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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Downtown Sterling

other names/site number Downtown Sterling Historic District, 5LO.829

## 2. Location

street & number Roughly bordered by Poplar, Front, Ash, and 4th Streets, and Division Avenue.

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town Sterling

state Colorado code CO county Logan code 075 zip code 80751

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Signature of certifying official/Title

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

AWT  
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History Colorado  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

6/18/13

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Joe Eason H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

8-13-13  
Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only **one** box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
54	34	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
54	34	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

6

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- COMMERCE/TRADE / Business
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Professional
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Organizational
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Financial Institution
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Specialty Store
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Department Store
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Restaurant
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Warehouse
- SOCIAL / Meeting Hall
- GOVERNMENT / City Hall
- GOVERNMENT / Fire Station
- GOVERNMENT / Post Office
- GOVERNMENT / Courthouse
- EDUCATION / Library
- RECREATION AND CULTURE / Theater
- TRANSPORTATION / Rail-Related

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- COMMERCE/TRADE / Business
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Professional
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Financial Institution
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Specialty Store
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Restaurant
- COMMERCE/TRADE / Warehouse
- SOCIAL / Meeting Hall
- GOVERNMENT / Post Office
- GOVERNMENT / Courthouse
- RELIGION / Religious Facility
- RELIGION / Church-related residence
- RECREATION AND CULTURE / Theater

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### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN

MOVEMENTS / Commercial Style

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS /

Classical Revival

LATE VICTORIAN / Renaissance

MODERN MOVEMENT

#### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK

WOOD

roof: ASPHALT

other: STUCCO

TERRA COTTA

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary

##### *The Setting*

The City of Sterling is located at 3930' above sea level, adjacent to the South Platte River and Interstate Highway 76, in northeastern Colorado. It is approximately 130 miles northeast of Denver, 100 miles east of Fort Collins, and 40 miles south of the Nebraska state line. Incorporated in 1884, Sterling is the County Seat of Logan County, and with just under 14,000 citizens, it is Colorado's most populous city east of the Front Range. The Downtown Sterling Historic District encompasses approximately eight square blocks centered in the city's commercial downtown. The district includes much of Sterling's original townsite (platted in 1881) and part of King & Smith's Addition (platted in 1884), both of which were laid out with lots and blocks parallel and perpendicular to the South Platte River. Front Street, which is closest to the river and adjacent to the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, forms the district's southeast border. Poplar Street and the alley between Poplar and Chestnut Streets form the district's northeast border; 4th Street and Division Avenue primarily form the northwest border; the alley between Ash and Beech Streets primarily forms the southwest border. Main Street extends for four blocks through the center of the district, from Front Street on the southeast to 4th Street on the northwest.

Comprising Sterling's downtown commercial sector, the district's streets are primarily lined with brick commercial blocks, which front directly onto concrete sidewalks. Exceptions include the courthouse square, which comprises all of Block 17 of Sterling's Original Townsite, and the former Sterling Public Library site, which is located in triangular-shaped Block 20 of the King & Smith Addition. The streets and alleys are all paved with asphalt or concrete, and as platted the streets historically were sufficiently wide to turn a wagon and a team of horses. Main Street is one hundred feet wide, including the sidewalks on both sides. Front Street is sixty feet wide, while 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Ash, and Poplar Streets are each eighty feet wide, including the sidewalks on both sides. Principal alleys throughout the district are each twenty feet wide. Sidewalks on Main Street are seventeen feet wide, except on the southwest side of the 200 block, where the sidewalk is twenty feet wide, and adjacent to the courthouse square. The sidewalk on all four sides of the courthouse square is just under six feet wide, and is separated from the curb by a strip of grass approximately ten feet wide. Elsewhere throughout the district, the sidewalks are primarily twelve feet wide.

Modern metal benches and covered metal trash receptacles are located on sidewalks throughout the core commercial area. On Main Street, there are typically two benches on both sides of each block, located near the curb facing the buildings. These benches were manufactured by DuMor Incorporated, and installed circa 2008. There are also a very limited number of older wooden and wrought iron benches on sidewalks within the district that date to circa 1970s. Other streetscape features include painted silver metal light poles, painted red fire hydrants, small trees in square brick-lined planters, a variety of round cast iron manhole covers, smaller access hole coverings with a variety of shapes and sizes,

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and drainage grills, located at low points in the gutters. Modern light poles throughout the district were manufactured by the Union Metal Manufacturing Company, while the fire hydrants were manufactured by the Clow Valve Company of Oskaloosa, Iowa and by the American Darling Valve Company of Beaumont, Texas. The manhole covers and other smaller access hole coverings appear to date from a wide time period, and display the names of several manufacturers, from Denver and elsewhere. Denver-based manufacturers include: "Hendrie & Bolthoff Mfg. & Supply Co.," "Crane O'Fallon Co.," "The M. J. O'Fallon Supply Co.," "Morse Bros.," and "Clarks Foundry." Out of state manufacturers include "Deeter Foundry Inc." of Lincoln, Nebraska, "The Ford Meter Box Co." of Wabash, Indiana, and the "Buckeye" Company of Dayton, Ohio. One manhole cover, in the 100 block of south Second Street displays the "Bell System" name. Drainage grills display two names, the "MacLear Fdy. Co." and the "United Iron Foundry" of Denver. The square brick-lined planters on the Main Street sidewalks each contain a corner brick inscribed "Purington Paver." Electrical and telephone wires are located in the alleys, strung along wooden crossbars atop tall, round, wooden poles.

Only three concrete stamps were observed throughout the district. One of these is inscribed "Schlene Inc. / 1988 / Builders / Sterling Colo," and is located in front of 108 Main Street. The other two are inscribed "Ideal Portland / Cement / Laid By / J. E. Koenig," and are located on the southwest side of the 300 block of Poplar Street. The sidewalk here appears older than on Main Street; however, the exact year it was poured is unknown. The district's earliest concrete sidewalks were installed in 1903 when the city passed an ordinance requiring that all future sidewalks be made of concrete or stone. The older wooden sidewalks began to be phased out at that time. Historic photos indicate that sidewalks throughout downtown Sterling were entirely concrete by the early 1920s, and that most streets had also been paved by that time period.

### ***The District's Buildings***

The district includes eighty-eight buildings. Fifty-four buildings are rated contributing, while thirty-four are rated noncontributing. Five of the contributing buildings were constructed between 1964 and 1969 and are integral to the district as they show the increase in the downtown building construction pattern that occurred post World War II, which began in downtown Sterling in 1946 and continued through 1969. Four of the noncontributing buildings were constructed between 1972 and 2004, outside the post World War II construction pattern. The remaining noncontributing buildings date from the period of significance, but have been altered to such an extent that they no longer convey a sense of their historic significance and integrity. Six of the contributing buildings are already individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places. These are: the Logan County Courthouse at 315 Main Street (NRIS.79000615; 5LO.35), the First United Presbyterian Church at 130 S. 4th Street (NRIS.82002304; 5LO.37), the Sterling Post Office, Federal Building and Federal Courthouse at 306 Poplar Street (NRIS.86000187; 5LO.39), the I & M Building at 223 Main Street (NRIS.82002305; 5LO.152), the Sterling Union Pacific Railroad Depot at 109 N. Front Street (NRIS.86000210; 5LO.188), and the Sterling Public Library (currently a private residence) at 210 S. 4th Street (NRIS.010011215; 5LO.469). Considered by historic function or use, the district comprises 74 commercial buildings, three fraternal meeting halls, two churches, three single-family residences, an apartment building, a hotel, and four prominent public buildings. In addition to the courthouse, the post office / federal building, and library, the prominent public buildings also include the 1912 Sterling City Hall, Firehouse and Jail at 214 Poplar Street (5LO.825).

The majority of the district's buildings display attributes of late 19th century and early 20th century commercial styles of architecture. However, there are also notable examples of early twentieth century revival styles, including Classical Revival, Georgian Revival, and Renaissance Revival, as well as later examples of the Modern Movement style classification from the post World War II period. Some of these are locally notable examples of Mid-Century Modern architecture. The commercial buildings are almost entirely one or two-story rectangular-shaped buildings which front directly onto the concrete sidewalks. Two-story buildings are predominantly located at the end of each block along Main Street, with the interior of each block lined with single-story buildings. The two-story buildings historically had retail space in the ground floor while the second story was used variously for lodging and office space. Several two-story buildings were built as prominent downtown hotels to serve the needs of visitors associated with the railroad, the sugar factory, and other industries during a period of sustained growth in the early twentieth century. The district's commercial buildings also include several former historic automobile repair shops and show rooms, and two former filling stations. Several commercial buildings were originally home to locally owned stores, but were later occupied by national retail chains including Golden Rule / J. C. Penney, F. W. Woolworth, Sears Roebuck, Gambles, Coast to Coast, Ben Franklin, Safeway, Piggly Wiggly, and Red Owl. One building (5LO.180) was built in 1928 at the corner of 3rd and Poplar Streets with Montgomery Ward as its original retail tenant.

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Although an 1899 Sanborn Insurance map shows secondary buildings behind some of the commercial buildings including stables, privies, and a sod cellar, none of these 1899 secondary buildings are extant today. Presently, there are a very limited number of secondary buildings throughout the district. These include the Courthouse Annex, located near the east corner of the courthouse square (5LO.35), a circa 1920-1940 garage behind the residence at 119 S. 2nd Street (5LO.789), a circa 1910-1920 four-plex apartment building at 327 Ash Street (5LO.807) that was formerly a automobile garage on the first floor and residential space above, and a modern garage behind 209/211 Main Street (5LO.155). While the 1899 secondary buildings are not extant and there is no additional surface evidence of archaeological features, there may be buried deposits beneath the paved alleys, parking lots, and larger buildings constructed after 1900. While further research or ground penetrating radar may reveal additional information regarding buried features, it is not within the scope of this nomination.

Dates of construction in the district range from 1896 to 2004; however, only three buildings were built after the period of significance, all after 1970 and each of these replaced early twentieth century buildings that burned. Seventy buildings (representing 80 percent of the district's total) predate the early 1930s, and all but seventeen of these were built during a twenty-two year period between circa 1910 and 1932. Almost no commercial construction took place during the Great Depression and World War II, from the early 1930s through the mid-1940s. Downtown Sterling then saw a renewed building boom, of modest proportions, between circa 1946 and 1969.

***Buildings by Decade of Construction***

<u>Decade</u>	<u>Number of Buildings Constructed</u>
Pre-1900	8
1900-1909	9
1910-1919	22
1920-1929	22
1930-1939	10 (only one after 1932)
1940-1949	4 (all after 1946)
1950-1959	5
1960-1969	5
1970-1979	1 (1972)
1980-1989	1 (1980)
2000-2009	1 (2004)

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**CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS**

Descriptions of contributing commercial buildings are presented under a single heading, except for downtown hotels, and automobile-related buildings, which are listed under separate headings. These are followed by separate headings for contributing buildings which functioned primarily as fraternal meeting halls, public buildings, churches, and residences.

**Commercial Buildings**

**113/115 N. 2nd Street (5LO.165)**

**Historic Name:** Bengé Block  
**Current Name:** Bengé Block, Delgado Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1915

This brick, two-story, double storefront, commercial building measures 44' NE-SW (across) x 75' NW-SE (deep). The façade wall features painted red brick. Contrasting brown brick surrounds the second story windows and appears in narrow bands including a coping course near the top of the façade wall. Numerous retail stores and businesses have occupied the ground floor. They include Ingram Sweet Shop confectionery, Dunn's Pharmacy, Roberts Printing and Stationary Company, and the Salvation Army. The second story was originally professional offices and later apartments.

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The building has experienced very few alterations, with the original storefronts, entries, windows, brick walls, and decorative features having survived intact into the early twenty-first century.

**122 N. 2nd Street** (5LO.136)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Furniture Company Building  
**Current Name:** Lederhos Building, Modern Floors Building  
**Construction Date:** 1947

This single story building measures 60' NE-SW (across) x 93' NW-SE (deep). The exterior walls are made of brown brick laid in common bond. Large expanses of storefront display windows flank a deeply-recessed entryway on the façade. A flat metal awning projects over the front sidewalk. Completed in 1947, this building replaced a prominent two-story Classic Revival style edifice which was destroyed by fire on May 13, 1946. The earlier building was constructed in 1910 and was home to George Henderson's Sterling Hardware and Implement Company. The new building was home to the Sterling Furniture Company during the post World War II years. The building's exterior is minimally altered from the 1947 date of construction

**130 N. 3rd Street** (5LO.794)  
**Historic Name:** Bank of the West  
**Current Name:** Bank of the West  
**Construction Date:** 1969

This building was designed as and has served as a bank from the time of its construction in 1969. Displaying a high degree of integrity, it is considered a contributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District. Although presently less than fifty years old, this building is an integral part of the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it exemplifies commercial resources and activity in the district through the end of the 1960s. This building has not been altered subsequent to its original construction.

**214 N. 3rd Street** (5LO.796)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Brecht Building  
**Construction Date:** 1963

This single-story building measures 35' NE-SW (across) x 85' NW-SE (deep). The building is of concrete block construction, with a wire-cut red brick veneer on the façade. The side and rear walls are made of painted white concrete blocks. The façade wall contains two glass-in-metal-frame entry doors and two large storefront display windows. Built in 1963, the building has been continuously used as retail and office space. The building appears minimally altered subsequent to its original construction.

**129 S. 3rd Street** (5LO.823)  
**Historic Name:** Wells Fargo Building  
**Current Name:** Wells Fargo Building  
**Construction Date:** 1965

This building was designed as and has served as a bank from the time of its construction in 1965. Displaying a high degree of integrity, it is considered a contributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District. Although presently just under fifty years of age, this building is an integral part of the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it exemplifies commercial resources and activity in the district during the 1960s.

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**201 S. 3rd Street** (5LO.786)  
**Historic Name:** Bank of Colorado  
**Current Name:** Bank of Colorado  
**Construction Date:** 1958

This building was constructed in 1958 and has functioned as a bank from that time to the present. It consists of a one story section to the northeast, which measures 68' NE-SW x 55' NW-SE, and a two-story section to the southwest, which measures 49' NE-SW x 55' NW-SE. A notable local example of Mid-Century Modern architecture, the building features pierced concrete sunshades with decorative geometric patterns, on the northwest and southwest-facing sides of the two-story section. The building appears minimally altered subsequent to its original construction.

**110, 112, 114 N. 4th Street** (5LO.184)  
**Historic Name:** Telephone Exchange Building, Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Building  
**Current Name:** Dawn Building, Hoal Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1910

The Telephone Exchange is a prominent free standing brick building which consists of three components: a rectangular-shaped two-story section, measuring 50' NE-SW (across) x 30' NW-SE (deep); a formerly detached L-shaped single-story garage which overall measures 42' NE-SW x 24' NW-SE; a single story connecting element between the main two-story section and the formerly detached garage which measures 26' NE-SW x 30' NW-SE. The building's façade features six vertical divisions, separated by brick pilasters on stone bases and with Composite order capitals. A parapet, with a projecting cornice, rises above the roof line on the façade. The façade's second story contains six large rounded arch windows, while the first story contains five windows with flat arches. Entry doors are located at either end of the façade. The building is minimally altered from its original construction. The most noticeable alteration is to the windows and doors on the main two-story section, replaced in recent years within the original openings. The rear sections were all completed by 1936 and are historic changes to the building that left the original Telephone Exchange dominant on the site. The original Classical Revival facade detailing and ornamentation remain in place and visible.

Sterling's first telephone switchboard was located in the Central Hotel on Main Street in the late 1890s. It was operated privately by Sam Ard, with initial connections from the Central to the railroad depot and the L. M. Judd Store, also on Main Street. The Colorado Telephone Service began offering public telephone service circa 1902. As the technology improved, demand increased, and within a few years a modern telephone exchange building was clearly needed. Construction began in the fall of 1909 and its completion was feted with a grand opening held on March 31, 1910. Phone line mechanisms and work rooms were on the ground floor, while the operators, business office, manager's office, and restrooms were located in the second story. The Colorado Telephone Service became part of the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company which was later incorporated into the Mountain Bell telephone system. The building served its original purpose until the 1960s when it was converted into professional office space for other businesses.

**117 Ash Street** (5LO.805)  
**Historic Name:** Mack Smith's Radio Service Building  
**Current Name:** O'Toole Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1930

This building was constructed circa 1930 on the alley behind Litch Brothers Garage (later Marsau's Auto Parts store). It served historically as both a residence, and as a small commercial building, home to businesses such as Mack Smith's Radio Service. It currently serves as an accounting office. The building is of wood frame construction with a brick veneer on the façade. The secondary walls are clad with painted white horizontal wood siding, while painted white decorative wood shingles appear in the façade's upper gable end. The front gable roof features flared eaves, two hipped roof dormers, and a red brick chimney. A glass-in-metal-frame door, flanked by large storefront display windows, enters the façade. Alterations to this building include changes to the original door and window openings, which occurred during the 1950s or 1960s.

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**201 Ash Street** (5LO.799)  
**Historic Name:** Komac Paint Store  
**Current Name:** Quilts-n-Creations Building  
**Construction Date:** 1953

Located at the west corner of Ash and South 2nd Streets, this building measures 100' NE-SW x 50' NW-SE. It was constructed in 1953 and served originally as a Komac paint store. An interesting local example of Mid-Century Modern architecture, it features exterior walls with painted blue vertical wood siding as well as a tinged red concrete veneer in a simulated brick pattern. The roof is nearly flat, with an angled painted white eave which creates the illusion of a butterfly roof form. This building appears unaltered from its original construction.

**207/211 Ash Street** (5LO.788)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** T & K Building  
**Construction Date:** 1967

This building was constructed in 1967 and has served as business and professional office space from that time to the present. Displaying a high degree of integrity, it is considered a contributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District. Although presently under fifty years of age, this building is an integral part of the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it exemplifies commercial resources and activity in the district during the 1960s. The building appears unaltered from its original construction.

**109 N. Front Street** (5LO.188; NRIS.86000210)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Union Pacific Railroad Depot  
**Current Name:** Sterling Union Pacific Railroad Depot, Sterling Downtown Improvement Corporation Building  
**Construction Date:** 1902

The Sterling Union Pacific Railroad Depot was built on the southeast side of Front Street in 1902. It was moved across Front Street to its present location at the corner of Front and Main Streets in May 1984. It was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.

**117 N. Front Street** (5LO.129)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Laundry Building, The Leader Store  
**Current Name:** G & L Woodcraft Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1910

The original front section of this single story commercial building measures approximately 25' NW-SE (across) x 75' NE-S (deep). It was constructed between 1908 and 1913. A rear addition, which measures approximately 25' NW-SE x 50' NE-SW, was constructed prior to 1918. The building is of brick and concrete block construction, with stepped parapets on the sides and a corbelled brick parapet on the façade. The façade is symmetrical with storefront display windows flanking a recessed entryway. Historic retail tenants include the Sterling Laundry and The Leader (clothing) Store.

