



Memorial Highway/Bridge Naming Application Form

Missouri Department of Transportation

David Whitmer
Memorial Highway

The following items required with this completed form:

- Participation fee payable to: Director of Revenue - Credit State Road Fund
- List of 100 individual signatures of Missouri residents who support the highway/bridge designation
- Proof designee is deceased by providing copy of Death Certificate or Obituary if designated after a person

Step 1 **Legislative Sponsor:** Peggy McGaugh Room #: 402 Phone #: 573-751-2917
Terry Thompson Room #: 300 Phone #: 573-751-1462

☐ Missouri Senate ☒ Missouri House of Representatives

Step 2 **Applicant:** Phil Andrus **Organization:** The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
(if applicable)

Address: P.O. Box 711

City: Cameron State: MO Zip Code: 64429

Phone #: 385-549-4334 Email: philandrus@gmail.com

Applicant Signature: Phil Andrus Date: 9/25/2023

Step 3 **Memorial Name Requested**

The proposed name may have a maximum of two lines with 19 characters per line (including spaces).
LINE 3 WILL READ: Memorial Highway or Memorial Bridge

Line 1:

D	a	v	i	d		W	h	i	t	m	e	r						
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Line 2:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Line 3:

Check One:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Memorial Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Bridge
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Required Information (check appropriate box)

The memorial name can be for an event, place, organization, or person.

- ☐ Event ☐ Place ☐ Organization ☒ Person (deceased 2 years)

Step 4 **Call 1-573-751-7643 - MoDOT, confirming availability of highway/bridge and the current application fee.**

- 1) List the State Highway(s), intersection, and nearby City/Town of the requested designation location:
(example: 1/2 mile south of Hwy. A to intersection of US 54 on Hwy. 160)

Thin portion of Business 10 from Valley Drive continuing east to Coe Lane in Ray County (Richmond) (3.3 miles)

- 2) List the County in which the highway/bridge is located:

Ray County

Step 5 **Information Supporting Designation**

See attached biography - one of the 3 witnesses of the Book of Mormon. A longtime resident of Richmond Mo where he operated a successful livery stable. Elected mayor in 1867. Active member of the Richmond community.

- Step 6 ☒ By marking this box the applicant is requesting to receive a PDF proof of the Memorial Sign Design and acceptance of the following terms. (PDF proof allows applicant to utilize a local company to fabricate commemorative signs for their own personal use. PDF proof will be provided electronically to the applicant's email, if provided.)

I, the applicant, agree to follow all state and federal statutes and regulations pertaining to this program. Further, receipt of a PDF proof of the requested sign does not authorize the fabrication or installation of the sign on or near any portion of the State Highway System. I hereby acknowledge that such installation is unlawful. I further acknowledge and agree that unlawfully installed signs will be removed at my expense and will become property of MoDOT.

Questions or concerns regarding application, call Highway Safety and Traffic Division at 1-573-751-7643

MoDOT

OCT 17 2023

HIGHWAY SAFETY
& TRAFFIC



100 Signatures for Memorial Designation

Date 9/25/2023

Name of Highway/Bridge David Whitmer Memorial Highway

105
signatures

	Name	Address	County/ies
1.	Alan Lacy	801 N. Thornton St. Richmond Mo	Ray
2.	Claudine Lacy	801 N. Thornton St. Richmond, Mo	Ray
3.	Aidan Lacy	801 N. Thornton St. Richmond Mo	Ray
4.	Shelby Bridges	306 E. Main St. Richmond Mo	Ray
5.	Thomas W. Bridges	306 E Main Richmond	Ray
6.	Charlene Bridges	306 E. Main St Richmond Mo	RAY
7.	Marsha Lacy	411 E. Main St Richmond, Mo	RAY
8.	Genta D. D.	312 S. Thornton St Richmond, Mo 64085	Ray
9.	Michelle D.	312 S. Thornton St Richmond Mo	Ray
10.	Lathyr D.	705 Barton St Camden mo 64017	Ray
11.	Rebecca Call	17612 Hwy E Richmond, MO 64085	Ray
12.	Michelle	17612 Highway E, Richmond, MO	Ray
13.	Shannon Call	17612 Hwy E Richmond, MO	Ray
14.	James R Wilson	38738 E St Cloud Cir Richmond	RAY
15.	Cheryl Polson	20901 Jones Lane #2 Polo	Ray
16.	Kris Polson	20901 JONES LANE #2 Polo	RAY
17.	Cathy Kerste	20910, Jones Ln, Polo	Ray
18.	Carl Curran	20910, Jones Ln, Polo	Ray
19.	Y. N.	20901 Jones Ln Polo	RAY
20.	Shirley James	19180 Hwy B	Ray



100 Signatures for Memorial Designation

Date 9/25/2023

Name of Highway/Bridge David Whitmer Memorial Highway

	Name	Address	County/ies
21.	<i>[Signature]</i>	41988 E. 156th St. ^{RICHMOND} MO 64085	RAY
22.	<i>[Signature]</i>	19180 Hwy B	Ray
23.	<i>[Signature]</i>	19180 Hwy B	RAY
24.	<i>[Signature]</i>	19180 Hwy B	Ray
25.	Holland James	19180 Hwy B	Ray
26.	Emersyn James	19180 Hwy B	Ray
27.	<i>[Signature]</i>	802 N Shaw St ^{Richmond} MO 64085	Ray
28.	Valerie Kerste	802 N Shaw St ^{Richmond} MO 64085	Ray
29.	Alman Kerste	802 N Shaw St ^{Richmond} MO 64085	Ray
30.	Elena S Ellis	911 Broadway Ave ^{Richmond,} MO 64085	Ray
31.	William H Ellis	911 Broadway Ave ^{Richmond,} MO 64085	Ray
32.	Delana R Ellis	755 Driskill Dr #1 ^{Richmond} MO	Ray
33.	Erent McIntosh	1001 W. Lexington St. ^{Richmond} MO.	Ray
34.	Judy McIntosh	1001 W Lexington ^{Richmond}	Ray
35.	<i>[Signature]</i>	508 Trigg St. ^{Richmond, MO}	Ray
36.	Zoe M. Nason	508 Trigg St. ^{Richmond, MO}	Ray
37.	<i>[Signature]</i>	525 N 17th St, Lexington MO ⁶¹⁰⁶⁷	Lafayette
38.	Debbie Cory	525 N 17th St Lexington, MO ⁶⁴⁰⁶⁷	Lafayette
39.	Rachelle Green	4125 Lexington Cir 64083	Ray
40.	Chelsea Wofford	705 Barton St Camden MO 64017	Ray



100 Signatures for Memorial Designation

Date 9/25/2023

Name of Highway/Bridge David Whitmer Memorial Highway

	Name	Address	County/ies
41.	Karen Park	408 S. Lexington CT	Ray
42.	Anita Hendrix	309 S. S. Hendrix	Ray
43.	Katie Hendrix	304 S Shotwell	Ray
44.	Allen Hendrix	310 S Shotwell	Ray
45.	Cecelia J. Hs	316 Shotwell St	Ray
46.	Bruce A Dunlap	38656 W 104 ST RICHMOND	RAY
47.	Leta Dunlap	38656 W. 104th St. Richmond	Ray
48.	Katherine Gilbrex	38854 W 104th St Richmond	Ray
49.		38854 W 104th St Richmond	Ray
50.	Debi Hutter	907 Bell Dr.	Ray
51.	Beth Conner	306 W. Lincoln St. Carrollton MO	Carroll
52.	Cheryl Davis	41988 E 156th St. Richmond	Ray
53.	Lorethy Oliphant	11308 Deer Haven Lane, Excelsior Springs	Ray
54.	Anita Monroe	19214 Noller Road, Rayville, Mo	Ray
55.	Tamisha Schetselaar	19214 Noller Rd Rayville, MO	Ray
56.	Patricia Collett / Funerary Bldg	508 Richmond Ave., ^{Richmond} MO.	Ray
57.	Jan Halbert	14777 Lakeside Dr.	Ray
58.	Matthew Myers	306 W. Lincoln St. Carrollton MO	Carroll
59.	Daryl K. Ste	20910 Jeter Ln #13	Ray
60.	Virginia Foster	20977 Grant Ln.	Ray



