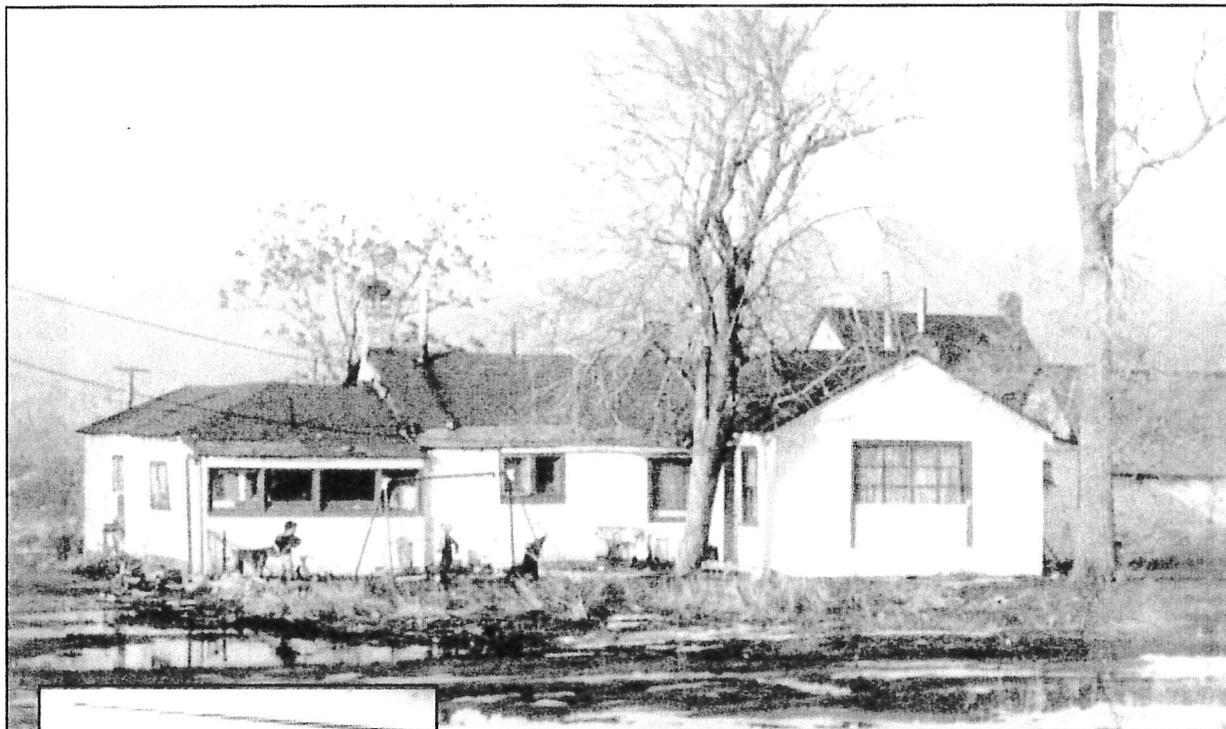


## SIDEBAR: HISTORY OF THE PRICE HOME IN UNION, UTAH



*Above:* The Union, Utah, home before it was torn down in 1983. To the far rear is the roof the home occupied by “Grandma Denney” (Sarah Porter Rogers Williams Denney). At far right is the stone building used to store fruit and grain.

In December 1918, Angus and Lucy Price wanted to raise their children away from inner-city influences, so Angus negotiated the purchase of a twenty acre farm in Union, Utah. The farm, located at 7168 South 1600 East, was purchased from Frank Barnes Stephens and his wife Lunette for \$1,250. Frank Stephens had acquired it as an investment property in 1905, purchasing it from Charles and Sarah Ann Denney. The Denney family had owned the property since 1880, when they bought it from the original title holder, John L. Vance, son of pioneer settler Isaac Vance.

Ang’s purchase wisely included 12½ shares of water in the Brown and Sanford Irrigation Company—a generous amount of irrigation water in those days,

but necessary if one were to grow crops on the thirsty, sub-marginal, farm land that Angus had acquired. Much of the farm's sandy acreage sloped down from a hill area popularly (and justly) known as "Poverty Flats." In those years, the upper hill was covered with fruit orchards.