**119/121 N. Front Street** (5LO.130)  
**Historic Name:** The Leader Store  
**Current Name:** G & L Woodcraft Building  
**Construction Date:** 1918

This two-story commercial building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 90' NE-S (deep). The upper façade wall is clad with painted grey stucco, offset by vertical rows of distinctive brown brickwork. Brown brick columns at either end of the façade are supported by stone pedestals. The kickplate area below the storefront display windows is clad with tile panels with a simulated stone pattern. A horizontal sign band, which advertises "G & L CUSTOM WOODCRAFT" divides the façade's first and second stories. The side and rear walls are made of red brick. A stained natural brown glass-in-wood-frame door enters the ground floor level from within a deeply-recessed entryway, flanked by storefront display windows. A painted white wood-paneled door at the northeast end of the façade accesses an interior staircase. The Leader (clothing) Store occupied this building for many years, and was also located next door at 117 Front Street for a time.

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**123 N. Front Street** (5LO.131)  
**Historic Name:** Economy Store, Ace Store, Westerner Store  
**Current Name:** Meraz Building, Farmers Insurance Building  
**Construction Date:** 1930

This building measures 25' NE-SW (across) x 105' NW-SE (deep), with a two-story front section and a one story rear section. Storefront display windows flank a recessed entryway on the façade. The second story façade wall contains a set of paired double-hung sash windows and a single double-hung sash window. Decorative brown brick corbelling and panels appear in the upper façade. Retail uses over the years include the Economy Store, Ace Store, and Westerner Store, which were all clothing companies.

**124 S. Front Street** (5LO.149)  
**Historic Name:** James Buck's Blacksmith Shop, M. C. Buck's Blacksmith Shop, Sincock's Blacksmith Shop  
**Current Name:** Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1922

This single story building measures 25' NE-SW (across) x 100' NW-SE (deep). The façade wall is clad with cream color stucco, over brick. The northeast-facing side wall is made of red brick with a stepped parapet. The northwest-facing side (rear) wall is made of painted white brick. The symmetrical façade features a centered glass-in-metal-frame entry door, with a transom light, flanked by large storefront display windows. The building's historic use was as a blacksmith shop, operated successively by James Buck, M. C. Buck, and W. C. Sincock. Later, circa 1960s, it was converted into a professional accounting office. Although its façade was altered at that time, the building is considered a contributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it illustrates the change in commercial use from the 1920s to the 1960s.

**202/204 S. Front Street** (5LO.151)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Sheet Metal and Roofing Company Building, E. T. Hall's Agricultural Implements Store, McKay Truck Lines Building, Alf W. Bundy's Agricultural Implements Store  
**Current Name:** Vail Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1922

This single story commercial building measures 50' NE-SW (across) x 60' NW-SE (deep). Brown brick columns divide its façade into three bays. The lower façade wall, beneath the outer two bays' window openings, is also made of brown brick. The northwest-facing side (rear) wall is clad with unpainted concrete parquetry over red brick masonry. The northeast and southwest-facing side walls are made of red brick laid in common bond. The façade features a decorative metal cornice. The roof is flat with stepped side parapets. This building's commercial use has had an industrial and agricultural emphasis. It has been occupied by the Sterling Sheet Metal and Roofing Company, E. T. Hall's Agricultural Implements Store (before it moved across Ash Street to 138 S. Front Street), McKay Truck Lines, and Alf W. Bundy's Agricultural Implements Store.

**101 Main Street** (5LO.145)  
**Historic Name:** Stickney Building  
**Current Name:** Stickney Building  
**Construction Date:** 1926

This prominent two-story corner commercial building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 180' NE-SW (deep). It features red brick walls, with a symmetrical parapet on the façade, facing Main Street. Decorative elements include the use of terra cotta and contrasting brown brick accents. This building was historically owned by and associated with the commercial enterprises of Lee C. Stickney. Born in 1879, Stickney grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Sometime between 1900 and 1910, Stickney moved to Fort Morgan, Colorado, where he rented a room and worked as a salesman for a grocery business. Circa 1912, he married Adeline "Addie" P. Bauder, who had been working as a stenographer in a Denver broker's office. The couple moved to Sterling, where Lee opened a motorcycle repair shop in 1914 in a two-story building that he had constructed on South Front Street. The Stickneys settled into an apartment on the second floor above Lee's shop and began to raise a family while he was growing his business. In 1918, Lee acquired Fred Stevenson's tire shop and launched himself into the business of selling tires and auto accessories.

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The firm was initially known as the Stickney Auto Equipment Company, and later simply as Stickney's Inc., a name that stayed with the firm for decades. Lee Stickney served as the firm's founder and president. In 1926, he replaced the small auto garage toward the front of the lot at 101 Main Street with this large two-story masonry building that he connected to his two-story motorcycle shop at the rear. The exteriors of these two buildings were tied together with common architectural detailing along the Front Street façade. While the front half of this new building held Stickney's retail tire and automotive accessories store, the service shop occupied the rear, with several drive-in entries located along Front Street. The Stickney family moved into a new second-floor apartment at the front of the building, with a small balcony overlooking Main Street, and remained there through at least the 1940s. Stickney acquired the adjacent one-story building at 103 Main Street between 1927 and 1936. He expanded this toward the southwest, doubling its length to the rear alley. At that same time, the two abutting buildings at 101 and 103 Main Street were combined into one with interior doorways placed along their common first-floor side wall.

From the 1920s to the 1950s, Stickney's auto accessories and tire business expanded to other communities, where he opened retail stores and service shops. Many of these were located in nearby towns and included locales such as Fort Morgan, Colorado; Sidney, Scottsbluff, Alliance and McCook, Nebraska; and Torrington, Wyoming. Denver had its own Stickney's store, and the firm expanded as far as California, where it opened a store in Pasadena. The chain of stores eventually extended into five states. During the 1940s and 1950s, the company's vice president and general manager was Max W. Pollard. He became president of the firm in the 1960s, when the company added television sales and service to its automotive supply and service business.

The Stickney Building has experienced moderate exterior alterations subsequent to its original construction. The most substantial alteration has been to the building's storefront, where the original entry and windows were replaced with the current metal-framed system sometime circa 1960s. Many doors and a few windows along the side and rear sides have also been replaced; however, all are within their original openings. As a whole, these alterations do not detract from the overall design and appearance of the building, with the original Early Twentieth-Century Commercial Style facade remain in place and highly visible.

**103/105 Main Street** (5LO.144)  
**Historic Name:** Headrick's Jewelry Store, Stickney Building  
**Current Name:** Headrick Building  
**Construction Date:** Pre-1900

This single story commercial building consists of what historically were two separate single-story commercial buildings, addressed as 103 and 105 Main Street. The original front sections of both buildings predate the turn of the twentieth century. A long rear extension was added to the southwest-facing side of 105 Main Street between 1927 and 1947. The unified façade, which visually ties both buildings to the Stickney Building next door at 101 Main Street, reportedly dates to circa 1944. The façade wall is made of red brick with a symmetrical stepped parapet. A stringcourse of brown bricks, composed of a soldier course topped by a stretcher course, extends along the façade above the door and window openings. The rear and side sides are made of red brick laid in running bond, partially covered with concrete partering. The northwest half of the building was occupied by Headrick's Jewelry Store from 1904 until circa 1980. The store was owned and operated by William J. Headrick until his death in 1936, and then continued by descendants. The southwest half of the building was historically associated with the Stickney Building next door.

**108 Main Street** (5LO.128)  
**Historic Name:** Delzell Building  
**Current Name:** Delzell Building  
**Construction Date:** 1899

This building measures 26' NW-SE (across) x 151' NE-SW (deep). It was constructed in 1899 as part of a large commercial building with one hundred feet of frontage along Main Street, which extended northwest from the corner of Main and Front Streets. Much of the building was destroyed by fire in 1967, with the extant section (the original northwest end) surviving. This section of the original building was extended to the northwest-facing side (rear) with the construction of a concrete block addition, between 1947 and 1959. Remnants of the original Mesker Brothers cast iron storefront are remain visible on the façade.

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**109 Main Street** (5LO.142)  
**Historic Name:** Golden Rule Store, Coast to Coast Store  
**Current Name:** Carol's Sleep Shop  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1915

This building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 160' NE-SW (deep). It consists of a single-story front portion which measures 25' across x 96' deep, and a two-story rear portion which measures 25' across x 64' feet deep. Sanborn Insurance maps indicate that the entire building was built with two stories circa 1915, and that the front section of the second story was subsequently removed in the years between 1927 and 1947. The façade wall is made of light brown brick with a symmetrical stepped parapet. The façade is symmetrical with a centered glass-in-metal-frame entry door flanked by storefront display windows. The building's original use was as Sterling's Golden Rule store, which later became J. C. Penney's. In 1928, the Penney's store moved to 212 Main Street, and this building then became a duck pin bowling alley during the 1930s and 1940s. The Coast to Coast chain opened a retail store in the building circa 1950, which remained here for the next several decades. The façade's door and window openings are minimally altered from when the building was occupied by Coast to Coast.

**119 Main Street** (5LO.138)  
**Historic Name:** Henderson Building  
**Current Name:** Henderson Building, Yost Building, The Clothes Lion  
**Construction Dates:** 1905, 1907

The Henderson Building is a prominent two-story commercial building located at the south corner of Main and 2nd Streets. The building consists of an original (1905) two-story front section, which measures 37' NW-SE (across) x 70' NE-SW (deep), and an early (1907) single-story addition to the southwest-facing side, which measures 33' NW-SE x 100' feet NE-SW. A glass-in-metal-frame door enters the center of the façade from within the deeply-recessed entryway, while another glass-in-metal-frame door at the southeast end of the façade accesses an interior stairway. These entries are flanked by large expanses of storefront display windows. Other entry doors face 2nd Street on the northwest-facing side. The second story façade wall is made of painted pale blue brick with painted dark blue accents, including a brick dentil course, three brick panels, and two projecting brick stringcourses. The building's historic exterior has not been altered in recent decades.

George A. Henderson (September 19, 1860 - November 26, 1928) was regarded as northeast Colorado's most prominent and wealthiest businessman. This is one of four corner commercial buildings in the heart of downtown Sterling with which Henderson was directly associated. Two of the others remain standing and are located on this same corner - the Henderson Block at 118/120 Main Street (5LO.126) and the First National Bank Building at 202/204 Main Street (5LO.163). The last of Henderson's corner commercial buildings, the Scofield Furniture Store / Henderson Building (5LO.178), located a block away at 304 Main Street, was destroyed by fire on March 30, 1969. Simon Raabe had a clothing store in this building before moving to a new building at 219/221 Main Street (5LO.153) in the 1910s. Other retail tenants in this building include Reuler's Ladies Ready-to-Wear store, Mentgen's Clothing, Western Auto, and Pouzer's Flower Shop.

**118 / 120 Main Street** (5LO.126)  
**Historic Name:** Henderson Block  
**Current Name:** Henderson Block  
**Construction Date:** 1905

This two-story corner commercial building measures 50' NW-SE (across) x 125' NE-SW (deep). The first story walls on the southwest and northwest-facing sides (facing Main and 2nd Streets), are clad with a stone veneer, while the second story walls on those sides are clad with teal color metal panels. The northeast-facing (rear) side wall is stuccoed. Recessed entryways are located at either end of the façade. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with a transom light and sidelight, enters 118 Main Street at the southeast end of the façade, while a set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors, with a transom light and sidelight, enters 120 Main Street at the northwest end of the façade. Four large storefront display windows penetrate the façade's first story. Fixed-pane windows are located at either end of the first story on the northwest-facing side. Second story windows are single-light fixed panes set over single-light awning windows. A flat metal canopy extends over the sidewalk between the first and second stories, on the façade and at the southwest end of the northwest-facing side. A square column supports the building's second story at the front west corner.

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This building was originally constructed in 1905. Its current appearance, however, dates from the late 1950s. Sterling's first brick commercial building was erected on this property in the early 1890s. Originally owned by Henry Clay Sherman, the property was soon acquired by George Adam Henderson, who was well on his way to becoming Sterling's leading businessman. Henderson arrived in Sterling in 1887 and opened a hardware store in the 300 block of Main Street. His business flourished, and circa 1893, he purchased from Sherman Sterling's first brick commercial building at this location. He moved his hardware store here, and expanded the business to also deal in wagons and buggies, agricultural implements, harness products, and eventually lumber. Henderson formed multiple partnerships and formed other business enterprises, most notably the First National Bank of Sterling (with Henderson as president), and the Sterling Lumber and Investment Company. Henderson also became a civic leader, serving variously on the town council and as Sterling's mayor and city treasurer.

The Sterling Lumber and Investment Company involved a partnership between Henderson and Charles A. and Homer T. Hayward. Beginning in 1903, the partnership demolished the original brick building at this location, and to better house their thriving business enterprise, they replaced it with an impressive, three story, early twentieth century commercial style building. Completed in 1905, the new building featured an imposing brick façade with a symmetrical parapet finished by a prominent centered pediment. The storefront on the first story could be shaded by a retractable canvas awning, while the façade's second and third stories each contained six double-hung sash windows. Touted as the largest store between Denver and Omaha, the new three-story edifice was feted in a lavish grand opening ceremony held in October 1905.

Henderson's hardware and lumber business later involved a partnership with W. J. Powell and F. H. Blair, and it then became known as Henderson, Powell and Blair. In even later years it was named the Sterling Hardware and Implement Company. In 1910, Henderson and his partners constructed yet another building, one half block northeast, at 122 N. 2nd Street (5LO.136). That building became the main retail space for the Sterling Hardware and Implement Company, while the rear of this building was used as a warehouse. The front section and upper floors of this building, meanwhile, were subsequently leased to other tenants. Retail tenants in the main retail space on the first floor include the Mentgen Mercantile Company, Ullery Hardware, Davis and Company Groceries, Safeway, Gambles, the Watkins Store, and the Public Service Company. In the late 1950s, in an effort to modernize and streamline the building, its owners removed the third story, renovated the interior, and altered the exterior to how it appears today.

**202/204 Main Street** (5LO.163)  
**Historic Name:** First National Bank  
**Current Name:** Shoe Tree Building  
**Construction Date:** 1901, 1908

This two-story corner commercial building measures 46' NW-SE (across) x 100' NE-SW (deep). The façade's first story wall features brick columns which divide three entries and their storefront display windows. The façade's second story wall, and the uppermost part of the southeast-facing side (facing 2nd Street) are clad with a late 1950s green metal veneer. The remainder of the southeast-facing side, and the northeast-facing (rear) side feature the original exposed painted cream white brick laid in running bond. Recessed entryways, with glass-in-metal-frame doors, enter 202 and 204 Main Street at either end of the façade. Another glass-in-metal-frame door accesses an interior stairway at the far northwest end of the façade. The façade's first story features floor-to-ceiling storefront display windows, covered by a flat metal awning which projects over the front sidewalk. Four single-light fixed-pane windows are located in the façade's second story. Nine one-over-one double-hung sash windows, with sandstone lugsills, are located in the second story on the southeast-facing side. Six large original double-hung sash windows, with sandstone lugsills and lintels, on the southeast-facing side's first story have been filled with brick. Glass block windows are located at the northeast end of the southeast-facing side and on the northeast-facing (rear) side.

The original southeast half of this building was erected in 1901 as the First National Bank of Sterling. Organized the previous year, the First National Bank involved a partnership between several of Sterling's leading merchants. They included George A. Henderson (president), W. S. Hadfield, L. M. Judd, E. M. Kelsey, and W. J. Powell. The northwest half of the building was completed in 1908, as the bank and the entire community were entering a period of tremendous growth. The First National Bank thrived for over a decade, before falling on hard times and eventually closing in 1924. In later years, this building became home to the Security State Bank, followed by the State Bank of Sterling which remained here until 1965. The bank occupied the prime corner space while the remainder of the first floor was leased to retail and business tenants. These include the Logan County Abstract Company, Reuler's Ladies Ready-to-Wear Store, the

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Bauman Drugstore, Clarence Morgan's Confectionery Shop, Conrad's (clothing store), and the Channer Music and Gift Store.

**208 Main Street** (5LO.161)  
**Historic Name:** Rominger Jewelry Store  
**Current Name:** Rominger Jewelry Store  
**Construction Date:** Pre-1900

This one story commercial building measures 24' NW-SE (across) x 125' NE-SW (deep). The upper façade wall is made of beige color brick, with a symmetrical stepped parapet. The building's business name "Rominger" is fastened to the upper façade wall in silver cursive lettering. Two glass-in-metal-frame doors enter the building from within a deeply-recessed entryway which extends across the entire façade. The doors are flanked by floor-to-ceiling storefront display windows. A flat metal canopy projects over the front sidewalk. The building has been continuously occupied by the Rominger Jewelry store from the late 1920s to the present. The building's historic exterior is minimally altered in recent decades.

**215/219/221 Main Street** (5LO.153)  
**Historic Name:** Raabe Building, F. W. Woolworth Building  
**Current Name:** Raabe Building, F. W. Woolworth Building  
**Construction Dates:** Circa 1906, 1917

This property consists of what originally were two Main Street commercial buildings, with a historic single-story addition to the rear of both buildings. The oldest of the two buildings was constructed circa 1906 as a single-story commercial building on Lot 7 in Block 11, measuring 29' NW-SE (across) by an undetermined number of feet NE-SW (deep). This building has been addressed as both 215 and 217 Main Street. The newer of the two buildings was constructed circa 1917 on Lots 8 and 9, in Block 11. It has been addressed as 219 and 221 Main Street. Known as the Raabe Building, this imposing two-story edifice measures 44' NW-SE (across) x 135' NE-SW (deep). The historic addition to the southwest-facing side (rear) predates 1959, and extends both buildings nearly to the alley. The entire building measures 75' NW-SE (across) x 176' NE-SW (deep).

The original second story façade of the Raabe Building is intact. It features ash blonde color brick laid in distinctive stacked stretcher, soldier, and header courses, with decorative terra cotta blocks and panels. Five square terra cotta panels are evenly spaced along the upper façade wall. Each panel is outlined with an egg-and-dart motif and features a quatrefoil design, inside a diamond inset within the square panel. The top of the façade wall is finished with a decorative terra cotta cornice. The second story façade wall contains four large windows, with transom and sidelights, and with painted wood frames. A continuous sill beneath these windows visually divides the façade's first and second stories. The sill is made of terra cotta blocks with an egg-and-dart motif. The façade's first story contains a recessed entryway with a set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors with transom and sidelights. The recessed entryway is flanked on either side by large storefront display windows. The base of the façade wall (beneath the storefront display windows) and the wall at the northwest end of the first story are clad with a red artificial stone veneer. A wide stuccoed band is attached to the façade between the first and second stories. Historically, this band was used to display signage, including that of the F. W. Woolworth Company which occupied the building for many years. The stuccoed band extends to form the upper façade wall of what was originally the single-story building at 215 Main Street. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with transom and sidelights, enters this section of the building from within another recessed entryway. The single-story addition to the southwest-facing side (rear) provides uniformity to the rear of both historic buildings, essentially melding them into a single entity.

