

HISTORIC

WALKING

TOUR



Welcome to Cheyenne

Downtown Cheyenne offers a multitude of restaurants, shops, bars, hotels, recreational activities and cultural events to enjoy! We hope you take delight in the wonderful historic buildings and the wide variety of attractions you will find in this Historic Walking Tour.

The Cheyenne Street Railway Trolley with fully-narrated Historic Tours starts at the Cheyenne Depot. The Cheyenne Civic Center hosts a theater season and numerous musical productions. The Cheyenne Symphony Orchestra performs major concerts and smaller classical performances. The Cheyenne Little Theater Players presents plays and melodramas throughout the year in the Historic Atlas Theater, including the melodrama during Cheyenne Frontier Days™. “The Daddy of ‘em All” is the world’s largest outdoor rodeo held the last ten days of July.

The Nelson Museum of the West offers a view of wildlife from around the world, Cowboy and Native American objects, as well as, fine Western art. The Cowgirls of the West Museum & Gift Shop is one of the only museums in America that is fully dedicated to the history of western women. It is open April through September. Housed in the Union Pacific Depot – a National Historic Landmark, the Cheyenne Depot Museum offers a dynamic experience of the establishment of Cheyenne during the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad. At the opposite end of Capitol Avenue is the Wyoming State Capitol, another National Historic Landmark.

The Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority welcomes you to Cheyenne! Enjoy the rich cultural diversity, recreation, relaxation, and a western adventure! With something for everyone, this is a great place to live and work! Live the Legend of Cheyenne!

Author Richard T. Ammon was born and raised in Cheyenne, graduating from Central High School. His family arrived here in the 1890s and his father shared many stories about life in this city more than a hundred years ago. He’s welcomed visitors at the Information Center in the Depot and has told its history on the Cheyenne Street Trolley tours. Rick has been the Chair for the Cheyenne Historic Preservation Board for several terms. He’s penned numerous articles for other fields of interest, receiving an International award for his writings.

Walking The Tours

There are three Walking Tours within this guide. Each is different in length to suit your interest. All will introduce you to the historic Downtown District. For the most avid walkers, TOURS 2 & 3 provide walks in the Historic Rainsford District, to Wyoming's Capitol Building, and the Historic Governor's Mansion.

TOUR 1 (Basic Tour) is the shortest walk of the three at **.7 mile (1.1 km) or 10 blocks** and includes the immediate Downtown Historic District.

TOUR 2 is an intermediate walk at **1.3 miles (2.1 km) or 6 more blocks** than the basic tour, and gives a complete tour through the Downtown Historic District and a look at the homes in the Historic Rainsford District.

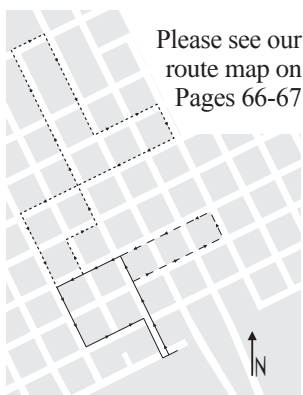
TOUR 3, the longest walk of the three Tours at **1.9 miles (3 km) adding 20 blocks** to the basic tour encompasses the Downtown Historic District, elegant homes in the Rainsford District, and a walk in the Capitol District.

If you choose to drive the Tours rather than walk them, this booklet has been laid out to coordinate with Cheyenne's one-way streets.

For your convenience, our city parking facility is available for free, all-day parking to those with out-of-state license plates. The multi-level garage is found at 17th Street at Carey Avenue, three blocks from the Tours' starting point at the old Union Pacific Depot.

Stop and read the  Heritage Markers along the route.

All Tours start and end at the Depot's northwest door.



CHEYENNE, DAKOTA TERRITORY



Wooden Railroad Depot 1867

General Grenville M. Dodge, as the head of construction for the Union Pacific Railroad, envisioned this area he called “Crow Creek Crossing” as an important Division Point for the railroad. It’s at the eastern foot of Sherman Hill that would elevate



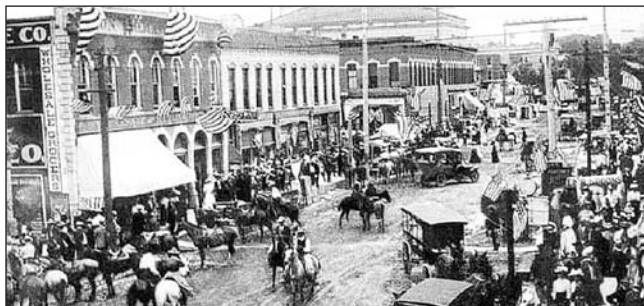
West Lincolnway (16th Street) 1868

his pike from 6062 to 8282 feet at its summit in only thirty miles. Deliberately, Dodge founded Cheyenne and began platting it on our Nation’s birthday, the **4th of July 1867**. The town grew rapidly to over 4000 citizens by the time rails were spiked down here that November. Eastern newspapers called it the “Magic City of the Plains” because the town sprang up like



Capitol Avenue 1890

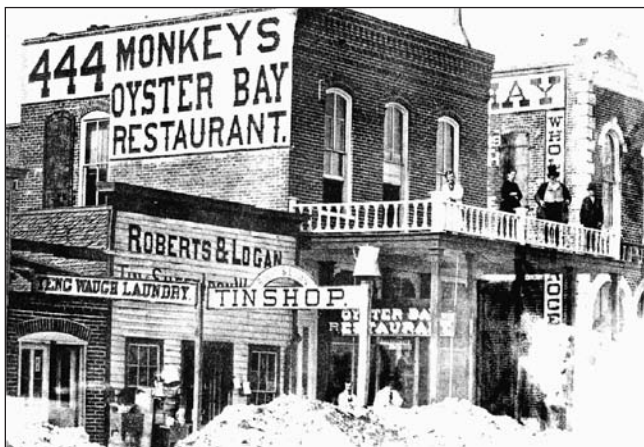
magic! The Cavalry established Fort D. A. Russell on July 5th to protect Cheyenne as well as the expanding railroad. As a major railhead for the cattle industry from its founding, the town was a second home for English and European Cattle Barons. By 1885, Cheyenne was considered the “richest city in the world per capita”!



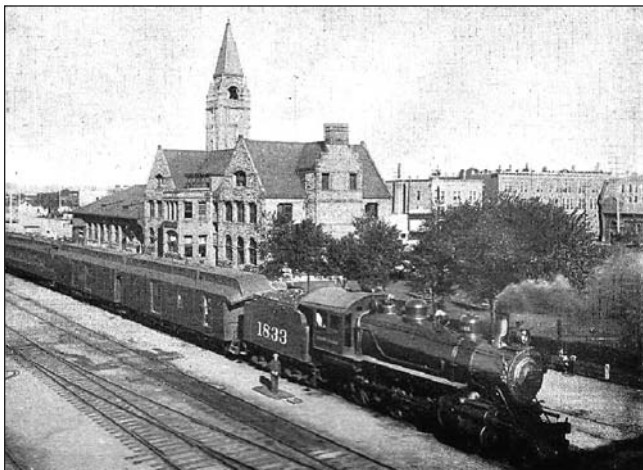
Streets of Cheyenne, Frontier Days, Early 1900s

Many common men who arrived in this city in its infancy became wealthy beyond imagination. Their fortunes grew right along with Cheyenne. Small stores emerged as large businesses, attracting worldwide attention.

By the early 1880s, batten board buildings with their false fronts gave way to those of brick and stone with an Eastern flair. Dozens of fancy mansions with imported marble and fine grained woods were built near where the Capitol Building would later be constructed. These large homes on “Cattle Baron Row” displayed the affluence and elegance of the New Frontier’s finest. But, due to an incredibly severe winter of 1886-1887, the beef industry collapsed with the starvation of tens of thousands of cattle. Cheyenne began a whole new era, yet the old legends still remain.



Businesses on Ferguson (Carey) Mid 1870s



Union Pacific Depot 1908

This **Union Pacific Depot (1)** replaced a small 1867 wooden structure, shown on page four, that sat on the same spot. Due to the influence of the Cattle Barons, the railroad built one of the finest depots in America, finished in November of 1887. Notice the Richardsonian styling and use of polychromatic stones; two colors of sandstone from the same quarry, a rarity. The “tunnel” through the Depot is a portico, originally intended only for carriages of the rich. It’s purpose was to keep the Cattle Barons and their families out of bad weather when they needed to catch a train. The Seth Thomas clock in the tower was added in 1890, only losing about a minute a month today! The east-end restaurant, locals called the “Beanery”, was added in 1922. The lobby was redesigned in 1929, creating an Art Deco image. Completely restored in 2004, the Depot is now a National Historic Landmark.



Union Pacific Depot, down Capitol Avenue 1890

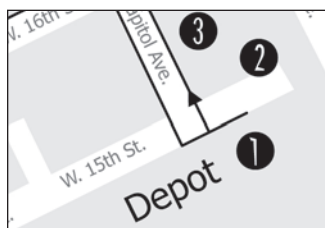
TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 North on Capitol Avenue

The colorful, giant boots, an appropriate signature of Cheyenne, are found throughout the downtown. The theme of each boot is different. They were painted by various local artists and auctioned off at a highly




successful gala as a fundraiser for the Cheyenne Depot Museum Foundation. A brochure, provided by the Visitor's Center, will aid in finding them and identifying the artist who created each boot.

**Cross 15th street to the PLAZA on your right...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

There are four  Heritage Markers placed on the **Depot Plaza (2)**, which is used throughout the year for concerts, Farmer's Markets, civic events, and the famous free pancake breakfasts during the World's Largest Outdoor Rodeo, *Cheyenne Frontier Days!*



Warren Emporium 1884

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 North on Capitol Avenue

In 1868, Francis E. Warren arrived in Cheyenne with only a few cents in his pocket. During the Civil War, he had received the Congressional Medal of Honor for gallantry. He acquired a huge empire on good business practices and friendliness.

Warren became Wyoming's first Senator and served for thirty-seven years! He built nine large commercial buildings in downtown Cheyenne. Seven still stand! In 1884, Warren constructed the city's first "mall",



Burlington Depot 1910

the **Warren Emporium (3)** on the northwest corner of today's Depot Plaza. The twenty-four stores inside catered to the wives of the rich Barons. It even had a ladies' lounge for when shopping became too tedious. The building was purchased by the Burlington Railroad. It laid track from Chicago, dead-ending next to the Emporium. As of December 1887, it was a CB&Q depot and freight office with other small businesses and a funeral parlor!



New Burlington and Trailways Depot 1929

In 1929, a new Burlington (Colorado and Southern) depot was dedicated at the same location. It doubled as the bus terminal for Trailways, owned by the railroad. On the southern-most half of the Depot Plaza was the Greyhound bus terminal, owned by Burlington's competitor, the Union Pacific. Both were razed to make way for a large city parking lot and that was eventually replaced by the Depot Plaza in 2005.

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 North on Capitol Avenue

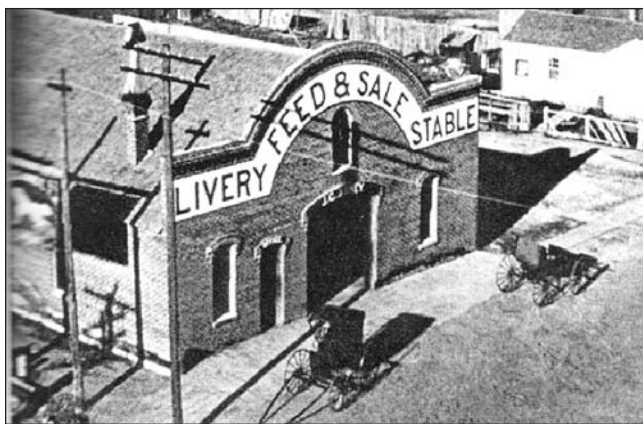
**Cross 16th Street toward the Capitol Building...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

The street you've just crossed was used by Horatio Jackson in 1903 to prove the new fangled automobile could travel across America. The famous 1908 race from New York to Paris stopped here overnight. This street that cuts through town was the focus of long distance travel for decades, as the old US 30.

