



FIELDING GARR RANCH

ANTH 2990

AUBREY ALTENES



INTRODUCTION

Location: Fielding Garr Ranch is located on the southeast side of Antelope Island State Park in the Great Salt Lake, Utah.

Historical Significance:

- Established in 1848 by Fielding Garr, a Mormon pioneer.
- One of the oldest working ranches in the United States, continuously operational for over 130 years.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

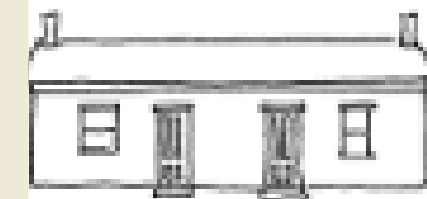
Preservation Status:

- Maintained as part of *Antelope Island State Park*.
- Historic buildings, including the ranch house, barn, and blacksmith shop, have been preserved for educational and recreational purposes.

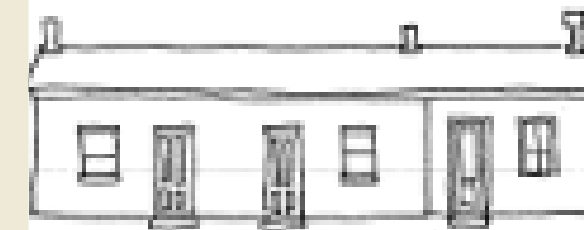
Alterations:

- **Adobe House-** Concrete addition made to the northern side of the building, along with an original window being enlarged, an original door being blocked off, and about 6 inches of concrete facing added to 3 of the deteriorating adobe walls.
- **Milk House-** Also built by Garr family, has been faced with concrete and a new cellar.

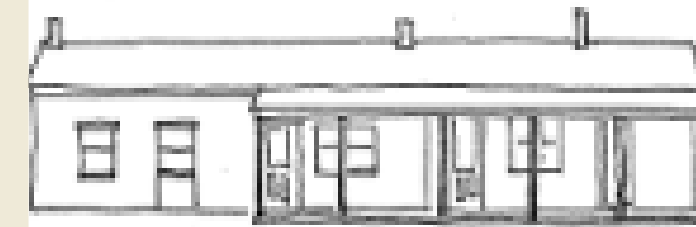
THE EVOLUTION OF THE
FIELDING GARR HOUSE
ANTELOPE ISLAND



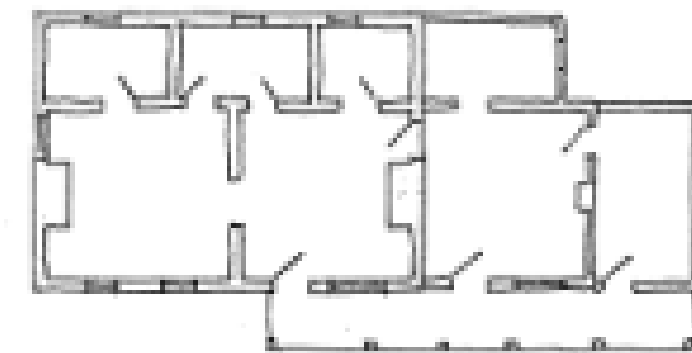
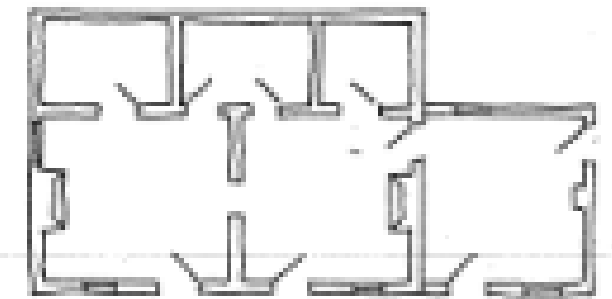
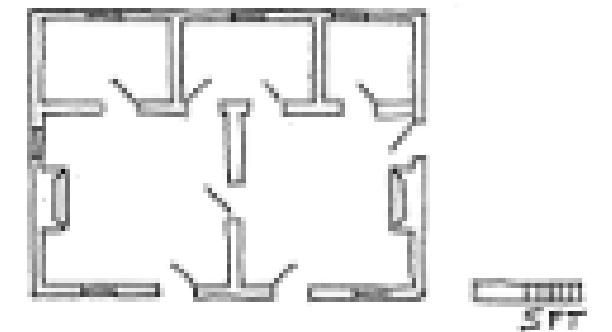
1847



C.1880



C.1950





WHY RESEARCH?

Criteria A, Association with Significant Events

- Primary revenue for the Church's "Perpetual Emigration Fund".
- Events and patterns that shaped the development of the American West.

Criteria B, Association with Significant Persons

- Founder: Fielding Garr
- Joseph Smith: Founder of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Criteria C, Architectural/Engineering Significance

- Historical ranching infrastructure including corrals, irrigation systems, and livestock pens.
- Adobe home on original foundations.

Criteria D, Archaeological Potential/Data Collection

- Artifacts from previous Indigenous occupation (spear tips, grain grinders).
- Domestic and agricultural artifacts of the 19th century.

BACKGROUND

- **1848:** Founded by Fielding Garr. Adobe house, Milk House, and a corral are built.
- **1855:** Garr dies falling off a horse... the ranch is passed to Bryant Stringhan. Adds buildings and orchard.
- **1871/1972:** Sold to John Dooly Sr. for 1mil, alterations to buildings. Sold again to Anschutz Corporation.
- **1981/1983:** Acquired by the State of Utah for Antelope Island State Park and added to the national register in 83'.





QUESTIONS

WHAT WERE THE SUBSISTENCE STRATEGIES EMPLOYED BY THE RANCH'S INHABITANTS, AND HOW DID THEY CHANGE OVER TIME?

HOW DOES THE MATERIAL CULTURE AT THE RANCH REFLECT THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STATUS OF THE INHABITANTS?

WHAT WERE THE GENDER ROLES AND LABOR DIVISIONS AMONG THE RANCH'S SETTLERS AND INHABITANTS?



METHODS

Subsistence strategies:

- Faunal and botanical analysis. Analyzing animal bones, seeds, and pollen to reconstruct diets and identify locally sourced or imported foods.
- Soil and isotope analysis to test for evidence of different agricultural practices like irrigation or fertilization

Economic status:

- Recovered artifacts to determine what they are, date them, and find their origins.
- Comparative analysis with the found artifacts alongside those found in other Mormon settlements to identify any common or unique features.

Gender roles:

- Obtain an artifact distribution map of some kind to look at the spatial distribution of things like tools, utensils, personal belongings, etc., and their sizes to infer workspaces both mixed-gender and exclusive spaces (if any).
- Historical documents like diaries, letters, or any census records that would better indicate the roles of men, women, and children in ranching operations.

CONCLUSION

Fielding Garr Ranch remains a vital cultural resource, offering opportunities for education, further research, and public engagement. By preserving and learning more about Fielding Garr Ranch, we honor its rich history and ensure its stories continue to inspire future generations.