100 Signatures for Memorial Designation

Date 9/25/2023

Name of Highway/Bridge David Whitmer Memorial Highway

	Name	Address	County/ies
1.	Jan Holdebrand	14142 CROWLEY Rd. Rayville MO 64084	Ray CO.
2.	Jan Holdebrand	14142 CROWLEY RD RAYVILLE MO 64084	RAY CO.
3.	John Openshaw	9221 Rock Falls Rd Orick, MO	Ray Co
4.	Cynthia Dickson	18052 Hwy 13 Rayville MO 64084	Ray
5.	Elli Dickson	18052 Hwy 13 Rayville MO 64084	Ray Co.
6.	Sherri Westberg	20901 Jones Ln Polo MO 64071	Ray
7.	Sadi	20901 JONES Ln polo mo 6467	Ray
8.	JENNIFER THEVIST	11617 WOOD OAK AVE Richmond MO 64085	Ray
9.	Scott Maser	15659 Hwy Y Excelsior Springs, MO 64024	RAY
10.	Brian Goff	33216 W. 133rd St. Excelsior Spring, MO 64024	Ray
11.	XANDER CAMPBELL	11617 WOOD OAK AVE #2 Richmond MO 64085	Ray
12.	Margaret K Marriott	34231 Highway 10 Excelsior Springs, MO 64024	Ray
13.	Dale Marriott	34231 Highway 10 Excelsior SPRS, MO 64024	RAY
14.	Julia Kerste	20910 Jones Lane # B Polo, MO 64071	Ray
15.	Vicki Openshaw	9221 Rock Falls Rd Orick MO 64077	Ray
16.	Gill Kirk	15490 Highway Y Excelsior Springs, MO 64024	Ray
17.	Elizabeth Wenig	37009 W. 156th St. Rayville, MO 64024	Ray
18.	Stephan Kirk	15490 Hwy Y Excelsior Springs MO 64024	Ray
19.	Addison Kirk	15490 HWY Y, Excelsior Springs, MO 64024	Ray
20.			



100 Signatures for Memorial Designation

Date 9/25/2023

Name of Highway/Bridge David Whitmer Memorial Highway

	Name	Address	County/ies
21.	Annelle Freeman	203 Hwy. 10 Wood Heights	Ray
22.	Frank Freeman	" "	Ray
23.	Clare Fisk	116 Ridgeway Dr Wood Heights	Ray
24.	James Evans	33670 W Hwy 10 Ray	Ray
25.	Mind/Carol Ray	33670 W Hwy 10 Ray	Ray
26.	JUAN C. GUERRERO	33670 W HWY 10 RAY MO	RAY
27.	Daniela Evans	33670 W Highway 10 Ray	Ray
28.	STEVE ANDERSON	13431 Mocking Bird Lane Ray	RAY
29.	Julie Anderson	13431 Mocking Bird Lane Ray	RAY
30.	Brad Marshall	34233 Hwy 10	Ray
31.	Robin Marriott	34233 Hwy 10	Ray
32.	Chloe Amy	34231 Highway 10, Excelsior Springs	Ray
33.	Tony Lee	34231 Hwy 10, Excelsior Springs	Ray
34.	Shirley Amy	34231 Hwy 10, Excelsior	Ray
35.	Sandra Curry	34231 Hwy 10, Excelsior Spg	Ray
36.			
37.			
38.			
39.			
40.			



100 Signatures for Memorial Designation

Date 9/25/2023

Name of Highway/Bridge David Whitmer Memorial Highway

	Name	Address	County/ies
41.	Eligible Bunde	3002 Maplewood Dr	Ray
42.	Jennifer Houck	11740 State highway 0	Ray
43.	Paul Budge	3002 maplewood dr.	Ray
44.	Matthae Schetselaar	19214 Naker Rd	Ray
45.	Jonathan Jessop	33327 W. 108th	Ray
46.	Anya Jessop	33327 W 108th st	Ray
47.	Brinkley Moser	19059 Hwy 4	Ray
48.	Gravo Moser	15659 Hwy 4	Ray
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100 Signatures for Memorial Designation

Date 9/25/2023

Name of Highway/Bridge David Whitmer Memorial Highway

	Name	Address	County/ies
1.	Art Endsley	35920 W. Hwy T. Camden	Ray
2.	James Carter	15024 Dockery, Richmond	Ray
3.			
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20.			



100 Signatures for Memorial Designation

Date 9/25/2023

Name of Highway/Bridge David Whitmer Memorial Highway

	Name	Address	County/ies
61.	JAMES FOSTER	20972 GRANT LANE	RAY
62.			
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Mindy D. Grapes-Bess

From: Phil Andrus <philandrus@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 7:53 PM
To: Mindy D. Grapes-Bess
Subject: Fwd: Family Permission

Mindy,

Will this work for the family authorization?

Phil

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Coughlin <coughlin@kc.rr.com>
Date: Wed, Sep 20, 2023 at 7:42 PM
Subject: RE: Family Permission
To: Phil Andrus <philandrus@gmail.com>

Family Approval ↓

To The Missouri Department of Transportation,

September 20, 2023

As a Whitmer family descendant, I authorize Phil Andrus, as a representative of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, to submit a memorial application to designate a portion of Business 10, from Valley Drive continuing east to Coe Lane in Ray County, as the "David Whitmer Memorial Highway".

David Whitmer is my fourth great uncle. His brother, Jacob Whitmer, is my 3rd great grandfather. I was born and raised in Richmond and really enjoy all the local history. This is a nice way to preserve part of that history.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,

Princess Barchers Coughlin

Thanks for your help in this.

Phil

WIKIPEDIA

The Free Encyclopedia

David Whitmer

Pray David is deceased

David Whitmer (January 7, 1805 – January 25, 1888) was a leader in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints who eventually became the most interviewed of the Three Witnesses to the Book of Mormon's golden plates.

