

This History was written to commemorate Centerfield's 1st annual Founder's Day Celebration.

The Gunnison Valley was initially readied for settlement in 1859. Ten years earlier Chief Walker had come before President Brigham Young in Salt Lake City to extoll the virtues of Sanpete.

As a result of that visit, Parley P. Pratt led the Southern Exploring Co. consisting of 50 stalwart men south to explore every area suitable for settlement.

In January 1850, the county of Sanpete was created. Nine years later in March 1859, pioneer families came from Manti to settle the Gunnison Valley. The ensuing years were hard but rewarding. Gunnison was settled--but looking to the south across the Sanpitch River, a wide expanse of unclaimed valley came into view. The "Field" as Centerfield was called in its earlier years came into being in 1871 when co-operative farming began. Chris Sanders, Michael Nielsen and William Childs were the first to build homes in the "Field" . In the early 1800' s settlers moved to the Field in great numbers.

When the Field members didn't want to walk the three miles to Gunnison for church anymore, they petitioned to have their own ward in Centerfield. In 1897, the first ward was organized in Centerfield with Andrew C. Fjeldsted as its Bishop.

Centerfield was organized into a Town on June 1, 1908. Through the years its has had it's own post office, 3 or 4 stores, a movie house, the opry house (dance hall), an elementary school, a bank, and several other businesses.

Today, we have those memories and more. We are proud of our small Town.