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Known and Unknown: Women's Voices of the Hole-In-the-Rock Expedition

Bonnie Swenson

Utah State University, bonnie.swenson@gmail.com

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Known and Unknown: Women's voices of the Hole-In-the-Rock Expedition

Bonnie Swenson

Dr. Joyce Kinkead, Faculty Mentor, Utah State University

Research Overview

Introduction

- ❖ 1878 Mission call to settle the San Juan River Gorge
- ❖ 1879 Expedition participants 200
 - ❖ 100 women and girls
- ❖ Published histories focus on difficult road building
- ❖ Limited number of women's narratives

Methods

- ❖ Compiled list of women participants
- ❖ Searched archival records
- ❖ Surveyed DUP members
- ❖ Interviewed Hole-In-the-Rock Foundation, author of "Jody's Journal", descendants of Expedition

Results

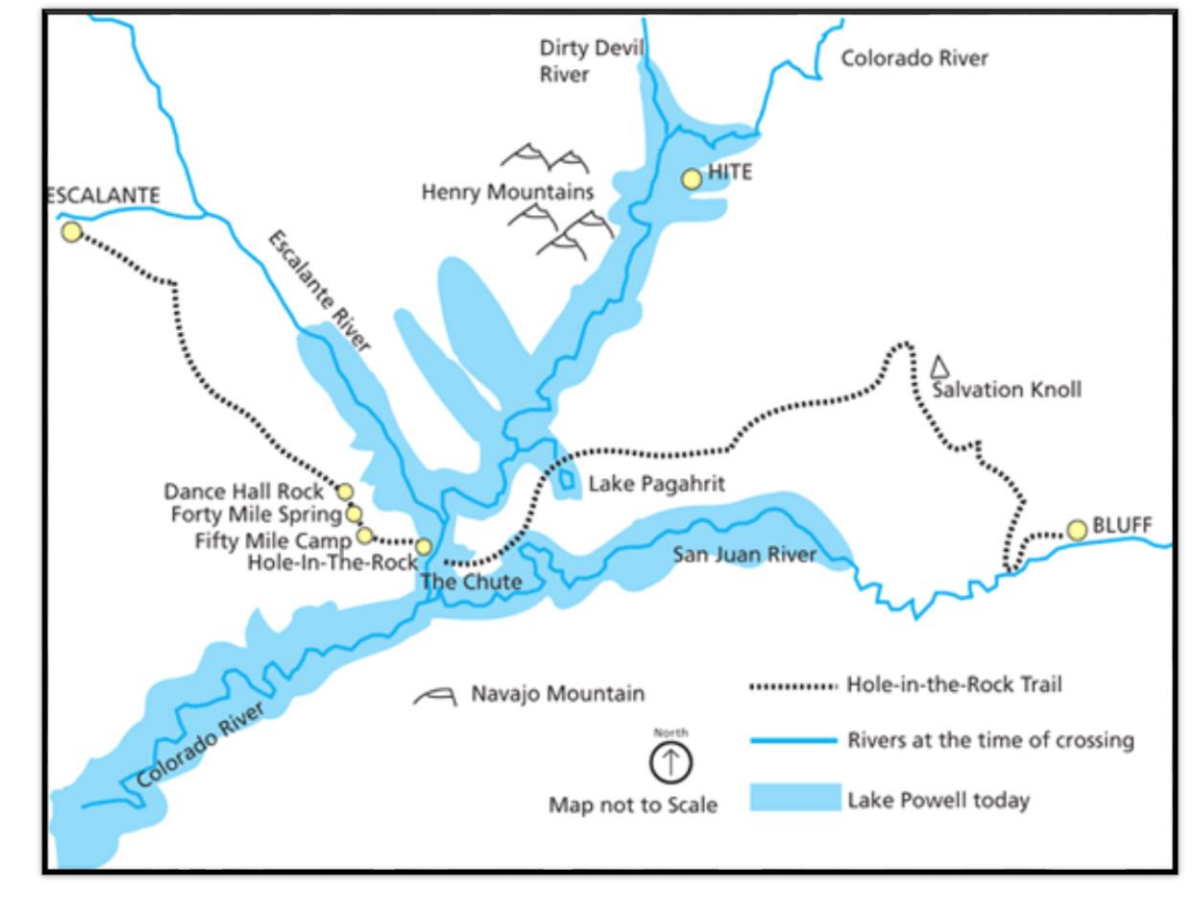
- ❖ Average age 21, with range of 14-45
- ❖ Identified 63 women and 51 girls
- ❖ Family connections identified
- ❖ Archival search: 40,000 DUP pioneer journals/ 0 participant journals/ 23 biographies on file.
- ❖ additional primary sources found.