Early life

Whitmer was born near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on January 7, 1805,^[8] the fourth of nine children of Peter Whitmer Sr. and Mary Musselman. Whitmer's ancestry on both sides of his family was German, and the family spoke with a German accent. His grandfather was George Witmer, who was born in Prussia, and his great-grandfather was born in Switzerland.^[9] Whitmer had five brothers and three sisters, one of which died in 1813 in her infancy. He grew up attending a Presbyterian church.^[8] By the 1820s, the Whitmer family had moved to a farm in Fayette, in New York's Finger Lakes area. On March 12, 1825, Whitmer was elected sergeant in a newly organized militia called the Seneca Grenadiers.^[10]

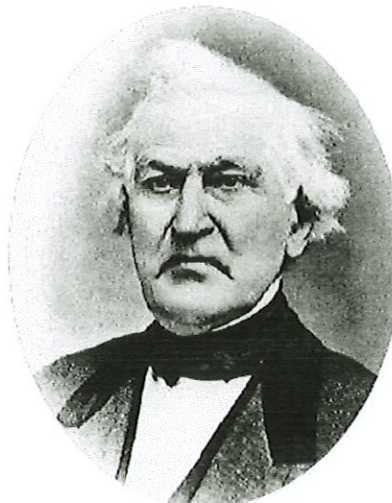
Role in the early Latter Day Saint movement

Whitmer and his family were among the earliest adherents to the Latter Day Saint movement. Whitmer first heard of Mormonism and the golden plates in 1828 when he made a business trip to Palmyra, New York, and talked with his friend Oliver Cowdery, who believed that there "must be some truth to the matter".^[11] Whitmer was the first in his family to come into contact with the Book of Mormon. Cowdery continued to write Whitmer letters concerning the matter, which Whitmer then shared with his parents and siblings. One of Cowdery's letters inquired as to whether the Whitmers would be willing to provide the Smiths with lodging and a place to complete the translation of the Book of Mormon. The family agreed, and Joseph Smith, his wife, Emma Smith, and Cowdery came to the Whitmer farm to live on June 1, 1829. The translation was completed about a month later.^[8]

Book of Mormon witness

Whitmer was baptized in June 1829, nearly a year prior to the formal organization of the Church of Christ. During that same month, Whitmer said that he, along with Smith and Cowdery, saw an angel present the golden plates in a vision. Martin Harris

David Whitmer



President of the Church (Church of Christ—Whitmerites)

January 28, 1876 – January 25, 1888

Successor John C. Whitmer^[1]

Reason Reorganized

President of the Church (Church of Christ—Whitmerites)

September 7, 1847^[2] – ca. 1848^[4]

Reason William E. McLellin asserted Whitmer's claim^[3]

End reason Separated from McLellin.

President High Council

July 3, 1834 – January 1838

Reason Elected by vote of the Council.

End reason Vote of the Council.

President of Zion

July 7, 1834 – February 5, 1838

End reason Vote of members.

Latter Day Saint Apostle

June 1829 – June 1838^[5]

End reason Separated from the Church

Mayor of Richmond, Missouri^{[6][7]}

reported that he experienced a similar vision with Smith later in the day. Evidence places this event near Whitmer's father's home in Fayette, New York, on June 28, 1829.^[12] Later, in an 1878 testimony, Whitmer claimed to have seen a light, "not like the light of the sun, nor like that of a fire, but more glorious and beautiful".^[8] He then went on to describe a table appearing with the golden plates, the Urim and Thummim, and other objects referenced in the Book of Mormon narrative. Whitmer continued: "I heard the voice of the Lord, as distinctly as I ever heard anything in my life, declaring that the records of the plates of the Book of Mormon were translated by the gift and power of God."^[8] Whitmer, Cowdery, and Harris signed a joint statement declaring their testimony to the reality of the vision. The statement was published in the first edition of the Book of Mormon and has been included in nearly every subsequent edition.^[13]

Whitmer later said that Smith had received a revelation that Hiram Page and Cowdery would sell the copyright of the Book of Mormon in Toronto. After Page and Cowdery returned from Canada empty handed, Whitmer asked Smith why they had been unsuccessful, and Smith received another revelation "through the stone" that "some revelations are of God: some revelations are of men: and some revelations are of the devil."^[14]

Founding church member

When Smith organized the Church of Christ on April 6, 1830, Whitmer was one of six original members. (In his 1838 history, Smith said the church was organized at the home of Whitmer's father, Peter Whitmer Sr., in Fayette, New York, but in an 1842 letter, Smith said that the church was organized at Manchester, New York.)^[15] In 1835, Whitmer assisted Cowdery and Harris in selecting and ordaining the first Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of the church. He also participated in some of the earliest LDS missionary trips, accompanying Joseph Smith and baptizing new converts.^[8]

Church offices

Whitmer had been ordained an elder of the church by June 9, 1830, and he was ordained to the office of high priest by Cowdery on October 5, 1831. Soon after the organization of the church, Smith set apart Jackson County, Missouri, as a "gathering place" for Latter Day Saints. According to Smith, the area would be the "center place" of the City of Zion, the New Jerusalem. On July 7, 1834, Smith ordained Whitmer to be the president of the church in Missouri and his own successor, should Smith "not live to God".

By virtue of his position as President of the High Council in Zion, David Whitmer was sustained as "the president of the church in Zion," not merely as a Stake President. Since the Quorum of the Twelve and the First Quorum of the Seventy had not yet been organized, this meant that there was a short period of time—from July 3, 1834, until February 14, 1835—when the High Council in Zion stood in an administrative position next to the First Presidency. It also meant that from July 3,

In office

May 23, 1867 – January 1, 1868

Councilman

In office

pre-1867 – pre-1867

Personal details

Born	January 7, 1805 <div>Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, U.S.</div>
Died	January 25, 1888 (aged 83) <div>Richmond, Missouri, U.S.</div>
Resting place	Richmond Cemetery <div>39.279°N 93.986°W﻿ / ﻿</div>
Baptism Date	June 3, 1829
Known For	Book of Mormon Witness <div>Founding Church Member</div>
Notable works	<u>A Proclamation (1881)</u> <div><u>An Address To Believers in the Book of Mormon (1887)</u><div><u>An Address to All Believers in Christ (1887)</u></div></div>
Spouse(s)	Julia Ann Jolly (<u>m.</u> 1831)
Children	2
Parents	<u>Peter Whitmer Sr.</u> <div><u>Mary Musselman Whitmer</u></div>
Relatives	<u>Christian Whitmer</u> (brother) <div><u>Jacob Whitmer</u> (brother)<div><u>John Whitmer</u> (brother)<div><u>Peter Whitmer Jr.</u> (brother)<div><u>Hiram Page</u> (brother-in-law)<div><u>Oliver Cowdery</u> (brother-in-law)</div></div></div></div></div>

Signature

David Whitmer

1834, until December 5, 1834, at which time Oliver Cowdery was made the Associate President of the Church, David Whitmer, as President of the High Council in Zion, was the Prophet's rightful successor."^[16]

Although a revelation dated June 1829 referred to Whitmer and Cowdery as receiving the same calling as the apostle Paul,^[17] Smith had not yet started a church or created the office known today as apostle. Cowdery and Whitmer did have a visionary experience and, like Paul, were called to preach.^[18] They were also called to "search out" twelve "disciples",^[19] who later were called "apostles". None of the Three Witnesses were ordained to that apostleship.^[20]

Separation from the church

Whitmer continued to live in Kirtland, Ohio, and his counselors, W. W. Phelps and John Whitmer (Whitmer's brother) presided over the church in Missouri until the summer of 1837. After the collapse of the Kirtland Safety Society bank, Smith and his counselor Sidney Rigdon, battered by creditors, moved to Far West, Missouri, to evade arrest.^[21] The ensuing leadership struggle led to the dissolution of the presidency of the church in Missouri. Whitmer resigned and separated from the church.^[22] He was formally excommunicated from the church on the grounds of breaking the Word of Wisdom, neglecting his leadership duties, meeting with the other "Kirtland apostates", and circulating unfavorable information about Joseph Smith.^[8]

Whitmer and the other excommunicated Latter Day Saints became known as the "dissenters". Some of the dissenters owned land in Caldwell County, Missouri, which they wanted to retain.^[23] The church presidency and other members looked unfavorably upon them. Rigdon preached his "Salt Sermon", which called for their expulsion from the county. A number of Latter Day Saints formed a secret society known as the Danites, whose stated goal was removal of the dissenters. Eighty prominent Mormons signed the so-called Danite Manifesto, which warned the dissenters to "depart or a more fatal calamity shall befall you." Shortly afterward, Whitmer and his family fled to nearby Richmond, Missouri.

