

DRAPER, UTAH

*Historic
Driving
Tour*

No. 3: Fort Street & 13200 South

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1

JOHN FITZGERALD HOME

12553 S. Fort Street



This five-room home was built for John and Sarah Ann in 1890 on three and one-half acres of Perry Fitzgerald's land parcel. The house consisted of three bedrooms, a kitchen with adjacent pantry, a parlor with beautiful stained woodwork. The woodwork featured rosette inserts carved by Henry Pearson. Like other homes built during that period, it had three chimneys, twelve foot ceilings, a front porch with two front entrances and a granary building in the back.

John Fitzgerald was born in Illinois in 1840, the oldest son of Perry Fitzgerald and Mary Ann Cosat. John's parents settled in Draper in the early 1850s. His mother died at the age of 30 when John was 11 years old. In 1858, aged 18, John fought in the Utah War against the Federal Government. This same year, he married Sarah Ann Williams. They had 11 children together and lived in a small home in the northeast corner of the Draper Fort, later moving to the new five-room home.

John made many trips to help bring immigrants to Utah. He returned from one with a cook stove for Sarah, the first in Draper. It was common practice during intermission at the early dance parties, which started at two o'clock in the afternoon, to come to the Fitzgerald home for a 25 cent supper.

John died in 1892. Sarah Ann continued to live in their home for twenty-four years. She sold it to Will and Ethel Fitzgerald in 1917; they added the present kitchen, a bedroom and bathroom. In 1928-29, the front porch was reconstructed and extended to the south side. For years the interior and exterior structure of the home remained the same until Mark and Ethel Johnson purchased it in 1977 and added the two-story section on the east and restored part of the interior.

2

S.J. & MINA MICKELSEN HOME

12613 S. Fort Street

This home, built for Soren and Mina Mickelsen, was built at some point between 1911 and 1913 on property once owned by early Draper pioneer, Ebenezer Brown. The house was originally a one-and-one-half-story yellow brick prairie bungalow with a hip roof and some craftsman features. It consisted of a living room, dining room, 2 bedrooms, bath and kitchen and an attic with a sleeping porch. Oak wood was used throughout. The house was heated by a red brick fireplace and three wood/coal stoves. Hand carved rafters rested on large wood pilasters to support the spacious porch. This raised projecting L-shaped front porch remains the home's most stylistic feature. The landscaped yard included a lattice-work gazebo enclosing a rock fountain and pool, curved cement walks, formal flower gardens and an abundance of trees. The lot was bordered in front with a black wrought iron fence. Through the years a partial basement was dug, central heating installed, high ceilings lowered, and kitchen and bath modernized.

Soren was born in 1874 in Agre, Denmark and came to Draper with his parents, Niels and Sofie Rasmussen Mickelsen, in 1881. After graduating from Salt Lake Business College he taught classes there for one year. He served as manager for the Rideout Store in Draper for 15 years, after which he started the S. J. Mickelsen Hardware and Lumber Company on the corner of Fort Street and 12600 South, across from his home. In the 1930s his store provided most of the building materials for the booming new poultry industry in Draper. Throughout his life he also served as director of the Sandy City Bank, manager of the Draper Canneries, director, secretary, and treasurer of the Draper Irrigation Company, post master of Draper, and as a member, and ultimately president, of the Jordan School District Board of Education. He died in Draper in 1936. His wife, Mina Comfort Garff, was born in Draper in 1873. She married Soren on in 1907. They had four children. She died in 1974.

3

GEORGE COTTRELL/SMITH HOME

12727 S. Fort Street



George Henry Cottrell built this home circa 1905. It is a brick and clapboard building which rests on a raised granite and concrete foundation. It is constructed in the Victorian Eclectic style, which was quite common during this time period. The house has had many modifications over the years. The clapboard pantry at the rear (east) facade is an addition from the 1980s. The front porch originally was limited to the front facade and an old photograph showed that it featured classical style columns. This was extended around the south facade of the house, probably in the mid-1980s, and the classical style columns were replaced with Victorian style columns. A large deck with a gazebo was added onto the rear of the house probably at this same time. During this period the interior was also altered, with rooms being added to the upper floor and a gabled dormer added to the north side of the roof.

