

HISTORICAL DOWNTOWN AND MAIN ST.

How Springville Came to Be

Oliver B. Huntington and Barney Ward arrived in this region in the spring of 1849 to trade with the Utes. Huntington and Ward put hobbles on their bell mare to help contain the herd while they grazed. One morning they saw that their horses were nowhere in sight. The men eventually found the horses near Maple Canyon. They realized that during the horses' trek to the canyon, the hobble had fallen off the mare in the creek water. Because of this incident, the area was named Hobble Creek.

On September 2, 1850 a large company of members from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, led by 44-year old Aaron Johnson arrived in Salt Lake City. The company consisted of 135 wagons and had departed Council Bluffs Iowa on June 7th of that year. After their arrival in Salt Lake City, the Church President, Brigham Young, asked Captain Johnson to take a small group of families to settle in a site that had previously been selected in south Utah Valley. On September 18th, 1850, the first settlers set up camp here. The settlers quickly constructed a fort near Hobble Creek near 2nd West and 2nd North. Each family was allocated an 18-foot-by-16-foot space. Springville City was founded on April 4th, 1853 under the name Hobble Creek. Later, when the city charter was approved, the city was renamed Springville. It's first Mayor was Gideon D. wood.

Before the buildings were built on Main St., the land between each street was divided into quarter lots. Originally, those quarter lots were owned by individuals. By 1900, most of the owners of these lots subdivided the land and sold sections to others.

While many business and buildings have changed over the years, this self-guided tour is intended to provide a brief history of downtown Main St.



(Painting or drawing of the Settlement in Springville. Artist and date unknown)



Public Library

45 S. Main St.

The first library in Springville was established in 1916 in a room of the Mendenhall Bank through the efforts of the Springville women's clubs and the city council. Organizers gathered donations of books and magazines, and the library committee and members of the women's clubs took turns serving as librarian.

When the possibility of a new facility arose through a grant by Andrew Carnegie, Springville City had to raise \$15,000 to buy property and supplement the building costs, as well as fund the operating costs of up to \$1,000 a year. The goal was accomplished and the Springville Carnegie Library building was completed and opened in January of 1922. The library was one of 23 libraries in Utah funded by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.



(Springville Carnegie Library. Date unknown)

In 1965, a new library was built as part of the City Civic Center. The Springville Chamber of Commerce took over the Carnegie Building and since that time the Carnegie Library has served as a pioneer relic museum operated by the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.

Around 2009, planning went underway for our current library building. Input from citizens and city staff led to the decision of leaving the government buildings along Main St. to provide a solid anchor for the downtown area. The library was built across the street from the Civic Center where the Fire Station and Police Station had been. The building was dedicated October 29th, 2011 and in 2019 the library recorded 317,893 visitors with 667,272 books being checked out.



(The Fire Station and Police Station that was torn down. The Public Library is now on this lot)

As a note-The Public Library sits on a plot of land that is historically significant to Springville. A plaque on the southwest corner of the Library parking lot identifies what was once the White Meeting House.



(The White Meeting House that burned down. Date unknown)

1927 The White Meeting House Razed

One of the city's most cherished landmarks, the old White Meeting House, fell before the march of progress. This building was the scene of many early gatherings, and from its pulpit spoke the leaders of the church from Brigham Young to Heber J. Grant. Just when it ceased to be used as a church is not exactly known, but people generally agreed that it was about 1924. For about ten years the Daughters of the Pioneers tried to obtain the building as a pioneer relic hall. A survey of public opinion showed a sentiment against its destruction. As it was being razed, protests, signs, and fond memories echoed through the deserted structure. The property was sold for the creation of a service station and only a small monument, erected by the D.U.P. and dedicated with fitting ceremonies, marks the spot where so many of the pioneer activities of this settlement took place. The location was the east side of Main and Center street.

The D.U.P. petitioned the church to have the bell remain in Springville. Through the assistance of Mayor George Anderson a place was provided for it in the relic room of the City Hall.