Whitmer, other dissenters, and Mormons loyal to Smith complained to the non-Mormons in northwestern Missouri about their forcible expulsion and the loss of their properties and began to file lawsuits to recover them. Non-Mormon residents were alarmed by this and a revelation by Smith which said:

29 Wherefore, the land of Zion shall not be obtained but by purchase or by blood, otherwise there is none inheritance for you.

30 And if by purchase, behold you are blessed;

31 And if by blood, as you are forbidden to shed blood, lo, your enemies are upon you, and ye shall be scourged from city to city, and from synagogue to synagogue, and but few shall stand to receive an inheritance. (D&C 63:29–31)^{[24][25][26]}

Tensions escalated, bringing about the 1838 Mormon War, after which Governor Boggs issued the Mormon Extermination Order in October 1838, authorizing deadly force in the removal of Mormons. Consequently, most of the Latter Day Saints were expelled from Missouri by early 1839.^[27]



Whitmer by R. B. Rice, c. 1864



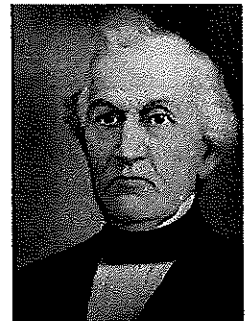
Advertisement for Whitmer's livery stable

In response to "persecutions" from a "secret organization" formed within the church that denounced "dissenters", Whitmer used his position as one of the Three Witnesses to condemn the church: "If you believe my testimony to the Book of Mormon", wrote Whitmer, "if you believe that God spake to us three witnesses by his own voice, then I tell you that in June, 1838, God spake to me again by his own voice from the heavens and told me to 'separate myself from among the Latter Day Saints, for as they sought to do unto me, so it should be done unto them.'"^{[28][29]} Whitmer interpreted God's command to include both the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Church) and the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, (RLDS Church, now known as the Community Of Christ): "God commanded me by his voice to stand apart from you."^[30]

Whitmer continued to live in Richmond, where he operated a livery stable and was elected mayor, a position he held from 1867 to 1868.^[8]

President of the Church of Christ (Whitmerite)

After the killing of Smith in 1844, several rival leaders claimed to be Smith's successor, including Brigham Young, Sidney Rigdon, and James Strang. Many of Rigdon's followers became disillusioned by 1847 and some, including apostle William E. McLellin and Benjamin Winchester, remembered Whitmer's 1834 ordination to be Smith's successor. At McLellin's urging, Whitmer exercised his claim to be Smith's successor and the Church of Christ (Whitmerite) was formed in Kirtland, Ohio. However, Whitmer never joined the body of the new church and it dissolved relatively quickly.



Portrait of David Whitmer by Lewis A. Ramsey

Around this time, fellow Book of Mormon witness Oliver Cowdery began to correspond with Whitmer. After traveling from Ohio to Kanesville (Council Bluffs), Cowdery attended the Kanesville Tabernacle meeting, called to sustain Brigham Young as the new President of the Church. Cowdery bore, with conviction, his testimony of the truthfulness of everything that had happened spiritually regarding Smith and the Book of Mormon. Meeting with Young at Winter Quarters, Nebraska, he requested readmission into the church, and he was re-baptized into the church there. Cowdery then traveled to meet with Whitmer in Richmond to persuade him to move west and rejoin the Saints in Utah Territory. Cowdery, however, succumbed to tuberculosis and died March 3, 1850.^{[31][32]}

In January 1876, Whitmer resurrected the Church of Christ (Whitmerite) by ordaining his nephew, John C. Whitmer, an elder, and giving him the title "First Elder".^[33]

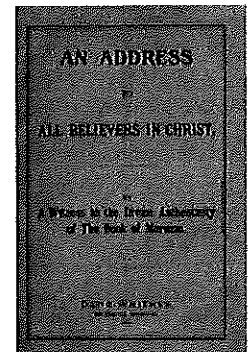
In 1887, Whitmer published a pamphlet entitled "An Address to All Believers in Christ", in which he affirmed his testimony of the Book of Mormon, but denounced the other branches of the Latter Day Saint movement. Whitmer died in Richmond. The Whitmerite church survived until the 1960s.

Religious views

Whitmer stated his religious views in three publications: "A Proclamation" published March 24, 1881, "An Address To Believers in the Book of Mormon" published April 1887, and "An Address to All Believers in Christ" also published April 1887.

Polygamy

I do not endorse polygamy or spiritual wifeism. It is a great evil, shocking to the moral sense, and the more so, because practiced in the name of religion. It is of man and not God, and is especially forbidden in the Book of Mormon itself.^[34]



Address to Believers

High Priests

As to the High Priesthood, Jesus Christ himself is the last Great High Priest, this too after the order of Melchisedec, as I understand the Holy Scriptures.^[34]

Name change

I do not endorse the change of the name of the church, for as the wife takes the name of her husband so should the Church of the Lamb of God, take the name of its head, even Christ himself. It is the Church of Christ.^[34]

The most interviewed Book of Mormon witness

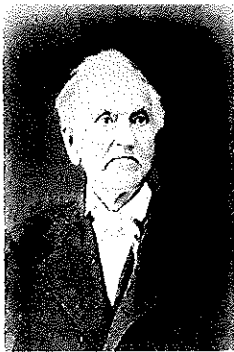


Photo of David Whitmer, Ca 1880s

Because Cowdery died in 1850 at age 43 and Martin Harris died in 1875 at age 92, Whitmer was the only survivor of the Three Witnesses for 13 years. At Richmond, Missouri, he sometimes received several inquirers daily asking about his connection to the Book of Mormon, including missionaries of the LDS Church who were traveling from Utah Territory to the eastern United States and Europe. Despite his hostility toward the LDS Church, Whitmer always stood by his claim that he had actually seen the golden plates.^[35]

Some of the 71 recorded interviews he gave between 1838 and 1888 contained different details than others.^[36] Recounting the vision to Orson Pratt in 1878, Whitmer claimed to have seen not only the golden plates but the "Brass Plates, the plates containing the record of the wickedness of the people of the world ... the sword of Laban, the Directors (i.e. the ball which Lehi had) and the Interpreters. I saw them just as plain as I see this bed".^[37]

In 1880, John Murphy interviewed Whitmer and later published an account suggesting that perhaps Whitmer's experience was a "delusion or perhaps a cunning scheme". Murphy's account said that Whitmer had not been able to describe the appearance of an angel and had likened Whitmer's experience to the "impressions as the quaker [receives] when the spirit moves, or as a good Methodist in giving a happy experience."^[38] Whitmer responded by publishing "A Proclamation", reaffirming his testimony and saying,

"It having been represented by one John Murphy, of Polo, Caldwell County, Mo., that I, in a conversation with him last summer, denied my testimony as one of the three witnesses to the BOOK OF MORMON. To the end, therefore, that he may understand me now, if he did not then; and that the world may know the truth, I wish now, standing as it were, in the very sunset of life, and in the fear of God, once for all to make this public statement: That I have never at any time denied that testimony or any part thereof, which has so long since been published with that Book, as one of the three witnesses. Those who know me best, well know that I have always adhered to that testimony. And that no man may be misled or doubt my present views in regard to the same, I do again affirm the truth of all of my statements, as then made and published. He that hath an ear to hear, let him hear; it was no delusion!"^[39]

To the "Proclamation" Whitmer attached an affidavit attesting to his honesty and standing in the community.^[40] Whitmer ordered that his testimony to the Book of Mormon be placed on his tombstone.

