12,000; but the ore deposits were worked out and a series of disastrous fires reduced Mercur to a ghost town by 1925. Today some of the old frame houses and mine foundations can be seen.

**OPHIR**: named by Col. Connor’s soldiers for the fabulous mines of King Solomon, “Ophir has risen from the sick bed so often, the very buildings seem bored with constant resurrection.” Frame structures of every period mark the dates of Ophir’s revivals.

**Ophir Town Hall and Fire Station**, Main Street. Built in 1870, it remains as a rare example of Ophir’s civic buildings during the boom days of the time. (S)

**STOCKTON**: named for Stockton, California, by Col. Connor, who constructed Utah’s first smelter here in 1864.

**TOOELE**: settled in 1849. During the Civil War, many Easterners, to avoid being drafted into the army, went to California “for their health;” from these travelers, residents of Tooele obtained horses, sheep and goats.

**Tooel County Courthouse**, Vine Street, east of State Route 36. Built in 1867 of red sandstone, it is one of the few remaining century-old civic buildings in the state. It was used extensively for dramatic and entertainment functions as well as civic events until 1941. Now maintained by the DUP. (S)

**GRANTSVILLE**: Alex Johnson Home, corner of Hale and Main Street. Built in 1899, is one of the more handsome houses in Grantsville. The outside walls are carved brick (shipped from California, each brick wrapped in paper, because postal rates were less than freighting rates), the interior walls are adobe brick. Small building to the west is a two-story summer sleeping house.

**E. T. BENSON MILL**: on U.S. 40 near Stansbury Park, Mill Junction. Built by Phineas R. Wright for E. T. Benson and John Rowberry during 1840-50. The mill used water from springs for power and gained a reputation as an “honest and well-run establishment.” Now owned by Terracor Corp. (S)

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**Skyline Drive — Sanpete Valley**

**Length of tour from Thistle**: 175 miles roundtrip; add 20 miles each way, Provo-Thistle

**Time to allow**: one to two days, plus travel time to Thistle

**Season**: June to October for Skyline Drive section; all year for Sanpete Valley

**Accommodations**: Fairview, Mt. Pleasant, Ephraim, Manti

**Added hints**: no supplies of any kind along Skyline Drive; avoid drive when wet

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**Thistle**: railroad and highway junction, settled in 1898 and named for thistles growing in the valley.

**Fairview Museum**, 85 North 1st East. Formerly Fairview Sandstone School, erected 1900, now houses fine collection of pioneer and Indian memorabilia. Open upon request to Golden Sanderson, caretaker. (S)

**MT. PLEASANT**: a leading Rambouillet sheep center and home of Wasatch Academy, a coeducational private school.

**William S. Seely Home**, 150 South State. Built in 1861, was one of the first homes to be built outside the town fort. Two-story stuccoed adobe with 12 rooms and a basement. Presently serves as the Mt. Pleasant Pioneer Historical Association headquarters. Open upon request to Mrs. Edgar Nelson. (S)

**Rasmussen Home**, 417 West Main. Built c. 1875 by Morten Rasmussen, member of the original group of Mt. Pleasant settlers. The spacious brick home has retained much of its original character, is presently owned by a granddaughter of the original owner. (C)

**SPRING CITY**: twice groups of colonists were burned out of this area by Indians, but the third group of fifteen families was able to stay in 1856. Spring City is one of the early pioneer towns in Utah still relatively unaffected by progress; many of the original buildings remain to present a homogenous picture of a 19th century pioneer town.