1. H&R Block

139 S. Main St.

In 1925, the Independent Print building was erected. The original land was purchased for \$1,950 by Augustus Johnson. Although it is not known what exactly was printed in this building, it has been reported that he shared the building with the local cobbler until 1945. The building was leased to various other businesses such as a jeweler and radio and TV supply stores until 1971 when Dick and Wilma Nielson purchased the building and began the H&R Block in 1974.



(Main St. 1927. Behind the gentleman is the White meeting house that burned down. To his right would be the lot of the current Wells Fargo Bank and H&R Block)

2. Formerly *Springville Herald* Building

161 South Main

In 1936 Harrison Conover purchased Springville's newspaper, the *Springville Herald*. At the time, the newspaper was being published in another location. In 1944, Conover built this building for the purpose of printing the city's newspaper. Besides printing newspapers, his company, Art City Publishing, produced family and city history books and was the state's largest publisher of school yearbooks. The *Springville Herald* stopped publishing in 2011 and the building has been vacant for most of the time since.

3. Mark Anthony Salon and Day Spa

197 S. Main St.

The Mendenhall Bank was established in 1908 by Thomas Lovell Mendenhall. In his early years, Mendenhall was a freighter and later became director and President of Deals Bros & Mendenhall Co. Upon his retirement, Mendenhall established the banking company with himself as President and his sons in operations. The building of the bank began in 1911 and later contained the Mendenhall Bank on the southwest corner of the building and the post office and telephone office occupied the north and east areas of the building. In 1933, the Mendenhall Bank name and building was acquired by the Springville Banking Co who retained ownership of the property until 1995. Various business such as Dr's offices, a camera shop, and an upholstery shop have occupied the building since that time. The building has undergone renovations that have removed some of its historic structure, but current businesses have continued to keep it a lovely pillar in our community.



(Mendenhall Bank, date unknown)



(Mendenhall Bank modernized, date unknown)

4. Opera House/Memorial Hall

65 E. 200 S.

The Springville Opera House was erected in 1905 for \$35,000 and was said to be one of the “finest opera houses in Utah” as quoted by the Springville Herald of that era. The upper story was primarily used for theatrical purposes, and the facility brought many to perform in the city. The basement had a dance hall where community dances and high school proms were held. The basement was also used as a gym and it served as a basketball court for the Springville High School. In later years, the building was used to view motion picture shows. It was eventually sold to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to host socials and religious services, but was destroyed in 1927 by a fire. The building was considered a total loss. Only the four 2-story, outer brick walls of the building remained. Investigators believed the fire was started with young boys playing with matches near the stage. Memorial Hall was built over the foundation of the Opera House.

Memorial Hall was dedicated on July 4, 1932 as a memorial to soldiers who lost their lives in World War I and the labor was donated by members of the American Legion. The Springville national guard unit used the hall from the time of the guard’s reorganization in 1948 until the Armory was completed. Memorial Hall also served veteran’s groups and was used as a community center. In the 1950s the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints paid to remodel the front part of the building so it could be used as a recreation center for young basketball players.

The building currently serves as our community’s Senior Center.



(Opera House that burned down)
Dates of pictures unknown



(Memorial Hall, currently the Senior Citizens Center)

5. Vaud Hanks & Sons

229 S. Main St

In 1890, John Deal purchased the land from Margaret Tuckett, who do to unfortunate circumstances was a single mother with two young children. John Deal and his partners, the Mendenhall brothers, had each saved up enough money to start their own general merchandise store. The store proved successful and in 1909 an addition was built on the north side of the building and a second addition was built onto that in 1925. With F. Calvin Packard as president, Deal Bros and Mendenhall Co. owned the plot until 1969. The Packard family and their investment company were deeded the buildings in 1969 and continued ownership until 1988. The family furniture business, Vaud Hanks & Sons has occupied the building since 1976 and alterations have been made to the original buildings.