In response to a question by Anthony Metcalf, Whitmer attempted to clarify the "spiritual" versus "natural" viewing of the plates:

In regards to my testimony to the visitation of the angel, who declared to us Three Witnesses that the Book of Mormon is true, I have this to say: Of course we were in the spirit when we had the view, for no man can behold the face of an angel, except in a spiritual view, but we were in the body also, and everything was as natural to us, as it is at any time. Martin Harris, you say, called it 'being in vision.' We read in the Scriptures, Cornelius saw, in a vision, an angel of God. Daniel saw an angel in a vision, also in other places it states they saw an angel in the spirit. A bright light enveloped us where we were, that filled at noon day, and there in a vision, or in the spirit, we saw and heard just as it is stated in my testimony in the Book of Mormon. I am now passed eighty-two years old, and I have a brother, J. J. Snyder, to do my writing for me, at my dictation. [Signed] David Whitmer.^[41]

Interviews of David Whitmer

[show]

The following table shows which interviews were cited in the following publications:

- Kenneth W. Godfrey, "David Whitmer and the Shaping of Latter-day Saint History," in *The Disciple As Witness: Essays on Latter-Day Saint History and Doctrine in Honor of Richard Lloyd Anderson*, edited by Richard Lloyd Anderson, Stephen D. Ricks, Donald W. Parry, and Andrew H. Hedges, Provo: FARMS, 2000, pp. 223–56.
- Lyndon W. Cook, *David Whitmer Interviews*, Grandin Book, 1991.
- Dan Vogel, *Early Mormon Documents*, Vol. V, Signature Books, 2003.
- John W. Welch and Erick B. Carlson eds., *Opening the Heavens, Accounts of Divine Manifestations 1820–1844*, Deseret Book, 2005. Twenty-one interviews were cited, the "x-#" refers to the document number in this volume only.
- Richard Lloyd Anderson, *Investigating the Book of Mormon Witnesses*, Deseret Book, 1981.

Interviewer	Interview Date	Name of Publication	Publication Date	Godfrey	Cook	Vogel	Welch	Anderson
Eber D. Howe	1834	<i>Mormonism Unveiled</i>	1834			x		
Lumon Andros Shurtliff	August 21, 1836	<i>Autobiography</i> , LDS Church Archives	1852–1876			x		
Thomas B. Marsh	1838	<i>Deseret News</i>	March 24, 1858	x		x		
David H. Cannon	1861	Beatrice Cannon Evans and Janath Russell Cannon, eds. <i>Cannon Family Historical Treasury</i> , 250.	1967			x		
David H. Cannon	1861	A. Karl Larson and Katherine Miles Larson, eds., <i>Diary of Charles Lowell Walker</i> , 1773—74, (June 11, 1894).	1980	x	x	x		
Davis H. Bays	September 13, 1869	<i>Saints' Herald</i>	November 1, 1869	x		x		
Henry Moon	January 9, 1872	<i>Deseret Evening News</i>	April 10, 1872	x		x		x
Eri B. Mullin	1874	<i>Saints' Herald</i> 27, 76	March 1, 1880	x		x	x-83	
James Caffall	August 1874	<i>Saints' Herald</i>	September 15, 1874	x		x		
Mark H. Forscutt	March 2, 1875	Scrapbook, 16–17, reproduced in Inez Smith Davis <i>The Story of the Church</i> . Independence, Missouri: Herald House, 75	1964			x		
<i>Chicago Times</i> reporter	August 1875	<i>Chicago Times</i>	August 7, 1875	x		x		x
Dr. James N. Seymour	December 8, 1875	<i>Saints' Herald</i> 26, 223 (Letter from Whitmer)	1879		x	x		x
Thomas Wood Smith	January 1876	<i>Fall River Herald</i> (Massachusetts)	March 28, 1879			x	x-80	
Thomas Wood Smith	January 1876	<i>Saints' Herald</i> 27, 13	January 1, 1880	x		x	x-82	
Edward Stevenson	22—December 23, 1877	Diary of Edward Stevenson, LDS Church Archives		x		x		x
Edward Stevenson	22—December 23, 1877	Journal History, LDS Church Archives		x		x		
Edward Stevenson	22—December	<i>Salt Lake Herald</i>	February 2, 1878	x		x		

Interviewer	Interview Date	Name of Publication	Publication Date	Godfrey	Cook	Vogel	Welch	Anderson
Edward Stevenson	22—December 23, 1877	<i>Reminiscences of Joseph, the Prophet and the Coming Forth of the Book of Mormon</i>	1893			x		
Joseph Smith III	February 2, 1878	Community of Christ Library Archives (letter)			x	x		
P. Wilhelm Poulson	August 13, 1878	<i>Deseret Evening News</i>	August 16, 1878	x		x	x-79	x
Orson Pratt, Joseph F. Smith	7—September 8, 1878	Joseph F. Smith Diary, LDS Church Archives		x				x
Orson Pratt, Joseph F. Smith	7—September 8, 1878	<i>Deseret News</i>	November 16, 1878	x				
Orson Pratt, Joseph F. Smith	7—September 8, 1878	Orson Pratt correspondence, LDS Church Archives		x	x	x		
Orson Pratt, Joseph F. Smith	7—September 8, 1878	Andrew Jenson, <i>Historical Record</i> 6, 1886, 210.	1886				x-78	
Orson Pratt, Joseph F. Smith	7—September 8, 1878	Joseph F. Smith Collection, LDS Church Archives		x				
Orson Pratt, Joseph F. Smith	7—September 8, 1878	Brian H. Stuy. <i>Collected Discourses</i> , Burbank: B.H.S. Pub. vol 2	1987–92			x		
William E. McLellin	June 1879	William E. McLellin Collection, New York Public Library. (Letter to James T. Cobb)	August 14, 1880		x	x		
J. L. Traughber Jr.	October 1879	<i>Saints' Herald</i> 26, 341	November 15, 1879	x			x-81	
J. L. Traughber	October 1879	T. A. Schroeder Papers, New York Public Library. (Letter to Theodore A. Schroeder)	August 21, 1901					
Heman C. Smith	December 5, 1876	Community of Christ Library Archives (Letter)			x	x		
John Murphy	June 1880	<i>Hamiltonian</i>	January 21, 1881			x		x
John Murphy	June 1880	<i>Kingston Times</i>	December 16, 1887			x		
E. S. Gilbert	August 1, 1880	<i>New Light on Mormonism</i> by	1885			x		

