

James
Hunsaker
1

A Documented History

OF

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER

Section One: The Nauvoo Period

Published 1979 by the Hunsaker Family Organization



ABRAHAM HUNSAKER

OCOGS

Preface

A sincere love for Abraham Hunsaker and his posterity has inspired the Hunsaker Family Genealogy Committee to share with you some of the spiritual experiences and details of his illustrious life.

Much new research has recently been done on the life and activities of this noble pioneer. This material makes it very evident that Abraham Hunsaker centered his life around his family and church. We hope this documented history will give a true insight of his greatness, humility, depth of character, feelings, testimony, and love of God and his family.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Abraham Hunsaker's journal appears in italicized type as it was printed in "The History of Abraham Hunsaker and His Family", edited by Q. Maurice Hunsaker and Gwen Hunsaker Haws, published by the Hunsaker Family Organization in 1957 (now out of print). In publishing this journal the editors attempted to reproduce the original wording, as nearly as it can be interpreted, including the spelling and sentence construction. In the interests of clarity, some punctuation was inserted. Words and letters in brackets are the editors' and do not appear in the original journal.

Some of the documents reproduced in this "Documented History of Abraham Hunsaker" have been traced lightly to make the reproduction more legible.

Gwen H. Haws, Editor

Abraham's Early History as Recorded in His Journal

SHORT HISTORY OF ABRAHAM HUNSAKER¹

Abraham Hunsaker was born in the year 1812, Nov. 29, Jonesborough town, Union County, State of Illinois, son of Jacob Hunsaker and Polly Luce. My father was born in Pennsylvania, sone of Jacob Hunsaker. He lived till he was some 64 years old and he dyed. He was a good and honest man all the days of his life. As long as I new him he never lyed or cheated or took anything dishonestly. He even never took the name of the Lord in vane, but he had self government over his passions so he never s[p]oke rashly, but allways temperate and came [calm]. He belonged to the Duncard Society till his death. He was 27 years old when maryed to my mother. He had 5 children by my mother, viz: Nancy, John L., Abrahm, Katharine, Jacob.

Nancy was maryed to Jacob Wigle and had 7 or eight children.²

John maryed a girl whose name was Marthy Lemmon and had 5 or 6 children.

Katharine maryed a man whose name was John Wigle, brother to Jacob, [and] had 2 or 3 children.

This is the title Abraham Hunsaker placed at the beginning of his journal. No date is given for this first entry.

²Abraham left several blank lines after mentioning each brother and sister, apparently intending to fill in names of their children or other information later.

Jacob married a girl by the name of Emely Collins, cousin to Eliza, my first wife. They had 6 or 7 children when we saw them last. They all moved to Oregon except my brother, John. He was in Texas when I last heard. I am looking for him to move here.

My father also married [a] girl after my mother died by the name of Elizabeth Brown. They had 9 children when my father died.

My father's father's name was Jacob. He lived till he was 84 years old when he died. He was a hatter by trade, a good and honest man.

My father's father's father, being my great grandfather, his name was Jacob. He lived to a good old age and full of years. My great grandfather was 106, one hundred and six, years old when he died.^a My grandfather and great grandfather and grandmother were buried with my mother some 2 miles west of Jonesborough town, Union County, State of Illinois, near where I was born. My grandmother Hunsaker's name was Katharine and she was 84 years old when she died.

My mother was some 30 years old when she died. She was buried with most all my fourfathers in a graveyard that we called the Duncard graveyard, for most all were duncards or belonged to the duncard society, near Uncle George Wolf's farm who was the main minister of that society. My mother while on her death bed said she saw visions and would have the bible with her in her death bed till she died. In her visions she saw that all religion was wrong and that the true gospel would yet be revealed. Her name was Poly Luce, daughter of William Luce and Nancy Mourton.

My grandfather Luce was an honest man and honorable in all his dealings. He was some 80 years old when he died and was buried with his wife, Nancy, in Mulinchurgh county on Green River near the mouth of Muddy River. He was a

^aThis statement, written before Abraham had access to family records, seems inaccurate. His later records showed his great grandfather's name was John and that he lived to be 87 years old.

passionate man some like myself. He would have government over all his house; all had to obey him. He had some 8 or 9 children that lived to state of manhood whose name is Jacob, Isaac [?], Jonathan, Poly, Hety, Elizabeth. Some of their name I forget.

My grandfather Hunsaker had 7 children that lived to raise tolerable large families. Their names are called Jacob, George, Abraham, Anny, Katharine, Mary, Sally. One boy died when young, name Henry. My father and his father were the first settlers of Jonesborough town, Union county. It was a heavy timbered country, tolerable hilly and broken so they had to move in on pack animals and afoot. [They] had to undergo hardships of new settled country deprived of every comfort of life except that they raised by their[selves] and neighbor. It was tolerable sickly place some 10 [miles east] of Mississippi River. The bottom near the river was full of lakes and slues.

12 March 1827 Jacob Hunsaker, father of Abraham, sold his home and 43 acres of his farm in Union County, Illinois near Jonesboro, to George Greer for \$100.00

G.S. Film 963,160 Union County Deed Book, Vol 4, page 61.

16 July 1827 Abraham Hunsaker's father, Jacob purchased a cattle winter range and property for fifty dollars from James Green. This property was located one mile northeast of La Prairie, Adams County, Illinois in SW¼ section 9 TWP 2 NR 5 West; it was about 15 miles from the main Jacob Hunsaker farm. This is the property where the following events took place, as described in the Abraham Hunsaker Journal in the years 1827-8. Abraham and his family lived on this land for one year before purchasing their main farm near Payson, Adams County, Illinois.

G.S. Film 967,538 Adams County Illinois Deed Book 4 page 279 dated 26 July 1827.

My father lived here in Union County till I was 14, fourteen, years old. He then moved to Adams County and settled some 15 miles east of Quincy. I had lived on bread and milk and vegetables till I was 14 years old. When we started on our journey to Adams County, being near 300, three hundred, miles they way we had to go at that time, I could not get milk and vegetables and I was taken sick haven to change my diet. I had to commence eating meat; I got well in a few days. The road was muddy, it being in the month of March. We traveled over flat wet country where I first beheld prairy country. I had lived in very heavy timbered country where the large poplar, oak, and gum grew.

31 July 1829, Jacob Hunsaker of Adams County, Illinois, sold to James Vance Brooks, a Baptist Minister, Sixty Seven and a Half acres for \$345.00, (with exception of one acre deeded by Jacob Hunsaker to the Trustees of the Baptist Church.

Abraham and his brother Jacob, went to Union County to get some cattle belonging to their father.

Abraham also attended school for three or four months. His teacher was James Vance Brooks, the purchaser of his father's farm.

Book 4 page 201 G.S. film 963,160 Deeds - Union County Illinois.

I lived with my father for some 3 years when he sent me and my brother Jacob back to Union County to get some cattle that was coming to my father for his farm he had sold. While we wer here in union county, my brother Jacob was

taken sick with chill and fever. He was quite sick but recovered when we started home. The day before we started I gave him enough whiskey to mak him drunk hoping it would cure him. It cured him. While I was here in Union county I went to school to a babtis [Baptist] minister which my father had sold his farm to. We wer here some 3 or 4 months. I collected together the cattle and came home to my father.

My brother John had gone to Galena to work in the lead mines. He stayed 2 or 3 years and made considerable and he then bought a lead [mine] and gave all he had made and went in debt or promised more. The man had placed some ore in the lead mine [and] made him think it was a very rich mine, but my brother was mistaken—it was no count and he came home in debt some 4 or 5 hundred dollars. It was not exactly by my father's council for him to go to the mine, but by my brother's request.

I was the oldest boy that lived at home after my brother John left and had charge of his farm in summer, and in winter took care of his cattle some 15 miles from home where my father bought a quarter of section of land. He gave this farm to my sister Nancy and my brother John after he came home. While I was here on this place, I and my sister Nancy, being the only ones that was at home, we concluded to go and hunt beer [bear] as I had some fine courses. We had not gone farther than one mile when I was bit by a rattlesnake. We had no neighbors neare[r] than 3 miles. We were both young and inexperienced in cureing snakebite; however I immeadily tyed my galluses as tight as I could round my leg. The snake bight got worse for twelve hours at which time the poison ran threw my body and I fainted away for 2 or 3 times. They supposed I was dying but when I came to after the first time I had apatite to drink lard and I drank one pint of hog's lard. I got better and got well directly.

3 Jan. 1833

Abraham Hunsaker married his first wife Eliza Collins.

When I was between 17 and 18 years of age I saw my wife Eliza and when I see hir she was spinning flax on a little wheel and it appeared to me that I had see hir before in some other country. It was allso made manifest she was [to be] my wife in a few months. I talked with hir on the subject of mariage. We entered in mariage contract and agreed to wate for 2 years or more before we should get married. We were too young both of us; I was not 18, Eliza was but 13 past. I see hir some times in the time before we wer married, but finily I was tempted to not have hir till the full 2 years was passed by. I being in the neighborhood where she lived, it was impressed on me to go and see hir for she is [to be] your wife. I accordenly went immeadiately in my dirty close for I was some 10 miles from home on business teaming with cattle. I went and told hir that I had come to renew our mariage contract. She was very glad for she knew I had slighted her. This was Dec. 23, 1832. I told hir if our parents wer willing we would get married the following Thursday week. So I asked hir father and mother if they wer willing to the match; they readily consented. I allso asked my father; he consented to the mach.

I took my first wife Eliza and was married January 3, 1833 when I was 20, twenty, years old and 34 days; Eliza was 15 years and 10 months lacking 2 days. We lived with my father for 2 months till I could build me a cabin, then we commenced housekeeping. My father had let me make an improvement on some vacant land; we lived here some 2 years. I had dug for watter some 65 feet and the watter was not good. I sold out and bought me a farm where we lived and built a frame house and large rough barn and set out a large orchard of aple and peach trees. We lived here till we joined the mormon society, but I am ahead of [my] story.



ELIZA COLLINS



Mary Broady & Allen Collins
Parents of Eliza Collins

I lived with my wife Eliza for nine months and two weeks when a boy was born Oct. 22, 1833. We call his name Jacob after his granfather Jacob Hunsaker. He lived eight weeks and he dyed. We buryed him in the duncard graveyard where my father and aunts Any, Mary, Sally was buryed as allso some of my half sisters and connection. The graveyard is 15 miles east of Quincy near Uncle George Woolfs, who married my father's sister Any. My aunt Sally married John Hughs and raise[d] large family. Aunt Mary married Lewis Simpson, raise[d] large family. Aunt Katharine married Daniel Kimble and had large family. My uncle George married a girl whose name was Sible Ellis, raised large family of girls. Uncle Abraham married a girl whos sir name was Dodd and had large family.

18 Feb. 1828

Levi Wells sold to the father of Abraham Hunsaker, for \$150.00 the land on which Abraham Hunsaker resided and where Abraham first lived after marriage. So for the years 1833-1834 Abraham Hunsaker resided on this land located 1/2 mile South of Payson, Adams Co., Illinois being 160 acres plot in the NW 1/4 of Section 20 TWP 3 SR 7 West. On the 25th day of Nov. 1830 the East half of this lot was sold to Abraham's brother John Luce Hunsaker. In 1833, Jacob Hunsaker gave the west half of this lot to his son, Abraham Hunsaker.

Purchase in 1837 of Land in Adams County, Illinois by Abraham Hunsaker where he was later baptized.

G.S. Film 967,538 Book H-K (1837-1838) Deeds of Adams County, Illinois.

Abraham Hunsaker of Adams County, Illinois buys from the heirs of William Berrian of New York City for \$300, a tract of land containing 160 acres. The legal description of the land was SW¼ of Section 15, TWP 3 South Range 7 West. This was the lot that Abraham settled on several years before, because it was vacant land and he finally found the owners in New York. The following deed and recording came 2½ years after he built a home and orchard on the land. This is the land where Abraham Hunsaker lived when he was baptized and which he traded to Roger Hibbard for the Mill site and 160 acres three miles south of Nauvoo.

To return to my subject, as I had stated we had bought a peace of land and improved it and mooved on it and in the year Dec. 3, 1835 a daughter was born. We call hir name Mary after Eliza's mother; she was a very hansom child.

I continue farming on my farm near Pigeon creak, allso near Payson. We have a good farm and do well as to raising grain and pork for some 2 years, when Eliza has another daughter born to hir. We call hir Elizabeth; [she] was born Nov. 17, 1837. My brother Jacob was pedlin apples and had a waggon load at my house the day Elizabeth was born; he had to be routed of[] as boys wer not needed at such times. We still continue farming and seting out aple and peach trees till I have some three hundred trees set out in one orchard.

