



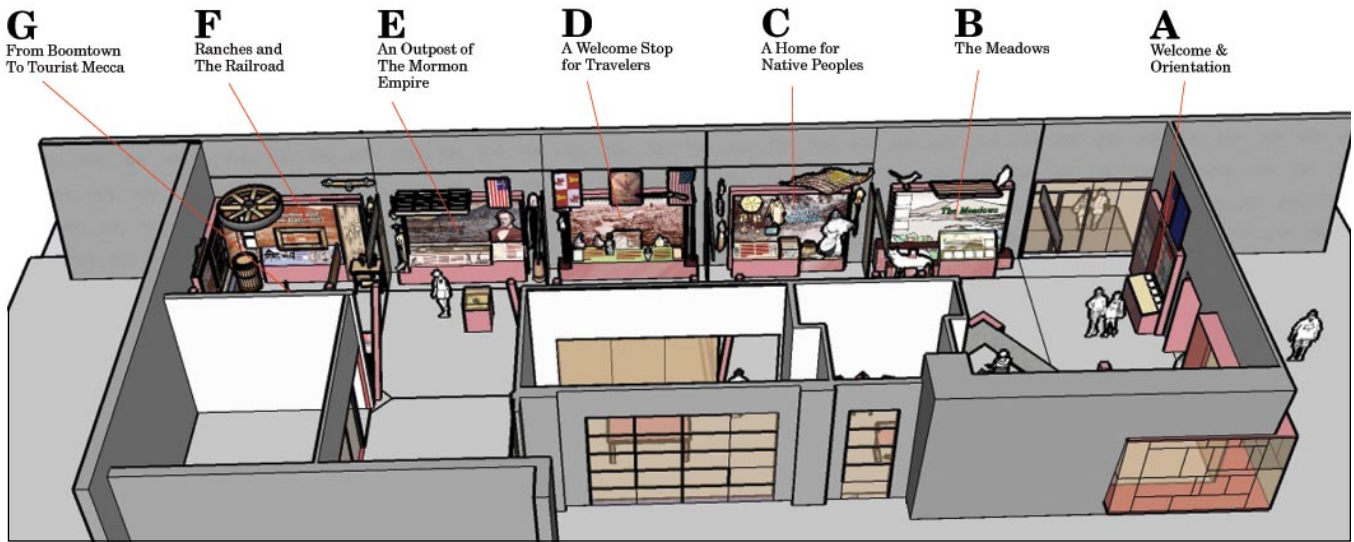
## Mormon Fort Old Las Vegas

150 years ago, Mormons expanding their settlements from Salt Lake into the entire mountain west set up a fort in the only area abundant with water in an otherwise parched desert. The area was a lush, green-lined stream fed from an overflowing artesian spring. These early settlers, as well as the Spanish and Mexicans who came before them, used these waters to refresh themselves while traveling across the brutally harsh landscape.



From these humble beginnings now stands one of the most unique urban environments in the world, hosting over 40 million visitors a year. Nevada State Parks has preserved this early beginning and is telling its fascinating story.

*The early settlers built a fort in a place called "The Meadows," which has now become a tourist center.*



*Above is an bird's eye view of the exhibits and a detail drawing showing one of the exhibits featuring a key time in the beginning of Las Vegas.*

*Below is a design drawing, and to the right, the final exhibits of the center.*

