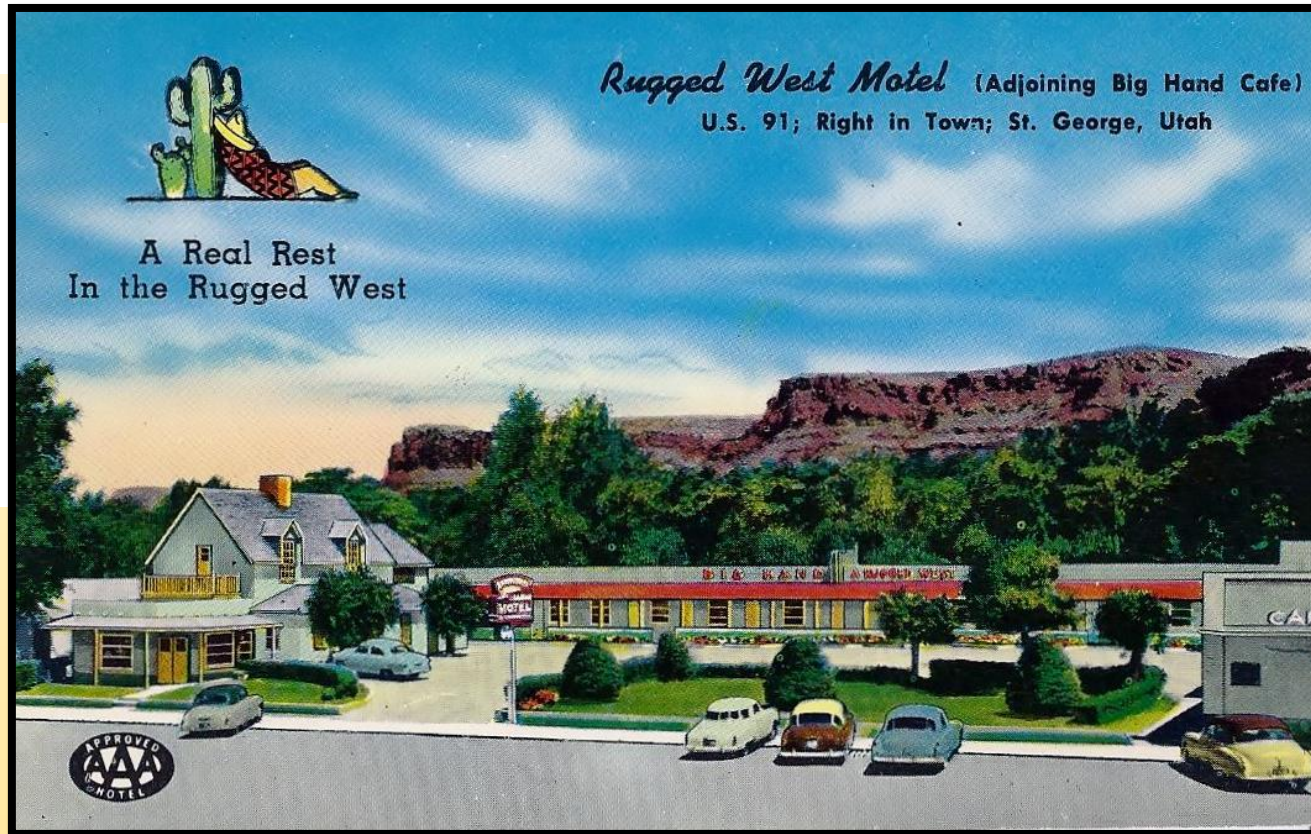


# ROAD TRIP! UTAH'S HISTORIC ROADSIDE MOTELS



Utah State Archives  
May 15 2018

Lisa Michele Church  
Susan Sessions Rugh

# OUR UPCOMING BOOK

- Documenting and exploring Utah's historic roadside motels
  - - from early beginning as cabins & auto camps in the 1900s
  - - to tourist courts in the 1920s – 1930s
  - - family businesses are response to the first Utah tourism surge
  - - post-WWII boom 1940s – 1950s helps rural economy
  - - serving a nation on the move – family vacations
  - - decline of motels with 1960s advent of interstates and chains
  - - reinvention with internet booking and new mom & pop models