Conclusion

The perspective of historians that "No one died" and the reality of a stillborn birth and burial at Escalante, is an example of how women's contributions have been trapped in the footnotes of the **Hole-In-the-Rock** history. Using today's technology more can be revealed about the "keeping camp" duties of women while the road was being built. Helping the complete history of the **Hole-In-the-Rock Expedition** to be revealed.



The Trail



Women of the Hole-In-the-Rock

Last Name	First Name	Maiden Name	Birth-death	Age	Archive	Type	Origin	Husband
Bartley	Laura	Matthews	1840-1917	39	DUP		Panguitch	Daniel Buren
Barton	Harriet Ann	Richards	1855-1896	24	DUP		Paragonah	Joseph Franklin
Christensen			0					Lars
Cox	Sarah	Jane/ Gane	0		LDS		Cedar City	Samuel
Dailey	Mary Malinda	Wilson	1851-1904	28			Harrisburg	Milton
Dailey	Lorane/ Lorana	Tilton	1838-1903	41			Harrisburg	Wilson
Davis	Mary Elizabeth	Fretwell	1843-1928	36	DUP	LDS	Montezuma	James
Decker	Anna Marie/ Maria	Mickelsson	1855-1937	24	DUP	History	Parowan	James Bean
Decker	Elizabeth Ann	Morris	1856-1939	23	DUP	History	Parowan	Cornelius
Decker	Emma	Morris	1859-1929	20	DUP	History	Parowan	Nataniel Alvin
Decker	Emma Serphine	Smith	1853-1909	26			Parowan	Zechariah Bruyn Jr.
Dunton	Elizabeth Ann	Prothero/Prothers	1860-1940	19	DUP	History	Paragonah	James Cyrus
Dunton	Emily	Hadden	1861	18			Parowan	Marius Ensign
Eyre	Jane Annes		1861	18			Parowan	John
Dunton	Mary Ann	Doidge Barker	1837-1910	42			Paragonah	James Harvey
Feilding	Ellen Agnes	Hobbs	1854-1899	25	DUP	History	Parowan	Hyrum Amos
Goddard	Anna Gilley?	Taylor	0	0			Parowan	William P.
Goddard	Anna Krilla	Taylor	1859-1955	20			New Harmony	William P.
Gower	Harriet Jane	Corry	1859-1917	20	DUP	History	Cedar City	John Thomas
Gurr	Anna	Hanson	1858-1935	21			Parowan	William Heber
Jensen	Hannah	Mortensen	1856	23	DUP			Lars Peter
Kelsey	Emeretta Amanda	Angell	1857	22				Orin
Haight	Sarah Ellen	Chatterley	1863-1950	16	LDS	History	Montezuma	Caleb
Holyoak	Sarah Ann	Robinson	1842-1919	37	DUP	History	Paragonah	Henry
