



The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
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This week the Face of Fillmore takes a look at a home, which like many other late 19th century era homes, has seen numerous changes and improvements. This is the home of Paul and Barbara Burgess at 90 East 300 South.

Some reports say the home was built in the 1890's, although there is some evidence that it was not constructed until about 1903. It was built by Alonzo Franklin Robison, the son of Franklin Alonzo Robison and his first wife, Isabella Pratt Robison.



Franklin was the son of Joseph Robison and Lucretia Robison. They came across the Plains with the pioneers and Joseph was one of the early founders of Fillmore and served in many leading church and civic capacities. Isabella, Franklin's wife, was the daughter of Parley P. Pratt.

Being part of a polygamist family, Alonzo had a long list of seven siblings and 18 half siblings, of which he was the oldest: Parley P Robison, Joseph Alfred Robison, Herma Lucretia *Robison* King, Belinda *Robison* Young, Willis N Robison, Isabella Pratt *Robison* Keith, Lois Hattie *Robison* Eliason, Carrie *Robison* Despain, Alma Pratt Robison, Herbert Alonzo Robison, Harmel Pratt Robison, Addie Florence *Robison* Ellison, Ella Adelia *Robison* Jacobson, Archie Robison, Parker Pratt Robison, Bernard T Robison (1894 - 1899), Nolan Frederick Robison, Olea Pratt *Robison* Davies, Alverna *Robison* Davies, Lowell Robison, Homer Frankling Robison, Eldred Vickery Robiso, Ancil Platte Robison, Loran Culbert Robison, Lindon Wells Robison, and Alda Leona *Robison* Demaio.

Alonzo married Gertrude Amelia Peterson and they raised their family of six children in this home: Aaron Wayne, Melvin Alonzo, Parley Pratt, Herma Vernell (Steggell) and Evelyn (Bailey). Later he married Mary Napper and built a home from her on first east just across the street and a little south.

The home originally consisted of two rooms and was built of stone and brick. It is unclear as to whether the home was built with two stories. As the family grew so did the home. In later years other additions were built, and it has now been covered with white siding and the east yard is surrounded by an attractive vinyl fence. The main entrance now faces north although careful inspection of the shape of the house and its east porch leads one to believe



that the original main entrance was on the east.

One interesting feature of the original home is that the owners built a dumbwaiter that connected the main floor kitchen and the cellar. In this way canned food could be taken downstairs or items brought up to the kitchen from the storage room in the cellar without using the stairs which were particularly difficult to manage.

While changes and additions have been made to the Burgess home, it still shows evidence of its early beginnings.

