

# THE SMOKING GUN



THAT JOSEPH  
SMITH  
PRACTICED  
POLYGAMY

MORMON  
DISCUSSION PODCAST



12 July 1843, Wednesday Nauvoo 2

Wednesday 12th This A.M, I wrote a Revelation consisting of 10 pages on the order of the priesthood, showing the designs in Moses, Abraham, David and Solomon having many wives & concubines &c. After it was wrote Prests. Joseph & Hyrum presented it and read it to E. who said she did not believe a word of it and appeared very rebellious. J told me to Deed all the unincumbered lots to E. and the children He appears much troubled about E. .









On Monday, the 15th of Apr<sup>l</sup>, brother R. D. Foster had a notice served on him to appear before the High Council on Saturday following, the 20th, and answer to charges preferred against him by Joseph Smith. On Saturday, while Mr. Foster was preparing to take his witnesses, 41 in number, to the council-room, that he might make good his charges against Joseph, president Marks notified him that the trial had been on Thursday evening, before the 15th, and that he was cut off from the Church, and that same council cut off the brother Laws, sister Law, and brother Smith, and all without their knowledge. They were not notified, neither did they dream of any such thing being done, for William Law had sent Joseph and some of the Twelve, special word that he desired an investigation before the Church in General Conference, on the 6th of Apr<sup>l</sup>. The court, however, was a tribunal possessing no power to try Wm. Law, who was called by special Revelation, to stand as counsellor to the President of the Church (Joseph,) which was twice ratified by General Conferences, assembled at Nauvoo, for Brigham Young, one of the Twelve, presided, whose duty it was not, but the President of the High Council.—See Book of Doctrine and Covenants, page 87.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved 1st, That we will not encourage the acts of any court in this church, for the trial of any of its members, which will not suffer the accused to be present and plead their own cause; we therefore declare our decided disapprobation to the course pursued last Thursday evening (the 18th inst.) in the case of William Law, Wilson Law, and Mrs. William Law, and R. D. Foster, as being unjust and unauthorized by the laws of the Church, and consequently null and void; for our law judgeth no man unless he be heard; and to all those who appropriate a course so unwarranted, unprecedented and so unjust, we would say beware lest the unjust measure you meet to your brethren, be again meted out to you.

Resolved 2nd, Inasmuch as we have for years borne with the individual follies and iniquities of Joseph Smith, Hyrum Smith, and many other official characters in the Church of Jesus Christ, (conceiving it a duty incumbent on us so to bear,) and having labored with them repeatedly with all Christian love, meekness and humility, yet to no effect, feel as if forbearance has ceased to be a virtue, and hope of reformation vain; and inasmuch as they have introduced false and damnable doctrines into the Church, such as a plurality of Gods above the God of this universe, and his liability to fall with all his creations; the plurality of wives, for time and eternity; the doctrine of unconditional sealing up to eternal life, against all crimes except that of shedding innocent blood, by a perversion of their priestly authority, and thereby forfeiting the holy priesthood, according to the word of Jesus: "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch and is withered, and men gather them and cast them into the fire, and they are burned," St. John, xv. 6. "Whosoever transgresseth and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God, he that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, hath both the

#### AFFIDAVITS.

I hereby certify that Hyrum Smith did, (in his office,) read to me a certain written document, which he said was a revelation from God, he said that he was with Joseph when it was received. He afterwards gave me the document to read, and I took it to my house, and read it, and showed it to my wife, and returned it next day. The revelation (so called) authorized certain men to have more wives than one at a time, in this world and in the world to come. It said this was the law, and commanded Joseph to enter into the law.—And also that he should administer to others. Several other items were in the revelation, supporting the above doctrines.

WM. LAW.

I certify that I read the revelation referred to in the above affidavit of my husband, it sustained in strong terms the doctrine of more wives than one at a time, in this world, and in the next, it authorized some to have to the number of ten, and set forth that those women who would not allow their husbands to have more wives than one should be under condemnation before God.

JANE LAW.

#### To all whom it may Concern.

Forasmuch as the public mind has been much agitated by a course of procedure in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, by a number of persons declaring against certain doctrines and practices therein, (among whom I am one,) it is but meet that I should give my reasons, at least in part, as a cause that hath led me to declare myself. In the latter part of the summer, 1843, the Patriarch, Hyrum Smith, did in the High Council, of which I was a member, introduce what he said was a revelation given through the Prophet; that the said Hyrum Smith did essay to read the said revelation in the said Council, that according to his reading there was contained the following doctrines; 1st, the sealing up of persons to eternal life, against all sins, save that of shedding innocent blood or of consenting thereto; 2nd, the doctrine of a plurality of wives, or marrying virgins; that "David and Solomon had many wives, yet in this they sinned not save in the matter of Uriah. This revelation with other evidence, that the aforesaid heresies were taught and practiced in the Church; determined me to leave the office of first counsellor to the president of the Church at Nauvoo, inasmuch as I dared not teach or administer such laws. And further deponent said not.