# AUTO CAMPS AND CABINS



**Hall's Cabins, Washington, Utah**

Photo Credit: Lynne Clark Collection



## RIVER SIDE TOURIST PARK

PROVO, UTAH, NORTH CITY LIMITS



ON HIGHWAYS 91, 50 and 189



Highway 91 between Santa Clara and St. George

Photo Credit: Dorothea Lange, 1953

# A NOTE ON RESEARCH

Postcards

Directories / Phone Books

Family / Owner Interviews

Road Trips

Newspapers

Travel Guides

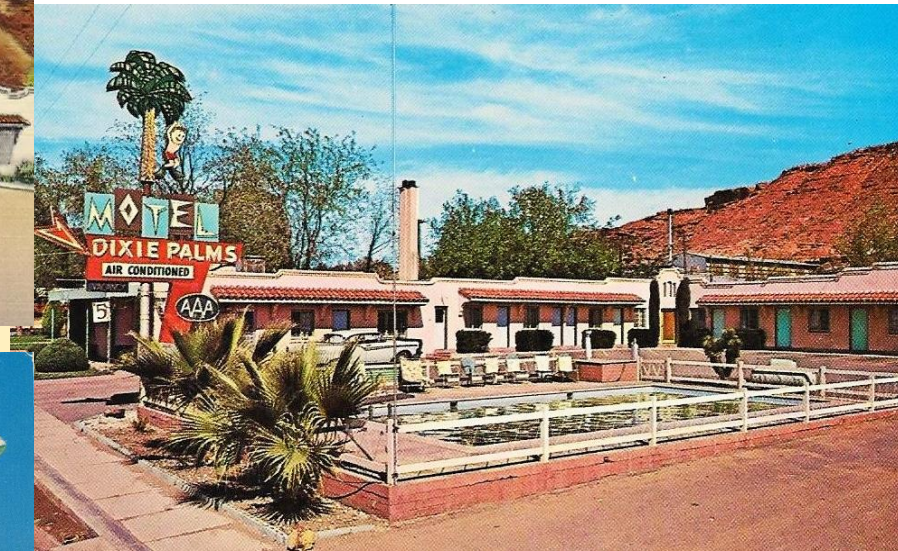
Motel Associations

Sanborn Maps





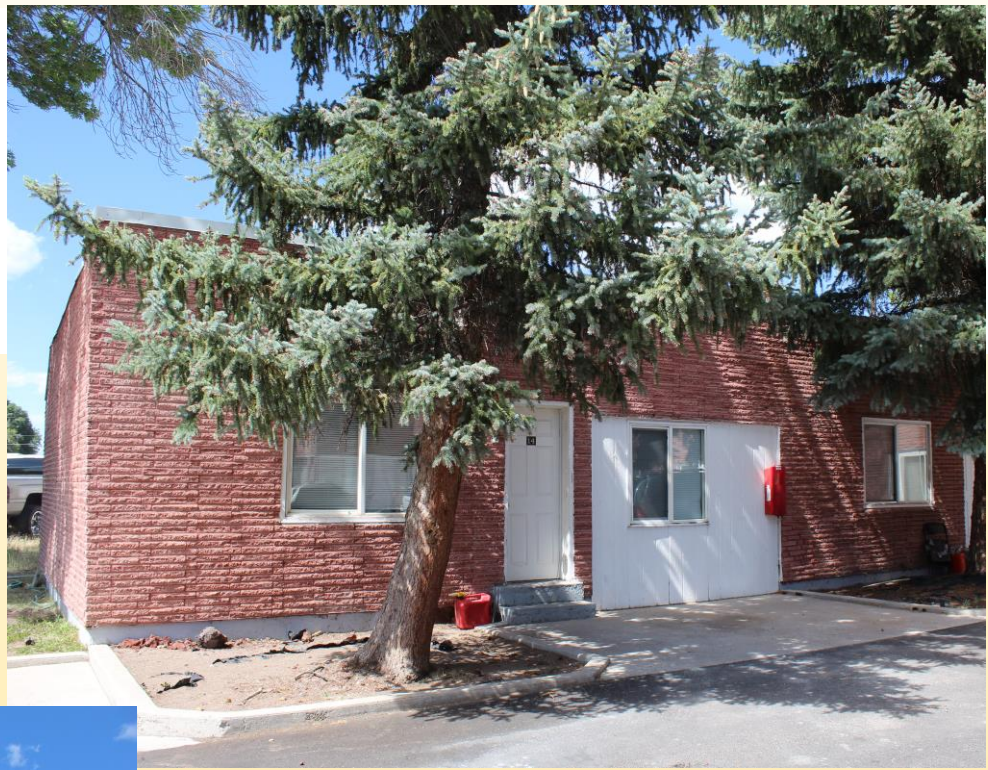
**MILNE MOTOR COURT**  
St. George, Utah



