

Historical Sketch

On September 9, 1945, under the direction of President Thomas Wheeler of Sugarhouse Stake, the eastern half of Wasatch Ward above 15th East was organized into what was to be called the Mountaire Ward. W. Vernal Denning was selected as the first Bishop.

On June 8, 1947, an eleven-acre building site was purchased for the ward chapel. However, due to some confusion arising through the name of "Mountaire" the name of the Ward was changed to "Colonial Hills" on September 14, 1947.

George L. Biesinger, a ward member, was awarded the contract to construct the chapel, and ground-breaking ceremonies were held on March 19, 1949. The first meeting was held in the building on September 10, 1950. Bishop Robert F. McMaster, who succeeded Bishop Denning on July 8, 1951, concluded the fund-raising activities, and the chapel was dedicated on May 24, 1953, under the direction of Elder LeGrand Richards of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

On August 14, 1955, ten wards were created from six existing wards within the Stake. At this time the Colonial Hills 2nd Ward was created with boundaries south of Browning Avenue. Since Bishop McMaster lived in the area of the Colonial Hills 2nd Ward, he was released as Bishop, and Ray C. Johnson was sustained as Bishop of the Colonial Hills Ward. Bishop Johnson served for approximately seven years.

On August 12, 1962, the Bishopric was reorganized under the direction of Harold M. Wright, President Hillside Stake. O. Claron Alldredge was sustained as the new Bishop. Under Bishop Alldredge new Bishop's offices were constructed and the chapel renovated. Bishop Alldredge also served as Bishop for approximately seven years.

On June 15, 1969, President Douglas H. Smith reorganized the Ward and the present Bishopric.

We are very grateful and proud of the many dedicated and talented people who have presided over and led our Ward in various capacities during the past quarter of a century. Our Ward has been blessed with many wonderful members who have a spirit of love and unity. The numerous missionaries representing the Ward over the years have carried this spirit along with the gospel message to the corners of the Earth. May this first 25 years of accomplishment be but a foundation upon which to build and grow in the history of the Colonial Hills Ward.