

The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard June 2, 2010

The most prominent building on Fillmore's Main Street is the Millard County Courthouse. Located on Main between Center Street and First South, the building has stood out as a landmark for many years.

The building was built in 1919-1920 and dedicated in 1920 as pictured here. The general contractor for its construction was Hans Rasmussen with his sons Harris and Louis as his assistants. Others who contributed in a large way to its construction were Harry and Lorenzo Hanson, Wesley Ashman, James Mounford, Louis and William Critchley and Delbert Coltier as brick masons. The tile work in the interior was contracted by a group from Salt Lake City.

The courthouse has seen many renovations over the years as it has been given updates to modernize it and keep it in good repair. Perhaps the most obvious change to the exterior is the addition of a new roof.



Another important addition was the Veterans' Memorial on the north side of the building, containing the



names of the veterans from Millard County who have served their country in the armed forces. Near the front of the monument is an attractive waterfall, which added to the landscaping. Taking a few moments to walk through this area gives one a real sense of the patriotic commitment of hundreds of men and women from our area.

The county crew needs an ovation for the excellent job they do on the grounds of the courthouse. Flowers, shrubs and trees are carefully manicured and the lawn kept in top condition, which makes the courthouse an attractive centerpiece for Fillmore's Main Street.

The present courthouse was not the first seat of government for Millard County. The first courthouse pictured here was located

on the southwest corner of the block. It was constructed in 1871 and 1872 at a cost of \$9000, which paid for by taxation. Patterned after the first courthouse in Salt Lake City, the two-story building was constructed of a high sandstone foundation with rock steps. The south and east sides of the building were red brick and with bell tower of white lumber. Rock for the building was hauled from Chalk Creek and Maycock Springs.

The old courthouse became the Millard Academy when the county's offices were moved. It was torn down in 1938 to make way for a new city building.

