A SUMMARY OF THE JOURNAL OF ABRAHAM HOAGLAND
Encompassing 1857 to 1870

Abraham Hoagland was born March 24, 1797, from a family of 10 children—6 boys and 4 girls. He was #9—all born in the same town, county, and state—Hillsborough, Somerset County, New Jersey.

He was sent to school at 4 years of age and at 13 years went to live with his brother John in Brandywater(?). "on my father’s farm." He farmed with his brother for 3 years. At 16 he was apprenticed to John Atkinson to learn the blacksmith trade—stayed 4 years as per agreement. Then did journey work for some time. (Father died Ap.? 1821). He was a very wild young man until the age of 26—the year 1823 "when I was moved upon to live different which I did beginning to pray unto the Lord." He moved closer to the Lord.

In 1825 he went to Michigan with George Hoagland, Arthur (?), Eyck, and D.H. Quick. Bought 160 acres of land for $200. Went back again with the same group—traveled through Canada part of the way, on the beach of Lake Erie, crossed over the river above the falls to Black Rock, traveled on the canal and steam boats all but 15 miles and to home.

That same year on November 24th married Margaret Quick, daughter of James Quick and Mary Hagaman.

The next spring (May 1, 1826) left with Margaret and her brother for Michigan. Arrived in 20 days and started the farm which involved "a great deal of hard labor."

January 15, 1827, they were blessed with a son, Lucas. Abraham set up his trade and also worked part time farming. February 11, 1829 a daughter, Mary, was born. They had good health in general and he "attached" himself to the Congregation Church and was appointed a Deacon.

A.D. 1831—Jan. 9 my son Peter was born
A.D. 1833—May 22 my son John was born
A.D. 1835—Nov. 3 my daughter Elizabeth was born

Abraham was dissatisfied with the doctrines of various churches, but in 1840 he heard the Latter-Day Saint preacher and believed what he preached. March 31, 1841 he was baptized in Royal Oaks, Oakland County. [I believe it says on his own land.]

Jan. 23, 1842, ordained by Elder Blanchard(?). Also, May 5, 1842, another daughter, Cornelia, was born. That same year he sold his farm to Mr. Skilor for $3000 and decided to go to Nauvoo in May, 1843, and arrived June 9th.

He went to see the Prophet Joseph Smith "pleased with him, bought 100 acres of land of him for $1200. Paid him $600 down, also bought a log house and lot of Allen Taylor in the City of Nauvoo."

On the 3rd day of July moved into the City. The family was all sick with measles and was youngest child died. In Sept. he was taken sick and was sick all the fall and unwell.
all winter. In October he was ordained an Elder by Joseph Smith.

In the spring of 1844 he got possession of his farm and began to improve it—also bought 2 wood lots and continued to build. On the 27th of June Joseph and Hyrum were killed. It was a very trying time.

Sidney Rigdon claimed he should lead the Church. Most people believed in the Twelve with Bro. Brigham Young at the head. They were exhorted to "go to with all our might and build the Temple and also raise grain. Great crops were raised and the Temple went ahead by the exertion of the Saints."

In October he and others started for Michigan and got to Royal Oaks. He made his home at A. Quick's, settled up his business, bought 2 horses, a wagon, and store goods and started in Dec., 1845, for home alone. Traveled through St. Joseph County and stayed with an old neighbor, Peter Coox. He stayed 2 days (very cold), had a good time, preached the Gospel, and found Peter Coox quite believing. Fell in company with Joseph West and the two traveled home together having much of the Spirit of the Lord all the time.

The first week of January he and his wife received their endowments ("I feel thankful for the privilege") and was ordained a High Priest by Ezra T. Benson and Father Morley. A very busy time in preparing to leave for California in the spring.

In the spring sold city property for $312; sold farm and 2 wood lots for 3 yokes of cattle, 2 cows, and some store (stone?) hay.

In the fore part of June left Nauvoo and crossed the Mississippi, went about 2 miles and camped for 2 days...At the Bluffs stopped about a week. "My son left with the Mormon Battalion for California. Then we crossed the Missouri River, went up a few miles, camped at the place called Cutter (?). Park for a few days and then moved down to the river and built a city called Winter Quarters, which was divided into wards." Abraham was ordained the bishop of the 11th Ward by Orson Pratt and Wilford Woodruff. He spent most of his time taking care of the poor and the cattle. They left for 6.S.L.C. in June of 1847—on the road about 4 months.