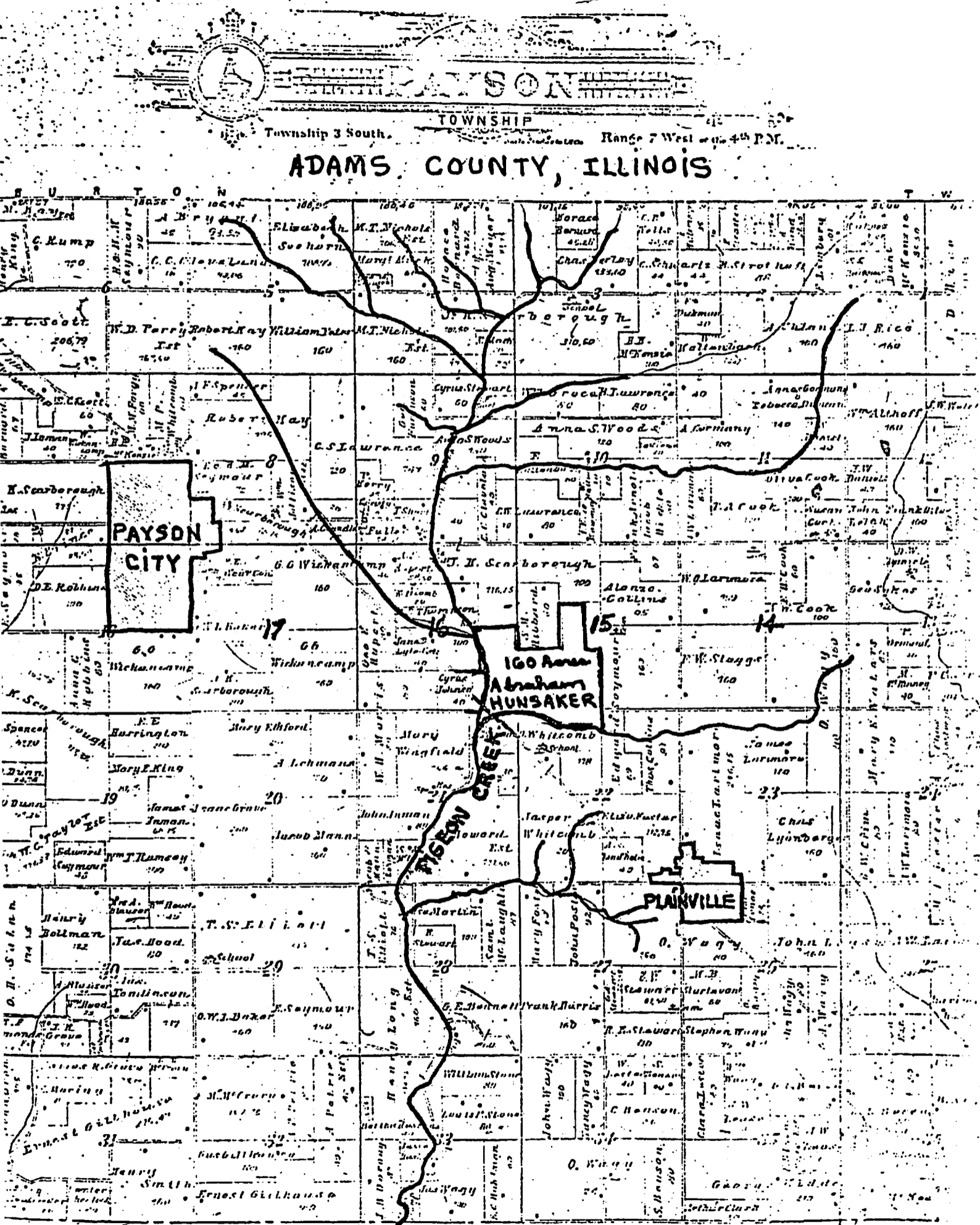
*Abraham Hunsaker's Property Near Payson, Adams Co.
Illinois
On Pigeon Creek, At The Junction of The East Fork.*



Inscription On Pigeon Creek Bridge.



The 1838 Map of Adams County, Illinois
 illustrating the 160 acres of land on
 Pigeon Creek near Payson that
 Abraham Hunsaker purchased from
 William Berrian of New York
 for \$300.



9 September 1837

DEED

\$300 Rev. William Berrian, of New York

To

Abraham Hunsaker, of Ill.

160 Acres SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 15 TWP. 3 S 7 W. on

Pigeon Creek near Payson, Adams Co., Illinois.

The following deed and recording came 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years after he built a home and orchard on the land. This is the land where Abraham Hunsaker was baptized and which he traded to Roger Hibbard for 160 acres 3 miles south of Nauvoo.

G.S. Film 967,538 Book H-K (1837-1838)

Deeds of Adams Co., Ill.

This Indenture made the Ninth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty seven Between the Rev. William Berrian sole heir at law of Richard Berrian deceased and Jane T. B. his wife and Elizabeth Berrian the widow of said Richard Berrian all of the city of New York of the first part and Abraham Hunsaker of the State of Illinois party of the second part witnesseth that the said parties of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of three hundred dollars lawful money of the United States to them in hand paid by the said party of the second part the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged Have granted bargained sold and by these presents do grant bargain sell release release alien and confirm unto the said party of the second part all that certain tract of land or Lot of ground containing one hundred and sixty acres being the South west quarter of section Fifteen of township Three South in Range Seven West in the Tract appropriated for Military Bounties in the State of Illinois as well more fully appear by certain Lot The Patent granted to Peter B. Simmonds by the President of the United States under the Acts of Congress passed on the Sixth day of May one thousand eight hundred and twelve dated the sixth day of October one thousand eight hundred and seventeen (reference thereto will more fully show). To have and to hold the said quarter section of land with the appurtenances thereof to the said Abraham Hunsaker and to his heirs and assigns forever And the said William Berrian for himself and his heirs the above described and hereby granted and released present and every part thereof with the appurtenances unto the said party of the second part his heirs and assigns against the said parties of the first part and their heirs and against all persons whomsoever lawfully or to claim the same shall and will warrant and by these presents forever defend. In Testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals at New York the day and year first above written.

Signed sealed and delivered in Presence of John W. Taylor } William Berrian

I sold out and bought me a farm where we lived and built a frame house and large rough barn and set out a large orchard of apple and peach trees.

I continue farming on my farm near Pigeon creek, also near Payson. We have a good farm and do well as to raising grain and pork for some 2 years. We still continue farming and setting out apple and peach trees till I have some three hundred trees set out in one orchard.

In 1839 Lewis Jones Hunsaker was born Saturday night near 12 o'clock at midnight April 6, 1839 near Payson, Adams County, State of Illinois.

Allen Hunsaker was born July 9, 1840; he was named for his grandfather Allen Collings [previously spelled without the g].

We still continyou to live on the farm where I joined the church till March 1842 when I swaped my farm to a Mr. Hibbard for one in Hancock County on the rapids of the Mississippi near Nauvoo, some 3 miles below Nauvo where we mooved.

MARCH 1842—I settle on my farm in Hancock County on the rapids of the Mississippi. In this spring my daughter Mary is taken very sick for 3 or 4 weeks. The Lord heald hir of hir sickness. After she gets well, my son Lewis Jones was taken very sick allso. He had hitherto been very stout healthy child, allso very smart and sensible, but he was sick nigh unto death but I continued in fasten and prair [fasting and prayer] with my wife Eliza. [We] did not like to let him go. The devil buffeted him very sorely for some 5 or 6 weeks and I sincearly beleive it was the time he was to go hence and I finily halfway gave him up, but Eliza could not give him up to dy, so she clung to him and the devil was rebuked threw faith in administering to him, by babtizing him in the font of the temple of Nauvoo, and by the laying on of hands. He was healed and restored to health but was injured very much in hearing and allso in his sence, but he is a tollerable smart thurogoing young boy, would accomplish anything he would set his hand to doo, or nearly so. He was some headstrong and would have his own way sometimes, but he was faithful to doo that which I sent him to doo.

I commenced farming here on the bluffs on the banks of the Mississippi river. We have a tollerable good peach orchard on this farm. We here have the privelige of going to meeting every Sunday to the grove in Nauvoo where we heare the Prophet Joseph Smith speak on the stand to the saints and allso heare the twelve Apostels preach the gospel in its beauty.



Allen Collins



Mary Hunsaker Grant



Sarah Hunsaker Trimmer

Brother James Owins and family moove here and lives with me for several months. We have considerable many peaches this sumer and fall and we have a good many visitors allso.

AUGUST 31, 1842—Sary Hunsaker was born Aug. 31, 1842 while Br. James Owins folks lives in one of our rooms. About Sept. 2 Br. Heber C. Kimball and wife and others come and pay us visit. We gave them 3 or 4 bushels of peaches to take home with them. This was the first time I had visit with [an] Apostle of Jesus.

We continue our farming operations here for 2 or 3 years and settleing saints on my land and farm. There has [been] some 20 familys besides mine which has located on the land I swaped for. Several of them purchased land of me so we are liven in good neighborhood, so I can send my oldest children to school and we have night and day meeting to go to freequently.

I have a small mission pointed [appointed] me haven been ordained an elder under the hands of Br. Wilford Woodruff, orderd to be ordaind in a General conference held in Nauvoo. Br. Joseph Smith preached.

Deed

17 March 1842

\$3000

Abraham Hunsaker & Eliza,
his wife, of Hancock Co., Ill.

To

Roger Hibbard, of Hancock Co., Ill.

160 acre farm in Adams Co., Ill., on
Pigeon Creek. Traded for 160 acres
3 miles south of Nauvoo on bluff
near Mississippi River. Hancock
Co., Ill.

G.S. Film 967,542 Deed Book S
Page 624-625 Adams Co., Ill.

Aug. 6th 1842 This Indenture Made and entered into this Seventeenth day of March in the
Hunsaker year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty two between
to Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the County of Hancock and
Hibbard State of Illinois of the one part and Roger Hibbard of the County of Han-
cock and State aforesaid of the other part Witnesseth that the said Abraham Huns-
aker and Eliza his wife for and in consideration of the sum of Three Thousand
dollars to them in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged do hereby
grant, bargain, sell, convey and confirm unto the said Roger Hibbard his heirs
and assigns, all that tract or parcel of land, situate and being in the County of
Adams in the State of Illinois viz: The South West Quarter of Section Fifteen of Town-
ship Three South in Range Seven West in the tract appropriated for Military Bounties in
the State of Illinois containing one hundred and sixty Acres be the same more or less.
Together with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any
wise appertaining, To Have and to Hold the above described premises unto the
said Roger Hibbard his heirs and assigns forever. And the said Abraham
Hunsaker and Eliza his Wife their heirs and assigns the aforesaid premises
unto the said Roger Hibbard his heirs and assigns against the claim or claims
of all and every person whomsoever do and will warrant and forever defend
by these presents. In Testimony whereof the said Abraham Hunsaker and
Eliza his wife of the first part have herunto set their hands and seals the day and
year above written, Signed Sealed and delivered

In Presence of Roger B. Hibbard

E. Robinson

Abraham Hunsaker

Eliza ^{for} Hunsaker.

L.S.

L.S.

20 August 1842
Tax List of Hancock County, Ill.

This record is the Tax and Assessment Lists of Hancock County, Illinois for the year of 1842. Abraham Hunsaker is listed with the following lands and chattel goods. Hiram W. Mikesell and Company is listed as leasing 5 acres from Abraham Hunsaker and owning a Mill on that land at West Part of Ne¼ Section 19 TWP 6 North Range 8 West. Abraham payed taxes on the 153 acres he lived on and the 5 acres occupied by Hiram Mikesell. Here is the lists as they are given in the record.

Abraham Hunsaker

Acres.....	153 (5 acres leased to Miksell and 148 for me)
Value of Acreage.....	\$2,000.00
Rate of Tax on acreage.....	400
Land Description.....	Ne¼ Section 19 Township 6 North Range 8 West (153 Acres)
Residence of Abraham Hunsaker.....	Section 19 TWP 6 NR 8 West
Value of Cattle.....	60(10 is usually for one cow)
Value of Horses.....	100 (10 is usually for one horse)
Value of Wagons.....	35
Value of Clocks.....	15
Value of Watches.....	0
Value of Loans.....	0
Stock Shares used in Trading.....	0
Value of other property not enumerated.....	100
Value of all Property.....	310

Source of Information

GS Film 007,706 Tax and Assessment Lists of Hancock County, Ill. pages 84, 199.

Abraham's Spiritual Life

Abraham Hunsaker's Diary—Giving a personal account of his conversion to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

In 1839 Lewis Jones Hunsaker was born Saturday night near 12 o'clock at midnight April 6, 1839 near Payson, Adams County, State of Illinois. At the same time the Latterday Saints had been driven out of the State of Missouri by cruel mobs and one family by the name of Amos McBride had stoped in my house haven no derent [different] house to go in. I took him in with me; it was the first time I had the privilege of hearing the Latter day saints. The Lord told me by His holy spirit they wer the servent of God.

April 6, 1839 I was led to investigat mormonism. I went to hear David Evens [Evans] lecture on mormonism [and] was convinced he was a servant of God, but my tradition was very strong for I belonged to the Duncard society. I continued to hear mormonism more or less all summer till winter when my half sister Mary Ann who was blind had a vision and she said personages came to hir and told hir many things, allso told hir she would receive hir sight. Those mesonagers [messengers] came to hir 3 time and told hir the same things. Hir parents did think the mormons wer imposters and did not take hir to the mormon meetings and she told me she would come and live with me for awhile if I would take hir to meeting and have the Mormon Elders administer to hir. I told hir I would take hir to hear Mormonism. I did so and called on Elisha Grover, an Elder, with some other elders. They did not like to administer to hir, but they did reluctantly after asking several questions but had not much faith. Her eyes did not receive sight. I doughted mormonism, but my sister said they wer the very men that apeard to hir in hir vision and was the same questions asked, and it was allso told hir in the vision that she would not receive hir sight till she called on the elders 3 times.

Time goes on till in the somer of 1840 when I became convinced that mormonism was from the Lord, but my parents was opposed to mij joining the church.

On the first Monday of November in 1840, on the day General Harison was elected president of the U.S.A., on this day my brother John was healed of a very survear sickness. He had been under Doctor Langrum for several days. He was begining to believe a little in mormonism but was to[o] proud to say so publicly. On the day Harison was elected there was severall folks in his house for he lived in the villige of Payson keeping store where the election was held. He became very sick and there was severall mormons in his house at the same time. My brother called on David Evans to pray for him; he accordingly done so with the assistance of Bro. Weeb and the Lord heard their prairs and healed him so he rose up out of bed and ate his dinner and went to the poles and voted. He was tollerable hi spirited and did not lik to eald [yield] to mormonism. He began to dought in mormonism and thought he would not acknowledge the hand of the Lord in it and was taken sick again and was sicker than he was before so he sent for the elders again and they laid hands on him in the name of Jesus and [he] was healed instantly. But he being so proud, he was determined not to acknowledge mormonism and yeald to that despised society and his mind was darkend thre, 3, times so he was taken sick again and was allmost dead when he again sent for the Elders and the[y] praid for him again and he was healed allmost well when he then declaired he would testify that the Lord had healed him for 3 times if it was the last words he had to speak. So he was babtized into the Church of Latterday Saint and started of[f] some 220 mile to St. Louis to purchase good[s].

Nov. 15, 1840—I was babtized by David Evans, allso my wife Eliza [and] several others. We wer babtized in Pigeon creak. Held meeting at my house at the same time [and I] was confirmed under the hands of David Evans and Chas. Weeb into the Church of Latterday Saints on 15 of Nov. 1840.

The Conversion of Abraham Hunsaker to Mormonism

Abraham and his parents Jacob and Polly Luce Hunsaker were strict devout members of the "Church of the Brethern," commonly known as Dunkards. In comparing the beliefs of Abraham before he became a member of the Mormon Church, at the age of 28, we note many similar beliefs and their importance in his life. As

"FAITH AND PRACTICE.

"The Brethren hold the Bible to be the inspired and infallible Word of God, and accept the New Testament as their rule of faith and practice.

They believe in the Trinity, in the divinity of Christ and of the Holy Spirit, and in future rewards and punishments. Faith, repentance and baptism are held to be conditions of salvation. These three constitute true evangelical conversion, and upon them rests the promise of the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Ghost.