George rented out the home after living there less than two years. Heber J. Smith bought the house in 1920 after Mr. Cottrell was killed in a farming accident. When the Smiths moved in, they hauled dirt onto the property to cover the exposed foundation. The house was built on a raised foundation to prevent it from sinking into the swampy ground. Previous to living in this house, Mr. Smith raised sheep and travelled throughout the region as a sheep herder. He married Matilda Mickelson in 1915 and became a farmer and a cattle rancher. In 1936, Heber was made bishop of the newly formed Draper Second Ward and served in that capacity for nine years. The Smiths lived in the house until 1949.

4

ANDREW BURNHAM HOME

12735 S. Fort Street



This two-story home was built circa 1865 for Andrew and Harriet Burham and was the first brick home south of Salt Lake City. It is the central-passage type, and is one of only five such homes in the area. Its yellow, soft-fired brick sits on a stone foundation. The walls are over one foot thick and have an inner lining of adobe brick. The house faces west with a five bay symmetrical facade in the classical style. Two brick lean-tos, each with its own entrance, sit on the rear (east) elevation. The north portion is similar to the original house and was probably built by 1870. The south lean-to is constructed of different brick and probably dates to the 1880s. The interior boasts approximately 1300 square feet on the main floor and 760 square feet on the second floor, with four large rooms, a bath and a lovely staircase leading to three rooms upstairs. Through the years, remodeling, room divisions and additions have occurred. The porch, added later, was ideal for visiting and watching sunsets. The stream which ran north of the house was diverted and filled with dirt, which eliminated the bridge entrance to the house.

Andrew and his wife, Harriet R. Kimball Burnham, were born in New Hampshire in 1808 and 1818, respectively. The couple married in 1837 and were the parents of nine children. After moving west to Ohio, they later moved to Hancock County, Illinois. Andrew owned a fine farm and operated a wagon factory, where his expertise as a wagon maker was much in demand. The Burnhams were among the members of the LDS church who were forced to leave their Illinois homes in early 1846. They eventually emigrated to Salt Lake City in 1850, and a year later settled in Draper. Andrew's skill as a wagon maker and violin player and Harriet's reputation as an excellent weaver were welcomed in the community. After Andrew's death in 1867 and Harriet's in 1885, the estate was divided among her five remaining children with eldest son, Charles, receiving the house and surrounding property. Charles and his wife, Hannah, remained in the home until 1903 when it was sold to Willard B. Enniss.

5

JOSEPH S. & MAY BICKLEY
NIELSEN HOME
12825 S. Fort Street



One of the last large Victorian houses built on Fort Street, the Nielsen house was allegedly constructed by Talboe Co. of Provo, Utah on five acres of land, circa 1901. This eight-room two story red brick Queen Anne-style house has a foundation of granite rock from the quarry in the nearby mountains. The house was built far from the street to provide ample space for family gatherings. The home, built of plastered interior adobe brick walls and veneered on the outside with glazed fine brick, consisted of a parlor and bedroom/sitting room separated by a formal front entrance foyer with an elegant stained wood curved staircase which led to the five bedrooms on the second floor. A narrow hallway led to a dining room and kitchen with an adjacent pantry. The entire interior had high ceilings, transoms and a fireplace in most rooms. The property extended south to a large orchard, berry patch and garden, and a lane which led to the equipment sheds, big barn where hay and straw were stored, pasture for the horses and cows, outhouse and building and chicken pens. A well was located northeast of the house.

