

History Creation Dates, Narrative Spans, Scribes, and Precursor Documents

This chart lists each history in volumes 1 and 2 of the Histories series, along with the date of creation or publication, the years covered within the history, the scribes in whose handwriting the history appears (not applicable to published histories), and the major documents that were copied into the history or that served as sources. This overview is intended as a convenience in understanding the sequence and often overlapping span of the various histories. Because such a chart necessarily simplifies and summarizes many complex issues, readers will wish to consult the source note and historical introduction that preface each of the histories for additional information.

DOCUMENT	CREATED/PUBLISHED	NARRATIVE SPAN	SCRIBES	PRECURSOR DOCUMENTS
VOLUME 1: JOSEPH SMITH HISTORIES				
JS History, ca. summer 1832	ca. summer 1832	23 Dec. 1805–5 Apr. 1829	JS, Frederick G. Williams	Possibly earlier draft (nonextant)
JS History, 1834–1836	ca. 5 Dec. 1834– ca. Apr. 1836	ca. 1823–18 Jan. 1836	Warren Parrish, Warren Cowdery, Frederick G. Williams, Oliver Cowdery	Eight letters from Oliver Cowdery to William W. Phelps, in <i>LDS Messenger and Advocate</i> , Oct. 1834–Oct. 1835; JS, Journal, 1835–1836
JS History, 1838–ca. 1841 (Draft 1)	ca. June 1839	15 May 1829–26 Sept. 1830	James Mulholland	Possibly JS History, 1838 (nonextant)
JS History, 1838–ca. 1841 (Draft 2)	ca. July 1839–ca. 1841	23 Dec. 1805–26 Sept. 1830	James Mulholland, Robert B. Thompson	JS History, 1838 (nonextant); Draft 1; Doctrine and Covenants, 1835 ed.; Book of Mormon, 1837 ed.
JS History, 1838–ca. 1841 (Draft 3)	ca. 1841	23 Dec. 1805–26 Sept. 1830	Howard Coray	Draft 2
JS, “Extract, from the Private Journal”	July 1839	14 Mar. 1838–Apr. 1839		JS, “Bill of Damages,” 4 June 1839
JS, “Church History”	1 Mar. 1842	23 Dec. 1805–ca. 1841		Orson Pratt, <i>A[n] Interesting Account of Several Remarkable Visions</i> , 1840
JS, “Latter Day Saints”	1844	23 Dec. 1805–ca. Sept. 1843		JS, “Church History,” 1842; William W. Phelps, “Additions to an Article in the Times & Seasons,” Sept. 1843
VOLUME 2: ASSIGNED HISTORICAL WRITINGS				
John Whitmer, History	1831–ca. 1847	Oct. 1830–ca. 1847	John Whitmer	Earlier notes or drafts (nonextant); revelations, letters, and other documents as selected by Whitmer
William W. Phelps, “Rise and Progress”	Apr. 1833	6 Apr. 1830–Apr. 1833		
John Corrill, <i>A Brief History of the Church</i>	ca. 11 Feb. 1839	fall 1830–ca. Feb. 1839		John Corrill, “Brief History,” manuscript, ca. 1838–1839; <i>Extract from the New Translation of the Bible</i> , [ca. 1835?]
“A History, of the Persecution”	Dec. 1839–Oct. 1840	winter 1831–winter 1839		Edward Partridge, History, manuscript, ca. 1839; Parley P. Pratt, <i>History of the Late Persecution</i> , 1839; [Sidney Rigdon], <i>Appeal to the American People</i> , 1840