

Butler House

PRESERVATION PROJECT



Submitted by
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ManageMen

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Since its construction, the Butler House has been a picturesque landmark in the Salt Lake valley. Located at 1045 East 4500 South it was built in a farming community on the outskirts of Salt Lake City. Now it sits almost in the middle of the metropolitan area of Salt Lake County.

For 76 years the house has benefited from the loving care of its numerous owners. Several of them prominent citizens of the first half of the 20th Century. Many of the historic houses of unincorporated Salt Lake County have been torn down to make way for suburban sprawl. More are added to the list each year. Many that remain are adapted to modern use by destroying the original character.

Butler House is different. Robert Butler who designed, built and lived in the house could visit today and recognize the house as the one he built. He would also see that it still retains the eye-pleasing place in the community he originally envisioned and designed.

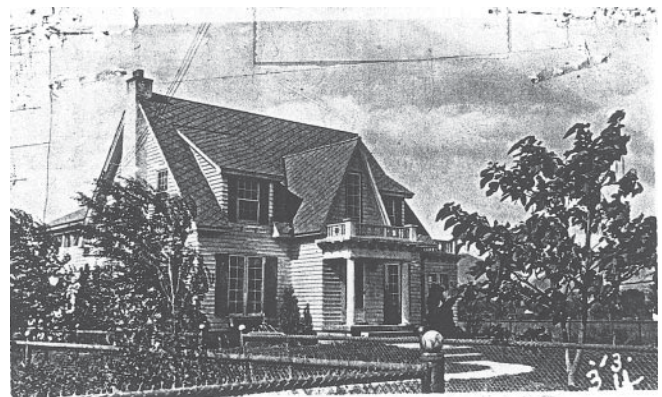
Construction in 1928

Robert Butler designed and built the unique farmhouse himself. One of the previous owners of the house in the 1970s stated in the historical file that has been passed from owner to owner over the years "The house was a landmark when it was built and has remained one to the present day."

Butler used his own T square and drafting table to design the home when he was 41. It was his hobby to design and build unique homes including the "Petty" house (also known as Smith's Diary) at 1680 East 4500 South near Highland Drive, which he completed in 1920. This beautiful Dutch Colonial home was unfortunately torn down in recent months to make

way for an Albertson's grocery store and a Wendy's restaurant.

Butler borrowed \$8,000 from Tracy Loan and Trust Company and purchased the land in February 1928. He began construction in July 1928. Butler acted as General contractor and hired Mr. David Small to do the framing and carpentry work and Mr. George Goodmanson of Holladay to do the lath and plaster walls. Most of the original woodwork and plaster remain in the house today.



Earliest known photograph of the Butler House was probably taken in 1934 and shows small trees where mature trees now stand.

Robert Butler operated a 35 acre farm surrounding the house. He also designed the original beautiful landscaping with flower gardens, trees and shrubs. 28 mature trees surround the house today.

Robert Butler managed the Mine Smelter and Supply Company in Salt Lake City. He worked there for 46 years and retired having worked there longer than any other employee. Later in his life Butler served in the Utah Legislature.

Sheriff's Sale

The house was built just prior to the stock market crash of 1929. As the country plunged into the depression Butler was unable to pay the mortgage on the home and it had to be sold at a Sheriff's auction in 1932. S. Grant Young was the grandson of Brigham Young and Sheriff of Salt Lake County at the time. He



Robert Butler whose hobby was to design and build unique homes.



sold the house to A.G. Wallin at a sheriff's auction for \$5,463.

The Wallin Family Years 1932 to 1942

A. G. Wallin was founder of Paragon Press, a prominent printing company in the Salt Lake area. Wallin also ran an award winning dairy farm from the house he moved his family into after the sheriff's sale. The Wallin family raised thoroughbred prize winning Golden Guernsey show cows, Dapple Grey Persian horses and Hampshire Hogs.

Utah Idaho Sugar Company used the farm as their "Show Farm" for sugar beet demonstrations and exhibits.

The Wallins added a two story addition to the rear of the house which originally contained two bedrooms, one bath, a laundry and a charming, narrow "children's" stair case to accommodate his seven children. The staircase makes it possible for children to enter and exit their bedrooms without going through the front rooms of the house or disturb company.