Went to work and built forts (they lived in the fort for 1 1/2 years) and acted as counselor to Bishop Hunter, then counselor to Bishop Murdock until 1851 when Murdock went to Australia on a mission. Abraham was then made bishop of the 14th Ward.

In 1856 the authorities of the Church "began to cry aloud...and told us we were asleep and that the sword of the Lord was unsheathed ready to fall upon us unless we would return from our backsliding and past wanderings. The people generally believed what was told them and did repent and brought forth fruits meet for repentance. I took hold of the reformation and labored diligently."
He was "unwell" during the winter, but enjoyed the Spirit of the Lord and was engaged in settling tithing. "March, 1857, commenced to baptize the ward which took two days. Good spirit."

April 2 (Thursday and Fast Day) Baptized 32 more who were absent on the previous baptismal.

Tuesday the 14th—Thomas Machan Oakden visited and said they wanted to return to the States. They said they could pay their debts, but not their tithing.

Monday 20th—Attended a re-organization of the Nauvoo Legion. Also, attended a prayer circle meeting in the Endowment House.

Traveled 381 1/4 miles to the Salmon River (by way of Malad) and that Sunday attended a meeting—the subject being settling among the Indians.

Friday, June 10, 1857—The church commenced giving endowments again.

Friday, July 14, 1857—"...helping my son John on his mission to meet the soldiers." (Johnston’s Army?)

During this time he spent many days "drawing in" his wheat, attending meetings, and ward business. Also, attended a meeting of different committees on agriculture and home manufacturing.

One day ("Satterday" 19th) he spent "preparing and sending out some things to my son John which is guarding and watching the move of the soldiers."

March 20 to April 18, 1858—Much engaged in getting ready to move south into Utah County because of the army. G.O. Cannon left the 16th for Fillmore to start the press [Deseret News press?]. Good spirit among the Saints.

April, 1858—Lived with my family on what is called the Provo Bottoms—lived in my tents and wagon. Previous to this time there had been a compromise between us and the Army. They had come and passed through G.S.L.C. and we were told to move back in July. I had put some crops in the Big Field.

Sept. 16th, 1858—My wife Rebecca had a son and we named him George Abraham Merrill Hoagland.

The City Council thought it best to reduce the police to 50 good men.

"Christmas passed off with considerable drunkenness and noise amongst our Gentiles and some professed Mormons."

Attended the first meeting held in the [old] Tabernacle.

1859

Jan. 4th—Lucas (my son) left for California with a team of 4 animals and wagon.

Settled tithing.

Feb. 1—Tuesday—Attended a blessing meeting at F.D. Richards’ house to bless one of G.O. Cannon’s children. [Handwritten note: FRANK J?].
Friday, 4th—Finished a letter to G.O. Cannon who is living part of the time in Philadelphia.

Had a hard cold that settled on his lungs.

March 6—Sunday—"A [church] trial with Bro. Wollacot for keeping a disorderly house. Withdrew the hand of Fellowship from him for trying to justify himself and not willing to reform.


Some people have decided to leave G.S.L.C. because they won't live their religion. Abraham sees the need to live more to honor the Priesthood.

The Lord blesses the Saints with a good growing time and there is a good deal of water from the thawing of the snow from above.

Sept. 23rd—"A good deal of wickedness amongst us. Some by professed Mormons...I feel the importance of living nearer to the Lord."

Oct. 4th—A very sore ankle.

1860

Monday, Jan. 2, 1860—Attended a ward party in Music Hall—quite a good time.

On Friday, went to visit the Appleby family with Bro. Turnbow. Not a good spirit. [Later] Four of the family cut off from the Church.

(There are frequent references in the journal to sowing, tending, harvesting wheat in the Big Field and also tending his garden. He mentioned planting barley, corn, sugar cane seed, potatoes, and beans.)

Dec. 1, 1860—F.D. Richards very ill with inflammatory rheumatism. Also, Abraham called on a widow. Continued to visit them both over the next few weeks.

Attended a "tryal" between Dr. Clinton and Wm. Jenning for un-Christianlike conduct against Wm. Jenning. The charge was sustained/the hand of fellowship withdrawn.

