

### GRANT BROWN HOUSE

**S. 4<sup>th</sup> and Ash Streets**

Construction was begun by prominent real estate broker Grant Brown in 1909 and finished in 1911. It was owned by Dr. Naugle and used as his office from 1937 to 1962 then purchased by the Elks Lodge in 1962. The building is privately owned.

### OLD LIBRARY 1918

**S. 4<sup>th</sup> and Ash Streets (NR)**

Several Sterling women's clubs, with the aid of a generous grant from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, opened this library in 1918 with 2,000 volumes. The exterior has been restored and the interior was sensitively remodeled, first as a bed and breakfast and now as a private home.

### PRINCE OF PEACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1895

**S. 2<sup>nd</sup> and Phelps Streets (NR)**

Mission services were begun in 1885, meeting in various rooms and stores, using apple boxes and boards for pews and a box draped with a sheet for an altar. The Fellowship Hall addition to the present building was added later.

### C. F. LUTIN HOUSE 1914

**129 Denver Street**

Lutin and his brother John came to Colorado in 1872 with 50 cents between them. They worked in charcoal manufacture in the mountains and in freighting on the South Platte Trail with wagons and oxen. The unaltered exterior has the original asymmetric façade.

### WELLS COLE HOUSE c. 1896

**201 Taylor Street**

Cole was an early entrepreneur dealing in sheep, cattle, pigs, and the construction of rental properties. The exterior and interior have been accurately restored by the owners.

### W. C. HARRIS HOUSE 1910

**102 Taylor Street (NR)**

Harris came to Sterling with his parents in 1875, and was a member of the first graduating class of Logan County High School. He entered the cattle business in 1906 and became one of the largest cattle feeders in the United States with extensive holdings in grain elevators in several states.

### GREAT WESTERN SUGAR FACTORY 1904

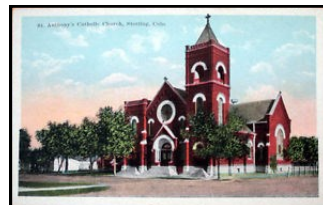
**S. Front and Factory Streets**

The principal cash crop in the valley until 1985 was sugar beets. Nine thousand acres were harvested at \$5 a ton in 1905 and the factory employed 275 people in shifts, with a \$10,000 payroll. The record year was 1930, when 224,000 tons were processed. The engine near the water tower moved beets from the dump to the factory. Workers lived in the factory apartments one block north at S. Front and Cedar Streets. This building was also used to house Italian prisoners of war during World War II. The large house near the factory was the manager's house.

### ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH 1911

**S. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Cedar Streets (NR)**

The church was founded in 1888 and began as an outgrowth of masses held by itinerant priests in tents and station houses for laborers who built the railroads. It was named for patron saint of Sterling pioneer Anthony Giacomini. The first frame church building was destroyed by a high wind in 1890 and eventually replaced by this building. It has its original exterior and restored interior which may be viewed by calling 522-6422.



### ST. ANTHONY'S CONVENT early 1900s

**303 S. 3rd Street**

Built as a home by Judge Hinkley, it was purchased as a home for the nuns teaching in St. Anthony School across the street. The exterior has original distinctive brick and thin line mortar, and leaded beveled glass. It is now a private home although the third floor chapel has been retained as the facility is used for retreats by the lay Franciscans.

### BUSSE HOSPITAL

**124 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

With five beds on the ground floor and three employees, it was begun by Mrs. August Busse, wife of the pastor of nearby Peace Lutheran Church. It was used in the flu epidemic of 1918 and served as a maternity hospital until the late 1940s.

### J. CONRAD LUFT HOUSE 1902

**1429 Highway 14 (NR)**

This two and a half story Queen Anne house was built as a display home by the Huffman Brothers, local carpenters, in the 300 block of Poplar Street. It was moved to the present site with a winch and rollers in 1925 to serve as a home for Luft's family of 15 children. He had come to Sterling from Russia in 1909 as a beet laborer, and became a successful farmer, rancher, and cattle feeder.



# A self-guided tour of historical sites in downtown and residential Sterling



## Historical Attractions in Sterling, Colorado

*After the Civil War, families from the east and south came west searching for farm land. By 1875 they had established 12 homesteads about five miles northeast of the present City of Sterling. In 1881, M. C. King, who had acquired 400 acres in the Sterling area, offered 80 acres at the present site to the Union Pacific Railroad in return for a depot, roundhouse, and hotel. When they accepted, the present town was platted. By 1883, all of the original settlers had moved to the new location and Sterling was incorporated in 1884.*

(NR indicates a building on the National Register of Historic Places)

### LOGAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE 1910 *Courthouse Square – Main Street (NR)*

Built at a cost of \$100,000 by Kaepernik and Jenkins, it was dedicated on March 5, 1910, with a local orchestra playing in the rotunda. Paintings of early life in Logan County are displayed on the lower floor and are the work of local artist, Gene Carara. Framed linen blueprints of the building by John J. Huddart, the architect, hang on walls of the main level. Extensive restoration was done in 1984 and again in the early 2000s. The building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

### I and M BUILDING 1920 *223 Main Street (NR)*

Built by pioneer cattleman, W. C. Harris, it was purchased while still under construction by George Henderson and named for his daughters, Isabel and Mildred. The Classical Revival style building was designed by architect Eugene G. Graves and features ornamental cast plaster ceilings and frieze moldings inside and decorative carvings and balusters on the front.