**Milne Motor Court**  
**Milne Motel**  
**Dixie Palms Motel**

**St. George**

# AUTO COURTS



**South Pine  
Eagle's Roost**

**Beaver**



**Mission Auto Court, 355 E. Main St., Price, Utah**

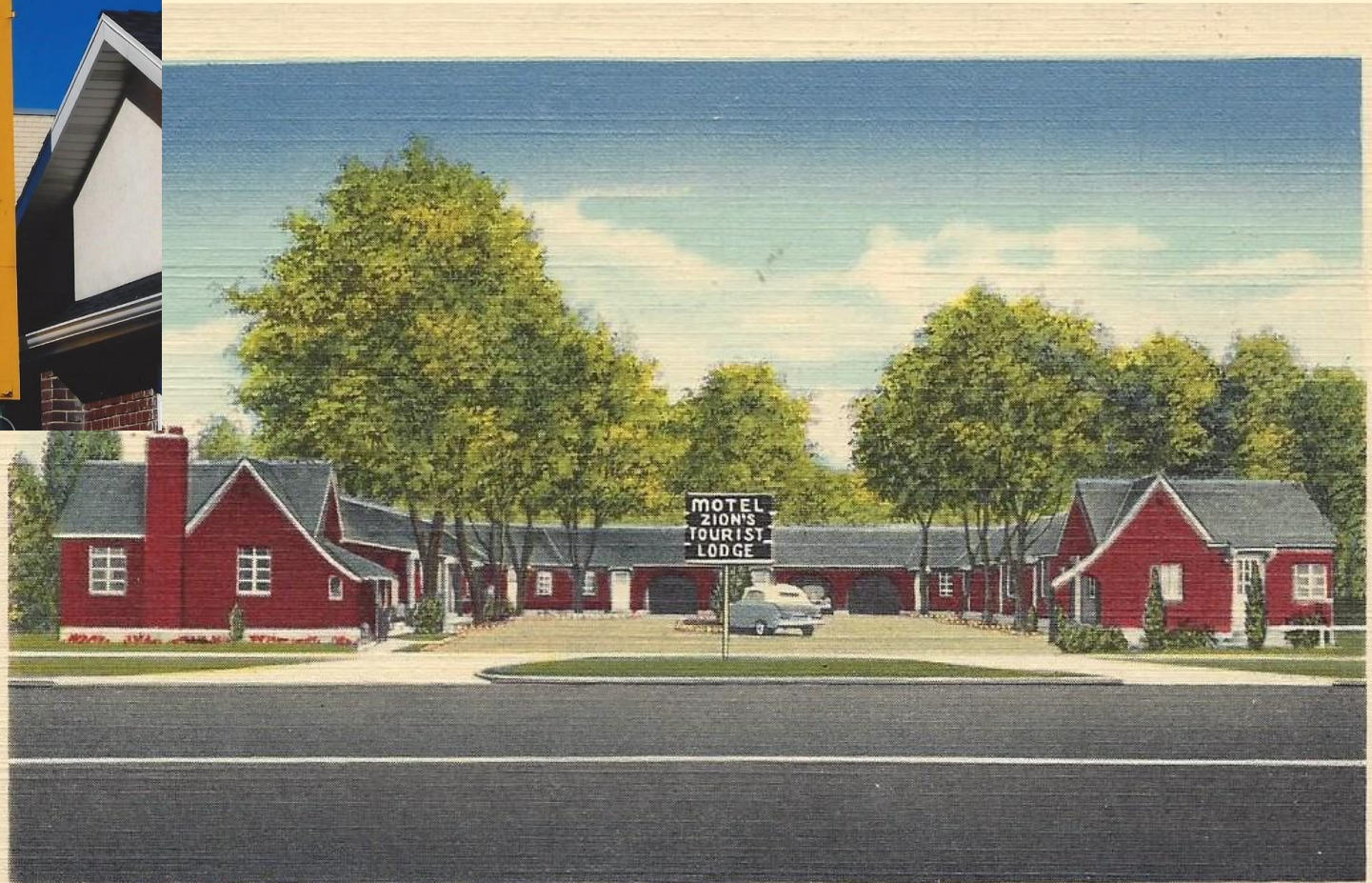
"Recommended by Duncan Hines"





