



Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
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In my last column, I focused on the reconstruction of a pioneer cabin built by Joseph Payne. Once located across the street in the rear of the lot, it now joins two others in the Territorial Statehouse Park, and is being reassembled log by log with that process moving right along.

This week we will revisit the two cabins that will be neighbors to the Payne cabin.

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 a storage shed. It is easy to determine which cabin is which, as this one has double doors to accommodate a carriage. 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.

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.

It is exciting to see our pioneer heritage being preserved right before our eyes.

