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PLEASE NOTE

The Clarkdale Building and Home Tour is Not
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Clarkdale Fifth Annual Historic Building and Home Tour

December 14, 2013



Clarkdale Gazebo

Sponsored by the
Clarkdale Historical Society and Museum
900 1st North Street
Clarkdale, Arizona

Clarkdale is a unique example of a “company” mining town, having been owned, planned, and developed by Montana Senator William Andrews Clark. Clark bought Jerome’s United Verde copper mine in 1888 after development attempts by others failed. By 1912 the need for a new smelter location prompted a move from Jerome to present-day Clarkdale. Clark prescribed and supervised every detail of town construction, from the modern sewer system to hardwood floors in all the houses--amenities that did not appear in other company towns of the period. Clark used the finest, most modern construction materials and equipment in all his industrial projects, and he directed the same careful attention to this town, which he built as a monument to himself. Commercial and residential areas were designed for each class of smelter worker, reflecting the social prejudices of the time. Employees paid rent and were expected to abide by company rules both on and off duty. Join us today on a journey back through time and try to imagine the 400-foot smelter stack and smell the caustic sulfur smoke that permeated the lives of the town’s residents.

Upper Town



#1 1507 Main Street (1927) -- This three-room home was built in the Spanish Colonial Revival style at a cost of \$3,727. Spanish Colonial Revival homes vary from Mission Revival-influenced dwellings with curvilinear parapets and tile to simpler, flat-roofed

homes with a small Mission tile shed roof over the porch. Walls were stuccoed. Other elements include arcaded porches, wood posts and corbels, and round, clay attic vents imitating vigas. Original features include the wrought-iron fencing and gate in front, the porch and stuccoed exterior walls, and the front door. Windows have been replaced. Originally the home had a glass-enclosed back porch and a corrugated-metal garage. The original maple hardwood flooring has been sanded and refinished; the kitchen nook area/office space is original. The master bedroom has been remodeled into a dining room. A separate guest quarters was added in the 1970s that has been recently upgraded and remodeled. The owners also added a large outdoor patio on the east side of the house.

Current Owners: Darren and Candy Gemmill



#2 1508 Third South St. (1930) -- This small, five-room Tudor Revival home was built for \$3,876. It features high-pitched gable roofs with half-timbered gables and was constructed of concrete block with stucco exterior. Existing original features include fence posts and gate with double-loop ornamental fencing and a corrugated-metal coal shed and attached garage. Original house windows were replaced. A cedar-sided structure adjacent to the coal shed was moved from Jerome where it supposedly served as a guard shack. The interior contains the original maple hardwood flooring, five-panel doors and hardware, push-button light

switches in the living room, and closets with shelving and clothes bar in the bedrooms. The living room was expanded and a front porch with roof overhang was added to the front of the house, designed by local architect Rennie Radoccia in the 1990s. The kitchen and bathroom have been remodeled. The original dividing wall between the dining room and kitchen containing a small doorway was removed, and an archway was created to match the original one between the living and dining rooms. A small extension was added to the original glass-enclosed porch, now the laundry room, which retains an original cabinet.

Current Owner: Laura Jones



#3 201 South 15th St. (1930) This small, five-room Spanish Colonial Revival home cost \$3,876 to construct. Original exterior features include fence posts and gate, the corrugated-metal garage and coal storage bin in back, the recessed front porch with wood posts and corbels, shed roof with clay Mission tile, galvanized chimney flu pipe on the roof, downspout, rectangular attic vents, and front doors. Original windows have been replaced. Interior original elements include maple hardwood flooring, five-panel doors and hardware, picture rail molding, and bedroom closets with shelving and clothes bar. The original glass-enclosed back porch is now the laundry room.

Current Owner: Charles Sculley (Karen Bowers, renter)



#4 889 First South St. St. Thomas of the Valley Episcopal Church (1917). St. Thomas’s congregation was formed on December 1, 1913, when nine people signed the charter for a mission of the Episcopal Church in Clarkdale. Served initially by the rector of Christ Church in Jerome, St. Thomas’s Mission was fully organized with its own rector in 1916, with services held in a local school. In 1917 a combination chapel and parish hall was built for \$8,000. The church buildings have undergone many renovations. The church bell that proclaims the beginning of Sunday worship is from a Phelps-Dodge Corp. locomotive that ran between Clarkdale and Jerome. The original baptismal fount is located just outside the church south doors. The three round windows have an interlocking theme of the “Gifts of God for the People of God.” Altar windows and the cross between them were part of the original 1917 church building. Six memorial windows adorn the nave walls. The current parish hall dates to 1993.

Lower Town



#5 518 Main St (1913) This four-room, brick Neoclassical-style home was built for \$1,826. Neoclassical four-room homes were simple, with similar styles clustered together on blocks of Lower

Town. Houses were divided into 4 equal squares and built of brick with a concrete foundation and hipped roof with central front- and rear-facing gables.

Roofs were shingled with cedar shakes; the ends of roof rafters were exposed. Exterior walls are double brick, and the lintels of doors and windows were built with brick and angle iron or pre-formed concrete. The floor plan consisted of a dining room, living room, bedroom with built-in closet, and a kitchen with pantry. Nine-foot-tall interior walls and ceiling were covered with lath and plaster. Hardwood floors were of maple or Oregon pine. Originally the homes were heated by small coal stoves in the living room, kitchen, and bedroom that vented through a brick chimney in the center of the home. Sleeping verandas were added ca. 1920 across the rear facade. Exterior walls were sided with cedar boards. A shower and toilet were added on one side with floors of Oregon pine painted gray that sloped to allow water runoff. A sloping shed roof was joined to the original hip roof.

Existing original exterior features are the fence posts with double-loop ornamental fencing, the metal clothesline posts, the poured concrete front stoop and walkway, the brickwork, and the attic vent on the front roof gables. A small overhang was added over the front door and the sleeping porch was remodeled into a guest room and bathroom. In 2006 new oak floors were laid in all rooms inside the original house; kitchen walls and floors were tiled. The original bedroom was converted into a library/bar. A back extension contains an office, master bedroom, bathroom, guest room, and laundry. Solid knotted ash doors and double-pane windows were installed throughout. The house is fully solar powered. Behind it is an historic Chinese Restaurant currently used as apartments.

Current Owners: Helen and Dieter Bartels



#6 United Verde Power House. The power generating equipment of the United Verde Copper Company started with the installation in 1915 of six waste heat boilers, taking waste heat from three reverberatories, and two Parker direct-fired boilers supplying steam for various blowing engines and turbo generators, most of which were moved to Clarkdale from the old plant in Jerome. The power plant produced air for blast furnaces and converters, electric power for use at the smelter and mine, and a small amount of steam for heating the various offices and shops in the plant.

The building is steel-framed brick and concrete with composition roof, with an extension on the east wall for switchboards, house transformers, office, and locker room. Approximately 75 % of the outside walls are steel sash, a large portion of which is ventilated. The basement is of sufficient height to accommodate condenser circulating pumps, piping, and accessories, and the main engine bay is served by a 20-ton crane.

Today these smelter buildings are the focus of an extensive mining project that includes the renovation of this 26,319 sf historic building for reclaiming and recycling valuable minerals from the old slag pile. Further infrastructure and site improvements and renovations are planned.

Current Owner: Clarkdale Metals