

Tour Tip: Tour #2 A few ruins are easily seen from I-15 on the way to Silver Reef Ghost Town

Harrisburg

From the plaque on the Harrisburg monument placed by the Cotton Mission Chapter SUP

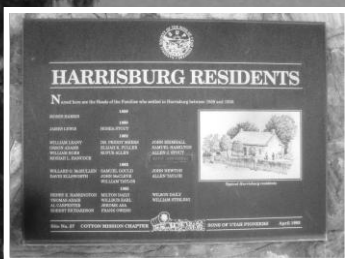
The town of Harrisburg was founded by Moses Harris in 1859. By 1868, twenty-five families had made their homes in this little valley along Quail Creek, located three miles south of Leeds and twelve miles northeast of St. George. The town thrived almost fifty years and included some thirty homes surrounded by vineyards and orchards. Cane for sorghum and molasses was raised by bringing water from Quail Creek. Wagon freighters, plodding from Salt Lake to St. George made Harrisburg a favorite stopping place.

When spring water diminished, or the once rushing water was diverted to other communities, many of the families were unable to continue farming and moved to other locations. They left behind a newly built dam along with the orchards and vineyards. Water, or the lack of it, spelled the fate of this community. Harrisburg also suffered much destruction by grasshoppers in 1869.

The ruins of Harrisburg show evidence of homes, including two stone houses without roofs, and a little cemetery surrounded by a wrought iron fence. By 1928 there were only two families still living in the once thriving town of Harrisburg. 🏠



The early pioneers brought water for their crops from Quail Creek. Today's Harrisburg residents now enjoy the nearby Quail Creek Reservoir



Members of the Cotton Mission Chapter SUP established a monument at Harrisburg in 1993 to honor those early residents from 1859 to 1928.