

FRONTIER TOWN & WINDMILL

The frontier town consists of the Livery Stable, General Mercantile, and Opera House.

Liveries were also called boarding stables, since horse owners could also pay to have a horse housed and fed. In some cases a livery would offer wagons, horses, and teams for hire. Many liveries also sold wood, coal grain and hay.

Mercantile stores sold all sorts of merchandise, from food and clothing to tools and special order items. Many special order items were placed with catalog warehouses such as Sears Roebuck and Company and Montgomery Ward.

Before most western migration, opera houses were often financed by the wealthy. In the 19th century, they became more publicly supported. Plays, dances, meetings, concerts and vaudeville performances were held. Opera was seen as a higher art form than theater, so the name change was used to make the theater more cultured, though in some opera houses, operas were never performed.

Windmills were often among a farmer's most prized possessions. The water pumped by windmills was used to cook, bathe, drink, water crops and animals, wash clothes, and more.

FARM ANIMALS

In addition to being a living history museum we are a working farm with a number of animals waiting to greet you when you visit. There is a good chance that you will be greeted by cows, horses, donkeys, pigs, chickens, goats, bison, and peacocks during your visit.



AMERICAN WEST
HERITAGE CENTER

Experience it!



4025 SOUTH US HWY 89
WELLSVILLE, UTAH
435-245-6050
AWHC.ORG

AMERICAN WEST HERITAGE CENTER SITEMAP



- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1. Parking | 6. Horse Barn | 12. Pavillion | 18. Pioneer Site |
| 2. Welcome Center | 7. Train Rides | 13. Livery | 19. Bridge |
| 3. Wagon Circle &
Park Entrance | 8. Petting Zoo | 14. Windmill | 20. Camp Rendezvous |
| 4. Martin Ford Ox Barn | 9. Gold Mining | 15. General Mercantile | 21. Bison Viewing Area |
| 5. 1917 Farm Site | 10. Pony Rides | 16. Opera House |  Restrooms |
| | 11. Woodwright Shop & Millinery | 17. Mountain Man Site |  Information |

OUR MISSION

Create an educational & entertaining environment that inspires our patrons to learn, live, and celebrate the American West Heritage by exploring the diverse cultures that shaped the Cache Valley and surrounding region from 1820 to 1920.

VISITING THE HERITAGE CENTER

Located at the foot of the breathtaking Wellsville mountains, just 90 minutes north of Salt Lake City and 10 minutes south of Logan, UT. Nestled along the scenic route via Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway to Jackson, Wyoming, Yellowstone, and Grand Teton National Park.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

Enjoy discounts and special rates for various events throughout the year for you and your family members. Whether you are looking to purchase an individual, family, or grandparent membership we have a plan for you! Visit our website for more information on plans and rates.

VISIT AWHC.ORG TO SEE MORE INFORMATION!

We offer several fun events and programming options year round including but not limited to pony and train rides, tea parties, handcart treks, team building programs, camp rendezvous, building rentals, corporate events, weddings, family reunions, campsite rental, bison tours, group tours and more! Be sure to visit our website to learn more about how you can *experience it* firsthand!

THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN WEST HERITAGE CENTER

The American West Heritage Center (AWHC) is a 275-acre living history museum and working farm dedicated to telling the story of the American West - from early Native American tribes to daily life on a 1917 farm.

The AWHC history can be traced back to two separate organizations; the Festival of the American West and the Man and His Bread Museum.

In 1965, the Festival started their annual celebration at Utah State University. In 1969, Ronald V. Jensen donated the money to purchase land for the Man and His Bread Museum, then the land was dedicated in 1971 as a museum site. In 1976, the Ronald V. Jensen Historical Farm was developed and donated to Utah State University. In 1995, the Festival of the American West and the Ronald V. Jensen Historical Farm merged to form a separate 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the American West Heritage Center.

As a non-profit foundation, we take pride in knowing that we make learning history exciting and available for all to experience. We safeguard traditions through festivals and events, demonstrations and classes, summer camps, historical building preservation, museum exhibits, and management of the historical farmland. Best of all, we have fun doing it. The beauty of the Wellsville mountains serves as a timeless backdrop, uniting the past and present together.

1917 FARM

The farm-site consists of the farmhouse, summer kitchen, farm shop, outhouse, chicken coop, wood shed, granary, smokehouse, garden, root cellar, horse barn and the Martin Ford Ox Barn.

The original portion of the farmhouse was a log cabin built in Amalga in the 1870's. The summer kitchen building was an original log cabin brought in from Logan. It was built in 1867 by P.N. Peterson and is considered one of the oldest standing buildings in Cache Valley.

The granary is made of 2x4 boards laid on their sides for added strength in supporting the pressure from stacks of grain and to keep moisture and pests out. Our granary is an original building from Richmond, moved here in 1976.

The Horse Barn is an original structure on the farm site. It was built between 1917 and 1918 by the Wyatt Family. Horses were vital for farm work. The Martin Ford Ox Barn is a mortis and tenon building in the Intermountain barn style, and is built with pegs instead of nails.

For more information visit awhc.org/1917-farm

MOUNTAIN MEN TRADING POST

Northern Cache Valley was visited by mountain men as early as 1818, but by 1825, Cache Valley was a popular destination for many fur trading companies. They explored everything from the Bear Lake to the Salt Lake. By 1825, most of the beaver in the lower streams had been trapped, and by Christmas of that year, most men were pushed out by to the heavy snow. Other trapping expeditions into Cache Valley occurred from 1827-1833.

For more information visit awhc.org/mountain-men-trading-post

PIONEER SETTLEMENT

The pioneer site focuses on the story of pioneer men, women, and children who entered in the intermountain west during the years 1845-1869. The current Pioneer site contains four structures, the Homesteader's Cabin, the Nibley Family dugout, the Mendon cabin, and the outdoor kitchen and cooking area.

The Homesteader's Cabin represents the requirements of the Homestead-ing Act of 1862. Most cabins had a dirt floor, a plank door on iron hinges and windows made with greased paper window panes.

The dugout at the AWHC is a replica based on the journals of Charles Nibley. His family built a dugout that looked just like this one in Wellsville in 1860, when he was 11 years old. He recorded and described the exact dimensions and how the dugout looked. The eight member Nibley family lived in the dugout from 1860-1862.

The Mendon Cabin was built around 1860 in Mendon Utah, by Irish immigrant Michael Murphy. In 1893, it was purchased by John and Susannah Ladle and removed from the original location to the Ladle's property. The log cabin was added onto and the Ladle family lived there with their ten children.

In 2015, the cabin was rediscovered by Vicky Doolittle, a direct descendant of the Ladle Family. When the Doolittle's went to tear the home down, they found the cabin and it was donated to the American West Heritage Center Pioneer Site.

Most aspects of the cabin are original to the property, even if they are not original to the cabin. All of the extra wood was milled from large pine trees near the house and were used to make the upper portion of the cabin, the steps, shingles, and frame in the windows. The windows are originals from the home.

For more information visit awhc.org/pioneer-settlement.

WOODWRIGHT SHOP & MILLINERY

The woodwright shop, millinery, and frontier town are typically only open during our festivals held throughout the year but are an important part of the history of the American West.

Woodwright shops were used by craftsmen to make cabinets, furniture, joinery, to turn and carve wood.

Millinery is the designing, making, and selling of hats shirts, coats, underwear, neckerchiefs, and cloaks. Milliners provided ready-made clothing for everyone.