Lucy and Angus Price in front of their farmhouse home in Union.

Two older homes built by the Charles Denney family were already on the farm property, together with other outbuildings. When the Prices moved in, the main house had only four rooms, a pantry and a closet. A kitchen and porch were immediately added. Later on, a bedroom and long closet were built next to the kitchen on the north side.

When Ang's youngest sons, Melvin, Gene, and Cal, were young, the home didn't have electricity, indoor water, or indoor plumbing. Angus and the boys dug a long ditch for water extending about a block and a half long from the road to the house. An indoor bathroom was added, and water was piped to the kitchen sink. Later, electricity was brought to the home, and electric lights replaced the coal oil lamps. Then, even later, natural gas was brought into the home to fuel a new floor furnace, which was great to heat the home. A gas water heater was also added and enjoyed. The coal range was replaced with an electric stove which made life much easier for Lucy.

Originally, there was no direct access between the living room and the kitchen; everyone had to pass through a series of side rooms to get from one to the other. However, one day, while Angus and Lucy were out of the house, Gene and Cal were playing around. They decided that always having to run through side rooms just to get between the kitchen and the living room was getting tiresome, so they conducted



When Angus Price purchased his farm in Union (now Cottonwood Heights), Utah, in December of 1918, he was surrounded by orchards and farmland. Since then, the area has become engulfed by apartment complexes and other residential and commercial sprawl. Above is an overlay representation of the location of the Angus Price farm as it relates to modern day development through the 1990s. In 1934, Ang's son Ralph bought three acres adjoining the farm to the east.

a daring experiment. To see if the idea of a doorway was feasible, they punched a hole through the adobe wall separating the kitchen and living room. Eying the damage, they began to have second thoughts, so they hurriedly covered the hole with a framed picture before their parents returned. After Angus and Lucy returned, the boys recovered their nerve. Gene and Cal apprehensively approached their parents and broached the idea of a doorway. Angus and Lucy considered the idea and thought it might work. Only at that point did Gene and Cal reveal the hole! Fortunately, the idea of the doorway had now become desirable; with the blessing of Angus and Lucy, the construction of the new portal continued, and everyone was happy with the convenience of the new access.

The twenty acres farmed by Angus Price and his family occupied a rectangular area that lay between 7000 South and 7200 South and between 1500 East and 1600 East. There was a sixteen foot wide right of way extending from the bottom of the Price farm; the right of way ran from the southeast corner of the property eastward about

road that would later become known as Fort Union Boulevard. Between the road and the lower part of Ang's property was a narrow strip owned by the Berrett family. Angus would rent this strip and incorporate it with his lower pasture.

Ang's son Calvin remembers:

*"Dad had alfalfa planted in most of the 20 acres, however, he did reserve one area for a garden over the years. The farm had horses, cows, pigs, chickens, turkeys, and rabbits at different times. The ground was hard, and had a lot of rocks in the soil. Over the years, a large rock pile was created as they were taken from the ground.*

*"The home at the rear was occupied by Grandfather James C. Williams and Grandmother Sarah Porter Rogers Williams. After Granddad's death, Grandmother lived there with her second husband, Charles Denney, until his death. [Note: Charles Denney was the one-time owner of the farm property before and his first wife sold it to Frank Stephens in 1905; Charles married Sarah Porter Rogers Williams in 1934.] Afterward, for health reasons, Grandmother moved into the main house to live with Lucy and Angus. The rock building was used for storage, a cellar, and for bottled fruit and vegetables.*

*Many fond memories are associated with the home and the love that was shared."*

Calvin and Cal's wife Margaret share early memories of living in the two rooms that were on the east end of the house during the first part of their marriage. Later, Ang's son Ralph Price added a kitchen and living room to the east and south sides of the house. Ang's daughter Marie and her husband Wayne Tanner later moved into the home. Marie was a great companion and help to Lucy and Angus in their last years. Angus died in 1963, and Lucy passed away in 1970. After the property was divided among family members, Marie and her family continued to remain in the home. By 1983, the old home had become structurally unsound; the adobe home with all the additions was torn down, and a more modern wood frame house was moved onto the property for Marie to continue to raise her family.

*Resource: Personal records of Calvin George Price*