The circa 1906 one story section of this building was historically divided into two retail spaces, used as a barbershop, an office, and as a print shop until the mid-1910s. Part of the building was then occupied by J. P. Hecker's Sanitary Cleaning Company through the late 1930s. Hutchinson's Jewelry was also located in the building between circa 1937 and the late 1950s.

The two-story Raabe Building was originally owned by Simon Raabe who had his men's clothing store in the ground floor retail space while leasing the second story as professional offices. Raabe and his family left Sterling in the 1920s, and the prime retail space was then taken over by Magee's Clothing Company, followed by the Waymire Clothing Company through the mid-1930s. The F. W. Woolworth Company opened a store in the Raabe Building circa 1936, and eventually

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expanded into the older single-story building next door. While Woolworth's remained the building's primary retail business into the 1980s, the second story continued to be used as office space by dentists, optometrists, chiropractors, and other professionals. Architect Eugene Groves had an office in the Raabe Building in the late 1910s, from where he designed the I & M Building next door which was completed in 1920. The second story tenants also included a beauty shop. It was originally operated by Leah Jensen in the 1930s, before later becoming Randall's Beauty Shop.

**223 Main Street** (5LO.152; NRIS.82002305)  
**Historic Name:** I & M Building  
**Current Name:** I & M Building  
**Construction Date:** 1920

This prominent two-story corner commercial building was designed by architect Eugene G. Groves. It was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1982, and continues to maintain a high level of integrity.

**304 Main Street** (5LO.178)  
**Historic Name:** Henderson Building  
**Current Name:** Henderson Building, Vandemoer Building  
**Construction Date:** 1969

This building was constructed on the site of the Scofield Furniture Store Building / Henderson Building, which burned on March 30 1969. Erected in 1913, the earlier building on this site was a prominent two-story commercial block. Designed by architect Eugene Groves, it was originally owned by George A. Henderson, and originally occupied by B. M. Scofield's Furniture Store. The furniture store was located here until 1946 when it moved into a new building up the block at 322 Main Street. The historic building at this location was subsequently occupied by the Bauman Drugstore, the Scott-Burr Store, and Ben Franklin, among others, until it burned in 1969. The property has remained with the descendants of George Henderson throughout its history. It is presently owned by his great-grandson, Christopher Vandemoer. A terra cotta name block inscribed "G. A. HENDERSON" was saved from the burned 1913 building. It is inset in the brick wall of the 1969 building at the northeast end of the 3rd Street side. The extant 1969 building is unaltered from its original construction, and is considered a contributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it exemplifies commercial resources and activity in the district during the 1960s.

**312 Main Street** (5LO.177)  
**Historic Name:** W. C. Hardie's Barbershop and Beauty Shop, et. al.  
**Current Name:** Delgado Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1910

This one story commercial building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 46' NE-SW (deep). The lower façade wall and columns at either end are made of painted beige color brick. The upper façade wall is clad with a white metal veneer, above a green metal-clad canopy which projects over the front sidewalk. The northeast-facing (rear) wall is made of red brick laid in running bond. A glass-in-metal-frame door enters the center of the façade, flanked on either side by a storefront display window. The building's façade has not been significantly altered since the 1960s.

**316 Main Street** (5LO.175)  
**Historic Name:** Simkins Grocery  
**Current Name:** Simkins Grocery Building  
**Construction Date:** 1921

This one story commercial building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 75' NE-SW (deep). The façade is symmetrical with a centered recessed entryway flanked by storefront display windows. The upper façade wall and columns at either end are made of red brick. The lower façade wall, below the storefront display windows, is made of brown brick. Simkins Grocery was founded by C. T. Simkins in 1929. Originally located at 320 Main Street, Simkins Grocery moved to this location a few years later where it remained until the late twentieth century. The store became affiliated with the Associated Grocers chain in 1955. Although the store is now closed, the building is still owned by the Simkins family. The building's historic façade appears unaltered in recent decades.

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**318 Main Street** (5LO.174)  
**Historic Name:** Boner Building, D & J Mabray Building  
**Current Name:** Picture This Building  
**Construction Date:** 1929

This prominent two-story commercial building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 113' NE-SW (deep). Its highly decorative façade features an imposing, symmetrical, crenelated parapet, contrasting brick panels, and contrasting brick window surrounds. The upper façade contains a set of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows flanked on either side by a single double-hung sash window. The lower façade contains a main entry door, with flanking storefront display windows, and a second door at the southeast end which leads to an interior staircase. A canopy between the first and second stories extends over the front sidewalk.

This building was constructed by Sterling businessman W. W. Boner in 1929. Boner was the proprietor of the Sterling Wall Paper and Paint Store, a successful enterprise originally located in an earlier building on this site. After Boner moved the store into this new building, it soon failed during the early years of the Great Depression. The building went into foreclosure and passed into other hands. A grocery, known as the Sterling Food Store, operated in the building for a time before it also went out of business. The building was then purchased by real estate agent J. Barnie Mabray. He renamed it the D. and J. Mabray Building, in honor of his two young sons, Don and Jay. Previously located in the I & M Building, Mabray's real estate office was moved to this location where it remained for the next several decades. J. Barnie Mabray passed away in 1954. However the real estate business passed into the hands of the next generation and continued to live on. The historic exterior of the Boner / Mabray Building is minimally altered from its original construction.

**313 Poplar Street** (5LO.181)  
**Historic Name:** Fox Theater  
**Current Name:** Fox Theater  
**Construction Date:** 1938

The Fox Theater was built in 1938 supplanting Sterling's earlier downtown motion picture houses including the Lyric/Rialto, Princess, America, and Sterling Theatres. The building features a distinctive symmetrical façade with terra cotta tiles, a glass-in-metal-frame storefront, and curved glass block windows at the corners. A large center tower, clad with terra cotta tiles, rises from the center of the façade. A theater marquee sign projects from the façade over the front entrance.

In the mid-1930s, the Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation purchased a lot in downtown Sterling that was occupied by a two-story apartment building. After demolishing the apartments, in 1938 the company completed the construction of a new Streamlined Moderne movie theater. The front of the building contained the main entrance and ticket booth, flanked by two small retail store spaces. An instant landmark with its tall cylindrical tower, glazed terra cotta tile façade, curved corners and glass block windows, the building evoked the glamour of Hollywood. In addition, it provided moviegoers with air-conditioning and a stage and fly loft capable of accommodating special events and live theatrical productions. The theater opened on 30 November 1938 with a celebration attended by guests from Sterling and the surrounding communities. A screening of Bob Hope's new comedy, "Thanks for the Memory," capped off the event. With the opening of the Fox, the remaining small theaters in Sterling soon closed, as they were unable to compete with the large chain, its landmark air-conditioned building, its deep pockets, and the endless supply of popular films provided by Twentieth Century-Fox.

In addition to the movie theater, the two front retail spaces flanking the entry were occupied by a series of tenants. Throughout the 1940s, the space in the building's northeast corner held the Fox Fountain, a soda and confection shop owned by Alex Artzer. This was replaced by radio station KGEK in the early 1950s, an optometry clinic owned by Clair Janovsky in the late 1950s, and then by Fletcher's Shine Parlor (a shoe shine shop owned by Fletcher Loftis) during the 1960s. The Fletcher Barber Shop, owned by William Fletcher, occupied the northwest space through the 1950s. In the 1960s this became the Torrez Barber Shop, owned by Pete Torrez. Sometime between the 1940s and 1960s, the theater reportedly became part of the Fox Inter-Mountain Theater Corporation chain. During the 1990s, the building was remodeled on the interior, modifying it from a single theater into a twin. It was further remodeled in the 2000s into a five-screen venue. This period of remodeling and expansion also involved incorporation of the adjacent circa 1915 building to the northwest into the theater. The two buildings were joined along the original theater's northwest-facing side, and they

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were both expanded toward the rear with modern metal-frame additions. The building remains in use in 2013 as a multiplex movie theater.

Hotels

**117/119 N. 2nd Street** (5LO.166)  
**Historic Name:** Drexel Hotel  
**Current Name:** Journal Office Supply Building  
**Construction Date:** 1926

The Drexel Hotel is a two-story brick building which measures 50' NE-SW (across) x 115' NW-SE (deep). It features a double-storefront façade, with a decorative cornice and parapet with centered medallion above the façade's second story windows. The Drexel was built in 1926 on land previously occupied by the Hatch Brothers and Smith Feed Mill, and the Sterling Hay and Feed Company Feed Mill. It is one of several downtown hotels built to accommodate travelers associated with the railroad, the sugar beet factory, and other industries. The Journal Office Supply, and its predecessors, the Journal Publishing Company and the Roberts Publishing Company, have occupied the building's ground floor retail space throughout its history. The building's façade appears unaltered in recent decades. Sheet metal siding on the lower façade, the extant storefronts, and full-width awning, appear to date from about the late 1960s.

**124 N. 2nd Street** (5LO.135)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Hotel  
**Current Name:** Sterling Hotel Building, Eastin Building  
**Construction Date:** 1927

The Sterling Hotel is a two-story brick building which measures 50' NE-SW (across) x 115' NW-SE (deep). The façade wall is made of brown brick laid in running bond, with rowlock courses at the top of the wall and between the first and second stories. Decorative brick panels and corbelling appear above the façade's second story windows. The side and rear walls are made of red brick laid in common bond. The symmetrical façade features a centered rounded-arch entryway which leads to an interior staircase. The centered entryway is flanked by two storefronts with glass-in-metal-frame entry doors and storefront display windows. Completed in 1927, the Sterling was the last downtown hotel built to accommodate travelers associated with the railroad, sugar beet factory, and other industries. This hotel and others, including the Central/Southern, Cole, Commercial, Drexel, Graham, and Oxford, were all located within a few blocks of the Union Pacific Depot and in close proximity to downtown businesses. Historic ground floor retail tenants in this building include the Sterling Café, Collins Furniture Store, Newman's Furniture Store, Reich's Furniture, Sherwin-Williams Paint Store, and Laura's Fabrics. The building's façade has not been altered in recent decades, except that a hotel sign and canopy above the centered rounded arch entryway was removed sometime after 1981.

**212 N. 3rd Street** (5LO.795)  
**Historic Name:** Albany Hotel  
**Current Name:** La Posada Hotel, Flores Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1915

The Albany / La Posada Hotel is a two-story brick building with a stuccoed façade. It measures 30' NE-SW (across) x 130' NW-SE (deep). The façade is symmetrical with stuccoed knee walls and columns. The first story porch is approached by five steps; the second story porch is enclosed by an open railing. Some windows on the side and rear sides have segmental brick arches. A prominent sign advertising the "La Posada Hotel" is fastened to a pole between the front sidewalk and curb. Constructed circa 1915, the building served as the Albany Hotel until at least the 1960s before it became the La Posada Hotel. There are no additions to the original building, and its exterior has not been altered in recent decades.

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**114/116 Main Street** (5LO.127)  
**Historic Name:** Cole Hotel  
**Current Name:** Cole Hotel Building, Curlee Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1915

The Cole Hotel is a prominent two-story brick building which measures 50' NW-SE (across) x 125' NE-SW (deep). The symmetrical façade is centered on the main entry, which is recessed and contains three metal-framed entry doors. The centered entry is flanked by two storefronts, each of which holds a pair of large fixed windows set in metal frames. Three horizontal clerestory bands with multiple lights of stained glass are found above the storefronts. Four narrow vertical brick walls between the entries and storefront windows are ornamented with occasional sandstone blocks.

The second floor of the façade holds another entry and windows, along with extensive masonry ornamentation. A doorway is centered on this floor, located at the front end of a long interior hallway. This holds a wooden door with a large single light that is ornamented with vertical and horizontal wood or metal bands. The door is set in a wood frame, and opens onto a centered metal balcony that is mounted to the exterior brick wall and features a decorative curved wrought iron rail. This is supported from underneath by metal brackets. The entry is flanked by two sets of windows, each of which consists of a larger fixed central window with smaller two-light windows on either side. All four windows are set in wood frames and share a continuous sandstone sill. Above the second floor windows, the reddish-brown brick wall is ornamented with decorative blonde brickwork that runs the full width of the façade.

The Cole was among the earliest of several downtown hotels built to accommodate travelers associated with the railroad, sugar beet factory, and other industries. Hotel rooms were in the second story while the ground floor was devoted to retail use. The building was originally owned by Iowa native Andrew E. Cole, who arranged for its construction circa 1915. Andrew and his wife, Carrie, moved to Sterling in the early 1900s. They initially managed a rooming house at 206 N. Front Street, before developing the property at 114/116 Main Street. The Cole Hotel operated from the time of its construction, circa 1915, through at least the late 1960s. During the late 1910s and 1920s, the Frame Furniture Company occupied the entire main floor of the building. Owned by William and Effie Frame, the store sold furniture and rugs. In the 1930s, the main floor was divided into two retail spaces. One of these held the Coast to Coast store, part of a growing national chain. Owned by Alvin Hoffman, the business sold a diverse selection of items such as hardware, automotive supplies, washing machines, and radios. E. E. Donaldson & Son, a local hardware store, occupied the other main floor retail space. This business had become known as Sterling Hardware by the early 1940s. In the 1950s, an appliance store and then High Plains Broadcasting and radio station KOLR, managed by John Gazdik, occupied half of the main floor. This space changed to Tots and Teens Clothing throughout the 1960s. The other retail space held the Austin & James Law Office in the early 1950s, followed by Watkins Fashions & Fabrics, which remained there for many years.

Automobile-Related Commercial Buildings

**203 S. 2nd Street** (5LO.791)  
**Historic Name:** Litch Brothers Garage, Marsau's Auto Parts Building  
**Current Name:** Marsau's Auto Parts Building, Wray Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1925

This single-story, false-front, commercial building measures 50' NE-SW (across) x 85' NW-SE (deep). The façade wall is made of red brick below a prominent false front clad with painted white vertical wood siding. The business name "MARSAU'S AUTO PARTS" appears in red lettering affixed to the center of the false front wall. Behind the false front, the building is covered by a gabled roof. Built in the mid-1920s, this building was originally home to Litch Brothers Garage. Marsau's Auto Parts has been located here since the 1940s. The building appears unaltered in recent decades.

**120 N. 4th Street** (5LO.183)  
**Historic Name:** Palmer's Garage, Sterling Sheet Metal and Roofing Company Building  
**Current Name:** Hoal Building  
**Construction Date:** 1919

This three story building measures 50' NE-SW (across) x 100' NW-SE (deep). The façade wall is made of brown brick laid in running bond, with the first story brick having been painted red. Continuous brick rowlock stringcourses extend along

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the upper façade wall beneath the second and third story windows. The building's side walls and rear wall are made of red brick laid in running bond. Two glass-in-metal-frame doors enter the façade from within an angled recessed entryway. Constructed in 1919, this building was originally home to Palmer's Garage. Other auto repair shops were located here before giving way to the Sterling Sheet Metal and Roofing Company in the early 1930s. Sterling Sheet Metal then occupied the building until the 1980s. The building appears unaltered in recent decades.

**122 N. 4th Street** (5LO.785)  
**Historic Name:** Mitchell Pontiac Building, Bill's Motor and Body Shop  
**Current Name:** Morrow Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1932

This single story building measures 50' NE-SW (across) x 100' NW-SE (deep). The exterior walls are made of red brick laid in running bond, with wire-cut brick on the façade. The southwest half of the façade contains a large painted white wood-paneled garage door, and a wood-paneled door with an upper sash light. The northwest half of the façade contains a band of fixed-pane windows. Built circa 1932, this building was historically occupied by the Mitchell Pontiac dealership, followed by Bill's Motor and Body Shop. The building has not been altered in recent decades.

**214 N. 4th Street** (5LO.802)  
**Historic Name:** J. Hilderman Building  
**Current Name:** J. Hilderman Building, Hoal Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1930

This single story building measures 100' NE-SW (across) x 62' NW-SE (deep). The exterior walls are made of red brick laid in running bond, with a distinctive brick angled parapet on the façade. Two glass-in-wood-frame doors and two white metal garage doors penetrate the façade wall. The building's historic use was as an automobile repair shop. The building has not been altered in recent decades.

**120 S. Front Street** (5LO.147)  
**Historic Name:** Stickney's Tire Shop, Stickney's Machine Shop  
**Current Name:** All American Glass Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1930

This single story building measures 75' NE-SW (across) x 100' NW-SE (deep). The exterior walls are made of red brick laid in running bond, with a prominent, symmetrical, stepped parapet, with decorative brickwork, on the façade. The brickwork includes the use of contrasting brown bricks with a rowlock dentil course along the top of the parapet, a brick panel, and repeated patterns of projecting brick stretchers. A flat metal awning covers the main entry door on the façade. This building served historically as Stickney's Tire Shop and Stickney's Machine Shop, and was associated with Lee C. Stickney, and the prominent two-story commercial building which bears his name located across the alley at the west corner of Main and Front Streets. The building's historic façade remains intact, and there are no additions or recent exterior alterations to the historic building.

**330 Main Street** (5LO.822)  
**Historic Name:** Dike's Conoco Gas Station  
**Current Name:** Hoal Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1958

Built as a Conoco service station, this building was historically divided into three sections. The office, with large expanses of display windows, was at the front end closest to the intersection of Main and 4th Streets. Restrooms were located in the center, while two garage bays were located at the northeast end. Vehicular access was primarily from 4th Street to the northwest. The exterior walls are made of painted white concrete block. The building is covered by a flat roof, with red metal-clad eaves and canopy. Although no longer used as a gas station, the building has not been altered in recent decades.

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**402 Main Street** (5LO.186)  
**Historic Name:** McLain Chevrolet Building, Crosswhite Chevrolet Building, Bill's Motors Building  
**Current Name:** Old Town Bistro, Hoal Building  
**Construction Date:** 1926

This large, one-story, corner commercial building measures 57' NW-SE x 200' NE-SW. The façade is divided into three bays, separated by four brick columns which rise above the parapet wall. The upper façade wall contains three brick panels, with brick of contrasting color and stone corner blocks. The building was constructed in 1926, and was originally home to the McLain Chevrolet auto showroom and garage. The business became Crosswhite Chevrolet, which soon expanded to also deal in Buicks. William "Bill" Pospicil acquired the dealership in the mid-1940s, renaming it "Bill's Motors." The business continued under that name until the late twentieth century when it eventually closed. The building then sat vacant for a time before undergoing an interior renovation and reopening as a restaurant in the fall of 2012. Despite the change in use, the building's historic function as an automobile dealership and service garage remains clearly evident.