AUSTIN COWLES.



1 Verily, thus saith the Lord unto you my servant Joseph, that inasmuch as you have inquired of my hand to know and understand wherein I, the Lord, justified my servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as also Moses, David and Solomon, my servants, as touching the principle and doctrine of their having many <sup>a</sup>wives and <sup>b</sup>concubines—

2 Behold, and lo, I am the Lord thy God, and will answer thee as touching this matter.

3 Therefore, <sup>a</sup>prepare thy heart to receive and <sup>b</sup>obey the instructions which I am about to give unto you; for all those who have this law revealed unto them must obey the same.

4 For behold, I reveal unto you a new and an everlasting <sup>a</sup>covenant; and if ye abide not that covenant, then are ye <sup>b</sup>damned; for no one can <sup>c</sup>reject this covenant and be permitted to enter into my glory. **William Clayton Journal**

SECTION 132

SECTION 132

15 Therefore, if a <sup>a</sup>man marry him a wife in the world, and he marry her not by me nor by my word, and he covenant with her so long as he is in the world and she with him, their covenant and marriage are not of force when they are dead, and when they are out of the world; therefore, they are not bound by any law when they are out of the world.

**William Law's Affidavit**

SECTION 132

52 And let mine handmaid, Emma Smith, <sup>a</sup>receive all those that have been given unto my servant Joseph, and who are virtuous and pure before me; and those who are not pure, and have said they were pure, shall be destroyed, saith the Lord God.

53 For I am the Lord thy God, and ye shall obey my voice; and I give unto my servant Joseph that he shall be made ruler over many things; for he hath been <sup>a</sup>faithful over a few things, and from henceforth I will strengthen him.

54 And I command mine handmaid, Emma Smith, to abide and <sup>a</sup>cleave unto my servant Joseph, and to none else. But if she will not abide this commandment she shall be <sup>b</sup>destroyed, saith the Lord; for I am the Lord thy God, and will destroy her if she abide not in my law.

**Jane Law Affidavit "Law of Sarah"**

62 And if he have <sup>a</sup>ten virgins given unto him by this law, he cannot commit adultery, for they belong to him, and they are given unto him; therefore is he justified.

63 But if one or either of the ten virgins, after she is espoused, shall be with another man, she has committed adultery, and shall be destroyed; for they are given unto him to <sup>a</sup>multiply and replenish the earth, according to my commandment, and to fulfil the promise which was given by my Father before the foundation of the world, and for their exaltation in the eternal worlds, that they may bear the souls of men; for herein is the work of my Father continued, that he may be <sup>b</sup>glorified.

**Jane Law Affidavit**

26 Verily, verily, I say unto you, if a man marry a wife according to my word, and they are sealed by the <sup>a</sup>Holy Spirit of promise, according to mine appointment, and he or she shall commit any sin or transgression of the new and everlasting covenant whatever, and all manner of blasphemies, and if they <sup>b</sup>commit no murder wherein they shed innocent blood, yet they shall come forth in the first resurrection, and enter into their exaltation; but they shall be destroyed in the flesh, and shall be <sup>c</sup>delivered unto the buffetings of <sup>d</sup>Satan unto the day of <sup>e</sup>redemption, saith the

27 The <sup>a</sup>blasphemy against the Holy Ghost, which shall <sup>b</sup>not be <sup>c</sup>forgiven in the world nor out of the world, is in that ye commit <sup>d</sup>murder wherein ye shed innocent blood, and assent unto my death, after ye have received my new and everlasting covenant, saith the Lord God; and he that abideth not this law can in nowise enter into my glory, but shall be <sup>e</sup>damned, saith the Lord.

38 David also received <sup>a</sup>many wives and concubines, and also Solomon and Moses my servants, as also many others of my servants, from the beginning of creation until this time; and in nothing did they sin save in those things which they received not of me.

39 <sup>a</sup>David's wives and concubines were <sup>b</sup>given unto him of me, by the hand of Nathan, my servant, and others of the prophets who had the <sup>c</sup>keys of this power; and in none of these things did he <sup>d</sup>sin against me save in the case of <sup>e</sup>Uriah and his wife; and, therefore he hath <sup>f</sup>fallen from his exaltation, and received his portion; and he shall not inherit them out of the world, for I <sup>g</sup>gave them unto another, saith the Lord.