Tom's Deluxe Cottages

Panguitch



Zion's Motel

Salt Lake City



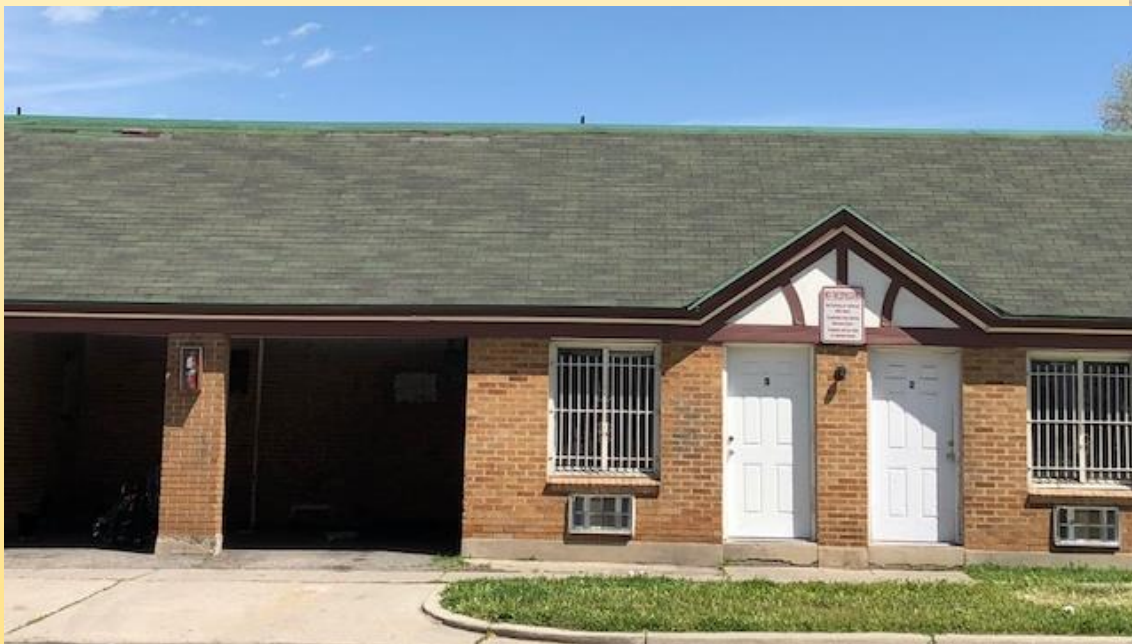
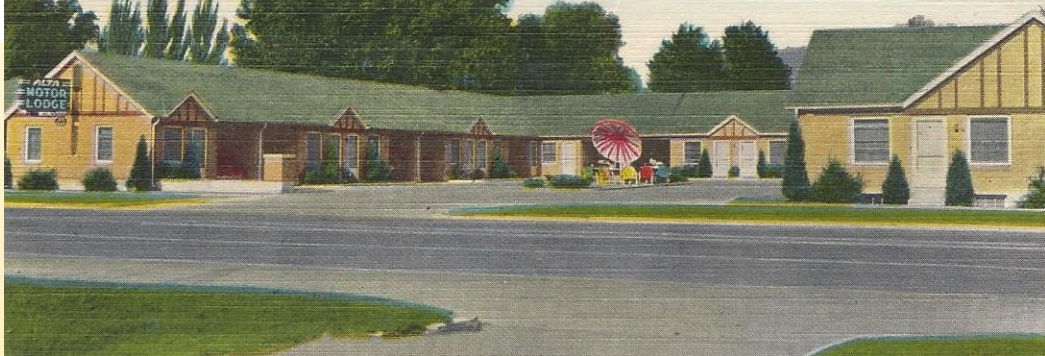
Zions Motel

