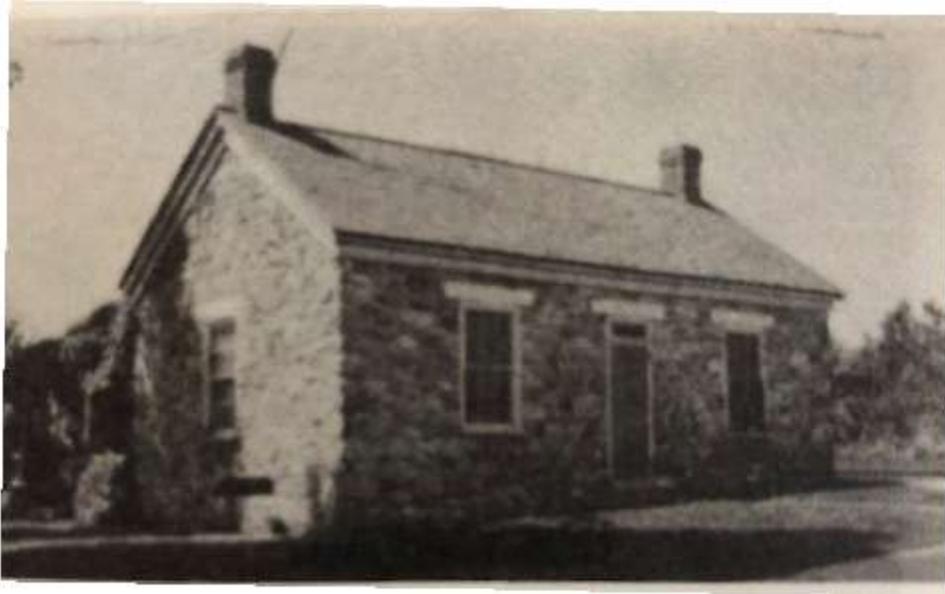


**1) Commission to vote to approve David Barney as next Chairman**

John Anderson has graciously served as Chair for several years and will be stepping down as Chair at the October 2020 meeting, but he plans to stay on the commission.

**2) Farmington Historic Landmarks Register nomination**





typical in design for many Farmington homes, the Dan and Chris Sullivan home has a rock facade and wooden windows.

# Actual age of Farmington home still a question mark

By SUE UTLEY

Standard-Examiner correspondent

**FARMINGTON** — One thing for certain, the house at 463 N. 100 East is old. Exactly how old is still up in the air.

City records say it was built in 1870. Gordon Van Fleet, who lived in the home during his teenage years and until he married, says it was built by his great-grandfather, Willard Richards. Since Richards died in 1854, this would contradict the 1870 date.

Older city records have been incorrect in the past, so it's anyone's guess as to the actual age of the little rock house where Dan and Chris Sullivan now live.

Van Fleet said his grandparents, Elias and Mary Ann (Richards) Van Fleet, lived in the house long before he was born. "After Grandpa died, our family moved in with Grandma and took care of her," he said.

It was during those years that the original two-room house underwent its first remodeling. A bedroom, bath, kitchen and screened porch were added. Through the years the house was expanded from two rooms to seven rooms and two baths.

However, the new addition was kept separate from the original rooms. Mary Ann Van Fleet lived in one part and her son's family lived in the other half.

"It was awkward. We had to walk through my grandmother's rooms in order to get to ours," said Van Fleet.

Van Fleet can remember a lot of things about the old home like the



## HISTORIC HOMES

outhouse in the back yard before indoor plumbing was installed, the Royal Oak stove in the parlor which heated the house with coal, and the dozen or so old portraits, framed in thick wood, hanging in his grandmother's bedroom.

"They were probably pictures of Willard Richards' wives," he said.

Richards had 14 wives. His last wife was Susan Boylins, Van Fleet's great-grandmother. Van Fleet thinks the house was built for her. Several of the homes along 100 East were built by Willard Richards for his many wives.

When Van Fleet was a teenager back in the 1920s, he slept in the screened porch on the west side of the house both winter and summer.

"I can remember waking up on a cold morning with snow on my quilts," he said.

He also remembers a root cellar out back.

"There was a spinning wheel and butter churn in it, along with some brown jugs and blue glass bottles," said Van Fleet. "When the house was sold, we didn't think to take them with us."