"BAPTISM.

"Baptism is administered by trine immersion. After being instructed in the principles of the Gospel, and having faithfully promised to observe the same, the applicant is taken down into the water, and, kneeling, reaffirms his faith in Christ and promises to live faithful until death. He is then baptized for the remission of his sins, into the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, the administrator immersing the applicant face forward at the mention of each name in the Trinity.

Holding that baptism is only for believers, and those who have repented, they oppose infant baptism. Infants can neither believe nor repent, hence they are not proper subjects for baptism. Christ having sufficiently atoned for them, all children who die before coming to a knowledge of good and evil will be saved.

"The Anointing.

"They, in compliance with the instruction of the apostle James, 5: 14, 15, anoint the sick with oil. This rite is administered only by the request of the sick. The elders are called and the sick member is raised to a sitting posture. After the officiating elder applies the oil to the head three times, two elders then lay their hands on the head of the sick, and offer a prayer for the anointed one."

stated in his diary, "My traditions are strong for I belong to the Dunkard Society." It was a building stone to prepare Abraham Hunsaker for his conversion to Mormonism.

The following are some of the more important beliefs and practices of the Dunkards".

"Church Government.

"The Brethren have a republican form of church government. Each congregation is independent in the management of its local affairs, such as the election of deacons, ministers, elders, or bishops, and in matters of local church discipline; but is subject to the entire Brotherhood through District and General Conferences.

"The General Conference is also a great annual reunion for the Brethren. They come together from all parts of the Brotherhood, and it is not unusual for thousands of them to assemble at the place of meeting. The tendency of the Conference and the annual reunions is to unify the Brethren in all their church work, and it is a fact that there is rarely found so large a body of religious people so closely united on the doctrines and principles to which they hold.

"Elders, ministers and deacons are elected by the church from among her members, such as she may deem qualified for the important work to which they are called. They are then authorized to baptize, solemnize marriage, and make and fill appointment for preaching the Word. Elders, or bishops, who preside over the congregations, are chosen from the ministers in the second degree. No salaries are paid, but poor ministers, and those who are sent out as missionaries, are properly supported."

"Non-litigant.

"The Brethren are not allowed to go to law with one of their own number, nor with others, without first asking the counsel of the church, and it is rare indeed for a brother to be engaged in a lawsuit. Among themselves differences are adjusted personally, or by the church, in accordance with the Christian law of trespass given by the Master. Matt. 18: 15-20.

"Secretism.

"No brother may become a member of any secret or oath-bound society, the Brethren holding that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is fully sufficient for all the wants of humanity. All the converts who are identified with such orders are required to sever their connection with them before they can be adopted into the family of the Brotherhood.

GS Book 974.8 K27
Page 141-152 Dunkard Doctrine.

"Marriage.

"The Brethren hold that the marriage bond can only be dissolved by death. Divorce and remarriage are practically unknown among the membership.

they hold, with Paul, that the woman which hath a husband is bound by law to her husband so long as he liveth: but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. Rom. 7: 2.

"Plainness.

"The Brethren claim to be, and are in many respects, a peculiar people. Plain dressing is taught and required, and a general uniformity is observed, but this is regarded as a means to an end. They believe that the New Testament teaches plainness in attire, 1 Tim. 2: 9, 10; 1 Pet. 3: 3.

"The Communion.

"The Communion is then administered. This consists in partaking of the bread and wine in commemoration of the sufferings and death of our adorable Redeemer. In the Lord's Supper we are pointed forward to the evening of the world, to the great reunion of the saints. In the communion we are pointed back to the cross. The emblems are passed from hand to hand by the brethren,

"Non-resisting and Non-swearing.

"The Fraternity is strictly non-resistant, as well as non-litigant. It is held that Christ is 'the Prince of Peace,' that His Word is 'The Gospel of Peace,' hence His servants can not go to war and fight. 'For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.' 2 Cor. 10: 4. They take no active part in politics, and 'swear not at all.' If called upon to testify in the courts, they simply affirm, without raising the hand or kissing the Bible. In this they literally obey the command of Christ who said, 'Swear not at all. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.' Matt. 5: 34-37.

21 April 1841

Patriarchal Blessing of Abraham Hunsaker by John
Smith, Patriarch, in Adams Co., Illinois.

No 167 April 21st A Blessing by John Smith, Patriarch, upon the head of Abraham Huns-
saker, son of Jacob & Polly; born, Nov. 29th 1812, Union Co. Illinois. B3 46^m Lay my hands
upon thy head in the name of Jesus Christ & seal on thee the blessing of a father; in as much as thou hast
obeyed the gospel thou art entitled to all the blessings of Abrah^m Isaac & Jacob, for thy lineage is of Jacob
the particular family is not made known to me; thou art one of the number spoken of in scriptures who
are to push the people together from the ends of the Earth; for thus saith the Lord, they shall be gathered
from every place where they have been scattered in a cloudy & dark day; & he hath called upon his servants in the
last days & he will give them power to go forth & prevail like men of war to search out & gather together the remnants
of Jacob from every part of the Earth; Angels will guard thee & defend thee in times of danger, no enemy shall pre-
vail against thee for thou shalt be able to put ten thousand of them to flight; thou shalt be able to do any miracle which
was done in days of old and speak the language of any people on the Earth to move forward thy work; thy posterity shall
become a great multitude so that they cannot be numbered, Thy years shall be many according to the desire of thine
heart even to see all things accomplished which the prophets have spoken since the world began convincing Zion
be delighted Abraham follow the counsel of the servants of the Lord & these words shall not fail Amen. Albert Perrington
Recorder

At a conference held on the 20th day of February 1841 at Freedom, Adams County, Illinois Abraham Hunsaker was listed as recommended to be ordained a Priest in the Aaronic Priesthood in the LDS Church. His brother John Luce Hunsaker was recommended to be ordained an Elder.

8 October 1842

Wilford Woodruff ordained Abraham Hunsaker an Elder at General Conference in Nauvoo.

Abraham Hunsaker and Nathaniel Packer were called on a mission at this conference. Their field of labor was Indiana.

TIMES AND SEASONS.

"TRUTH WILL PREVAIL."

VOL. 2. No. 11.] CITY OF NAUVOO, ILL. Feb. 20th, 1841. [Whole No. 23.]

Minutes of a Conference held in Freedom, Adams county, Ill.

Conference met pursuant to appointment, prayer by President Miller. H. W. Miller was called to the chair, and James Brown was chosen clerk.

The Conference took into consideration the propriety of doing something for the widows and orphans at Nauvoo, provided they are willing to come to this place. Whereupon it was resolved, that we build three houses, this Spring, on three lots set apart for that purpose, and as soon as they are finished invite three widows to occupy them, and we pledge ourselves to provide for them the common necessities of life.

The question was taken, shall we on the knowledge of any of our brethren having the intention of leaving the bounds of this stake in debt, with the design of defrauding their creditors, make the same known to their creditors; decided in the affirmative.

Question was taken, will we fellowship a brother that puts his property out of his hands with the intention of defrauding his creditors; decided in the negative.

Question was taken, will we fellowship a brother that takes into his possession the property of another brother, to assist him in defrauding his creditors; decided in the negative.

Resolved, That this Conference proceed to ordain Elders, Priests, Teachers, and Deacons, whereupon the following brethren were recommended and ordained Elders Harace B. Owens, David Grant, John L. Hunsaker, and Alworthy F. Leach.

Priests—Jesse Spurgen, Abraham Hunsaker, John Harvey, William Barton, Thomas Seater, Israel Alphin, William Potter.

Teachers—James Rollins, Francis Lee; and George Carson, Andrew Cunningham were Deacons.

Inquiry was made by the Conference how many Elders were willing to go from this Stake into the vineyard to preach the gospel, and eight volunteered. The church list was then read and there were 225 belonging to this Stake.

Resolved, that the Conference adjourn till tomorrow at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment. Meeting opened by prayer, after which there was an able address delivered by prest. Miller on the subject of the resurrection, to a large respectable audience. Conference adjourned for 30 minutes.

Met pursuant to adjournment—several short addresses were delivered by different brethren, after which the sacrament was administered.

Resolved, that the minutes of this Conference be published in the Times and Seasons.

Resolved, that this Conference adjourn to meet the first Sunday of June next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

H. W. MILLER, Prest.

JAMES BROWN Clerk.

I have a small mission pointed [appointed] me haven been ordained an elder under the hands of Br. Wilford Woodruff, orderd to be ordaind in a General conference held in Nauvoo. Br. Joseph Smith preached.

I went on mission to Indiany with Br. Nathen Packer where we babtized 5 or 6 persons, s[t]arted [a] little branch some 20 miles from Indianapolis. We was gone some 2 or 3 months, returned home, found all well, and we had bin blessed on our mission.

2 September, 1842

Abraham Hunsaker was interviewed on 2 Sept. 1842 to be ordained an Elder at General Conference in Nauvoo. He received an Elders License from James Sloan, Clerk.

Elders Records and Ordinations (1841-1846), page 100.
GS Film 889,392.

Samuel H. Rogers rec^d an Elders License, Sept 2nd 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

David Hubbard rec^d a High Priests License, Sept 2nd 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

Abraham Hunsaker rec^d an Elders License, Sept 2nd 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

Henry Miller rec^d an Elders License, Sept 3rd 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

Abraham Hunsaker rec^d an Elders License, Sept 3rd 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

Benjamin H. Grosvenor rec^d an Elders License, Sept 4th 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

Colby Powers rec^d an Elders License, Sept 5th 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

James H. Buller rec^d an Elders License, Sept 5th 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

David Cough rec^d an Elders License, Sept 5th 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

Richard Snow rec^d a High Priests License, Sept 5th 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

David Tollgren rec^d a High Priests License, Sept 6th 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

Stewart rec^d an Elders License, Sept 5th 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

Stewart rec^d an Elders License, Sept 5th 1842.
James Sloan, Clerk.

Record Of Land Donated to L.D.S. Church by Abraham & Eliza Hunsaker

On December 2, 1843, two years after joining the church, Abraham Hunsaker and his wife Eliza donated four acres of land to the L.D.S. Church. No deed was recorded. Found among Col. A. W. Babbitt's papers in the church historians office, is the following description of the property:

NE ¼ of Se. 19 Twp. 6 NR 8 W - 3 miles south of Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois. Five years later, on February 19, 1848, the L.D.S. Church sold the land to David Le Baron for \$5,000.

Lands belonging to Turstees, p. 20

NE 19 6.8

Lot 2

"Found among Col. A.W. Babbitt's papers and brought to the Historian's office July 11, 1957 by D. H. Wells.

Lot 2a 4 ac
2b 3.5 7.5ac

pt. of	Abraham Hunsaker & Wife)	Deed Second day of December 1843
N.E. of Se.	To)	
19. 6.8	Church)	

Conveys pt. of N.E. Quarter Sec. 19 - 6 North R 8 W.

Lot 2a Beginning at the North East cor. of David Boss land at a stake witness by a white oak tree running thence twenty Rods North to a stone witness by a Shugar tree thence East 40 Rods to a stake witn by a Red Oak stump then South 20 Rods to stake witness by a oak stump thence west 40 Rods to the place of the beginning cont'ing four acres - Not recorded.

U-5	
Feb. 19 1848	Almon W. Babitt, Joseph L. Heywood & John S. Fullmer,
Rec 2-23-1848	Trustees of LDS Church
\$5,000	to
WD	David LeBaron

Along other lands:

Lot 2a Pt NE fr Sec. 19, 6 North 8 West, particularly described in a deed from Abraham Hunsaker & wife to Edward Hunter dated Dec. 2, 1843 and witnessed by Aaron Johnson and E. Robinson.

(Could find no deed on record as described. Date is same as reference in Babbitt's papers. Property not out of LeBaron according to Index.)

Lot 2b, 3.5 ac. No record of deed from Abraham Hunsaker.

27 June 1844

Abraham mourns the death of the Prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum, who were murdered by the mob at Carthage, Illinois.

I went on mission to Indiany with Br. Nathen Packer where we babtized 5 or 6 persons, s[t]arted [a] little branch some 20 miles from Indianapolis. We was gone some 2 or 3 months, returned home, found all well, and we had bin blessed on our mission.

MARCH 1844—I [s]wap of[f] part of my farm to Br. Nick-erell for steem mill on the bank of river where I moove down the hill close on the bank of river where I commence sawing and grinding for the Brethren and working very hard day and night.

JUNE 27, 1844—This is a day of sollon [solemn] darkness to the saints of the most high for Joseph and Hyrum Smith, the Prophet and Patriarch, have bin shot in Carthage jail and Br. John Tailor [Taylor] survearly wounded. They were shot by an armed mob painted black while under the pledge of the Governor, Ford. The Governor. gave them a sollem pledge that they should be protected and not molested when they gave themselves up to their enemys to be tryed for sup-posed cryme got up by Mormon desenters and others for the express purpose of murdering them. They had buin taken and tryed some 50 times, or at least Joseph had, but never found guilty, so he of course came of[f] clean but he has suffered much by mobs for they have beating and clubed him nearly to death or quite to death, but the Lord healed him and restored him to life again for to doo the work of laying the foundation of the church and restoreing the Preasthood and ordenences belonging to the holy preasthood.

The Governor had some 500 soldiers in Carthage when the Prophet and Patriarch gave themselves up to be tryed by law, and after they had committed them to jail the Governor discharged several of his soldiers to go and fix for murdering the Prophet.

June 27. 1844
This is a day of a sollon darkness to the saints of the most high for Joseph and Hyrum Smith the Prophet and Patriarch have bin shot in Carthage jail and Br. John Tailor survearly wounded. They were shot by an armed mob painted black while under the pledge of the Governor, Ford. The Governor gave them a sollem pledge that they should be protected and not molested when they gave themselves up to their enemys to be tryed for supposed cryme got up by Mormon desenters and others for the express purpose of murdering them. They had buin taken and tryed some 50 times, or at least Joseph had, but never found guilty, so he of course came of clean but he has suffered much by mobs for they have beating and clubed him nearly to death or quite to death but the Lord healed him and restored him to life again for to doo the work of laying the foundation of the church and restoreing the Preasthood and ordenences belonging to the holy preasthood. The Governor had some 500 soldiers in Carthage when the Prophet and Patriarch gave themselves up to be tryed by law, and after they had committed them to jail the Governor discharged several of his soldiers to go and fix for murdering the Prophet.

Page from Abraham Hunsaker's journal containing his comments on the martyrdom of Joseph Smith.

