End Matter
New Publications

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Provo’s Two Temples
Richard O. Cowan and Justin R. Bray
Provo, Utah, is the home of two LDS temples, each with a distinctive story. This volume includes a comprehensive account of each of these two temples, which have very different histories. One temple was built from the ground up and dedicated in 1972. The other is like a phoenix, born again of the ashes of a building destroyed by fire. This book includes richly illustrated pictures and text that traces the unique construction, history, and many other details that help tell the stories of each of Provo’s two temples.


Rediscovering the Sites of the Restoration: The 1888 Travel Writings of Mormon Historian Andrew Jenson, Edward Stevenson, and Joseph S. Black
Edited by Reid Neilson, Justin R. Bray, and Alan D. Johnson
On September 6, 1888, three Church history missionaries—Andrew Jenson, Edward Stevenson, and Joseph S. Black—left on a fact-finding mission to the Church’s historic sites in Missouri, Illinois, New York, Ohio, and Iowa, spending a majority of their time visiting the sacred spaces of the Restoration. The observations they made were the subjects of a lengthy correspondence to the Deseret News. These letters were later compiled into a pamphlet, allowing the Saints in the west to vicariously experience the early days of the Restoration. Some notable historical themes included in their observations include a desire for the establishment and redemption of Zion and the promise that righteous Saints would be restored to their lands to build up Zion.


Approaching Antiquity: Joseph Smith and the Ancient World
Edited by Lincoln H. Blumell, Matthew J. Grey, and Andrew H. Hedges
This volume is a collection of essays by prominent LDS scholars—including Richard Bushman and David Holland—who discuss the interest in the ancient world shared by Joseph Smith and the early Latter-day Saints. Topics include Joseph Smith’s fascination with the ancient Americas, his interaction with the Bible, his study of Hebrew and Greek, his reading of Jewish and Christian apocryphal writings, and his work with the Book of Abraham in the context of nineteenth-century Egyptology. Together, these essays demonstrate that Joseph Smith’s interests in antiquity played an important role in his prophetic development as he sought to recover
ancient scripture, restore the ancient Church, and bring the Latter-day Saints into fellowship with the sacred past.


A Missionary’s Story: The Letters and Journals of Adolf Haag, Mormon Missionary to Switzerland and Palestine, 1892
Edited by Larry W. Draper and Kent P. Jackson

This personal narrative of missionary Adolf Haag, a German immigrant living in the small community of Payson, Utah, when he was called to be a missionary in Switzerland and Germany. This book contains the journals Haag kept during his mission, letters he sent in preparation for it, and all the known letters he sent home while he was serving. These documents chronicle the willingness of a young man to accept a call to serve the cause of a religion he fervently believed in. They record the challenges he faced leaving behind his home, his business, and his wife and two young children. His letters in response to problems at home may show him at his missionary best. They read, in large part, like sermons, extolling the virtues of trusting in God, exercising patience and forbearance, and staying true to the faith.


Against the Wall: Johann Huber and the First Mormons in Austria
Roger P. Minert

This is the fascinating and inspiring story of Johann Huber, one of Austria’s earliest LDS converts. Huber was a controversial political figure in Haag but soon went from the frying pan into the fire when he informed his neighbors of his LDS baptism in Munich in 1900. For the next decade, he weathered relentless persecution from friends, neighbors, Catholic clerics, the local public school, and government officials. Despite attacks from determined opponents, Huber was extraordinarily loyal to his adoptive faith and played a lead role in laying the foundation of the Church in Austria and its ongoing legacy.


From Darkness unto Light: Joseph Smith’s Translation and Publication of the Book of Mormon
Michael Hubbard MacKay and Gerrit Dirkmaat

This book was written to provide a detailed explanation of how Joseph Smith and the scribes who served with him described the process of translating the gold plates and the difficulties encountered as they sought to publish the completed book. Although both members and academics alike often think of this story as well known, recent insights and discoveries associated with the efforts by the Church History Department to publish The Joseph Smith Papers have provided a fuller, richer understanding of the translation and publication of the Book of Mormon.


Conversations with Mormon Historians
Edited by Alexander L. Baugh and Reid L. Neilson

The interviews in this volume tell the stories of remarkable men and women who have made careers out of researching, writing, and teaching about the past. Friends and colleagues conducted these conversations over a decade or so. All were subsequently published in the Mormon Historical Studies journal or Religious Educator periodical, and now are brought together as a single book of personal essays. As we review and reflect on the personal lives and remarkable careers featured in this volume, we sense that many of these historians feel that they were prepared or given a definite sense of mission and professional calling that stretches well back in time.

