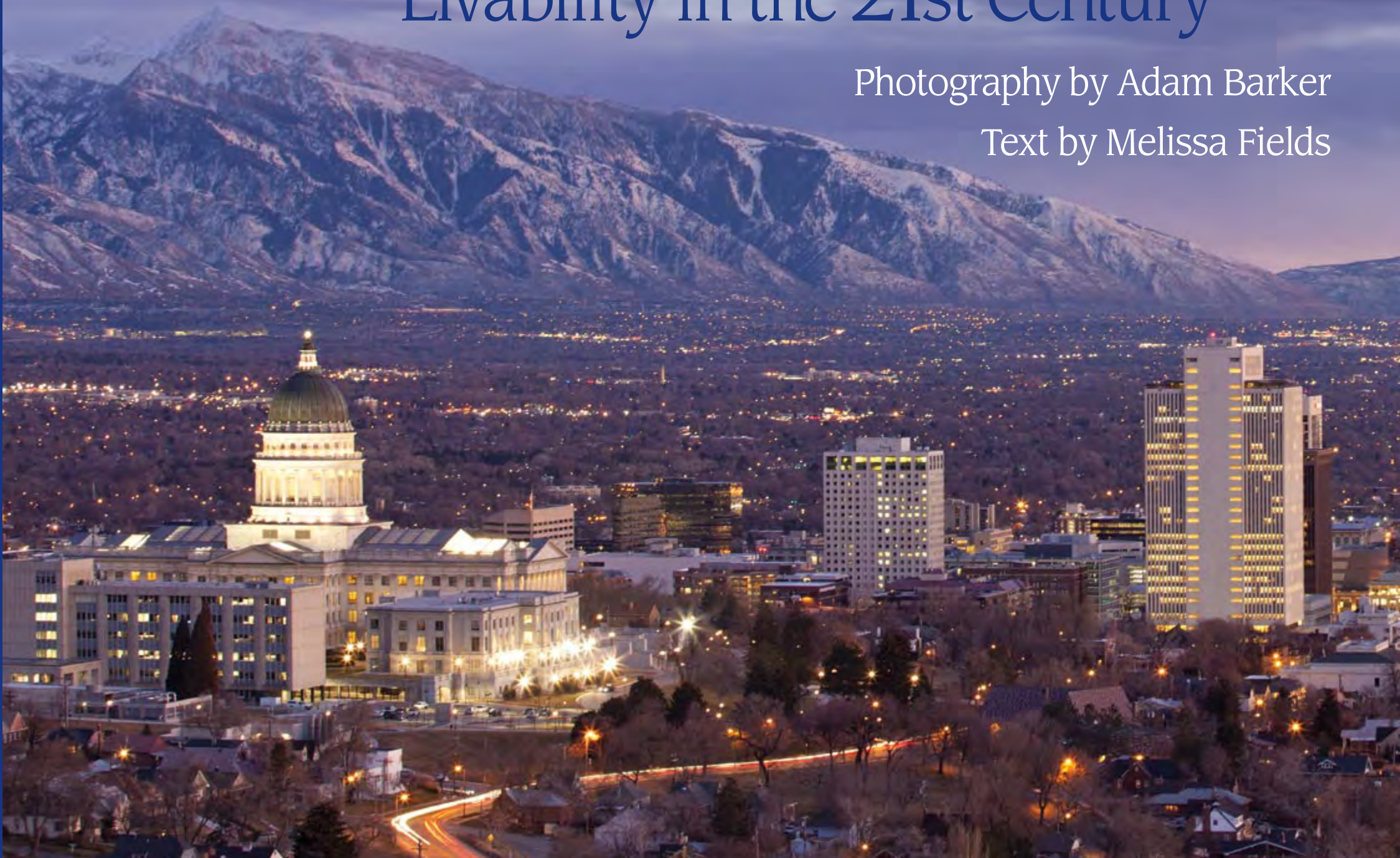


# Salt Lake City:

## Livability in the 21st Century

Photography by Adam Barker

Text by Melissa Fields



# Salt Lake City

Livability in the 21st Century

Photography by Adam Barker

Text by Melissa Fields



A publication of the  
Office of Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker

HPNbooks  
A division of Lammert Incorporated  
San Antonio, Texas





First Edition

Copyright © 2014 HPNbooks

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without permission in writing from the publisher.