Hunter	Sarah Jane	Urie	1860-1939	19	DUP	History	Cedar City	David
Hutchings	Sarah Agnes	Lebaron	1851-1943	28	DUP	LDS	Beaver	William Willard
Jones	Mary	Nielson	1858-1943	21	DUP	History	Cedar City	Kumen
Larson	Oliva	Ekelund	1856	23			Santaquin	Mons 2nd wife
Lilywhite	Mary Ellen Elizabeth	Widen	1850-1922	29			Beaver	Joseph
Lyman	Ida Evelyn	single woman	1859-1922	21	U of U		Oak City	
Lyman	Nellie Grayson	Roper	1862-1951	17	DUP	LDS	Oak City	Joseph
Lyman	Lydia	Jones	1865-1906	14	DUP	LDS	Oak City	kumen Jones
Lyman	May	single woman	1865	14			Oak City	single
Mackelprang	Adelia	Terry	1853	26	DUP	family	Cedar City	Samuel
Mickelson	Harriet Emily	Decker/ Mickelson	1861-1937	18	DUP		Parowan	Peter
Mortesen	Hannah Mariah	Smith	1859-1944	20			Junction	Peter Andrew
Nielson	Kirsten	Jensen	1834-1908	45	LDS	LDS	Cedar City	Jens 2nd wife
Openshaw?	Martha	Watts	1860-1941	19				Jobe
Pace	Hannah Caroline	Sevy	1855	24			Panguitch	James Wilkerson
Pace	Pauline Ann	Bryner	1857-1921	22			New Harmony	John Hardison
Perkins	Mary Ann	Williams	1859	21			New Harmony	Benjamin
Perkins	Rachel	Corry	1860-1907	19			Cedar City	Hyrum
Redd	Eliza Ann	Westover	1854-1937	25	DUP		New Harmony	Lemuel Hardison Jr.
Riley	Sarah	Ipsen	1860	19			Beaver	James Henry
Robb	Sarah Permlia	Holyoak	1857	22			Paragonah	Adam Franklin
Robb	Caroline	Jones	1865-1892	14			Paragonah	George Drummond
Robb	Sarah Ann	Edwards	1853-1897	26	DUP		Paragonah	John
Robb	Ellen	Stone	1852	27			Paragonah	William Jr
Rowley	Ann	Taylor	1846-1901	33	DUP	LDS	Paragonah	Samuel
Sevy	Margaret Nebraska	Imlay	1853-1897	26	DUP		Paragonah	George
Smith	Emily Jane	Bennet	1854-1903	25			Paragonah	John Aiken
Smith	Arabella Jane	Coombs	1851-1883	22			Cedar City	Joseph Stanford
Smith	Betsy	Williamson	1853-1925	26	DUP	family	Paragonah	Silas Sanford Jr.
Smith	Rachel	Sophey	0	0			Paragonah	Stephen/Steven A
Steven	Elizabeth	Kenney	1863-1948	16			Holden	Walter Joshua
Urie	Alice Jane	Perry	1856-1924	21			Cedar City	George
Walton	Jane	Mcketchnie/ Hatch	1846-1891	33	DUP		Bear Valley	Charles E. Sr.
Williams	Sarah	single woman	1860	21	LDS		Cedar City	