(The original Deal Bros and Mendenhall store, 1900)

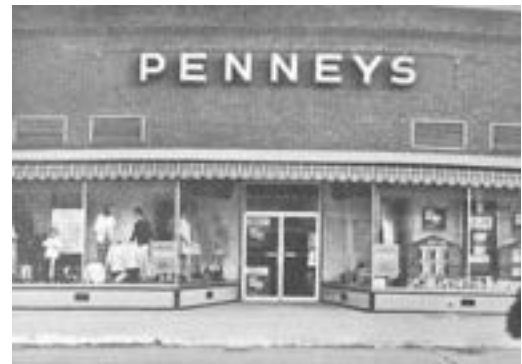


(The addition that was built after its success)

6. Grace Bible Church

239 South Main

W.W. Clyde worked in engineering and construction and built this building around 1945 to provide himself with additional business opportunities. JCPenney occupied this store for 30 years. It currently is home to the Grace Bible Church.



(The progression of the street through the years. The first picture shows the progression of the street through the years. The Deal Bros and Mendenhall stores are seen on the corner. Next to them, looking south, are where the current Grace Bible Church and Charisma Dance studios are now. Dates of pictures unknown)

7. Charisma Dance Studio

245 South Main Street

This lot was originally owned by George and Martha Harrison, who ran the Harrison Hotel from 1880 until the 1940s. George Harrison as a young child had lived with the local Sioux nation for a time, later joining the Army. He learned to cook and eventually became known throughout the west as George "Beefsteak" Harrison. W. W. Clyde purchased the property in 1941, demolished the hotel, and built an almost identical building to the one south of it. Safeway initially occupied the new building, followed by Christensen's Department Store; currently it is the location of Charisma Dance Studio.



(Harrison Hotel that was later demolished. Date unknown)



(Previous businesses that occupied these buildings. Date unknown)

8. Napa Auto Parts

265 W Main St.

These two adjoining lots have always been associated with the automotive industry. The now-vacant lot on 255 S. Main St. was once the Springville Garage, established in 1920 by Albert L. Thorpe. The garage was torn down in 2001 and the lot has remained vacant. It's neighboring building began housing the Automotive Products Corporation in 1935. In the 1940s, Sprouse-Reitz, a five and dime chain store, occupied the building for the next 30 years, but in 2004 the building returned to selling automotive parts.



(Main St. looking north, date unknown)



(Springville Garage, date unknown)



(Main St. looking north, 1958)

9. TLC Daycare

309 S Main St.

A new post office was dedicated in Springville on November 15, 1941. It was the first federally constructed Post Office in the city. The first rural post route was established in Springville in December 1902. City founder, Aaron Johnson, was the first postmaster. The new building had granite entrance steps and a spacious lobby with five service windows and 168 lock boxes. It was 100,000 square feet and cost \$70,000 to build. This building is now on the National Register of Historic places and currently serves as a daycare center.

Our city's current Post Office is located on 75 E. Center St.

10. Pier 49 Pizza

296 S. Main St.

James Caffrey and Samuel Davis purchased the property in 1890 and began construction on their retail furniture store that same year. They ran their business until 1907. In 1914, the Robinsons Brothers Music Co. took over the building and continued to sell furniture alongside their musical merchandise. Then in 1921, English emigrant Laura Senior purchased the building and began a billiard hall there. The building was expanded in the late 1920s to accommodate a hotel and café. This would be the third hotel in Springville, alongside the Harrison Hotel and Kearns Hotel. The Senior Family operated the Hotel and Café for many years. In 1995, the then vacant building was purchased and underwent a two-year restoration that allowed the most current business to occupy the building, Pier 49 Pizza.



(Senior's Billiard Hall, date unknown)

11-13. Mountain Rock Music

290 S. Main St.

James Caffrey also owned this lot and the neighboring lots. Alma H. Child purchased the properties from Caffrey in 1901 and built the buildings on this block between 1913 and 1923. Child's family came from Yorkshire, England, and he was a skilled stone mason. It isn't known what the original use of the building was on 290 S. but records indicate all the buildings were used in most part for Child's mason businesses. Various businesses and owners have occupied these buildings over the years. Mountain Music is the current business at 290 S. Main St, **Clint's Reptile Room** is now at 284 S. Main St, **Blue Valley Insurance** occupies the upper floor at 276 S. Main St, and the first floor at 278 S. Main St is currently vacant.