All inquiries should be addressed to HPNbooks, 11535 Galm Road, Suite 101, San Antonio, Texas, 78254. Phone (800) 749-9790, [www.hpnbooks.com](http://www.hpnbooks.com).

ISBN: 978-1-939300-66-9

Library of Congress: 2014946645

**Salt Lake City: Livability in the 21st Century**

*photography for parts 1-3:* Adam Barker

*text:* Melissa Fields

*design:* Glenda Tarazon Krouse

*contributing writers for Salt Lake City partners:* Melissa Fields, Joe Goodpasture, Marie Beth Jones

**HPNbooks**

*president:* Ron Lammert

*project manager:* Bart B. Barica

*administration:* Donna M. Mata, Melissa G. Quinn

*book sales:* Dee Steidle

*production:* Colin Hart, Evelyn Hart, Tim Lippard, Christopher Mitchell, Tony Quinn

PRINTED IN MALAYSIA

# Contents

Foreword by Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker .....	7
Introduction .....	8
Part <b>One</b> <b>Mountains Meet Metro</b> .....	12
Part <b>Two</b> <b>Sum of its Parts</b> .....	66
Part <b>Three</b> <b>Urban Aesthetic</b> .....	120
Appendix .....	176
Salt Lake City Partners .....	178
About the Photographer .....	310
About the Author .....	310
Sponsors .....	311





**All Resort Group/All Resort Express**  
 P.O. Box 681780  
 Park City, UT 84068  
 800-457-9457 • Fax 435-649-4977  
 www.allresort.com



**America First Credit Union**  
 P.O. Box 9199  
 Ogden, UT 84409  
 800-999-3961 • Fax 801-827-8452  
 www.americafirst.com



**ATK Aerospace Group**  
 M/S UT40-X60, P.O. Box 707  
 Brigham City, UT 84302-0707  
 435-863-4809 • Fax 435-863-3224  
 www.atk.com



**Boart Longyear**  
 10808 South River Front Parkway, Suite 600  
 South Jordan, UT 84095  
 801-972-6430 • Fax 801 977 3374  
 www.boartlongyear.com

# Legacy Sponsors



**Durham, Jones & Pinegar**  
 111 East Broadway, Suite 900  
 Salt Lake City, UT 84110  
 801-415-3000 • Fax 801-415-3500  
 www.djplaw.com



**FLSmith USA, Inc.**  
 7158 South FLSmith Drive  
 Midvale, UT 84047-5559  
 801-871-7000 • Fax 801-871-7001  
 www.flsmith.com



**IASIS Healthcare Corporation**  
 117 Seaboard Lane, Building E  
 Franklin, TN 37067  
 615-844-2747 • Fax 615-846-3006  
 www.iasishealthcare.com

Through their generous support, these companies helped to make this project possible. The Mayor's Office expresses appreciation for their participation.



**Intermountain Healthcare**

36 S. State Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
801-442-2000 • Fax 801-442-2857  
[www.intermountainhealthcare.org](http://www.intermountainhealthcare.org)



**Kirton McConkie**

Kirton McConkie Building  
50 East South Temple, Suite 400  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
801-328-3600 • Fax 801-321-4893  
[www.kmclaw.com](http://www.kmclaw.com)



**Rio Tinto Kennecott**

**Utah Copper Corporation**  
4700 Daybreak Parkway  
South Jordan, UT 84095  
801-204-2000 • Fax 801-204-2885  
[www.riotinto.com](http://www.riotinto.com)



**Royce Industries, LC**

1355 West 8040 South  
West Jordan, UT 84088  
800-999-3961 • Fax 801-827-8452  
[www.buyroyce.com](http://www.buyroyce.com)



**Salt Lake Chamber**

175 E. University Blvd. (400 S.), Suite 600  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
801-364-3631  
[www.slchamber.com](http://www.slchamber.com)



**SME Steel**

5801 West Wells Park Road  
West Jordan, UT 84081  
801-280-0711 • Fax 801-280-3734  
[www.smesteel.com](http://www.smesteel.com)



**University of Utah Health Care**

50 North Medical Drive  
Salt Lake City, UT 84132  
801-581-2121  
[www.healthcare.utah.edu](http://www.healthcare.utah.edu)