Salt Lake City



ALTA MOTOR LODGE, 1899 So. State St., Salt Lake City, Utah

Member



Alta Motel

Salt Lake City

# TOURIST COURTS



Colonial Motor Court  
St. George

*Hail's Motel, U. S. 91, St. George, Utah*



**Hail's Motel**

**St. George**





**Dixie Palms  
(originally Hail's)**

**St. George**





**Ranch Motel**

**Salina**



Capitol Motel

Salt Lake City

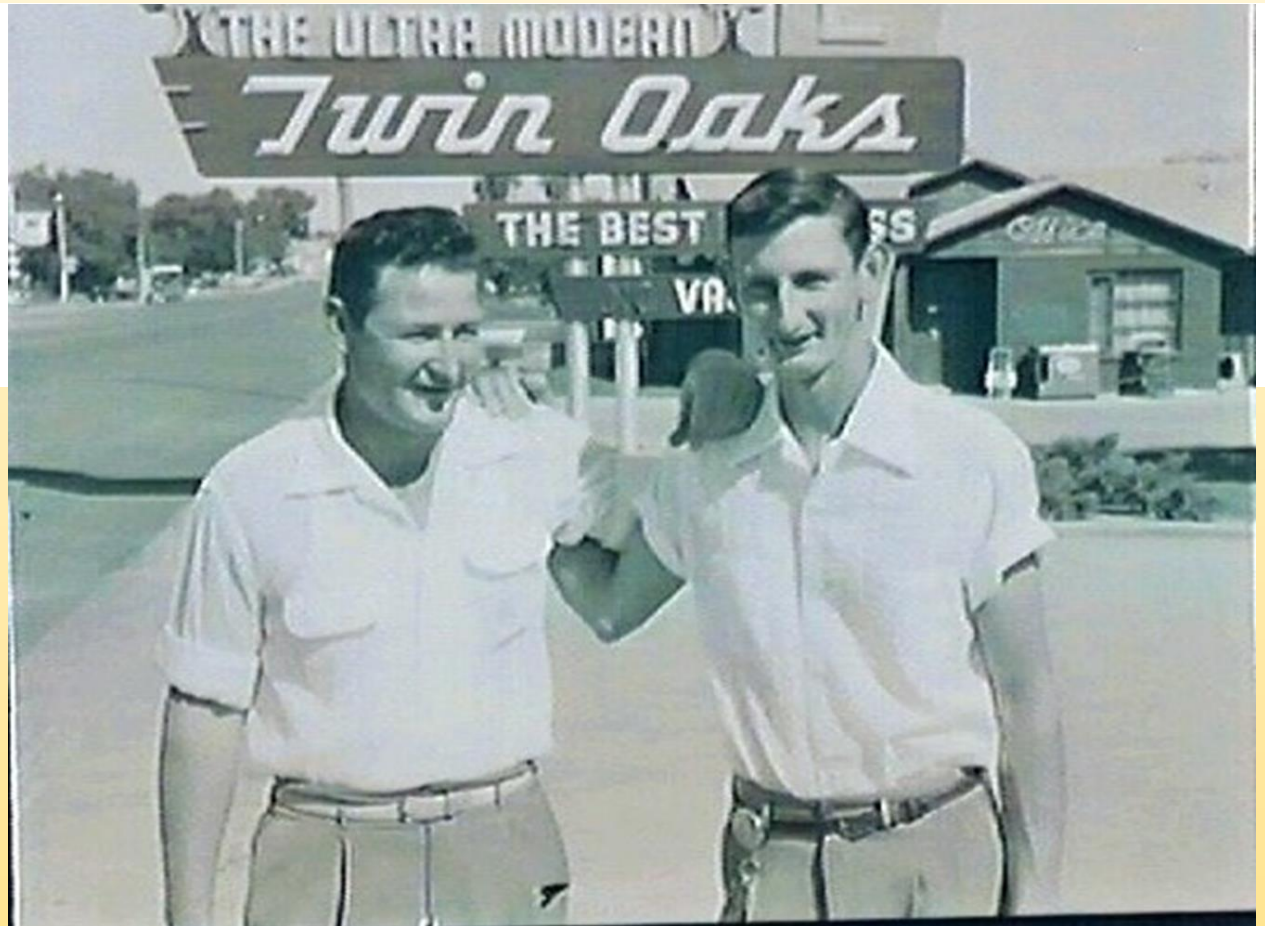




**Capitol Motel**

**Salt Lake City**

# THE HEYDAY OF MOTELS & MOTOR LODGES 1945-1960



**Leo and Jack Holt,  
St. George motel men**

Photo Credit: Dorothea  
Lange, 1953



# El Pace'o Lodge

ST GEORGE, UTAH

PHONE 666

*A Real Rest  
In the Real West*



Steam Heat  
Air-Conditioned



You Pay No More

El Pace'O Lodge

St. George





**Mountair Motel**

**Richfield**

Spiking Tourist Lodge, Salt Lake City, Utah  
"Look for the Spike"







Apache Motel

Moab





# LODGING CHAINS



# REINVENTION

## Motels Live On...





**Delano Motel  
Beaver**



Sun-N-Sand

MOTEL

BEST VALUE!!