Joseph S. Nielsen was born to early Draper Danish pioneers Peter Anthon and Olivia Jensen Nielsen in 1871. His wife, Christiania May Bickley Nielsen, was born in 1872. They had nine children. Joseph's older brother, Anthon J. Nielsen, built an earlier large home northwest across Fort Street, which is included in this brochure. Joseph was a school teacher, local businessman and farmer. Along with crop production, the Nielsens raised sheep and grew and sold fruit. May was an accomplished musician and song writer. Her song "I Want To Be There Dear With You" was sung and recorded by The Sons of Pioneers.

After the deaths of Joseph in 1925 and May in 1956, the house had many owners and renters, and was once divided into several apartments. Many Queen Anne mansions built between 1885-1905 on large parcels of land in the Salt Lake Valley have not endured so well as those in Draper.

6

BILL GREEN HOME
12885 S. Fort Street

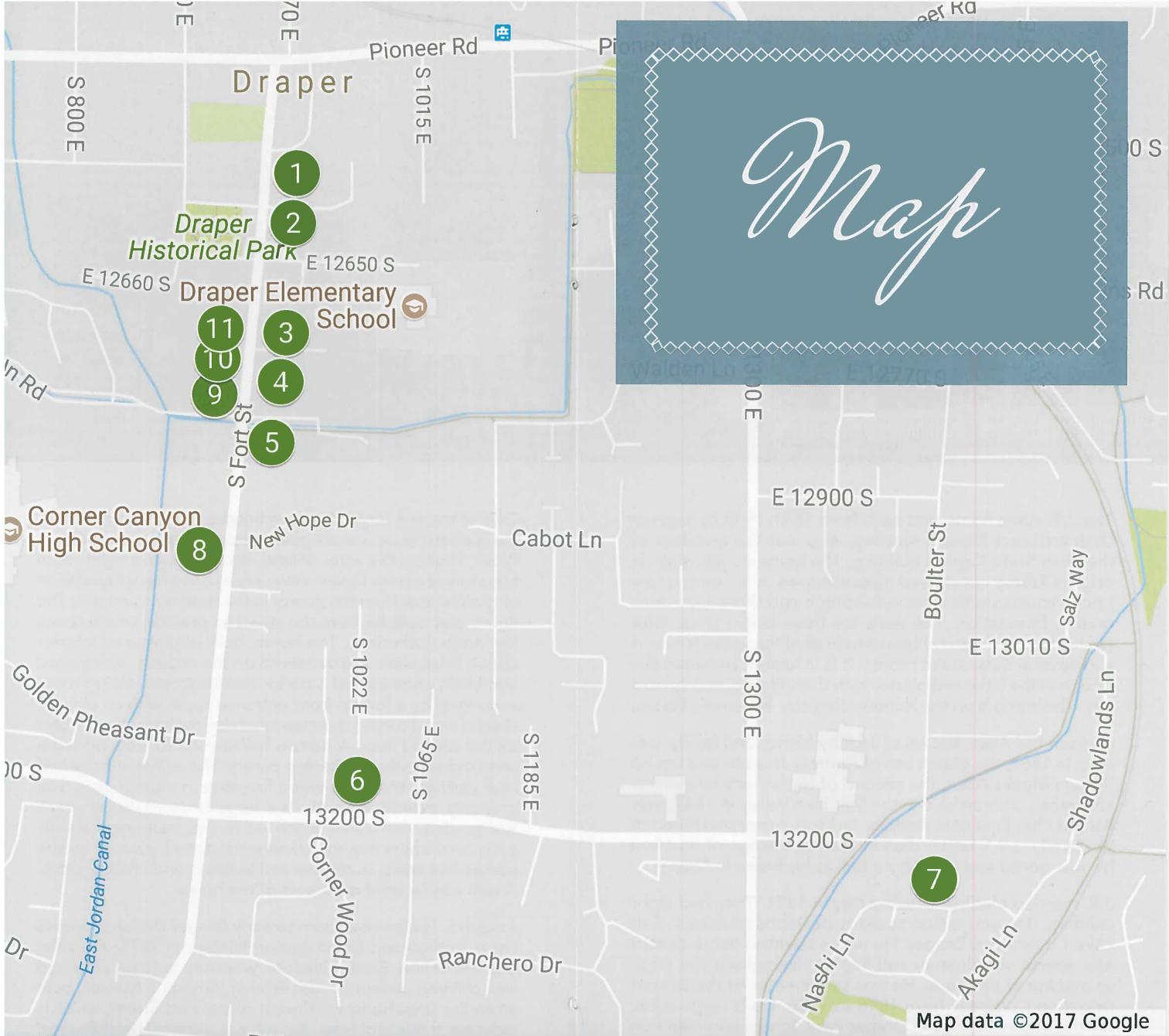


This house was built in Draper by Bill Green about 1882. The foundation is granite rock and the front and sides are adobe. The Indians used to come down from the hills to trade pine nuts for food.

Later on, Archie Smith, his wife and family moved here. George Beck's brother bought the home and his mother and other brothers moved to Draper from Bluffdale. On May 11, 1938, George and Maxine Beck were married and his brother moved the stairs out onto the porch and they lived upstairs in three rooms and raised their two children there.

When George's brother passed away, George bought the home from his sister-in-law and moved his family downstairs. They then remodeled by putting paneling in two rooms.

Archie Smith's daughter said there was an old well in front of the house and an old apricot tree at the corner of the house.



Map

1. John Fitzgerald Home
2. S. J. and Mina Mickelsen Home
3. George Cottrell/Smith Home
4. Andrew Burnham Home
5. Joseph S. and May Bickley Nielsen Home

6. J.R. Allen Home
7. Willard Boulter Enniss/Thomas Akagi Home
8. Aurelius W. Fitzgerald Home
9. Benjamin Meek Home
10. Anthon "Tone" James Nielsen Home
11. Isaac Dunyon/Greenwood Home



map here