*Ralph Becker, thirty-fourth  
mayor of Salt Lake City, Utah.*

# Foreword

By Mayor Ralph Becker

I lived for many years near the mouth of Salt Lake City's City Creek Canyon after I first arrived in Utah in the mid-1970s. One of my favorite ways to shed the workday was taking an evening walk through my neighborhood. Sometimes I'd head east into the foothills, where among the pine, scrub oak and aspen trees, I'd often not encounter another person. On other days I'd set off toward the west, and in just a few minutes, find myself in the heart of Salt Lake City's bustling downtown. Never before had I experienced such an immediate juxtaposition of civilization and wilderness, an experience that remains intact and enjoyed by many Salt Lake City residents to this day. Since then, the roots of my affection for this place have both multiplied and grown deeper. But one continues to tower—literally—above the rest: the Wasatch Mountain Range's unparalleled proximity to the city I love.

Few places in the world are as intricately connected to a landform as is Salt Lake City. Water, the lifeline sustaining almost 500,000 people in the Salt Lake Valley and beyond, is delivered unfalteringly by the Wasatch Mountains, representing one of the purest water sources in the contiguous United States. This abundant watershed enabled the Mormon pioneers to boldly establish an outpost here more than 150 years ago, and it continues to play an integral role in the city's and state's robust modern economy. Through fastidious stewardship, Salt Lake City's water quality has remained relatively the same as it was when water treatment facilities were established at City Creek, Big Cottonwood and Parleys Canyons in the 1950s. What's even more remarkable is that we've managed to protect our pristine

water supply while at the same time allowing mountain recreation and access to flourish.

Over the last two decades, due in large part to its unique access to the mountains, Salt Lake City has undergone nothing short of a transformation. Once viewed as little more than a mid-country way station, Utah's capital city is now one of the most dynamic metropolitan areas in the western United States. World-class restaurants, shops and galleries populate the city's neighborhoods and urban core, and recent projects like City Creek Center and the new George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Theater (scheduled for completion in 2016) are further enhancing downtown Salt Lake City's vibrant commercial, arts and cultural landscape. Lured by the area's unmatched outdoor lifestyle and an affordable cost of living, companies and individuals from around the world have taken up residence in Salt Lake City, fueling one of the country's healthiest economies. In fact, *Fortune Magazine* recognized Salt Lake City as the third best large city for jobs in the U.S., and as one of the top fifteen places for doing business in the entire world.

Key to Salt Lake City's evolution is a long-term and dedicated commitment to developing public transportation. Through light rail, high speed trains, bicycle lanes and shares, and the return of the street car, Salt Lake City is developing public transit infrastructure more vigorously than any other city in North America. And though the Salt Lake City International Airport is already one of the most efficient airports in the country, terminal reconstruction plans call for an even more efficient air travel facility, both logistically and in terms of energy use. Combined, these

efforts not only help protect our city's abundant natural beauty but provide the basis for creating a sense of place that's uniquely Salt Lake City.

Utah's population is forecasted to grow by eighty-six percent by 2050. Maintaining and improving upon our unparalleled quality of life is one of the city's biggest challenges and priorities. To this end Salt Lake City government has undertaken a groundbreaking project to adopt the most comprehensive sustainability ordinance revision in the country. The Sustainable City Code Initiative shapes development patterns necessary for Salt Lake City to become the country's most sustainable city. One of the first projects completed under the new code, the country's first net-zero public safety building, was unveiled in 2013.

My hopes and dreams for Salt Lake City and its life-giving Wasatch Mountains are that we leave both just a little bit better than how we found them. I want our city's children to know the pleasure of powder skiing in the backcountry or at one of our top-notch resorts; of drinking water as pure as the mountains from which it came; to easily navigate between urban centers and neighborhoods without having to get in their car; and to take a decompressing walk into the foothills at the end of the work day. My awe for the Wasatch Mountains and Salt Lake City's abundant natural beauty is matched only by my respect and appreciation for the deep sense of community cooperation and greater good inherent throughout our great city. I have confidence that not only will my dreams for Salt Lake City be realized, but that the hopes and dreams of those who come after us will be achieved as well.