(Location of Mountain Rock Music, Clint's Reptile Room and Blue Valley Insurance. Date unknown)

14. Brown Art Galley

274 S. Main St.

Hiram Straw, born in Springville, built here in 1900. He sold the property, known as Straw Block, to Thomas Child in 1903. At some point, Child added on a second story addition. The building housed a baker, a cobbler, and other businesses over the years. The building was intended to match the Moroni Miner Block to its neighborly north.



(Both pictures are the current locations of the Brown Art Gallery and All State Insurance, dates unknown)

15. Bill Brown Realty and All State Insurance

262 S. Main and 264 S. Main.

Moroni Miner, born in Kirtland, Ohio, purchased the original property and developed Miners Block in 1892. The property was then sold to Hiram Straw in 1899, who then sold the building to Thomas Child in 1903. Miners Block was once a meat market, a candy shop, and a bakery among other things. Both the Straw Block and Miners Block were acquired by Ellen R. & Maud Peterson who owned them until 1977.



(Pictures of Main St. looking north in different era's, showing the numerous buildings and businesses between the current Brown Art Gallery and Central Bank. Dates unknown)

16. Rivoli Theater

254 S. Main St.

In 1927, Swedish emigrant Emil Ostlund, built the Rivoli Theater in Springville. It opened on December 29th, 1927 and was the city's first movie theater. The first film that was shown was *East Side, West Side*. In the summer of 1928, Mr. Ostlund upgraded the theater and added a sound system as the movie industry began releasing "talking" movies. The theater initially held 300 people. In 1939, due to its

success, the theater was expanded to accommodate 700 attendees and remodeled with an art deco façade on its exterior. It was called “one of the finest pictures houses south of Salt Lake City.” In 1940, the Springville Herald announced a major event in the theater's history; it was a rare treat for one of the smallest cities in the nation at the time to show *Gone with the Wind*. Emil Ostlund also served as Mayor of Springville during the 1940s. After being closed for several years, the theater reopened in 1967 as the Villa Playhouse Theater. It was eventually purchased by the City of Springville in 2008.



(Post card of Springville. Rivoli Theater in the center of Main St. date unknown)



(The Rivoli and Park Theaters, 1950's)

17. Pontis Architecture

248 S. Main St.

Young and single, Nettie Kerr purchased this property from Simeion Blanchard in 1891. She built and ran her own millinery business there until 1897. She married John S. Groesbeck in 1893 and the building remained in the Groesbeck family until the late 1990s. A tailor, billiard hall, café, and photography shop have all at some point occupied this building.



(Kerr Millinery, date unknown)

18. Jive Dance Studio

244 S. Main St.

This smaller building was built sometime between 1898 and 1908. Originally owned by Gideon S. Wood, it was a grocery store in the beginning. In later years the building hosted a barber/beauty shop as well as an electrical shop and numerous variations of a craft store.

19. Retreat Salon

238 S. Main St.

This building was built sometime in the 1890s. In 1902, Marion F. Miner, son of Moroni Miner, bought the property and within 25 years of ownership, expanded the building twice, upgrading it to the building it is today. It initially operated as a restaurant and Miners Meat and Grocery. In the late 1940s, the building was sold and for the next 30 years was known as Haymond's Drug. In the 1970s it became Rex Drug and today it is the Retreat Salon.

20. Warrior's Way

236 S. Main St.

Established in the early 1900s, the Palfreyman family owned and operated a meat and grocery store in the building for almost 30 years. It became Bradford's Market and Grocery later on and has changed hands numerous times throughout the years. It has remained a martial arts studio for the last 10 years.

21. UPS

224 S. Main St.

Built in the early 1900s and originally owned by Claus Tranchell, it began as a grocery store under the ownership of Thomas Edward Child in 1910. It changed hands and was Crandall's Department Store from the 1930s until the 50s. Various businesses have come and gone since that time but it has been UPS since 2003.