8 October 1844

Abraham Hunsaker was ordained a Seventy on the 8th day of October 1844 in Nauvoo, at the General LDS Conference. At that time he was assigned to the 9th Quorum of Seventies which was newly organized on that day. He remained with that quorum until he emigrated to Utah, after which he joined the 24th Quorum of Seventies. Brother Perrigine Sessions was the President of the Quorum of Seventies.

TIMES AND SEASONS.

D. C. SMITH, EDITOR.

ii.

Tuesday morning, Oct. 8th, 1844.

He also selected a number more to go into the seventies; after which the remainder of the morning was spent in calling out the several quorums of seventies, and giving charges to the several presidents.

Brother Joseph L. Heywood was ordained under the hands of Elder B. Young, H. C. Kimball and P. P. Pratt, to be a bishop to the church in Quincy, Illinois.

Previous to adjournment the presidents of the seventies, ordained upwards of 400 into the quorums of the seventies, and the presidents of the high priests' quorum ordained 40 into their quorum.

The meeting then adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Two o'clock, P. M.

Conference resumed business. Those presidents of the seventies who were present and had not received an ordination to the presidency over the seventies, were called out and ordained, under the hands of President Joseph Young and others.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent in filling up the quorums of seventies, and at the close, 11 quorums were filled and properly organized, and about 40 elders organized as a part of the twelfth quorum.

Times & Seasons does not mention names of brethren ordained to the Seventies Quorum. It does give the organization of the Seventies Quorum.

9th Quorum of Seventies Records
L.D.S. Archives 87482F Book
G.S. Film 889,396
Organized 8 Oct. 1844 at Nauvoo

Ordained by Henry Harrison 8 Oct. 1844

Page 2,

Abraham Hunsaker, Born 29 Nov 1812
In Illinois, Age 32, Resides in Nauvoo,
Occupation: Farmer; Father's Name: Jacob

Page 20

President is Perrigine Sessions
1st C. President is John Eldredges
24th Quorum Organized 9 April 1845

CR-3-3 Box 3 Folders 2-3

LDS Archives

Early Seventies Quorum Records - Nauvoo Era and Temple

Source: GS Book in Church Historians Office CHO
Book M 205.1 T583 Volume 5 "Times and Seasons
Newspaper" page 682-698

21 April 1845

Patriarchal Blessing of Eliza Collins Hunsaker - By John
Smith, Patriarch, at Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois.

No 408 A Blessing by John Smith, Patriarch upon the head of Eliza Hunsaker,
daughter of Allen and Mary Collins born March 12th 1816 Spencer Co, Kentucky. Sister Eli-
za I lay my hands upon thy head as a patriarch in the name of Jesus Christ, seal of fathers blessing
upon thee. Thou art a lawful heir to thy priesthood in common with thy companion with all its favors
& benefits for in due time thou shalt receive an endowment in the house of the Lord with thy
companion unfolding unto thee all the mysteries of the kingdom of God, giving the power to
redeem thy fathers back to where they died in the gospel & also thy living friends according to
the desire of their hearts, & faith to heal the sick, & power to preserve thy children from the de-
stroyer, & if you abide in faith no power shall take them from thee, & thy family shall ^{be blessed &} increase
until they become a mighty people, more numerous than the sand by the sea shore, thou
shalt be blessed with health, & with every comfort of life, be a comfort to thy companion all his
days, come up in the morning of the resurrection, & enjoy all the blessings of the Redeemed
kingdom, in as much as thou art faithful to the end of thy days these words shall not fail
for I seal them upon thee & thy posterity in common with thy companion Amen. ^{Albert Carrington}
_{Recorder}

31 January 1846

In accordance with instructions and the condition that the Temple work could not be done later because of persecution, Abraham Hunsaker and his wife Eliza Collins Hunsaker with other families of the 9th Quorum of Seventies went on Saturday, January 31, 1846 in the 3:20 PM session at the Nauvoo Temple and were endowed on that day.

*Source of Information:
Nauvoo Temple Endowment Register
Seventies Minutes*

NAUVOO TEMPLE ENDOWMENT REGISTER

Third Company

Name	Priest-hood or sex	Birth Data				Temple Ordinance Dates		Comments and Additional Information
		Date	Town	County	State	Washing and Anointing	Endowment	
1. Lytle, John M.	sev	25 Feb 1829	Middlesburgh	Portage	Ohio	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	John Milton Lytle in slg record
2. McFate, Elizabeth	f	28 Oct 1829		Mercer	Pennsylvania	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	
3. Hall, William	sev	1800 ¹				31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	
4. Card, Harriet	f	23 Aug 1820		Essex	Maine	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	
5. Hall, Jane	f	11 Aug 1810 ¹				31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	
6. Carson, William	sev	8 Jun 1818 ²		Wayne	Pennsylvania	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	Wm Huff Carson in slg record
7. Carson, Corilla	f	22 Oct 1818		Sullivan	Indiana	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	Corilla Herbert in slg record
8. Williams, Francis M., Jr	sev	29 Apr 1824		Murray	Tennessee	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	Francis Marion Williams in slg record
9. Williams, Martha Jane	f	10 Dec 1829 ³		Henry	Tennessee	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	Martha Jane Fraction in slg record
10. Rhodes, George	sev	5 Oct 1815 ⁴	Thornley	Lancashire	England	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	
11. Bostwick, Hiram	sev	18 Dec 1816 ¹				31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	

Fourth Company

12. King, Elizer, Jr.	sev	1 Dec 1811	Sunderland		Vermont	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	Elizer King, Jr. in slg record
13. King, Mary Caroline	f	19 Nov 1818	Avon	Livingston	New York	31 Jan 1846	31 Jan 1846	Mary Caroline King in slg record
14. Hunsaker, Abraham	sev	29, Nov. 1812	Jonesboro	Union	Illinois	31 Jan. 1846	31 Jan. 1846	Abraham Hunsaker in slg record
15. Hunsaker, Eliza	f	5 Mar. 1817		Spencer	Kentucky	31 Jan. 1846	31 Jan. 1846	Eliza Collins in slg record

1 May 1846

Abraham Hunsaker and his wife in company with Brother Bernhisle and Brother Wadkins attended the Public Dedication of the Nauvoo Temple in company with about 300 other people. Abraham Hunsakers were listed as members of the Nauvoo 11th Ward at this time. They were recommended by President Sessions of the 9th Quorum of Seventies.

The Nauvoo Temple Dedicated

President Young was fearful that the temple would never be rented or sold to some responsible or respectable society who would preserve and protect it, the brethren at Winter Quarters decided to dedicate the building to the Lord and leave it in his hands as they went on to found other cities and build other temples.

After the vanguard of the pioneers was securely located on the Missouri and twenty-two thriving wards had been established there, it was decided to send a few of the brethren back to Nauvoo and dedicate the temple officially.

The Saints in Nauvoo had been told of the plan, and the newspaper in the deserted city published this account of the proposal:

This splendid edifice is now completed, and will be dedicated to the Most High God on Friday, the 1st day of May, 1846. The services of the dedication will continue each day at 11 a.m. Tickets may be had at the watch house near the door of the Temple, and also at the office of the Trustees in trust at \$1 each.

One object of the above is, to raise funds to enable the workmen who have built the Temple to remove west with their families, and all who are disposed to see the Mormons remove in peace and in quietness as soon as circumstances will allow. 1 Hancock Eagle, April 17, 1846.

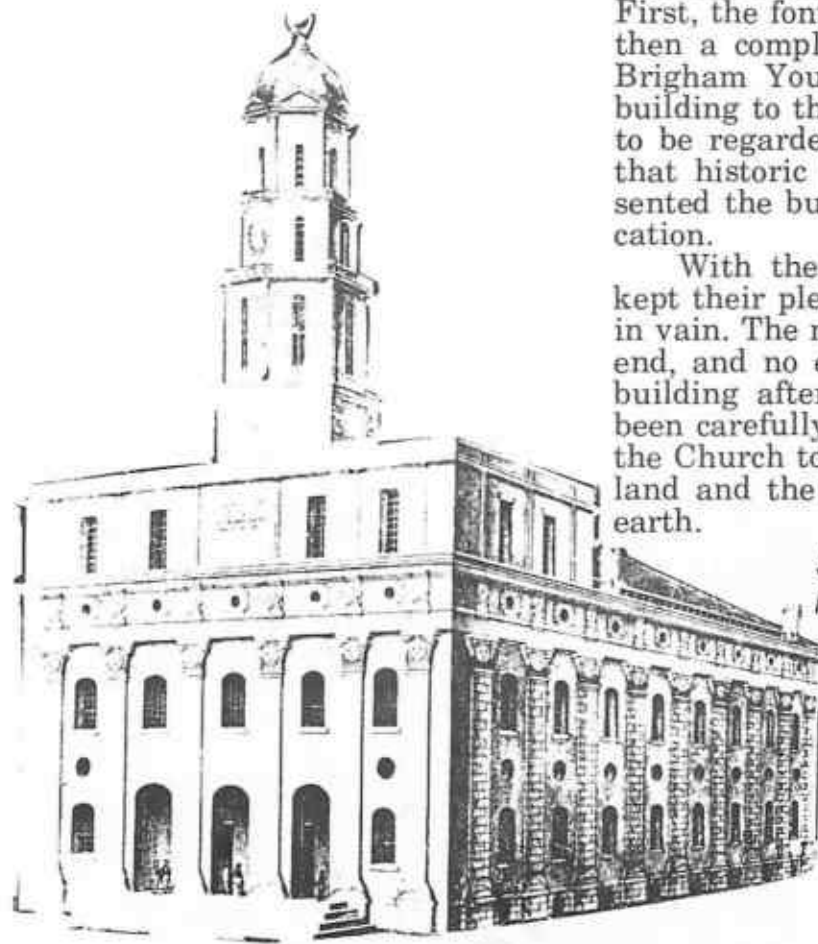
The brethren who returned for the dedicatory service — Elders Wilford Woodruff, Orson Hyde, John M. Bernhisel, and three of the brothers of Brigham Young, Joseph, John, and Phineas — were not unmindful of the fact that many mobbers were in the city and that with the state militia engaged in the Mexican War, there might be trouble from the reckless element that had moved into Nauvoo. For this reason the visiting brethren decided to hold a private dedicatory service the last night in April just in case the enemy should be on hand to prevent the public service that had been widely advertised.

Thus, during the darkness of night the visiting brethren and a few of the local brethren quietly went into the temple and witnessed its private dedication. Elder Joseph Young offered the prayer of dedication in the presence of a few friends.

The following day the temple was officially dedicated, with not the slightest unfriendly gesture from the "new citizens" or the visitors from abroad. In the past, certain rooms and portions of the building had been dedicated as they were finished and made ready for use. First, the font room, then an altar when it was installed, then a complete floor. On a few occasions as President Brigham Young prayed in the temple he dedicated the building to the Lord, yet none of these benedictions were to be regarded as the official prayer of dedication until that historic day, May 1, 1846, when Orson Hyde presented the building to the Lord in a long prayer of dedication.

With the dedication of the temple, the Saints had kept their pledge, and the coming of Elijah had not been in vain. The ministry of the Church in Nauvoo was at an end, and no endowments were administered in the new building after its dedication. The foundation work had been carefully laid, but the Saints must go elsewhere for the Church to triumph, as temples would multiply in the land and the spirit of Elijah would spread over all the earth.

Source of Information: Seventies Quorum Records and Temple Endowments performed in the Nauvoo Temple 9th Quorum of Seventies recommends of April 30, 1846 LDS Archives



From: Nauvoo Restoration, Incorporated

July 15, 1968

Re: Abraham Hunsaker Property in Hancock County, 1842-1846

Northeast fractional quarter, Section 19, Sonora Township (T. 6 No. R. 8 W.).

The northwest corner of the Hunsaker quarter section, by the River Road, is a little over a mile south of the southern tip of the Nauvoo City corporate limits during the historic period, and about $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles south of the Temple. The quarter section was a fractional quarter containing 157.63 acres, and with the exception of a strip along the north portion, fronted on the Mississippi River. There was a narrow strip of land along the River bottom, but the major portion of the tract was on the bluff above the River.

The property was purchased from the Government by William Wallace under the 1830 Pre-emption Act, at \$1.25 per acre, total purchase price \$197.04. William Wallace was listed in the 1830 United States Census, and was one of the early residents of Hancock County. He resided on the rapids bluff below Venus, as Commerce was then called, and sold the property in 1835 to Roger Hibbard for \$800.00.

Under date of March 17, 1842, Roger Hibbard deeded to Abraham Hunsaker all of the quarter section except the five-acre Mill lot, for \$3,000.00. Abraham Hunsaker states that he traded Mr. Hibbard his farm on Pigeon Creek (Adams County) for a farm on the rapids of the Mississippi.

In 1844 he traded part of his farm (see Lot 9) to Brother Mikesell for the Mill and the remaining five acres of the quarter section (see Lot 6), and that he moved down the hill close on the bank of the river.

He also sold portions of the tract to some 20 families. Most of the transactions were not recorded and the metes and bounds on file were not always clear. In 1855 a survey was recorded that divides the tract into twenty-two lots. A study of the deeds, both Mormon and post-Mormon, indicates that although the lots were not so numbered during the Mormon period, the boundaries of lots could very well be the boundaries of the tracts sold by Abraham Hunsaker.

Attached hereto is a compilation of the recorded transactions from which was made the possible identification of lot-ownership on the attached map. The problem was intensified by the fact that a number of the 1846 deeds came from Abraham Hunsaker and by-passed the individuals to whom he disposed of his property. He states in a letter to Brigham Young (August 1846) that he had but 32 acres left when he was preparing to leave, which he sold for \$200 in property, and that he sold the mill for \$500 in trade.

The following names have been located: Henry Kearnes, John M. Stewart, the Mikesells (Delilah), David Boss, William Fawcett, Adam E. Kumels, Bishop David Evans, and William Smith, whose wife in 1855 was Ann Smith, and who did not go West.