**Austin Cowles Affidavit**



James Allred Affidavit #2

John W. Foster  
Salem, Mass.

business are true and correct.  
Subscribed and sworn to by the J. Farm Johnson

A black and white portrait of a man with a full, dark beard and mustache. He has dark hair, possibly receding at the temples, and is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt and a dark cravat or necktie. The background is a plain, light color.

Subscribed and sworn to }  
by the said David Fullmer & } David Fullmer  
their first & sole written }  
James Jack  
Notary Public

A sepia-toned portrait of a man with a full, dark beard and mustache. He has light-colored, wavy hair and is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt and a dark bow tie. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.



# Leonard Soby Affidavit

## Nov 14 1883

Two affidavits. One in 1883 and the other in 1886. swore an affidavit about the high council meeting. He named everyone he could remember that was there, said Hyrum Smith "after certain explanations read the Revelation on celestial marriage." Soby also said he read the revelation as printed in the D&C and concluded: "to the best of knowledge and belief, it is the same word for word as the revelation then read by Hyrum Smith."

Converted to mormonism and moved to Nauvoo; member of High Council in 1841; heard Hyrum Smith's presentation in favor of plural marriage in 1843; joined with Expositor publishers, but remained in good standing; his support of Rigdon led to his removal in September 1844.

"Copy.

"STATE OF NEW JERSEY, } ss.  
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON. }

"Be it remembered that on this fourteenth day of November, A. D. 1883, personally appeared before me, J. W. Roberts, a Justice of the Peace, county and State aforesaid, Leonard Soby, who was by me sworn in due form of law, and upon oath saith, that on or about the 12th day of August, 1843, in the city of

Nauvoo, in the State of Illinois, in the county of Hancock, before the High Council of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, of which body and council aforesaid he was a member, personally appeared one Hyrum Smith, of the first presidency of said church, and brother to Joseph Smith, the president and prophet of the same, and presented to said council the Revelation on Polygamy, enjoining its observance and declaring it came from God; unto which a large majority of the council agreed and assented, believing it to be of a celestial order, though no vote was taken upon it, for the reason that the voice of the prophet, in such matters, was understood by us to be the voice of God to the church, and that said revelation was presented to said council, as before stated, as coming from Joseph Smith, the prophet of the Lord, and was received by us as other revelations had been. The said Leonard Soby further saith that Elder Austin A. Cowles, a member of the High Council aforesaid, did, subsequently to the 12th day of August, 1843, openly declare against the said revelation on polygamy, and the doctrines therein contained. LEONARD SOBY."

*Affidavit of Leonard Soby.*

*Be it remembered that on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March in the year 1886, Before me Joshua H. Roberts, Notary Public for the City of Jersey, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, Leonard Soby of said City County and State was by me duly sworn, and upon his oath saith that on or about the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 1843, I was a member of Nauvoo, Hancock County, State of Illinois. And being a member of the High Council of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was present at a meeting of said Council at the time hereinafter stated. Thomas Brown, Alpheus Cutler, David Fulmer, William Huntington and others whom Elder Hyrum Smith after certain explanations read the Revelation on celestial marriage.*

*I have read and examined carefully said revelation since published in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants of said Church, and say to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is the same word for word as the revelation then read by Hyrum Smith.*

*The deponent says further that the*

Leonard Soby, a member of the High Council who had rejected the revelation and apostatized, was living in New Jersey in 1883. President Smith, of the Reorganized church, sent to Mr. Soby to secure his affidavit that he did not hear the revelation read. Mr. Soby told the messenger: "If you will draw up an affidavit setting forth that I was there and did hear the revelation, I will sign it for you." He did sign the latter kind of a document and Mr. Gurley, the messenger, apostatized from the Reorganized church. The affidavit in full appears in Mr. Bays' book. Two members of the Council who accepted the doctrine heard the revelation; two members who apostatized on account of the doctrine heard it. The testimony is sufficient and there can be no charge of bias.

Religious Delusions By J. V. Coombs

Phila Inquirer; Dec. 16, 1892, p3

#### **A VETERAN EX-MORMON DEAD.**

**He Was One of Joseph Smith's Counselors, But Was Not a Polygamist.**

**"Special to THE INQUIRER."**

**REVERLY, Dec. 15**—Leonard Soby, 83 years old, died suddenly in his arm chair last night. He was some years ago of Mormon faith, being one of Joseph Smith's chief counselors and an officer in the Nauvoo Legion. As such he was deputized to surrender arms to the United States Government.