22. Duke's Jewelers

220 S. Main St.

Built in the early 1900s, the original purpose for the building is unknown. By 1931 it was a restaurant and later an upholstery store. In 1948 the original location of Duke's Jewelers was opened nearby. By 1960, Duke's Jewelry had reestablished itself here on 220 S. Main St.

23. S.O.S. Drug Store

214 S. Main St.

Originally Tranchell's pharmacy operated from inside the nearby Springville Banking Company building. In 1909, Swedish emigrant Claus Tranchell constructed this building and it has been a pharmacy from the very beginning. In 1911, Dr. Wightman bought and operated the pharmacy until 1977. Several pharmacies operated from this same building through the years: Tripp Pharmacy in the 1930s-40s, Haymond Drug in the 1940s, Daniel's Drug and then eventually S.O.S. drug in the 1950s. It's been noted that S.O.S. has stood for Shelly, Olsen, and Shelly, originating from Woody and Ila Shelly who were once owners. Garret Crane now owns and operates the historic pharmacy and has retained its name, S.O. S. Drug.



(Buildings and businesses between the current Rivoli Theater and S.O.S. Drug. Date unknown)

24. Springville Bank

202 S. Main and 200 South

The Springville Bank was established in 1891 by Milan Packard, Romanzo A. Deal, L.D. Deal, Thomas Mendenhall, and H.T. Reynolds. The building was built in 1892. Its original design was as a Victorian Eclectic building with a turret and it became the first most formal bank of the community. In 1940 – 1942, the building was updated, and the turret was removed with the brick block covered in veneer. The building continues to operate as a bank under the name of Central Bank.

On Saturday June 28th, 1898 at 10:00am, two outsiders robbed the bank. One of the robbers was C.L. “Gunplay” Maxwell who was a wanted member of the Robbers Roost band. Maxwell never revealed the name of his accomplice who was killed during the pursuit to apprehend the robbers and recover over \$3,000 in stolen gold, silver, and currency. Local heroes included store owner H.T Reynolds and blacksmith Joseph Allen. A group of men pursued the robbers on horseback up to the mouth of Hobble Creek Canyon. Allen was shot in the leg, but returned a fatal shot that killed the unnamed robber. Allen was generously rewarded for capturing Maxwell, but eventually lost his injured leg.



(Springville Bank, date unknown)

25. The Reynolds building

200 S. Main St.

In 1892 several large buildings were constructed due to economic boom that the Denver and Rio Grande railroads brought into Springville. Springville had at least six other mercantile stores in the city; however, the H.T. Reynolds building was the largest mercantile store south of Salt Lake City. It has three stories and in its former time, it carried a wide variety of commodities including clothes, dry goods, fabric, china, and furniture, among other things. The third floor was a large open space that was used as a community gathering space that held dances, family reunions, and other social activities. In 1903-1904 Springville city installed its own power plant at Hobble Creek Canyon. The H.T. Reynolds building along with the City Hall were the first places to be lighted with electricity. In 2008, Trivani International extensively renovated the building and it currently has offices upstairs and Magleby’s restaurant downstairs.



(Date unknown)

26. Tatton Baird

52 W. 200 South

Built between 1890 and 1896 by Julia Huntington, this building originally operated as a store. Arthur B. Gore who operated a pressing company, bought the building in 1928 and continued to use it for his dry-cleaning business until he sold it after a fire in 1934. The building has been used for everything from a realty business to a pizza parlor. It is currently home to Tatton Baird (Chandler Baird Scott, business owner), who hand makes traditional headwear.

27. The Kearns Hotel and Aaron Johnson Home

94 W. 200 South

The building was started in 1892 and was completed around 1900 by the Johnson family. When the major railroads made their way to Springville, a new depot was constructed on 200 South. This home was conveniently located near the depot and in 1909 it was converted to an important hotel for the city. It was opened and operated by Moses (son of City Founder Aaron Johnson) and Ann Kearns Johnson. It was known as the Johnson Hotel until 1910, and then changed to the Kearns Hotel. The Johnson Hotel was one of only three hotels in Springville in the 1900s. The Kearns family operated it during 1910–37. The original building was added to between 1908 and 1925, according to the National Register of Historic Places. It has been known at times as the Johnson Hotel, the Kearns Hotel, the Manitou Hotel, and the Valley Tavern Hotel. It remained vacant from 1980-1990 and after some renovations eventually reopened as the Johnson/Kearns Hotel Bed and Breakfast, but has since closed and is for sale.