Dodge platted it as 16th Street, but it's also known as **Lincolnway (4)**, the **first US Transcontinental Highway**. Designated in 1913, the highway was established along a chain of county roads, most of them unimproved. It made traveling from coast-to-coast a reality. US 30 was named after President Lincoln, because, while in office, he envisioned an uninterrupted carriage road from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.



J.C. Abney's Livery Stable 1882

There were two large barns on this corner, operated by J. C. Abney. The first burned and the second, shown here, was razed in 1907 for Warren's **First National Bank (5)**, the "Majestic" building, now on this corner. In the late 1880s, a two stall trolley barn was built to the right of this stable, sheltering the horses and trolleys for the first Cheyenne Street Railway. A track ran from the U.P. depot to the Capitol Building and back, zigzagging

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 North on Capitol Avenue

through residential areas. The horse-drawn trolley operated from 1888 to 1892.

**Look to your right toward the East along 16th...*



Two more of Frances Warren's "nine" can be seen on the next corner. Nearest to you is the **Historic Plains Hotel (6)**. Finished in 1911 as a truly modern facility, the Plains was the first hotel in America to have a telephone in every room! Many famous people have stayed there. Presidents Harry Truman, Richard Nixon, and Ronald Reagan stayed at the Plains, also, Wallace Berry, Jimmy Stewart, Debbie Reynolds, and many more!



Plains Hotel 1915

Across Central Avenue to the east of the Plains is the **Gleason (7)**. In 1913, Warren constructed and named this building for his long-time manager of his general store. For decades it was known as the Grier Furniture store, also it was home for the Finkbiner funeral parlor.

Walking north on Capitol Ave., next you'll find the **Capitol Theatre (8)**. Erected in 1904 for legitimate theatrics, it enjoyed success until a serious fire eleven years later. From the ashes, it was converted into the Paramount Theatre. Several decades ago, a burglar, attempting to hide his crime, set fire to the theatre,



Plains Hotel (left), Gleason Building (right) 1928

gutting it. The projection booth and the ticket booth on the sidewalk are all that remain.

The arched doorway, shown in the picture below, is the entrance to a long hallway that extends through the back of the bank building eastward into the lobby of the Plains Hotel. Actresses from the theatre in elaborate costumes adorned with peacock feathers took breaks from the stage and stood in this hallway. The portal between Capitol and Central Avenues became known as “**Peacock Alley**” (9).



Peacock Alley visible to the left of Warren's First National Bank 1908

Further to the north on the next corner, the grey stone structure is the 1906 **Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Building** (10). In 1878, the first long distance telephone conversation in Wyoming was engineered between here and Laramie, 45 miles to the west. Of those participating in the experiment, again Francis Warren was a major player.

Within the next five years, due to the wealth in the city, Cheyenne had over 100 subscribers to the Bell System. When a local printer was hired to prepare

the pages of their names and their phone numbers, he included advertising around the borders to make a profit. When he was ready to print the pages, he realized he was out of white paper and used yellow stock instead. This gave the Bell System the idea for the “Yellow Pages”!

**Cross 17th Street continuing to the North...*



Under the façade of the Wells Fargo Bank is the original 1904 **Stock Growers National Bank (11)**. Stock Growers was the bank of the Cattle Barons. Old



Stock Growers National Bank 1908

timers remember the barrel of a rifle protruding from the wall about 20 feet above the heads of the clerks handling the cash at their windows. The security guard on the other end of the rifle would startle customers when he began swinging the muzzle back and forth, aiming at the patrons waiting in the lines! In the 1880s, the original Stock Growers Bank was located a block to the west in the Carey Brothers Block.

Many famous people of the Old West walked these streets when they were dirt, including William “Bat” Masterson. He killed only one man in a legal gunfight as a lawman and captured hundreds of bad men. Bat hung around with Wild Bill Hickok and the Earps. In 1877, while waiting here for a stagecoach to the gold

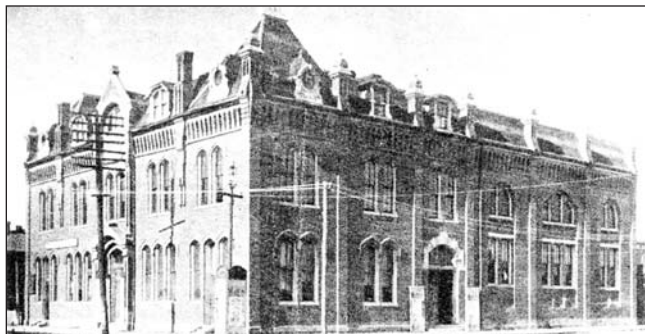


Bat Masterson

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 North on Capitol Avenue

fields of Deadwood, he got lucky at a game of Faro. He wound up staying about a year, working as a banker and playing cards. In his senior years in New York City, he was a sports writer for a large daily newspaper. He published a short story in 1883 about witnessing two old friends in a fatal shootout on the streets of Old Cheyenne, told on page 22.

Many of those drawn here by the cattle industry considered themselves high society theatre-goers. In 1882, a group of Cattle Barons and Frances Warren set into motion the construction of the elegant **Opera House (12)** that stood on the corner across the street



Opera House 1890

to your left. The front half of the Opera House was used for city offices and library. The back half of the building housed the theatre, reflecting those of high standards in the East. People came from miles around to see the many famous artists who graced the stage of Cheyenne's finest. Lilly Langtree, Sara Bernhardt, center, William "Buffalo Bill" Cody right, with his Wild West Show, and major productions from Broadway were just some of hundreds who performed there. You might have recognized the name of a Shakespearean actor, Henry Booth, who often entertained here. It was his brother, John Wilkes Booth, who shot President Lincoln! The theatre was destroyed by fire in 1902 and was never rebuilt. (Note the plaque on the north side of the building currently on the site.)



Lilly Langtree



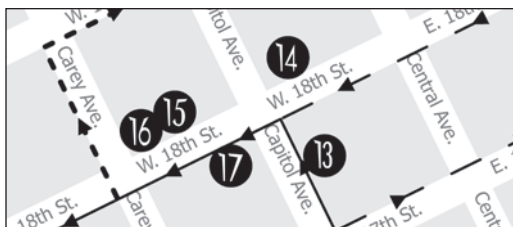
Sara Bernhardt



Buffalo Bill Cody

IMPORTANT - Route Info

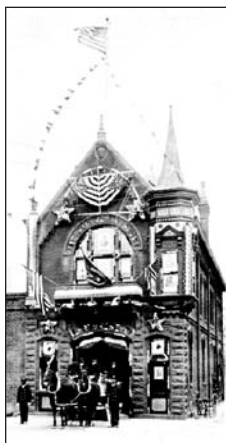
TOUR 1: Continue heading north toward the Capitol Building to 18th St.



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

TOURS 2 & 3: Turn to the right and travel east on 17th Street. Those on TOURS 2 & 3 should turn to Page 35 of this booklet.

Looking to the north toward the middle of this block, was the **Alert Hose Company (13)**. A wooden structure built in 1877 was replaced in 1890 by a Victorian brick hose house. The motto for the Alert Hose Company, “We Strive To Save”, was engraved in a stone arch over the second floor window. All four downtown area hose houses were supplied with the latest in gear and horse-drawn equipment.



Alert Hose Company 1890

In 1888, the popular *Leslie Magazine* printed a wood-cut of women voting at the old Alert Hose Company, calling the women’s action “Shocking!”. Note the Union Pacific depot tower in the background.



Leslie Magazine Woodcut

In later years, small apartments covered the top floor, one included a tiny breakfast nook in the turret on the front of the building. The fire house and the other



Cottage Row 1888

buildings north to the end of the block survived the wrecking ball until the '60s.

New in the 1880s, at the corner of 18th and Capitol, across the street to your right, were quaint, fashionable homes owned by the well-to-do. It was **“Cottage Row” (14)**. The second from the right had been the home of an early Territorial Governor. But, in the 1930s, it was one of Cheyenne’s most elegant eating establishments, known as “The Gables”.

IMPORTANT - Route Info

TOURS 2 & 3: Rejoin Tour 1 at this corner of 18th and Capitol Avenue, after walking through the Historic Rainsford District.



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

TOUR 1: Turn left and, along with Tours 2 & 3, travel west on 18th to the middle of the block.

On the north side of the block, directly across the street, were the very swanky **Maple Terrace Apartments (15)**.



Maple Terrace Apartments 1884



Krebs First Memorial Presbyterian Church 1870

Erected in 1884, they were modeled after the “Row House” found on the East Coast. With imported marble and fine woods, they were built for the Cattle Barons and their families. Servants quarters were downstairs with the master kitchens. Spacious parlors with huge ornate marble fireplaces, libraries, and dining areas were on the middle floor. Each of the five dwellings were sold rather than leased, much like condos are today.

On the corner, next to the Maple Terrace, was the **Krebs First Memorial Presbyterian (16)**. Organized with only nine members in 1869, the Krebs church was dedicated the next year. A second sanctuary was built in brick in 1884 at that same location but was razed in 1925, when a much larger church was constructed four blocks north on Carey Avenue.

You’re standing near the doorway of 209 and 211 West 18th Street. In 1878, two huge, two-story brick parlor houses were built here. The one to the right at 211 was called the “Double Decker”, while the one to the left, at 209, was Ida Hamilton’s. Mirrors were placed all the way up to the second floor ceiling in the foyer. Appropriately, she named her business, the **“House of Mirrors” (17)**. It was Wyoming’s largest brothel ever! Unfortunately, we have no pictures of these infamous establishments.

A Cattle Baron who lived across the street in the Maple Terrace visited Ida’s business regularly. It should be noted, he was a very rich bachelor. After falling in love with one of Ida’s ladies, he married her and moved her across the street into the Terrace. It’s said, daily,

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 West on 18th Street

she'd open a second story window, sit for hours on the sill, yelling and waving to her former customers as they walked by!

If you lived in the 1880s and looked to the south down Ferguson Street (Carey Avenue, today), the scene below would have been common.



Ferguson Street, (Carey Avenue) 1880s

**Move west to the corner of Carey Avenue...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

In the earliest days of Cheyenne, the first Baptist Church sat on this corner. The building here now was erected in 1910. Not long ago, when restoration on it was started, workers found the northwest corner of this building “supported” by a single, antique glass beer bottle, sitting upright under the foundation!

**Cross Carey Avenue to the west...*

This is the 1911 **Citizen's Bank Building (18)**, today known as the Boyd Building. For years, it was the city's tallest office building. Doctors, dentists, and lawyers kept the offices full upstairs. The bank went broke during the nation's recession of 1924 and was converted to retail sales space. But, the vault still remains there.

Watch your step! In the sidewalk next to the old Citizen's Bank, you'll find the remnants of a rare



Citizen's Bank Building 1918

“sidewalk elevator”. These were necessary conveyances used to restock the basements with retail sales goods and supplies. They could be found in the sidewalks all over downtown. As the elevator came up to sidewalk level, a pair of large metal doors would be pushed open to allow access. They would certainly intrigue a child’s curiosity.

In 1904, one of Cheyenne’s most beautiful buildings graced the northwest corner directly across 18th Street. As the city grew, so did the size of its **Federal Post Office (19)**. Court rooms and judge’s offices were



Cheyenne Federal Post Office 1904

on the upper floors of this magnificent edifice. Like at no other time, this Post Office had rows and rows of lockable, brass mailboxes. The railings on all the staircases were brightly shined brass. Marble decorated the interior everywhere, along with massive stonework. Huge ramps and truck loading docks ran the entire back of the building for handling mail.

IMPORTANT - Route Info

TOURS 1 & 2: Cross Carey Avenue and continue to travel west on 18th Street.



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

TOUR 3: Turn to the right, cross 18th Street and go up Carey Avenue. Turn to Page 45 of this booklet.

