

Richfield, Utah

ORIGINAL NARRATIVE

By Pearl Jacobson



“This picture of Richfield, Utah, was taken sometime between 1896 and 1904. Notice that there are no power lines or poles. Electricity came to Richfield in 1904. The school building can be seen at the right of the picture. This was referred to as the “New School Building” in the Autobiography of George W. Bean when he mentioned that a banquet honoring the railroad officials and other important guests was held there on June 2, 1896. The tabernacle shown at the left could be either the one that burned just before being completed in 1898 or the re-built one that was dedicated in 1899.

The belfry shown at the right of the tabernacle probably belonged to the Methodist Church that was located west of Main Street on First South. The other building with a belfry, shown at the left of the school, is the old rock schoolhouse that also served as the public building for all occasions. A story is told that the schoolteacher hanged himself from the belfry in the early days.

Some of the Main Street buildings are still in use today. The picture was taken from the roof of the court house. One of its pinnacles can be seen at the left of center in the immediate foreground.”