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Young, Brigham

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Young, Brigham (1801–77). Upon Joseph Smith's murder in 1844, Young, as president of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, was recognized as the new leader by most members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He led the exodus of some 12,000 Mormons from Illinois to the Salt Lake valley, orchestrated the colonization of more than a hundred settlements throughout the US West, and publicly announced the doctrine of plural marriage in 1852. During his 30-year tenure, Young supervised a vast religious, political, and economic empire, coordinating the immigration of thousands of foreign converts. **See also LATTER-DAY SAINTS, CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF; MORMON, BOOK OF; MORMON WORSHIP; SMITH, JOSEPH.** TERRYL GIVENS