



HISTORICAL WILLARD HOMES

Twelve homes in Willard have been listed on the Utah State Register of Historic Sites. All but the Lyman Wells home were constructed completely or partially of stone by Shadrach Jones.

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| 1. George Mason Home | 6. Charles Harding Home |
| 2. Robert Bell Baird Home | 7. Alfred Ward Home |
| 20. John L. Edwards Home | 8. Omer Call Home |
| 3. George Harding Home | 9. John Miller Home |
| 4. Richard Jenkins Davis Home | 10. George Facer Home |
| 5. Shadrach Jones Home | 34. Lyman Wells Home |

Many other historical buildings have been identified which predate the year 1885.

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| 1. Facer Home | 13. Braegger Home | 26. Bruncker Home |
| 2. Davis Home | 14. Lowe Home | 27. Morgan Home |
| 3. Hubbard Home | 15. Lowe Home | 28. White Home |
| 4. Hubbard Home | 16. Korl Home | 29. Nicholas Home |
| 5. Zundel Home | 17. Ownes Home | 30. Unknown |
| 6. Warner Home | 18. Lowe Home | 31. Cook Home |
| 7. Wells Home | 19. Dalton Home | 32. Tithing Office |
| 8. White Home | 20. Edwards Home | 33. Wells Home |
| 9. UT-ID RR Depot | 21. Unknown | 34. Wells Home |
| 10. Dalton Home | 22. Ward Home | 35. City Hall |
| 11. Davis Home | 23. Bruncker Home | 36. Beeton Home |
| 12. Woodlands Home | 24. Ward Home | 37. Edwards Home |
| | 25. Parsons Home | |

HISTORY OF WILLARD UTAH

Willard is located about 45 miles north of Salt Lake City and was settled in 1851. Of these original settlers, one home – the Lyman Wells home, constructed in the early 1850s remains. The original settlement was called Willow Creek because of the numerous willows along the stream, which flowed from the steep mountain canyon just east of the settlement westward into the Great Salt Lake. Later the town was named Willard in honor of Willard Richards, an apostle of the Mormon Church.

Willard reflected Brigham Young's concern about Indian attack and on his advice constructed one of the largest forts of any Utah village. The fort proved unnecessary and, as the settlers grew more convinced that they were at last at their permanent home site, they disassembled the fort and used many of its rocks in homes nearby and in the foundation for the L.D. S. meetinghouse begun in the 1880s.

As the pioneers expanded beyond the confines of the fort, Willard began to take on the form of a typical Mormon agricultural village. Important distinguishing characteristics of a Mormon village, in addition to the wide streets and grid pattern plan of the village, include barns, granaries, sheds, corrals and fences, and a predominance of earth tones in the color of building materials.

The abundance of pioneer stone architecture in Willard sets it apart from most other villages not only in terms of sheer numbers but also in styles ranging from Gothic to Greek. The ingenuity of the settler in making such harmonious use of natural stone is uniquely demonstrated in the craftsmanship of the town's master builder,

Shadrach Jones. A native of Wales, Jones was converted to Mormonism in 1850; he emigrated directly to Willard. His work reflects the style of rock houses of his native Wales.

The Willard Historic District illustrates several significant facts relating to Utah's history and heritage;

1. The concentration of rock houses reflecting the influence and use of European house styles on the Mormon frontier.
2. The craftsmanship of Shadrach Jones and his helpers, who used their tremendous skills with a minimum of hand tools to create some of the most beautiful structure still standing.
3. The Mormon philosophy of building as permanently and beautifully as their resources would allow.
4. The adaptability of these settlers to their environment. Rocks were used in these houses because of their abundance and the ability of the settlers to work with them; in other parts of the Mormon territory, adobe and bricks were used in the constructing much the same style of homes.

Foundations and walls of these houses are of rock; generally, just one side of the rod was cut – that of the façade. On the facades facing the roads, the mortar was often "pointed" to give a more finished appearance; on some homes, the walls facing barnyards and town edges were left unpointed.

The houses are built as a basic rectangle with two rooms downstairs and one large room above. Exterior walls were 18" to 24" thick and lined with adobe; interior walls are usually of rock. Windows on the end walls are offset to accommodate the chimneys serving the coal or wood stove; no wood burning fireplaces have been identified in houses built by Shadrach Jones, although two have been discovered in adobe houses built in the 1850s. Most of the windows in rock houses are flared to the inside to allow maximum interior light; in many cases panels framed with moldings decorate these window openings. The second story doors were evidently built to air beddings and give a direct access for furniture and other items not passable through the narrow stairwells, because few porches were part of the original structures.

Several of the original pioneer agricultural buildings still stand: some barns date back to the 1850s and were constructed without nails. Many original sheds still exist, with several good examples of the "inside-out" granary. Many of the interior blocks still support the orchards set out by the first pioneers. Vestiges of the floods of 1923 and 1936 remain, especially the tons of earth that inundated one of the rock homes directly in the floodpath.

Until 1972, no zoning ordinances existed in Willard. Since adoption of a moderate ordinance in order to tie Willard into the Box Elder County master Plan, residential lots must be at least ½ acre and mobile homes must adhere to this restriction. The new ordinance did NOT rule out animals for reasonable domestic use, so barnyard animals are common throughout the town and people on horseback seem at times to use the road as much as cars.