This corner was known as “church corner”, because the first Presbyterian, the first Baptist, and the first Episcopal churches were located here soon after the city was established. The latter was where the old Post Office was and now the bank building.

**Walk west to the corner of Pioneer Avenue...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

Another of our most famous characters to walk the streets of Cheyenne was to make his mark after he left here. John “Doc” Holliday had Consumption, known today as Tuberculosis, and enjoyed our dry climate. Only in his 20s, Holliday would spend hours playing cards in any one of a dozen saloons in the block where our city parking garage is today.



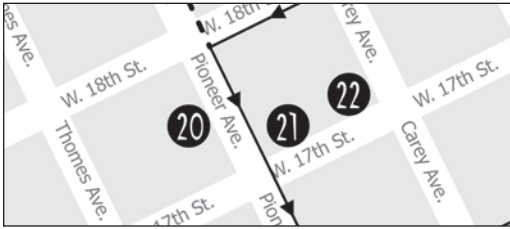
Doc Holiday

Marked as being quick with a pistol, he was a dentist by trade. He never plied either of his skills while here. Of course, Doc made his way south and

is most famous for having been at the historic shootout near the OK Corral in Tombstone.

IMPORTANT - Route Info

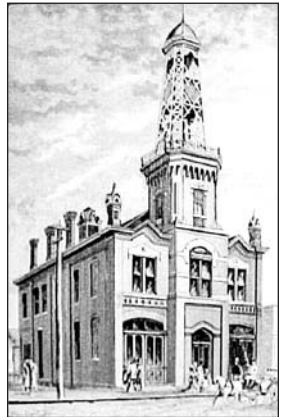
TOURS 1 & 2: Turn left and travel south on Pioneer Avenue to 17th Street.



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

TOUR 3: Rejoin TOURS 1 & 2 on Pioneer, walking to 17th Street.

Across the street in the middle of the block is the fire house for the 1888 **Pioneer Hook and Ladder Company (20)**. Two years after it was put into service, volunteers were replaced by full-time firemen. A new horse-drawn steam fire engine, which the city still has, was the first west of the Missouri River. Today, The building looks remiss without its tall, ornate bell tower.



Pioneer Hook and Ladder 1888

**Walk south to the corner of 17th St...*

In the 1880s, if you looked to your left, you would have seen 17th Street with awnings on nearly every building. Awnings were not only practical, but also fashionable.



17th Street Awnings 1892

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 South on Pioneer Avenue

The 1895 **I. L. Davis Building (21)** on this corner was home to many grocery stores. Just under the second floor windows at the point of the southwest corner, the name “Eddy St.” is visible.

At the far end of the street on the left is the **Carey Brothers Block (22)**, original home of the famous Stock Growers National Bank. One of America’s richest



Carey Brothers Block (With the original Stock Growers) 1885

banks, it was started by the Cattle Barons during the city’s wealthiest times. Joseph Carey came to Cheyenne as Wyoming’s first territorial judge. His prominence grew and, in 1890, he was elected as one of this new State’s Senators.

The photograph below, taken to the south from 17th and Eddy (Pioneer) Street, typifies a day in the 1880s. Due to the railroad, Cheyenne was a major hub for many freight companies. Long wagon trains left the city daily for destinations in all directions.



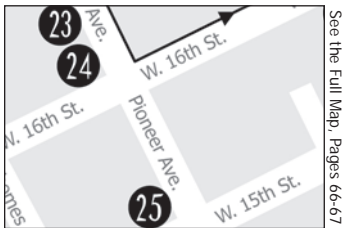
Pioneer (Eddy) Street 1878

For decades after Cheyenne was established, Eddy (Pioneer) Street was lined with saloons and houses of ill-repute. The street had fallen into total disfavor just after the turn of the century, when women of the

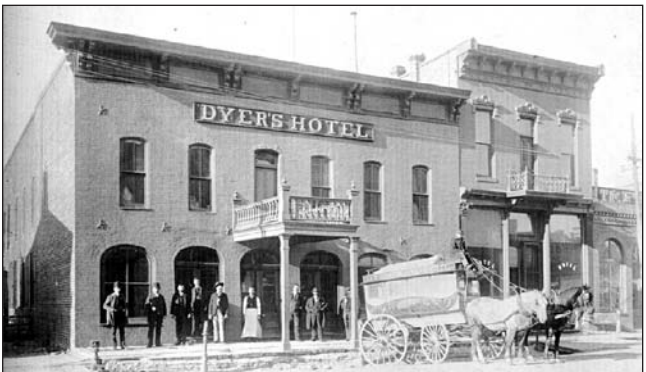
“Pioneer Ladies Club” campaigned for the brothels and saloons to be shut down and the street name changed. By July 1913, it was done. The city decided upon the new street name, Pioneer Avenue, honoring the women’s club.

All the streets were named by Grenville Dodge at the time he platted Cheyenne. The names used were those of friends and those responsible for building the railroad like his assistant, J. M. Eddy. Since then, a few have been renamed, like Warren rather than Dodge, Central replaced Ransom, and Hill became Capitol when the Grand Edifice was built. One street, Van Lennep, on Christmas Eve 1924, became Van Lennen because the city thought the former name was too hard to say!

**Cross 17th Street and continue south...*



There was a shootout in March of 1877. Chronicled in an article written by New York newspaper sportswriter Bat Masterson, who witness the gun play. Two out of town gamblers, known for their “talents” with pistols as each had killed before, got into a ruckus in a saloon several blocks from here on 16th Street. It didn’t take long for them to find six shooters, borrowed from friends. The two eventually met again on Eddy Street. The mayhem started with guns blazing in front



Dyer's Hotel 1875

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 South on Pioneer Avenue

of Frenchy's Saloon north of **Dyer's Hotel (23)**, which was across the street on the north side of the alley. Charley Harrison was stopped by two rounds, one to the chest, from Jim Levy's Colt and was taken into the hotel. Although Harrison refused to have the ball removed from his chest, the doctor gave him a good prognosis. However, he expired thirteen days later. It was Levy's 16th gunfight. His next to last!

The first permanent building constructed in Cheyenne, below, was finished two weeks after the city was founded. Immediately, the second story of the **Whitehead Building (24)** was taken over for city offices and meeting rooms. The first religious services



Whitehead Building 1900

in this city were held on the upper floor by a Methodist minister in September 1867. This three-section structure built south of the alley was replaced by the Dinneen Garage in 1927.

**Continue to the corner of 16th and Pioneer...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

The Dinneen family settled here in 1879. They operated a grocery store and the Bon-Ton Livery Stable, consistently adapting to Cheyenne's ever changing transportation needs. Built as an auto shop and showroom, this elaborate and spacious garage featured a



Dineen Garage 1927

special hydraulic lift that raised cars to the second floor. Using only city water pressure, it would take just 50 gallons of water to silently lift a car to the top level in under a minute.

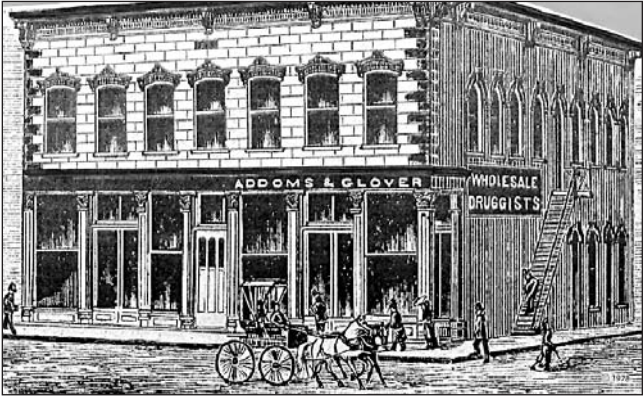


First Dineen Garage 1910

The first **Dinneen Garage (25)** was on the far right side of the corner in the next block at Eddy (Pioneer) and 15th Street. Dinneen's sold American, REO, Hudson, Essex, and, later, Edsel, Desoto, Lincoln, Mercury, Buick, Jeep, and Subaru. In the early days, automobiles were shipped in Union Pacific boxcars set up on end. That way, more autos could be delivered per boxcar!

The acclaimed **McDaniels Theatre (26)** stood on this corner of 16th and Eddy (Pioneer). This popular establishment featured the "Giantess" who stood seven feet tall! Each night, a band would perform in the street to bring in the clientele. A couple doors north, in the middle of the block, was the **Gold Room Saloon (27)**, Wild Bill Hickok's and Calamity Jane's favorite watering hole.

Across the street on the southeast corner of this intersection is Cheyenne's oldest downtown structure. The **Addoms and Glover (28)** rests on the same spot where the Great Fire of 1870 erupted. Immediately after the destructive blaze, construction of this building began with an identical structure next door to the left,

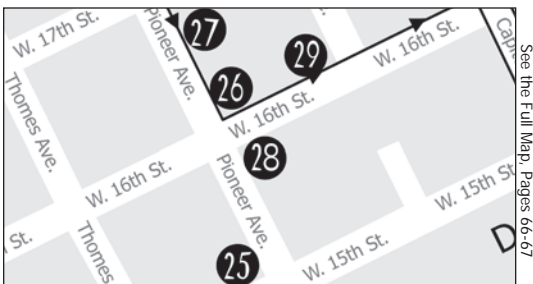


Addoms and Glover 1871

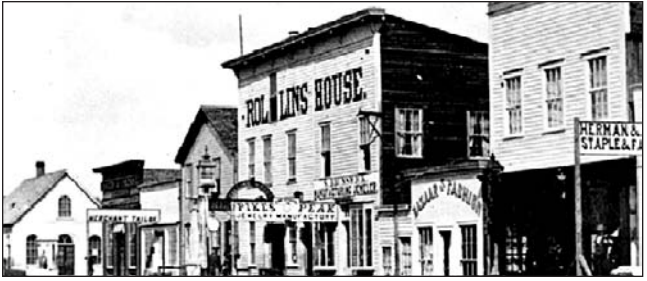
destroyed in an explosion of leaking natural gas in 1934. Note the “1871” date-stone at the top of this building. If the date-stone is at the top, it indicates when it was completed, while one at the bottom was placed when the building was started.

All early western towns were plagued by major fires and Cheyenne was certainly no exception. In early January 1870, one of the most disastrous blazes burned two entire city blocks. Pushed by intense winds, the fire started in the flue of an old tobacco store that sat where the Addoms and Glover is today. The huge fire was so hot it peeled paint off the front of the Rollins House hotel across the street! Before the day was over, it had destroyed every building in the block and those in the next block to the east, except for one, the city’s first all-brick commercial building. Though, there was no loss of life, the Daily Leader newspaper reported over ninety businesses were leveled, almost all without insurance.

****Turn left on 16th Street and continue east...***



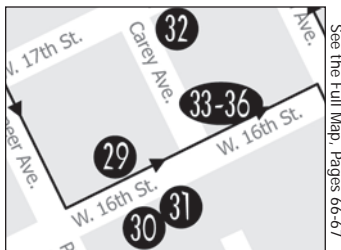
As you walk next to the City Parking Garage on your left, imagine being here in 1868, passing by the




Rollins House Hotel 1868

Rollins House Hotel (29), the “Pikes Peak Jewelry Manufactory”, and the “Bazaar of Fashion”. Across the street was a row of saloons in the center of the block. The Ford House hotel and the famous **Ford Restaurant (30)** were to the right of center. Barney Ford, an ex-slave from South Carolina, ran the most popular eatery in the city, until the fire consumed his property. Ford, one of the few who had fire insurance, left for Denver, to return several years later to build his world renowned hotel further down 16th Street. In 1868, “Theatre Comedic” was on the corner where the **Tivoli (31)** stands today.

**Continue to the corner of Carey and 16th Street ...*



The Tivoli was a restaurant and saloon built in 1883 by a brewery from Denver. Ladies, with or without escorts (very uncommon), were welcome. The structure was rebuilt and given two additional floors in 1892. Prostitution was legal in Wyoming till 1938 and the upper stories of the Tivoli were well known to many. It's said, during prohibition, there was a popular, fashionable speakeasy in the basement. Wyoming was the last state to ratify Prohibition. Due to disfavor of the dry laws, bootlegging of hooch between Colorado and here ran rampant until the Amendment was repealed.

