



The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard
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Fences have been part of the Face of Fillmore since the early settlers left the safety of the old fort to build homes around town. These fences served a variety of purposes, as they do today: decoration and border for the yard around the home, a way to keep the children from wandering off as well as keeping the neighbor's livestock and pets out and your pets in, and a great backdrop for a family picture as seen here with the Alma Iverson family in front of their fence on Main Street.

Fences around the early homes were generally of the white picket variety but have evolved over the years. Many white pickets are now made of vinyl as are the solid privacy fences in many yards. Chain link became popular years ago and has stayed that way because of its durability and that fact that slats can be added to make your yard more private. Cedar is also popular for privacy around backyards. Some have built attractive brick or block fences. Barbed or woven wire is still preferred for fencing livestock. The list goes on, but the popularity and necessity of fences has remained throughout the history of Fillmore.

One particular fence in town that I just discovered is quite unusual and was actually built mostly of recycled materials. It must be noted that this is without a doubt the heaviest fence in town. This fence surrounds the home of Brandon and Darci Winget at 290 West 500 North.

The first thing one notices is the huge links on the chain between the brick columns. If Paul Bunyan had had a dog, this is what he would have been tied up with. The anchor chain links weigh ninety pounds each and there are about twenty between each column. The brick on the columns is the same brick the Winget's used on their home, but the bricks are not doing the work here. Inside each column is a section of well casing which extends four or five feet into the ground for support. Each casing is filled with 2000 pounds of concrete. These columns are not blowing over in a Millard County windstorm.

Brandon explained that he had seen fences made of chain between columns and liked the look, so he decided to do it a little larger than most. Chain for the fence was brought five



hundred miles from southeast Colorado on a gooseneck trailer. Darci said going down the long grades on the west side of the Rocky Mountains was a bit unnerving with the trailer pushing the truck. Once in Fillmore, a backhoe was used to unload and eventually put the sections of chain in place.

The Winget children, Bubba (Colton) and Macie are pictured here showing the size of this unusual and attractive fence. Carrying on the Fillmore tradition of fencing the family yard has certainly gone to a new level.