He was not a believer in plural wives.





**34**

Women between Jan 1st 1842 and June 27th 1844 are deeded land from Joseph Smith where no Husband is on the deed.

**IN 1861, ILLINOIS  
PASSED THE  
MARRIED  
WOMEN'S  
PROPERTY  
ACT**

*which enabled women in this state  
to own and manage their real  
estate and keep their own earnings*





# ***Why 1842 to to June 27th 1844?***

#1 Church members from the eastern states, Canada, and England had settled in and around Nauvoo by 1842; in January 1843, Joseph estimated that some twelve thousand lived in the area.

#2 Joseph is in control and Polygamy if it is happening is in full swing

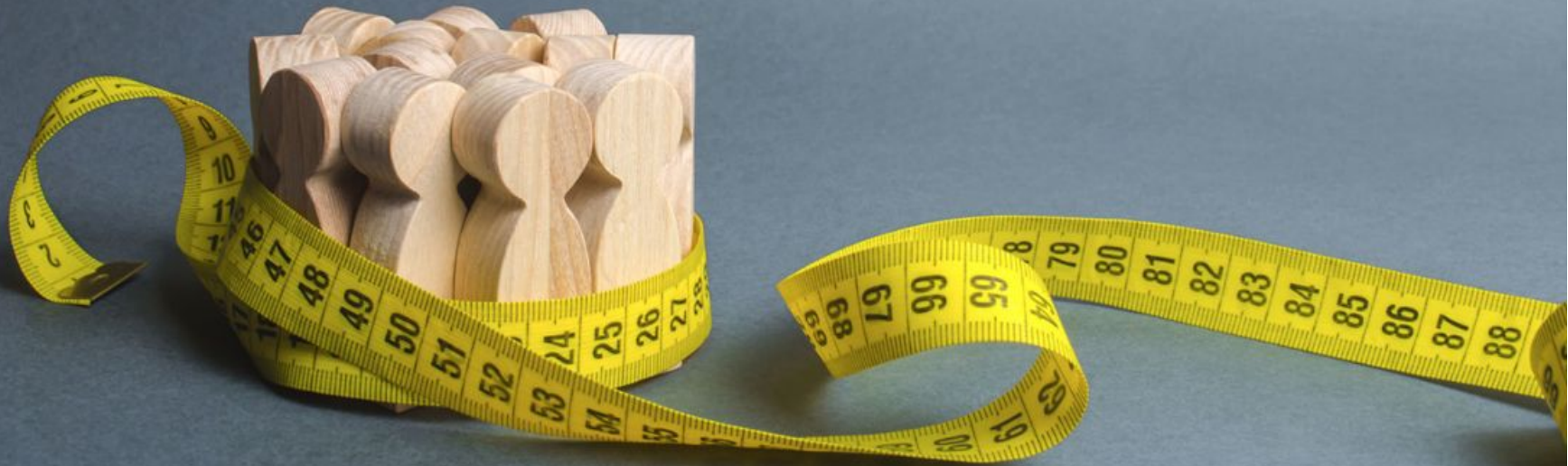




**Let's Lay Some Groundwork First!**



Church members from the eastern states,  
Canada, and England had settled in and  
around Nauvoo by 1842; in January 1843,  
Joseph estimated that some twelve  
thousand lived in the area.



And Joseph Smith Allegedly had approximately 34 wives





**If the LDS Female Population  
is 3,000 and Joseph had  
34 alleged wives, then the  
chance of a single deed  
being given to one of those  
34 women is  $34/3000$  or**

**1.1%**



**There are only 34 Deeds  
that are being given to  
women with no husband  
on the deed. The more of  
these deeds that are taken  
up by these 34 alleged  
plural wives, the lower and  
lower that % of chance goes**





# Liken to a Jar of Marbles

3000 MARBLES NOT BLACK  
AND 34 BLACK MARBLES



To calculate the chances of picking exactly 11 black marbles out of the 34 marbles you randomly select, we can use the concept of probability.

The total number of marbles in the jar is 34 black marbles + 3000 white marbles = 3034 marbles.

The probability of picking a black marble is the ratio of the number of black marbles to the total number of marbles:  $34/3034$ .

To calculate the probability of picking exactly 11 black marbles out of 34, we can use the binomial probability formula:

$$P(X = k) = (n \text{ C } k) \cdot p^k \cdot (1 - p)^{(n - k)}$$

Where:

$P(X = k)$  is the probability of picking exactly  $k$  black marbles.