Notice the  Heritage Marker at this corner of 16th and Ferguson (now Carey) and original roadside marker for the Lincoln Highway.



Tivoli Saloon and Brothel 1895

Looking north up Ferguson Street in the 1880s, you'd find the Whipple and Hay "Union Mercantile", a major outlet for area ranchers. The owners established themselves solidly soon after Cheyenne's beginnings and quickly became part of the rich elite. Ithamar C. Whipple's



Whipple and Hay's Union Mercantile 1878

mansion is part of Tours 2 & 3. The Mercantile is at the left, the Freund Armory, center, the Carey Block, far right, and just out of view to the right was one of America's most important buildings, shown on page 28!

Esther Hobart Morris, the wife of a gold miner, came from South Pass City, 250 miles northwest, to lobby the **First Territorial Legislature (32)**. The group convened in the building on the corner of 17th Street and Ferguson (Mini Mall, today) to make the first laws for the Territory.

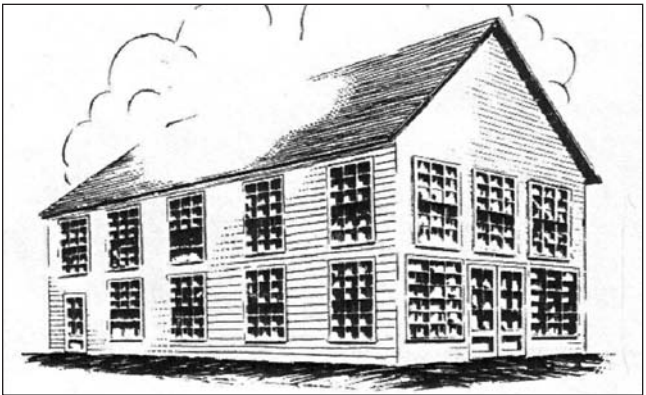
That was in November of 1869. Morris believed women should have more rights and wanted to persuade the legislature to pass a very specific law which would help the Territory become a State right away. She was successful, because the bill, which was met with some

humor, was passed and signed into law, bringing the young Territory fame and serious condemnation by some as the first government to permanently grant women the right to vote and hold office in all public elections! That law, commonly known as Women's Suffrage, has never been repealed here.



Esther Hobart Morris

Soon after returning to South Pass City, Morris was one of the first of three women appointed as Justice of the Peace and was the first woman Justice in the world to complete her service. She handled twenty-six cases "in a manner that was deemed a credit to her position".



First Territorial Legislature 1869

On her first day on the bench, she wore a black blouse and skirt in keeping with the nature of dress of the other male judges, but, to show her independence, had a bright green bow in her hair! In 1890, she moved to Cheyenne where in 1902 she passed away at age 87. She's now considered the symbol of women's rights. Her statue that stands here in front of the State Capitol is the same as in Statuary Hall in the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Looking east along 16th Street, the **Idelman Saloon and Hotel (33)** of 1882 on this north side of the block displays the grandeur of the times. "Mox" (Max) Idelman and his brother Abe built this elegant building downtown and commissioned one of the last regal mansions on Cattle Baron Row across from the Capitol. See the wooden cigar store Indian on the sidewalk at the front door.

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 East on 16th Street

Next to the Idelman, moving to the east, is the 1883 **Commercial Building (34)** and the **First National Bank (35)** building of '82, two more of Warren's "Nine". It was on the second floor of the Commercial Building, the room with the bay window, where the infamous murderer Tom Horn was "tricked" into admitting he was involved in the death of fourteen year



200 block of West Lincolnway (16th Street) 1890

old Willie Nickell, son of a sheep rancher. Lawman Joe LeFors used alcohol to get Horn to brag about the incident, which eventually got Horn hanged. The fourth building was Warren's first, constructed in 1876. The **Warren Block (36)** unfortunately was destroyed by an arsonist's fire in 2004. The last building was the Inter Ocean Hotel. Note the huge, beer barrels being loaded onto wagons in front of the Budweiser Saloon in the Commercial Building.

Across 16th Street near the middle of the block is the 1887 **Atlas Theatre (37)**, painted white with its unique



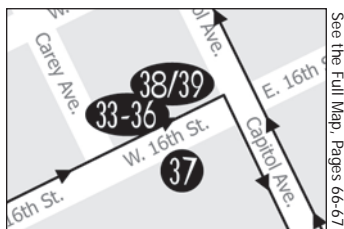
Looking East on Lincolnway (16th Street), 200 block 1900

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 East on 16th Street

four bay windows. This location represents the trials and tribulations of life in early Cheyenne. First, the Great Fire of 1870 razed the original single-story building. The second structure was quickly put up without regard to building standards. In the early '80s, Francis Warren bought the building for his music store, placing pianos on the first and second floors. It wasn't long before the weight of the instruments brought the poorly constructed building crashing down with three fatalities, two of them young children! The next structure, finished in 1882, was under eye of building inspectors. Yet, a fire leveled it in 1886.

Finally, the most recent building was completed the next year as an arcade and confectionary with a hotel on the top floors. In 1908, huge theatre curtains were hung as part of an new addition constructed back to the alley. Rows of seating were put in for patrons of true high-class vaudeville. With that style of theatre gone by the '30s, it was converted for talkies; called the "Strand Theatre and Hotel". By the 1960s, the seats were removed for a discotheque and the walls were painted bright pink! Today, the Atlas is home to the summer Melodrama and Little Theatre stage productions.

**Continue to Capitol Avenue and 16th Street...*



By 1875, ex-slave Barney Ford had returned from Denver and completed his world famous **Inter Ocean Hotel (38)**, attracting no less than eight U.S. Presidents, beginning with Ulysses S. Grant. Worldly notables from all distances and directions stayed in this finest hostelry. It was decorated with elegant wall-to-wall carpeting and gorgeous velvet curtains throughout. The Inter Ocean later was the first hotel in the world to have a telephone in its lobby. It was also the first hotel to install AC electric lighting in every room. There was no doubt this historic attraction was the hub of Cheyenne's activities. It was host to many huge social gatherings and

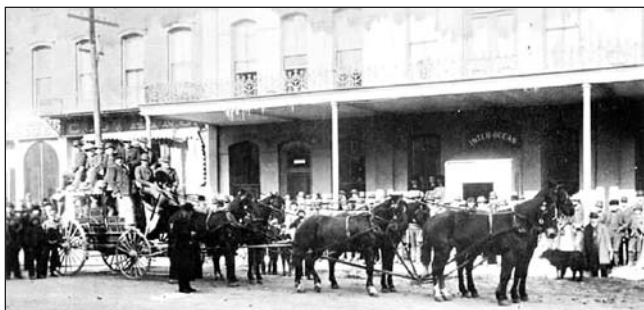


Inter Ocean Hotel 1885

Governor's Inaugural Balls. As the hotel began to lose its luster, a major fire in 1916, caused by old shorted wiring on the third floor, killed a family of six and brought the demise of this famous Old West landmark.

Stage coaches going to cities north and south left from in front of the Inter Ocean. The coach north to Deadwood operated from 1876 to 1887 and was one of the most famous stage lines in the world.

This is the last stage ready to leave for that mining town. After the railroad had entered Deadwood a year earlier, few wanted to take the stage there. Even using



Last Deadwood Stage 1887

“Concords”, the finest and easiest riding coaches ever built, traveling was extremely uncomfortable during the nearly continuous three day, three hundred mile trip!

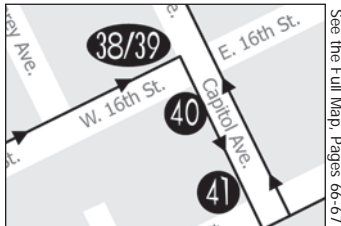
The **Hynds Building (39)** on this corner today was finished in 1922. The deaths in the Inter Ocean fire at this location prompted Harry Hynds, one of Cheyenne's early philanthropists, to have his office building constructed entirely without wood. It's all concrete and steel as a way to fireproof the structure. He said, “No one will die from a fire in my building!” Decorative trim

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 East on 16th Street

inside the bank lobby appears to be wood, but is actually stone hand-painted by artisans to simulate walnut.

Watch your step! In some of the sidewalks are remnants of small, glass squares surrounding many of Cheyenne's large buildings like the Hynds. These thick glass sidewalk inserts were used to allow sunlight to shine into the basements. When goods were stored below ground level, lamplight wasn't bright enough for checking inventory. The sunlight aided to light up the dark basements.

**Turn right to the south and cross 16th Street ...*



The 1882 **Phoenix Building (40)** is in front of you on the corner. This is yet another of Warren's "Nine", the first hotel in the state replete with a full plumbing system for water and gas. From about 1900 and for the next quarter century, the main floor was a very popular mercantile and grocery store. In the days without modern refrigeration, large sides of beef were heavily salted and placed on huge meat hooks for your inspection! As a customer, you'd choose the side you wanted, paid for it, and then threw it over your shoulder to carry it home. Of course, the ladies could have it delivered.



Phoenix Building 1882

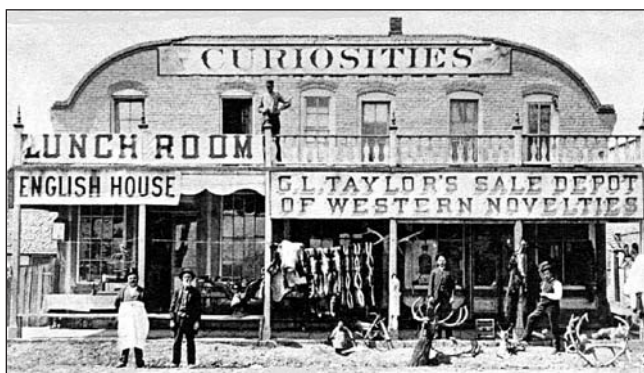
There've been several hotels upstairs through the years, but the longest-lasting was the Normandy. It served the public from the 1880s to the early 1940s. Soon after the building was completed, fashionable restaurants occupied the south end.

Continue south toward the Depot...



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

A building, put up soon after Cheyenne was founded, was across the alley to the south of the Phoenix. For



Curio Shop Where the Albany Stands Today 1875

decades, it was a curio shop for tourists coming through Cheyenne on trains. But, in 1906, the hotel, today called the “Albany”, along with a couple of saloons on the south end of the block, took the curio shop’s place.

Originally, the **Becker Hotel (41)** was built to compete with the aging Inter Ocean. The LeBarron’s



Becker Hotel 1908

Restaurant served the finest foods imported by rail from both coasts as the Inter Ocean had in its hay-day. In the photo of the Becker, below, on-lookers are watching workers ballast the rails for Cheyenne’s new 1908 electrified trolley system.

A year later,

TOURS 1 - 2 - 3 South on Capitol Avenue

representatives of the Burlington Railroad visited owner John Becker with an offer he had to refuse.

The Colorado and Southern Railroad, operated by the Burlington, wanted to restore an old track from Fort Collins, Colorado to Cheyenne. Most of the rails had been torn out years earlier. By the early 1900s, the president of the line, General Grenville Dodge, made big plans for the city he'd founded thirty-five years previously. He wanted the track, planned to run north from Texas to Montana, to connect with the tracks that terminated across the street where the Depot Plaza is today. In order to do that, the rails would have had to come down the alley from the west. But, several buildings stood in the way. The Becker Hotel was a prime obstacle. The idea was to buy and tear down the old buildings in the way, but the Becker Hotel would have to be picked up and moved! Its owner flatly refused.

The railroad finally bought the hostelry from Becker. In 1910, he built another hotel around the corner on 15th street, which still bears his name.