Interviewer	Interview Date	Name of Publication	Publication Date	Godfrey	Cook	Vogel	Welch	Anderson
		Ellen E. Dickson, New York: Funk and Wagnalls.						
David Whitmer	March 19, 1881	"Proclamation" - Leaflet	March 19, 1881			x		x
David Whitmer	March 19, 1881	"Proclamation" in <i>Richmond Conservator</i>	March 24, 1881			x		x
David Whitmer	March 19, 1881	"Proclamation" in <i>Hamiltonian</i>	April 8, 1881			x		
David Whitmer	March 19, 1881	"Proclamation" in <i>Saints' Herald</i>	June 1, 1881			x		
David Whitmer	March 19, 1881	"Proclamation" in "Address to All Believers in Christ"	April 1, 1887			x		
Jesse R. Badham	March 20, 1881	Diary of Jesse R. Badham, RLDS Church Library—Archives		x	x	x		
Jesse R. Badham	March 20, 1881	<i>Saints' Herald</i>	April 1, 1881	x	x	x		
<i>Kansas City Daily Journal</i> reporter	June 1, 1881	<i>Kansas City Daily Journal</i>	June 5, 1881	x			x-84	x
David Whitmer's corrections to <i>Kansas City Daily Journal</i>	(June 13, 1881)	<i>Kansas City Daily Journal</i>	June 19, 1881	x			x-85	
<i>Chicago Times</i> correspondent	October 14, 1881	<i>Chicago Times</i>	October 17, 1881	x			x-86	x
Edwin Gordon Woolley	1882	Diary of Edwin Gordon Woolley, BYU Library—Archives		x	x	x		
Edwin Gordon Woolley	1882	E. G. Woolley Biography, BYU Library—Archives		x				
William H. Kelley, G. A. Blakeslee	January 15, 1882	<i>Saints' Herald</i> 29, 68	March 1, 1882	x			x-87	x
Joseph Smith III et al.	April 4, 1882	<i>Saints' Herald</i>	May 1, 1882	x	x	x		
John Morgan, Matthias F. Cowley	April 13, 1882	John Morgan Diary, LDS Church Archives		x	x	x		
John Morgan, Matthias F. Cowley	April 13, 1882	Arthur M. Richardson and Nicholas G. Morgan. <i>The Life and Ministry of</i>	1965	x	x	x		

Interviewer	Interview Date	Name of Publication	Publication Date	Godfrey	Cook	Vogel	Welch	Anderson
		<i>John Morgan</i> . 323						
John Morgan, Matthias F. Cowley	April 13, 1882	Diary of Matthias F. Cowley, LDS Church Archives		x	x	x		
J. W. Chatburn	No date	<i>Saints' Herald</i>	June 15, 1882	x				
S. T. Mouch	November 18, 1882	Whitmer Papers, Community of Christ Library Archives (Letter from Whitmer).			x	x		
Moroni Pratt, S. R. Marks, et al.	June 30, 1883	<i>Bear Lake Democrat</i>	July 3 & 14, 1883	x	x	x		
Moroni Pratt, S. R. Marks, et al.	June 30, 1883	<i>Deseret News</i>	July 19 & 21, 1883	x	x	x		
James H. Hart	August 21, 1883	James H. Hart Notebook (see <i>Mormon in Motion: The Life and Journals of James H. Hart, 1825–1906</i> [Windsor Books, 1976], 216)		x				
James H. Hart	August 23, 1883	<i>Deseret Evening News</i>	September 4, 1883	x				x
James H. Hart	August 21, 1883	<i>Bear Lake Democrat</i>	September 15, 1883	x				
James H. Hart	August 21, 1883	<i>Contributor</i> 5, 9–10	October 1883	x		x		
James H. Hart	August 21, 1883	"An Interview with David Whitmer in August, 1883" (poem)	1883			x		
George Q. Cannon	February 27, 1884	George Q. Cannon Journal, LDS Church Archives		x			x-90	
George Q. Cannon	February 27, 1884	<i>Instructor</i> 80, 520	1945					x
James H. Hart	March 10, 1884	<i>Deseret Evening News</i>	March 25, 1884	x			x-89	
James H. Hart	March 10, 1884	<i>Deseret Evening News</i>	April 10, 1884	x				
James H. Hart	March 10, 1884	<i>Bear Lake Democrat</i>	March 28, 1884	x				
E. C. Briggs, Rudolph Etzenhouser	April 25, 1884	<i>Saints' Herald</i> 31, 396–97	June 21, 1884	x			x-88	
J. Frank McDowell	May 8, 1884	<i>Saints' Herald</i>	July 22 and August 9, 1884	x	x	x		

Interviewer	Interview Date	Name of Publication	Publication Date	Godfrey	Cook	Vogel	Welch	Anderson
Heman C. Smith, William H. Kelley	June 19, 1884	<i>Saints' Herald</i> 31, 442	July 12, 1884	x	x	x		x
Heman C. Smith, William H. Kelley	June 19, 1884	Joseph Smith III, Heman C. Smith, and F. Henry Edwards. <i>The History of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints</i> . Independence, Missouri: Herald House, 4:448–49	1968		x	x		
Joseph Smith III et al.	mid-July 1884	<i>Saints' Herald</i>	January 28, 1936	x				
<i>St. Louis Republican</i>	mid-July 1884	<i>St. Louis Republican</i>	July 16, 1884	x			x-91	
Unknown	July 1884	"The True Book of Mormon" unknown newspaper clipping in William H. Samson Scrapbook, 18:76–77, Rochester Public Library.	July 1884			x		
B. H. Roberts	1884	<i>Contributor</i> 9, 169	March 1888			x		
B. H. Roberts	1884	<i>Millennial Star</i> 50, 120	February 20, 1888			x		
B. H. Roberts	1884	<i>Conference Report</i> , 126	October 1926			x		
Editor	January 9, 1885	<i>Richmond Conservator</i> (statement)	January 9, 1885		x	x		
Zenas H. Gurley	January 14, 1885	Gurley Collection, LDS Church Archives	January 21, 1885	x			x-92	
Zenas H. Gurley	January 14, 1885	<i>Autumn Leaves</i> 5, 452	1892					x
E. C. Brand	February 8, 1885	<i>Kingston Times</i> (Missouri)	December 23, 1887			x		
Franklin D. Richards and Charles C. Richards	May 25, 1885	Charles C. Richards, "An Address Delivered by Charles C. Richards at the Sacrament Meeting Held in SLC, UT, Sunday Evening, April	1947			x		

Interviewer	Interview Date	Name of Publication	Publication Date	Godfrey	Cook	Vogel	Welch	Anderson
		20, 1947," signed. LDS Church Archives.						
James H. Moyle	June 28, 1885	James H. Moyle Journal, LDS Church Archives		x				x
James H. Moyle	June 28, 1885	November 24, 1928 reminiscence		x				
James H. Moyle	June 28, 1885	<i>Conference Report</i>	April 1930	x				
James H. Moyle	June 28, 1885	<i>Deseret News</i> [Church Section]	August 2, 1944	x				
James H. Moyle	June 28, 1885	<i>Instructor</i>	1945	x				x
<i>Chicago Tribune</i> correspondent	December 15, 1885	<i>Chicago Tribune</i>	December 17, 1885	x			x-93	x
Edward Stevenson	February 9, 1886	Diary of Edward Stevenson, LDS Church Archives		x				
Edward Stevenson	February 9, 1886	<i>Millennial Star</i>	March 8, 1886	x				
Edward Stevenson	February 9, 1886	<i>Utah Journal</i>	March 10, 1886	x				
Nathan Tanner, Jr.	April 13, 1886	Nathan Tanner, Jr. Journal, LDS Church Archives		x				x
Nathan Tanner, Jr.	April 13, 1886	Tanner reminiscence, LDS Church Archives		x				
Nathan Tanner, Jr.	May 1886	Nathan A. Tanner, Jr. to Nathan A. Tanner, LDS Church Archives	February 17, 1909				x-98	
<i>Omaha Herald</i> correspondent	October 10, 1886	<i>Omaha Herald</i>	October 17, 1886	x			x-94	x
<i>Omaha Herald</i> correspondent	October 10, 1886	<i>Chicago Inter-Ocean</i>	October 17, 1886				x-94	
<i>Omaha Herald</i> correspondent	October 10, 1886	<i>Saints' Herald</i> , 33:706	November 13, 1886				x-94	
D. C. Dunbar	October 10, 1886	Dunbar correspondence, LDS Church Archives		x				
M. J. Hubble	November 13, 1886	Missouri State Historical Society, Columbia, Missouri		x			x-95	