$(n \text{ C } k)$  is the number of combinations of selecting  $k$  items from a set of  $n$  items.

$p$  is the probability of selecting a black marble.

$k$  is the number of black marbles we want to select.

$n$  is the total number of marbles we are selecting.

In this case:

$n = 34$  (we are selecting 34 marbles).

$k = 11$  (we want to select 11 black marbles).

$p = 34/3034$  (probability of selecting a black marble).

To calculate the chances of picking exactly 11 black marbles out of the 34 marbles you randomly select, we can use the concept of probability.

The total number of marbles in the jar is 34 black marbles + 3000 white marbles = 3034 marbles.

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$p$  is the probability of selecting a black marble.

$k$  is the number of black marbles we want to select.

$n$  is the total number of marbles we are selecting.

In this case:

$n = 34$  (we are selecting 34 marbles).

$k = 11$  (we want to select 11 black marbles).

$p = 34/3034$  (probability of selecting a black marble).

Now, let's calculate the probability:

$$P(X = 11) = (34 \text{ C } 11) \cdot (34/3034)^{11} \cdot (1 - 34/3034)^{(34 - 11)}$$

Using the binomial coefficient formula:

$$(34 \text{ C } 11) = 34! / (11! \cdot (34 - 11)!)$$

Plugging in the values and performing the calculations:

$$P(X = 11) = (34! / (11! \cdot 23!)) \cdot (34/3034)^{11} \cdot (3000/3034)^{23}$$

$$P(X = 11) \approx 0.000050$$

Therefore, the chances of picking exactly 11 black marbles out of the 34 marbles you pick are approximately 0.000050, or 0.0050%.



## So What Do We Find in These 34 Land Deeds which make up all deeds to Women without a husband listed between 1842 and June 27th 1844

- Deed to Emma Smith and Others, 12 July 1843 (The unencumbered lots) \$10k  
**(Joseph Smith's Legal Wife)**
- Deed to Emma Smith, 13 June 1842 \$1,000 **(Joseph Smith's Legal Wife)**
- Deed to Mary Fielding Smith, 15 March 1843 \$100 **(Hyrum's Smith Legal Wife)**

## So What Do We Find in These 34 Land Deeds which make up all deeds to Women without a husband listed between 1842 and June 27th 1844

- Deed to Sarah Ann Whitney, 6 September 1842 \$1,000 (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)
- Deed to Marinda Nancy Johnson Hyde, 10 February 1843 \$500 (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)
- Deed to Eliza & Emily Partridge and Others, 10 February 1843 (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)
- Deed to Sarah Scott Mulholland, 13 May 1843 \$50 ([Sarah Scott listed as plural wife on wikipedia](#))  
(Sarah Scott Mullholand Evidence) (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)
- Deed to Flora Ann Woodworth, 13 May 1843 \$1,000 she is 16 years old (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)
- Deed to Sylvia Sessions Lyon, 5 June 1843 \$500 (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)
- Deed to Helen Mar Kimball, 7 June 1843 \$50 she is 14 years old (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)
- Deed to Mary Elizabeth Rollins Lightner, 5 July 1843 \$50 (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)
- Deed to Patty Bartlett Sessions, 9 August 1843 \$150 (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)
- Deed to Elizabeth Davis Durfee, 10 March 1843 \$200 (**Plural Wife of Joseph Smith**)



## **So What Do We Find in These 34 Land Deeds which make up all deeds to Women without a husband listed between 1842 and June 27th 1844**

- Deed to Lydia Dibble Granger, 15 March 1843 \$100 (Hyrum Smith's Plural Wife)

## So What Do We Find in These 34 Land Deeds which make up all deeds to Women without a husband listed between 1842 and June 27th 1844

- Deed to Mary Ann Bosley, 26 January 1844 \$500 (Mary Ann and husband George have a deed already) John C Bennett Miss B\*\*\*\*\* (less likely though potential Plural Wife of Joseph Smith)
- Deed to Jane Gully, 20 May 1844 \$1,000 John C Bennett Mrs. G\*\*\*\*\*

But I desist.