Dozens of hydraulic jacks lifted the old Becker and slowly moved it forty-four feet closer to the Union Pacific depot. An old saloon next to the hotel was torn down to make room. The task was arduous, time-consuming, and even made national news. Becker just knew his old hotel would crumble like sand under the stress, even though it was moved at the speed of an inchworm. Bookies made wagers whether the hotel would survive. It did and not a brick was shaken loose!

Only one track ever came down between the buildings rather than the planned two. In November 1910, the first passenger train from Denver pulled down




First Passenger Train from Denver 1910

TOURS 2 - 3 East on 17th Street

the alley from the west, shown on page 34, and stopped next to the CB&Q depot across Capitol Avenue.

We're now back where the tours started. It's also the area of the infamous "**Hell-On-Wheels**" (42). Cheyenne became "end of track" for the Winter of 1867. Over 90 semi-portable saloons/gambling joints, with more than 400 ladies of the night with their hundreds of tents, moved in from the last end of track, setting up "shop" right here; a ruckus town within a town. It catered to thousands of railroaders and the flotsam and jetsam with money to burn. During this time, the "Gunny Sack Gang", the Vigilantes with over 200 members, became the law in the city. By the time the Hell-On-Wheels and railroad moved west to Laramie, the new end of track in mid-1868, at least twenty-three hangings had been documented!

During this Downtown Walking Tour, we've added to your experiences with a real look at the old Wild 'N' Wooley West. Cheyenne...*Live the Legend!* 

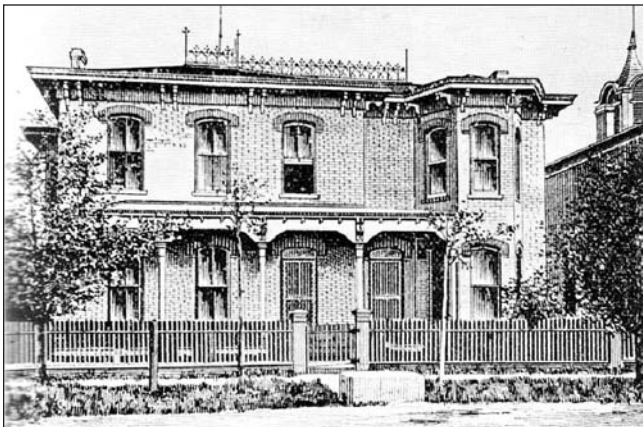
TOURS 2 & 3 CONTINUE FROM PG. 14

This additional tour adds .6 mile (1 kilometer) to the Basic Tour.

The eastern half of the bank building was the location for the home of **Alexander Swan (43)**, one of the richest men in the world. He'd come to Cheyenne in 1873 to represent large money interests in Scotland and developed an unimaginably huge cattle empire.



Alexander Swan



Alexander Swan House 1880

TOURS 2 - 3 East on 17th Street

He brought the famous Hereford cattle from England to Wyoming territory.

During the Winter of 1886-87, disastrous snow storms, unending for months, covered the grasslands with layers of ice and snow. By Spring, nearly ninety percent of the area's quarter of a million head of cattle had starved to death!

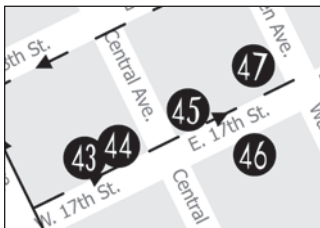
The beef industry went bust almost overnight. Swan went from ridiculously rich to dirt poor, owning hundreds of thousands of dollars to his creditors. He and nearly all the Cattle Barons left Cheyenne with their families. Most turned their deeds for their mansions over to the city for auction to pay their debts.

Next to Swan's house to the east was his huge barn, nearly as big as the house, some of which is shown in the woodcut. It was replaced just after 1900 by a building that, later, became a very well-known restaurant, the **Mayflower (44)**. Movie stars, the likes of Tyrone Power and even Clark Gable, dined at the old Mayflower while waiting for train connections. The large porthole window on the right displayed fresh pies and cakes, while the one to the left had a large water tank, holding live lobsters waiting to be thrown into the chef's boiling pot. A customer could actually pick the one that got that fate! The Mayflower gained quite a reputation as the place to be during Cheyenne Frontier Days.



Mayflower Cafe 1960

**Continue east crossing Central Avenue...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

You'll pass by the **BPOE Elks Club (45)** dedicated in 1903. Although modified through the decades, it still displays its grandeur.



BPOE Elks Club 1903

In the middle of the block across the street was an old **Chevrolet automobile showroom (46)** with the façade in white terra cotta.

Other than the Capitol Building, the most famous structure from Cheyenne's early days was the "**Cheyenne Club**" (47), once found at the end of this block. It was used as a cornerstone for a totally fictional Hollywood movie of nearly the same name. The



Cheyenne Club 1885

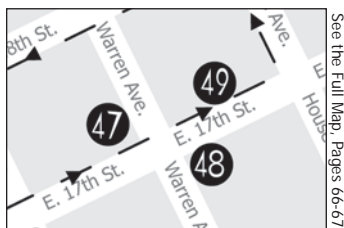
original was truly the hangout for the Cattle Barons. Although only one hundred members were allowed at any one time, it had a long waiting list. The Club was a palace where ranchers could get away from the pressures of the industry and their wives, but it was never was a brothel!

This luxurious 1880 Baron playhouse had a world-class library, a richly appointed billiard room, a well-stocked saloon, and a Chef from Canada for the elegant dining room. Strict rules of the house included: "No profanity", "No spitting on the floor", "No cheating at cards", "No blows struck", and "No betting"! Yet, high-stakes games of chance and skill were played in the private apartments on the top floor.

TOURS 2 - 3 East on 17th Street

As second home to the Cattle Barons, it lasted only seven years before they left town after the cattle industry collapse of '87. The deed was turned over to the city and it became the Industrial Club in 1909, later it was renamed the Chamber of Commerce. After outliving its importance, this iconic landmark was razed in 1936. But, its elitist reputation was already engrained into the history of old Cheyenne.

**Continue east crossing Warren Avenue...*



Originally, this street, now Warren Avenue, was platted as Dodge Street. The city's founder named it for his wife, Ruth Ann. But, in 1883, when Francis E. Warren moved into his grand house that once stood on this northeast corner, the street was renamed by the city for him.

More than any other person, Warren was the most influential man in Wyoming. He arrived here in early 1868 with fifty cents in his pocket, going to work for Amassa Converse at his general store on 16th Street as a sweep-up boy. He became Converse's equal partner a few short years later.

His sharp business savvy and his easy ways made him the richest man in the Territory by the early 1880s. Virtually every government building and most enterprises by then were in some way touched by Warren.



Francis E. Warren

The cavalry fort was established the day after Cheyenne was founded. Originally called Camp Cheyenne, a few months later it was officially named for General David A. Russell, who had been killed in the Civil War. In 1890, when Wyoming became a State, Warren was elected as one of our first two Senators and held the office for thirty-seven years. For all he'd done for Cheyenne, the Territory, and the State, the fort was renamed for him posthumously on January 1, 1930. Today, it's Francis E. Warren Air Force Base.

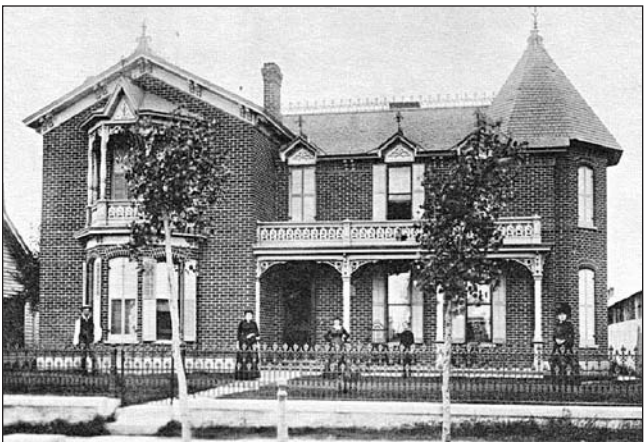


Bresnahan Mansion 1882

On the corner across the street to the south was the **Bresnahan Mansion (48)**. Constructed in 1882, the home was built by five-term Mayor L. R. Bresnahan. It was the first house in the world to be completely lighted by alternating current electricity. The Mayor extolled the usefulness of his sixteen watt light bulbs, the equivalent of today's refrigerator light!

Notice the  Historical Marker on the corner.

In the middle of the block to your left, is **Cheyenne's first all brick house (49)**. Erasmus Nagle was a panhandler; not defined as it is today. The "Merchant King of Wyoming" sold pots and pans to rural folks



Cheyenne's First Brick Home, First Nagle Home 1874

TOURS 2 - 3 East on 17th Street

becoming extremely wealthy; enough to afford to build this brick house in 1874.

He bragged he had the “...biggest and best house in Cheyenne” and that “...nobody would build a better one!” Nagle was shaken when the sizable Warren house was constructed in 1883 right next door. It was bigger than Nagle’s! Not to be out-done, Erasmus decided to build yet a bigger home next door to his first at the far east end of this block.

As the head of construction for the Capitol Building, Nagle asked all his foremen to provide him any stones they felt were inferior and unfit for the new Capitol. Those he deemed good enough were used for his new house and adjoining stable.

By the late 1950s, long after his death, the inferior stones were crumbling and there was fear the building would eventually collapse. The home was then covered in concrete stucco to reduce the threat.

**Walk to the corner of 17th Street and House Ave.*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

Nagle passed away only two years after he completed his second stately mansion. The family fortune was squandered away quickly and the mansion was up for sale by 1910. Senator Warren had lost his first wife to illness a few years earlier. By 1910, he’d remarried. Not wanting to live in a house wrought with old memories, Warren bought Erasmus’ second home for his new bride, today known as the **Nagle-Warren Mansion (50)**.

Take just a few moments away from the Walking Tour to visit the famous Nagle-Warren. Now, a Victorian Bed and Breakfast listed in the Smithsonian Guide to Historic America and the National Register of Historic Places. From 9am to 4pm, relive the opulence of 1888 life with the home’s cherry, maple, and oak woodwork, its original chandeliers, and 19th Century furniture. Step across the threshold to where Warren’s



Nagle Warren Mansion 1980

good friend, President Teddy Roosevelt and other famous people, spent time. It's a glimpse of when wealth dominated this western town.

As you restart your Walking Tour, notice the large carriage stone near the street with the name "Warren" engraved into it. Once, there were hundreds of these stones throughout town and now there are less than a half dozen. They were installed to ease the task of ladies getting out of carriages without having their long dresses rise above a decent place. With advent of the automobile, these stones were no longer necessary. Also, note the unique stone carriage house directly behind the home.

Diagonally across the street the smaller brick house on the SE corner is the last of the **Union Pacific hospitals (51)**. The first was a large tent near where the depot is today. Fifteen years later, the company built Dr. Barkwell his facility. In those years, employees of the railroad had frequent serious accidents, making it necessary to have a hospital close to the tracks. On the far eastern side was the doctor's operating room.

Directly to the east across House Avenue is the **Ithamar C. Whipple Mansion (52)**. Whipple, Nagle, and banker Henry Hay developed the Union Mercantile into a wealthy enterprise. Whipple was also a sharp financier and cattleman, constructing his elegant home in 1883.

Territorial Supreme Court Justice John Lacey also owned this house. He was the legal defense council for the notorious Tom Horn during Horn's murder trial of 1903. By the 1930s and for a number of years, it was an infamous Greek gambling house and brothel. It then became a Fine Dining restaurant and, today, it's home



Whipple Mansion 1883

for Fine Art. Also, among its residents were hoards of pigeons that made themselves comfortable in the cupola to such an extreme, the tower had to be removed.

**Turn left on House Ave, go north to the corner.
Turn left on 18th Street.*

This area, about a half mile east to Holliday Park and north beyond the Capitol, is known as the “Rainsford Historic District”. George Rainsford, a highly experienced architect, who stood only five feet three inches tall, came from New York state and started his world-known “Diamond Ranch” forty miles north. When the Cattle Barons realized how creative Rainsford was in his design of mansions, they paid him handsomely to build their homes. Dozens and dozens of the area’s homes were Rainsford designs, accentuated by large rambling porches, multiple roof styles on a house, and decorative “fish scale” shingles. These shingles from the East Coast were popular long before Rainsford brought them here and all the Barons had to have them on their homes.