Fraternal Meeting Halls

**118/120 N. 2nd Street** (5LO.137)  
**Historic Name:** Masonic Temple  
**Current Name:** Masonic Temple, Curlee Building  
**Construction Date:** 1908-1909

The Masonic Temple is a prominent 2½-story building which measures 60' NE-SW (across) x 114' deep. Built in the Renaissance Revival style, the building features a richly ornate façade with a large center pedimented dormer, smaller flanking rounded dormers, and a cornice line with dentils. The lower façade is symmetrical, with two storefronts with recessed entryways, flanking a centered entry door which leads to an interior staircase. The centered entrance is flanked by Ionic columns. The upper façade wall is made of brown brick, with bands of projecting brick courses creating a horizontal emphasis. The rear section of the side walls, and the southeast-facing (rear) wall are made of rusticated concrete block. The building is minimally changed from its original construction.

Dispensation for Sterling Lodge No. 54 was granted in April 1883, and the Lodge's charter was officially received in October of that year. The Lodge initially met upstairs in what was then Sterling's only two-story building at the corner of Main and 2nd Streets. Officers included E. S. Ebbs, Worshipful Master, S. E. Robuck, Senior Warden, and J. M. King, Junior Warden. Over the next two decades, the Masons met in various buildings in downtown Sterling. They shared meeting space with the International Order of Odd Fellows for a time, before moving to Central Hall and other locations. Plans to erect a Masonic Temple developed not long after the turn of the twentieth century, and in August of 1908, the Sterling Masonic Temple Association submitted plans soliciting bids for the erection of a \$20,000 hall. The Masonic Temple was principally completed in the fall of that year at a reported cost of \$25,000. A grand ceremony was held in late September 1908, with Grand Master Haslett Platt Burke laying the cornerstone. (Burke later became Chief Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court.) Other Masonic officers in attendance from throughout the state included John F. Gaddy, Charles B. Jacobson, and Melville B. Edwards. Work on the interior continued over the next several months, and it was not until 1910 that the new building was fully complete. The Masons met upstairs while leasing the ground floor to retail tenants. Notable businesses in the building include Seymour Drugstore, the Princess Theater, Valley Electric, and the Maxwell Tin Shop.

**229 Ash Street** (5LO.787)  
**Historic Name:** VFW #3541, Jake Uhrig Post 9890  
**Current Name:** Iglesia Puerta Del Cielo  
**Construction Date:** 1954

This building is of concrete block and wood frame construction with a curved red brick veneer on the façade. An enclosed vestibule forms the front northeast end of the building, behind the curved wall. The building was originally home to VFW #3541 Jake Uhrig Post 9890. It is currently a church. The building does not appear to have been altered since the 1960s.

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**321 Ash Street** (5LO.806)  
**Historic Name:** BPOE Sterling Lodge No. 11336  
**Current Name:** BPOE Sterling Lodge No. 11336  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1918

This building has served continuously as a lodge for the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks from the time of its construction circa 1918. The original building featured a main two-story section (approximately 180 feet by 56 feet), a one story open front porch (approximately 52 feet by 14 feet), and a small one-story rear extension. A one-story addition which wraps around the original south rear corner dates from between 1927 and 1947. A one story addition (approximately 67 feet by 56 feet) to the original southeast -facing side dates from between 1947 and 1959. Also during that time period, a second story was added to the originally open front porch, which was then fully enclosed. A large one story addition to the southeast side postdates 1959. This addition is set back from the front of the building leaving the historic façade intact.

Public Buildings

**210 S. 4th Street** (5LO.469; NRIS.010011215)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Public Library, Carnegie Library  
**Current Name:** Former Sterling Public Library Building, Johnson House  
**Construction Date:** 1918

The 1918 Sterling Public Library was designed by Denver architect William Cowe and constructed by local builder L. J. Brown. It was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2002, and continues to maintain a high degree of integrity.

**315 Main Street** (5LO.35; NRIS.79000615)  
**Historic Name:** Logan County Courthouse  
**Current Name:** Logan County Courthouse  
**Construction Date:** 1909-1910

An exceptional Classical Revival style building, the Logan County Courthouse was designed by architect John James Huddart in 1909. It was completed the following year with local builder William Albert Kaepernik as the primary contractor.. The courthouse was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, and continues to maintain a high degree of integrity.

**214 Poplar Street** (5LO.825)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling City Hall, Fire Department and City Jail  
**Current Name:** Sterling City Hall Building  
**Construction Date:** 1912

This prominent two-story building measures 47' NW-SE (across) x 85' NE-SW (deep). The exterior walls are primarily constructed of blond and brown brick laid in running bond. The rear northeast area is constructed with exterior walls of coursed ashlar sandstone blocks with beaded mortar joints. Although its walls are tall, this stone-walled, one-story area is lower than the two-story main portion of the building. A low brick parapet wall borders the building's flat roof, with a square brick chimney rising from the southeast edge. An emergency siren tower also rises from the roof toward the rear.

The façade is characterized by Georgian Revival detailing, including the three-part symmetrical form centered on the main entry, a fanlight and arched hood above the entrance, a sandstone and brick base with horizontal banding, arched door and window openings on the main floor, brick segmental arches and shaped window surrounds, corner quoins, and a full-width pressed tin cornice with dentil band. The quoins and segmental arches are composed of light brown brickwork, setting them apart from the blond brick walls. Centered atop the parapet, a shaped ornamental base with dentils and scrollwork supports a tall metal flagpole that rises above the roof. The words "CITY HALL" are embossed on a horizontal panel centered just beneath the cornice. Below this panel is the date "1912." The Georgian Revival façade wraps around the building's front corners, with detailing that extends approximately 15' along the northwest and southeast side walls.

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The southwest façade, facing onto Poplar Street, holds the main entry that is centered and accessed by way of a small stoop with three sandstone steps, sandstone wing walls, and metal handrails. Short brick pilasters with sandstone bases and caps tie the wing walls visually into the horizontal banding along the lower building wall. The exposed faces of the sandstone blocks on the steps and wing walls are stippled and have scored edges. A wood door with a large single light fills the entry. This is ornamented with a dentil band below the light, along with a decorative metal handle plate. An arched fanlight transom is located above the door. A segmental brick arch and an ornamental shaped wood surround frame the upper part of the entry, including the door and transom.

Northwest of the main entry, the main floor holds a tall doublewide entrance with a pair of currently fixed wood panel doors that rise from the level of the sidewalk. Each of these arched-top doors has four wood panels in the lower half and four lights in the upper. The doorway is ornamented with a semi-elliptical brick segmental arch surround with side quoins of brick and sandstone, and a keystone centered above. Southeast of the entry, a wide tripartite window exhibits features similar to the doublewide doorway. This window consists of a central fixed light with six smaller arched lights above. Three-over-one single hung sash windows with arched uppers are found on either side. The entire window opening is ornamented with a continuous sandstone sill, a semi-elliptical brick segmental arch surround with side quoins of brick and sandstone, and a keystone centered above. The upper floor holds a centered pair of tall narrow fixed windows with wood frames, a sandstone and brick sill, decorative muntins forming a geometric pattern, and a shaped wood and pressed tin surround. Two four-over-one double hung sash windows flank the central window. Each of these has a sandstone sill along with a brick and stone segmental arch lintel with a keystone.

The Sterling City Hall was constructed in 1912 to house municipal offices, as well as the town marshal's office, fire department and jail. Offices occupied the southeast half of the main floor. Behind these to the northeast was the jail, located in the rear stone-walled area of the building with bars over the windows. The fire department was housed in the northwest half of the building, where the sole city fire truck accessed its indoor parking space through the arched doublewide doorway on the Poplar Street façade. Upstairs, the building held offices and meeting space. The building was designed by architect John J. Huddart and constructed by William A. Kaepernik. A successful partnership, Huddart and Kaepernik had recently teamed to design and build the Logan County Courthouse. The City Hall building served the community until 1976, when it was vacated in favor of the current municipal complex. Since then, it has been occupied as an office building in private ownership.

**306 Poplar Street** (5LO.39; NRIS.86000187)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Post Office, Federal Building and Federal Courthouse  
**Current Name:** Sterling Post Office, Federal Building and Federal Courthouse  
**Construction Date:** 1930-1931

The landmark, four-story, Sterling Post Office, Federal Building and Federal Courthouse, was designed by James A. Wetmore in the 1920s, and constructed in 1931 by the Denver contracting firm of Mead and Mount. The building has served its original purposes from that time to the present. The building was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1986, and continues to maintain a high degree of integrity.

### Churches

**130 S. 4th Street** (5LO.37; NRIS.82002304)  
**Historic Name:** First United Presbyterian Church  
**Current Name:** First United Presbyterian Church  
**Construction Date:** 1918-1919

An exceptional Classical Revival style building, the First United Methodist was designed by architect J. C. Fulton. It was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1982, and continues to maintain a high degree of integrity.

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Residential Buildings

**119 S. 2nd Street** (5LO.789)  
**Historic Name:** Klinger House  
**Current Name:** Cunningham House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1901

A Late Victorian period dwelling, this building measures 24'x 40'. It features an asymmetrical plan with a front gabled roof and painted white horizontal wood siding. Decorative shingles appear in the façade's upper gable end. An open front porch, with an open wood railing, turned columns, and a low-pitched hipped roof, forms the southwest half of the façade. The building initially served as a residence before becoming both a residence and a place of business for an electrical supply company. Lucius C. Klinger, an electrician, and his wife Ethelyn lived here for many years. Klinger Electric, which operated out of the building, may have been preceded by the Logan Electric Company, which in earlier years was located in the Henderson Building at 109 S. 2nd Street, just across the alley to the northeast. The building appears minimally altered from its original construction.

**123 S. 2nd Street** (5LO.790)  
**Historic Name:** Cunningham House  
**Current Name:** Cunningham House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1910

This two-story building features an asymmetrical plan which measures 53' x 45'. Its exterior walls are made of brown brick laid in running bond. It is covered by a hipped roof with intersecting gables, and modillions beneath the eaves. There are two brick chimneys with corbelled caps. A glass-in-wood-frame door, with a transom light and sidelights, enters an enclosed single-story front porch. Windows are predominantly one-over-one double-hung sash, including several with decorative shutters. The building historically served as an apartment building occupied in part by employees of downtown businesses. It appears minimally altered from its original construction.

**220 N. 4th Street** (5LO.803)  
**Historic Name:** Columbine Apartments  
**Current Name:** Northeast Colorado Housing Building  
**Construction Date:** 1928

The Columbine Apartments building is two stories high and measures 82 feet NE-SW (across) by 41 feet NW-SE (deep). The exterior walls are made of red brick laid in running bond, with a symmetrical parapet on the facade. Contrasting brick colors at the corners create the appearance of quoining. The front door is located within a rounded arch entry at the center of the symmetrical façade. Second story windows above the front entry feature segmental brick arches. The building has served as apartments throughout its history, often occupied by merchants and employees associated with stores in downtown Sterling. There have been no additions and no notable exterior alterations subsequent to the building's original construction.

**327 Ash Street** (5LO.807)  
**Historic Name:** Brown Mansion, Naugle Mansion and Medical Office, Mackey Mansion  
**Current Name:** Delgado Mansion  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1910

This stately residence features a massive two-story open porch with Classical Revival detailing. The masonry building rests on a sandstone foundation, and its primary walls are constructed of pressed blonde bricks laid in running bond coursing with buttered mortar joints. Porches and numerous doors and windows break up the wall surfaces. A steep pyramidal roof with deep boxed eaves and finished with decorative concave pressed tin soffits caps the squared main body of the building. The pyramidal roof has a short northwest-southeast ridge at the top. Small dormers project from the front and back roof slopes. Larger gabled dormers face the sides and cover much of the back of the building. The entire roof is finished with red terra cotta tiles, with decorative terra cotta cresting along each of the ridgelines. Blonde brick chimneys rise above the rear side-facing dormers. The two-story open porch projects from the front of the house, facing Ash Street, while a decorative porte cochere faces 4th Street on the northwest-facing side. Above the foundation, the porch floor is constructed of a wood frame covered with tongue-in-groove boards. Six square sandstone piers rise from

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the raised foundation between the brick porch rail walls and from the side walls along the front entry steps. These piers support six massive columns that rise two stories to support the high porch roof. The Corinthian columns are constructed with concrete or wood bases, smooth wood shafts, and ornate capitals. The porch roof is finished with a beadboard ceiling, bordered by deep eaves ornamented with decorative concave pressed tin panels. Two large triangular wood brackets project from the upper brick wall of the house to support the outer edges of the porch roof from underneath. The front entry holds a wood door with a single light and original hardware. Small decorative carved wood engaged columns, also with Corinthian capitals, flank the door. These in turn are flanked by sidelights with tall single lights. A diamond-pattern leaded glass transom stretches above the door and sidelights. To the northwest of the main entry, a wooden exterior stairway with a closed wood rail rises two flights from the porch floor. This terminates at a second-story wood balcony that is centered and projects from the main wall above the home's front entrance. The balcony has a wood tongue-in-groove floor and a low open rail with turned balusters and square posts. A second-floor entrance is located at the balcony. This holds a wood door with a single light, along with a transom, all original and set in wood frames.

The mansion completed in 1910, and was originally owned by Grant C. Brown, a prominent Sterling businessman. The size and style of the home immediately made it one of the city's most distinctive residences. Behind the mansion, in the property's southwest corner, Brown had erected a masonry two-story auto garage with architectural details that reflected the nearby mansion. The upper floor of this building was likely used as a rental residential unit or as living quarters for household employees; it was converted to additional rental space on the first floor at an unknown date. The two historic buildings on site have remained virtually unchanged for more than a century.

Grant Brown was born in Illinois on March 14, 1864. In 1889 he married Minnie L. Westcott, and by 1900 the couple had moved to Sterling. Over the following decades, Brown evolved into one of the wealthiest and most influential businessmen in Sterling. A successful stockman, Brown was also instrumental in founding the Logan County Lumber and Supply Company and served as its president. Brown transferred the property into his wife's name in June 1932, and he died sometime during the following five years. In May 1937, Minnie Brown sold the property to Dr. J. E. Naugle. Johnson Edward Naugle was born in Iowa on May 20, 1885. He enrolled at the University of Colorado in Boulder in 1903 and four years later earned his Bachelor of Arts degree. In 1908, Naugle received a Master of Arts degree from the university and launched himself on a track to become a physician. He appears to have received his medical training at the University of Colorado. In 1937, Johnson Naugle and his wife Meta, purchased the Brown mansion at 327 Ash St., and this became the family home as well as his private medical clinic. While the home had an address on Ash St., the clinic was listed at 201 S. 4th St., indicating that patients visiting Dr. Naugle used the side entrance under the porte cochere. Dr. Naugle saw patients there and regularly made house calls throughout Sterling and the surrounding countryside. By the mid-1940s, the Naugles' son Johnson Jr. had also become a physician and surgeon. He joined his father's medical practice, and he and his wife Bonnie moved into the mansion at 327 Ash St. By the early 1950s, they had secured a house of their own. Dr. Johnson Naugle died around 1956 and Meta continued to live in the home through the 1960s. Following his father's death, the junior Dr. Naugle took on a new partner by the name of Dr. Jack L. Mackey, who joined him in the Naugle Clinic, which remained in the building through the 1970s.

## NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

**111 N. 2nd Street** (5LO.164)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Enterprise Building, Sterling Shoe Shop  
**Current Name:** South Platte Sentinel Publishing Company Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1920

This brick single-story commercial building measures 24' NE-SW (across) x 75' NW-SE (deep). The upper façade wall features a decorative red brick panel with brown brick accents, and a symmetrical stepped parapet. The building's historic businesses include the *Sterling Enterprise* newspaper and the Sterling Shoe Shop. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District due to alterations to the lower façade which postdate the period of significance

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**121 N. 2nd Street** (5LO.167)  
**Historic Name:** Alex Bender's Grocery, Journal Office Supply Building  
**Current Name:** Horner Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1920

This single-story building measures 25' NE-SW (across) x 63' NW-SE (deep). The façade wall is made of painted brown cast concrete blocks with a painted brown wood storefront surrounding a centered entry door and flanking windows. Alex Bender's grocery store was located here for many years, before the building later became part of the Journal Office Supply store. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because of alterations to the storefront windows and doors which occurred after 1981.

**125 N. 2nd Street** (5LO.168)  
**Historic Name:** Oxford Hotel  
**Current Name:** Bible Lighthouse Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1922

The Oxford Hotel is a two-story brick building which measures 45' NE-SW (across) x 115' NW-SE (deep). The lower façade wall is made of purple brick, with soldier courses creating a continuous sill below the first story windows and a continuous lintel above the first story windows. The upper façade wall is clad with beige and brown color metal panels. The side and rear walls are made of red brick laid in common bond. The Oxford was among several downtown hotels built to accommodate travelers associated with the railroad, sugar beet factory, and other industries. This hotel and others, including the Central/Southern, Cole, Commercial, Drexel, Graham, and Sterling, were all located within a few blocks of the Union Pacific Depot and in close proximity to downtown businesses. Historic ground floor retail tenants in this building include Weber's Furniture Store, the Wilcox Market, the Commercial Press, the Silver Dollar Café, and Weingardt Interiors. The Oxford Hotel is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because of alterations to the façade which occurred after 1981.

**128/130 N. 2nd Street** (5LO.134)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Café, Continental Trailways Bus Depot, et. al.  
**Current Name:** Sterling Travel Agency Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1920

This single-story corner commercial building measures 50' NE-SW (across) x 115' NW-SE (deep). Its exterior walls are clad with painted pale blue stucco, with a wide wooden belt course along northwest and northeast-facing sides (facing 2nd and Poplar Streets). The building was designed to house multiple retail tenants, with two entry doors facing 2nd Street and three entry doors facing Poplar Street. Located near the north end of downtown Sterling, the building has been occupied by the Sterling Café, the Continental Trailways Bus Depot, the Sterling Travel Agency, and several other businesses. It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because alterations to the exterior probably date from after the period of significance.

**115 N. 3rd Street** (5LO.792)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** Key Bank  
**Construction Date:** 1972

This building was designed as and has served as a bank from the time of its construction in 1972. It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it postdates the period of significance and is presently less than fifty years old.

**117 N. 3rd Street** (5LO.793)  
**Historic Name:** L & W Grocery, The Kelly Grocery Store, Skaggs Safeway Store, et. al.  
**Current Name:** Pro Sports Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1915

This two-story building measures 25' NE-SW (across) x 115' NW-SE (deep). Its exterior walls are made of red brick laid in running bond, with decorative parapets at the front ends of the northeast and southwest-facing sides. A wide stuccoed

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band divides the façade's first and second stories and continues to the adjacent building at 119 N. 3rd Street. A glass-in-metal-frame entry door, with flanking display windows, enters the façade's recessed ground floor level. The upper façade wall contains three double-hung sash windows. The building's primary historic use was as a grocery store. Businesses located here include L & W Grocery, the Kelly Grocery Store, Skaggs Safeway Store, Dick's Cash Market, Marco's Red & White Grocery, and Bill's Red & White Grocery. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because of alterations to the storefront which occurred after 1981.

