

## **BYU Studies Quarterly**

Volume 35 | Issue 2 Article 11

4-1-1995

## Seeing Joseph's Face on Y Mountain

David Dollahite

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/byusq



Part of the Mormon Studies Commons, and the Religious Education Commons

## **Recommended Citation**

Dollahite, David (1995) "Seeing Joseph's Face on Y Mountain," BYU Studies Quarterly: Vol. 35: Iss. 2, Article 11.

Available at: https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/byusq/vol35/iss2/11

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in BYU Studies Quarterly by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact ellen\_amatangelo@byu.edu.



Face on Y Mountain. The face, left of center in the photo, is most visible when viewed from north Provo or south Orem after a snowfall. As far as the author knows, his father was the first person to see the face, noticing it in 1993 while trying to locate the snow-covered Y. Photo courtesy of Mark Philbrick.



Published by BYU ScholarsArchive, 1995

## Seeing Joseph's Face on Y Mountain

My father saw him first,
Searching in vain for the Y.
Snow had unveiled Joseph's face,
Eyes quickening in dream—or vision.

Ironic that my father, who said,
"If I see the gold plates, I'll believe,"
Saw—at once—the face of The Prophet
Engraved in granite and crystal,

While I, eyes opened by testimony, Looked at the mountain a thousand times, And saw only snow, rock, and the letter That brands this place as Brother Brigham's.

As he built Nauvoo and walked with saints and angels, In vision, Joseph saw his people grow mighty in the mountains— Then steadfast mourners bore his death mask to these valleys, The Seer's eyelids shrouded in white plaster.

Fitting that The Revelator, winter of his life Cut off by rabble with black-painted faces, Has his visage revealed in ice and stone, Chiseled from mountain without hands.

—David Dollahite