



The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
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The Face of Fillmore this week takes a closer look at the two historic cabins on the south side of the town's center block. Just east of the old rock schoolhouse on the corner of first south and first west, are two log cabins, which are part of the Territorial Statehouse State Park. While we pass these buildings frequently, not many are aware of their history.

The cabin on the west was the early home of the Thomas Yates family. Mr. Yates built the log cabin in the 1870's. The family occupied the cabin for only a few years, and then it became a carriage house and later storage shed.

An interesting part of the construction for the cabin is the unusual dove tail notches.

The cabin was moved to the park in the 1980's from its original site, although there are many conflicting stories about exactly where that was. Correct information would be greatly appreciated from anyone who knows.

The east one-roomed log cabin was first occupied by Ted and Augusta Beauregard Davies right after their marriage in 1879. It was then located at 240 South 200 West. In this home, twelve children were born and raised.

The Davies's later added a lean-to kitchen and in 1885, a sandstone room with a large cobblestone cellar underneath, which was used to store the family's food.

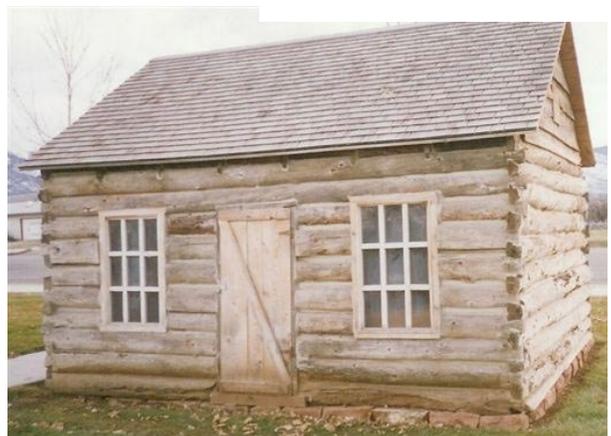
In about 1904 the Davies's moved the log room back on their property and built four brick rooms against the rock part of the house.

Mr. Davies drove the hearse for Fillmore City for many years and upon his retirement, was given the hearse to keep.

These two cabins will serve as a focal point for the Old Capitol Arts and Living History Festival on September 11 and 12. Demonstrations of broom making will be held in the west cabin. The east cabin will feature looms and carding. There will also be rope making and other wood working demonstrations at the cabins. A highlight for the children will be giant Lincoln logs to build their own cabin on the lawn nearby. The entire park will be full of exhibits, which is a great way to learn more about the past citizens of Fillmore and the way they lived.



West Cabin



East Cabin