After Van Fleet's grandmother died, his parents continued living there. His mother, Mary Ellen Blamires Van Fleet, remained in the house for several years after her husband died. The years between the Van Fleet's and the Sullivan's have seen several occupants in the

house — both renters and owners.

Most of the cosmetic interior changes were done by Diane Stevens, who sold the home to the Sullivan's last year. Stevens rented part of the house at first and later bought it. She continued renting out the back half for a few more years.

Eventually, Stevens knocked part of a wall down and created a doorway between the family room and front parlor, combining the two units.

While the outside of the home remains similar to what Van Fleet's ancestor's saw, the inside of the pioneer home has changed a lot.

Stevens added stain glass throughout the house as well as wood trim around the thick doorways and tall ceilings. She creatively used fabric to cover the walls in some rooms rather than ordinary wallpaper.

A decorative tin ceiling, reminiscent of an old dance hall, was put up in the family room. An ornate wooden bar sits in one corner of the front parlor and, rich wood cabinets line the walls in the modern kitchen.

When Dan the Sullivans drove along the Farmington street about 1½ years ago, they saw a "for sale" sign in Stevens' yard and stopped immediately. They had just come up from California to get married. Dan is originally from Bountiful.

"It was the furthest thing from my mind to live in Utah," said Chris Sullivan. "But, we loved the house, so we bought it. You can't find older homes in California."

Dear Farmington City Historic Preservation Committee,

On behalf of my mother Jennifer Gunnell, I am inquiring to see if her home can be found eligible to

be listed on the historic landmarks registry of Farmington. The home is located 463 n 100 E, Farmington.

According to Cory Jensen of the Salt Lake Historic Preservation committee it is listed in

their database from

the 2005 reconnaissance level survey of Farmington that it is Eligible/Significant. This is based on age and

integrity and not historical background. No additions or changes have been made to the house since that time.

As for historic background, it was the home of Mary Ann and Elias Van Fleet, built in 1870\* .

Elias Van Fleet was lieutenant in the Black Hawk war, Senior president 74th quorum of the seventies and Deputy

Sheriff of Davis county. His second wife Mary Ann Richards was one of Willard Richards daughters who was an apostle

of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day saints, as well as a doctor.

In requirements it should meet criterion C for evaluation (c) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period,

or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a

significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and also possibly B.

It should also meet a and e, possibly more for the sub criteria.

It is an easily identifiable visual feature of its neighborhood or the city because of its positioning, location, age, scale or style,

and it contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of its area in such a way that its absence would negatively affect the area's sense of place;

It illustrates an important architectural form, style or building technique, especially as an example of "local vernacular" (e.g., single-

and two-story rock/adobe homes; simple brick Victorians) or as a singular example of form, style or technique within the city;

\*There are some contradictory claims of the actual age of the home. It is listed in the Farmington Historic Walking Tour #21

as the VanFleet/Elias Richards home 1870.

In the book "How kids view Old and New Farmington" it's listed at #4 Elias and Mary Ann Richards home.

In "My Farmington" Pg.25 #1 It is listed as Gordon Van Fleets parents home built in 1887 by his father Heber John VanFleet(which doesn't

add up his dad would have been 8yrs old)

Gordon Van Fleet also was interviewed in an article in 1991 stating his Great Grandfather Willard Richards built the home but Richards died in 1854.

The article also states the county records show it was built in 1870.

The county assessor's records state it was built in 1887.

I have attached the article and photos of the home.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Riddle

801-336-6831

Jennifer Gunnell

801-540-2927

### **3) Wind damage to Historic home 208 N Main Street**

Hector C. Haight House/Union Hotel - National Register

Judy Rosendahl

Judy recently had wind damage to her home. She is wanting to work

with the Historic Commission to assure the structure is restored keeping the historical home intact with materials etc. I had her contact Cory Jensen with the state preservation office to give advice.

**4) Request from Andrew Clark for a \$10,000 matching state historic grant.**

The FCHPC must be approved to receive a grant from the state in 2021 by January.

- 5 persons appointed to their Historic Preservation Commission
- Email at least resumes of the persons serving on the commission to [afranco@utah.gov](mailto:afranco@utah.gov)
- Have Historic Preservation Ordinance in Place.
- Email a copy of Farmington's preservation ordinance to [afranco@utah.gov](mailto:afranco@utah.gov).