**119 N. 3rd Street** (5LO.179)

**Historic Name:** Kellogg Building, Sherwood-Croft Drugstore, Croft Drugstore, Conrad's (clothing store)

**Current Name:** Pro Sports Building

**Construction Date:** Circa 1922

This two-story building measures 50' NE-SW (across) x 115' NW-SE (deep). The lower façade contains two entry doors, with flanking storefront display windows in metal frames. The upper façade wall is made of red bricks, with contrasting brown brick accents, and features a prominent stepped, rounded-arch, centered parapet. Columns at either end of the façade's first story are stuccoed, and a wide stuccoed band separates the first and second stories on the façade. A sign for the current retail tenant, "Pro Sports," is fastened to the stuccoed band which continues to the adjacent building at 117 N. Front Street. This building was originally owned by Dr. J. H. Kellogg who arranged for its construction in the early 1920s. The southeast half of the ground floor level was occupied by the Sherwood Pharmacy which evolved into the Sherwood-Croft Pharmacy, followed by Croft Drug. Conrad's, a ladies clothing store, occupied the northwest half of the ground floor level for many years. Earlier retail tenants in that space include McCluskey's Variety Store, Max Meyer's Store, and Mack's Shine Parlor. This building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because of alterations to the storefront which occurred after 1981.

**129 N. 3rd Street / 301 Poplar Street** (5LO.180)

**Historic Name:** Harris Building, Montgomery Ward

**Current Name:** Harris Building

**Construction Date:** 1928

Cattleman W. C. Harris, among northeast Colorado's wealthiest and most influential citizens, arranged for the construction of this prominent two-story commercial block in 1928. Montgomery Ward occupied the prime retail space in the first story, and had its offices in the second story, from that time until the 1960s. (Montgomery Ward also maintained a warehouse in Sterling, located a block-and-a-half away at the west corner of Front and Chestnut Streets.) Other early retail tenants include the Harris Feed Store, the Western Union Office, and Bales Café. The building was extensively remodeled after Ward's departure, with new stuccoed exterior walls and altered door and windows. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because its present appearance postdates the period of significance.

**202/206 N. 3rd Street** (5LO.800)

**Historic Name:** Logan Auto Company, Ekart's Automobile Repair Shop, Hiskey's Glass and Paint Shop, Cochran's Service Garage

**Current Name:** Coldwell Banker Building

**Construction Date:** Circa 1915

This single-story corner commercial building measures 65' NW-SE x 100' NE-SW. Its exterior walls are stuccoed which covers brick corbelling at the top of the walls on the northwest and southwest -facing sides. Built in the mid-1910s, the building was originally home to the Logan Auto Company. Other automobile related businesses here include H. H. Ekart's Auto Repair Shop, L. E. Hiskey's Glass and Paint Shop, and Cochran's Service Garage. The building was converted into professional office space in the late 1960s or early 1970s. It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because its present appearance postdates the period of significance.

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**216 N. 3rd Street** (5LO.797)  
**Historic Name:** Dr. LaForce and Dr. Elliff Medical Offices  
**Current Name:** Birthright of Sterling Building, Flores Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1932

This single-story building measures 35' NE-SW (across) x 92' NW-SE (deep). The original rear portion of the building is of wood frame construction, while the front portion is of concrete block construction with a stone veneer on the façade. The front entry door is at the northeast end of the façade. A band of five single-light windows, with transom lights, and a transom light over the entry door, appear beneath a segmentally-curved arch. The building served historically as medical offices for Dr. LaForce and Dr. Elliff, before it was converted to other uses. It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because its present appearance postdates the period of significance.

**202 N. 4th Street** (5LO.801)  
**Historic Name:** S. A. Parker's Filling Station, Harry Galbraith's Filling Station, Venohr's Texaco Service Station  
**Current Name:** Randy Carruthers State Farm Insurance Agency  
**Construction Date:** 1949

Originally a filling station, this single story building has been converted into professional office space. Measuring 48' NE-SW x 27' NW-SE, it is of concrete block construction, with the exterior walls finished with beige color stucco. S. A. Parker's Filling Station, Harry Galbraith's Filling Station, and Venohr's Texaco Service Station operated at this location from the late 1940s until the 1960s or 1970s. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because its present appearance postdates the period of significance.

**104 S. 4th Street** (5LO.804)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** Christ United Methodist Church  
**Construction Date:** 1963, 1980

The original First Methodist Episcopal Church was erected on this site, at the west corner of Main and 4th Streets in 1913. It later became known as the Christ United Methodist Church. In 1963, Denver architect William C. Muchow designed an addition to the original church's southwest-facing side. As built, the addition measured approximately 37' NE-SW x 150' NW-SE. The original church was lost in a fire which occurred on June 13, 1977; firefighters, however, managed to save the 1963 addition. Following the fire, a new church building, including a new sanctuary, was completed in 1980. It was designed by Johnson Steel Architects of Greeley, and erected by Yost Construction Company which served as the general contractor. As built, the new edifice measured approximately 80' NE-SW x 116' NW-SE. The entire extant building, thus, consists of the 1963 section designed by William Muchow and the 1980 section designed by Johnson Steel Architects. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because the primary portion of the extant building was constructed in 1980, after the period of significance.

**129/131 N. Front Street** (5LO.132)  
**Historic Name:** Sterling Sheet Metal Building, Mac's Tavern, Wennie's Tavern, et. al.  
**Current Name:** D & J's Electric Building  
**Construction Date:** 1913

This single story commercial building measures 48' NE-SW (across) x 85' NW-SE (deep). The façade wall is clad with beige color stucco. Three corbelled brick columns on stone plinths divide the façade into two bays. Extensive corbelled brickwork appears in the parapet along the top of the façade. The side walls feature stepped parapets. The building has had numerous retail tenants over the years, including the Sterling Sheet Metal Company, Mac's Tavern, Wennie's Tavern, Royal Café, Boston Café, Ideal Café, Sheldon Liquor Store, and the Farmers' Tavern. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because the façade's stuccoed wall surface and window openings postdate the period of significance.

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**137 N. Front Street** (5LO.133)  
**Historic Name:** Commercial Hotel  
**Current Name:** Bottoms Up Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1920

The Commercial Hotel is a prominent two-story commercial building which measures 50' NE-SW (across) x 115' NW-SE (deep). It was among several downtown hotels built to accommodate travelers associated with the railroad, sugar beet factory, and other industries. The Commercial was located just across Front Street from the Union Pacific Depot; however, other downtown hotels, including the Central/Southern, Cole, Drexel, Graham, Oxford, and Sterling, were all located within a few blocks of the depot and in close proximity to downtown businesses. Typical of such hotels, rooms available for rent were on the second floor, while the ground floor space was devoted to retail use. The Commercial Hotel's many retail tenants include the New York Store, the Trade Center, Singer Sewing Company, Corner Café, James' Saddle and Shoe Shop, Little Alpine Café, Wheat Growers' Café, Cafe Baltimore Lunch Room, the Commercial Barbershop, and the Platte Valley Transportation Company. This building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

**122 S. Front Street** (5LO.148)  
**Historic Name:** Platte Valley Lumber Company Shop  
**Current Name:** All American Glass Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1922

This single story building measures 25' NE-SW (across) x 85' NW-SE (deep). The upper façade wall and columns at either end of the façade are made of brown brick laid in running bond, with brick corbelling along the parapet. The façade is symmetrical with centered paired entry doors flanked by storefront display windows. Historically, this building's primary use was as the Platte Valley Lumber Company Shop. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because the front entry and flanking windows were installed after the period of significance.

**138 S. Front Street** (5LO.150)  
**Historic Name:** E. T. Hall's Agricultural Implements Store  
**Current Name:** Henry's Pub & Club  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1931

This corner commercial building consists of an original single story front section, with a historic rear extension, and a more modern two-story rear addition. The original front section measures 100' NE-SW (across) x 50' NW-SE (deep). The historic rear extension measures 40' NW-SE x 66' NE-SW. The two-story addition, to the southwest end of the northwest-facing side (rear) measures 51' NE-SW x 17' NW-SE. The exterior walls are stuccoed, divided by large painted black brick columns. A recessed corner entry faces the intersection of Front and Ash Streets. The building's historic use was as E. T. Hall's Agricultural Implements Store. It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

**107 Main Street** (5LO.143)  
**Historic Name:** Lyric Theatre, Rialto Theatre  
**Current Name:** Lyric Theatre Building  
**Construction Date:** 1915

The Lyric Theatre building measures 30' NW-SE (across) x 148' NE-SW (deep). The façade wall is clad with a symmetrical parapet which rises well above the roof line. The exposed rear portion of the southeast-facing side is made of red brick, while the southwest-facing (rear) side wall is primarily made of unpainted concrete blocks. The Lyric was historically one of four movie houses in downtown Sterling, along with the Sterling, Princess and America Theatres. Later renamed the Rialto, this and Sterling's other early theatres were supplanted by the Fox Theater built on Poplar Street in 1938. This building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

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**111 Main Street** (5LO.141)

**Historic Name:** New Way Shoe Store, Vogel's Maytag Store, Help Yourself Laundry, Western Auto Store, et. al.

**Current Name:** Colorado Division of Water Resources Building

**Construction Date:** Pre-1900

This building features a non-historic facade finished with a brown brick veneer. The southwest-facing side (rear) wall and the exposed rear section of the northwest-facing side wall are made of red brick laid in common bond. Historic retail tenants include the New Way Shoe Store, Vogel's Maytag Store, the Help Yourself Laundry, the Western Auto Store, and Adams TV and Appliance Store. It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

**113 Main Street** (5LO.140)

**Historic Name:** David Byrne's Notions store, Meyer Store, Haas Shoe Repair Shop, et. al.

**Current Name:** Meyer Store Building

**Construction Date:** Pre-1900

This building features a non-historic facade finished with a brown brick veneer. Historic retail tenants include David Byrne's Notions store, the Meyer (ladies ready-to-wear) Store, Collins Furniture Store, and Phillip Haas' Shoe Repair Shop. It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

**115/117 Main Street** (5LO.139)

**Historic Name:** Burke Radio & Record Shop, Edwards Café, Betty's Café, Sody's Café, Singer Sewing Machine Store, Andy's Liquor Store, Sterling Liquor Store, et. al.

**Current Name:** KPMX-FM Building

**Construction Date:** Pre-1900

This building features a non-historic facade finished with a brown brick veneer. It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

**201/205 Main Street, 106/118 S. 2nd Street** (5LO.156)

**Historic Name:** N/A

**Current Name:** Dale's Jewelry Building, et. al.

**Construction Date:** 2004

This building was constructed on the site of the Logan County Bank Building / Foote Building, which burned in 2002. Erected a century earlier, in 1901-1902, the Logan County Bank Building was Sterling's largest commercial building throughout the twentieth century. It was home to numerous retail and business tenants, among them, the New York (men's clothing) Store, the Glass and Bryant (clothing) Store, the Three Rules Store, Sears Roebuck and Company, Browns Shoe Fit, Field Hardware, Frey's Diamonds, and Radio Shack. The Logan County Bank occupied the prime corner retail space until it closed in 1925. The current building on this site is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was constructed after the period of significance.

**206 Main Street** (5LO.162)

**Historic Name:** Public Service Company Building

**Current Name:** Nelson Professional Building, Maverick Financial Building

**Construction Date:** Pre-1900

The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance. Historic retail occupants include the Morgan Cigar Store, the Western Union Office, E. T. Simmons' Barbershop, the Schnitzer Clothing Company, E. A. Whatley and Company's Ladies Ready-to-Wear Store, the Westerner clothing store, Ila's Beauty Shop, and a barbershop operated by Lawrence and Wagner and Todd and Duffield.

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**209/211 Main Street** (5LO.155)

**Historic Name:** Central Hotel, Southern Hotel

**Current Name:** Central Hotel Building Southern Hotel Building, Fetzer Building

**Construction Date:** 1904

This is a two-story brick building which measures 50' NW-SE (across) x 125' NE-SW (deep). Known originally as the Central Hotel and later as the Southern Hotel, it was among several downtown hotels built to accommodate travelers associated with the railroad, sugar beet factory, and other industries. Hotel rooms were on the second floor, while the first floor was devoted to retail use. Some of the building's more notable tenants include the New Way Shoe Store, the Sterling Baking Company, the Purity Bakery, the Whittier Implement Company, Chapman Brothers Implements, and the Public Service Company. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

**210 Main Street** (5LO.819)

**Historic Name:** Waymire Clothing Store

**Current Name:** P & P Properties Building

**Construction Date:** Pre-1900

This one story commercial building measures 24' NW-SE (across) x 168' NE-SW (deep). The upper façade wall and columns at either end are clad with painted cream color stucco. The top of the façade is finished with a segmentally-arched parapet. A glass-in-metal-frame door enters the façade from within a deeply-recessed angled entryway flanked by large storefront display windows. Founded by C. C. Waymire in 1919, the Waymire Clothing Store was in business at this location for more than three decades. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because the façade was substantially altered after the early 1980s.

**212/216 Main Street** (5LO.160)

**Historic Name:** J. C. Penney Store

**Current Name:** Delgado Building

**Construction Date:** 1928

This single story brick building measures 50' NW-SE (across) x 180' NE-SW (deep). Sterling's J.C. Penney's store was located here for many years, beginning in 1928. In earlier years, the Penney's store was located at 109 Main Street where it had begun as a Golden Rule store. This building at 212/216 Main Street is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

**220 Main Street** (5LO.159)

**Historic Name:** Farmers National Bank, Commercial Savings Bank

**Current Name:** Sterling Investment Building

**Construction Date:** 1909

This two-story corner commercial building measures 75' NW-SE (across) x 119' NE-SW (deep). It was built in 1909 as the Farmers National Bank, organized by Augustus G. Sherwin and F. W. Reike. The bank was located in the prime corner space, with the remainder of the building leased to retail shops and businesses. The Farmers National Bank merged with the Commercial Savings Bank in the early 1920s. The institution then continued under that name at this location until the 1980s. The building's retail tenants over the years include the Campbell-Lercher Drugstore, Vockel's Drugstore, Waterman's Pharmacy, Brown Pharmacy, the Sterling Variety Store, and the Alice Blakeslee Beauty Parlor. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

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**310 Main Street** (5LO.820)  
**Historic Name:** Gambles Store  
**Current Name:** Star of the East Building  
**Construction Date:** 1951

This single story building measures 50' NW-SE (across) x 113' NE-SW (deep). It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

**314 Main Street** (5LO.176)  
**Historic Name:** F. J. Henderson Abstract Company / Platte Valley Title and Abstract Company Building  
**Current Name:** Stewart Title Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1910

This single story building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 100' NE-SW (deep). It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance. The F. J. Henderson Abstract Company, followed by the Platte Valley Title and Abstract Company, were located here for many years. The building is presently occupied by Stewart Title.

**322 Main Street** (5LO.173)  
**Historic Name:** Scofield Furniture Store  
**Current Name:** KC's Music & Electronics Store, Delgado Building  
**Construction Date:** 1945-1946

This one story building was constructed in 1945-1946 and was originally home to Scofield's Furniture Store. Founded by Bert M. Scofield in 1913, Scofield's Furniture was originally located at 304 Main Street, at the southeast end of this block. The building's storefront façade features a red brick wall with twin segmentally-arched parapets. The building measures 50' NW-SE (across) x 192' NE-SW (deep). The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because the arched parapet and other façade elements date from about the 1970s, after the period of significance.

**324 Main Street** (5LO.172)  
**Historic Name:** B. F. Goodrich Building  
**Current Name:** Moore Flowers Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1946

This one story commercial building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 125' NE-SW (deep). The lower façade contains a deeply-recessed entryway, with flanking storefront display windows. The upper façade wall is made of red brick with a symmetrically-arched parapet. B. F. Goodrich and the Sears Roebuck Catalog store were among the building's retail tenants. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because the arched parapet and other façade elements date from about the 1970s, after the period of significance.

**326 Main Street** (5LO.171)  
**Historic Name:** Iowa Electric Light and Power Company Building  
**Current Name:** Brown and Hulbert Building, Hoal Building  
**Construction Date:** 1920

This single story building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 125' NE-SW (deep). It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance. The Iowa Electric Light and Power Company was located here for many years. Other past business tenants include the Palace Meat Market, the Collins Furniture Store, Mack Smith's Radio Service, and Hayes Appliance.

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**328 Main Street** (5LO.170)  
**Historic Name:** Red Front Store, Deluxe Cleaners Building  
**Current Name:** Remax Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1920

This single story building measures 25' NW-SE (across) x 58' NE-SW (deep). It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance. Past retail tenants include H. C. Willman's Red Front Store in the 1920s and 1930s, followed by Beard Cleaners and Deluxe Cleaners and Hatters, into the 1980s.

**316 Poplar Street** (5LO.826)  
**Historic Name:** Piggly Wiggly Store, Reynolds Cafe  
**Current Name:** Earnhart Building  
**Construction Date:** 1932

This single story building measures 37' NW-SE (across) x 110' NE-SW (deep). The façade wall on the southwest-facing side is clad with a painted green board-and-batten veneer. The side and rear walls are made of painted grey brick, with a painted green board-and-batten band. A painted black wood-paneled door, with a fanlight and sidelights, enters the center of the symmetrical façade. The door is flanked on either side by three slender, vertically-oriented, fixed-pane windows. The Piggly Wiggly grocery store and the Reynolds Café were among its past retail uses. The building is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance.

**322 Poplar Street** (5LO.827)  
**Historic Name:** Plains Motor Company Building, et. al.  
**Current Name:** Carol's Furniture and Sleep Store  
**Construction Date:** 1925

This single story building consists of an original rectangular-shaped section which measures 190' deep x 55' across, and a post 1959 addition to the front of the original northwest-facing side which measures 125' deep x 40' across. It features brick walls with a symmetrical parapet on the façade. A metal awning projects over the front sidewalk, with advertising for "Carol's FURNITURE and SLEEP SHOP." Another sign advertising "Carol's FURNITURE and SLEEP SHOP" is fastened perpendicular to the upper façade wall. It is considered a noncontributing resource within the Downtown Sterling Historic District because it was substantially altered after the period of significance. The building was historically affiliated with the Plains Motor Company, the Logan County Implement Company, and Venohrs Auto Sales.