# Introduction





In the years immediately following the Mormon pioneers' arrival, Salt Lake City's prime mid-country location and abundant resources quickly earned the growing outpost the moniker "Crossroads of the West." Completion of the Trans-Continental Railroad at Utah's Promontory Point in 1869 triggered a migratory flood of various ethnic groups into Salt Lake City from China, Japan, Greece and Central Europe; a diversity that remains today. Hispanics now account for approximately 22 percent of residents, while the Asian population makes up approximately 4.5 percent and the Pacific Islander population, comprised primarily of Samoan and Tongan immigrants, represent roughly 2 percent of the population. And though about roughly half of Salt Lake City's residents are members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a variety of other religions and faiths thrive in Utah's capital city as well, including Catholicism, Buddhism, Judaism, Methodism, Presbyterianism, Unitarianism, Greek/Eastern Orthodox and Baptist.

One of the most indelible—and telling—images of Salt Lake City is the downtown skyline framed against the majestic Wasatch Mountains. Nowhere else in America is an urban area situated within such immediate proximity to a major mountain range. This unique combination of city and wilderness has given rise to one of the most diverse, cosmopolitan, economically solvent, innovative and fastest growing communities in the United States.

Salt Lake City's modern history began on a July afternoon in 1847 when Brigham Young and his party of 148 Mormon pioneers reached the mouth of Emigration Canyon overlooking the Great Salt Lake Valley. After travelling 1,300 miles by wagon train from Illinois, crossing one-third of the continent in search of a place where they could live and worship freely, the pioneers believed they'd finally arrived in Zion. According to legend, Young stood atop his wagon, pointed to the valley and declared, "This is the place."

Though “crossroads” may have been an apt way to describe Salt Lake City’s past, “destination” better encapsulates Salt Lake City today. A business-friendly environment and high quality of life has made Salt Lake City the top choice for both new and growing companies. Take just one look around and it’s easy to see why: Salt Lake City’s banking system is more mature and sophisticated than many other larger Western cities; renowned higher education institutions like the University of Utah, Westminster College and Salt Lake Community College fuel one of the country’s most well-educated workforces; and the Salt Lake City International Airport allows ninety-minute access to any city in the Western United States and non-stop access to a slew of international destinations.

Salt Lake City’s migratory pull is not limited to corporations alone, however. According to a 2012 Headwaters Economic Study, entrepreneurs, retirees and people who can work remotely are also choosing to relocate to Salt Lake City in droves. As a result, the city’s population is projected to grow exponentially over the next fifty years. Preparations for the expected boom are already well underway. For years city planners have collaborated with climatologists, hydrologists and other experts to assess how to best conserve the state’s precious Wasatch Mountains’ snowpack-based water resources. Salt Lake City is developing mass transit faster than any other municipality in North America, to both alleviate pressure on natural areas close to the city and protect air quality.

Utah’s diverse landscape is indeed a study in contrasts, from the lush alpine canyons bisecting the Wasatch Range to the surreal red rock wildernesses found in the state’s southern quadrant. But Salt Lake City remains the state’s literal and proverbial heart, once a refuge for those persecuted, now the thriving economic, social and cultural center of the Intermountain West.









# Mountains Meet Metro

An aerial photograph of Salt Lake City, Utah, taken at dusk. The city's lights are visible, including several prominent skyscrapers in the downtown area. In the background, the Wasatch-Cache National Park mountains are silhouetted against the orange and yellow sky of the setting sun. The overall scene captures the intersection of urban development and natural landscape.





# Part

# 1

No other landform has influenced life in Utah more significantly than the Wasatch Range, a subset of the Rocky Mountains stretching 160 miles from the Utah-Idaho border south to Central Utah. Though not as high or expansive as the Colorado Rockies, the Wasatch is as vital to Salt Lake City now as it was to the settlers in the 1800s.











*Salt Lake City's tight proximity to the Wasatch Mountains affords residents a laundry list of recreation and economic benefits as well as headwaters access to an extremely reliable and pristine water source. Diligent, ongoing watershed management has ensured that the drinking water accessed by more than a million Salt Lake Valley residents is among the purest in the U.S.*







## Thank You for previewing this eBook

You can read the full version of this eBook in different formats:

- HTML (Free /Available to everyone)
- PDF / TXT (Available to V.I.P. members. Free Standard members can access up to 5 PDF/TXT eBooks per month each month)
- Epub & Mobipocket (Exclusive to V.I.P. members)

To download this full book, simply select the format you desire below