The Wallins also added a very pretty back porch. Wallin used the same materials in the addition as in the original house and attempted to make it look very much like the original structure.

Wallin sold his cream to Mr. Cummings who founded a premium chocolate candy company



The Wallins two story addition at the back of the house and a pretty back porch.

(Cummings's Studio Candy) located presently on the corner of 7th East and 9th South across from Liberty Park. He sold his milk to the Golden Guernsey Association who processed it and sold it for 15¢ a gallon. Wallin also installed the first walk in cold storage boxes for hanging meat, in Salt Lake County.

During the Wallin family years the home's stateliness and appeal made it desirable for weddings and receptions.

The Burton Family Years

In 1942 the Burton family purchased the Butler House and Dairy Farm from the Wallins. C. Taylor Burton was a prominent businessman who owned Burton Lumber Company. He also served in the Utah State Senate and became head of the Utah Department of Highways.

The Burtons maintained the property as a show place until 1948.

Jensen Dairy

In 1948 Rovia and Venice Jensen bought the farm and began operating the Jensen Dairy on the property. They subdivided most of the farm and sold lots until they sold the property in 1954 to John Berry.



The Farmhouse becomes a suburban home.

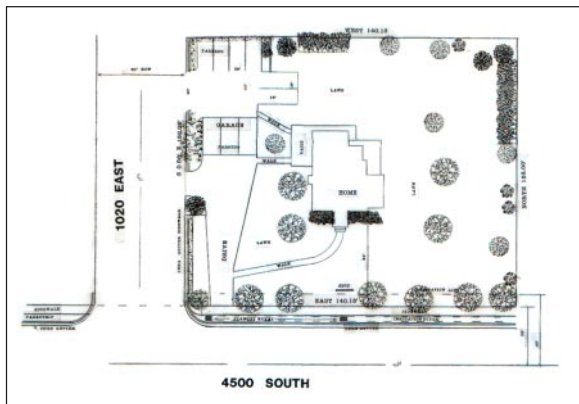


Home Sweet Home

From 1954 to the 1990s the Butler House was no longer a farm and dairy. Farming activities gave way to real estate transactions. John E. Berry bought the home from the Jensens in 1954 and sold it in 1963 to the Bradfords.

The Bradfords owned the property from 1963 to 1977. Mr. Lionel Bradford had a heart attack and died while mowing the front lawn. Later Mrs. Bradford sold the house to Richard Lusas who sold it to Steve Nelson of ULADCO.

In 1979 Steve Nelson sought to have Butler House designated on the National Register of Historic Places. The house was approved to be nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places - United States Department of the Interior by the Utah Division of State History, A. Kent Powell, Preservation Research Coordinator. Due to a misidentification of the house in the application documents the designation was rejected. Although Nelson was invited to make corrections and reapply this was never completed.



Plans for the grounds being adapted to a business location.

No Longer a Residence

In the 1980s the house became a business location. Heavy traffic on 45th South and the park-like grounds made it an ideal location. An unobtrusive parking lot was placed where the driveway had been and behind the original garage additional parking was added.



UniShippers Association at Butler House in the 1990s.

Among the businesses located in Butler House were UniShippers Association and Superior Title.



Superior Title logo with gable design inspired by Butler House.



Superior Title Company relocated their office to the Butler House in 1998. They redesigned their corporate logo to incorporate the gabled roof over the front porch. In a press release Superior Title Company Moves Office Into a Historic Home, Chad Anderson, co-owner said because the title company is helping people build dreams of owning a house, what better place is there for closing on their homes.

ManageMen Era

In December of 2002 the Butler House acquired a new owner. ManageMen is a Utah based consulting and education firm specializing in facility cleaning and maintenance. Clients of ManageMen are international and include The Boeing Company, the University of Texas, the Canadian Environmental Engineers Association and Sodexo.

ManageMen wanted to find a corporate headquarters to showcase the importance of cleaning and maintenance to a facility's lifecycle. When the Butler House came on the market the owners of ManageMen decided to purchase the property and preserve the building and grounds for the next generation.

