<sup>2</sup> He was the fourth of twelve children of William Greenhalgh and Margaret Hope.<sup>3</sup> His family owned a silk mill where fine material was woven.<sup>4</sup> He learned to be a weaver<sup>5</sup> and silk warper worked his trade in Manchester, Lancashire, England.<sup>6</sup> He was a “zealous advocate and defender of the truth”. (Obituary)

In 1840. Thomas and his brother Abraham joined the Mormon Church, some of the first to do so in the Preston area.<sup>7</sup> In 1841, their family was living in Pendleton, Eccles, Lancashire, England.<sup>8</sup> Thomas served as a home missionary in England from 1840-1860.<sup>9</sup> Thomas married Mary Moorcroft 26 September 1847 in Eccles, Lancashire, England.<sup>10</sup> They had ten children, two of whom died young.<sup>11</sup> In 1851, Thomas was a cotton warper, living in Pendleton, Lancashire, England, with Mary and their two children. Mary was a cotton weaver.<sup>12</sup>

In 1861, Thomas was a silk and cotton warper, living in Colne, Lancashire, England, with Mary and six children.<sup>13</sup> The family, including seven children, sailed on the ship *Belle Wood* from Liverpool, England, arriving in New York City 31 May 1865.<sup>14</sup> They found the country in deep mourning over the tragic death of Abraham Lincoln. The baby had been ill on the voyage and passed away a month after they arrived. Thomas could not find work in New York City, so they moved to Cohoes, Albany, New York. They sailed down the Hudson River from Albany to New York and waited for more saints who were going to Utah. In 1865, Thomas was a mover, living in Brooklyn, Kings, New York, with Mary and seven children.<sup>15</sup> Their roundabout route west was by way of Lakes Huron and Michigan, into Canada, then to Chicago and on to Wyoming. They continued to Utah, arriving 4 October 1866.<sup>16</sup>

They moved to Mill Creek near Cottonwood Canyon, where there was a blanket factory. Thomas set up the power looms that had been freighted with the pioneer company. They were the first waterpower looms to operate west of the Mississippi River. In 1867, they family moved to Washington County, Utah Territory, where Thomas set up more waterpower looms.<sup>17</sup> In 1869, the railroads were united and a cotton factory began operating. On the 1870 census, Thomas was working in the cotton mill and living in Washington, Washington, Utah Territory, with Mary and six children.<sup>18</sup>

Thomas married Harriet Wardle in 1874 in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah.<sup>19</sup> They had six children, two of whom died as infants.<sup>20</sup> On the 1880 census, Thomas was a cotton warper, living in

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<sup>1</sup> Membership of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1830-1848.

<sup>2</sup> England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975; England Manchester Parish Registers, 1603-1910.

<sup>3</sup> *Familysearch.org*

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Greenhalgh – Our Travelling Elder, by Howard Gilbert Wood (*familysearch.org*).

<sup>5</sup> Pioneer Immigrants to Utah Territory.

<sup>6</sup> Mary Ann Greenhalgh: Arriving in America, by Howard Gilbert Wood (*familysearch.org*).

<sup>7</sup> Thomas Greenhalgh – Our Travelling Elder, by Howard Gilbert Wood (*familysearch.org*).

<sup>8</sup> England and Wales Census, 1841.

<sup>9</sup> Pioneer Immigrants to Utah Territory; Millennial Star, Vol 51.

<sup>10</sup> Certified copy of marriage certificate from the General Register Office, Chorlton, England.

<sup>11</sup> Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah.

<sup>12</sup> England and Wales Census, 1851.

<sup>13</sup> England and Wales Census, 1861.

<sup>14</sup> New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957.

<sup>15</sup> New York State Census, 1865.

<sup>16</sup> Mary Ann Greenhalgh: Arriving in America, by Howard Gilbert Wood (*familysearch.org*); Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847-1868; Pioneer Immigrants to Utah Territory.

<sup>17</sup> Mary Ann Greenhalgh: Arriving in America, by Howard Gilbert Wood (*familysearch.org*).

<sup>18</sup> United States Census, 1870.