The J.R. Allen home was built from 1899-1900 by famous Utah architect Richard Kletting, who was the architect of the Utah State Capitol building. The home contains all 6 original Tiffany cut stained glass windows. It is a 3-story brick Victorian with a 3 feet high and 3 feet thick granite foundation. The walls are three bricks thick, with twelve foot ceilings and transoms in all of the upstairs rooms and several downstairs rooms. It is insulated between the brick and the lathe and plaster with sheep's wool and apricot pits. The home is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Jackson Rial Allen, known as Jack by friends and family, was born in 1869, the oldest son of Andrew Jackson and Louisa Rogers Meeks Allen, the second of his father's two wives. His father, who arrived in the Salt Lake Valley in 1847, was named after President Andrew Jackson, a personal friend of the family. J.R.'s father died in 1884 at the age of 66 when he was gored and killed by a bull at his home in Draper.

J.R. married Matilda Caroline Day in 1891. They had eight children. J.R. was called to many positions of trust in Salt Lake County and Draper. He was a talented horse doctor and animal veterinarian and known throughout the state as a judge of livestock. He was the director of the Draper Irrigation Company from 1896 to 1936. He is responsible for the beginning of the Draper Park School art collection which houses an original Norman Rockwell painting. He and his three younger brothers formed the Allen Brothers Livestock Co. As a team they founded one of the finest sheep operations in the state of Utah. Ground was bought in Charleston, Strawberry, and Cedar Valley. They specialized in Cotswold sheep and Percheron horses.

WILLARD BOULTER ENNIS &
THOMAS AKAGI HOME
1482 E. 13200 S.

AURELIUS W. FITZGERALD HOME
12934 S. Fort Street



In 1882, Willard and Emily Ennis bought property from a Mr. Bloomsterburg. A granite cobble rock cottage stood on the property, which the couple lived in until they built this large brick home in 1898 for \$4,200. The house is a large eight-room red-brick home with closets, halls, pantry and porches. The dining room was covered with redwood squares wainscoting up four feet from the floor. The walls were four bricks thick on the first story and two bricks thick on the second story. Coal oil lamps, acetylene gas, then electricity were used for lighting. Beautiful gardens and concrete paths graced the front grounds.