Bad cold at the end of the month, so he couldn't attend a ward party.

1861

Jan. 1, 1861—A meeting in the new school house.
Friday, Jan. 4—Wm. Jennings the hand of fellowship restored.

Fri., Feb. 8—Tried James Ferguson and Wm. Nixon for un-Christianlike conduct. J. Ferguson cut off from the
Church. Wm Nixon said he was sorry for what he had done. Plead for mercy which was extended to him.

Monday, Feb. 11, 1861--"also______[can't read] a Bill of Divorce to my wife Agnes Taylor."

Sunday, March 10, 1861--Tended 4 meetings, good instruction from Pres. Brigham Young, H.C. Kimball, Br. Orson Hyde, George A. Smith and others.

Monday, the 11th--Son John commenced to plow for sowing families. Also Amasa Lyman and others.

Sunday 24th--Attended a meeting in the evening at the ward school house.

Fri. the 29th--At home until he went to get Sis. Hardy "to assist my wife Rebecka at 10 minutes apart. 4 o'clock we had a daughter born to us in the evening."

Mon.. April 8th--Blessed the baby and named her Margaret.

Fri., April 19th--Felt sorry about the divided States of the U.S. and the "destruction which is a coming upon them."

Heard that Fort Sumter was given up. Monday 22--the 14th(?!) Ward team started for the States. Quite a stormy time.

May 8, 1861--My son Lucas started for Calif.

Thurs., 9th--Went out and helped my son John planting sugar cane and fixed up some fence.

Fri. May 10th--Priesthood Mtg.--a good spirit. Report from Br. Nixon, not very favorable he being drunk and abused(?) his family. The hand of fellowship withdrawn for profane swearing and getting drunk from Br. Nixon on Sunday.

Sunday, June 2, 1861--Cut off Wm. Nixon in ward mtg.

June 28, 1861--Went out and hoed weeds out of sugar cane.

June 29, 1861--At home, quite lame. At 5 o'clock attended meeting in City Hall.

July 4, 1861--A great celebration--a large procession--a picnic party in the evening--a very good spirit.

Sunday, July 7--Labor with Bro. Broderick--the hand of fellowship withdrawn.

Fri., July 12--Abraham went to a meeting with his councilors to the President's office. The case of Bro. Broderick brought up. The Pres. requested he be restored to fellowship again.

Sunday, July 14, 1861--Bro. Broderick restored to fellowship again in ward mtg.

Monday--Tithing Day--went up and worked at the Tabernacle.

Sunday, July 29, 1861--Attended meetings in Bowery and school house--good meeting.

Aug. 2, Fri.--Cradled wheat.

Monday, Aug. 5--Taken quite lame in morning. C. West and wife at my house. [C. West is his son-in-law, Mary's husband]
Aug. 8--Hauling hay and then says "ditto" for Fri. and Sat. [Abbreviation for ditto is Do.]
Served on a jury in Sept. The jury decided the man was guilty of murder in the 1st degree.
Sun., Sept. 15, 1861--[The authorities] Chastized us for our sins in following the Gentile fashion and partaking of their spirit.
November 16, 1861--Saturday--A visit from C.W. West--quite frequent.

1862

March 6, 1862--Went to the dedication of The Theater.
March 24, 1862--My birthday--age 65 years old--good health. Trimmed peach tree, apple tree and currant bushes--John Hoagland commenced plowing for Br. Little near Jordan. [This Br. Little might be the Jesse Little who married Emily Hoagland.]
April 15, 1862--C.W. West appointed to go to England.
Sun., April 20--A visit from C.West.
Mon., April--C.W. West fixing to go on his mission for England. His wife staying (?) at my house also.
Sat., April 26, 1862--C.W. West started with Capt. Hooper for the States.
July 4, 1862--The Celebration, quite a parade.
July 5--Went to canyon for wood. [Emigration]
July 24, 1862--Fifteenth Anniversary Celebration in the Bowery and school house.
Sept. 25, 1862--The Pres. returned from the North and in the following days attended meetings with him on Church business--particularly concerning sustaining the President on matter of financing things to sell. Appointed a committee.
Dec. 7, 1862--My wife Margaret quite sick.

