William Charles Crump was born in 1830 in England, the ninth child of William and Martha Betton Crump. As a young adult he heard missionaries of the Mormon Church teaching. William joined the church in 1849, and soon afterward labored as a missionary with other traveling Elders in England. But he had a desire to leave England and join the Saints gathering in Utah. He sailed to America on the “Ellen Maria” in 1852. He joined the Abraham O. Smoot Company which arrived in Utah in September of 1852.

When he arrived in Utah, he was assigned to Taylorsville to help build up the settlement there and construct a fort as protection from the Indians. He also served as a guard at the south point of the valley and also on the west side. In the fall of 1853 Brigham Young asked for families to go to Butterfield Settlement (later named Fort Herriman), and provide strength to this struggling settlement. William volunteered and later helped build the fort there.

William married Margaret Ann James in 1855. They were the parents of 9 children. William took a second wife, Sarah Cornick, in 1872, and with her, had 7 children. William was a leader not only in his family, but also in the community. He participated in the Echo Canyon War during the winter of 1857-1858. He returned home for a short time, and was asked again to return to Echo Canyon for guard duty. His wife, Margaret accompanied him on the second trip. They returned home in April to find the residents of Herriman packed and ready to evacuate the settlement. They traveled south with the community spending about three months near Payson, and then returning to Herriman.
William helped to quarry rock from Step Rock Mountain for the building of the old rock church. With several other men in town, he ran a sorghum mill, making a rich brown edible syrup from the sugar cane they raised. He was asked again to go on guard duty, patrolling the west and south ends of the valley.

William served in many callings in the Church in the late 1800’s and last of which was the Patriarch of the West Jordan Stake by President Joseph Fielding Smith. In this capacity he gave hundreds of blessings to faithful members of the LDS Church.

William was known for completing his daily tasks in a very cheerful sort of way. He often said, “There is always a great and wise purpose in all that we are called on to suffer and endure, and great is the wisdom we gain through such experiences”. He taught his children and grandchildren that there is dignity in persevering through tribulations, sorrows and disappointments.

He died just one week short of his birthday, in March 1904, leaving a legacy of over 50 years in Herriman.

This short version of William Charles Crump’s history is taken from various histories that have been written about his life and is not meant to be a complete history.