

FAIRBANKS HOME HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

The home served as the Fairbanks family residence as well as a hospitality center for friends and Church members.

Brigham Young and other Church leaders made the home their headquarters when they would visit Payson during 1862-69 while John Boylston Fairbanks served as bishop.

The south upstairs bedroom became known as "Brigham Young's Room."

The north upstairs room was dedicated as the School of the Prophets, when the school was organized in September of 1868.

The home also served as a trading post and relay station for Pony Express riders. It was also where the meetings were held to negotiate peaceful relations with the Indians and friendly Indians frequently camped on the property.

The home was where Brigham Young received the telegraph in which Martin Harris requested readmission into the Church.

The home was the birthplace of pioneer artist, John B. Fairbanks.

The home is listed on the Utah Register of Historic and Cultural Sites.

c/o Richard Fairbanks
6193 West Argo Circle
Highland, Utah 84003

THE FAIRBANKS HOMESTEAD
PRESERVATION FUND

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A UTAH HERITAGE
WORTH PRESERVING

Tel: (801) 756-6877

THIS IS THE
PLACE
HERITAGE PARK



Preserving a Valuable "Jewel" in Utah's History

The Fairbanks home is an excellent example of the Utah architecture style adapted from the New England Federal or Greek Revival homes. It was built of adobe bricks and was among the first homes in Utah to have wooden (cedar) shingles. Like most adobe homes, it was later stuccoed to make the home more durable and to protect it from the elements.



Prairie Cottage
Image from
"The American
Cottage Builder"

"In 1845, Henry L. Ellsworth, the first Commissioner of Patents of the United States Patent Office, suggested in his first annual report to the nation that persons

going West would be wise to build their homes of adobe, or unburned brick. Designs for such homes, called "prairie cottages," were published by Mr. Ellsworth and reproduced in many handbooks of the mid-nineteenth century; but so far as I know, only the Utah pioneers adopted the idea on a large scale. Such adobe buildings are quickly disappearing and may soon be known only by photographs. The John Boylston Fairbanks house is based on Mr. Ellsworth's plans, and is one of the few important examples extant today." Jonathan Fairbanks - Curator

Ownership of the home was transferred to the Park in 1980 and the home was then dismantled, moved and rebuilt brick by brick.

Unfortunately, errors in the reconstruction and maintenance have helped give way to gradual deterioration of this historic building.



Over the years many of the adobe bricks have eroded, especially at the base of the structure, around the windows and the chimneys.

When evaluated by the contractor who will be doing the restoration, he referred to the home as a "Jewel" in

Utah history that must be preserved. *This is the Place Heritage Park* receives a limited amount of funds from the State of Utah and has requested assistance from the family (and others) for the funding of this project. The rough estimate for the restoration is in the neighborhood of \$100,000.

Our intent is to provide at least half, if not more of this amount. The rest will be provided by the Park and outside contributors.

We are in the process of contacting other private foundations who make donations to causes such as ours and we have learned that they are greatly influenced by the degree private individuals contribute to the cause.

A very generous member of the Fairbanks family, who wishes to remain anonymous, has pledged to

match dollar-for-dollar all contributions toward the *Fairbanks Homestead Restoration Project* up to a total of \$20,000 . Again, our first level goal is \$50,000, (Including the matching pledge, we're already more than 1/2 way there).

Please Act Now!

Make a contribution today, forward this information to others and help us spread the news and ask for help in saving this valuable "Jewel" in Utah's and the Fairbanks family's history.

Your tax-deductible contribution can be a convenient click away on our website or contributions can be made by check payable to The Fairbanks Homestead Preservation Fund at the address below.

When you donate \$50 or more, your name or your family's name will be engraved on a plaque which will be placed at *This is the Place Heritage Park*.

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