



UTAH HUMANITIES

Ideas in Action

For Immediate Release

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Smithsonian Exhibition, *The Way We Worked*, Continues Utah Tour at the Silver Reef Museum in Leeds

Salt Lake City, Utah, August 29, 2017 – [Utah Humanities](#) announces that [The Way We Worked, a Museum on Main Street \(MoMS\) exhibition](#) continues its year-long Utah tour with a stay at the [Silver Reef Museum](#) in Leeds. Presented by Utah Humanities, the [Smithsonian Institution](#), and communities statewide, the Leeds portion of the tour opens at the Silver Reef Museum and takes place from September 16th through November 4th.

The Way We Worked exhibition examines the strength and spirit of American workers through archival images, compelling videos, and fascinating interviews. As the tour makes its way through Utah, we'll be reminded that "we aren't the Beehive state for nothing!" and better understand how work is a key component of Utah's own identity.



To accompany and complement the Smithsonian exhibition, the Silver Reef Museum is collaborating with Arts to Zion Showcase at Gallery 35 and other Washington County Museums to curate a related collaborative series of exhibits: *Snapshots! Washington County Works!* These exhibits explore how Washington County's unique geography molded the innovative growth of businesses, specifically the combination of mining and agriculture as well as the art, culture and recreation that have helped to create a workforce-sustaining tourism base in Washington County. There are many family-friendly, no-cost events throughout Washington County prior to, and during, the Silver Reef Museum's hosting of *The Way We Worked*, all of which are designed to engage participants in a county-wide experience.

The Smithsonian exhibition in Leeds opens on:

Date: Saturday, September 16th, 2017
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Silver Reef Museum
Silver Reef Ghost Town, Leeds, UT
Phone: 435.879.2254 Email: museum@silverreef.org

More information about *The Way We Worked* events in Leeds, visit <http://utahhumanities.org/index.php/Center-for-Community-Heritage/the-way-we-worked-exhibition.html>, view the [Washington County Works! brochure](#), or visit ArtstoZion.org.

Bobbi Wankier, Director of the Silver Reef Museum and President of Arts to Zion/Southern Utah remarks that "In preparation for hosting *The Way We Worked*, my work over the past year has been focused on creating relationships and alliances for the Silver Reef Museum and Arts to Zion, and it has made me very proud to be a part of the community in which I live. I have learned about the tenacious and varied work of the people who forged this oasis in the desert, and I value that they, regardless of nationality or religion, worked together to create this amazing region of Utah. As Washington County residents, we are all in this together and it is exciting to see the momentum of this community in embracing their unique contributions to the whole. I am deeply appreciative of this experience."

Megan van Frank, Director of the Center for Community Heritage at Utah Humanities, is coordinating the exhibition tour in Utah. In explaining the critical role Utah Humanities plays in bringing the Smithsonian tour to Utah, she says, "We work hard to bring this experience to local communities, and the collaboration among national, state, and community organizations benefits everyone. We work closely with the host museums, helping to build their expertise in hosting a national exhibition. The entire experience directly strengthens Utah museums and helps to preserve and share Utah history." She also hopes that, "visitors to the exhibition will come away with a panoramic and personal view of how work has shaped the state of Utah as well as their personal lives. The exhibition is a unique opportunity for Utahns to tell their own work stories as part of local, state, and national conversations."

To learn more about the statewide tour, contact Utah Humanities at 801.359.9670 or visit <http://utahhumanities.org/index.php/Center-for-Community-Heritage/the-way-we-worked-exhibition.html>.

The six host sites and dates for this exhibition are:

January 28 – March 18, 2017

[Ogden Union Station Museums](#)

March 25 – May 13, 2017

[Hyrum City Museum](#)

May 20 – July 8, 2017

[Museum of the San Rafael](#)

July 15 – September 9, 2017

[Territorial Statehouse State Park Museum](#)

in partnership with [President Millard Fillmore Library](#)

September 16 – November 4, 2017

[Silver Reef Museum](#)

November 11 – January 15, 2018

[Park City Museum](#)

The Way We Worked has been made possible in Utah by Utah Humanities. The exhibition, created by the National Archives, is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and State Humanities Councils nationwide. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress.

Utah Humanities has also received strong local support for this exhibition. Partners and generous funders include The Utah Museum of Fine Arts, The Utah Division of State History, The State of Utah, The George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, The Lawrence T. and Janet T. Dee Foundation, Union Pacific, KCPW, and Utah Public Radio.

About Utah Humanities: Utah Humanities empowers Utahns to improve their communities through active engagement in the humanities. UH is funded by the Salt Lake County Zoo, Arts, and Parks Fund, the State of Utah, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and through gifts from individuals, foundations, and corporations. Each year, Utah Humanities supports hundreds of educational and cultural programs throughout Utah. For more information, visit www.utahhumanities.org.

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