After arriving in the Salt Lake Valley, President Brigham Young and eight others hiked a nearby peak. President Young remarked that it “was a proper place to raise an ensign to the nations” and so it was named Ensign Peak. Before leaving Nauvoo, President Young had seen a vision of the Prophet Joseph wherein he was shown the peak and Joseph told him to “build under the point where the colors fall, and you will prosper and have peace.”

Elder B. H. Roberts reported that since the Church had no temple after arriving in the Salt Lake Valley, Addison Pratt “was taken to the summit of Ensign Peak and given his endowments, that he might return to those islands of the sea in which he had labored, with greater spiritual power.”

In 1934, an 18-foot monument was placed there by the Salt Lake Ensign Stake Mutual Improvement Associations. The monument is comprised of stones collected from stakes along the Mormon Trail. The inscriptions of the names of some stakes are still visible today.

On July 26, 1996, President Gordon B. Hinckley dedicated the Ensign Peak Nature Park which included Ensign Peak and an additional 66 acres surrounding it. President Hinckley dedicated it that it may “be a place of pondering, a place of remembrance, a place of thoughtful gratitude, a place of purposeful resolution.” The effort was headed by the Mormon Historic Sites Foundation, who worked closely with the Salt Lake City Corporation. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also constructed a memorial garden near the base of the peak which tells the peak’s significance and the early pioneers who built up the Salt Lake Valley.

SOURCES

1 Contributor, Volume 1, No. 11, (August 1880), 253.

2 George Albert Smith, Conference Report, (April 1927), 85 - 86.
for safety, and while they were fasting and praying daily on this subject, President Young had a vision of Joseph Smith, who showed him the mountain that we now call Ensign Peak, immediately north of Salt Lake City, and there was an ensign fell upon that peak, and Joseph said, ‘Build under the point where the colors fall and you will prosper and have peace.’

The Pioneers had no pilot or guide, none among them had ever been in the country or knew anything about it. However, they travelled under the direction of President Young until they reached this valley. When they entered it President Young pointed to that peak, and said he, ‘I want to go there.’ He went up to the point and said, ‘This is Ensign Peak. Now, brethren, organize your exploring parties, so as to be safe from Indians; go and explore where you will, and you will come back every time and say this is the best place.’

They accordingly started out exploring companies and visited what we now call Cache, Malad, Tooele, and Utah valleys, and other parts of the country in various directions, but all came back and declared this was the best spot.

I have travelled somewhat extensively in the Territory, and I bear my testimony this day, that this is the spot, and I feel confident that the God of Heaven by His inspiration led our Prophet right here. And it is the blessing of God upon the untiring energy and industry of the people that has made this once barren and sterile spot what it is today.”

**SOURCES**


---

**Visitor Information**

**Address:**
147 Ensign Vista
Salt Lake City, Utah 84103

**Hours of Operation:**
Daylight until dark

**Admission:**
Free

**Further Reading Resources**