Renae Walker, CEO and John Walker, President moved their company to the Butler House location on December 16, 2002. Prior to the move they compiled a project list and a maintenance list to preserve the building and grounds on the highest level. Immediately upon moving in they began to restore and upgrade Butler House to its best condition while continuing the policy of previous owners to respect the unique qualities of this treasure of Utah's heritage.

Invariably when a resident of Butler House describes the location to a resident of Salt Lake County they elicit the same response. "I know that house. I drive by it all the time. I've always loved that house. May I come by sometime and see the inside?"



Long Term Multi-Owner Project

MAINTENANCE LIST	PROJECT	START DATE	STATUS
1. Garage: Doors-Entry	Restore/replace	6/03	Done
2. Garage: Doors-Car	Restore/replace	6/05	
3. Garage: Inside Ceiling	Drywall	12/02	Done
4. Garage: Inside Ceiling	Paint	12/02	Done
5. Garage: Inside Walls	Paint	12/02	Done
6. Garage: Inside Walls	Drywall	12/02	Done
7. Garage: Outside	Paint	8/04	
8. Garage: Rain Gutters	Install/replace	8/04	
9. Garage: Roof	Replace	12/02	Done
10. Garage: Windows	Replace	12/02	Done
11. Grounds: Fence	Repair replace slats	6/03	Done
12. Grounds: Fence	Restore cannonball fence	6/05	
13. Grounds: Fence	Install screen to conceal dumpster	6/03	Done
14. Grounds: Flowers	Plant annuals	6/03	Done
15. Grounds: Flowers	Plant perennials	6/04	Done
16. Grounds: Lighting	Install accent on paths	6/04	Done
17. Grounds: Lighting	Install security	6/04	Done
18. Grounds: Lighting	Replace sidewalk light	6/04	Done
19. Grounds: Lighting	Replace accent lighting	6/04	Done
20. Grounds: Lighting	Replace street lamp	6/03	Done
21. Grounds: Trees	Arborist survey	2/03	Done
22. Grounds: Trees	Arborist trim	2/03	Done
23. Grounds: Water feature	Install	?	?
24. House: Bathroom Down	Remodel for commercial use	4/99	Done
25. House: Bathroom Up	Remodel for commercial use	4/99	Done
26. House: Living Room	Remodel for commercial use	4/99	Done
27. House: Entry	Remodel for commercial use	4/99	Done
28. House: Kitchen	Remodel for commercial use	4/99	Done
29. House: Laundry room	Remodel for commercial use	4/99	Done
30. House: Sun room	Remodel for commercial use	4/99	Done
31. House: Carpet	Clean/restore	12/02	Done
32. House: Chimney	Remove ivy overgrowth	2/03	Done



Long Term Multi-Owner Project

MAINTENANCE LIST	PROJECT	START DATE	STATUS
33. House: Chimney	Restore to copper top	6/03	Done
34. House: Deck	Remove astro-turf	6/03	Done
35. House: Deck	Repair deck rails	8/04	
36. House: Deck	Repair floor surface	8/03	Done
37. House: Exterior	Paint	8/04	
38. House: Front Porch	Restore with stone foundation	8/05	
39. House: Fireplace	Make functional	6/03	Done
40. House: HVAC System	Replace	6/03	Done
41. House: Patio	Repair and add sitting wall	8/05	
42. House: Roof	Replace with original design	8/03	Done
43. House: Security System	Update	12/02	Done
44. House: Walls	No new nail holes	12/02	Done
45. House: Widow's Walk	Repair floor surface	8/03	Done
46. House: Widow's Walk	Restore miniature rail	8/04	



Aerial View of Butler House location

Butler House



PRESERVATION PROJECT

then



How the house looked from Robert Butler's day to the 1980s.

now





then



Living room of the house before the transition for commercial use.

now



The ManageMen conference room today.



then



Downstairs bathroom before the transition for commercial use.

now



After the renovation.



then



Sunroom before the transition for commercial use.

now



Renae Walker's office after the renovation.





Interiors Today





The Butler Grounds Today

