

Wood Cabin in Park

Exterior and interior of Pioneer Home given honored place among noteworthy collection of early day and historic relics in City Park at Cedar City. Owned in one family 77 years.

IRON COUNTY RECORD:

Cedar City, Nov. 3, 1928

Another unit of Cedar City Pioneer relics has been opened in the City Park here as the second project of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, to be completed within the last few weeks. The latest addition is the renovation and opening of a Pioneer House which is furnished throughout with old furniture, pictures and other relics of the early days of Iron County existence.

The official opening was held Friday, October 26, 1928 and an opening ceremony was held Saturday afternoon. The cabin has long been identified in Cedar City's history. It was first built in Parowan in 1851 when the combined efforts of George Wood, Richard Benson, John Steel and a Mr. Lewis, were required to make it habitable.

Shortly afterward it was moved to Cedar City and was frequently moved about, at one time being put within the old fort. Finally it was moved to the George Wood corner where it stood for many years until it was moved to its present resting place on the north side of the Cedar City Main Street Park.

The Wood family owned the cabin for 77 years and it was through this family that it was presented to the Daughters of Utah Pioneers for historical preservation. This relic, added to the World War Plaque, the field piece from the war which was placed in the park by the American Legion, and to the recently completed monument of the Pioneer Iron mongers of Iron County, erected by the County Chapter of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, makes the park one of the most interesting anywhere in Utah and adds much to the scenic and historic attractions of the southern sections of the state.

The exercises at the opening of the Wood Cabin were in the form of an old fashioned tea party. The members of the County Chapter of the D.U.P. with several pioneers, and with some of their children, participated in the program. The children were dressed in many of the pioneer costumes that had been worn in the early days of the Utah settlement, adding another touch of realism to the celebration.

The old house itself was filled with relics of pioneer struggles. The walls have been chinked to keep out the rain and snow and the walls are hung with pictures, household and field implements and many other relics. The furniture of the cabin is of pioneer type. In one corner is an old spinning wheel and one of the features of the opening ceremony was a demonstration given by Mrs. Alice Bladen Bulloch and Mrs. Elizabeth Wood Leigh on the carding and spinning of wool as done in the cabin many years before.

There was nothing even in the refreshments of the day to detract from the antiquity of the program. It was an old fashioned tea party and molasses cakes and old fashioned cookies were the principle items on the menu. The children gave a program of songs and hymns that were favorites of the early settlers.

The cabin is sheltered under a shingled roof supported by stone and cobble pillars, and will be kept in good repair.