On this corner, the **Kingford Victorian home (53)** itself has the distinctive “Rainsford” touch. In its Queen Anne design, the square bay windows, high peaked roof, and the fish scale shingles detail Nettie’s and Arthur’s home. This was formerly a boarding house for railroad workers.

The **Nettford Apartments (54)**, second on your left, were opened in 1911. The tall white columns accentuate

TOURS 2 - 3 West on 18th Street

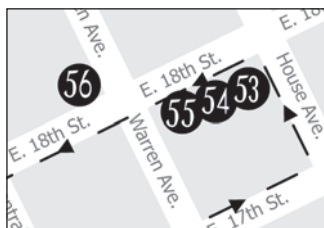
the Greek Revival. It was built by Arthur C. Kingford and named for his wife, Nettie, combining two names to derive the “Nettford”.



Corson Queen Anne Cottage 1900

A year after Samuel Corson came from Scotland in 1883, he was his own contractor for his cozy home erected from Rainsford’s plans in the middle of this block. Several generations of the family lived in this **Corson Queen Ann cottage (55)**.

**Go west to the corner and cross Warren...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

Across 18th Street on the corner, the **Amassa Converse Mansion (56)**, the largest of all Rainsford



Amassa Converse Mansion 1895

TOURS 2 - 3 West on 18th Street

homes, stood on a quarter of a block. Converse established his general store a few days after Cheyenne was founded. He hired Francis Warren to help with his business and they soon became partners. Later, Converse, as a merchant, a banker, and a leader in the community, became a success in Territorial politics. As a cattle owner, his herds were large enough for twenty-eight different brands!

The Converse mansion had a small fireplace in each of its many bedrooms. Graced with a huge winding staircase, the design was a successful combination of brick and wood. All sides of this structure were decorated with hundreds and hundreds of fish scale shingles! Razed in 1967.

Walk west to the corner of Central Avenue...



By 1890, enough money was raised to begin building this second **First United Methodist Church (57)** on the northeast corner to your right. Built with local red sandstone by the same architect, J. P. Julian, who designed this church also designed the famous water-pressure gallows upon which Tom Horn was hanged!




First United Methodist Church 1871

Just a couple of months after Cheyenne was started, the Methodist church had found roots. The meager congregation of nine paid the railroad just a dollar for two lots to build their sanctuary. But, it was four years later in 1871 when the first church, above, at this same location,

TOURS 2 - 3 West on 18th Street

was dedicated and nicknamed the “Little White House”.

To make room for the new structure in 1890, the Little White House was dragged into the middle of Central Avenue, using horses and ropes. For nearly three years, services, weddings, and funerals were held in the little church in the middle of the street till ‘94 when the current building was dedicated. The Little White House was then dragged to the UP rail yard where, in its final days, it was used as a hay barn! 

IMPORTANT - Route Info

*Cross Central Avenue and go west to 18th Street and Capitol.

TOURS 2 & 3: rejoin TOUR 1 after walking through the Historic Rainsford District.



TOURS 1, 2 & 3: travel west on 18th Street. Return to the top of Page 14 of this booklet.

TOUR 3 CONTINUES FROM PAGE 19

This additional tour adds 1.2 miles (1.9 kilometers) to the basic tour.

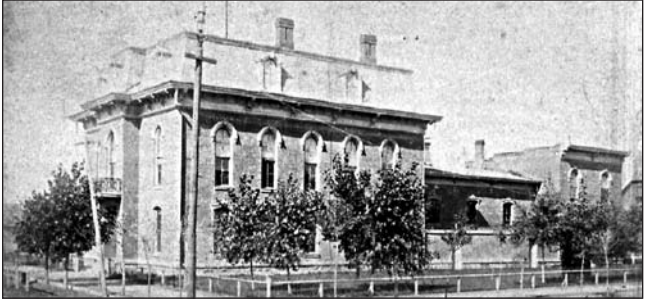


Calamity Jane

As we travel north on Carey, one might imagine running into our most outrageous citizen, Martha Jane Cannary Burke, better known as “Calamity Jane”. A character who got her nickname from an Uncle who noted she was very out-spoken, dressed like a man, and could out-drink most of them! He said, “Everywhere you go you cause a calamity, Jane!” It stuck. Well, at least, that’s one of many stories she told as to how she got her nickname.

TOUR 3 North on Carey Avenue

Jane was a frontierswoman and professional army scout. She was known for her expertise with a rifle and even performed in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. She was a heavy drinker and, often, wound up in our city jail (below) to sober up.

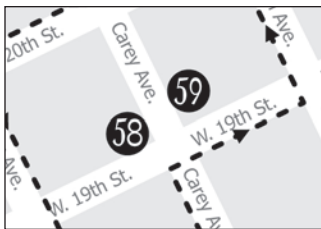


Courthouse and Cheyenne City Jail 1885

She was said to be very kind and was well-liked, regardless of her short-comings.

“Wild Bill” Hickok and Calamity were good buddies. Though, there weren't any facts in rumors of a love angle. She traveled with him to Deadwood in July 1876. Their friendship ended on August 2 when Wild Bill was murdered there. Jane is still in Deadwood. Upon her death from pneumonia in 1903, the city thought it nice to bury her next to Wild Bill, where she rests today.

**Go to the corner of 19th Street and Carey...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

The first city jail built of logs in July of 1867 was designed primarily to hold those who had too much to drink. It wasn't long before the inmates convicted of all kinds of mayhem used their dinner spoons to dig out the dirt from under the logs and escaped. A more permanent facility was needed. Across 19th Street to the north was the **1870 courthouse, city jail, and the combination sheriff's office and home (58)**, above.

The turn-of-the-century and third jail is shown at the far left of the **1917 courthouse (59)**, on the next page.



Cheyenne Courthouse and Jail (Far Left) 1917

Another of our infamous characters who barely avoided taking up residency in our jail was James Butler Hickok. Just before Wild Bill got to Cheyenne in 1876, a warrant for vagrancy from the year before was out for his arrest. Apparently, some of his friends paid the fine and disposed of the inconvenience before his arrival.



Wild Bill Hickok

Wild Bill Hickok liked Cheyenne and frequented our city. He spent most of the day playing cards in the gambling houses found where our city parking garage is today. His reputation of killing more than a hundred men in gunfights as a lawman didn't matter in this town known for gunfighters. The likes of Wyatt Earp, Charlie Storm, "Big" Steve Long, and Charlie

Bassett were typical of the gunslingers who drifted through Cheyenne. Boone May was a Deputy Marshall here and Luke Short worked as security for the Inter Ocean Hotel. Nobody feared Hickok. He gave them no reason. In fact, Cheyenne looked upon him as a folk hero.

Agnes Thatcher Lake and her husband were traveling the U.S. with their horse circus, when in 1869, he was killed by a man trying to sneak into the circus tent. Agnes, a tightrope walker, lion tamer, and equestrian from France, continued to tour with her show when Hickok met her in 1871 and again in '75. After their last meeting, she and Wild Bill wrote letters to each other for more than a year before they "accidentally" met up in Cheyenne. By then, she had sold the circus and was very wealthy. Bill just drifted into town in early March

TOUR 3 North on Carey Avenue

of 1876 and, at about the same time, Agnes came here to visit friends. Within a couple of days, March 5, Agnes and Bill were married! The Methodist minister who performed the ceremony kept a notebook that the church still has. After the couple had said their vows, he wrote, "Don't think he meant it!"



Agnes Hickock

The newlyweds went to her hometown, Cincinnati, for a honeymoon. She had business to conclude there, while Bill wanted to get back to Cheyenne to start a freight company, using money Mrs. Hickock had given him. The couple agreed to meet in Deadwood several weeks later. Hickok left here in mid-July with his freight wagons, arriving in Deadwood only to be bushwhacked on August 2nd, while playing poker, holding the "Deadman's Hand" ...Aces and Eights!

After they separated, Agnes never saw Bill again. She did return to Cheyenne several times. The last in the 1880s when, still as a widow, she lived near the Capitol for almost five years before returning to Cincinnati where she's buried.

**Turn right, go to end of the block...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

At this corner of 19th Street and Capitol, you'll find the **Masonic Temple (60)**. The Masons were an extremely important part of the Old West and Cheyenne. They established themselves in the first days of the city. The construction of virtually every major building was

TOUR 3 East on 19th Street



Masonic Temple 1901

begun with an engraved cornerstone and the Masonic Lodge's dedication.

First built in 1901, the original temple had ornate, decorative spires along the roof line which are missing today. A disastrous fire two years later gutted the interior of the building and the roof. When they rebuilt it, they used the original walls, but left off the dormers and spires. A major addition to the west meant the Temple would cover a full quarter of a block.

Through the 1870s and early 1880s, the world's richest cattleman, Alex Swan, expressed his distain for the first, small Episcopal church at 18th and Carey. He said he'd build the congregation a new church at 19th and Central. Construction started very late in 1886 on **Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (61)**. All went well until it was time to put on the roof. The devastating blizzards of '86/'87 changed the cattle industry overnight. Swan lost his fortune with the bust of the beef business and he couldn't complete the new church!

It was four years later before money could be raised to cover the sanctuary, put in pews, and finish the building. But, one item was still missing; a bell tower. A small, capped cylinder, shown in the 1900 postcard on page 50, held the old bells, but was no tower. By 1924, the church raised enough money to build a real bell tower.

After nearly forty years, stones from the original quarry still had the same texture as those already in the church, but the color was much darker. It was decided to use the stones from the cylinder in the lower one-fourth of the tower, while the "newer", darker stones would go to the top. Two Swedish stonemasons were hired to build the addition. They laid stone to about where the

TOUR 3 East on 19th Street



St. Mark's Episcopal Church 1900

new stone was to be placed (a noticeable line appears there) and, then, the stonemasons just disappeared! Never to be seen again! A couple of other masons were hired and completed the tower the next year.

In 1976, a letter was received at the church, sent from South America and written in Swedish. The church still has that letter. When translated, it says the writer was very elderly and about to meet his maker. But, before he could go through the "Pearly Gates", he had to write the church to let them know he was an "innocent man!"

The letter states that in 1924 he and his friend were hired to set stones for the new bell tower. One day his buddy came to work drunk, slipped, and fell off the scaffolding, breaking his neck! He said he didn't know what to do and thought others might blame him for the death. Having no grasp of English and having no other friends in Cheyenne, he stated he just panicked! Instead of calling the authorities, he buried his buddy in the stonework and took off...!

Father McGinnis, minister of the church in 1976, laughed at the notion. He thought the old man must have been delusional in his senior years. But, there are those who claim there's a body in the tower and believe the church is haunted!



First Congregational Church 1872

TOUR 3 North on Capitol Avenue

**Turn left, cross 19th Street, and continue north...*

Two **First Congregational churches (62)** graced this corner. The first with its parsonage was built soon



Second Congregational Church 1890

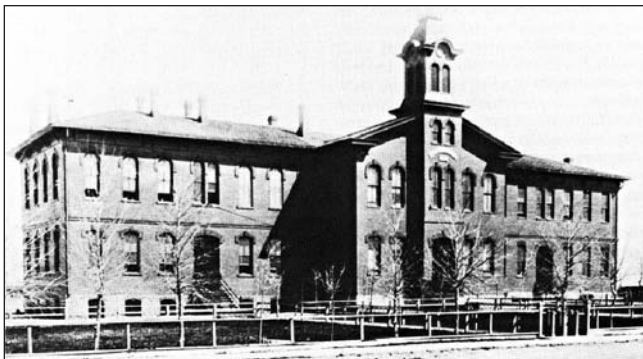
after the church was organized in 1869. In 1880, a more substantial brick house of worship with a tall spire was erected at this same location.