1863

Thurs., Jan 1, 1863--Married a couple; also tended Fast Mtg. 10 people baptized.
Feb. 20, 1863--Wrote a letter to G. Hoagland in New Jersey.
Mar. 3, 1863--A meeting in the Tabernacle to express our feelings about Gov. Harding's conduct towards us. Wanted him removed from office.
Mar. 24, 1863--My birthday--66 years old--good health.
Repaired fence out in the Field.
July 27, 1863--Worked at Blacksmithing.
Aug. 22, 1863--Visited James Ferguson who was very sick.
Fri., Aug. 28, 1863--C.W. West returned on third night from a mission. Left for home Friday a 12 o'clock.

Sept. 1, 1863--Gathering 12 persons to receive endowments from this ward.

Sept. 7, 1863--"Helping fix up my son John to go after my daughter Elizabeth." (by her way home from England).

Sept. 9, 1863--My son started on the road.

Sept. 12, 1863--Sent my son Lucas to assist in with Elizabeth. At 5 o'clock they came in quite weary with the journey.

Sunday, Sept. 13, 1863--Tended 2 meetings. Also the burying of G.O. Cannon's little girl. (George Ann)

Sept. 27, 1863--Sunday--My wife Rebecca had another daughter--born in morning.

Oct. 31, 1863--My two wives both unwell.

Nov. 1, 1863--All enjoying better health.

Fri., Dec. 25, 1863--A party in meeting house. A good time.

Mon., Dec. 28, 1863--In the evening a ward party.

Dec. 30, 1863--Attended the funeral where Br. Amasa Lyman preached to us. A very interesting sermon.

1864

Feb. 4, 1864--Confirmed 2 that were re-baptized.

Feb. 11, 1864--Settling a difficulty with S. Snyder and wife. The evening a Bishop's meeting, counseled to raise 300 teams to bring in the emigration from Florence.

Mar. 24, 1864--67 years old today--quite good health.

April 20, 1864--My little girl Margaret quite sick--been so over 3 weeks.

April 25, 1864--Fixing for emigration. Quite a sick little girl named Margaret.

April 30, 1864--At about 4 o'clock my little daughter Margaret died, she being 3 years, 1 month, 1 day old.

May 1, 1864--Very busy fixing to bury my daughter which was attended to at 3 o'clock. The evening at 7 o'clock tended a ward meeting.

June 5, 1864--In the afternoon went to look for Matthias Cowley who was drowned in the Jordan--went a swimming and fishing.

June 10, 1864--Went to help look for M. Cowley again.

Sunday, June 12--Attended the funeral of Matthew Cowley.

July 4, 1864--Before sunrise firing of cannon at the Arsenal and guns in the city. Evening--sky rockets near the Arsenal.

Sept. 12, 1864--Summoned to be on Grand Jury.

Sept. 14--Death of Br. Brodrick near 4 o'clock.

Sept 20-24--Sick in bed. He felt better on the 25th and was up part of the day.

Sept. 28--Threshing my wheat.

Sept 30--Still in house--quite lame.
Oct. 3--Leg getting better--still in house.
Oct. 14--Still quite lame--most part of the time on the bed. A good deal of company. C.W. West came down from Ogden. Also had a visit from G.O. Cannon. He got home the 10th in good health and spirit.
Oct. 17--Got my son Lucas to go out and help dig potatoes.
Nov. 9, 1864--On the mend. Went out of doors again.
C.W. West left for home.
Nov. 24, 1864--C.W. West at my house in the morning.
Came last night. I myself mending harness.
Nov. 25--Doing chores at home. C.W. West started for home. Pleasant day.
Dec. 11--C.W. West came down from Ogden to my house.
Dec. 12--My son John with part of his family started for Ogden.

1865

June 8, 1865--Abraham's 5 week old grandson died.--the son of his daughter Emily and J.C. Little.
July 4, 1865--Attended the parade--walked with the pioneers--quite a celebration.
Nov. 1--The City called out on a military drill for 4 days. Went up to see them start. Also formed a ward guard.
Dec. 15--At G.O. Cannon's to assist in blessing children.
Dec. 19, Tuesday--Went to see Pres. Young about parties.
Carried up tithing money. C.West moved to Br. Little's
Dec. 22--Went up on Main St.--a very full street.
Monday, Christmas--Went twice to the school house preparing for a party. Not well enough to attend it.
Dec. 31--A very deep snow--now over 3 feet.

