



## The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard  
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One of the older homes at 185 North Main Street is another great example of a home that still shows off its 19<sup>th</sup> century charm. It is the home of the Ottley family.

The exterior of the two story house is very much like it was when it was built around 1890 for James Andrew Melville, the son of Alexander Melville who lived a block to the west.



The home was built of locally made red brick with white gingerbread trim on the two porches and around the eaves of the home. The house had its own well and there was another brick building behind it. A large barn was also constructed on the property and the families living there grew a large orchard with many types of fruit trees.

Mr. Melville's life story is filled with varied experiences. He was just three weeks old when his family started across the plains in 1852 with the Orson Hyde Company. His mother and grandmother took turns carrying him in a clothesbasket. Arriving on September 1, they spent only three days in Salt Lake and then were sent to Provo, where they stayed for one year, then on to Fillmore to help with the settlement there. At 14, he enlisted for service in the Black Hawk War where he spent the next 15 months. He also helped build Cove Fort and then went to Deseret where he went into the freighting business. Some time later he moved his family back to Fillmore where he was involved with a sawmill, mining and livestock. He is listed at the 28<sup>th</sup> Territorial Legislature as the "Watchman". He served in the 29<sup>th</sup> territorial legislature in the House of Representatives, was an attorney and became the County Attorney. He moved to Salt Lake in 1904 where he was director of the Deseret National Bank. He died there in 1942.

Soon after 1900, Parley Morris and Mary Margaret Frampton Payne bought the home. To many it is known as the Payne home because their family lived there for so many years. It is believed that this is the Payne family pictured here. They had twelve children: Lola Ashman Hansen, Reva Kribbs, Newell Payne, Marguerite Manhard, Charles Payne, James Payne, June Hester, Laurence Payne, Nina Gabb, Vonda Peterson, Lloyd Payne, and Lester Payne. Parley and Mary Margaret lived there until they died: Parley in 1953 and Mary Margaret in 1960.



There have been a number of owners since that date, but each have kept the original pioneer look of the home, which adds to the historical flavor of Fillmore's Main Street.