NO VACANCY

WELCOME  
CLEAN  
ROOMS

FREDONIA 3  
JACOB LAKE 36  
GRAND CANYON 80



Sun N Sand

Kanab





# A TREASURE TROVE OF VINTAGE SIGNS !



Salt Lake City



Panguitch

St. George



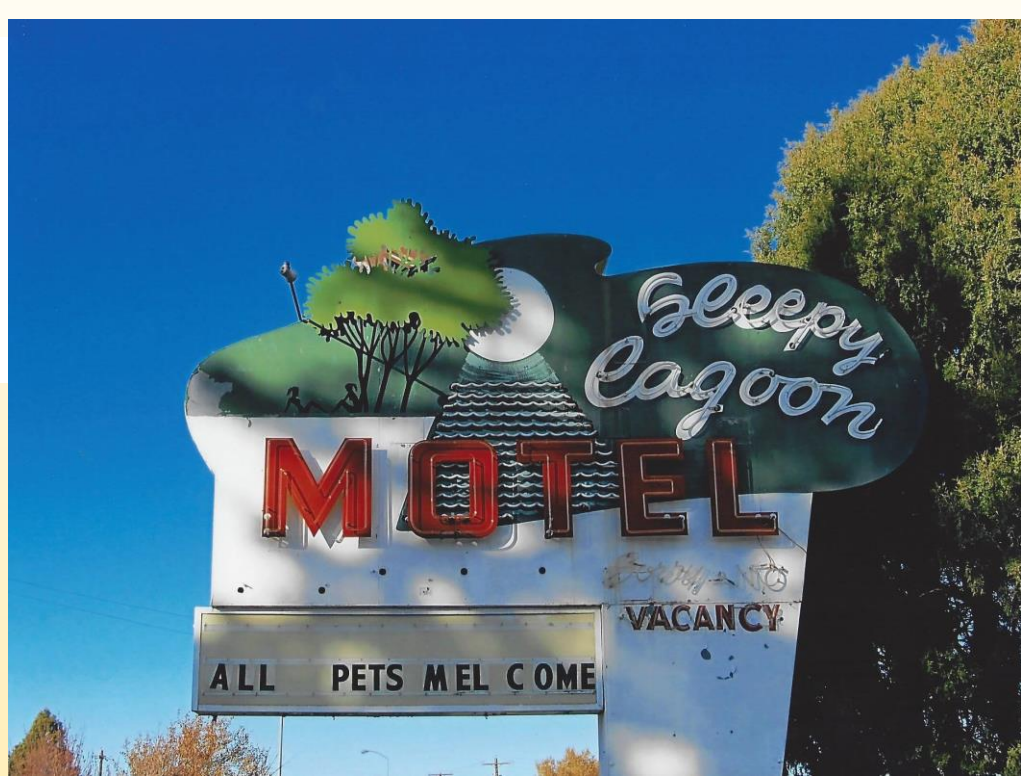
Panguitch