In concluding this subject, however, I will semi-state two or more cases, among the vast number, where Joe Smith was privately married to his spiritual wives — in the case of Mrs. A\*\*\*\*\* S\*\*\*\*\*, by Apostle Brigham Young; and in that of Miss L\*\*\*\*\* B\*\*\*\*\*, by Elder Joseph Bates Noble. Then there are the cases of Mrs. B\*\*\*\*\*, Mrs. D\*\*\*\*\*, Mrs. S\*\*\*\*\*, Mrs. G\*\*\*\*\*, Miss B\*\*\*\*\*, etc. etc.

ulley

osley



# Let's Check In

## So far out of the 34 Land Deeds

- 2 women (3 deeds) of them are the legal wives of Joseph and Hyrum
- 11 women (10 Deeds) are the alleged plural wives of Joseph Smith
- 2 women are these other two potentials (Gully and Bosley)
- 1 women is the plural wife of Hyrum smith

**This Accounts for 16 out of the 34 Land Deeds**

WAIT...  
IT GETS  
WORSE



# What About the Other 18 Deeds

- [Deed to Philinda Merrick, 24 March 1842](#) (Emma participated in deed signing) \$300 **Philinda Clark Eldredge Merrick, the plural wife of Vinson Knight**
- [Deed to Charity Stoddard, 1 February 1842](#) (Emma participated in deed signing) \$150 **Wife of Sylvester B. Stoddard who was a high priest and on the Nauvoo High Council. She died Oct 1844. He married Almira Knight in Nov 1844, less than a month after Charity's death.**
- [Deed to Martha Knight, 2 February 1842](#) (Emma participated in deed signing) \$150 age 37 - **Vinson's legal wife - He is a polygamist**
- [Deed to Elmira Miller, 15 February 1842](#) (Emma participated in deed signing) \$100 **Wife of Henry William Miller. Council of 50 was organized in his home, and the Nauvoo Masonic Lodge met there too. Two possible early polygamous marriages to an Elizabeth Smith and a Nancy Baker (suspected to have taken 2 polygamous wives during the winter of 1845-1846 according to an article in [Dialogue](#), which covers details on the original 30 men in the inner-circle of polygamy)**
- [Deed to Elizabeth Buchanan Coolidge, 30 March 1843](#) \$100 (**Wife of Joseph Wellington Coolidge, who was a known participant in polygamy during JS's lifetime**)
- [Deed to Sally Waterman Phelps, 16 November 1843](#) (Emma participated in deed signing) \$200 **W.W. Phelps wife - Connected with Nauvoo Polygamy but W.W. Phelps does not take his first plural wife until 1847**
- Elizabeth Mathews - 68 1 Deeded to Elizabeth Mathews Augt. 7 1843  
<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-b-4-august-1842-8-december-1845/237>  
& <https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-b-4-august-1842-8-december-1845/287>  
**Wife of Anson Mathews. Sealed to prolific polygamist Samuel C. Bent on 28 Jan 1846, while Anson was still alive.**
- Mary Ann Price - (**Orson Hyde's plural wife April 1843**) - wasn't baptized till 28 July 1844 - deed 26 Apr 1843 \$6.16 (approx 27 years old)  
<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/325125/?offset=0#page=315&viewer=picture&o=&n=0&q=>
- [Deed to Melissa LeBaron Johnson 4 April 1844](#) **\$500 wife of Benjamin Franklin Johnson, who acted as agent for JS in business matters. Her deed dated 4 Apr 1844. Her husband married Mary Ann Hale as a plural wife wife Nov 1844.**
- Matilda Lyman & others November 2 1844 100.00 Deeded  
<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-b-4-august-1842-8-december-1845/260>  
**In 1835, Lyman married Louisa Maria Tanner in Kirtland. They had eight children. In April 1844, Smith taught Lyman the principle of plural marriage. "As he warmly grasped my hand for the last time," Lyman later recalled, "[Smith said] brother Amasa, go and practice on the principles I have taught you, and God bless you." Soon Lyman married his first and second plural wives, Diontha Walker and Caroline Partridge. In 1846, Lyman married four additional wives: Eliza Maria Partridge (one of numerous widows of Smith and the 25-year-old sister of Lyman's wife Caroline), Paulina Eliza Phelps, Priscilla Turley, and Cornelia Leavitt. In 1851, Lyman married his eighth and final wife, Lydia Partridge, a sister of his wives Caroline and Eliza.**

# Let's Check In

## So far out of the 34 Land Deeds

- 2 women (3 deeds) of them are the legal wives of Joseph and Hyrum
- 11 women (10 Deeds) are the alleged plural wives of Joseph Smith
- 2 women are these other two potentials (Gully and Bosley)
- 1 women is the plural wife of Hyrum smith
- 10 Deeds heavily connected to the Polygamy of Joseph's Associates