1. **GEORGE MASON HOME AND BARN**

This rock house was constructed in two sections – the west wing in 1865 and the east wing in 1880. Shadrach Jones was the builder. Earlier, in 1857, the large barn was built by George Mason of red pine timber mortised and pegged together. The house is constructed of blue granite, has 11 rooms. Mr. Mason came to Willard in 1853, owned a dairy and molasses mill. (State Register Historic Site.)

2. **ROBERT BELL BAIRD HOME**

Built in 1882-83 by Shadrach Jones, for Mr. Baird, of rock from the nearby mountains. The original rock, wood scrollwork and lintels remain in excellent condition, kept in fine repair by the present owners, Mr. And Mrs. Malcolm J. Baird. Mr. Baird was a railroad man and fine musician who wrote many well-known hymns still used today. He directed the Willard Choir from 1884-1903, led the Willard Brass Band. (State Register)

3. **GEORGE HARDING HOME**

The main portion of the house was built of adobe in 1854; two stories with two rooms above and two below. In the 1880s the outer adobe bricks were removed and replaced by red brick. The rock portions were built by Shadrach Jones about 1865. George Harding's father, Dwight, came to Willard in 1851, having worked as a carpenter on the temples at Nauvoo and Kirtland. George was one of 6-7 men left behind to "scorch the earth" if Johnston's Army made it necessary. Polygamists were often sheltered in the house and a bedroom was set-aside for them. (State Register.)

4. **RICHARD JENKINS DAVIS HOME**

Built in 1861 by Shadrach Jones for Mr. Davis, who came to Utah in 1853; the home housed three of his four wives. The second floor was never completed and there are no access stairs inside or out. The house remained in the Davis family until the mud flood of 1923, when it was purchased by the Flood Committee and given to the Ipsen family. (State Register.)

5. **SHADRACH JONE HOME**

The locally famous stonemason, Shadrach Jones, built his own rock house in Willard about 1870. Jones learned the trade in Wales, where he was born in 1832. He did much of the stonework on the Logan Temple. The house is Greek revival in style, with mortar pointing on the north and east walls. Jones and his wife loved to dance and at one time they turned their second floor into a dance hall for the town's young people. (State Register.)

6. **CHARLES HARDING HOME**

Built by Shadrach Jones in 1869, Greek revival design. A brother of George Harding, with whom he freighted for Walker Brothers of Salt Lake. Of 12 children born to the Harding's, 11 lived to maturity and all were university graduates. The 1923 flood severely damaged the home's interior, mud completely covering the upright piano in the parlor. (State Register)

7. **ALFRED WARD HOME**

Built by Shadrach Jones in 1872; the east wing is mortar-pointed and has arched red brick lintels over the windows and doorway. This house is a good example of the effects of the 1923 flood: mud completely filled the first story and was shoveled out and away from the house only far enough to clear windows and doors – the house looks as it had sunk. Alfred Ward was

the son of Willard's first mayor, George W. Ward. Although his formal schooling lasted only three months, he taught himself well enough to serve as schoolteacher for a time. (State Register)

8. **OMER CALL HOME** Omer and his identical twin Homer were born in Ohio in 1834; the twins were inseparable in social occasions as well as business, and operated the first flourmill in the county. The house was built by Shadrach Jones in 1862, and is of the Gothic Revival period with very ornate wood trim on gables and eaves; pointed stone work on the front of the house. (State Register)

9. **JOHN MILLER HOME.** John Miller, a polygamist, built this house for his second wife, Malena Zundel, who liked ornamental trim and hoped the house would resemble an English estate. She did not live in the house long before she left John. Built in 1862 by Shadrach Jones, one of the largest houses he built in Willard. The east portion of the house was a shell of only the outside walls until completed in 1958. Now owned by Mr. And Mr. Arthur A. Bartetzki, who have renovated the house as a showplace for exquisite European antiques. (State Register)

10. **GEORGE FACER HOME.** Built by Shadrach Jones in 1882 for the second wife of George Facer; a simple house with three large rooms downstairs and two upstairs. Mr. Facer emigrated from England in 1860, traveling to Utah with a handcart company. Now owned and being restored by Mr. And Mrs. L. Don Fransden. (State Register)

20. **JOHN L. EDWARDS HOME** Built in 1868, probably by Shadrach Jones and unknown helpers. Second-story gabled windows trimmed with "gingerbread" which extends along the remainder of the house. The front exterior balcony has been restored to the original from an early photograph. Mr. Edwards was a prominent cattleman and was probably the first white man to build a permanent house on Promontory. The house welcomed such notables as Leland Stanford and Charles Crocker of early railroading fame, Brigham Young and Lorenzo Snow. (State Register.)