Interviewer	Interview Date	Name of Publication	Publication Date	Godfrey	Cook	Vogel	Welch	Anderson
Edward Stevenson	January 2, 1887	Diary of Edward Stevenson, LDS Church Archives		x				
Edward Stevenson	January 2, 1887	<i>Juvenile Instructor</i>	February 15, 1887	x				
Edward Stevenson	January 2, 1887	<i>Millennial Star</i>	February 14, 1887	x				
David Whitmer		"An Address to All Believers in Christ: By a Witness to the Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon", Richmond, Missouri	1887			x	x-96	x
Edward Stevenson	January 2, 1887	<i>Juvenile Instructor</i>	January 1, 1889	x				
Sister Gates	February 11, 1887	<i>Whitmer Papers</i> , Community of Christ Library Archives. (Letter from Whitmer)			x	x		
Robert Nelson	February 15, 1887	<i>Whitmer Papers</i> , Community of Christ Library Archives. (Letter from Whitmer)			x	x		
Anthony Metcalf	March 1887	<i>Ten Years Before the Mast</i> , 74	1888 Malad, Idaho					x
Angus M. Cannon	January 7, 1888	Angus M. Cannon Diary, LDS Church Archives		x	x	x		
Angus M. Cannon	January 7, 1888	<i>Deseret Evening News</i>	February 13, 1888	x	x	x		x
<i>Chicago Tribune</i> correspondent	January 23, 1888	<i>Chicago Tribune</i>	January 24, 1888	x				
Unidentified Chicago man	[No date]	<i>Chicago Times</i>	January 26, 1888	x	x	x		x
<i>Richmond Conservator</i> report	January 26, 1888	<i>Richmond Conservator</i>	January 26, 1888	x	x	x		x
<i>Richmond Democrat</i> report	January 1888	<i>Richmond Democrat</i> (Borrowed from <i>Omaha Herald</i> . Article written by Joe Johnson)	January 26, 1888	x				x
<i>Richmond Democrat</i> report	January 1888	<i>Richmond Democrat</i> (re-run)	February 2, 1888				x-97	x

Interviewer	Interview Date	Name of Publication	Publication Date	Godfrey	Cook	Vogel	Welch	Anderson
John C. Whitmer	September 1888	<i>Deseret News</i>	September 13 & 17, 1888			x		
John C. Whitmer	September 1888	<i>Saints' Herald</i> (Reprint of <i>Deseret News</i>)	October 13, 1888			x		
George W. Schweich	1899	Woodbridge I. Riley. <i>The Founder of Mormonism</i> . New York: Dodd, Mead and Co., 1903, 219–20. (Letter from George W. Schweich to I. Woodbridge)	September 22, 1899		x	x		
Philander Page	January 25, 1888	<i>George Edward Anderson Diary</i> , Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum, 27–28.	1907			x		
John J. Snyder	1886–87	W. H. Cadman. <i>A History of the Church of Jesus Christ, Organized at Green Oak, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., in the Year 1862</i> . Monongola, Pennsylvania: The Church of Jesus Christ, 1945, 24–25.	October 10, 1928			x		

See also



**Latter Day Saint
movement portal**

Notes

- There was no formal beginning. John C. Whitmer was baptized at the age of 44 on September 15, 1875, then ordained an Elder January 28, 1876 and commissioned to "go forth and preach the Gospel...organize a new church...was to be the first Elder." (Jenson, Andrew; Stevenson, Edward; Black, Joseph S. (September 26, 1888). "Historical Landmarks" (<https://archive.today/20120722175429/http://udn.lib.utah.edu/u/?deseretnews4,6807>). *Deseret News*. No. 37. p. 579. Archived from the original (<http://udn.lib.utah.edu/u/?deseretnews4,6807>) on July 22, 2012. Retrieved February 17, 2021.)
- On this day David was "re-ordained" (according to his previous ordination by Joseph Smith on July 8, 1834) by William McLellin, Hiram Page, Jacob Whitmer, & John Whitmer. This entailed "holy priesthood," "high priests," and a "presidency" framework. See McLellin, William E. (August 1849). "Our Tour West in 1847" (<https://archive.org/details/EnsignOfLiberty18471849/page/n98/mode/1up>). *The Ensign of Liberty*. Vol. 7, no. 1. Kirtland, Ohio. pp. 99–104. Retrieved February 17, 2021..

3. Whitmer did not seek the position but acknowledged that he was in fact ordained by Joseph Smith to succeed him. Whitmer was ordained a "prophet, seer, and revelator." (Brigham, Newell G.; Hamer, John C., eds. (September 10, 2007). *Scattering Of The Saints: Schism Within Mormonism*. Independence, Missouri: John Whitmer Books. p. 59. ISBN 978-1-934-90102-1.)
4. McLellin was based in Kirtland, Ohio. Whitmer however never traveled to Kirtland or assisted McLellin to grow his branch. McClellin did have a publication called *Ensign of Liberty* which the Whitmer branch refused after June 1848.
5. For the date Whitmer said he left the Mormons: *An Address to All Believers in Christ*, p. 8.
6. *Richmond Conservator*. Richmond, Missouri. June 22, 1867. {{cite news}}: Missing or empty |title= (help)
7. Johnson, Liz (September 1, 2017). "A Witness becomes mayor" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20211223030900/http://archives.etypeservices.com/Richmond204/Magazine183115/Publication/Magazine183115.pdf>) (PDF). *Richmond News*. Richmond, Missouri. p. 1. Archived from the original (<http://archives.etypeservices.com/Richmond204/Magazine183115/Publication/Magazine183115.pdf>) (PDF) on December 23, 2021. Retrieved February 17, 2021. "It is believed that upon the death of Mayor John Shaw, who was shot in the chest during the robbery of the Hughes & Wasson Bank in Richmond on May 23, 1867, Whitmer became mayor to fulfill Shaw's mayoral term until Jan. 1, 1868."
8. McCune, George M. (1991). *Personalities in the Doctrine and Covenants and Joseph Smith—History* (<http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/25553656>). Salt Lake City, Utah: Hawkes Publishing, Inc. pp. 142–145. ISBN 0890365180. OCLC 25553656 (<https://www.worldcat.org/oclc/25553656>).
9. Dan Vogel, *Early Mormon Documents*, Vol. V, 2003, p. 9.
10. *Seneca Farmer*, March 23, 1825.
11. David Whitmer interview with *Kansas City Journal*, June 1, 1881, in *Early Mormon Documents* 5:74.
12. Anderson, Gale Yancey (Spring 2012), "Eleven Witnesses Behold the Plates", *Journal of Mormon History*, 38 (2): 146–52, doi:10.2307/23292761 (<https://doi.org/10.2307%2F23292761>), JSTOR 23292761 (<https://www.jstor.org/stable/23292761>), S2CID 254492716 (<https://api.semanticscholar.org/CorpusID:254492716>)
13. Richard Lyman Bushman, *Joseph Smith: Rough Stone Rolling* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005), pp. 77–79.
14. "Joseph looked into the hat in which he placed the stone, and received a revelation that some of the brethren should go to Toronto, Canada, and that they would sell the copyright of the Book of Mormon. Hiram Page and Oliver Cowdery went to Toronto on this mission, but they failed entirely to sell the copyright, returning without any money. Joseph was at my father's house when they returned. I was there also, and am an eye witness to these facts. Jacob Whitmer and John Whitmer were also present when Hiram Page and Oliver Cowdery returned from Canada. Well, we were all in great trouble; and we asked Joseph how it was that he had received a revelation from the Lord for some brethren to go to Toronto and sell the copyright, and the brethren had utterly failed in their undertaking. Joseph did not know how it was, so he enquired of the Lord about it, and behold the following revelation came through the stone: 'Some revelations are of God: some revelations are of men: and some revelations are of the devil.' So we see that the revelation to go to Toronto and sell the copyright was not of God, but was of the devil or of the heart of man." David Whitmer, *An Address to All Believers in Christ*, in *EMD* 5: 198.
15. For evidence regarding these contradictory statements, see Richard Lyman Bushman, *Joseph Smith: Rough Stone Rolling* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005), pp. 109, 586, n.2.
16. Hyrum L. Andrus, *Doctrines of the Kingdom*, Bookcraft, 1973, p. 195.
17. Doctrine and Covenants, **Covenant 18:37**
18. **Galatians 1:1,12,16**
19. Doctrine and Covenants, **Covenant 18:27,37**
20. The Three Witnesses did not ordain the apostles: "The First Presidency anointed only one apostle, the Twelve's president Thomas B. Marsh. Marsh then anointed the other apostles, and Smith spoke prophetic words to each one but did not anoint them." (D. Michael Quinn, *The Mormon Hierarchy: Origins of Power*, p. 60; see also Joseph Smith diary, January 21, 1836, in *History of the Church*, 2:379–83; Faulring, *An American Prophet's Record*, 118–21, in Jessee, *Personal Writings of Joseph Smith*, 145–46, and in Jessee, *Papers of Joseph Smith*, 2:156–58.)