**This Accounts for 26 out of the 34 Land Deeds**



WAIT...  
IT GETS  
WORSE

# What About the Other 8 Deeds

- [Deed to Sarah Phinney Foster, 7 December 1843](#) \$200
- [Deed to Sarah Phinney Foster, 10 March 1843](#) \$1,000 2nd deed  
(<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/letter-from-robert-d-and-sarah-phinney-foster-circa-16-august-1842/2>) wife of Robert Foster who was excommunicated in 1844. He joined with William Law in publishing the Nauvoo Expositor and later became an apostle in the church Law founded. Her two deeds are dated March and December 1843. Were they an effort to keep her quiet? Would consult Nauvoo Expositor to check to see if she's mentioned.
- [Deed to Catherine Clawson, 5 July 1843](#) \$200 (Plural Wife of Brigham young but in 1855) Widow of Zechariah Clawson. Married Howard Egan as a plural wife in Nauvoo in 1844. Howard Egan was called as a missionary specifically to help JS's presidential campaign and later was in Brigham Young's vanguard company.
- [Deed to Elizabeth Ann Smith Whitney, 22 April 1843](#) \$1,000 (Newel K Whitney's Wife - Their Daughter Sarah Ann Whitney was a plural wife) wife of Newel K. Whitney. Daughter a known plural wife of JS. **Deed dated September 1842, a month after the letter he sent Newel and Elizabeth that he instructed them to burn.**

\*\*\*\*\*

- Lavena Murphy - No 17 <W 1/2> 4 W 1/2 Lovina Murphy April 30th. 1842 Deeded -  
<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-b-4-august-1842-8-december-1845/236> AND  
<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-b-4-august-1842-8-december-1845/287>&<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-a-11-september-1839-30-april-1842/68>
- Harriet Sherwood Parker - E 1/2 Harriet Parker May 2nd. 1842 600.00 Deeded[p. 247] -  
<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-b-4-august-1842-8-december-1845/248> Harriet Parker East half 600.00 May 2 1842 Deeded To Harriet Parker May 2. 1842. East half— \$600.00—> <https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-a-11-september-1839-30-april-1842/83>
- Caroline Louisa and Mary Jane Smith - Block No 90 1 Mary J & C. L. Smith January 1st. 1842 500.00 Deeded2 -  
<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-b-4-august-1842-8-december-1845/239>  
**Children of William Smith the Prophet's brother**
- [Deed to Sally Allred, 10 February 1843](#) \$800 No Positive ID
- [Deed to Sally Murdock, 23 November 1843](#) \$500 Widow of Joseph Murdock. He died 9 Oct 1843. Her deed is dated 23 Nov 1843. She'd have been 55 years old in that year. Her deed is dated a month after her husband's death. She never remarried, which could be seen as slightly suspicious. Could have been an under-the-radar plural wife to somebody.
- Mary Egan July 13 Deed 1843 (Power of Attorney handled deed)  
<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/trustees-land-book-b-4-august-1842-8-december-1845/276>



# Let's Check In

## So far out of the 34 Land Deeds

- 2 women (3 deeds) of them are the legal wives of Joseph and Hyrum
- 11 women (10 Deeds) are the alleged plural wives of Joseph Smith
  - **3 of these women are under the age of 18**
- 2 women are these other two potentials (Gully and Bosley)
- 1 women is the plural wife of Hyrum smith
- 10 women heavily connected to the Polygamy of Joseph's Associates
- 3 women (4 Deeds) with Minor Connections with Polygamy of Joseph's Associates
- 6 Women with little to no connection with Polygamy

**This Accounts for 34 out of the 34 Land Deeds**

# Think About How Bad This Is

Not only are about a  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the deeds within these parameters Joseph's alleged Plural wives when we are strangely supposed to believe he wasn't practicing Polygamy

But another third of the women are connected closely to Nauvoo Polygamy too. These are the very people that the Deniers argue Joseph is trying to put down and distance himself from

In the end there is maybe 3-5 of these deeds with no polygamy connection



THIS INSTRUMENT MADE AND ENTERED INTO: This twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty-three between Joseph Smith, as sole Trustee in Trust, for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, of the county of Hancock, and State of Illinois the FIRST part, and Sarah Ann Whitney of the county of Hancock and also aforesaid, of the SECOND part, Witnesses, that the said Joseph Smith, party of the FIRST part, for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand dollars, to him in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby grant, bargain, sell, convey, and confirm unto the said Sarah Ann Whitney party of the SECOND part, her heirs and assigns forever, all that tract or parcel of land, situate and being in the county of Hancock in the State of Illinois and known and described as follows, to wit: Lot number two (2) in Block number one hundred and thirty nine (139) of the city of Nauvoo.

together with all and singular the appurtenances thereto belonging, or in any wise appertaining.