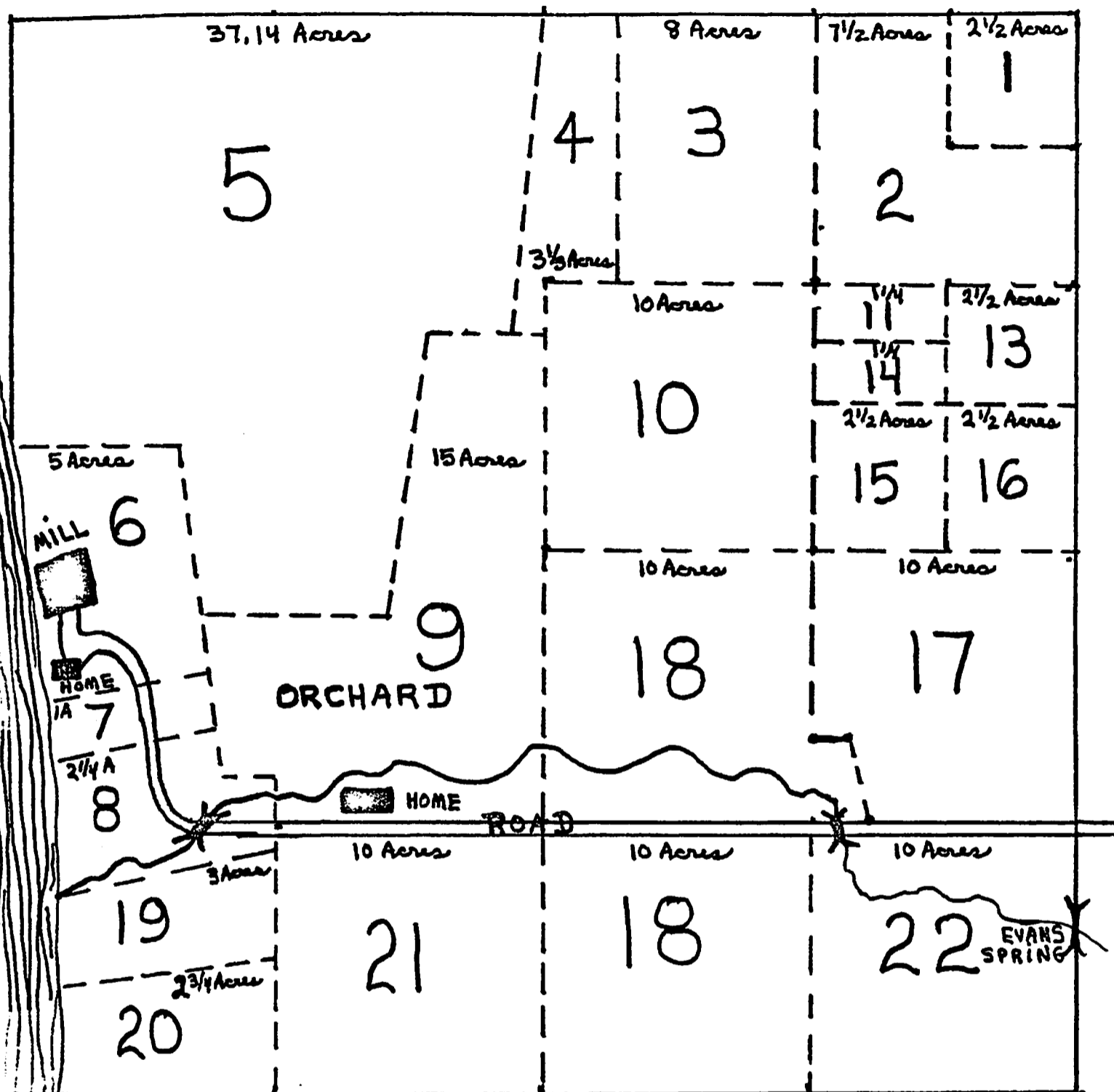
Apparently Abraham and Eliza Hunsaker left for the West after May 29, 1846, which was the latest date found on the recorded documents.

At present most of the land is rough. There is a farm of about 50 acres, only part of which is tilled, owned by Lucy A. Bollin, recently deceased. A strip one hundred feet wide through the center of the quarter section, north and south, carries high tension wires of the Union Electric Company from the powerhouse at the Keokuk Dam. Cooper Lake, formed by the dam in 1913, has raised the water and the River Road has been moved to the East of its former location. The remaining land between the River Road (Illinois State Highway 96) and the Mississippi River is owned by the Union Electric Company and is part of the park system along the River from Nauvoo to Hamilton, with picnic tables and parking areas. There are a few modern homes between the highway and the bluff in strategic places.

A rough, gravelled road runs along the east boundary for the half-mile length of the property, but does not continue through to the south. I found no evidence of the lane that apparently ran east and west along the north boundary of David Evans' land, but as the property is rather rough through there I did not leave the gravel road. There is no road along the north side of the section to the River, but there is a gravel road about a quarter of a mile north of the section line. I saw no evidence of old houses. It would require archaeological "diggin" to locate the buildings. Perhaps in the plowed land, bricks or stones of chimneys or foundations could be located.

Rowena J. Miller
Assistant Historian

3 MILES SOUTH OF NAUVOO NE¼ SECTION 19 TWP 6 NR8W



29 MAY 1846

LAND OF ABRAHAM HUNSAKER IN SONORA TOWNSHIP, HANCOCK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. THIS IS A LIST OF PERSONS HE SOLD LAND TO BEFORE HE LEFT FOR THE WEST BY LOT HUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF SALE OR IF UNRECORDED DEED OR SALE

- Lot 1..John B. Smith (unrecorded)
- Lot 4..John M. Stewart (unrecorded)
- Lot 14..William Fawsett (unrecorded)
- Lot 16..Adam E. Kummel (unrecorded)
- Lot 20..Charles A. Savage (unrecorded)
- Lot 6A..Sarah Heberling...2 April 1846 \$150
- Lot 6B..George B. Hunsaker..Mill and 1 Acre \$500 (unrecorded)
- Lot 2..LDS Church..2 Dec. 1843 (unrecorded)
- Lot 3..Henry Kearnes..23 March 1846 \$220
- Lots 5 and 8..Christopher Tallent 6 March 1846 \$280
- Lots 7 and 9..John B. Smith 13 April 1846 \$1,000.00
- Lot 10..David Boss..11 May 1842 \$250
- Lot 11..Thomas Heberling..29 May 1846 \$20 recorded 1858
- Lot 13..William W. Reed..27 May 1846 \$50
- Lots 15 and 18..William W. Reed..23 April 1846 \$225
- Lots 17 and 19..William Smith..29 June 1843 \$294.24
- Lot 21..John B. Smith..27 April 1846 \$230
- Lot 22..David Evans..8 September 1842 \$100

\$3000

DEED

17 March 1842

Roger Hibbard, Hancock Co., Ill.

To

Abraham Hunsaker, Hancock Co., Ill.

155 Acres Sec. 19 T6 No 9 W

Saving and excepting the tract sold to J.A. Mikesell and
E. Edward, say 5 acres now occupied by them as Steam
Mill Lot

GS Film 954,599 Deed Book K Page 452 Hancock Co.,
Ill.

1842
R. Hibbard
Do
A Hunsaker
Recorded
5 September
1842

This Indenture Made and entered into, this seventeenth day of March in the
year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-two between Roger
Hibbard of the County of Hancock and State of Illinois of the one
part and Abraham Hunsaker of the County of Hancock and State aforesaid,
of the other part Witnesseth, that the said Roger Hibbard for and in
consideration of the sum of Three thousand Dollars to him in hand paid
the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby grant bargain and
sell, convey and confirm unto the said Abraham Hunsaker his heirs
and assigns forever, all that tract or parcel of Land, situate and
being in the County of Hancock in the State of Illinois, viz The North
East fractional quarter of section nineteen in Township Six North of Range
Eight West of the fourth principal Meridian, save and excepting the
tract sold to J.A. Mikesell and E. Edwards save five Acres the particular
Bounds of which will be seen by referring to the Bonds given to the said
Mikesell and Edwards and occupied by them as Steam Mill Lot
Together with all and singular the appurtenances therunto belonging, or in
anywise appertaining. To Have and To Hold the above described
premises unto the said Abraham Hunsaker his heirs and assigns forever
And the said Roger Hibbard his heirs and assigns, the aforesaid premi-
ses, unto the said Abraham Hunsaker his heirs and assigns against the claim
or claims of all and every person Whosoever, do and will Warrant and
forever defend by these presents. In Testimony whereof, the said Roger
Hibbard of the first part has hereunto set his hand and seal the day
and year above written
Signed sealed and delivered in presence
of Roger B Hibbard,
State of Illinois -- Id.

Roger Hibbard

We still continyou to live on the farm where I joined the
church till March 1842 when I swaped my farm to a Mr. Hib-
bard for one in Hancock County on the rapids of the Missis-
sippi near Nauvoo, some 3 miles below Nauvo where we
mooved.

Diary of Abraham Hunsaker

11 May 1842

DEED

Lot 10

\$250

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA, his wife, of Hancock Co., Ill.

To

DAVID BASS, of Brown Co., Ill.

10 acres commencing SW corner of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 19
TWP 6 No 8 W 3 miles south Nauvoo, Hancock Co., Ill.GS Film 954,599 Deed Book K Page 333 Hancock Co.,
Ill.

This Indenture made and entered into this Eleventh day of
 May in the year of our Lord One thousand eight and forty Two
 between Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of this County
 of Hancock and State of Illinois of the one part and David Bass
 of the County of Brown and State aforesaid of the other part do
 witness that this said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza
 his wife for and in consideration of this sum of Two hundred fifty
 dollars to them in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby
 acknowledged do hereby grant bargain sell convey and confirm
 unto the said David Bass his heirs and assigns forever all that
 tract or parcel of land situate and being in the County of Hancock
 in the State of Illinois viz: Commencing at the South East Corner
 of the North East Quarter of the North East Quarter of Section
 Nineteen Six North Range Eight West running thence North
 Forty rods thence East Forty rods thence South forty rods
 thence West Forty rods to the place of beginning containing
 Ten acres of Land by the same more or less. Together with all
 and singular the appurtenances thereto belonging or in any wise
 appertaining To Have and To Hold the above described premises
 unto the said David Bass his heirs and assigns forever And the
 said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife their heirs and
 assigns the aforesaid premises with the said David Bass his heirs
 and assigns against the claim or claims of all and every settl
 whomsoever do and will let warrant and forever defend by these
 presents In Testimony whereof the said Abraham Hunsaker
 and Eliza his wife of the first part have hereunto set their hands
 and seals the day and year above written
 Signed sealed and delivered
 in presence of
 E. Robinson
 Abraham Hunsaker
 Eliza Hunsaker
 mark

MARCH 1842—I settle on my farm in Hancock County on
the rapids of the Mississippi.

I commenced farming here on the bluffs on the banks
of the Mississippi river. We have a tollerable good peach
orchard on this farm.

DEED

8 Sept 1842

\$100

Lot 22

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA his wife, of Hancock Co., Ill.

To

DAVID EVANS, Hancock Co., Ill.

10 Acres NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 19 T6 N 8 W, 3 miles south Nauvoo,
Hancock Co., Ill.

GS Film 954-600 Deed Book M Page 105 Hancock Co.,
Ill.

This Indenture, made and entered into, this eighth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty two between Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the County of Hancock and State of Illinois, of the one part, and David Evans of the County of Hancock and State aforesaid, of the other part. Witnesseth, that the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife, for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred dollars, to them in hand paid, the receipt whereof is here by acknowledged, do hereby grant, bargain sell, convey, and confirm unto the said David Evans his heirs and assigns forever, all that tract or parcel of land, situate and being in the County of Hancock in the State of Illinois, viz: Beginning at the South East corner of the North East Quarter of Section Nineteen, Township Six North Range Eight West, running thence North Forty Rods, thence West Forty Rods, thence South Forty Rods, thence East Forty Rods, to the place of beginning containing Ten Acres of Land be the same more or less. Together with all and Singular the appurtenances therunto belonging or in any wise appertaining. To Have and To Hold the above described premises unto the said David Evans his heirs and assigns forever. And the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife, their heirs and assigns, the aforesaid premises unto the said David Evans his heirs and assigns, against the claim or Claims of all and every person whomsoever do and well warrant and forever defend by these presents. In Testimony Whereof the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the first part, have hereunto set their hands and seals this day and year above written.

Signed, Sealed and delivered in presence of
if E. Robinson

Abraham Hunsaker
Eliza ^{her} Hunsaker (LS)

We have considerable many peaches this summer and fall. About Sept. 2 Br. Heber C. Kimball and wife and others come and pay us visit. We gave them 3 or 4 bushels of peaches to take home with them. This was the first time I had visit with (an) Apostle of Jesus."

Journal of Abraham Hunsaker



Abandoned Pleasant Hill School (post-Mormon) north-east corner of Lot 22 Near Evans Spring Bridge.
(See lot 22 on map, page 23)



Evans Spring Bridge Along East Line of Quarter Section



Gravel Road Along East Line of Quarter Section Over Evans Spring Bridge.

29 June 1843

DEED
\$294.25

Lot 17
Lot 19

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA, his wife, Hancock Co., Ill.
To
WILLIAM SMITH, Hancock Co., Ill.

2 pieces containing
a total of
12 Acres &
76 Rods

Pt. NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 19 T6 N 8 W 3 miles
south Nauvoo, Hancock Co., Ill.

GS Film 954,600 Deed Book M Pages 465-6 Hancock
Co., Ill.

6586
Hunsaker
to
Smith
Recorded
Sept
1844
This Indenture made and entered into this twenty ninth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty three, between Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the County of Hancock and State of Illinois, of the one part, and William Smith of the County of Hancock and State of said Illinois, of the other part, that the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife, for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred ninety four dollars and twenty five cents to them in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged as being given in full, bargain, sell, convey and confirm unto the said William Smith his heirs and assigns forever, all those tracts or parcels of land, situated and being in the County of Hancock and State of Illinois viz: A part of the North west fractional Quarter of Section Nineteen, Township Six North, Range eight West, commencing at a stake at the North East corner of David Evans land, thence North forty rods to a stake witnessed by a Hickory tree, three yards South of the stake, thence West Forty rods to a stake, witnessed by a white oak tree, thence South thirty five Rods to a stake, thence East two rods to a stake in the old Bridge across Evans Spring branch, thence South East Six Rods up the said Spring branch, to a stake on the East side of the branch, thence East thirty five Rods to the place of beginning. Also commencing at a ^{stone} stake on the Bank of the Mississippi River at the mouth of Abraham Hunsakers Spring branch, witnessed by an elm tree six yards from the stone, and a cotton wood tree five yards from the stone, thence down the river eighteen Rods to a Lynn tree, marked on four sides, thence East twenty two Rods to a stake, witnessed by a white oak tree three yards South East of the stake, and a Hickory tree two yards West, thence North twenty two Rods to a stone witnessed by a Sugar Maple stump one yard East of the stone thence West to the stone at the place of beginning to the river. With pieces containing twelve acres and seventy six rods of ground be the same more or less. Together with all and singular the appurtenances therunto belonging or in any wise appertaining. To Have and To Hold the above described premises unto the said William Smith his heirs and assigns forever, and the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife their heirs and assigns the aforesaid premises unto the said William Smith his heirs and assigns, against the above or claims of all and every person whomsoever, do and well warrant and fore by these presents, defend. In testimony whereof the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife, of the first part, have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of
of E. Robinson

Abraham Hunsaker
Eliza ^{her} Hunsaker
marks.