Willard Boulter Ennis was born in 1857 and died in 1947. He married Hannah Mary Emily Wadley in 1882, and they had 12 children together. Emily died in 1924; three years later Willard married his housekeeper, Annie Durant Huff, who was forty years his junior. They had four children. Willard was a prominent Draper citizen and contributed to its development as a farmer, livestock rancher, teacher, school board member, state legislator, director in several local irrigation companies, Mormon bishop, director of the Draper Merchandise and Manufacturing Company, and as the first president of the Salt Lake County Farm Bureau. Willard also owned two other homes in Draper: the Andrew Burnham residence and the Isaac and Martha J. Dunyon house, both featured in this brochure.

In 1936 this home was sold to Louis Diazikis. He removed a beautiful fire place adornment in the parlor to use the chimney to expel smoke and fumes from a whiskey still he constructed under the parlor. In 1947 Otoemon and Masono Akagi and their family moved into the home. They had eight children. During World War II they were interred at Japanese Internment Camps in Parker and Grace, Idaho. They were forced to leave behind their home and a large wholesale nursery, orange and strawberry farm in Lindsey, California. Descendants of the Akagis own the home today.

Aurelius Wilson Fitzgerald was born in 1864 in Draper to Perry Fitzgerald and his third wife, Agnes Roylance Wadsworth. Aurelius was the first child born into his father's new brick home, one of the oldest fired brick houses in the south end of the Salt Lake Valley, which now houses the Draper Chamber of Commerce at 1160 East 12400 South. He became one of the most prominent sheep owners in Draper. He built this Queen Anne Victorian home in 1898 of adobe brick with a granite rock foundation probably hauled from Little Cottonwood Canyon by horse and wagon. The roof was constructed with wood shingles. Many loads of soil were also hauled to raise the level of the building site because of the low water table in the area. After building the house, at the age of 34, he married Mary Ellen (Nellie) Brown in 1898. They were the parents of seven children. Nellie was blind for three years before she died in 1934. Aurelius passed away in 1937. The home stayed in the family for many decades.

A large wooden porch was added. It was approximately 16 feet wide by 45 feet long as it reached to the back of the house. The porch and steps were made of wood with a very fancy porch railing. In 1912 a two-room basement was added with two rooms above, replacing the old back porch. The inside of the old original house was also remodeled at this time, with electrical wiring added along with plumbing which drained toward the canal. The roof of the 1912 addition was made of tar and gravel on a flat roof. The home was completely remodeled in 1952-53 by Aurelius W. Fitzgerald's son, Aurelius Brown Fitzgerald (A.B.). New wiring, plumbing, closets and lights were added throughout. A new cement porch and steps were added to the front of the house. New storm windows were installed for all outside windows.



This two-story, ten-room Queen Anne style brick house was built in 1899. The foundation is granite rock, which supports all the exterior and interior walls. The walls are three bricks thick with air space between each course of brick for insulation. Apricot pits were placed in the air space to repel rodents. The inside brick walls were plastered, and the exterior brick on the front of the home and the first six courses above the granite foundation were fire-hardened. The rest are a less decorative, less expensive, red brick. For lighting, the home was built with gas lines to supply gas to glass lanterns. For heating, the home had one fireplace with a cherry wood mantel ordered from Sears and Roebuck. The remaining rooms had chimneys so stoves could be used for heat.

Its owner, Benjamin Rodgers Meek, was born in 1866, two months after his father died while crossing the plains with the family. His mother, Louisa Rogers Meek, gave birth to Ben three days after arriving in the Salt Lake Valley. Louisa moved to Draper two years later and worked as a housekeeper to Andrew Jackson Allen, whom she married in 1869.

Ben worked as a sheep herder for Peter Anthon Nielsen for several years. Once, as Peter was paying him, he asked if Ben could use something else besides cash. Ben answered, "Yes, I can use your daughter." Peter smiled and wrote out his check. However, Ben later got his wish and married Olivia Alfreda Nielson "free of charge" in 1892. They had five children.