Their Stories

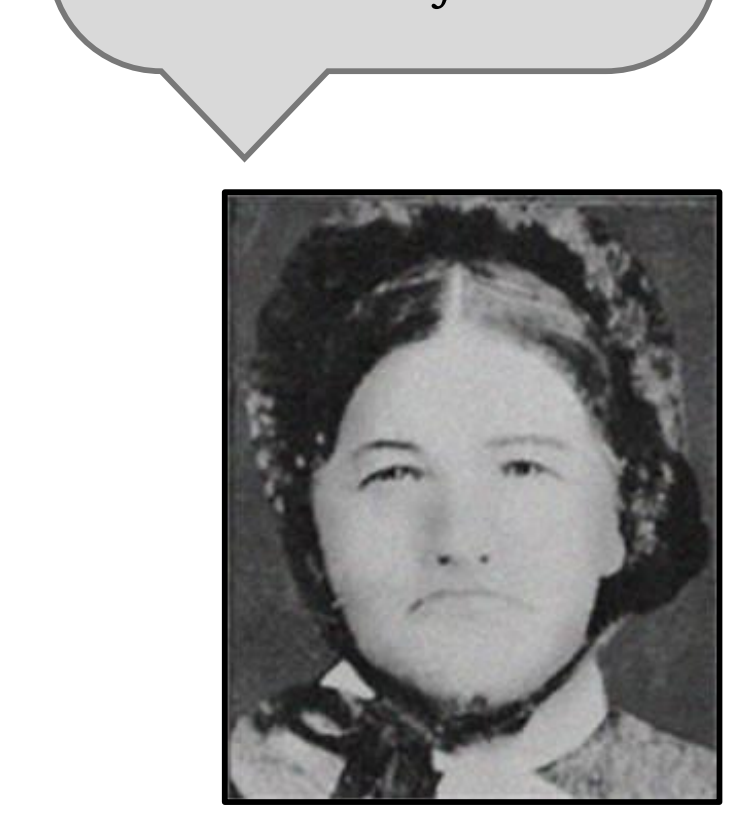


"Stories focus on the hardship of building a road to get through the rough terrain, and it was mostly men who worked on that. The domestic, day-to-day chores women took care of were taken for granted because it was less dramatic"

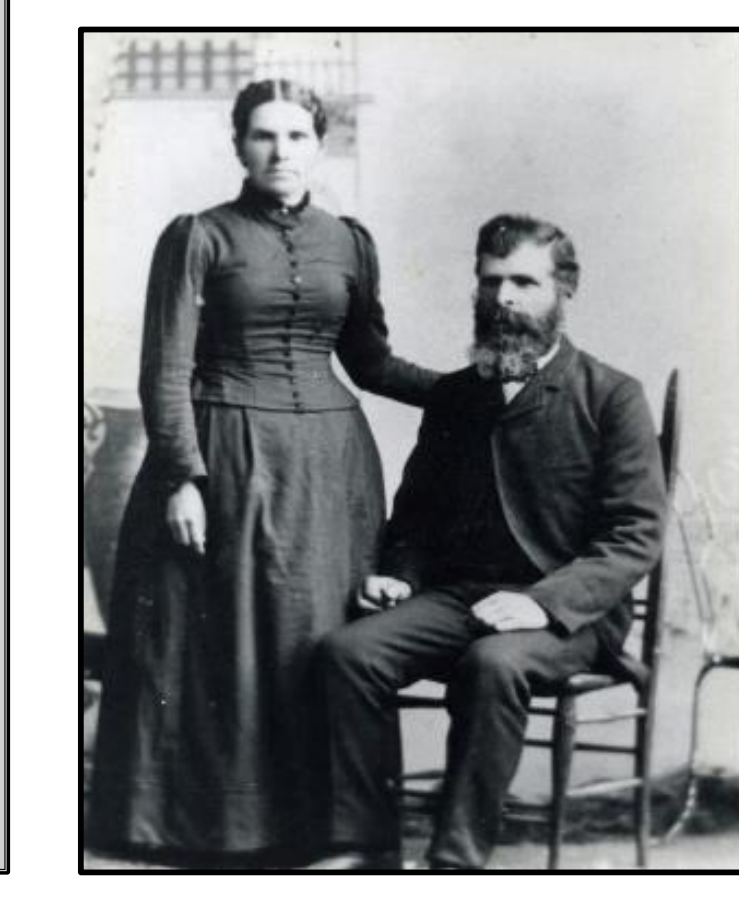


Ida Evelyn Lyman "drove a wagon down the 'Hole' and prided herself on the feat as she was only 21 at the time."

"My grand mother said she was terrified when she walked down the Hole, she was six months pregnant and carried a two and three year old babies as she slid down the face!"



