

Historic Preservation in Spring City

Happy Accidents and Hard
Work





Sanpete

The Heart of Utah with a proud history

- Native American Presence
- Mormon Pioneer Settlements
- Agricultural Development
- Sheep, cattle and turkeys
- Utah's First Boarding School
- Immigrants
- Early businesses
mills, mines, sugar

Strate's Garage

- Spring City had a Pontiac car dealership from the 1920s to 1940s





Spring City becomes a town “frozen in time”

Highway 89 bypassed Spring
City in 1957



Population of Spring City drops to about 500

- 1899 Elementary School closed and goes derelict
- 1916 JHS used as elementary school—threatened with closure due to low enrollment
- With a few families trickling into town in the late 1970s-early 80s, a new elementary school is built



1980s: Artists and Preservationists discover, document and begin restoring Spring City



National Historic District Established in 1980 and renewed in 2022.



Friends of Historic Spring City begins work

- \$\$\$ raised, projects completed, awareness raised



Restoration of the Spring City School

1980s - 2017





Encouragement by Preservation Utah

Historic Preservation awards

Craig and M'Lisa Paulsen,

Bruce and Bonnie Barker,

Peter and IngeLise Goss,

Scott and Pam Newman,

Chris and Alison Anderson,

Friends of Historic Spring City

Successes and Challenges

- Properties purchased and restored
- Restoration loans provided
- Long-time residents not appreciate what they have
- Original residents vs newcomers
- Trust- involvement of old-timers
- Conservative Values
 - Design Restrictions, Property rights, lot size, state pressure for increased housing, developer interests





Threats to our historic district

- Current situation – minimum lot size reduction (how quickly will it negatively impact?)
- Are other communities able to promote preservation despite in-fill?



What do we need to do?

- Show value of preservation – how city is benefitted
- Slow inconsistent development
- Purchase and restore strategic properties
- Promote consistent house plans