7 March 1845

Mill Lot 6

\$160

JOSIAH & JULIA ALLISON, his wife, Van Buran Co.,
Iowa

To

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER, Hancock Co., Ill.

5 Acres known as the Mikesell Mill, lying just 3 miles
below Nauvoo on Mississippi River, Hancock, Ill. Sec. 19
T6 North of Range 8. Together with all the buildings,
engines, mills and mill fixtures.GS Film 954, 601 Deed Book 19-0 Pages 418-420 Han-
cock Co., Ill.

7769 This Indenture made and entered into this Seventh day of May
in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty five
Between Josiah Allison and Julia Allison his wife of the County
Allison of Van Buran and Territory of Iowa of the one part and Abraham
Hunsaker of the County of Hancock and State of Illinois of the
other part. Witnesseth that the Said Josiah Allison and Julia
his wife for and in consideration of One hundred and Sixty Dollars
Recorded to them in hand paid the Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged
Apr 4 do Grant bargain sell convey and confirm unto him the Said
1846 Abraham Hunsaker his heirs and assigns forever All their right
title, interest claim and demand in and unto all that tract or
parcel of land Situate and being in the County of Hancock in the
State of Illinois Viz lying about four miles below the City of Nauvoo
on the Mississippi River on Section nineteen Township 21 N
north of Range Eight West the number of which well more
fully appear by reference to the records of Hancock County in
a deed from the J. H. Mikesell to the Said Josiah Allison and
it being the same tract of land which is generally known as the
Mikesell Mill Tract together with all and singular the appurtenances
thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining to have and to hold the
above described premises and him the Said Abraham Hunsaker
his heirs and assigns forever And the Said Josiah Allison
and Julia his wife the aforesaid premises unto the Said Abraham
Hunsaker his heirs and assigns against the lawful claims or
claims of the Said Josiah Allison and Julia his wife and they
who may claim through or under them or either of them do
and will forever Warrant by these presents
In Testimony whereof the Said Josiah Allison and Julia
his wife of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seal
the day and year above written
Signed Sealed and delivered in presence of } Josiah Allison
Rachel Baldwin Phadokus Nagle } Julia Allison

MARCH 1844—I [s]wap off [f] part of my farm to Br. Nick-
erell for steem mill on the bank of river where I moove down
the hill close on the bank of river where I commence sawing
and grinding for the Brethren and working very hard day and
night.

Diary of Abraham Hunsaker



This is the approximate location of Abraham Hunsaker's steam mill site on the rapids of the Mississippi River. Cooper Lake, formed by the Keokuk Dam in 1913 has raised the water and the River Road has been moved to the east of its former location.

Land between the River Road (Illinois State Highway 96) and the Mississippi River is owned by the Union Electric Company and is part of the park system along the river from Nauvoo to Hamilton, with picnic tables and parking areas.



6 March 1846

DEED

\$280

Lot 5,

Lot 8

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA, his wife, Hancock Co., Ill.

To
CHRISTOPHER TALLENT, Hancock Co., Ill.

2 pieces property 3 miles south Nauvoo, Ill. In sec 19
NE¼. A 2.2 acre tract on the river - and 37.14 acres in
the NW½ of sec 19.

GS Film 954,601 Deed Book 19 Pages 288-290 Hancock
Co., Ill.

This Indenture made and entered into this sixth day of March
1846 between Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife party of
the first part of the County of Hancock and State of Illinois and
Christopher Talient of the same County and State party of the second
part Witnesseth That for the ^{and} consideration of Two hundred and
Eighty Dollars to party of the first part paid by the sd Christopher

Talient. The receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, they have bargained
Granted and Sold and by these presents do Grant, bargain sell convey
confirm unto the sd Christopher Talient his heirs and assigns two
certain pieces or parcels of land situated in the aforesaid County of Hancock
and being in Section No. 19 Township 6 North Range 8 West of the 4th
hr. Meridian.

To have and to hold the above Granted and bargained premises unto the
sd Christopher Talient his heirs and assigns forever And to third Party of
the first part, as for their heirs Executors Administrators and assigns
Covenant to and ^{agree} with the sd party of the second part their heirs and
assigns the aforesaid premises against the claim or claims of all and
every person to whomsoever that they will by those presents forever warrant
& defend In Testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and
Seals this day of March 1846

Abraham Hunsaker
Eliza ^{his} Hunsaker
Mark

State of Illinois }
County of Hancock }

I Daniel H Wells an acting Justice of the Peace
within and for the said County of Hancock do certify that Abraham
Hunsaker and Eliza his wife whose signatures appear to the foregoing
Deed and who are personally known to me to be the persons described in
and who executed the same and acknowledged the same to be their convey-
ance and deed for the uses and purposes therein mentioned and expressed
And the said Eliza Hunsaker being by me made acquainted with the contents of the same
conveyance and examined separate and apart from her husband acknowledge
that she had executed the same and Relinquished her dower to the persons therein
conveyed freely Voluntarily and without compulsion of her said husband
Given under my hand and Seal this sixth day of March 1846 Daniel H Wells

DEED

23 March 1846

\$220

Lot 3

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA, his wife, Hancock Co., Ill.

To

HENRY KEARNS, Hancock Co., Ill.

8 Acres Ne ¼ Sec. 19 Twp. 6 N 8 W on northern boundary of Abraham Hunsaker 160 acre 3 miles south Nauvoo, Hancock Co., Ill.

GS Film 954, 603 Deed Book Q Pages 64-65 Hancock Co., Ill.

This Indenture made and entered into this Twenty third day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and forty six Between Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the County of Hancock and state of Illinois of the one part and Henry Kearnes of the County of Hancock and state aforesaid of the other part witnesseth that the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife for and in consideration of the sum of Two hundred and Twenty Dollars to them in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged do hereby grant bargain sell convey and Confirm unto the said Henry Kearnes his heirs and assigns forever all that tract or parcel of land situate and being in the County of Hancock in the state of Illinois viz being a part of the North East fractional quarter of section nineteen Township Six North

Range Eight west bounded as follows commencing at John M Stewarts North East corner of his Two acre and one Eighth lot at a stone running East Twenty nine rods to a stone thence South forty five rods to a stone, thence West twenty Eight rods to a stone, thence North forty five rods to the place of beginning containing Eight acres being the same more or less Together with all and singular the appurtenances thereto belonging or in any wise appertaining Do Give and to Hold the above described premises unto the said Abraham Hunsaker Henry Kearnes his heirs and assigns forever. And the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife their heirs and assigns the aforesaid premises unto the said Henry Kearnes his heirs and assigns against the claim or claims of all and every person whomsoever do and will warrant and forever by these presents defend

In Testimony whereof the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written

Signed Sealed and
delivered in presence of
Edward Immans
Nelson Higgins

Abraham Hunsaker (L)
Eliza ^{his} Hunsaker (L)
mark

State of Illinois Hancock County.

DEED

2 April 1846

\$150

Lot 6

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA, his wife, of Hancock Co., Ill.

To

SARY ANN HEBERLING of Adams Co., Ill.

4 Acres on the east side of the Mill site, but not the Mill,
located 3 miles south Nauvoo on Mississippi River. Sec.
19 Twp. 6 N 8 w.

GS Film 954-601 Deed Book 19 Pages 419-420 Hancock
Co., Ill.

7770 This Indenture made and entered into this second day of April
Hunsaker in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty six
To Between Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the County of
Heberling Hancock and State of Illinois of the one part and Sary Ann
Heberling of the County of Adams and State of Illinois of the
Pro and other part. Witnesseth that the Said Abraham Hunsaker
April and Eliza his wife for and in consideration of the Sum of One
4 hundred & 50 dollars to them in hand paid the Receipt whereof
1846 he hereby acknowledged do hereby Grant bargain sell convey and
confirm unto the Said Sary Ann Heberling her heirs and assigns
forever all that tract or parcel of land situate and being in the
County of Hancock and State of Illinois viz lying about four miles
below the City of Nauvoo on the Mississippi River on Section nineteen
in Township Six north of Range Eight West of the fourth principal
Meridian which will more fully appear by Reference to the Record
Hancock County in a deed from one J. A. Michell & Josiah O'Brien
and generally known as the Michell Mill tract it being four acres
of the East Side of said tract commencing at the N. E. West Corner
of said tract at a Stone thence South East with a Road Twenty eight
Rods to a corner Stone thence East twenty three rods to a Stone thence about
Twenty eight Rods to a Stone thence West to the place beginning Together
with all and singular the appurtenances therunto belonging or in anywise
appertaining To Have and to hold the above described premises
unto the Said Sary Ann Heberling her heirs and assigns forever
And the Said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife their heirs
and assigns against the claim & claims of all and every person who
soever shall Warrant and forever defend by these presents
In Testimony hereof the Said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his
wife have hereunto set their hands and seals the day & Year above written
Signed in presence of
Geo E. Higbee
Abraham Hunsaker
Eliza Hunsaker

13 April 1846

DEED

\$1000

Lot 7

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA, his wife, of Hancock Co., Ill.

15 Acres
&
1 Acre

To

JOHN B. Smith, Lee Co., Iowa

1 acre South Mill site on Mississippi River 3 miles south
Nauvoo, Ill. and 15 acres of orchard land.

GS Film 954, 602 Deed Book 20 Pages 129-130 Hancock Co., Ill.

8159 This Indenture made and entered into this thirtieth day of April in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty between Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the County of Hancock and State of Illinois of the one part and J B Smith of the County of Lee, Iowa Territory of the other part Witnesseth that the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife for and in consideration of the sum of One Thousand Dollars to them in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged do hereby grant bargain sell convey and confirm unto the said J B Smith his heirs and assigns forever all that tract of land situate and being in the County of Hancock in the State of Illinois viz beginning at a point on the left and easterly margin of the Mississippi river from which the corner section the said margin of the river for the NW 1/4 of quarter of said fractional section 19 bears N 20° 20' sum 11.999 Chasms distant of an Elm in distance N 81° E 3 1/2 links distant of a cottonwood 12 in dia bears S 81° E 1 1/2 links distant thence run N 75° E 2.63 Chasms to a stone 13 in long by 13 in wide thence N 11 1/2° W 2.16 Chasms thence S 75° W 2.63 thence S 16 1/2° E 2.16 Chasms to place of beginning containing 1 acre of land allowances made for magnetic variation of 35° E) also the following tract or parcel viz beginning at a post at the south west corner of the orchard in the center of the lane thence east forty nine rods thence north thirty two rods and three quarters thence north forty three rods this line running three (3) degrees east of a north corner thence west nineteen rods thence forty three rods running three deg west thence west to a post at the orchard fence thence to the place of beginning being a part of North east quarter of section 19 Township 24 north Range 8 west of the 4 principal meridian containing 15 acres be the same more or less Together with all and singular the appurtenances therunto belonging or in anywise appertaining To Have and to Hold the above described premises unto the said J B Smith his heirs and assigns forever And the said Abraham Hunsaker and Elizabeth his wife their heirs and assigns the aforesaid premises unto the said J B Smith his wife and assigns against the claim or claims of all and every person whomever do and will warrant and forever by their presents defend In testimony whereof the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written Signed sealed and delivered in presence } Abraham Hunsaker (21)
of Isaac H. Gibbs } Eliza Hunsaker (21)
mark

DEED

22 April 1846

\$230

Lot 21

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA, his wife, of Hancock Co., Ill.

To

JOHN B. SMITH, of Lee Co., Iowa

10.50 acres on bluff, south of Delilah Micksell's Orchard
Lot 3 miles south Nauvoo, Hancock Co., Ill.

GS Film 954,602 Deed Book 20 Pages 127-130 Hancock Co., Ill.

8138
A Hunsaker
to
J B Smith
Recorded
May
11th
1846

This Indenture made and entered into this twenty second day of April in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty six between Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the County of Hancock and State of Illinois of the one part and John B Smith of the County of Lee and Territory of Iowa of the other part Witnesseth that the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred and thirty dollars to them in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged do hereby grant bargain sell convey and confirm unto the said John B Smith his heirs and assigns forever all that tract or parcel of land situate and being in the County of Hancock in the State of Illinois viz laying in north east fractional quarter of section nineteen in township six north of range eight west bounded as follows viz Commencing at the South east corner of Delilah Micksell's five acre lot laying in said fractional quarter running south forty rods thence west forty rods thence north forty rods thence east forty rods along the center of barn in line of the said Delilah Micksell land to the place of beginning containing ten acres be the same more or less Together with all and singular appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining to have and to hold the above described premises unto the said John B Smith his heirs and assigns forever and the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife their heirs and assigns the aforesaid premises unto the said John B Smith his heirs and assigns against the claim or claim of all and every person whomsoever do and will warrant and forever defend by these presents In testimony whereof the said Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the first part have hereinto set their hands and seals the day and year above written signed sealed and delivered in presence of

Nelson Higgins
Barbara A. Evans

Abraham Hunsaker
Eliza Hunsaker
mark



Abraham Hunsakers property 3 miles south of Nauvoo on the bluff on Mississippi River.

A fifty-acre farm, only part of which is tilled, on the bluff south of the road which runs east and west through the property.

A strip one hundred feet wide through the center of the quarter section, north and south, carries high tension wires of the Union Electric Company from the power house at the Keokuk Dam.



Looking southwest along gravel road on the East line of the Quarter section.



Looking southwest along East-west paved road through property.

DEED

23 April 1846

\$225

Lot 15, Lot 18

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA, his wife, of Hancock Co., Ill.

To

220 Acres
&
120 Rods
of land

WILLIAM W. REED, of Hancock Co., Ill.

Sec. 19 T6 N 8 W, 3 parcels 3 miles south Nauvoo, Ill.

GS Film 954, 602 Deed Book 20 Pages 534-40 Hancock Co., Ill.

