

Mormon Battalion Marker

Sycamore Park, Mission Viejo, Orange County, California

TRAIL SEGMENT

2. Main Command

TRAIL DATE

20 Mar 1847

DEDICATION DATE

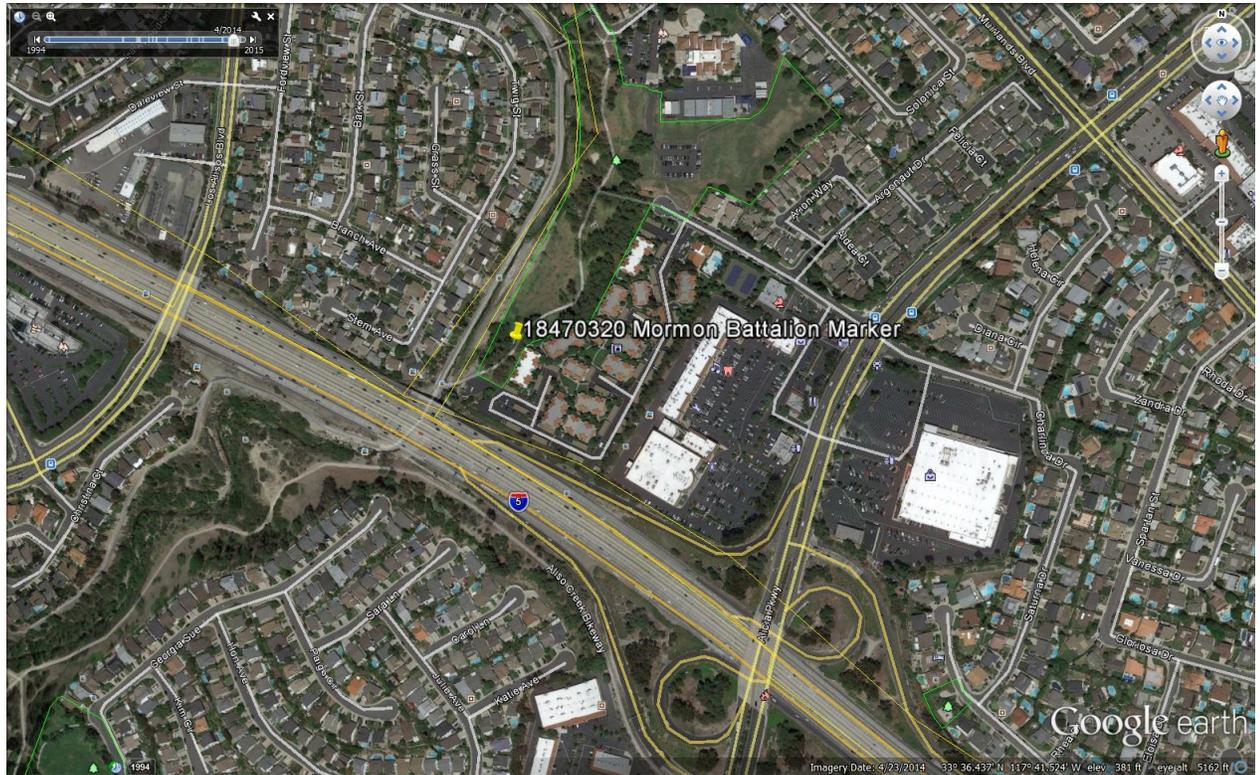
before 2008

GPS COORDINATES

33° 36.464' N

117° 41.612' W

WGS84



Google Earth™ image, 23 April 2014



by Michael Kindig, 22 June 2008

Description

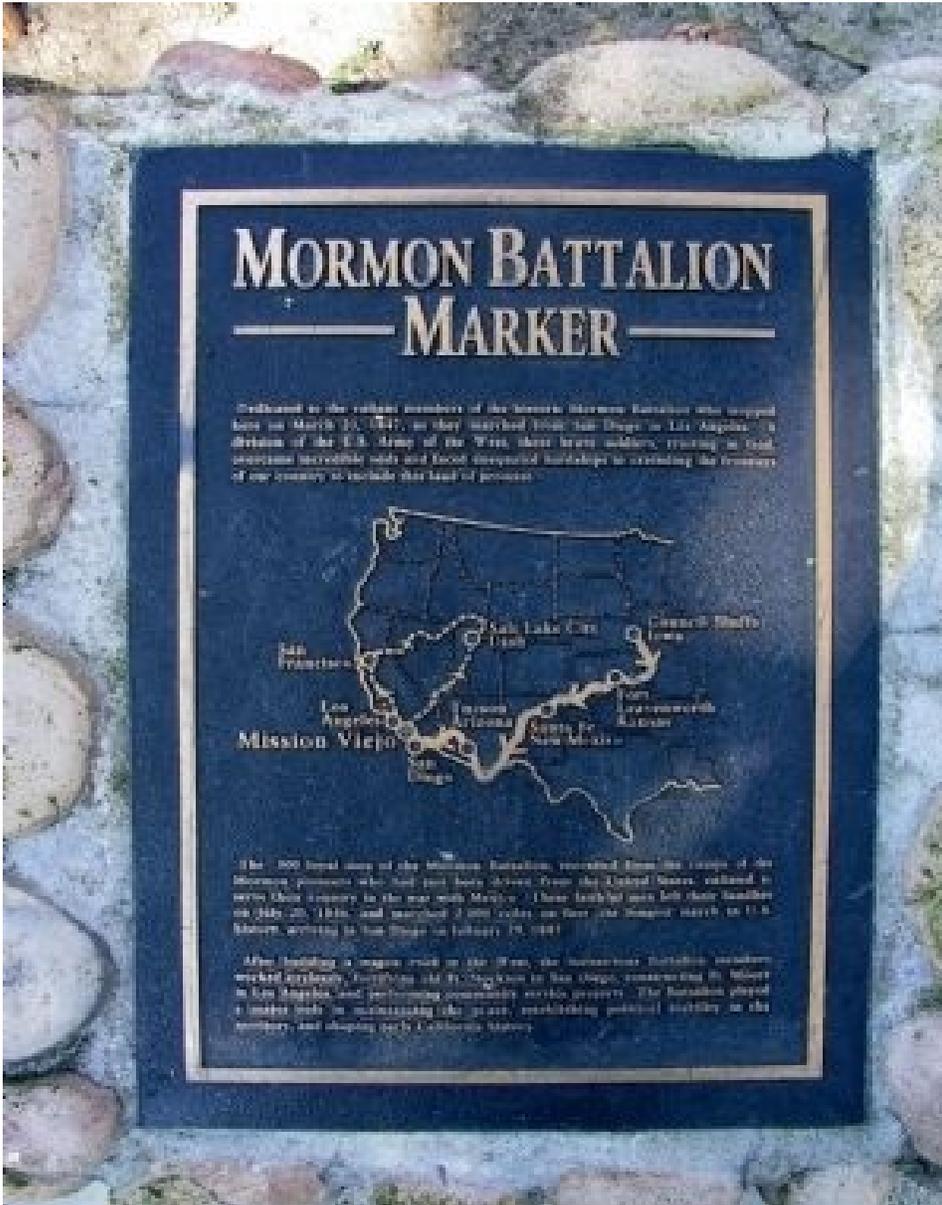
This rectangular rock and concrete marker bearing a bronze plaque, flanked by an arc-shaped rock and concrete bench, marks the 20 March 1847 campsite of the Mormon Battalion en route from San Diego to Los Angeles, California. The text is technically incorrect in stating that the Mormon Battalion was "A division of the U.S. Army of the West." Armies are composed of two or more divisions, which are composed of three or more regiments, which are composed of two or more battalions. The Mormon Battalion was an independent battalion of the Army of the West, U.S. Army.

Driving Directions

Driving through Mission Viejo, California, take the Alicia Parkway exit from I-5. Go 800 feet north and turn left (west) at the first traffic light onto Charlinda Drive. Then drive 1,000 feet west to the circle at the end of the street. Walk 925 feet west and south on Aliso Creek Bikeway. The marker is in a grove of trees just west of Sycamore Lane Apartments.

Inscriptions

Plaque 1 of 1.



MORMON BATTALION — MARKER —

Dedicated to the valiant members of the historic Mormon Battalion who stopped here on March 20, 1847, as they marched from San Diego to Los Angeles. A division of the U.S. Army of the West, these brave soldiers, trusting in God, overcame incredible odds and faced unequal hardships in extending the frontiers of our country to include this land of promise.

[map showing solid line route of Mormon Battalion from Council Bluffs, Iowa to Mission Viejo, and dotted line routes from there to Salt Lake City, Utah]

The 500 loyal men of the Mormon Battalion, recruited from the camps of the Mormon pioneers who had just been driven from the United States, enlisted to serve their country in the war with Mexico. These faithful men left their families on July 20, 1846, and marched 2,000 miles on foot – the longest march in U.S. history, arriving in San Diego on January 29, 1847.

After building a wagon road to the West, the industrious Battalion members worked tirelessly, fortifying old Ft. Stockton in San Diego, constructing Ft. Moore in Los Angeles, and performing community service projects. The Battalion played a major role in maintaining the peace, establishing political stability in the territory, and shaping early California history.

Credits

See <http://www.hmdb.org/Marker.asp?Marker=50351> This page originally submitted on 10 December 2011, by Michael Kindig of Long Beach, California. • Syd Whittle was the editor who published this page.