Jedediah Smith- Born in January 1799, clerk, trailblazer, frontiersman, hunter, trapper, mapmaker, explorer of the rocky mountain region. Died May 1831. Came to Utah as part of 2 trapping companies, famous for being a skilled trapper, part of the William H. Ashley trapping group. Famous for being one of the first to make contact with the Indians in Utah. First to cross the Great Basin Desert, named cache valley. Famous for proving that the great salt lake does not connect to the ocean, mauled by a bear, had his scalp ripped off and then sewn back on. Killed by comanche

Etienne Provost- French CanadianTrapper, trader, survived Shoshone attack, mapped the Mississippi and Missouri River may have been the first to see the great salt lake. Lead a company of explorers, explorer/environmentalist

Peter Skene Ogden- Fur Trapper, leader of the snake river expedition, learned from the snake Indians (Shoshone) that the area had been trapped and people were already there so he went to the Bear river area and met by other companies.

Jim Bridger- Trapper and trader, in Utah for that, credited for “discovering” the great salt lake, thought it was the ocean. Famous for being a guide, planned and constructed fort bridger with Luis Vasquez. Was arrested by Mormon leaders and had his trade license taken away, Mormons take fort Bridger

Donner Party- Group of pioneers heads for California in Wagons, they don’t make it, delayed by mistakes, trapped in the mountains, ate each other to survive.

John H. Weber- Explorer from Denmark, traded fur, explored the rocky mountain region including Utah. Big into Beaver and Possum fur

William H. Ashley- Born in 1778, died in 1838, part of the Ashley Company of Explorers, Fur trader, sold his company to Jedediah Smith, Jacksonian Democrat, runs for governor of Missouri, loses.

John C. Fremont- Born 1813, head of team exploring and mapping the Oregon trail. Largely responsible for the negative opinion of Brigham Young, author and map maker, “political” general

James P. Beckwourth- Explorer, miner, army scout, trader. Born a slave, headed west to avoid slavery. Adopted by the crow Indians, married a crow woman and “became” a crow indian

John W. Gunnison- Came to Utah to watch over the lakes in Utah and monitor Utah-Indian interactions, surveyed the railroad locations and came up with the idea of putting it in northern Utah, killed by pahvant Indians.

Antoine Roubidoux- Worked with Provost, built many forts and trading posts. Big into trading with Indians and everyone else in the area.

Joseph R. Walker- Trapper who later worked as a guide, established the trail that was the main route to California, publishes a report about the route so it became popular. Came to Utah to explore the Green River and Native Americans in the area

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