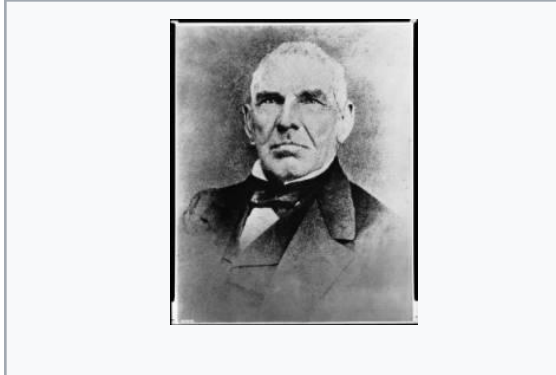


# *Jonathan Temple*

*Uncle of Temple City's Founder*



Born in Reading, Massachusetts on August 14, 1796, Jonathan Temple spent time in the Hawaiian Islands before traveling to what was then Alta California, first settling in the Pueblo de San Diego before moving north to the Pueblo de Los Angeles. Temple played a large part the development of Los Angeles, opening the first mercantile (or general store). He ran his store for the next 30 years. He later developed the Temple Block and the Clocktower Courthouse, Market and Theater, the first real theater in Southern California. When the Pueblo was captured by the United States during the Mexican American War, he served as the first alcalde (mayor) of Los Angeles and also on the city council.

In addition to these businesses, Temple developed a thriving cattle business. Unfortunately, due to a downturn in the economy coupled with a drought signaled also affected Temple's wealth, forcing him to sell most of his property for less than a dollar an acre. He died in San Francisco in 1866.