Upcoming Events

Sidney B. Sperry Symposium  
*Friday and Saturday, October 21–24, 2015*  
The 44th Annual BYU Sperry Symposium will start in the Joseph Smith Building (JSB) auditorium on BYU campus. The title of this year’s symposium is “The Coming Forth of the Book of Mormon: A Marvelous Work and a Wonder.” Presentations will cover the Book of Mormon’s role in restoring doctrinal truths, the translation process, the witnesses, and the printing of the book.

Religious Education Student Symposium  
*Friday, February 19, 2016*  
This event is held in the Wilkinson Student Center from 9:00 to noon. The annual student symposium provides a forum for students to research, write, and present papers about religious subjects from a faithful perspective. For more information, visit http://rsc.byu.edu/studentsymposium.

2016 Church History Symposium  
*Thursday and Friday, March 3–4, 2016*  
The 2016 theme is “Beyond Biography: Sources in Context for Mormon Women’s History.” Scholars of Mormon women’s history have long demonstrated a commitment to and an interest in biography. The resulting narratives have helped to recover and preserve voices that would have otherwise been lost to modern awareness.

These events are free of charge, and registration is not required. Some event details are subject to change. For more details, please visit us online at rsc.byu.edu/conferences or contact Brent Nordgren at 801-422-3293.

Staff Spotlight

Research Assistant  
Leah Emal is a junior from Destin, Florida, and the oldest of five children. She is majoring in English and hopes to pursue a minor in editing. After graduation from BYU, she hopes to get her master’s degree in an education-related field. She has worked for Religious Education since her freshman year in 2013. She has worked for the RSC since May of 2015 and absolutely loves it. Leah enjoys reading, sports, hiking, watching Netflix, and spending time with her husband, Blake.

Student Editor  
Leah Welker is a senior studying English language, with minors in editing and modern Hebrew. She can’t decide where she is “from,” having spent an equal amount of her life in Utah, Maryland, Texas; to make matters even more confusing, her family currently lives in Virginia. She loves to travel, having gone on many cross-country road trips and visited eleven countries. Her passions are reading, writing, and editing—hence why she’s currently busy running a student journal, writing an honors thesis, and starting the first student chapter of the LDS Publishing Professionals Association. In her spare time, she loves watching movies, going to BYU concerts, and spending time with her two sisters, who are her roommates and best friends.
Submission Guidelines

The Religious Educator serves the needs and interests of those who study and teach the restored gospel of Jesus Christ on a regular basis. The distinct focuses are on teaching the gospel; publishing studies on scripture, doctrine, and Church history; and sharing outstanding devotional essays. The beliefs of the respective authors do not necessarily reflect the views of the Religious Studies Center, Brigham Young University, or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Complete author guidelines are provided at rsc.byu.edu/RSCStyleGuide.pdf. All manuscripts should be submitted electronically to rsc@byu.edu. Hard-copy submissions are accepted only if an electronic copy is included. Manuscripts should be double-spaced, including quotations. Authors should follow style conventions of The Chicago Manual of Style, 16th edition, and the Style Guide for Publications of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3rd edition, as reflected in a recent issue of the Religious Educator.

Manuscripts will be evaluated by the following questions:

1. Does the manuscript address a clear thesis? Does the argument proceed cautiously and logically? Is the writing clear? Is it engaging and interesting? If not, why?

2. To what degree is the author knowledgeable on the topic as a whole, as shown, for example, by content, phrasing, contextualizing, thorough use of the best sources, and bibliography? Does the author adequately acknowledge and deal with opposing views? If not, why?

3. Does the manuscript present significant new data or new perspectives? What is its main contribution? Will people want to read this ten years from now? Does it make a contribution without resorting to sensationalism or controversy?

4. Does the author follow the canons of responsible scholarship (uses sound and fair methodology; documents arguable facts)? If not, why?

5. Is the manuscript faith-promoting? Is the piece in harmony with the established doctrine of the Church?

If a manuscript is accepted, authors will be notified and asked to provide photocopies of all source materials cited, arranged in order, numbered to match the endnotes, and highlighted to show the quotations or paraphrases. Photocopies of source material must include title page and source page with the highlighted quotations.

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