



Face of Fillmore

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The Face of Fillmore's Main Street has seen several changes throughout its 167 years. Some of these I personally remember, while others I have only seen old pictures of. Maybe some of these will jog your memory just a little.

One building which I have never personally seen was the Stake Bank of Millard County. It was established in 1907 by Almon Robison. He was the president, Joshua Greenwood, vice president, and Rufus Day, cashier. The directors were Almon Robison, Joshua Greenwood, George W. Nixon, George Finlinson, James Alex Melville, George Alma George, and T.J. Pratt. It opened in the small room in the southeast corner of the old courthouse. Rufus Day did most of the actual work in the bank. For the first year, the bank got along without a typewriter or adding machine, although these were used at the time in other banks. In an article in the Progress dated July 7, 1922 it stated that the State Bank of Millard County was considered one of the two best county banks in Utah. In the years to follow, a bank building was erected just north of the present Millard County Court House. The picture shows the bank as it appeared in 1920. Martin Hansen and James Frampton were the general contractors. Martin and sons made the brick for the building southwest of Fillmore. Ras and Lars Rasmussen did the plastering. Albert Day and his sons quarried and laid the rock for the foundation. In 1932, the State Bank of Millard County was forced to close its doors, as were many during the Depression.



State Bank of Millard County

In the north room of the bank building, Earl and Ray Brough operated their confectioner's business. They sold out to Joseph Swallow and his son William in 1909. Two years later the Swallow's moved across Main Street to a frame building which they bought from Abe and Molly Phelps Carling. As their business thrived, they saw the need for a larger building so they bought the land to the south and built the brick store seen in the picture here. The building was built by Hans Rasmussen and his crew. In the years that followed Bill Swallow and his wife Blanche Robins Swallow became sole owners of the business. They rented the little building north of them, which became a barber and later a beauty shop. For several years, it was the beauty shop of May Labrum.



Swallow's Confectionary

On the southeast corner of Main and Center, built during an earlier era, was the elegant Huntsman Hotel which was among the finest of its day. The hotel boasted 24 guest rooms with large porches on the first and second floors. These were decorated with fancy hand-carved posts and railings done by Hans Hanson. There was a beautifully decorated dining area as well, as even a barbershop. The spacious brick building had a frame addition on the back, which served as living quarters for the family. There was also a large barn for where guests could put their horses for the night. Built in 1872 by Gabriel and Eunice Huntsman, the hotel often provided lodging for Brigham Young and other statesmen when they conducted business in Utah's territorial capitol.



Huntsman Hotel and Store

Gabriel began the store to the south of it and was known to have owned a store in Fillmore as early as 1855. At least once he combined one of his missionary trips to the Missouri River country with freighting goods to be sold in his store.

After Gabriel's death, his son Gabriel Riley and his wife Hannah purchased the hotel and ran it. During that time modern plumbing was added and some remodeling done. Gabriel Riley and his wife owned the hotel until it was torn down in 1938. Fifty-eight years later, in 1996, a replica of the Huntsman Hotel was constructed at This Is the Place Heritage Park in Salt Lake City.

Across the intersection on the northwest corner is another of Fillmore's grand hotels. The Day Hotel was built in 1926 by Miah and Mary Huntsman Day. It later became the George Hotel and was painted white at that time.



Day Hotel

The first home of the BLM in Fillmore was in the old George Hotel. The BLM offices were in the old hotel dining room. Offices were partitioned off using file cabinets, but it was essentially one large room with a tile floor. Employees entered through a door in the south side of the building. There was an alcove off the front door that was used for the manager's office. The manager at that time was a man named Pratt Allred. There were seven regular employees and two clerks, Carol Wise from Fillmore and Ethel Brunson from Kanosh.

These are just some of the great historic buildings of the past that are gone but not forgotten.