***Integrity***

The Downtown Sterling Historic District displays an overall high degree of integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service, location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Location: The district's buildings are all on the original properties where they were constructed, and, thus, retain their integrity of location. Design: The buildings' designs are primarily that of rectangular-shaped one-story and two-story commercial blocks, each with a unique façade containing one or two storefronts. Many of the façades have been changed from time-to-time during the period of significance, to adapt the building to new commercial uses. These changes tell the story of the district's commercial history, as façade designs from each decade from the 1890s to the 1960s are represented. As a result, the district maintains a strong sense of integrity of design. Setting: The district's setting remains reasonably intact. The neighborhood continues to serve as Sterling's commercial core, with the widths of the streets, alleys, and sidewalks, and the buildings' spatial relationships all unchanged. The integrity of setting is, therefore, limited to the loss of a small number of historic buildings, and to the installation of modern streetscape features such as benches, trash receptacles, and light poles. Materials: Evidence of the buildings' original and historic construction materials remain strongly in evidence throughout the district. These include poured concrete foundations, brick, concrete block, and stuccoed walls, terra cotta decorative elements, glass-in-metal-frame doors, and storefront display windows in metal frames. The district, thus, maintains a strong sense of integrity of materials. Workmanship: The district's workmanship is perhaps best illustrated in the decorative brickwork in the buildings' parapeted facades. Employing contrasting brick colors, the district's brick masons created recessed panels, sawtooth belt courses, and a variety of

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corbelling patterns, all of which serve as a visual testament to the high quality of their workmanship. Other construction elements, such as uniform mortar joints, solid, level, foundations, and door and window details, also display a high quality of workmanship. Feeling: The district continues to evoke an aesthetic or historic sense of life in Downtown Sterling during the first six decades of the twentieth century, and for this reason, it maintains its integrity of feeling. Association: The district continues to maintain a direct link to Sterling's commercial history upon which its significance is based. As a result, the district retains its integrity of association.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1896-1969  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Huddart, John J.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Groves, Eugene G.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wetmore, James  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fulton, J. C.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cowe, William  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins in 1896, the approximate date of construction for the district's earliest buildings. It concludes in 1969, as this represents the increase in the downtown building construction pattern that occurred post World War II, which began in downtown Sterling in 1946 and continued through 1969.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A**

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Downtown Sterling Historic District is locally significant in the area of Commerce under Criterion A. Founded in 1881, Sterling's legacy is as a major agricultural center, as a key railroad junction point, commercial center, and as a regional center of government for all of northeastern Colorado and parts of western Nebraska.

Throughout its history, Sterling has been Colorado's most populous community northeast of the Front Range. It is the largest city between Denver, 130 miles to the southwest, and North Platte, Nebraska, 140 miles to the northeast. As such, Sterling has long served as the regional commercial center for northeastern Colorado as well as for the lower panhandle of Nebraska. Sterling's early economic growth was primarily due to its founding as a railroad town, at a key junction of the Union Pacific (U. P.) and Chicago Burlington and Quincy (CB&Q) lines. The U. P. line from LaSalle (south of Greeley) to Julesburg was completed in 1881, and not coincidentally Sterling's original townsite along the route was platted that same year. Completed six years later, the CB&Q line from Cheyenne, Wyoming, to Holdrege, Nebraska, intersected the U. P. line at Sterling, further assuring the town's future as an important rail center. The railroad brought new settlers as well as lumber, other building supplies, and general merchandise, all of which enabled the town's growth and cemented its role as the region's commercial hub. Sterling's designation, in 1887, as the county seat of newly-formed Logan County created a sense of permanence, led to the construction of the town's first public buildings, and helped attract an ever more stable citizenry. Finally the construction of a Great Western Sugar factory at Sterling in 1905, promoted new agricultural practices, spawned other industries, and ushered in a new era of prosperity.

It was from these beginnings, that downtown Sterling evolved, and accordingly, the Downtown Sterling Historic District reflects the progression of Sterling's commercial growth from the late nineteenth century into the 1960s. From livery stables to auto garages, from small locally-owned stores to the arrival of national chains, and from wooden false front buildings and board sidewalks to brick business blocks and paved streets, the district's buildings relate the story of Sterling's ever changing commercial needs and tastes, and of internal and external influences. The district's fifty-four contributing buildings were all built by 1969, relate to the theme of commerce, and retain the essential elements of integrity to convey an impression of their significance. Five of the contributing buildings were constructed between 1964 and 1969 and are integral to the district as they show the increase in the downtown building construction pattern that occurred post World War II, which began in downtown Sterling in 1946 and continued through 1969. Considered as a whole, the district provides a setting that conveys a strong sense of feeling and association with life in downtown Sterling through the first six decades of the twentieth century.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (if appropriate)

*The Settlement Period*

In the winter of 1873, four southern families embarked westward, seeking new fortunes in Colorado Territory. Facing distressed economic conditions in the post-Civil War South, they departed their native Mississippi and Tennessee in hope of joining the Union Colony at Greeley, Colorado. Led by R. C. Perkins, J. H. Prewitt, R. E. Smith, and M. S. Smith, the families arrived in Greeley on April 1, 1873, accompanied by four single men, Hugh Davis, R. G. Smith, Ben Prewitt, and Will Cunningham. In August, they were joined by M. C. King and his father-in-law, E. L. Minter, also from Tennessee.<sup>1</sup> Finding the Union Colony's best lands already patented, in the spring of 1874 the men traveled east to explore the South Platte Valley. They found irrigable soil and were further encouraged by news that the Colorado Central Railroad (a U. P. subsidiary) planned to grade a rail bed through the region. The pioneer settlers filed homestead claims, organized a ditch company, and constructed sod or adobe homes in an area generally three to six miles north of present-day Sterling.<sup>2</sup> David Leavitt, a railroad surveyor, had passed through the region in 1871 and was impressed with its overall potential. The Illinois native later returned joining the southerners and filing a homestead claim of his own. Leavitt established a post office which he named Sterling in honor of his boyhood home in Illinois. He also surveyed the ditch company's first irrigation work which was named Sterling Ditch No. 1.<sup>3</sup> Other settlers arrived in the mid-to-late 1870s, establishing

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<sup>1</sup> Emma Burke Conklin, *A Brief History of Logan County, Colorado With Reminiscences by Pioneers*, (Denver: Welch-Haffner Printing Co., 1928), p. 75.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Kathryn Young, "Pioneer Days in Sterling," *The Colorado Magazine* vol. 4, no. 2 (March 1927), p. 59

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homesteads, breaking the soil, and raising crops with modest degrees of success. Some also began to raise cattle which were initially driven up from Texas.

### *The Founding of Sterling and Early Commercial Development*

In the 1870s, Sterling was not yet truly a town, but rather a settlement of widely-spaced homes, of pioneers working together to build irrigation ditches, raise crops, and forge new lives on the Colorado prairie. The establishment of Sterling as a permanent community is due primarily to the vision and efforts of a single individual, Minos C. King. Born in Tennessee on May 20, 1840, King grew up in the south and served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. On February 24, 1869, he was married to Miss Mary E. Minter of Abbeyville, Mississippi. A son, who they named William, was soon born to the couple. King and his father-in-law, E. L. Minter, were among the first group of southerners to arrive at Union Colony and from there to explore and settle the South Platte Valley. They were soon joined by other family members, and by the late 1870s, King had managed to acquire 320 acres which he sought to cultivate. Aware that the rail line from LaSalle to Julesburg was soon to become a reality, in 1880, King rode north to Sidney, Nebraska where he caught an east bound train to meet with Union Pacific officials at Omaha. He offered the railroad eighty acres along the right of way, at no cost, provided that a roundhouse and shops would be located at the site. In need of a key division point in the vicinity, U. P. officials quickly accepted King's offer. Returning to Colorado, King paid \$400 for a tract of land that had been pre-empted by John E. Boyd a few years previously.<sup>4</sup> The rail line was completed in 1881, and King filed a plat for Sterling's original townsite in September of that same year.<sup>5</sup>

As platted, Sterling's original townsite lay northwest of the railroad, which paralleled the South Platte River less than a mile to the southeast. Lots and blocks were laid out parallel (NW-SE) and perpendicular (NE-SW) to the railroad and river. The NW-SE trending street closest to the river was named Front Street, and those that paralleled it were respectively designated as 2nd, 3rd and 4th Streets. There were also six NE-SW trending streets, respectively named Cedar, Beech, Ash, Main, Ann, and Belle Streets. The last two, however, were soon renamed Poplar Street and Chestnut Street.<sup>6</sup> The streets' wide widths of sixty, eighty, and one hundred feet took full advantage of the available land, and were typical of original town plats filed for other northeast Colorado towns. King and others moved from the original settlement (which became known as "Old Sterling"), to the platted new town of Sterling on the railroad right of way. King next partnered with Richard E. Smith to establish the town's first commercial enterprise, a lumberyard and hardware store located at the corner of Front and Main Streets. Eight other businesses were founded within the next year including: J. J. Cheairs' dry goods, groceries and meat market, Hugh Clark's general merchandise store, W. H. O'Connell, blacksmith shop, Paine and Taylor, contractors and builders, the Pier House (hotel), the Sherman and Davenport general merchandise store, Sullivan's Railroad Eating House, and a stationary and tobacco store operated by Mrs. A. J. Weir.<sup>7</sup>

To encourage development, King donated lots for two schools, a church, and for public buildings, as well as land north of town for a cemetery.<sup>8</sup> His plan worked well. Sterling was incorporated in 1884, and became the Logan County seat in 1887. The first courthouse was built fronting onto Main Street in Block 17 of the original townsite, soon followed by a City Hall building, fronting onto South 3rd Street in the same block. The community's first schoolhouse was built on land later occupied by the Sterling Elevator Company, while the first church was the Methodist Episcopal constructed on a donated lot at the corner of South 2nd and Beech Streets. Later the First Baptist Church, portions of the building were later incorporated into a larger church building, between 1927 and 1936. Although no longer used as a church, the building continues to exist in 2013.

Early commercial development concentrated along Main Street, and by the early 1890s, it was lined with wood frame buildings, many with false fronts, facing onto board sidewalks. From the handful of Sterling businesses cited in the 1882 *State Business Directory*, more than one hundred listings appeared in the 1893 directory, just over a decade later. In the 1890s, Sterling's Main Street was home to numerous commercial establishments including, barbershops, blacksmith shops, groceries, hotels, jewelry stores, meat markets, millineries, restaurants, saloons, and tailor shops. Lumberyards,

<sup>4</sup> Conklin, p. 90.

<sup>5</sup> "Plat of the Town of Sterling, Weld Co. Colorado," September 24, 1881.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> *Colorado State Business Directory*, (Denver: J. A. Blake Publisher, 1882), pp. 311-312. (1882 is the first year that listings for Sterling appear in the annual business directories. None of the buildings that housed these original commercial buildings remain extant.)

<sup>8</sup> Conklin, p. 91. (The cemetery was later abandoned.)

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livery stables, a flourmill, and other businesses requiring more space, were located nearby and in close proximity to the railroad. City and county officials, and other professionals such as physicians, attorneys, and real estate agents, maintained downtown offices as well, while a host of craftsman - contractors, carpenters, and eventually bricklayers and stonemasons, worked diligently to keep up with the demand for new buildings. Apart from the town itself, the U. P. was also busy with the construction of railroad-related buildings, on the opposite side of Front Street. By the early 1900s, these included freight and passenger depots, a roundhouse, a hotel, and other infrastructure.

At about the turn of the twentieth century, Sterling's business leaders began to replace the original wood frame commercial buildings with a new generation of substantial brick business blocks. Although a few brick buildings were erected in the 1890s, most were constructed during the early decades of the twentieth century. New commercial construction peaked in the 1910s and 1920s, serving not only to replace the small wood frame buildings which were becoming dilapidated, but also to accommodate new uses, particularly those necessitated by the advent of automobile travel.

*Early Residential Development*

In January 1884, King and his business partner R. E. Smith filed a plat for the King & Smith's Addition, the town's first residential development located northwest of downtown.<sup>9</sup> Several other additions soon followed as Sterling's residential neighborhoods developed west of the railroad and downtown. These were named Packard, Park Place, B & M, Broadway, Riverside, Smith & Hunter, Bowling Green, and Poppleton.<sup>10</sup> While Sterling's original townsite and the King & Smith's Addition were laid out parallel with and perpendicular to the railroad, the additions which followed were each laid out on a north-south and east-west axis. Residential development peaked in the years following 1905, due in large part to the construction of a Great Western Sugar factory at Sterling,

Four historic residential properties currently exist within the Downtown Sterling Historic District. These are: the Klinger House built circa 1901 at 119 S. 2nd Street (5LO.789); the Cunningham House, built circa 1910 at 123 S. 2nd Street (5LO.790); the Brown / Naugle Mansion, built at 327 Ash Street in 1910 (5LO.807); and the Columbine Apartments, constructed in 1928 at 220 N. 4th Street (5LO.807).

*Automobile-Related Buildings*

The automobile began to replace the railroad as a principal means of travel soon after the turn of the twentieth century. This trend continued in the ensuing decades and spawned a variety of new automobile-related businesses in downtown Sterling. George Henderson and Sam Ard, two of Sterling's most progressive citizens, were among the first to own automobiles. Ard and his son Claude also opened the area's first auto garage and reportedly used an Oldsmobile engine to generate electrical power for the family's main business, the Central Hotel on Main Street.<sup>11</sup> Ever the entrepreneur, Ard had also set up the city's first private telephone exchange, with initial connections from the Central Hotel to the railroad depot, and the L. M. Judd Store, also on Main Street. Among others, early auto dealerships and repair garages were operated by F. E. Felkner, H. L. Davis, Lee Rogers, E. W. Mays, and A. V. Clark. Named the Ideal Auto and Machine Company, Felkner's enterprise dealt in automobile sales and was also a machine shop. Felkner's first garage was built circa 1906 on the north side of 2nd Street, between Poplar and Chestnut; by 1918; however, he had moved to a new location in the 300 block of Poplar Street. A 1913 advertisement for Felkner's business proclaimed it as the: "Largest and best equipped garage in Logan County, Co. Everything in repairs. Your orders for every kind of machine and lathe work are solicited. Auto delivery day or night. Agents for Overland and Franklin Cars."<sup>12</sup>

The Sterling Garage Company was reportedly first operated by Lee Rogers, and was later owned by E. W. Mays and A. V. Clark. A 1913 advertisement for the Sterling Garage Company proclaimed: "Automobile Repairing a Specialty, Automobiles for Sale, Auto Supplies, [and] Auto Livery Anywhere."<sup>13</sup> By 1918, Sterling boasted over a dozen auto-related businesses, including dealerships, repair garages, tire shops, and filling stations. The largest tire dealer in Sterling, and

<sup>9</sup> "King & Smith's Addition to the Town of Sterling," January 19, 1884.

<sup>10</sup> Conklin, p. 105.

<sup>11</sup> Bud Wells, *Better by 100 Years A Centennial History of Logan County, Colorado, 1887-1987*, (Dallas: Curtis Media Corp., 1987) p. T 20.

<sup>12</sup> *Colorado State Business Directory*, (Denver: The Gazetteer Publishing Company, 1913), p. 1056.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 1060.

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indeed for a wide region, was Lee C. Stickney. A bicycle or motorcycle dealer in the mid-1910s, Stickney expanded to also sell auto supplies, most notably tires. He purchased the Stevenson Vulcanizing Company in 1918, opened a chain of branch stores in nearby towns and eventually expanded into other states. At the height of his success, Stickney arranged for the construction of a large two-story commercial block at the corner of Main and Front Streets. In the 1930s, his tire business was located in a new building across the alley at 120 S. Front Street.

By 1930, Sterling was home to over forty auto-related businesses, including new specialties such as radiator repair shops, salvage yards, and taxi services. Notable dealerships and garages from the 1920s include the Litch Brothers Garage at 203 S. 2nd Street (5LO.791) (later Marsau's Auto Parts store), Palmer's Garage at 120 N. 4th Street (5LO.183), Summers' Motor Company at 322 Poplar Street (5LO.827) (previously the site of F. E. Felkner's business), and McLain Chevrolet at 402 Main Street (5LO.186). A handful of others were established in the early 1930s, including Mitchell Pontiac and Bill's Motor and Body Shop, located in the 100 block of North 4th Street. By the late 1950s, the district also included at least three gas stations, including S. A. Parker's Filling Station at 202 N. 4th Street (5LO.183), and Dike's Conoco Station at 330 Main Street (5LO. 822). Both of these former gas station buildings are still standing; however, they have been converted to other commercial uses.

#### *Financial-Related Buildings*

Financial institutions were logically perhaps more critical to Sterling's economic success than any other type of business. They were also located downtown in some of Sterling's most prominent two-story corner commercial blocks. The prime corner space in such a building was typically occupied by the bank, which had arranged for the building's construction. Any remaining ground floor space was leased to retail tenants, while the second floor was leased as professional office space. A private affair, Sterling's first bank was established by M. H. Smith in 1884. The Logan County Bank was founded in 1893 by E. M. Gillett and L. T. Gillett. It was also a private entity, before obtaining a charter and becoming a national bank in 1905. J. J. Cheairs, who was among the region's first pioneer settlers, served as the bank's president from 1905 until his death just two years later. The Logan County Bank moved into a new two-story commercial block in 1902, at the west corner of Main and 2nd Streets. Later named the Foote Building, it served as Sterling's largest downtown commercial building for a full century until it was lost in a fire in 2002.

The First National Bank was founded in 1900 by a consortium of Sterling's leading businessmen, including George A. Henderson who served as the institution's first president. The bank's other partners included W. S. Hadfield, L. M. Judd, E. M. Kelsey, and W. J. Powell. Originally located in the Headrick Building in the 100 block of Main Street, the First National Bank soon moved into a new two-story commercial block at the north corner of Main and Second Streets. Henderson, who served as president between 1900 and 1920, was given much credit for the bank's success during those years. Regarded as Sterling's most successful and influential businessman, Henderson was highly-respected by nearly all who knew him. According to one source: "If you ask an old timer about Henderson's financial success, he will tell you in a few words that he always stuck closely to business, took no vacations, attended to his own business and was a diplomat of the first water...[and] that besides being a shrewd and astute business man, he had the faculty of never making any one angry."<sup>14</sup>

The Farmers National Bank and the Commercial Savings Bank were Sterling's two other principal financial institutions during the early twentieth century. The Farmers National Bank was originally organized as the Farmers State Bank by Augustus G. Sherwin, in 1909. A lumberman and carpenter, Sherwin established a large lumberyard at the north corner of Front and Ash Streets prior to the turn of the twentieth century. He constructed Sterling's first town hall, and numerous other early buildings, before capitalizing on his success and eventually going into the banking business.

The Farmers National Bank was located in a prominent two-story commercial block at the east corner of Main and 2nd Streets, which was built the same year the bank was founded. The bank's early officers included F. W. Reike, R. J. Patterson, W. C. Propst, J. H. King, and G. S. Simmons. The Commercial Savings Bank was founded by J. N. Sanders in 1918 and was originally located in the Commercial Hotel building at the west corner of Front and Poplar Streets. The Farmers National Bank experienced financial difficulties in 1923 and it then merged with the Commercial Savings Bank, which moved into the prominent building at Main and 2nd Streets. The Commercial Savings Bank subsequently operated at that location for the next several decades. The large two-story commercial block at the west corner of Main and 2nd

<sup>14</sup> Conklin, p. 302.

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Streets burned in 2002. It was replaced by the extant one story commercial building at that site in 2004, the newest building in the district.

Financial institutions continued as a key element of commerce in downtown Sterling after World War II, and during the latter decades of the twentieth century. Four prominent banks were built during the time period between the late 1950s and early 1970s, all of which remain in operation as of 2013. These are: the Bank of Colorado (5LO.786), erected at 201 S. 3rd Street in 1958; Wells Fargo (5LO.823), constructed at 129 S. 3rd Street in 1965; Bank of the West (5LO.794), built at 130 N. 3rd Street in 1969; and Key Bank (5LO.792), erected in 1972 on the former Graham Hotel site at 315 N. 3rd Street.