**Cross 20th Street and continue north...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

Cheyenne's first hall of education was the typical one room schoolhouse with a folding partition down the middle. Obviously, a larger school was necessary as the town grew quickly. The middle portion of the **Central School (63)**, below, was the anchor, built in 1871 with the "wings" added a couple of years later. It filled a half block by a full block, facing south. A new high school would be built a block away to the north just a few years later. Individual neighborhood elementary

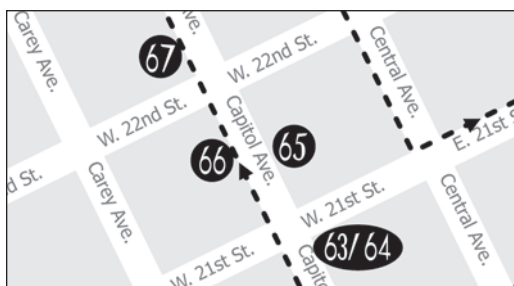


First Central School 1880

TOUR 3 North on Capitol Avenue

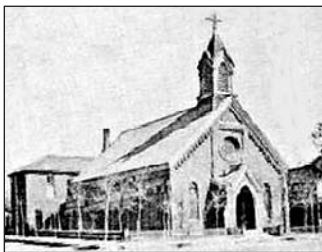
schools would find their place around an ever-growing Cheyenne. To your right, the **Lulu McCormick Jr. High School (64)**, filling the entire block, replaced Central School in 1928, now restored as a state government facility. The new McCormick school is far north of the downtown in a residential area. It's next to the newest Central High. Cheyenne today has four high schools, Central, East, South and Triumph.

**Cross 21st Street and continue north...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

To your right is **Saint Mary's Cathedral (65)**, completed in an English Gothic style in early 1909. The Catholic church was established soon after the railroad came through. In May of '68, a "portable" chapel, named St. John's, was shipped from Omaha by rail and was assembled four blocks west of here.



Cheyenne's Catholic Church 1879

The first locally-built Catholic church was found at 19th and Carey. Finished in 1879, it out-grew its



Carey Mansion 1888

TOUR 3 North on Capitol Avenue

congregation by the turn of the century and the present Cathedral was built. In 1887, the name St. John's was changed to St. Mary's by the Wyoming Diocese.

To your left is the Federal Building, but in the 1880s, it was the location for one of Cheyenne's largest mansions on what was known as "Cattle Baron Row". The **Carey Mansion (66)**, which took the entire block, was built by Joseph Carey, the first judge assigned to the Territory. He just got richer and richer and lavishly decorated his home like a castle.



Carey Mansion (Inside View)

Continue north across 22nd street. On either side of these blocks that ran from 19th Street to where the Capitol Building would later be constructed, the Cattle Barons built their mansions. Over two dozen graced this exclusive neighborhood with some occupying as much as a half a city block. But, most took a quarter of a block as did the **Gilchrist Home (67)**. Andrew Gilchrist came to Cheyenne from Scotland, establishing a huge ranch west of town at Granite Canyon. He owned much of the land for many blocks around the Capitol Building and



Gilchrist Home 1888

TOUR 3 North on Capitol Avenue

became the president of the prestigious Stock Growers Bank. His modest home at 2300 Capitol was where the Hathaway Building is today to your left in the next block.

As you near the end of this block, look to your right. On the corner across Capitol Avenue, was the first **Carnegie County Library (68)** outside New York City. In 1899, Ester Morris' son, Robert, contacted



Carnegie County Library 1902

philanthropist Andrew Carnegie seeking funds to help build a county library. Efforts to build one had gone on for years without success, but Carnegie provided fifty thousand dollars toward construction in 1902; appropriately library was named for him. Once a larger library was built in the early 1970s, the Carnegie was razed with no thought of reuse.

**Cross 22nd Street. Go to the Capitol Building...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

TOUR 3 North on Capitol Avenue

On your way to the Capitol, to your right is the **Wyoming Supreme Court Building (69)**. Originally, these two blocks and the two to the east made up what Grenville Dodge called his “four squares”, the City Park. But, due to necessity, in 1935, a new park was created a mile north of the Capitol. Central Avenue was run down the middle of the old City Park, making way for the Court Building and, later, a State Museum.

**Cross 24th Street to the Capitol Building...*

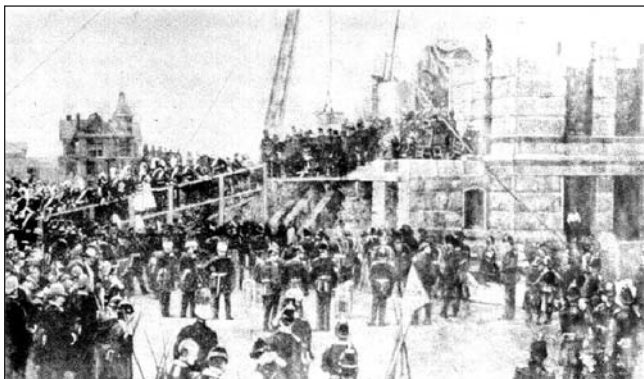


Capitol Corner Stone Laying Coin

Huge crowds gathered at this location in May of 1887 for the official laying of the Capitol Building's cornerstone. Souvenir coins commemorating the event were given out. Bands played and the Grand Masons in regal uniforms dedicated the structure. Ground had been broken

the previous September with the first segment of the **Capitol Building (70)**, being finished in 1888.

Then Territorial Governor Francis E. Warren appointed a commission to raise money for the project. They collected over \$138,000; more than necessary. In 1890, the year Wyoming became the 44th State, the “Equality State”, two extensions to the building were



Laying of the Capitol Cornerstone 1887

TOUR 3 North on Capitol Avenue



Wyoming Capitol 1888

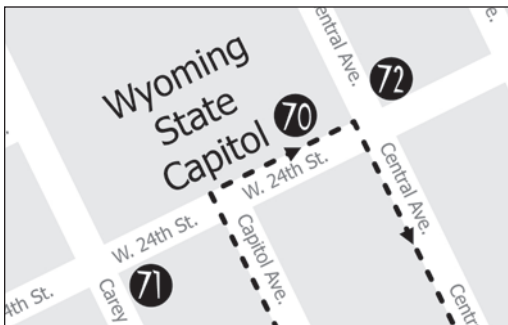
completed. The end caps were completed in 1917. A number of statues around the Capitol grace the structure. A large, stone-lined goldfish pond with lily pads on the east side attracted romantics for years.

Artisans are required to gild the dome every few years as the interior of the dome is lined with

real twenty-four carat gold leaf! Stones from the quarry used in the U.P. depot were essential, including those from a quarry near Rawlins, Wyoming.

Tours are available at the information desk near this south entrance or brochures are available for self-guided tours. On your walk-through, note the Tiffany stained-glass ceiling in the halls for the Legislature. There are many displays lining the walls, celebrating the history of Wyoming. There's even a giant buffalo (reputed to be the third largest known to man!) to greet you on the second floor west!

**Look west, across to the end of the block...*



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

The last mansion remaining on Cattle Baron Row is the **Idelman Mansion (71)**. “Mox” (Max) and his brother Abe started what would become a very successful liquor business soon after the founding of the city. The Idelman saloon and hotel was built downtown in 1882 and their mansion the next year. For many decades, the home, facing Carey Avenue has been a

TOUR 3 East on 24th Street



Idleman Mansion 1883

mortuary. None of the interior has been changed since it was constructed and only a few changes to the exterior were necessary to add a modern chapel and a garage for the limos.

**Walk East on 24th Street to Central Avenue...*

On the corner to the left across Central Avenue was the **Academy of the Holy Child Jesus (72)**. The first Catholic school opened in 1884 in St. John's church, but an imposing structure was erected two years later with a name change. It was a school, convent, and had available rooms for those traveling from around Wyoming.

The Academy was razed and a series of smaller structures with the same purposes replace it by the early 1950s. But, in 2010, those buildings were torn down, the land sold to the State, and the Catholic school, St. Mary's, moved into beautiful new facilities just west of the downtown area.



Academy of the Holy Child Jesus 1888

TOUR 3 South on Central Avenue

Walk South crossing 24th Street to 22nd...



As you travel south toward 22nd Street, note the **Wyoming State Museum (73)** to your left. This is a FREE museum and considered one of the best in the nation for its wide variety of artifacts on display. Pistols and rifles, Native American clothing, dinosaur bones, the history of Wyoming's geology, and native wildlife are displayed, plus thousands of other items.

**Cross 22nd Street and continue to 21st...*

On the southwest corner of this intersection was **Cheyenne's first high school (74)**. Completed in 1890, the school was known for its tall tower and turret, as well as a huge oak staircase going from the front door to the upper two floors.

All the boys were ushered into school through the back door, while girls entered through the front. In class, girls were on one side of the room and boys were on the other. Segregation all the way! This "architects delight" was razed in the 1970s to make way for parking.



Cheyenne's First High School 1890

TOUR 3 East on 21st Street

**At 21st, walk East for two blocks, crossing Central Ave. and Warren Ave..*



Before the turn of the century, Wyoming's Governors used their private homes as the state's Governor's Mansion. The first public **Historic Governor's Mansion (75)** at the corner of 21st Street and House Avenue was built with all the luxuries for visiting dignitaries including Presidents. Teddy Roosevelt spent time here in 1910. Eleanor and President Franklin Roosevelt were here in 1936. As Vice-President, Richard Nixon warmed the sheets in this Mansion and Harry Truman, then President, gave a radio speech to the Nation from the front porch in 1948.



Governor's Mansion Construction 1904

The picture above shows the construction of the Mansion, finished in 1905, designed in the Classic Revival style, featuring window details and sandstone columns.

TOUR 3 West on 20th Street

The Governor Ross family was just one of nineteen who lived in this stately building. William Ross was elected the State's 12th Governor in 1923. His term lasted just less than two years when he unfortunately succumbed to appendicitis at the hospital north of the Mansion.

A new Governor would have to be chosen in a special election. The voters of Wyoming decided the person most knowledgeable about the Governor Ross's plans for the Equality State and the most logical to take over would be the late Governor's wife, Nellie Tayloe Ross.

On January 5, 1925, Mrs. Ross was sworn in as the nation's first woman Governor! Her term lasted until January of 1927. Although she was well-liked, she was narrowly defeated in her bid for another term. Ross blamed her loss on the fact she did



Nellie Tayloe Ross

not campaign for herself. President Franklin Roosevelt appointed her the Director of the U. S. Mints in 1933. She held that position for twenty years before retiring. For years, she continued to give public speeches all over America until 1977, when she passed away at age 101.

****Go south to 20th, turn right & continue west...***



TOUR 3 West on 20th Street

After touring the Historic Governor's Mansion, walk south on House to the next block and head west. On the northwest corner of 20th and Capitol was the **Consistory Building (76)**. An opposing 1922



Consistory Building 1944

structure used during the World War II by the USO and from 1930 to 1953, the Consistory was home for the Cheyenne Little Theatre performances. In the mid-1950s, the large open basement was perfect for contests of midget cars. Scaled, foot long race cars, using real miniature gasoline engines taken from model airplanes, flew around a thirty foot circle. These cars were tethered by a wire, attaining speeds of nearly 80 miles per hour! The building sat virtually empty for years before being razed in the 1970s.

As you walk west and cross Carey Avenue, the new County Courthouse sits where **“Castle Dare” (77)** once graced the corner. The world's richest



Castle Dare 1908

TOUR 3 West on 20th Street

cattleman, Alexander Swan, started construction of a Richardsonian mansion in 1886 for his daughter, Louisa. Her impending marriage to wealthy Renesselaer Van Tassel, years her senior, caused Swan to pull out the stops for the bride. As it neared completion, due to the Great Cattle Bust of '86/87, Swan defaulted.

The Castle was then sold to an unscrupulous David D. Dare, who had been a local sign painter, photographer, druggist, and eventually con-man with his partner, John W. Collins. They started the Cheyenne National Bank and, with the depositors money, went to San Diego in late 1887 to start two other banks, several businesses, and a street railway. Dare had tried to swap his Castle here for funds to build another huge castle in California, but the deal fell through because the Cheyenne property was already highly mortgaged.

