

## The Face of Fillmore

By Sherry Shepard

It is always a pleasant surprise to be handed an old newspaper clipping which is connected to Fillmore or one of its residents.

The headline of the article I was just given has been torn off but a smaller secondary one underneath reads, “Bryant S. Hinckley to Succeed Late Geo. S. Romney”. The article appeared in the newspaper in 1936.

Reading farther, I found that the appointment of Bryant S. Hinckley as president of the Northern State Mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints had been announced by the Church’s First Presidency. He had been serving as the president of Liberty Stake in Salt Lake City, the largest stake in the Church.

Who was Bryant S. Hinckley? With a little investigation, I found that Bryant was the son of Ira Hinckley and the father of President Gordon B. Hinckley.

Bryant Hinckley was an author, educator and prominent speaker. He was the principal of the Latter-day Saint high school in Salt Lake City, head of LDS Business College in the early 1900’s, head of the Commercial Department at Brigham Young Academy, and superintendent of Deseret Gym.

Bryant was born in Coalville, Utah in 1867, the year that his father Ira was called to supervise the construction and maintain Cove Fort, which served as a fortification for travelers between St. George, Utah, and Salt Lake City, Utah, as well as a halfway point between Fillmore—then the state capital—and Beaver, Utah. He had been living in Coalville, at the time of Brigham Young’s call to serve a mission to the Cove Fort area. Ira’s brother Arza and family joined him ten years later. The Hinckley’s lived there until the development of the railroad and more advanced forms of communication ended the need for the waystation. The Hinckley family then moved to Fillmore.

In the newspaper article, we are told that while Bryant lived in Fillmore, “he took a prominent part in the first Primary organization at Fillmore.” He also later served on the general board of the Young Men’s Mutual Improvement Association and in the Boy Scout program. He had a boy scout camp in the Uintah Mountains named after him.

One of his most famous quotes: “Service is the dividing line which separates the two great groups of the world—those who help and those who hinder, those who lift and those who lean, those who contribute and those who only consume. How much better it is to give than to receive...”

While I found all of this very interesting and realized that the Hinckley home in Fillmore that Ira and his family lived in was one I had written about years ago, there was a connection I had not yet put together.

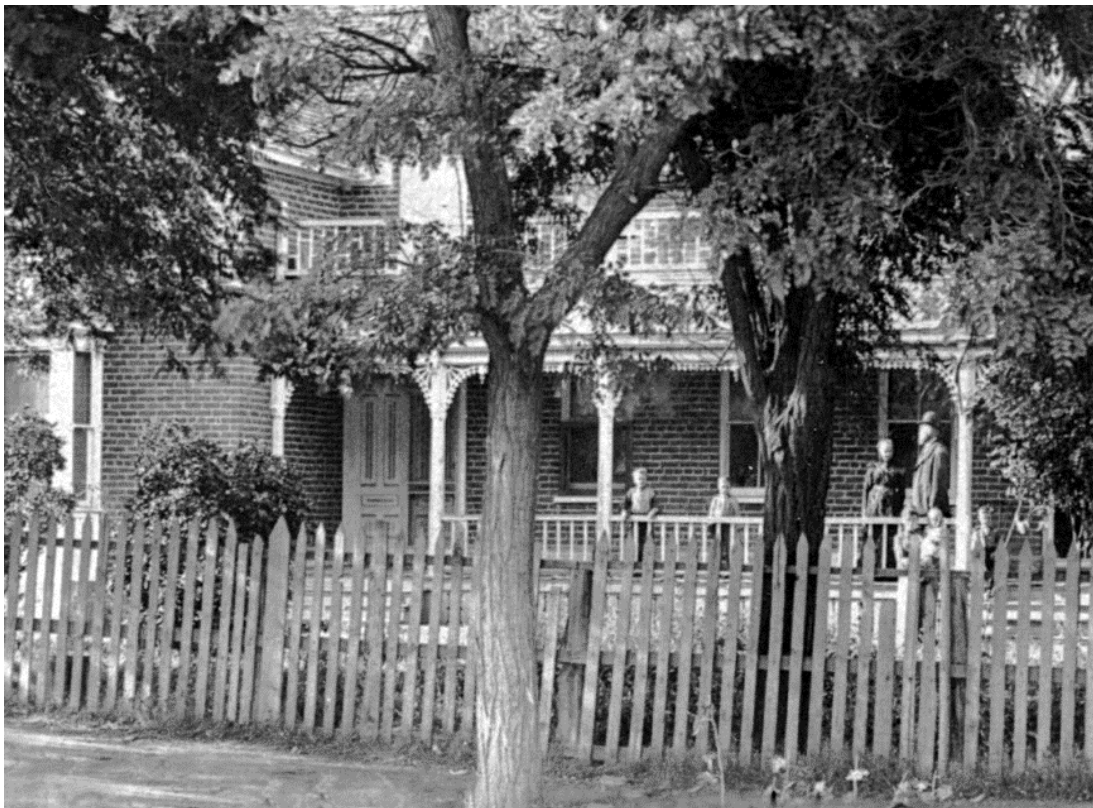
Remembering the day in 2008 that President Gordon B. Hinckley came to Fillmore and spoke as part of the Sesquicentennial Celebration, I thought back to many of the comments President Hinckley made about his family and their time living in Cove Fort and Fillmore.

This incident he told was also recorded in the journal of Adelaide Hinckley, wife of Ira Hinckley.

Adelaide wrote, "Two of the Hinckley children, Bryant and Edward, found a gun while their parents were away; it went off as they were playing... Bryant was shot in the knee. A doctor was called but could not remove the bullet. Bryant lived his whole life with that bullet in his knee and bragged that he was the only person shot at Cove Fort."



Bryant Hinckley



Ira Hinckley Home in Fillmore