*Hotel-Related Buildings*

Downtown hotels were also a key part of Sterling's built environment during the early twentieth century. Built to serve the needs of travelers associated with the railroad, sugar beet factory, and other industries and businesses, hotels added much vibrancy to downtown Sterling. Among the downtown's more prominent two-story buildings, hotels were arranged with retail space on the main ground floor level, with hotel rooms upstairs. Most hotel buildings contained double storefronts with an interior staircase to the second story located either in the middle or at one end of the building. Affiliated with the railroad, the Pacific Hotel was built on the southeast side of Front Street in 1899. Others soon followed in the downtown area. Owned and operated by Sam Ard, the Central Hotel (5LO.155) was built in the 200 block of Main Street, circa 1904. The Central was later named the Southern Hotel, and in the 1910s and 1920s it competed with other hostleries including the Cole at 114/116 Main Street (5LO.127), the Albany at 212 N. 3rd Street (5LO.795), the Commercial at 137 N. Front Street (5LO.133), the Annex at 201 N. Front Street, the Graham at 115 N. 3rd Street, and the Drexel, Sterling, and Oxford Hotels all located in the 100 block of North 2nd Street (5LO.166, 5LO.135, and 5LO.168). Except for the Graham and Annex Hotels, these buildings all remain standing; however, they no longer serve as hotels. Owned and operated by Jesse Graham, the Graham Hotel was built in 1921. It was Sterling's largest hostelry for over forty years, before going out of business in the 1960s. It was later demolished, and replaced by the Key Bank building in 1972.

*Institutional Buildings*

The appearance of downtown Sterling changed dramatically during the first two decades of the twentieth century. From the original wooden false front buildings to handsome brick business blocks, and from narrow boardwalks to wide concrete sidewalks, Sterling's commercial sector must have impressed locals and visitors alike as a modern and thriving locale. With the commercial district booming, Sterling's leaders next directed their attention to the construction of several prominent public buildings. The first of these was the elegant Classical Revival style Logan County Courthouse (5LO.35), designed by architect John J. Huddart and constructed by William A. Kaepernik, in 1909. Huddart and Kaepernik next teamed to design and build the Sterling City Hall building at 214 Poplar Street (5LO.825). Completed in 1912, it housed the city's municipal offices, marshal's office, fire department, and jail. The City Hall served its original purpose until the 1970s when its interior was converted into private offices. Other notable public buildings include the Telephone Exchange Building, the Sterling Public Library, the Municipal Auditorium, and the Sterling Post Office, Federal Building and Federal Courthouse.

Technological advancements, including the development of reliable electrical power and telephone service were key to the development of downtown. Sterling's first electric light and power franchise was granted by town trustees to O. P. Sells, in 1903. The Colorado Power Company began providing electrical power in Sterling in 1916. Colorado Power was incorporated into the Public Service Company of Colorado in 1924, which continued to provide electrical power into the modern era.

Sterling's Telephone Exchange (5LO.184) was located in a prominent two-story building constructed in the 100 block of North 4th Street in 1909-1910. The first telephones arrived in Sterling in the late 1890s when forward-thinking businessman Sam Ard installed his private network between the Central Hotel, the train depot, and the L. M. Judd Store. In 1900, Ard rallied more than forty potential subscribers and convinced the Colorado Telephone Company to establish an exchange in Sterling. While its first office and exchange were reportedly housed in a small building on Main Street near the courthouse, the Colorado Telephone Company soon occupied the second floor of the First National Bank at the corner of 2nd and Main Streets.

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Gaining subscribers in the community, in the fall of 1909 the company launched the construction of a substantial, modern telephone exchange in a building that would be larger and more decorative than those found in most of the state's growing towns. The Sterling Telephone Exchange was completed, furnished and opened for business by the end of March 1910. On April 2nd, an open house was held for the public to visit the new facility. The main floor of the two-story Sterling Telephone Exchange held the switching apparatus and a workroom. On the upper floor were the operators' room, operators' lounge, business office, managers' office, and restrooms. While the building was under construction, the firm installed new telephone lines throughout Sterling. Company linemen also began to extend the system beyond the town limits to reach area farms and ranches. The operators were all unmarried women who were subject to being fired if they became married. Although not seen by their customers, they were required to follow strict rules that regulated behavior and dress. The Colorado Telephone Company provided Sterling women with one of the few opportunities for employment outside of family owned businesses.<sup>15</sup>

Made possible by a grant from the Carnegie Foundation, the Sterling Public Library (5LO.469) was built in 1918 by L. J. Brown. It was located opposite the courthouse on a triangular parcel of land bordered by Division Avenue and by Ash and 4th Streets. The building served its purpose until the late 1990s when the library moved to a new location in the 400 block of North 5th Street. The 1918 library building then became a bed and breakfast for a time. It is presently a private residence.

The Municipal Auditorium and Post Office / Federal Building / Federal Courthouse (5LO.39) were both constructed in the early 1930s. Located in the 100 block of South 4th Street, the Municipal Auditorium was directly across from the courthouse and in the block just northwest of the library. Efforts to construct the auditorium were sponsored by members of the Sterling American Legion, who engaged interested citizens and convinced the City of Sterling to donate land as well as provide \$150,000 toward its construction. Designed by architect Temple Hoynes Buell, the Municipal Auditorium was a monumental Art Deco style edifice. It was constructed by Denver contractor Alfred C. Larson, with its grand opening ceremony held on April 23, 1931.<sup>16</sup> The auditorium was a key focal point of the Sterling community for several decades before it tragically burned on January 17, 1981. Apart from the courthouse, the Sterling Post Office, Federal Building and Federal Courthouse may be regarded as downtown Sterling's most visually impressive building. The area's only four-story building, it was designed by architect James A. Wetmore and constructed in 1931 by the Denver contracting firm of Mead and Mount. The building has served its original purposes from the time of its construction to the present day.

Highlighted by the 1931 construction of the Municipal Auditorium and Sterling Post Office / Federal Building, the early 1930s marked the end of a sustained building boom in downtown Sterling. Virtually no buildings were then constructed in downtown Sterling until after World War II, with one notable exception, the Fox Theater (5LO.181) which was constructed on Poplar Street in 1938. Still in use today, the Fox Theater supplanted Sterling's earlier movie houses such as the Lyric/Rialto, America, Princess, and Sterling Theatres. Post-war construction in downtown Sterling was necessarily limited to available property, mostly at the peripheries of downtown. Notable buildings from this time period include the Scofield Furniture Store, built at 322 Main Street in 1946 (5LO.173), the Komac Paint Store built circa 1953 at 201 Ash Street (5LO.79), the Bank of Colorado, erected at 201 S. 3rd Street in 1958 (5LO.786), and Dike's Conoco Gas Station, erected circa 1958 at 330 Main Street (5LO.822).

<sup>15</sup> Sladek, Ron. "Telephone Exchange Building," draft Colorado Cultural Resource Inventory Architectural Inventory Form, February 2013.

<sup>16</sup> Dale Wells, *The Logan County Ledger*, (Sterling: The Logan County Historical Society, 1976) p. 135.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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*Colorado State Business Directories*. Denver: J. A. Blake Publisher, James R. Ives and Company Publishers, The Gazetteer Publishing Company, (1882-1915).

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Internet postcard images of historic downtown Sterling, courtesy of Tom and Laurie Simmons, Denver, Colorado.

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Jessen, Kenneth. *Railroads of Northern Colorado*. Boulder: Pruett Publishing Company, 1982.

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Postcard images of historic downtown Sterling, courtesy of Cinthia Johnson, Sterling, Colorado.

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"Sterling Public Library." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, October 2001.

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Wells, Dale. *The Logan County Ledger*. Sterling, CO: The Logan County Historical Society, 1976.

Young, Kathryn. "Pioneer Days in Sterling." *The Colorado Magazine*, vol. 4, no. 2 (March 1927): 58-63.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: History Colorado, OAHF

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 5LO.829

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 38.85  
 (Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

The UTM reference point was derived from heads up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHF by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

**UTM References** (NAD 83)

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	13	651 539	4498 829	2	13	651 708	4498 739
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
3	13	651 664	4498 648	4	13	651 789	4498 576
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
5	13	651 622	4498 269	6	13	651 293	4498 412
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
7	13	651 289	4498 604	8	13	651 397	4498 692
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
9	13	651 750	4498 687				
	Zone	Easting	Northing				

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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at a point where the southeast edge of North 4th Street intersects with Lot 5 in Block 15 of the King & Smith Addition, on the northwest line of said Lot 5, ninety-two feet northeast of the southwest line of said Lot 5 (Point 1). From point 1, proceed southeast to a point on the southeast line of said Lot 5, ninety-two feet northeast of the southwest line of said Lot 5 (Point 2). From point 2, proceed southwest to a point where the southeast line of said Lot 5 intersects with the alley between Poplar and Chestnut Streets (Point 3). From point 3, proceed southeast along the northwest edge of said alley, and proceed across North 3rd Street to a point where the southeast edge of said North 3rd Street meets the northwest line of Lot 7 in Block 13 of Sterling's Original Addition (Point 4). From point 4, proceed northeast along the northwest line of said Lot 7 to a point at the north corner of said Lot 7 (Point 5). From point 5, proceed southeast along the northeast line of said Lot 7 to a point where the northeast line of said Lot 7 intersects with the alley between North 2nd Street and North 3rd Street (Point 6). From point 6, proceed southwest along the northwest edge of the alley between North 2nd Street and North 3rd Street, and proceed across Poplar Street, to a point where said alley intersects the southwest edge of Poplar Street (Point 7). From point 7, proceed southeast along the southwest edge of Poplar Street to a point where the southwest edge of Poplar Street intersects with the northwest edge of North Front Street (Point 8). From point 8, proceed southwest along the northwest edge of North Front Street, crossing Main Street, and continuing southwest along the northwest edge of South Front Street, and crossing Ash Street, to a point where the northwest edge of South Front Street intersects with the southwest line of Lot 1 in Block 5 of Sterling's Original Addition (Point 9). From point 9, proceed northwest along the southwest line of said Lot 1, and continue across the alley between South Front Street and South 2nd Street, and continue along the southwest line of Lot 8 in Block 5 of Sterling's Original Addition, and continue across South 2nd Street, and continue along the southwest line of Lot 1 of Block 10 in Sterling's Original Addition, and continue across the alley between South 2nd Street and South 3rd Street, and continue along the southwest line of Lot 8 in Block 10 of Sterling's Original Addition, and continue across South 3rd Street, to where South 3rd Street meets the southeast line of Lot 1 in Block 18 in Sterling's Original Addition, and continue northwest to a point where the northwest line of said Lot 1 meets the southeast line of Lot 8 in said Block 18 (Point 10). From point 10, proceed southwest along the line between said Lots 1 and 8 of said Block 18, to a point where the said line intersect the northeast edge of the alley between Ash and Beech Streets (Point 11). From point 11, proceed northwest along the northeast edge of said alley, and continue across South 4th Street to a point where South 4th Street intersects South Division Avenue (Point 12). From point 12, proceed north along the east edge of Division Avenue to a point where the east edge of Division Avenue intersects with the northernmost point of Lot 6 in Block 21 of Allen & Beal's Subdivision of the King & Smith Addition (Point 13). From point 13, proceed southeast along the northeast edge of Lot 6 to the eastern corner of said Lot 6 (Point 14). From point 14, proceed northeast to a point at the northeast edge of Main Street (Point 15). From point 15, proceed southeast along the northeast edge of Main Street to a point where the northwest line of Lot 1 in Block 22 of the King & Smith Addition intersects with the northeast edge of Main Street (Point 16). From point 16, proceed northeast along the northwest line of said Lot 1 to a point where said line intersects with the southwest edge of the alley between Main and Polar Streets (Point 17). From point 17, proceed southeast along the southwest edge of said alley, and continue across North 4th Street to a point where the southeast edge of North 4th Street intersects with the southwest edge of said alley (Point 18). From point 18, proceed northeast along the southeast edge of North 4th Street, crossing Poplar Street and to the point of beginning (Point 1).

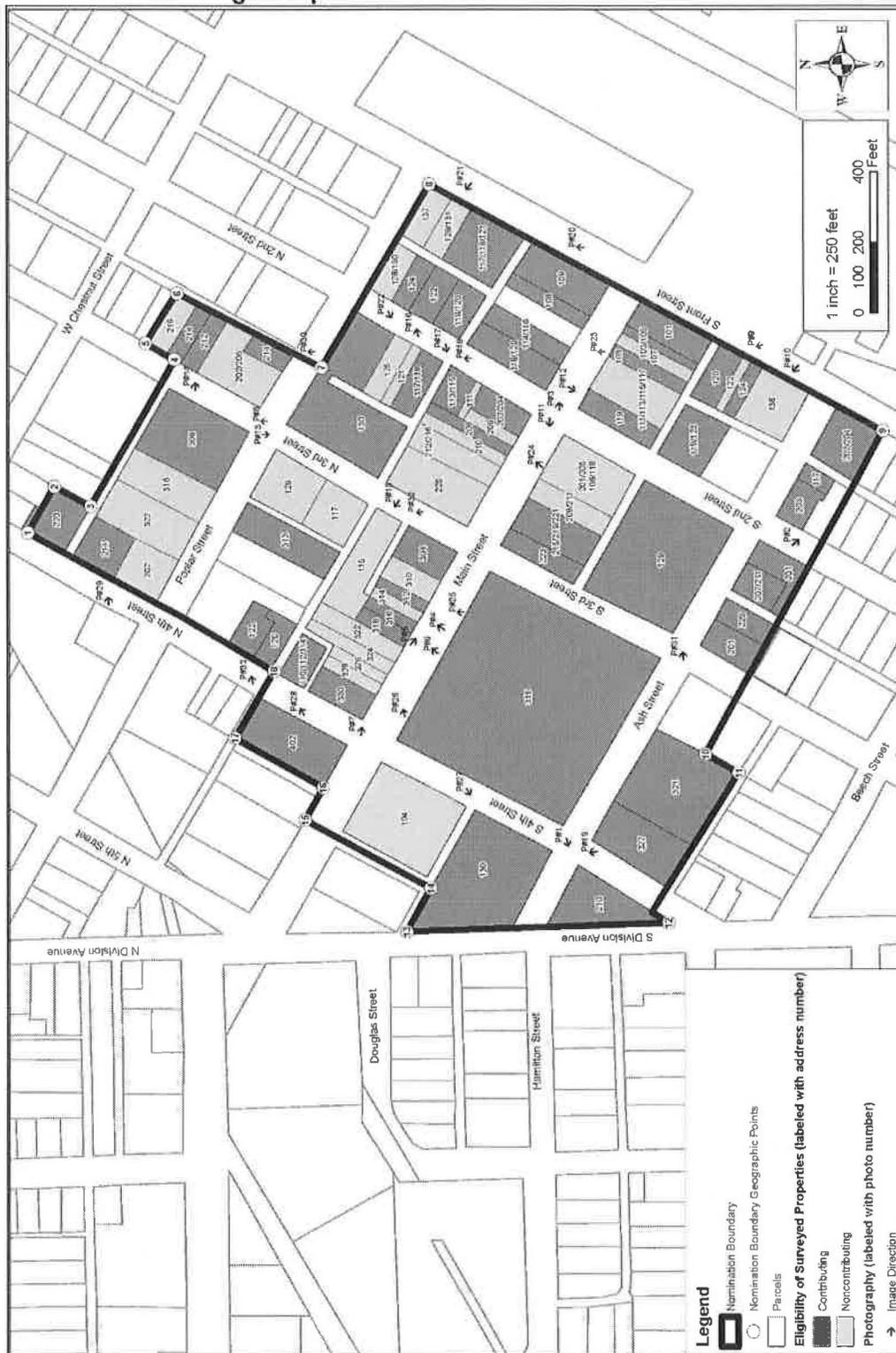
**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The district boundary encompasses Sterling's downtown commercial core, as well as historically notable public buildings including the Logan County Courthouse, the Sterling Post Office and Federal Building, and the historic Sterling City Hall. The district's buildings are closely associated with the theme of Commerce. Areas with newer construction or with a higher concentration of altered historic buildings were excluded from the district.

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Sketch map of Downtown Sterling with photo locations



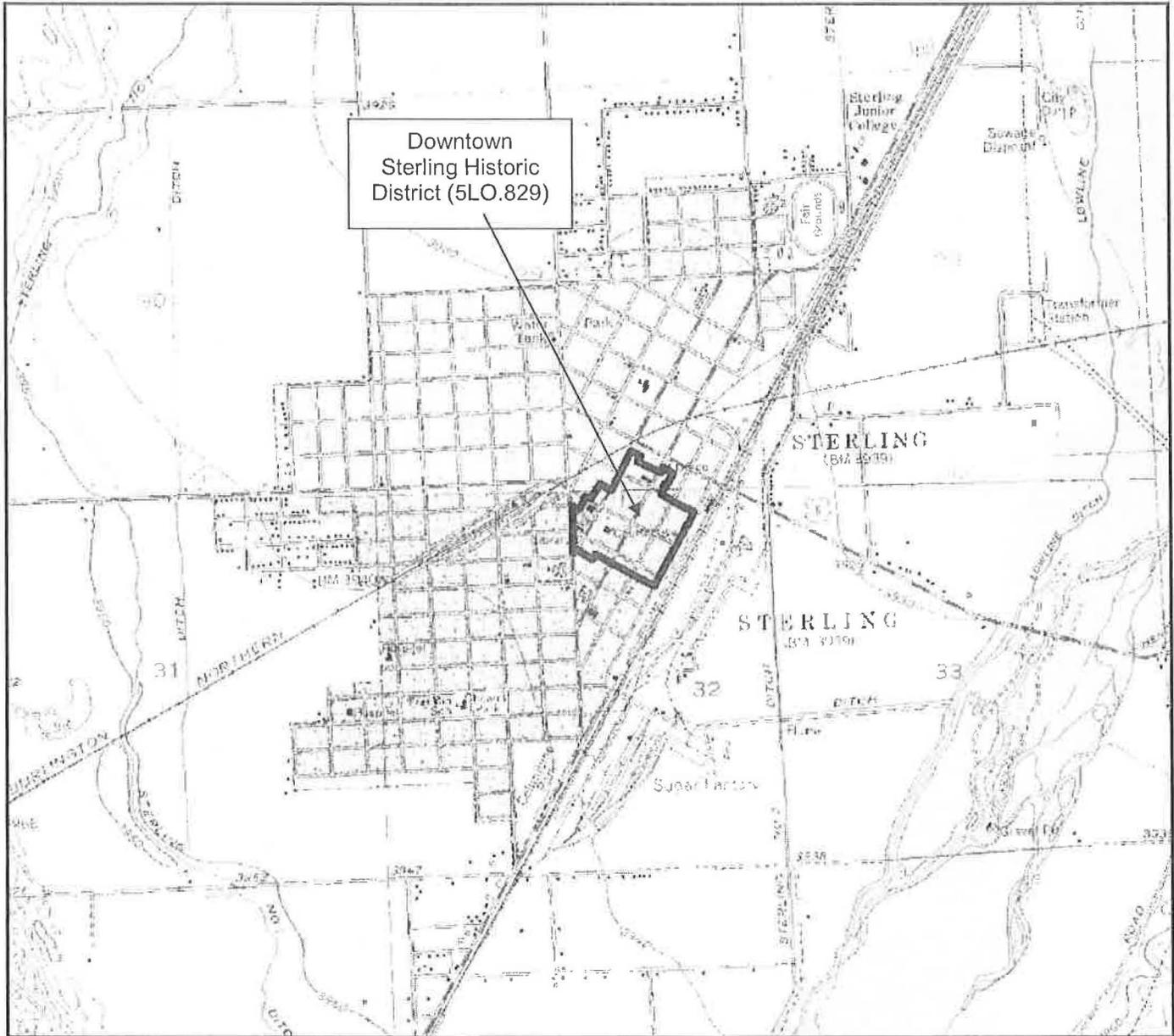
Sketch map drawn by Carl McWilliams and Timothy Wilder 2-2013

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**USGS Topographic Section – Regional perspective**  
Sterling North Quadrangle and  
Sterling South Quadrangle  
7.5 minute series

**Elevation: 3935'**  
PLSS: 6<sup>th</sup> PM, T8N, R52W,  
portions of sections 29 and 32



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USGS Topographic Section – close up perspective



Downtown Sterling Historic District  
Name of Property

Logan County, Colorado  
County and State

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Carl McWilliams, Principal, for property owners  
organization Cultural Resource Historians date February 22, 2013  
street & number 1607 Dogwood Court telephone (970) 493-5270  
city or town Fort Collins state CO zip code 80525  
e-mail historians@frii.com

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Please see continuation sheet.

