



## The Face of Fillmore

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The Face of Fillmore this week looks at another house on Main Street that has been used continuously for well over a century.

Sometime prior to 1885, Albert Day designed and built the home at 291 South Main. He quarried the rock for the foundation and laid it himself. He and his sons made and fired the red brick for the walls and laid the bricks in place. The exterior walls are twelve or more inches thick, causing the home to be warm in winter and cool in the summer heat. Flooring was placed over the log floors and the walls were plastered.

The home includes beautifully crafted baseboards, door and window frames with glass transoms over the doors. The ceilings are high, as was the usual design of the day.

Albert was a brick maker by trade and made the bricks for several of the older homes around town. In fact, during a recent family reunion, his posterity took a hayride past many of these homes. He was also a builder and was responsible for building the frame home to the north of his own home.

In later years, the cement foundation, porches and sidewalks were added as well as the kitchen and bathroom on the east of the house.

Albert was an early emigrant from England to Utah and one of the first people in Fillmore. He met his wife Sarah Hannah Maycock after arriving in town.

Following the home's construction in the early 1880's, it was occupied by the Day's and their nine children until about 1915.

That year it was purchased by his son-in-law and daughter, John Carl and Olive Beatrice Day Wilcken, who lived there with their family from 1915 to 1978, raising their two sons and one daughter in the family home. Mr. Wilcken was a plumber and had his equipment and tools in a building behind the home.

The Wilcken's only daughter, LaVoy Wilcken Martin, remembers Christmas in this home. Because the ceilings were so high, the family was able to decorate very tall Christmas trees. They also hung streamers from the ceiling and the light fixtures making it look "very festive".



After Mr. and Mrs. Wilcken passed away, the home was owned by their son Lane and was used as a rental for several years. In 1994 it was bought by Jim and Linda Blodgett who made it into an attractive business where they sold antiques and handcrafted items.

In recent years the home was again sold to Robert Barnett who has done extensive work on the exterior and yards, adding plants and grasses that are adapted to conserving water in our dry climate. The paint and fencing add to the home's historical look