**Spring City Ward Chapel**, Main Street. Built in 1902 of quarry-faced ashlars, the chapel holds a commanding position and adds to the unique charm of the town. A square entrance tower is topped by an octagonal spire. Open generally Tuesdays and Sundays. (S)

**City Hall**, Main Street. Built of limestone in 1893, was originally used as a schoolhouse until 1900; then it was used as the city hall and still fills that purpose. Open upon request to John Baxter, mayor, at Baxter’s Confectionery. (S)

**Beck Home**, Main Street. Built in 1883 by Isaac H. Behunin for Simon J. Beck, one of the leading men in the community. The eight-room house, of cut
limestone, has had a porch added. Present owner is a son, Osmer H. Beck. (S)

Orson Hyde Home, Main Street. Built between 1852-57 of limestone, has changed little. Several upstairs and attic rooms have the quarter-round windows that seem to be unique to this valley. As the house was built during a time of repeated Indian attacks, it has a spring in the basement so the house could be used as a fortress. (S)

Peter Monson House, 1st East. Built in 1883, it is an excellent example of a large house built by a prosperous man of that time. The two-story T-shaped house is almost unchanged, presently owned by a daughter of the builder. Interesting date plaque set into a north gable. (S)

EPHRAIM:

Ephraim United Order Co-op Mercantile Institution, Main Street. Built in 1864, was one of the earliest United Order structures. It has served since as a co-op, grocery store, social hall, movies house, garage, Sanpete Academy (1888), and the first home of Snow College. Now owned by the Sanpete Development Corp. (S)

Canute Peterson Home, 10 North Main. Built in 1869 of sun-dried yellow brick with polygamy pits under the floor. Unusually beautiful cornice molding. Now owned and being restored by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nibley. (S)

Hansen-Sparks Home, 75 West 1st North. Two-story eight-room rock and adobe (stuccoed) house was built in 1862 for Hans Hansen, one of the early settlers of Sanpete County. It remains nearly intact, including a unique stairway with winding bannister carved from a single piece of wood. (C)

MANTI: was founded in 1849; the name is from the Book of Mormon.

Manti Temple. Designed by William H. Folsom, built during 1877-88, the temple holds a commanding position over the town and the surrounding valley. Built of cream-colored limestone, it is noted for its unique architecture and craftsmanship and boasts a very fine spiral staircase. (N)

Parry Home, 50 North 1st West. Jezrell Shoemaker built this limestone house before 1866; it was purchased in 1880 by Edward I. Parry (who was a stonemason for the Salt Lake Temple, St. George Temple and Tabernacle, and the Manti Temple). It has been carefully restored. (S)

Frederick Walter Cox Home, 1st West and 1st North. 2½-story limestone house was constructed by Mr. Cox over a period of seven years (1860-67). The home, built for four of his wives, was divided into separate apartments; a workroom is in the attic. Mr. Cox was a member of the Territorial Legislature and officiated in laying the N. W. cornerstone of the Manti Temple. Now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Maynes. (S)

SKYLINE DRIVE: for nearly 100 miles, Skyline Drive winds along the upper reaches of the Wasatch Plateau, passing through forests and meadows or along mountain ridges. Most of the drive is at elevations of above 9,000 feet, some as high as 11,000 feet. Though none of the drive is paved, it is passable in summer and is intersected by roads leading down to Sanpete and Castle valleys.

Great Basin — Sevier Desert Tour

Length of tour from Provo: 450 miles roundtrip/Alpine to Provo, 15 miles/American Fork Canyon extra

Time to allow: two to five days

Season: All year; most pleasant season May through October

Accommodations: American Fork, Provo, Santaquin, Eureka, Delta, Baker, Milford, Beaver, Kanosh, Fillmore, Holden, Nephi

Added hints: west of Delta and Beaver, towns are few and far between; check gas, water, tires, carry basket lunch

ALPINE: a farming community set in a cove of the Wasatch Mountains; just off highway 80 which turns off Interstate 15 between Draper and Lehi.

Moyle Tower and Home, 8th North and 6th East on Grove Drive. The stone house, built c. 1858, has had some remodeling. The tower, built c. 1858 outside Alpine Fort as protection against Indians, had a tunnel started to the house. When the Indian threat disappeared, the tower was used for sleeping purposes. (S)

Alpine Meeting House, Main Street. Begun in 1857, dedicated by Brigham Young in 1863. Served as church, school, recreation and civic center until a new meetinghouse was built in 1878; used as Alpine City Hall until 1936. (S)