### COLE HOUSE c. 1913 *114-1/2 Main Street*

The earliest of the remaining commercial hotels has stained glass transoms, an iron balcony and decorated brickwork. In early days small frame store buildings in this area were often destroyed by fire.

### STICKNEY BUILDING 1915 *101-103 Main Street*

Lee C. Stickney sold a variety of items from appliances to tires in a five state area. Behind this building at 120 South Front Street is the tire shop added in 1946, and behind that at 122 South Front Street was Stickney Motorcycle, built in 1901, where the business was founded.

### UNION PACIFIC DEPOT 1903 *Main and Front Streets (NR)*

Purchased by the community in 1984, it was moved to this new site by truck and restored. Train service to Julesburg and points east began in 1881, and the depot has seen visits by Theodore Roosevelt, Herbert Hoover (who was noted to have a hole in this shoe), and Thomas Dewey.



### CHIPMAN-CUNNINGHAM COTTAGE AND HOUSE 1880-1910

#### *119 and 123 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street*

Dr. Jacob Chipman brought his family to Sterling in the 1880s and built the small Victorian house as their first home. He built the larger house in 1910, using the bricks from the old Courthouse in the foundation. These homes were owned and occupied by five generations of the same family.

### OLD MASONIC TEMPLE 1908 *114-116 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street*

This large Neo-classical building served the Masonic Lodge, which had been founded in 1883 and originally met on the second floor of the Propst Store. Organizers from Greeley traveled two days by horse and buckboard to attend the early meetings.

### WATHENA MERCANTILE 1896 *121 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street*

The only concrete slump block façade in the downtown area was the home of A. H. Pettit and Company, when in 1899 it became the site of the town's only gunfight. Pettit apparently insulted W. H. (Buck) Cheairs' wife. This led to a confrontation in Pettit's store and his death. Cheairs was convicted and imprisoned.

### OLD CITY HALL 1912 *214 Poplar Street*

It was built by William Kaepernik at a cost of \$13,208 and served as City Hall and fire station until 1976. The architect was John Huddart, who also designed the Courthouse. The exterior is original and the interior has been restored or appropriately remodeled.

### POST OFFICE, FEDERAL BUILDING, AND COURTHOUSE 1930 *NW corner of Poplar and N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets*

Designed by architect James A. Wetmore and built by a Denver firm at a cost of \$187,877, it formally opened October 24, 1931. W. B. Giacomini was nominated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to be Postmaster.

### W. E. KING HOUSE *NW corner of N. 4<sup>th</sup> and Elm Streets*

This house was built in 1907 on the Courthouse Square by Sterling pioneer W. E. King in the sub-zero weather of that winter. It was moved in 1909 as were several other fine homes, in preparation for the building of the new Courthouse.

### SID PROPST HOUSE *416 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street*

This is the oldest house in Sterling, because it was built earlier in Green City, an ephemeral town farther up the Platte River, and moved here in 1884. It was used by Propst as a stage-coach station on his Greeley-Sidney line. Later it was the Fisher Hospital operated by pioneer doctors Hall, Chipman, Kellogg, and Fisher.

### OLD TELEPHONE EXCHANGE 1909 *112 and 114 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street*

Sterling's first switchboard was in Claude and Sam Ard's Central Hotel on Main Street. It was followed by this building, the Colorado Telephone building, constructed in Victorian Functional style with false pillars and iron capitals.

### BILL'S MOTORS 1926 *Main and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets*

Bill Pospicil started selling Kellogg cars in Sedgwick and moved to Sterling in 1929. He sold Durant vehicles at 328 Chestnut before moving to this building, which had been built with a touch of Spanish colonial style, for McClain Chevrolet. The building is now home to the Old Town Bistro restaurant.

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1918 *S. 4<sup>th</sup> and Ash Streets (NR)*

The congregation first met in October 1878 in a sod school house in Old Sterling. In 1883 they moved to a frame building in the new Sterling. This was replaced in 1898 with a new building in the new Sterling. This was replaced in 1898 with a new building at Poplar and N. 4<sup>th</sup> Streets. In 1918, under the leadership of Rev. Gatewood Milligan, they moved to this structure, with its unaltered exterior and the original stained glass windows.