21. Van Wagoner, Richard S. (1994). *Sidney Rigdon: A Portrait of Religious Excess*. Signature Books. p. 193.
22. David Whitmer separated from the church and was never excommunicated. See *Far West Record*, pp. 123–25; Ebenezer Robinson, "Items of Personal History of the Editor," *The Return*, (Davis City, Iowa: Church of Christ), Vol. 1, No. 9, September 1889, pp. 134–35.
23. David Whitmer did not own land. See *Saints' Herald*, vol. 34, No. 7, February 5, 1887.
24. Joseph Smith, *History of the Church*, vol. 1, chapter 27, pp. 374–76
25. Bushman, Richard L. (Autumn 1960). "Mormon Persecutions in Missouri, 1833 – BYU Studies" (<https://byu.studies.byu.edu/article/mormon-persecutions-in-missouri-1833/>). *BYU Studies*. 3 (1). Retrieved February 17, 2021.
26. David Whitmer, *An Address to all Believers in Christ*, 1887, p. 55.
27. Bushman, 328–55.
28. D. Whitmer (1887). "All Believers In Christ" (<http://latterdaytruth.org/pdf/100023.pdf>) (PDF).
29. Ellis, Jonathan (December 28, 2017). "Primary Sources in Mormon History: David Whitmer's An Address to All Believers in Christ" (<https://medium.com/@jellistx/david-whitmer-s-an-address-to-all-believers-in-christ-7b8535643a3e>). Medium. Retrieved February 17, 2021.
30. (Metcalf, 1993, p. 176)
31. David Whitmer, *An Address to All Believers in the Book of Mormon*, 1887, p. 1
32. Scott H. Faulring, "The Return of Oliver Cowdery," (<http://maxwellinstitute.byu.edu/publications/transcripts/?id=50>) Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20111021025608/http://maxwellinstitute.byu.edu/publications/transcripts/?id=50>) October 21, 2011, at the Wayback Machine Maxwell Institute, Provo, Utah.
33. *Deseret News*; *The Return* (<http://www.sidneyrigdon.com/RigWrit/M&A/Return1.htm#27-9210a>), vol. 3, no. 3, October 1892, pp. 3–5; George Sweich, "David Whitmer and the Church of Christ," *Magazine of Western History* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=pfcOAAAYAAJ&pg=PA520>), New York, vol. 14, May 1891—October 1891, p 520.
34. **A Proclamation**
35. The earliest known signed testimony of Whitmer was recorded in a letter to Mark H. Forscutt of March 2, 1875: "Dear Sir: My testimony to the world is written concerning the Book of Mormon. And it is the same that I gave at first, and it is the same as shall stand to my latest hour in life, linger with me in death and shine as gospel truth beyond the limits of life, among the tribunals of heaven. And the nations of the earth will have known to[o] late the divine truth written on the pages of that book is the only sorrow of this servant of the Almighty Father." (Davis, 1981, p. 75)
36. Lyndon W. Cook ed., *David Whitmer Interviews*, Grandin Book, 1991, p. xxvi.
37. David Whitmer interview with Orson Pratt, September 1878, in *EMD*, 5: 43.
38. *Hamilton Newspaper*, January 21, 1881; *Kingston (Missouri) Times*, December 16, 1887; "David Whitmer Interview with John Murphy, June 1880," Dan Vogel, ed., *Early Morning Documents* Signature Books, 2003, vol. 5, p. 63.
39. *Richmond (Missouri) Conservator*, March 24, 1881; *Hamiltonian (Missouri) Newspaper*, April 8, 1881; *Saints' Herald*, June 1, 1881, vol. 28, p. 168; David Whitmer, *An Address to All Believers in Christ*, Richmond, 1887, pp. 8-10; LDS Church Archives; Ebbie Richardson, "David Whitmer," M.A. Thesis, BYU, 1952, pp. 178–80; "David Whitmer: The Independent Missouri Businessman," *Improvement Era*, vol. 72, April 1969, p. 79; Lyndon W. Cook, pp. 79–80; Dan Vogel, ed., *Early Morning Documents* Signature Books, 2003, 5:68–71.
40. Vogel, Dan, ed. (2003). *Early Mormon Documents* (<https://archive.today/20120713184924/http://signaturebooks.com/2010/12/excerpt-early-mormon-documents-vol-5/>). Vol. 5. Signature Books. p. 63. Archived from the original (<http://signaturebooks.com/2010/12/excerpt-early-mormon-documents-vol-5/>) on July 13, 2012. Retrieved February 17, 2021. "Excerpt"
41. Letter of David Whitmer to Anthony Metcalf, March 1887, cit. Anthony Metcalf, *Ten Years Before the Mast* (Malad, Idaho, 1888) p. 74; cited in Richard Lloyd Anderson, *Investigating the Book of Mormon Witnesses* (Salt Lake City, Utah: Deseret Book, 1981) p. 86. ISBN 0877478465.

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External links

- [David Whitmer \(https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12061\)](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12061) at Find a Grave
 - [Whitmer, David—Biography \(https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/person/david-whitmer\)](https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/person/david-whitmer) at The Joseph Smith Papers Project
 - [Collection of photographs on the Three Witnesses \(http://archives.lib.byu.edu/repositories/14/resources/10486\)](http://archives.lib.byu.edu/repositories/14/resources/10486), L. Tom Perry Special Collections
 - [David Whitmer Letter \(http://archives.lib.byu.edu/repositories/14/resources/4534\)](http://archives.lib.byu.edu/repositories/14/resources/4534), L. Tom Perry Special Collections
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