1866

Jan. 17, 1866--Heard of the death of my son John's little girl.
Jan. 19--Not very well. Quite a cold on my lungs.
Settled tithing. [He settled tithing the whole month of January each year.]
Jan. 20--My wife Margaret got back from Ogden.
Feb. 1--At night a meeting by request from Pres. Brigham Young--all the male members to meet and "we were instructed to become naturalized so as to vote at our election."
Feb. 10, 1866--Went up to Pres. Young's office and got tickets for election on Monday.
Feb. 12--Tended the election for city officers at the City Hall. A great turnout.
Feb. 24--In afternoon attended a funeral at my son Lucas'--a little child of his--11 months old.
March 1, Thurs.--A play was given for the benefit of David M. Davis. Also dioramic views in the ward.
Mar. 24--69 years old today. Went out and set out apple and peach trees, some work in ward, and at night married a couple.
April 28, Sat.--Quite sick with sick head all day on bed.

April 29--Quite well engaged in fitting out my teamster for the East.

Mon., April 30--Sorted (?) part of my team and teamster--one wagon and guard.

June 19--Writing some. Trimming trees and doctoring my leg by working it.

July 16--Went out to my 14 acre lot to cut grass. Also went to see G.O. Cannon, he being sick.

Aug. 25, Sat.--Started a team to meet the Emigration. Quite pleasant.

Oct. 15, Mon.--Quite a snow. Afternoon went to J.C. Little and blessed his little boy. Called his name Abraham Hoagland Little. Had a hearty supper. Then G.O. Cannon and wives was there also. Quite cold.

Dec. 25--Went out to farm. Quite warm and muddy. At noon went to G.O. Cannon's on a visit. Came home at 10 o'clock.

Dec. 27, 1866--At home. Quite lame with sore foot from a burn at night. Not able to attend Bishop's Meeting.

1867


Feb. 8, Fri.--Br. Blazzard (?) was tried before the council for getting drunk and profane swearing. He promised to do better. He was told to be baptized again.

Feb. 11--Quite sick, not out of bed. All day sick head "ake".

Feb. 25--Bishop West, wife and son came to my house on a visit. [Earlier in the day] "went up in city on business."

Feb. 28--C.W. West and family started for Ogden.

April 24, Fri.--George Q. Cannon's little daughter died--18 months old--Elizabeth her name.

April 27--Attended a funeral at G.O. Cannon's. Br. Kimball preached a good sermon and a comforting one to us all.

Oct. 8, 1867--[Something about Amasa Lyman] The authorities restoring Amasa Lyman, cut off from the Quorum. [I can't tell if that was what is written or not.]

Oct. 23, Weds.--Working at home digging a cellar for my office and grainery, etc. [He was 70 years old!]

Oct. 30--Received a letter from Garrett (?) Hoagland in New Jersey.

[The next days he hauls rock, sand, lime, etc. for his office and grainery.]

Dec. 9—Attended a meeting in City Hall—teaching from the Presidency about supporting the poor by donation. The Bishops send for with the Teachers for donations.

Dec. 10—I sent the Teachers to get donations for the poor.

Dec. 12—Met the sisters and organized the female Relief Society again—Sis. Horn pres.

Dec. 13, Fri.—Had Chauncey West, J.C. Little, G.Q. Cannon and part of their families to supper at my house. At night tended the School of the Prophets.

Dec. 14—C. West and wife Mary started for home about 5 o’clock. Working at home. A good many calls by the poor at my house.

Dec. 23, Mon.—At 1 o’clock tended the School of the Prophets. The subject spoke on: to cease trading with our enemies.

1868

Jan. 5, Sun.—Not well. Did not attend any meetings.
My "calve" brought by Lucas.

Thurs., Mar. 12—Quite sick all day—pain in leg and head—fasted and prayed.

[He has made frequent mention that he attends the School of the Prophets which seems to be held on Mondays and Fridays. He always says "good instruction" or "good spirit".]

Sun., April 5—Tended 3 meetings—2 in the new Tabernacle. In ward house in the evening. Good spirit all meetings.

Sun., April 12—Tended 3 meetings in old Tabernacle.

June 25, Thurs.—White washing my house most part of the day.

June 30—After noon went a fishing—caught 9 small fish.