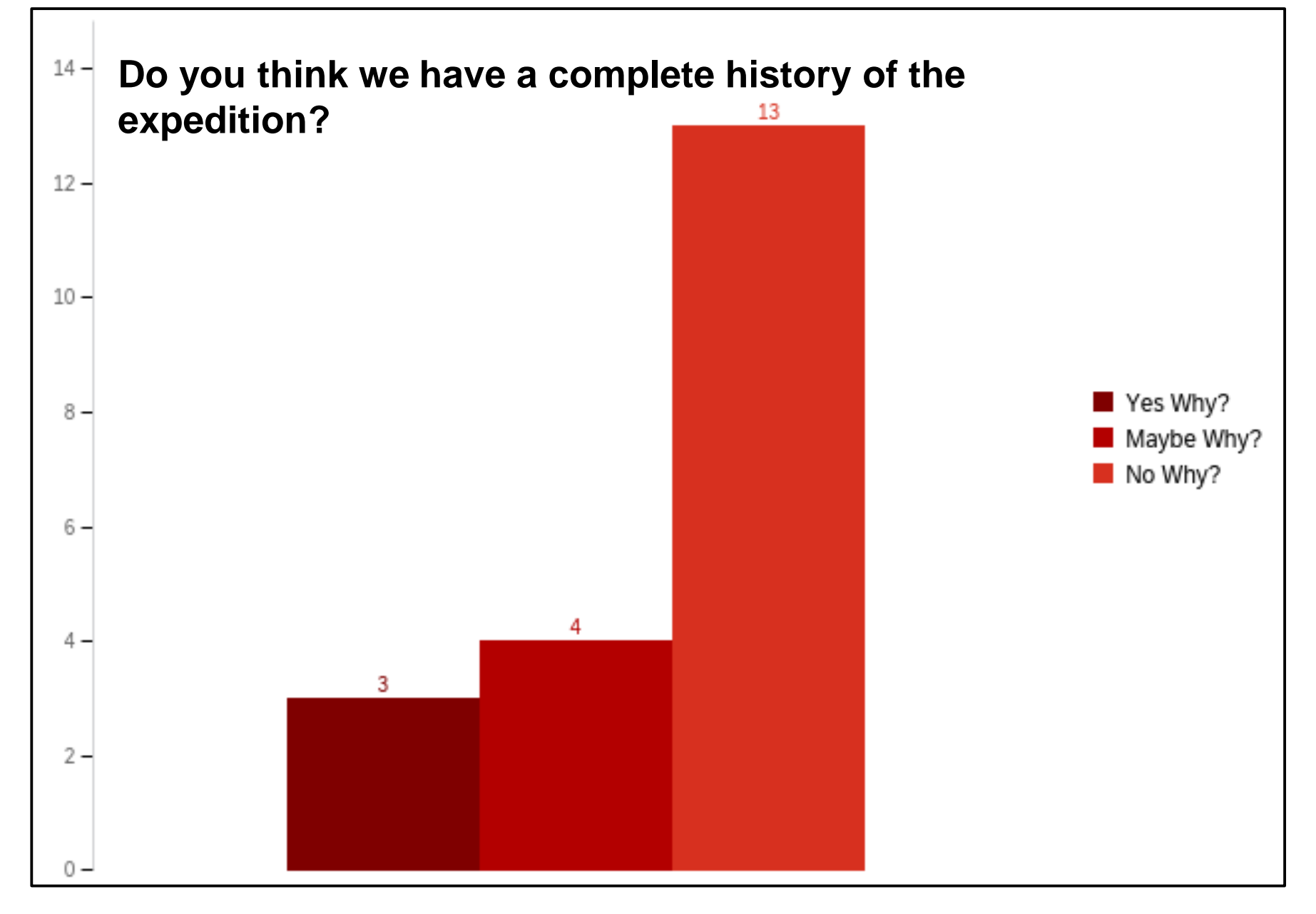
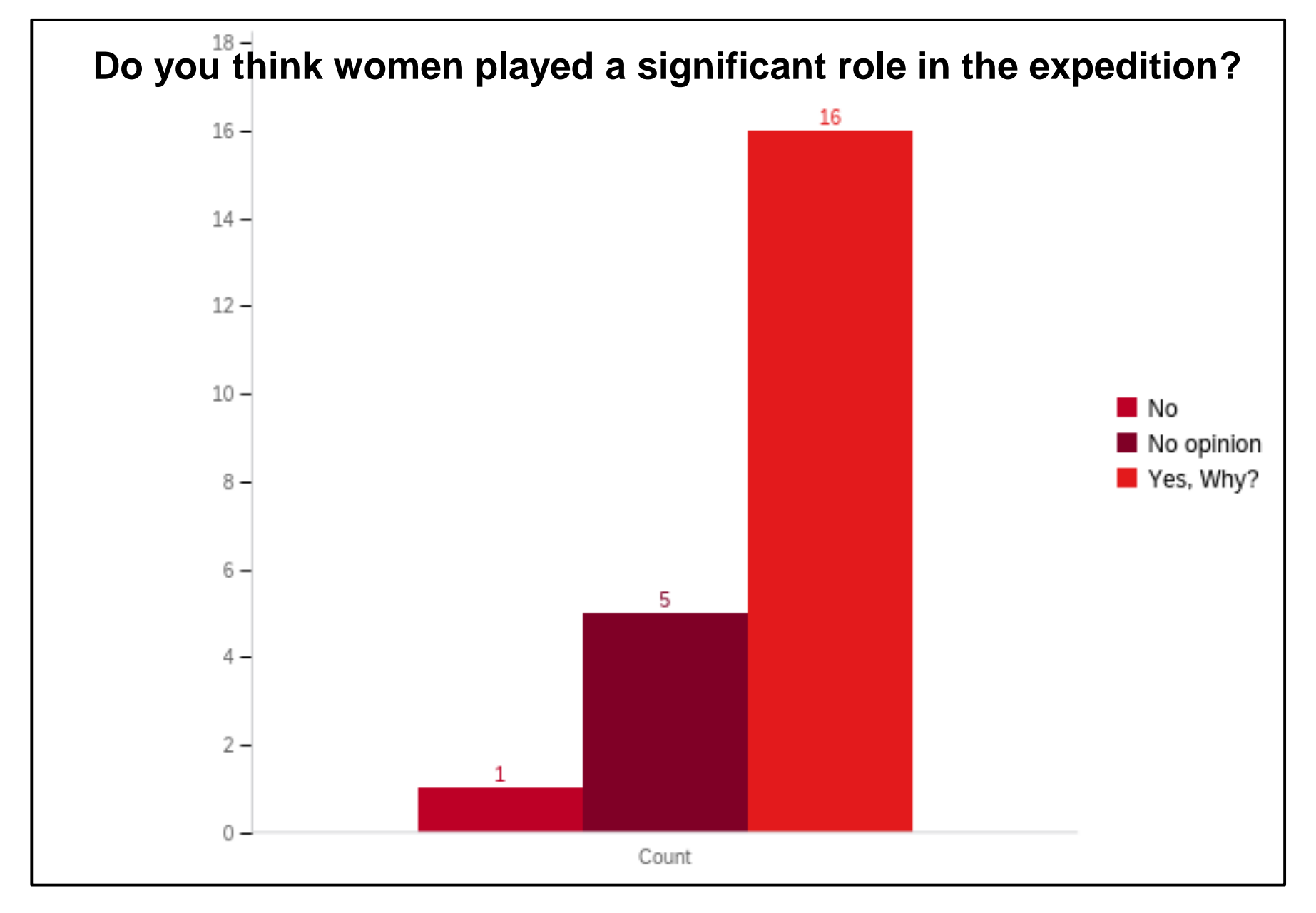
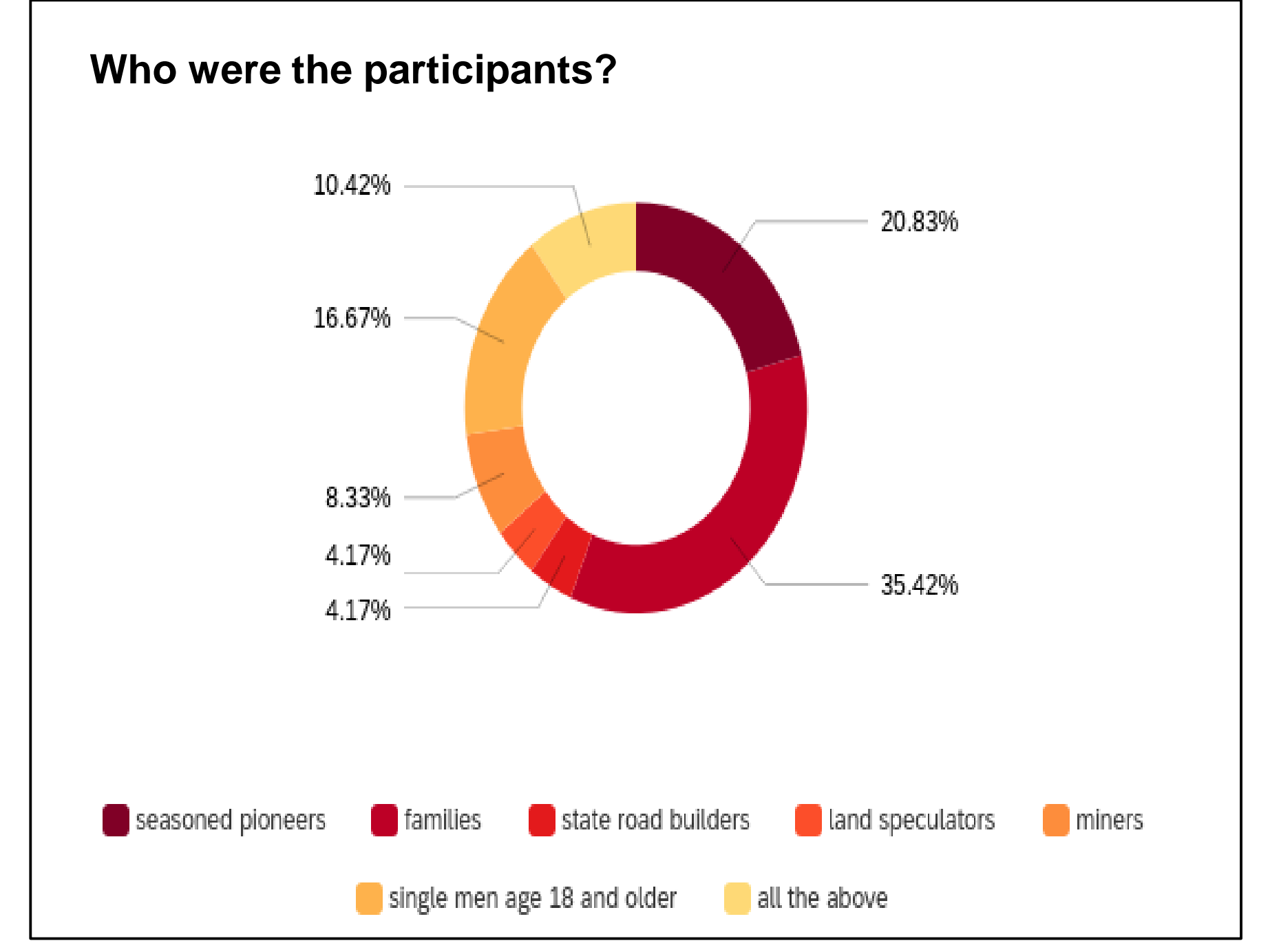
"My great-grandmother was pregnant soon after they began the journey. My grandfather was born in June 1880 at Bluff. I cannot imagine how hard that trek was on his mother. She already had five children. Caring for them plus cooking and moving each day must have tried her endurance."



What We Learned

- Novice pioneers
- Letters from leaders add context
- Left behind prosperous lives for the wilderness
- Men and women's perspective
- Not everyone spoke English
- Women single and married
- Women drove wagons
- Women used innovation
- Babies born after Bluff arrival

Survey Results



With further research the **Women** can step out of the shadows of time and take their rightful place next to the men who blazed a trail through the wilderness