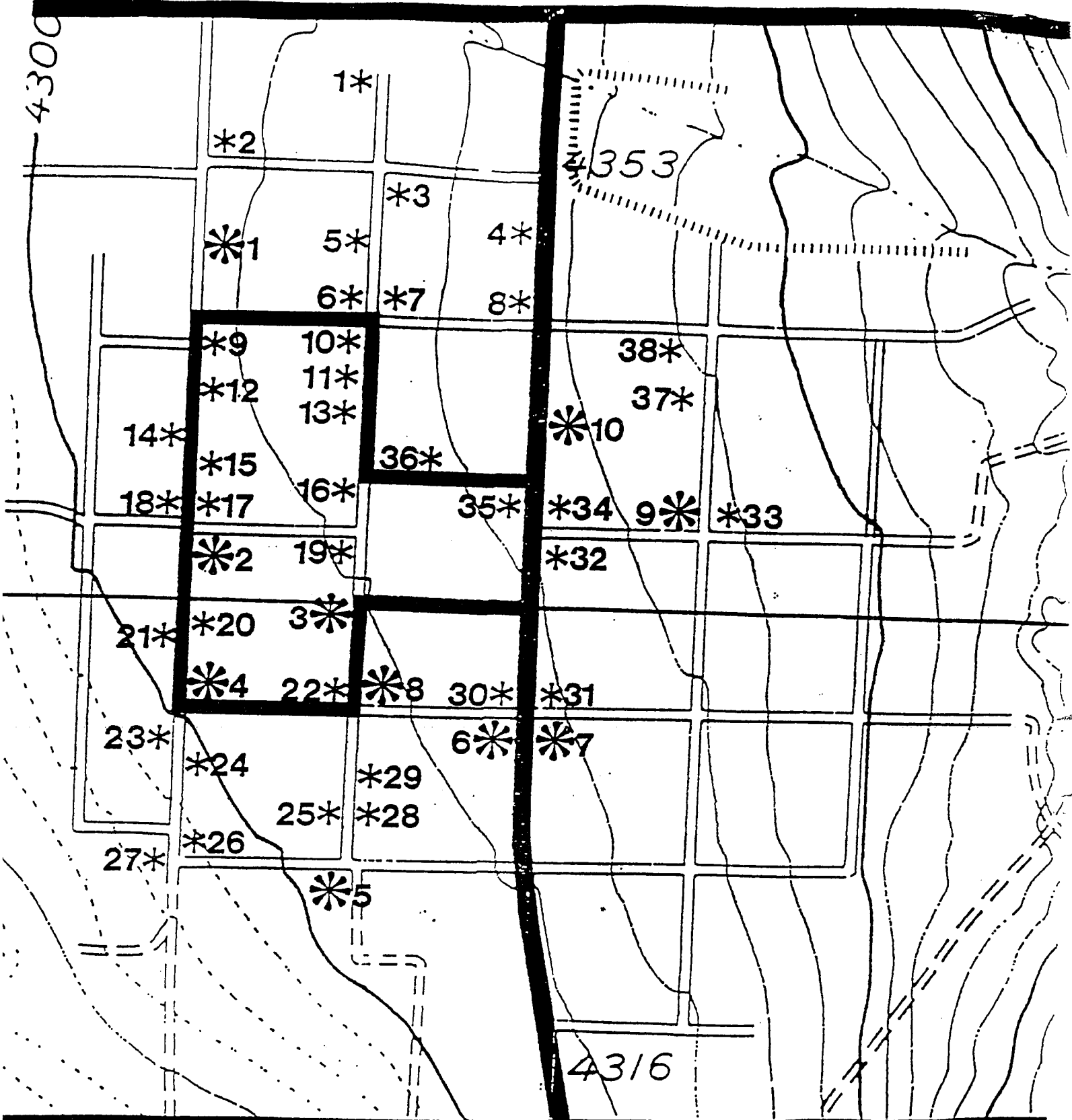
34. **LYMAN WELLS HOME.** Built in mid 1850s for Lyman and Bithia Wells, members of the first group of settlers in 1851. Original rear section built of adobe; two-story front brick section added a few years later. Now owned and being restored by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fike. (State Register)

(The information about Willard has been provided by Teddy Griffith from a study of the town, **Willard: A Plan For Its Historic Preservation.**)

OTHER HISTORICAL BUILDINGS

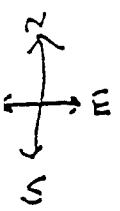
10. **MATTHEW WILLIAM DALTON HOME** *Construction began by Matthew Dalton in 1856 but had to be abruptly halted when word came that Willard families must move south, away from Johnston's army. As captain of the militia he must assure the safe movement. Three men were left behind to carry out the "scorched earth" policy to confront Johnston. Returning 1858, Dalton completed his 7 room house constructed with iron nails made from tie iron products by a hand machine, cement made from the lime pits near Mantua and mortar composed of sand from the banks of Willow Creek. He ordered fruit trees and shrubbery from the east. Laid the first pipe system for watering the grounds, producing the first fruit orchard. Dalton was also the first to have a sailboat on the Great Salt Lake; opened his home to railroad workers and those coming west on the train. He was a Justice of the Peace, school trustee, and a delegate to the State Constitutional convention.*



(Information taken from history written by Bertha Dalton Smith and John A. Dalton. Beth Gurrister, Tourism Council)



HISTORICAL

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-  state register
-  historical buildings