TO HAVE and TO HOLD The above described premises unto the said Sarah Ann Whitney party of the SECOND part, her heirs and assigns forever. And the said Joseph Smith, party of the FIRST part, his assigns and successors in office, do aforesaid premises, unto the said Sarah Ann Whitney party of the SECOND part, her heirs and assigns, against the claim or claims of all and every person whomsoever, do and will warrant and forever defend by these presents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, The said Joseph Smith, party of the FIRST part has hereunto set his hand and seal this said year above written.

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of

Wm Clayton

Joseph Smith [SEAL]  
Sole Trustee in Trust for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

I, A. K. Whitney a Justice of the Peace, in and for the City of Nauvoo, in said County, do certify that Joseph Smith, whose signature appears to the foregoing deed, and, who is personally known to me to be the person described in, and who executed the same, did acknowledge that he had executed the said conveyance for the uses and purposes therein mentioned. Given under my hand and seal, this twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-three.

A. K. Whitney J. P. [L. S.]

AND ENTERED INTO: This twelfth day of the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty-three between Joseph Smith, as sole Trustee in Trust, for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, of the county of Hancock, and State of Illinois the FIRST part, and Sarah Ann Whitney of the county of Hancock and also aforesaid, of the SECOND part, Witnesses, that the said Joseph Smith, party of the FIRST part, for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand dollars, to him in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby grant, bargain, sell, convey, and confirm unto the said Sarah Ann Whitney party of the SECOND part, her heirs and assigns forever, all that tract or parcel of land, situate and being in the county of Hancock in the State of Illinois and known and described as follows, to wit:

Lot number one in Block number one hundred and sixty one of the city of Nauvoo.

together with all and singular the appurtenances thereto belonging, or in any wise appertaining.

TO HAVE and TO HOLD The above described premises unto the said Sarah Ann Whitney party of the SECOND part, her heirs and assigns forever. And the said Joseph Smith, party of the FIRST part, his assigns and successors in office, do aforesaid premises, unto the said Sarah Ann Whitney party of the SECOND part, her heirs and assigns, against the claim or claims of all and every person whomsoever, do and will warrant and forever defend by these presents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, The said Joseph Smith, party of the FIRST part has hereunto set his hand and seal this said year above written.

Joseph Smith [SEAL]  
Sole Trustee in Trust for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

I, Robert J. Latta a Justice of the Peace, in and for the County of Hancock, do certify that Joseph Smith, whose signature appears to the foregoing deed, and, who is personally known to me to be the person described in, and who executed the same, did acknowledge that he had executed the said conveyance for the uses and purposes therein mentioned. Given under my hand and seal, this twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-three.

Robert J. Latta J. P. [L. S.]

AND ENTERED INTO: This twelfth day of the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty-three between Joseph Smith, as sole Trustee in Trust, for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, of the county of Hancock, and State of Illinois the FIRST part, and Sarah Ann Whitney of the county of Hancock and also aforesaid, of the SECOND part, Witnesses, that the said Joseph Smith, party of the FIRST part, for and in consideration of the sum of one thousand dollars, to him in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby grant, bargain, sell, convey, and confirm unto the said Sarah Ann Whitney party of the SECOND part, her heirs and assigns forever, all that tract or parcel of land, situate and being in the county of Hancock in the State of Illinois and known and described as follows, to wit:

Lot number one hundred and thirty nine (139) of the city of Nauvoo.

together with all and singular the appurtenances thereto belonging, or in any wise appertaining.

TO HAVE and TO HOLD The above described premises unto the said Sarah Ann Whitney party of the SECOND part, her heirs and assigns forever. And the said Joseph Smith, party of the FIRST part, his assigns and successors in office, do aforesaid premises, unto the said Sarah Ann Whitney party of the SECOND part, her heirs and assigns, against the claim or claims of all and every person whomsoever, do and will warrant and forever defend by these presents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, The said Joseph Smith, party of the FIRST part has hereunto set his hand and seal this said year above written.

Joseph Smith [SEAL]  
Sole Trustee in Trust for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

I, Robert J. Latta a Justice of the Peace, in and for the County of Hancock, do certify that Joseph Smith, whose signature appears to the foregoing deed, and, who is personally known to me to be the person described in, and who executed the same, did acknowledge that he had executed the said conveyance for the uses and purposes therein mentioned. Given under my hand and seal, this twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-three.

Robert J. Latta J. P. [L. S.]