<sup>19</sup> *Familysearch.org*

<sup>20</sup> *Familysearch.org*

Washington, Washington, Utah Territory, with Mary and Harriet and four children. Mary suffered from dementia and wandered off into the hills near their home and died in 1885.<sup>21</sup> She is buried in the Washington City Cemetery. Thomas died 2 May 1886 in Washington, Washington, Utah, of diabetes and is buried next to Mary in Washington City Cemetery.<sup>22</sup> Harriet moved to Salt Lake City with her daughter, and died of a stroke in 1930. She is buried in the Salt Lake City Cemetery.<sup>23</sup>



Thomas Greenhalgh (Image from *Familysearch.org*)



Thomas Greenhalgh  
(Image from *Findagrave.com*)

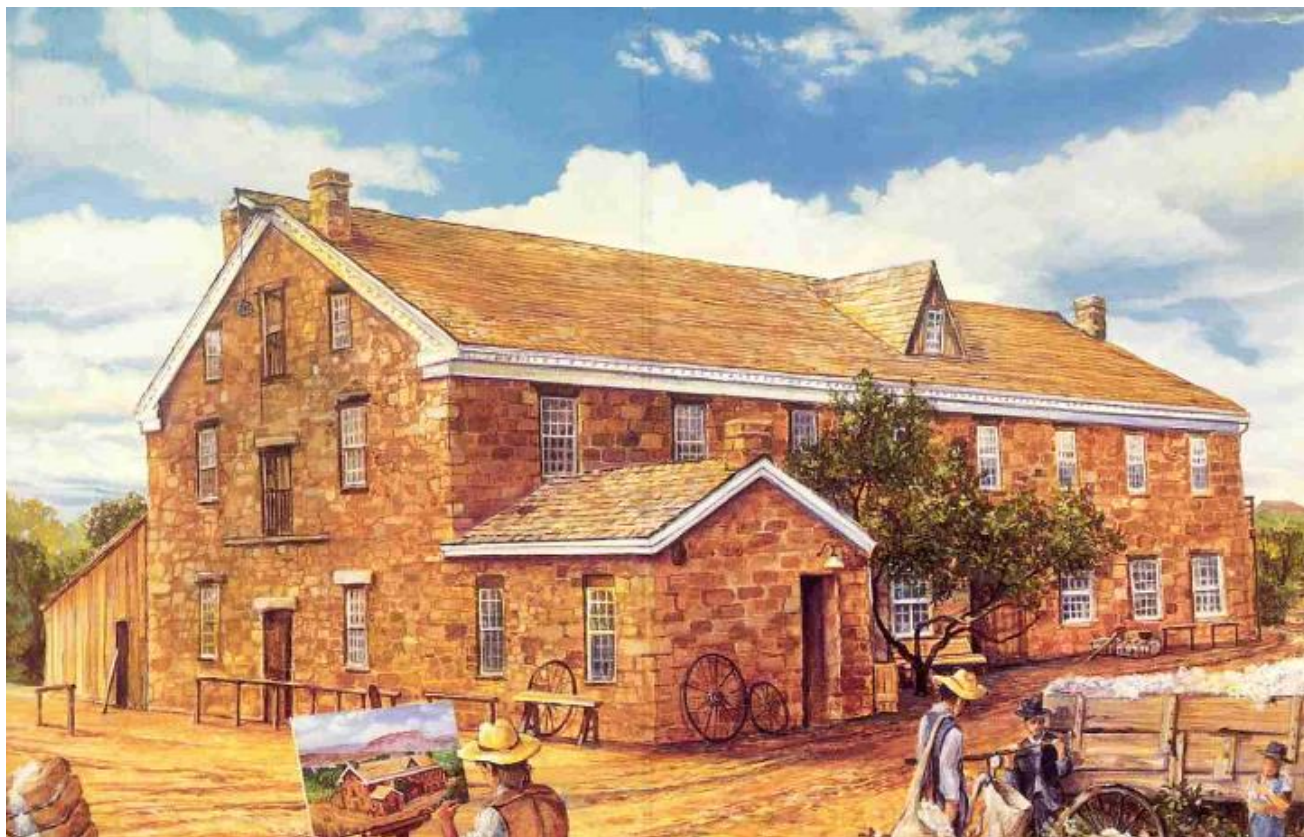
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<sup>21</sup> *Salt Lake Herald*, 2 August 1885.

<sup>22</sup> Utah Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel Database, 1847-1868.

<sup>23</sup> Utah Deaths and Burials, 1888-1946; Utah Salt Lake County Death Records, 1849-1949.





The cotton mill at Washington, Utah (Image from *Familysearch.org*)



(Image from *Findagrave.com*)