Ben was a prominent community leader. He owned an interest in and was president of the M & M Mercantile, and with Olivia's brother Anthon owned and operated the Bear Canyon Pipeline Company, which brought water to Draper's farmers. They were the largest shareholders in a corporation to develop present-day Draper Park. Ben was also active with other influential Draper businessmen in bringing electricity to the citizens of Draper. The Meeks moved to Logan, Utah in 1912, and the house was sold to Anthon in 1920.



Antone "Tone" and Esther Nielson built this Folk Victorian home in 1898. It is 2 1/2 stories with a glazed brick front, stained glass windows, widow's walk, and two life-sized ornamental sheep on the roof. The interior had 12 foot ceilings, transom windows over every interior door, a heat source in every room and parquet and tongue and groove pine floors. The foundation was built with granite blocks from the nearby quarry. The first floor was built 3 feet above grade because of high ground water and possible flooding from the nearby South Willow Creek. The grounds were professionally landscaped and included two sycamore matrimony trees on either side of the front walkway, representing husband and wife, a common practice a century ago.

Tone was born in Draper in 1866, the oldest of eleven children born to Danish immigrants, Peter A. and Olivia Nielsen. He married his best friend's sister, the pretty, dark haired, blue eyed Esther "Ettie" Steele in 1890. They were the parents of eight children. Before her marriage to Tone, Ettie owned a dress-making and millinery business in Draper with Tone's sister Olivia. As a young boy, Tone worked in a molasses mill, taking his wages in molasses. He later herded sheep in Bluffdale, Utah, for Will Turner and took his pay in lambs. Tone credited Will as starting him in his successful sheep business. Tone was instrumental in organizing the Draper Land and Livestock Co., the Draper Creamery Co., the Bear Canyon Pipe Line Co., and the Draper M&M Mercantile Co. As part of the pipe line company, this home was the first home in Draper to enjoy the luxury of running water. He wore a white Stetson hat throughout his life. His horses were his pride and joy and he enjoyed showing his visitors his many metals won at fairs for his horses.

Due to disastrous falls in agricultural prices after WWI, the Niensens lost their home in 1926. A local bank held the deed and divided the house into four apartments. In 1949 the house and its 80 acres was purchased for \$8000 and became a single family home again.



In the late 1880s Isaac Dunyon built a small frame house on a twenty-acre plot at this location on Fort Street. In 1901, this two-story red brick home replaced the small frame house. Originally, a high green hedge marked the front boundary of the property. A long cement walk bordered on both sides by flowers and lawn led to this seven or nine room house, as accounts differ to the number of rooms originally in the home. The house was set back seventy-five feet on the lot. Orchards, berries, and gardens were on the north. A cellar was directly behind the house with a large barn and chicken pens several feet away. Isaac had one of many claims of having the first car in Draper in 1912, a Ford. Also, by 1912, the Dunyon home became the first home in Draper to have electrical wiring installed for electric lights.

Isaac, born in Salt Lake City in 1859, was the third of ten children born to Dr. John Lewis Dunyon and Ann Kempton Brown Dunyon. The Dunyon family lived in an eight-room adobe house which was called "Our Mountain Home." The place was a way-station for travelers and settlers.

Isaac married Martha Louisa Neff in 1882. She died the following year in childbirth. In 1885, Isaac married Martha Jane Brown. They had nine children. After living at his father's old homestead for many years, Isaac and Martha Jane purchased 640 acres of additional property and went into the sheep business. They became very prominent ranchers and owned one of the largest sheep herds in the valley.

Isaac died in 1928 and Martha Jane died in 1955. Following Isaac's death, his daughter Juanita Dunyon Hendrickson owned the house, but she and her husband lost it during the Great Depression. Ownership was transferred within the family until Willard B. Enniss purchased it in the late 1930s or in 1940. After Willard's death the house was either rented or owned until Parry and Pauline Greenwood moved into it in the mid-1950s, taking possession of the title in 1964.

