



The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
February 27, 2008

The Face of Fillmore would like to point out an interesting historical marker right in the center of town. I personally have driven past it, sometimes more than once a day, for the past 36 years, yet had never stopped to read it until last week. Probably some of you readers have passed it by, as well.

The rock marker on the corner of Main and Center Streets was “Marker Number 8, erected August 3, 1935”, by the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers. The inscription on the brass marker reads:

“Fillmore Pioneer Fort. This marks the southwest corner of the fort, built in October and November, 1851 as protection from Indians, by first 17 families under direction of Anson Call, Jesse W. Fox, surveyor. About 2 city blocks in size. The front wall 8 to 10 feet high was built of cobblestones, other walls of mud, straw, and rocks. The east wall followed the foothills in circular form. Fort walls were used as back walls of homes, mail station, church, school. Recreation grounds, gardens and corral were within and Chalk Creek ran thru the fort. East Millard County Company”

Standing on the street corner in the snow brought visions of what life must have been like for the early settlers living in the fort – how their daily life and problems would have been world’s apart from ours, yet their love of family no different from ours today.

Since visiting the monument I have been told that there is some uncertainty about the exact boundaries of the fort. If anyone has old journals, pictures or other materials about the fort or other places in Fillmore to add to our renewed interest in restoring the historical flavor of our town, please call 743-5357.