Eventually in 1891, their ponzi scheme started to unravel as none of the banks could meet their obligations. Dare and his wife skipped town and headed for Italy with \$200,000 of the bank's missing money. Collins wasn't so lucky. As the law closed in, he committed suicide. The Cheyenne National Bank defaulted and one of its clerks, never implicated, felt so guilty he hadn't discovered the fraud that he also took his own life!



Dare and Collins Business Card 1882

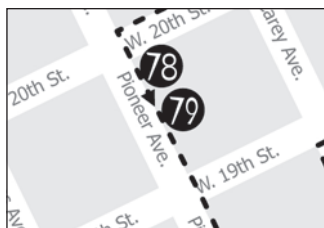
The Dares drifted through Europe and were never arrested, although eventually, his wife returned to New York City, claiming her husband had passed away. That was doubtful as reports in 1900 from Egypt said his burial was pre-mature. However, he really did die a wealthy man in Greece in 1909.

The Castle passed back into the hands of the original builder, R.W. Bradley. Through the years, it was a rooming house, mortuary, and a lodge hall.

TOUR 3 South on Pioneer Avenue

Razed in 1963 for a parking lot for the fire house next door, the Castle's carriage house lasted thirty more years. Some believe Dare's name should not be associated with the mansion. Instead, it should be called "Castle Swan".

**At Pioneer, turn left & continue south...*



Soon after Cheyenne was founded, the members of the Jewish community met in private homes and later formed the Mt. Sinai congregation. The **first Synagogue in the Territory (78)** occupied this SE corner from 1915 until 1951, when the new Synagogue was constructed near the Capitol.

To the left in the middle of this block, cowboy history was made in 1903. The legendary murderer Tom Horn, stock inspector for the cattle industry, was tangled up in the shooting of fourteen year old Willie Nickell, son of a sheep rancher, about forty miles north. Horn was already suspected of killing as many as two dozen men around Cheyenne, mostly cattle wrestlers, shooting them from ambush!

Horn was tricked by Marshall Joe LeFors, a man Horn didn't know, LeFors pretended to be a rancher from Montana wanting to hire Horn. LeFors got Horn drunk who then bragged about being involved with the 1901 killing. Horn's drunken "confession" was overheard on the second floor of the Commercial Building on 16th Street, in the bay-windowed office.



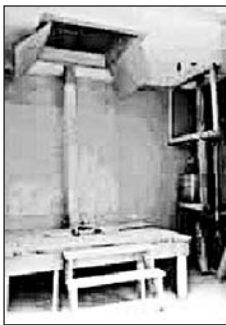
Tom Horn

Based on Horn's own words, recorded by a legal stenographer listening from a room next door and witnessed by the sheriff, Horn's drunken admission of taking the "best

TOUR 3 South on Pioneer Avenue

danged shot I ever made” at Willie got him arrested and sent to trial.

Horn never again spoke of the Nickell murder, only saying he was trying to impress his “new boss from Montana”. Only circumstantial evidence was presented to the court, but it was understood Horn had to go! He was found guilty and was the last man legally hanged in Cheyenne on November 20, 1903, a day before his 43 birthday!



Tom Horn's Gallows

Used for the first time that day was a specially designed gallows. J.P. Julian, who designed “Castle Swan” and the First United Methodist Church building, among many others, created an apparatus that didn’t need an executioner. Horn stood on a trap door supported by water pressure. When his body weight equalized with water dripping from a holding tank in the gallows, the platform tripped open. It took 31 seconds! A long time to stand there waiting for destiny.

Horn was executed on the west side of the old jail in the area now between **the new and the old courthouses (79)** to your left. Today, those who have studied the case are convinced Horn did NOT kill Willie Nickell!

IMPORTANT - Route Info

*Cross 19th and 18th Streets.

TOUR 3: rejoins TOURS 1 & 2 after walking through the Historic Capitol District.



See the Full Map, Pages 66-67

TOURS 1, 2 & 3: Travel south on Pioneer. Return to the top of Page 20 of this booklet.



An Introduction to Cheyenne's Downtown Development Authority

The Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority (DDA) was established in 1984. The DDA offers a wide variety of projects and programs to preserve Cheyenne's colorful history and to enhance the Historic Downtown Cheyenne, as the region's top commercial center with more than \$100 million in recent and proposed public and private investment. The Downtown Development Authority is an advocate for downtown businesses and property owners, and works with the City of Cheyenne, Laramie County, Cheyenne LEADS, the Greater Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce, Visit Cheyenne and others to prepare strategic plans to encourage an economically vibrant downtown.

There are two main funding sources for the DDA – tax increment financing and a mill levy. The DDA is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Mayor and ratified by City Council. There are 11 board members, allowing broad representation of downtown property and business owners. The DDA offers a variety of programs to support downtown property owners and business owners, including a discounted parking program for the City's parking structures. The DDA pays to plant and maintain more than 363 planters in the DDA district.

The DDA is working to attract new development and industry to the downtown district. The DDA communicates with property owners to maintain a list of downtown vacancies to use in recruiting downtown businesses. The new DDA website will allow property owners and realtors to post information about available downtown properties for sale or lease. The DDA hangs attractive banners from downtown light poles adding vibrancy and a unique visual identity to the district. The DDA funds a significant portion of the Clean & Safe program to improve the visual appearance of downtown. On the City of Cheyenne website, you can Report a Concern to the Clean & Safe crew to help them keep downtown clean and attractive.

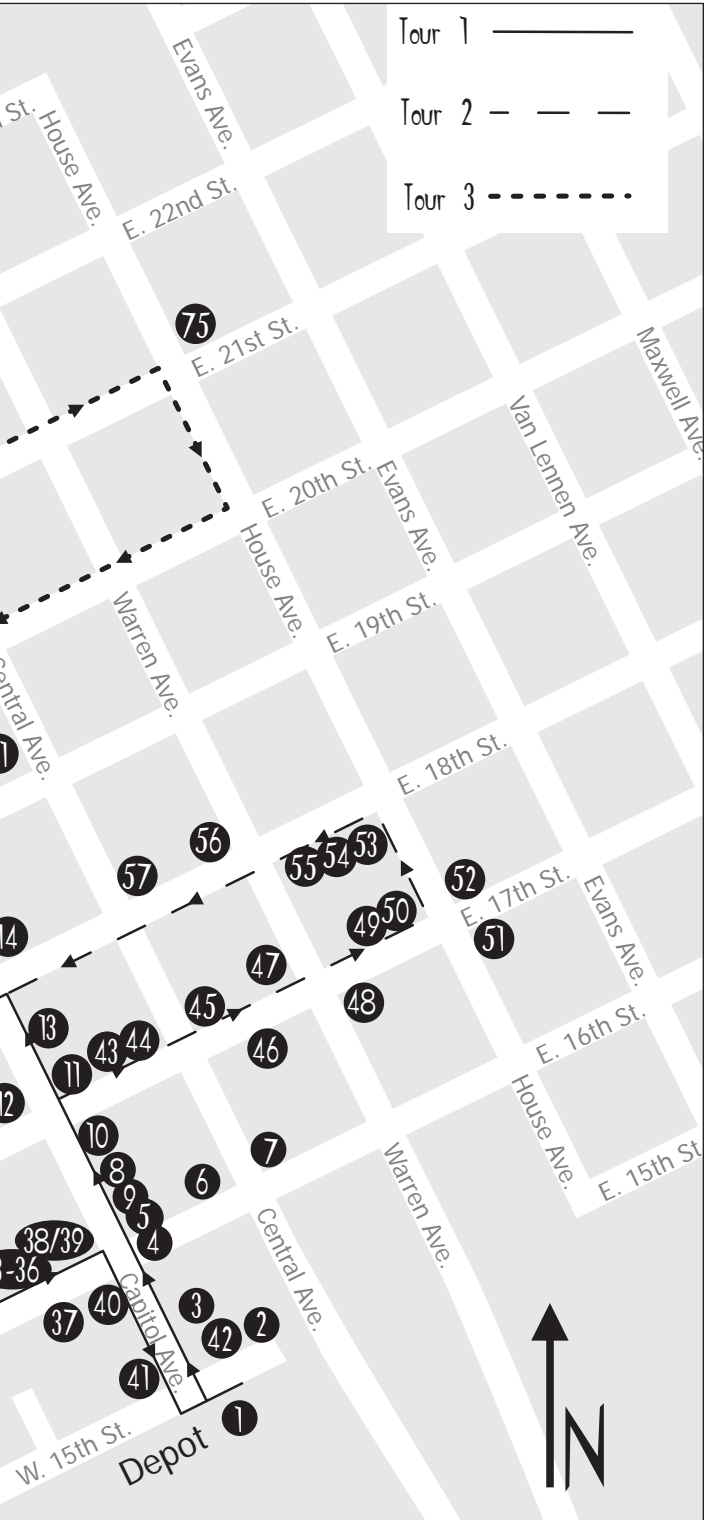
The DDA offers an interactive Downtown map, pertinent market data for potential developers, event listings and information about the DDA's programs and services. Members of the community will also find information about DDA Board Meetings and Property Owner meetings. The DDA's website is www.downtowncheyenne.com.

*Cheyenne Downtown Development Authority
121 West 15th Street • Suite 200 • Cheyenne, WY • 82001
DDA Phone 307-433-9730 • Fax 307-433-9732
www.downtowncheyenne.com*

NUMBERED MAP



NUMBERED MAP



Tour Map Reference

1. Union Pacific Depot
2. Depot Plaza
3. Warren Emporium
4. Lincolnway
5. First National Bank
6. Historic Plains Hotel
7. Gleason Building
8. Capitol Theatre
9. "Peacock Alley"
10. Rocky Mt. Telephone Bldg.
11. Stock Growers Nat. Bank
12. Opera House
13. Alert Hose Company
14. "Cottage Row"
15. Maple Terrace Apartments
16. Krebs Presbyterian Church
17. "House of Mirrors"
18. Citizen's Bank
19. Federal Post Office
20. Pioneer Hook & Ladder
21. I. L. Davis Building
22. Carey Brothers Block
23. Dyer's Hotel
24. Whitehead Building
25. Dinneen Garage
26. McDaniels Theatre
27. Gold Room Saloon
28. Addoms & Glover Building
29. Rollins House
30. Ford House & Restaurant
31. Tivoli Saloon
32. First Territorial Legislature
33. Idelman Saloon & Hotel
34. Commercial Building
35. First National Bank
36. Warren Block
37. Atlas Theatre
38. Inter Ocean Hotel
39. Hynds Building
40. Phoenix Building
41. Becker Hotel
42. "Hell-On-Wheels"
43. Alexander Swan Home
44. Mayflower restaurant
45. BPOE Elks Club
46. Chevrolet Showroom
47. Cheyenne Club
48. Bresnahan Home
49. Erasmus Nagle's 1st Home
50. Nagle-Warren Mansion
51. Dr. Barkwell's U.P. Hospital
52. Ithamar C. Whipple Mansion
53. Kingford Victorian Home
54. Nettford Apartments
55. Corson Queen Anne Cottage
56. Amassa Converse Mansion
57. First United Methodist Church
58. 1870 Courthouse and Jail
59. 1917 Courthouse
60. Masonic Temple
61. St. Mark's Episcopal Church
62. First Congregational Churches
63. Central School
64. Lulu McCormick Jr. High School
65. St. Mary's Catholic Church
66. Joseph Carey Mansion
67. Gilchrist Home
68. Carnegie County Library
69. Wyoming Supreme Court
70. Wyoming State Capitol Bldg.
71. Idelman Mansion
72. Academy of Holy Child Jesus
73. Wyoming State Museum
74. Central High School
75. Historic Governor's Mansion
76. Consistory Building
77. Castle Swan
78. Wyoming's First Synagogue
79. Tom Horn's Hanging