(Kearns-Johnson Hotel, date unknown)

28. Civic Center

110 S. Main St.

The original Springville City Hall was built in 1880. Its construction was celebrated with a dance on Christmas Eve. At the time, it was located in the center of the city square and was built with funds raised from selling the city calf pasture. The building was demolished and replaced with a new Civic Center in 1960.

In 1965, an “ultra-modern” new Civic Center building was unveiled that housed the fire and police departments, dispatch, and a jail. The fire quarters included a garage that was built to accommodate six trucks and a residence for the firefighters. The fire and police department each had three phones. The building was touted to be completely fireproof, being constructed of cement and steel with glazed tile wall. The jail featured the latest in design and included two cells with a larger room that could accommodate six inmates. The building had a 35-foot tower for a radio siren and communication system. A library and city offices opened up just before the 4th of July of that year. The Springville Playhouse (originally called the Little Theatre) moved into a small theater in the basement. It used this facility for over 45 years. The building was dedicated on November 1965 and cost \$504,056. The Mayor at the time was Paul Haymond and the city had about 10,000 citizens. Unfortunately, with the development of this new facility, the old City Hall building was demolished.

In 1980, the Public Safety facilities were expanded as the population of the city had grown to approximately 30,000 citizens. Planning for even more new facilities due to the city’s growth, the City Council began saving in the late 1990s. In 2009, a new City Civic Center building and Fire Station 41 were dedicated. The buildings were built with no increase in taxes or fees to the community. The building houses the city administrative offices, the courthouse, information technology, and other departments and services necessary to run the city. In the fall of 2011, the previous Civic Center was demolished.



(City Hall, date unknown)



(City Hall, date unknown)

29. Springville Fire Department-Station 41

75 W. Center.

This building - Fire Station 41, opened in 2009 as the center of fire safety operation. A second fire station also opened near Hobble Creek Canyon in the fall of the same year.

The Springville City Fire and Rescue Department was formally organized in 1910 with a fire brigade of 17 men. The first professional fire vehicle was a 1922 pumper. A new fire station was built in 1925 along Main St., as many businesses had been unfortunately impacted by fires. The new fire station was a major safety upgrade that included a two-bay station. In 1937 the Fire Department purchased a 1937 La France fire engine and equipment for \$7,000. In 1975, the La France fire engine was taken out of service and replaced with a \$95,000 Crown fire truck. Many upgrades have occurred since then, but you can still see some of the old equipment on display inside.



(1925)



(Demolished Fire and Police Station, 45 S. Main St. Date unknown)

30. Christophers's Herb Shop

188 S. Main St.

This building was an expansion of the booming H.T. Reynolds store. It closed alongside the main building in 1926. Like many of the other buildings on Main St., it has housed numerous businesses throughout the years. For many years it was Anderson's furniture store. We're happy to have Christopher's Herb Shop and Gingers Café now occupy this historic building.

31. Funfinity

164 S. Main St.

Beginning as a general merchandise store in the 1890s, it transitioned to a drug store. Before the local pharmacy, Springville residents purchased their drugs from settlers who brought their drugs down from Salt Lake City. Thomas R. Kelly purchased the store in 1901 and during his ownership, he and the second drug store were fined \$500 twice for selling liquor, which was prohibited at that time. In 1924 a fire destroyed the drug store. It became Christensen's Drug Store for many years and then later, became Copies Plus Printing, followed by Fat Jack's Pizza, and is currently the treasure trove Funfinity.