8585 This Indenture made and entered into this twenty third day of
 1846 Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife for and in consideration of the
 sum of Two hundred and twenty five dollars to them in hand
 paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged do hereby grant
 bargain sell convey and confirm unto the said William W
 Reed his heirs and assigns forever all that tract or parcel of
 land situate and being in the County of Hancock in the
 State of Illinois viz being a part of the North E fractional
 quarter of section nineteen Township 6 N Range 8 W beginning
 at a stone forty rods west of the S E corner of said quarter thence
 forty rods N to a stone thence five rods E to a stone thence
 nine rods NW to a stone thence W two rods to a stone thence
 N thirty four rods to a stone thence E Twenty rods and six feet
 to stone thence North sixteen rods and three feet stone thence
 west Twenty rods and six feet to a stone thence South nineteen
 rods and three feet to a stone thence W forty rods to a stone
 thence S Eighty rods to a stone thence E forty rods to the place
 of beginning containing twenty two acres and one hundred
 and Twenty rods be the same more or less Together with
 all and singular the appurtenances thereto belonging
 or in anywise appertaining to the said Eliza and to the said
 the above described premises unto the said William
 W Reed his heirs and assigns forever And the said
 Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife then heirs
 and assigns the aforesaid premises unto the said
 William W Reed his heirs and assigns against the
 claim or claims of all and any person whomsoever
 and will warrant and forever by these presents defend
 in testimony whereof the said Abraham Hunsaker and
 Eliza his wife their heirs and assigns against the claim or claims
 of all and every person whomsoever of the first part have hereunto set
 their hands and seals this day and year above written

Signed Sealed and
 Delivered in presence of
 Edward Miller Nelson Higgins

Abraham Hunsaker (S)
 Eliza Hunsaker (S)
 mark

DEED

27 May 1846

\$50

Lot 13

ABRAHAM HUNSAKER & ELIZA, his wife, of Hancock Co., Ill.

To
WILLIAM W. REED,

2-1/3 Acres

Sec. 19 T6 N 8 W
3 miles south of Nauvoo, Hancock Co., Ill.

GS Film 954, 602 Deed Book 20 Page 533-535 Hancock Co., Ill.

8584 This indenture made and entered into this Twenty seventh day of
 of May in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and
 1846 forty six between Abraham Hunsaker and Eliza his wife of the County
 of Hancock and state of Illinois of the one part and William
 W. Reed of the second part witnesseth that the said Abraham
 Hunsaker and Eliza his wife for and in consideration of
 the sum of Fifty dollars to them in hand paid the receipt
 whereof is hereby acknowledged do hereby grant bargain
 sell convey and confirm unto the said William W. Reed
 him and assigns forever all that tract or parcel of land
 situate and being in the County of Hancock in the State
 of Illinois viz. lying on the North East fractional quarter
 of Section Nineteen in Township Six North Eight West
 bounded as follows viz. [Commencing at the North East
 Corner of Adam Ekensund two and one third of an acre lot
 in said fractional quarter bounded as follows running thence
 west twenty rods thence North Eighteen rods, thence East
 twenty rods thence South Eighteen rods to the place of beginning
 containing two acres and one quarter be the same more
 or less. Together with all and singular the appurtenances
 thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining to have
 and to hold the above described premises unto the said
 William W. Reed him and assigns forever And the
 said Abraham Hunsaker & Eliza his wife their heirs
 executors and administrators the aforesaid premises unto
 the said William W. Reed his heirs and assigns against
 the claim or claims of all and any person whomsoever
 do and will warrant and frame by these presents defend
 In testimony whereof the said Abraham Hunsaker &
 Eliza his wife have hereunto set their hands and seal the
 day and year first above written
 Signed sealed and
 Delivered in presence of
 at State of Illinois
 Abraham Hunsaker &
 Eliza Hunsaker

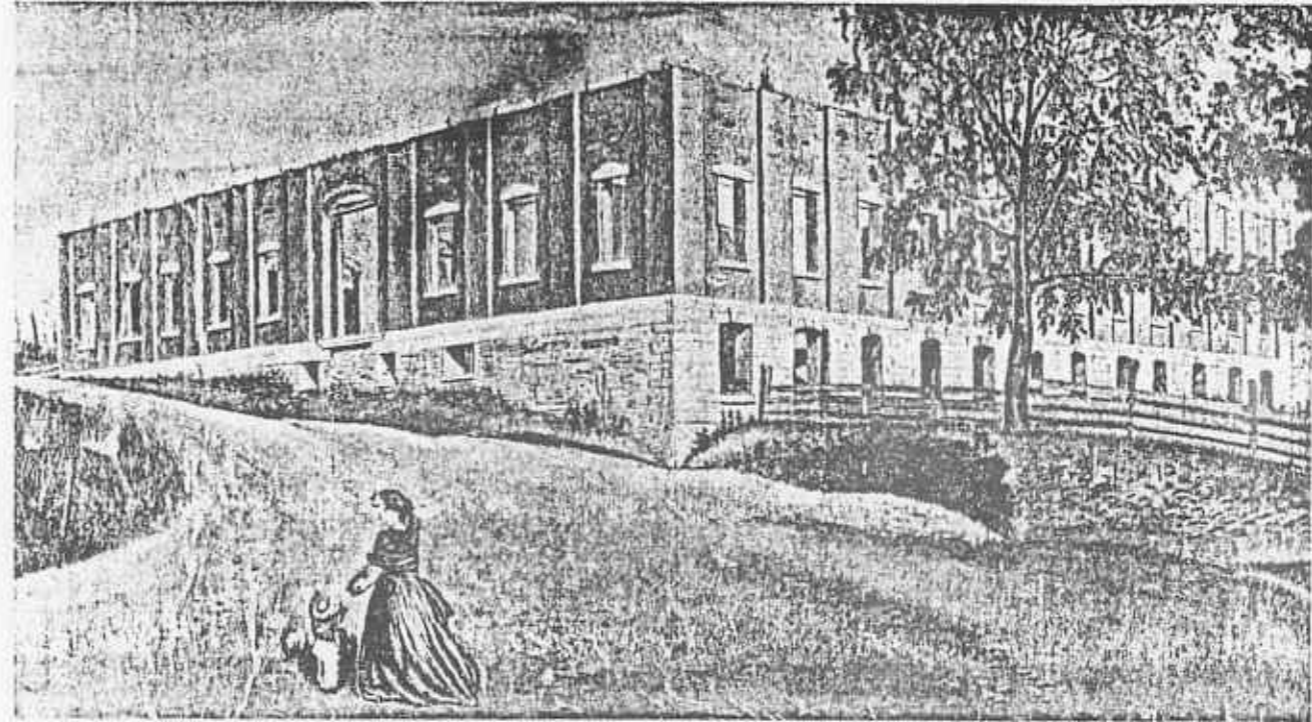
'Before I had sent my team on west with the camp had
 nothing but one cow and 32 acres of land left, except
 household furniture and some sheep. I sold my land for
 \$200.00 mostly in property at high price, which enabled
 me to pay some of my debts...' (Letter, Aug. 12, 1846,
 Abraham Hunsaker to Brigham Young. CHO)

Sketch of the Nauvoo House

30 October 1845

In the Ledger Records of the Nauvoo House in Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois the following entries appear under the dates of October 30 and October 31, 1845 in regards to Abraham Hunsaker.

He was to sell his Steam Mill located 4 Miles South of Nauvoo on the Mississippi River to the Trustees of the Nauvoo House for \$900.00. Out of the 900 dollars, 600 dollars were to be stock certificates issued to Abraham Hunsaker each to cost \$50 and Numbers 15-26 were to be issued. The other \$300 was to be paid by the Nauvoo House Trustees to Wm. Horner and Josiah Allison to clear Abraham Hunsaker mortgages on the Steam Mill. In a letter to Brigham Young in August 1846, Abraham Hunsaker stated that the Nauvoo House Trustees had not paid this \$300, so Abraham canceled the deal and sold the Mill to his Brother George B. Hunsaker just before Abraham Hunsaker left for Council Bluffs about the 1st day of June 1846. The other \$70.32 was for lumber Abraham Hunsaker had prepared and sawed for the Nauvoo House and farm products he provided the Nauvoo House. Attached is a picture of the unfinished Nauvoo House as it appeared in early 1846. The Nauvoo House was to be the biggest and most pretentious hotel in the state of Illinois. It was started in 1841 and was not completed before the saints were driven from Nauvoo in 1846. The place remained the property of Emma Smith, the wife of the Prophet Joseph Smith. The measurements were 120 feet by 120 feet wings, and was to be four storys high. The original manuscript of the Book of Mormon had been deposited in the cornerstone of this building and the bodies of Hyrum and Joseph Smith were first given secret burials beneath the structure.



SOURCE OF INFORMATION:

Letters of Abraham Hunsaker
Ledger Book C page 583 of Nauvoo House
Day Book C page 90 of Nauvoo House
LDS Archives Nauvoo House Records Stock Book, Day
Book and Certificates etc.
Stock Book page 36 and Stock Certificates.



E. Robinson's Print, Nauvoo, Ill.

Shares
\$50 No. 16
Each.



\$50.

CAPITAL \$250,000

This is to certify that the Bearer is entitled to One Share, of the
Capital Stock of the NAUVOO HOUSE ASSOCIATION.
Transferable by endorsement.

Nauvoo, February 10th 1841

John Snider

Sect'y. ☒ George Miller Prest.



E. Robinson's Print, Nauvoo, Ill.

Shares
\$50 No. 18
Each.



\$50.

CAPITAL \$250,000

This is to certify that the Bearer is entitled to One Share, of the
Capital Stock of the NAUVOO HOUSE ASSOCIATION.
Transferable by endorsement.

Nauvoo, February 10th 1841

John Snider

Sect'y. ☒ George Miller Prest.



E. Robinson's Print, Nauvoo, Ill.

Shares
\$50 No. 21
Each.



\$50.

CAPITAL \$250,000

This is to certify that the Bearer is entitled to One Share, of the
Capital Stock of the NAUVOO HOUSE ASSOCIATION.
Transferable by endorsement.

Nauvoo, February 10th 1841

John Snider

Sect'y. ☒ George Miller Prest.



E. Robinson's Print, Nauvoo, Ill.

Shares
\$50 No. 22
Each.



\$50.

CAPITAL \$250,000

This is to certify that the Bearer is entitled to One Share, of the
Capital Stock of the NAUVOO HOUSE ASSOCIATION.
Transferable by endorsement.

Nauvoo, February 10th 1841

John Snider

Sect'y. ☒ George Miller Prest.



E. Robinson's Print, Nauvoo, Ill.

Shares
\$50 No. 26
Each.



\$50.

CAPITAL \$250,000

This is to certify that the Bearer is entitled to One Share, of the
Capital Stock of the NAUVOO HOUSE ASSOCIATION.
Transferable by endorsement.

Nauvoo, February 10th 1841

John Snider

Sect'y. ☒ George Miller Prest.

Nauvoo House Records purchase of mill from Abraham Hunsaker

Nauvoo, Thursday 31st day of October 1845

583--To Abraham Hunsaker of Nauvoo Area, Hancock County, Illinois

for 55 Bushels of Bran at 6c.....\$ 3.30

for 8 bushels 230 Shorts a ½c.....\$ 1.15

(shorts is a mixture of bran and coarse meal)

for 3 cords of wood at \$1.25, total.....\$ 3.75

for sawing 9,940 feet of wood joist and

other scantling at 62½c per hundred.....\$62.12

Total due \$70.32

170--Sale of Real Estate of Abraham Hunsaker located NE corner of his 160 Acres

583--To Abraham Hunsaker. \$900 for the Steam Mill situated on the bank of the Mississippi River about 4 miles below Nauvoo--\$600 to be paid in Stock certificates and the balance of \$300 to be paid to Wm E. Horner and Josiah Allison in some manner satisfactory to them. (Abraham Hunsaker had a \$300 Mortgage on Steam Mill payable to Wm E. Horner and Josiah Allison).

From Nauvoo House Records Day Books dated 30 and 31 October 1845 at Nauvoo, Illinois. Day Book C page 90, Ledger C page 583 Day Book B page 90 and loose file.

90

Nauvoo, Thursday October 31st 1845

640 ✓ Nauvoo House Dr.

583 ✓ To Abraham Hunsaker

For 55 Bus. Bran @ 6c 3.30

" 8 Bus. = 230th Shorts @ ½c 1.15

" Balance due on work 3.75

" Sawing 9,940 feet joist and

Scantling @ 62½c per 100. 62.12

7032

170 ✓ Real Estate Dr.

583 ✓ To Abraham Hunsaker,

For the Steam Mill, situate on the Bank of the Mississippi River, about 4 miles below Nauvoo.

900

600 dollars to be paid in stock, and the balance, 300 dollars to be paid to Wm E. Horner & Josiah Allison, in some manner satisfactory to them.

583 ✓ Abraham Hunsaker Dr. for 100th part of

Abraham Sells to Brother George

2 June 1846

Abraham Hunsaker and his family finally left Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois for the Camp of Israel in Iowa and Winter Quarters. They visited with George B. Hunsaker, the brother of Abraham Hunsaker, in Adams County, Illinois, and he paid them \$500 to go West and this gave him Title to the Mill of Abraham Hunsaker 3 miles South of Nauvoo. George B. Hunsaker left in July 1846 for Oregon and sold all the property given him from Abraham Hunsaker to one Charles Savage of Quincy, Adams County, Illinois. The deeds in Hancock County, Illinois show this Charles Savage recording several deeds in 1847. In the week of May 22, 1846 nearly 1,617 people left Nauvoo to go West. As the mobs near Nauvoo, Illinois witnessed the departure of thousands of the Saints during the spring and summer of 1846, they ceased for a time their depredations and violence.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Deeds of Hancock County, Illinois
The Restored Church by Wm Barrett pages 300-328
Letter of John Bernhisle to Brigham Young dated June 10, 1846 about Abraham Hunsaker
School Records of Hancock County, Illinois

REPORT OF NAUVOO RESTORATION INC.

No record of deed, Abraham Hunsaker to George B. Hunsaker

Deed, George B. Hunsaker to Charles A. Savage not recorded

53-155
Feb. 6, 1847
Rec. 8-4-1859
\$400
QC

1 ac.
West side
Mill
bldgs.

Charles A. Savage, Quincy, Illinois
to
J.B. Smith

One acre known as Mikesell Mill tract in west side NE Sec. 19, T. 6. 8, adjoining Miss Heberling's 4-acre lot on the West. Com. in SW cor. Miss Heberling's 4-acre tract, North 28 rods, SW 28 rods, East 6 rods to beg. Cont. 1 acre.

