

### **History Question of the Month**

The early settlers of our City obtained legal title to their land through three different Land Acts: The Homestead Act of 1862, The Land Act of 1820 and the Land-Grant College Act of 1862 or Morrill Act. How many of the early settlers obtained land grants and by authority of which act?

### **Answer**

Legal title (patent) to most of the land within or adjacent to the present Cottonwood Heights boundaries was homesteaded by 53 individual families and involved 54 tracts of land ranging from 40 acres to 160 acres.

**31** were obtained under the Homestead Act of 1862.

**19** were obtained under the Land Act of 1820.

**4** were obtained under the Land-Grant College Act of 1862 also known as the Morrill Act.

The remainder of the land belonged either to the Territorial (State) Government, Federal Government or to individuals who received “ Mineral Lode” patents, these were located mainly along the eastern boundaries of our city.