32. China Café

160 S. Main

Before it was China Café, it was Francis' Café. Built around 1945, Francis Marion Hazel purchased the property from the previous owner, Richard Davis Sutton. Hazel moved to Springville in 1933 and started as a waiter in a coffee shop. After four years, he opened his own business called Francis' Lunch. He fulfilled a goal

of opening his own café and Francis' Café remained open until 1980, making him Springville City's longest active businessman. It currently operates as China Café.



(Main St. looking south, date unknown. Buildings on the right depict what would be Christopher's Herb Shop, Funfinity and China Café.)

*****The following are not numbered on the map*****

Main Street

The Orem Interurban (often called "The Orem") was an electric train that ran 67 miles from Salt Lake City to Payson. The project was named for the financier and builder, the A.J. Orem Company. In 1915, the tracks for the train were placed right down the middle of Springville's Main Street, and by July 18, twenty trains a day ran to the city. Springville housed one of the four electrical substations for the rail. The emergence of the automobile and the Great Depression caused significant cuts to the line. The last interurban lines operated until just after World War II. In 1919-1920, Main Street became a hard surfaced highway, paved on each side of the Orem Interurban. In 1927, Springville passes its first ordinance regulating vehicle speeds to 20 mph in the city and 15 mph in intersections.

Main Street is also part of Highway 89. Because the highway links seven National Parks across the Mountain West, it is sometimes called the National Park Highway. In 1934, U.S. 89 became a border-to-border route extending from Mexico to Canada. Today the highway runs from Flagstaff, Arizona to the southern entrance of Yellowstone National Park. From the north entrance of Yellowstone, it continues through Montana and ends at the Canadian border.



(July 2nd, 1915)



(Interurban 1915)

Railroad

Three Springville men, Milan Packard, M.P. Crandall, and Nephi Packard, began the Utah and Pleasant Valley Railroad. These three men were also investors in the Pleasant Valley Coal Company and wanted to run a rail route that would reach their mining deposits. In the summer of 1878 the track of the railroad was laid up to then State St. (now Main St.) and the first train of flat cars came up to the corner of City Square. In 1879 Charles W. Scofield purchased the line from financial distress and the railroad was in operation from Pleasant Valley to Springville. The train was made up of twelve five-ton, wooden cars that held sixty tons of coal per trip.

In 1881, the first fifty miles of the Denver and Rio Grande Wester (D&RGW) tracks stretched from Salt Lake City to Springville. A historic unplanned stop by United States President, Harry S. Truman, on Tuesday September 21, 1948 garnered much attention from Springville citizens. It was the second Presidential visit in the City's history (President Benjamin Harrison in 1891 was the first visit). Springville citizens honored President Truman and his family after a 5-minute speech with a homegrown bouquet of celery!

As a new era of transportation took over, the train depot was dismantled in 1964 and I-15 was opened in 1966.



(Train and depot. Date unknown)

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Springville Main St. Historical Tour

The self-guided tour begins at the Springville Public Library

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- 31. Civic Center
110 S Main St.
- 30. China Café
75 W Center
- 29. Funfinity
164. S. Main St.
- 28. Christopher's Herb Shop
188 S. Main St.
- 27. Kearns Hotel
94 W 200 S
- 26. Tatton Baird
52 W 200 S
- 25. Reynolds Bldg
200 S Main St.
- 24. Central Bank
202 S Main St.
- 23. SOS Drug
214 S Main St.
- 22. Duke's Jewelers
220 S Main St.
- 21. UPS Store
224 S Main St.
- 20. Warrior Way
236 S Main St.
- 19. The Retreat
238 S Main St.
- 18. Jive Dance
244 S Main St.
- 17. Pontis Architecture
248 S Main St.
- 16. Rivoli Theater
254 S Main St.
- 15. Allstate Insurance
264 S Main St.



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139 S Main St.
- 2. Springville Herald
161 S Main St.
- 3. Mark Anthony
197 S Main St.
- 4. Senior Center
65 E 200 S
- 5. Vaud Hanks & Son
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- 6. Grace Bible Church
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- 7. Charisma Dance
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- 8. NAPA Auto
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- 9. TLC Daycare
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- 10. Pier 49 Pizza
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