Together with all buildings, engines, mills, and mill fixtures, being the same conveyed to me by **George B. Hunsaker**.

(Also Lot 20)

Ack. Philo A. Goodwin, N.P.

'...sold the mill for \$500 in trade...'

(Excerpt from letter, Aug. 12, 1846, Abraham Hunsaker to Brigham Young, CHO)

J. M. Bernickel
Mauro

June 10. 1846
to Pres. B. Young

Mauro June 10th 1846.

Dear Brother

You are doubtless aware that the Trustees of the Mauro House Association purchased the steam grist and saw mill, four miles below town, of Abraham Huntsaker, last summer for which they agreed to pay him nine hundred dollars (\$900.00) six hundred dollars of which he was to receive in stock in the Mauro House. They let him have horse on part payment, and perhaps something more, of this, however, brother Haws or brother George A. Smith can inform you. The stock was to be delivered when the balance was paid, when he was to make the Trustees a good and sufficient deed. In April last Br Allison who was the former proprietor of the mill, and who held a note against brother Huntsaker for one hundred and ten dollars and seventy four cents became very urgent for the payment of it. Brother Huntsaker spoke to me two or three times about it and desired us to cancel it, saying that Allison would not wait any longer. In order to save the mill we finally prevailed on the Trustees in Trust to take up the note which they did. The balance we promised to pay him out of the proceeds of Church property as soon as sales could be effected. The Trustees in Trust not being so successful in making sales as it was anticipated, and brother Huntsaker becoming very pressing in his solicitations for the payment of the balance due him we concluded to dispose of the mill as soon as we could find a customer. Accordingly about the 20th of April we sold it to a gentleman who intended to remove the engine to Rock Island, for six

hundred dollars in cash - But the gentleman I afterward understood was apprehensive that the engine would be attacked, should he attempt to remove it, (of which however there was not the slightest danger,) hence he did not perform his contract - At the last interview I had with brother Huntsaker, I expressed my regret that the gentleman did not take the mill, and stated to him, that if I could find another purchaser that we would sell it again, and pay the balance due him. On Wednesday the 27th afternoon my way to the mill I met brother Hannes who informed me that brother Huntsaker had gone to Adams county; I inquired whether he went to seek a purchaser for the mill to which he answered in the affirmative. Six days afterward I happened to be at the mill again, when to my surprise I was informed that brother Huntsaker had sold the mill to a brother of his and a Mr Simpson of Adams county; and had taken his departure for the Camp of Israel. So you perceive that we are without the mill, and have lost the amount paid on it, including the one hundred and ten dollars and seventy four cents recently paid to Mr Allison.

There has been one or more applications for the purchase of the ^{Hause} ~~Narvoo~~, there was a gentleman here yesterday from Ohio who was desirous of purchasing it, and will probably be here again in the course of ten days. - Now the question is, shall we dispose of it or shall I rear the walls and put on the roof? which I shall do, if you still say so as soon as I receive the means - There is an obstacle in the way of selling it - It appears that sister Emma holds the title to the lot on which the edifice stands - I have had a conversation with her this morning in

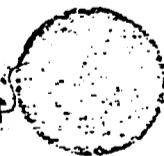
relation to it but she would not give me a
decisive answer, what she would do or what
she would take for her interest in it, in case
it was concluded to sell it, she stated however that
she had been offered a thousand dollars for it
She is not very well pleased that she did not receive
the stock which she understood was purchased for
her a little more than a year ago -
Said myself ^{the reason} to write to you by brother Taylor, and have
sent you several packages of newspapers which I trust
have reached you in safety, I send you herewith
another package of papers which will give you the news
of papins events and especially of the Mexican war, and
by the by is more unjust war never was waged than the
one against Mexico - Brother Bickford will inform
you of the doings of the Mob - I do not apprehend that
they will molest us in the city - I need not add that
as early an answer as you can make convenient
will be acceptable - In haste I remain yours in
the bonds of the new & everlasting
Covenant -

J. B. Bernhisel

President Brigham Young

Camp of Israel

Notice to accept
in reference to the affairs
of the Harass house and
other property



J. B. Bernhisel
Newspaper
to Geo. B. Young
June 10 1846

4 July 1846

On Friday Morning July 3, 1846 President Brigham Young riding in his carriage with Heber Kimball and Willard Richards started from Council Bluffs and went back over the Mormon Trail in an attempt to enlist everyone they could into a Militia to be known as the Mormon Battalion. On this second day of his journey President Young and his companions passed 206 wagons traveling westward including those of William Weeks, Frank Pullin, ABRAHAM HUNSAKER, John Murdock, Isaac Houstone, Robert Pierce, Father Morley and Joseph S. Clark. During that afternoon which was July 4, 1846 there was a heavy rainstorm and the Brethern were forced to remain for several hours in Joseph Clark's wagon. Thus they spent Independence day July 4, 1846. No doubt when President Young met Abraham Hunsaker's wagon he talked to him concerning the raising of a Militia and concerning the letter from Mr. John Buernhisel which Brigham Young had received on June 10, 1846 concerning Abraham Hunsaker.

Pres. Young Returns to Mt. Pisgah To Assist in Recruiting Battalion

BY PRESTON NIBLEY

CHAPTER 48

ON Friday morning, July 3rd, 1846, President Brigham Young, riding in his carriage with Heber C. Kimball and Willard Richards, started back over the Mormon Trail to Mt. Pisgah, about 130 miles distant, where they were to meet with the inhabitants of that settlement and encourage the young men to enlist in the Battalion that was then forming to take part in the war with Mexico. With the President went several guards on horseback including Joseph S. Scofield, James H. Glines, Thomas S. Williams and George W. Langley. "About 5 p.m. the President's party passed several small companies of Saints traveling westward; total 108 wagons. The brethren camped for the night with Ebenezer Brown and John P. Barnard, having traveled about thirty-four miles."

The following morning at 8 o'clock, President Young was in his carriage ready to continue his journey when Parley P. Pratt, Wilford Woodruff, Ezra T. Benson and Solomon Hancock rode up on horseback. These brethren were on their way to Council Bluffs.

This was no doubt a happy occasion for Wilford Woodruff, who was returning from his mission to England. He had not seen President Young, Heber C. Kimball nor Willard Richards since August 28th, 1844, shortly after the Prophet Joseph Smith's death, when he departed from Nauvoo. With Wilford was his good and worthy father, Aphek Woodruff, sixty-eight years of age, who was making his way to the gathering place of the Saints.

It may have been on this occasion that Parley P. Pratt related to the brethren an experience

he had had on his outward trip to Mt. Pisgah.

"On this journey," he wrote, "I came near drowning in an attempt to swim a branch of the Nishnabotna River on horseback. My horse refused to swim, reared on his hind feet to try and touch the bottom and caused me to slide off behind him. In the middle of a very strong current, with all my clothes on, including hat, coat and boots, and a large parcel under my arm. The parcel contained letters and important documents. I therefore clung to it and to my hat also, and, stemming the current with the other hand, swam to shore, a distance of several rods. Passing on a mile or two I came to a camp of Saints and dried my letters and clothing." (Autobiography of Parley P. Pratt, page 343.)

On this second day of his journey President Young and his companions passed 206 wagons traveling westward, including those of William Weeks, Frank Pullin, Abraham Hunsaker, John Murdock, Isaac Houston, Robert Pierce, Father Morley and Joseph S. Clark. During the afternoon there was a heavy rainstorm and the brethren were forced to remain for several hours in Joseph Clark's wagon. Thus they spent Independence Day, July 4th, 1846.

Next day, July 5th, the President and his companions continued their journey. During the day they passed 242 wagons, including the camps of Lucien Woodworth, Cornelius P. Lott, Andrew H. Perkins, John Wolf, William Mitchell, Lewis Nealy and others.

On the evening of July 6th, they reached Mt. Pisgah. On their journey from the Bluffs they had passed in all 800 wagons and carriages carrying the

Saints westward. President Young lodged with William Huntington and immediately began to interview young men whom he thought would be suitable to join the Battalion.

On Sunday evening, June 12th, President Young and the brethren who had accompanied him on the trip to Mt. Pisgah, arrived back in Council Bluffs. They had been instrumental in encouraging over sixty of the young men to enlist in the Battalion.

Source Of Information:

LDS Historians Office Book QM 205.1 C 562 1946 Chapter 2

Deseret News dated July 13, 1946 in article written by Preston Nibley in the Church News

Hunsaker Book page 36 (1957)

Journal History of the Church dated July 4, 1846

16184
Brigham Young
Huntsaker post office
Harrison County Mo.
care of P. D. Sargent

To indicate the faithfulness and humility of Abraham Hunsaker, we include the following letter he wrote to Brigham Young 12 Aug 1846 while serving in the Mormon Battalion.

His sincere desire to follow the counsel of the brethren, to help the poor and others in need, at the sacrifice of his own needs, is plainly made manifest.

August The 12th 1846

Fort Leavenworth army of the west mormon Bat Co D
Br Br Young and comd I desire to give you some information
concern the way I have managed concerning the steam mill
that I should have sold to the committe of the Nauvoo house
Br Peter Halse engaged me to saw a large amount of lumber
for the Nauvoo house I sawed seventy dollars worth and he
then came down with Drs Miller and Amos Lyman
and they agreed to buy the mill and pay me three hundred
dollars I told them my circumstances that I was indebt
3 or 4 hundred dollars for the mill they all so agreed to
pay me twelve shares on the Nauvoo house they then were own
indebted to me nine hundred and seventy dollars of I was to
take six hundred of the amount in shares and three hundred
and seventy in paying my debts on these conditions I let
them take possession of the mill this was a few days
before the burning commenced they had the profit of the mill
and hadent paid me my creditors began to want their pay
and I had not where with to pay them they dund me again
and again I commenced dunning Peter Halse and
offered to take any thing that my creditors would. I
told Br Halse we aught have the matter settled and
commit it to wrighting but we never had any
wrighting drawn I still went to Br Halse for pay but was
put of till at length he turned out to horse to Allison
valued at \$35 dollars and it stood so till you moved
of in the winter still own me nine hundred and thirtyfive
or forty dollars they then gave it in the hands of Doctor
Burnhise and Henry Miller my creditors threatend

seeing me and I was in worse fix to pay them ~~and~~
than I was ~~before~~ I had sent my teeme on west with
the camp and had nothing but one cow and Thirty two
acres of land ^{except ~~house~~ hold furniture and some sheep} and sold my land ~~and~~ for two hundred
dollars mostly in property at high price which enabled me
to pay some of my debts the time came on that wanted
to start west I could not start for want of means as Bro
George A Smith had had my teeme in the camp

Brother John Flavy drove the teeme I was lik A fish out
of watter what to do I did not know I still went
to Br Burnhise and Miller they could not pay
me and they would not sell the mill at its price it
could be sold for I was offered six hundred dollars in cash
two or three times I took the men to Br Burnhise
he would not take the money but put them off and told
them he would let ^{them} know if they concluded to take the money
I still waited till they might do something they paid some
hundred of dollars to it lison so they said they still was
own me twelve shares in the Naurookous and two hundred
and upwards of dollars I still told them I must start
west and I would sell the mill and pay my self
I told them all I wanted was enough to go west they staid
could not pay me and I was worried douing them so
went to President Sessions and president Eldridge for
council I told them the circumstance of the affair
They told me to sell the mill and gave myself a
fitout and take the rest to help the pore around me
so I sent a few lines to B Muller and Broth Burnhise
and told them I would sell the mill and help my

self and the pore with the pay and Brother Henry Miller
 started west so I went to Br Burnhise and told him
 I would not waste any longer but would sell the mill
 and pay myself and help the pore with the rest I
 told him I was counsild of the presidents of my com
 of seventy. I wanted still longer and finally sold the
 mill for five hundred dollars in trade at high price.
 Brother Burnhise's hands left the mill two or three
 weeks before I sold it. it was in bad condition standing
 idle and going to rack several reartichls was gone
 rencher pipes hammer and B.C. for which helped make the
 mill pore sack I loaned Brother Burl paterson one
 waggon and one yoke of oxen also sister Chins ^{two} one small
 sters and Brother Wadkins one small yoke of sters and
 and Bro Eldridge one yoke of oxen and Br woodruff
 one yoke of oxen I told Bro Woodruff I expected to
 settle the matter concerning the mill and if you wanted
 the oxen you must have them by paying him 15 which
 I stood on perticular neede of to get some flour. I had
 those 15 of Woodruff. Brother woodruff wanted the oxen
 till he got throo his journey. after I had sold the mill
 Br Henry came back with my teeme. I told him to help
 himself with the teeme and he ~~helped~~ kept the teeme
 to move his family with. when he comes back I want
 him to take care of my family to bring them west.
 I kept about the amount that was due me for the
 mill besides the twelve shares in the Sawhouse.
 this property that I left with Burl Paterson and
 sister Chins, B Wadkins Br Eldridge B Woodruff
 is at your disposal they stand in need of the oxen
 as they are pore but if you want the cattle you must
 have them, as soon as you can get the money you may
 gave credit for thum in the council or where ever you

Abram Huntsaker Aug 12 1846
Fort Seavenworth
To Pres. B. Young

Please, the use of the mill was worth all ^{the comity} ~~from~~ paid
me perhaps more if these Brethren can have these teemes
I would be glad but ~~++~~ they will be done not mine.
~~if you wish to~~ when I let these brethren have the
teemes I did not expect to overtake you till we got to
Callifony. I have stated to you concerning ~~the~~ the
mill to the best of my memory. I was talking with
Br. George A. Smith concerning the mill he reconed
there was no feelings or concern it but perhaps he
has not understood the affair as it is and as I am
con accused by B. Burnhise. I desire to have it
settled. I would be thankfull if you would send me a
few lines to let me know whether I have done wright
or wrong or what you wish to have me do, if god knows
my hart. I want the prairs and good feeling of all good
brethrin. Brethrin doo not neglect sending me a few lines
concerning this matter. all tho I have always tried to
~~keepe from troubling~~ you as little as possible I expect you
know how I have managed it the little property I had
when I came to Nauvoo. the shairs in the Nauvoo house
agricultural society Bishop Evans books, the books
of the temple, those books will help show how I have
used the little I have. I consider myself paid more
than one hundred fold I doo not say these things boasting
only because there has been feeling concern the mill.
the Brethren is in good spirits considering all circumstances.
several of the boys are sick to day, they talk of starting
west in a few days. I desire to remaine your obedient
brother and friend throu out time and all eternity.
Abraham Huntsaker