



## Face of Fillmore

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The Face of Fillmore has seen countless changes to its Main Street over the last century and a half. Stores, churches and public buildings have been constructed. Some of those have also been removed to make way for newer ones, while others have seen a facelift. Presently, in Fillmore we are witnessing one of the latter.

On the south end of Main Street, the new look to the façade of Fillmore Market is taking shape. I feel confident there are citizens whose daily trek to get their mail or whatever, now includes a ride by to see the progress. A few days ago, there was massive scaffolding along the front of the store, which has since been covered with enormous sheets of somewhat transparent plastic. I would



Fillmore Market

assume they are preparing to stucco the wall, but since I am not a contractor, my guess could be wrong. But like many others, I will go buy a gallon of milk or a loaf of bread just to see what is happening.

The grocery store was recently purchased by Terrell Sealey who owns other stores here in Utah, including ones in Mt. Pleasant and Nephi. The store was purchased from Randy and Arlene Bartholomew. “Duane’s Market” was begun by Randy’s father Duane and had been in business for over 50 years.

Since its beginnings, Fillmore has seen a series of grocery stores which included (according to



*Milestones of Millard*), the G.R. Huntsman Mercantile in 1894, Kelly's Department Store in 1901, James King's Store, the Cash Store owned by Edward Day in 1900, and others throughout the years.

In December, 1855, Elder George A. Smith who had attended the legislature in Fillmore wrote for the *Deseret News*: "There are a number of mercantile establishments in the place (Fillmore); Judge Kinney, Joseph A. Kelton, David Candland, Levi Abraham, Gabriel Huntsman and Samuel P. Hoyt are doing a stirring business in dry goods and groceries..."

Owners of the stores from time to time wanted to update the look of their businesses and in one interesting case, actually moved the entire store to another location.

G.R. Huntsman began his store in 1894 near the corner of First South and Main Street where he operated a meat market in the basement of John Kelly's store. Later he bought a frame building built by John King, which was on the corner of Second North and Main. He thought this was too far from the center of the business district in town, so he had the entire store moved to the spot just south of the brick building where the fitness center is now. He had bought the property from Brigham Tompkinson.

The moving of the building brought quite a lot of excitement in town. Those who were partial to using oxen for pulling were certain they could out-pull the teams of horses. Three teams of horses were hitched to one side of the building and three teams of oxen to the other. The oxen were owned by Baldy Allen, husband of Fannie Huntsman Stewart and the horses were owned by Nelson Beauregard. Many dollars changed hands during the move, which took several days as the pull was all uphill. According to Alonzo Huntsman who later wrote about the event in the *Milestones of Millard*, the oxen were the superior pullers.

It will be interesting as time goes on to see what the next renovation will be.



Cove Fort Grocery Store