July 19—Tended to getting things in readiness to bury a child that was drowned.

July 24—Day of the month when the pioneers came in this valley 21 years ago. Went a fishing with my son George.

July 29—Went to my farm near Jordan. Water high

Sept 12—Attended a funeral at my son Lucas’...his son Lucas died—a year and a half or about that.

Sept. 14, Mon.—My son John Hoagland got home from a mission from Switzerland in good health and looking well and enjoying good health and spirit.

Nov. 16—Writing part of letter to send to my relations in the States with my son-in-law J.C. Little.

Nov. 30—At 1 o’clock had a trial with my "Counciller" between Bishop Cahoon Adamson the plaintiff against C.B. Haulley (?) for taking timber in Cottonwood Canyon.

Dec. 9, Weds.—At 6 o’clock Br. John Taylor’s 1st wife Leonara. Went to see her.

Dec. 10—The funeral at 12 o’clock in the 14th Ward Hall. Preaching by G.A. Smith.

Bad cold on Christmas—didn’t leave home.
Dec. 31--Bought 20 acres of land over the Jordan River from Br. Riggs (or Regis?). Paid him $200.

1869

Feb. 11, 1869, Thurs.--Settling tithing. Went up to the Pres.'s office in afternoon, carried money and store orders near $300. A visit from G.Q. Cannon and wife and Emity Little and Sis. Carleton. A good visit.

March 8, Mon.--Went out to 14 acre lot and commenced to plow. In afternoon my son Lucas came and plowed for me.

Mar 9--Went again to farm--my son plowing--I sowing some grass seed. Burning some rubbish and mowing some bushes, etc.

Mar. 10--At night had a ward meeting and appointed the officers for the ward co-operative store for the 14th Ward.

Mar. 24--My birthday--72 years old--quite good health. Sowed 3 bushels of wheat and repaired some fence.

May 10, Monday--Went forenoon to the 14 acre lot on horseback repairing some fence. At 1 o'clock tended the celebration of the railroad in new Tabernacle. A good time--quite a turnout.

May 16, Sunday--Tended 5 meetings. Preaching by 2 Methodist priests; after by Br. Woodruff and G.Q. Cannon--good meetings.

June 2--At night my daughter Mary and others came on a visit.

June 19, Sat.--My wife Margaret taken very sick. Tended the School of the Prophets at 1 o'clock.

June 20--Tended 3 meetings. My wife better. C.W. West came to my house from Ogden.

July 5--Attended the funeral of a 17 month old boy who died by poisoning (taking concentrated lye).

Oct. 1--In forenoon went to raise team for hauling rock for Temple.

1870

Jan. 9, 1870--Had news of the death of my son-in-law C. West. He died in California.

Jan. 15--Saturday morning at half past 9 o'clock C. West was brought to Ogden from California. Quite a stormy day.

Jan. 16--Sunday morning started up with my wife Margaret from Ogden with quite a company on the cars. Got up there about 3 o'clock. My son-in-law was buried between 4 and 5 o'clock. Quite a turnout from this city and Ogden. [Calls the cemetery the "berrying ground." ]

Feb. 4--At night a ward priesthood meeting in office. Cut off T. B. Armstrong and 2 wives; also T. Hall and 2 wives for apostasy.

Feb. 15--My son and wife and daughter from Ogden came here.
March 24--My birthday--73 years old--still getting better. [Had ague and fever].

July 20--Went down to farm repairing fence. Had my daughter Mary West come from Ogden. Had a visit from G.O. Cannon and wife and J.C. Little and wife.

July 21--At 5 o'clock went to Br. J.C. Little's, my wife and G.O. Cannon and 2 wives was there.

Aug. 1, 1870, Monday--Election Day--quite a turnout.

Aug. 8--At night had a meeting of the stockholders of our ward store. Resolved to build a house for the store and female society.

Aug. 29--My daughter Mary West died at Ogden on the 28th.

Aug. 30, Tues.--Went up to Ogden to attend the funeral which was attended to from 10 to 10 o'clock evening. Came home again; also Martin Harris came to this City with Ed Stevenson.

Sept. 30--Went to farm with my son George in 1 horse wagon.


Oct. 31, 1870--Quite unwell on bed part of day. Not able to tend the funeral at G.O. Cannon's.