



The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
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As we look around the world businesses owned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, we see large cattle ranches, farms of every sort, canneries, and others.

In our early years as a married couple we lived in Price. Elders in that area were assigned one evening (actually all night) at the church owned coal mine in Emery County. Not being experienced miners, they were given the hard labor type of jobs that didn't require the training that the paid miners had. I remember stories of them throwing rock dust to cover the surface of the coal so the coal dust, which was extremely combustible, would not ignite.

This week we take a look at a unique bit of the past of the Face of Fillmore – right on Main Street - and one of those business projects.

Here in Fillmore around 1938, the elders of Fillmore's only LDS ward at the time needed a project to make money for their quorum. They raised sugar cane right by the church building itself. You can see the structure in the background of the pictures. This sugar cane was cut and hauled to Martindale's which was located at the site of the present

day trailer park on north Main Street and made into molasses.

Pictured here in the line of standing workers are Ancil Robison, #2 man has not been identified, Vivian Wade, Elic Trimble, Frances Melville and Charles Davies. Anyone with knowledge of the second man in the line, please call.

While this appeared to be a great way to earn money for the group, the project survived only about three years. Now there is no longer any trace of the sugar cane fields on Main Street and Mt. Catherine Manor stands where the church and fields once were.