Hatch



Orderville



Beaver

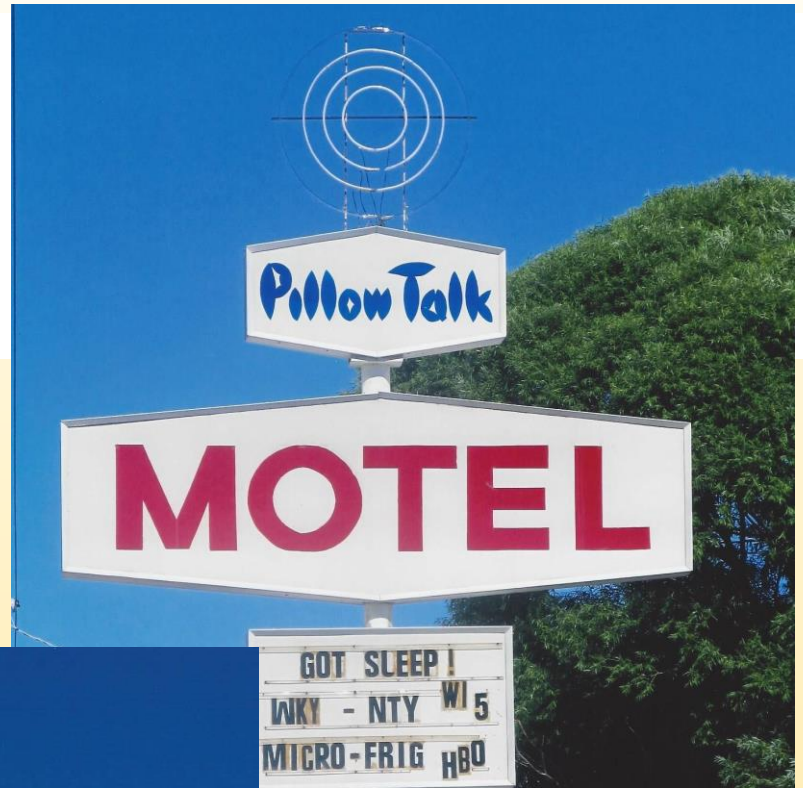


Nephi





Price



Wellington



Green River



**THANKS!**



*In memory of my great-aunt,  
Edith Harris Milne, 1906-1973,  
motel operator and businesswoman*