**Property Owner:** (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Please see continuation sheets.  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Downtown Sterling Historic District  
 Name of Property

Logan County, Colorado  
 County and State

**Photograph Log**

**Property Name:** Downtown Sterling Historic District  
**Location:** Sterling, Logan County, Colorado  
**Photographer:** Carl McWilliams  
**Dates of Photographs:** November 16, November 21, and November 30, 2012  
**Digital Images:** TIFF images on file with the National Register, Washington D. C.

Photo No.	Site No(s).	Address(es)	View to:
1	5LO.469	210 S. 4th Street	West
2	5LO.301	203 S. 2nd Street	Southeast
3	5LO.126	120 Main Street	East
4	5LO.175	316 Main Street	Northeast
5	5LO.175	316 Main Street, (Simkins Grocery sign)	Southeast
6	5LO.174	318 Main Street	Northeast
7	5LO.822	330 Main Street	Southeast
8	5LO.39	306 Poplar Street	North
9	5LO.147	120 S. Front Street	North
10	5LO.131	123 N. Front Street	Northwest
11	5LO.156	201/205 Main Street, 106/118 S. 2nd Street	West
12	5LO.138	119 Main Street	Southwest
13	5LO.794	130 N. 3rd Street	South
14	5LO.795	212 N. 3rd Street	East
15	5LO.792	115 N. 3rd Street	Northwest
16	5LO.137	118/120 N. 2nd Street	East
17	5LO.165	113/115 N. 2nd Street	West
18	5LO.166	117/119 N. 2nd Street	North
19	5LO.37 5LO.469	130 S. 4th Street 210 S. 4th Street	Northwest
20	5LO.129 5LO.130 5LO.131 5LO.132 5LO.133	117 N. Front Street 119/121 N. Front Street 123 N. Front Street 131 N. Front Street 137 N. Front Street	North
21	5LO.132	131 N. Front Street (upper façade detail)	Northwest
22	5LO.165 5LO.166 5LO.167	113/115 N. 2nd Street 117/119 N. 2nd Street 121 N. 2nd Street	West
23	5LO.127 5LO.126	114/116 Main Street 120 Main Street	North
24	5LO.162 5LO.161 5LO.819	206 Main Street 208 Main Street 210 Main Street	Northeast
25	5LO.176 5LO.175 5LO.174 5LO.173	314 Main Street 316 Main Street 318 Main Street 322 Main Street	North

Downtown Sterling Historic District

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Name of Property

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26	5LO.173 5LO.172 5LO.171 5LO.170	322 Main Street 324 Main Street 326 Main Street 328 Main Street	East
27	5LO.37 5LO.469	130 S. 4th Street 210 S. 4th Street	West
28	5LO.785 5LO.183 5LO.184	122 N. 4th Street 120 N. 4th Street 110, 112, 114 N. 4th Street	East
29	5LO.802 5LO.803	214 N. 4th Street 220 N. 4h Street	East
30	5LO.825	214 Poplar Street	North
31	5LO.789	129 S. 3rd Street	East
32	5LO.793	117 N. 3rd Street	North
33	5LO.785	122 N. 4th Street	East
34	5LO.803	220 N. 4th Street	South

**Historic Photograph Log**

**Property Name:** Downtown Sterling Historic District  
**Location:** Sterling, Logan County, Colorado  
 Images courtesy of Tom and Laurie Simmons private collection, Denver, Colorado and Cinthia Johnson private collection, Sterling, Colorado

Photo No.	Description	Date
1	Main Street from 100 block, view to northwest	Circa 1907
2	Main Street from near Front Street, view to northwest	Circa 1908
3	Telephone Exchange Building (5LO.184), 110, 112, 114 N. 4th Street, view to east	Circa 1910
4	Logan County Courthouse (5LO.35), 315 Main Street, view to west	Circa 1910
5	Sterling City Hall (5LO.825), 214 Poplar Street, view to north	Circa 1912
6	Sterling Public Library (5LO.469), 210 S. 4th Street, view to west	Circa 1918
7	Henderson Block and Cole Hotel view to east from corner Main and 2nd Streets	Circa 1920s
8	3rd Street, view to W from corner of 3rd and Poplar Streets	Circa late 1920s
9	Federal Post Office, Federal Building and Federal Courthouse (5LO.39), 306 Poplar Street, view to north	Circa 1932
10	Litch Brothers Garage 5LO.791), 203 S. 2nd Street, view to southeast	Circa 1930s
11	BPOE Sterling Lodge No. 1336 (5LO.806) 321 Ash Street, view to west	Circa 1940
12	Main Street, view to southeast from the 200 block	Circa mid-1950s
13	Main Street, view to north of the 300 block	Circa mid-1950s
14	Main Street, view to north of the 200 block	Circa late 1950s
15	Main Street, view to southeast from 3rd Street	Circa late 1960s

Downtown Sterling Historic District  
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**Historic Images**

Historic Image 1

Main Street from 100  
block, view to northwest  
Circa 1907



Historic Image 2

Main Street from near  
Front Street, view to  
northwest  
Circa 1908

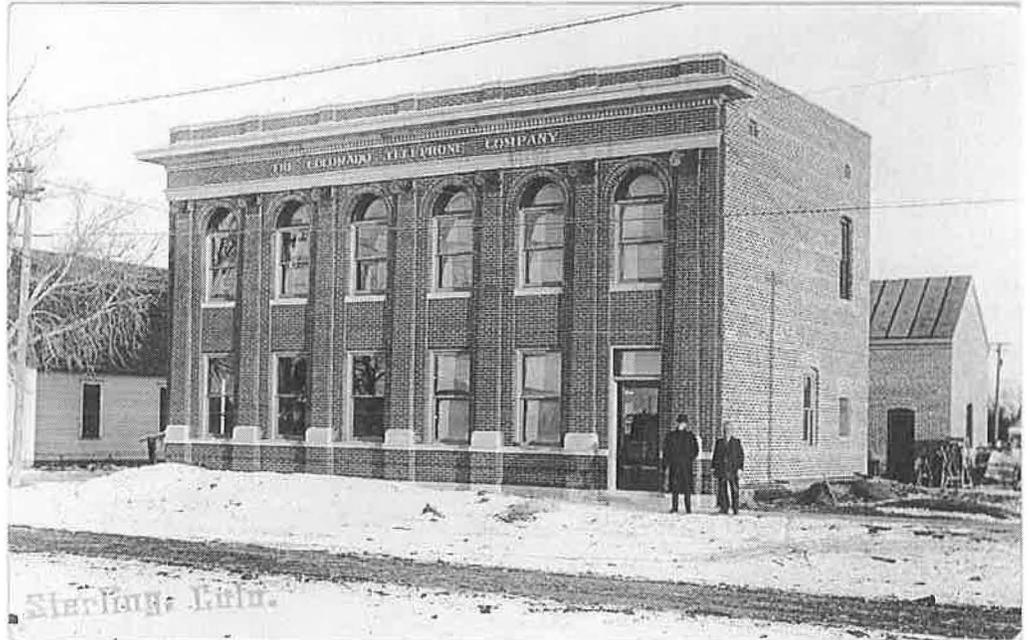


Downtown Sterling Historic District  
Name of Property

Logan County, Colorado  
County and State

Historic Image 3

Telephone Exchange  
Building (5LO.184), 110,  
112, 114 N. 4th Street,  
view to east  
Circa 1910



Historic Image 4

Logan County Courthouse  
(5LO.35), 315 Main Street,  
view to west  
Circa 1910

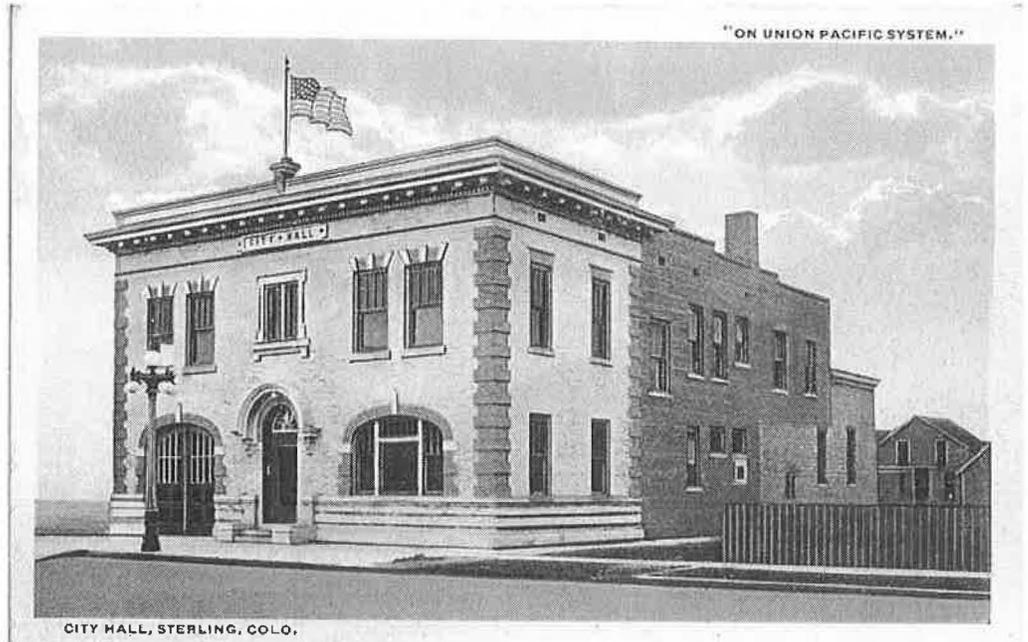


Downtown Sterling Historic District  
Name of Property

Logan County, Colorado  
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Historic Image 5

Sterling City Hall  
(5LO.825), 214 Poplar  
Street, view to north  
Circa 1912



Historic Image 6

Sterling Public Library  
(5LO.469), 210 S. 4th  
Street, view to west  
Circa 1918



Downtown Sterling Historic District  
Name of Property

Logan County, Colorado  
County and State

Historic Image 7

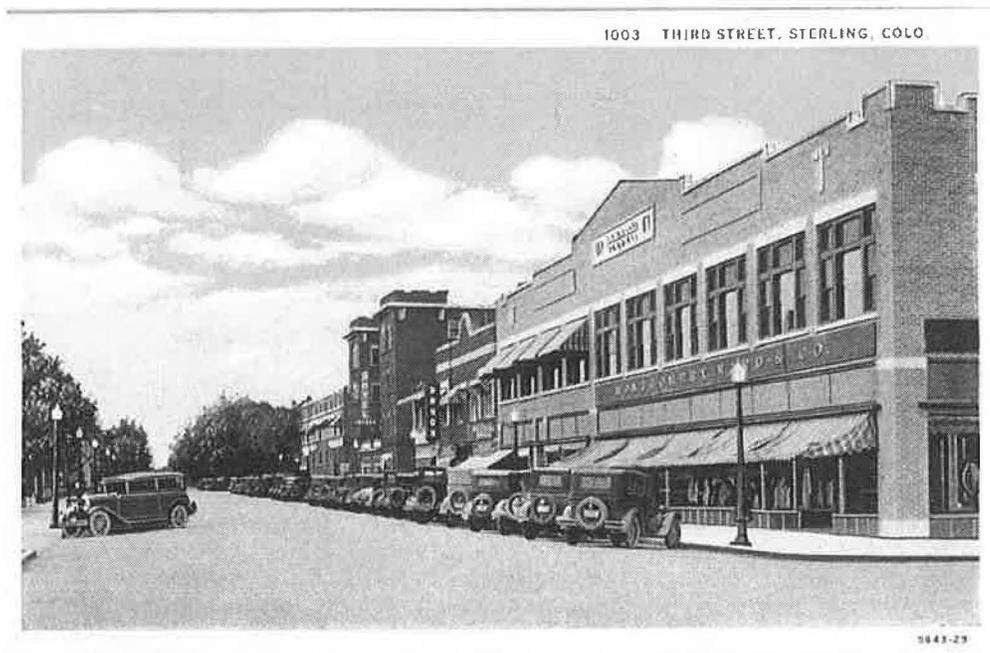
Henderson Block and Cole  
Hotel view to east from  
corner Main and 2nd  
Streets  
Circa 1920s



Historic Image 8

3rd Street, view to W from  
corner of 3rd and Poplar  
Streets

Circa late 1920s



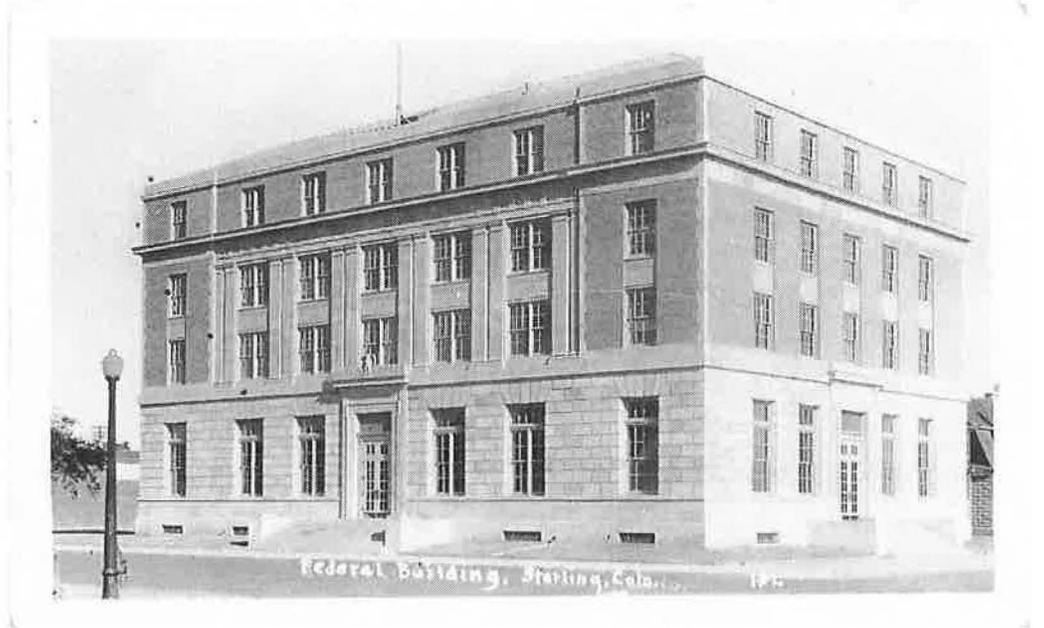
Downtown Sterling Historic District  
Name of Property

Logan County, Colorado  
County and State

Historic Image 9

Federal Post Office,  
Federal Building and  
Federal Courthouse  
(5LO.39), 306 Poplar  
Street, view to north

Circa 1932



Historic Image 10

Litch Brothers Garage  
(5LO.791), 203 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Street, view to southeast  
Circa 1930s



Downtown Sterling Historic District

Name of Property

Logan County, Colorado

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Historic Image 11

BPOE Sterling Lodge No.  
1336 (5LO.806) 321 Ash  
Street, view to west

Circa 1940



Historic Image 12

Main Street, view to  
southeast from the 200  
block  
Circa mid-1950s



Downtown Sterling Historic District  
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Historic Image 13

Main Street, view to north  
of the 300 block

Circa mid-1950s



Historic Image 14

Main Street, view  
to southeast from the  
200 block

Circa mid-1950s



Downtown Sterling Historic District  
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Logan County, Colorado  
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Historic Image 15

Main Street, view to  
southeast from 3rd Street  
Circa mid-1960s



Downtown Sterling Historic District  
 Name of Property

Logan County, Colorado  
 County and State

**Table 1 – List of Contributing and Non-contributing properties by address**

Site No.	Address	Historic Name	Current Name	Eligibility
5LO.164	111 N. 2nd Street	Sterling Enterprise Building	South Platte Sentinel Publishing Company Building	Noncontributing
5LO.165	113/115 N. 2nd Street	Benge Block	Delgado Building	Contributing
5LO.166	117/119 N. 2nd Street	Drexel Hotel	Journal Office Supply Building	Contributing
5LO.137	118/120 N. 2nd Street	Masonic Temple	Masonic Temple	Contributing
5LO.167	121 N. 2nd Street	Alex Bender's Grocery	Horner Building	Noncontributing
5LO.136	122 N. 2nd Street	Sterling Furniture Company Building	Lederhos Building, Modern Floors Building	Contributing
5LO.135	124 N. 2nd Street	Sterling Hotel	Sterling Hotel Building	Contributing
5LO.168	125 N. 2nd Street	Oxford Hotel	Bible Lighthouse Building	Noncontributing
5LO.134	128/130 N. 2nd Street	Sterling Café, Continental Trailways Bus Depot, et. al.	Sterling Travel Agency Building, Federal Crop Agency Building, et. al.	Noncontributing
5LO.789	119 S. 2nd Street	Klinger House	Cunningham House	Contributing
5LO.790	123 S. 2nd Street	Cunningham House	Cunningham House	Contributing
5LO.791	203 S. 2nd Street	Litch Brothers Garage, Marsau's Auto Parts Store	Marsau's Auto Parts Store	Contributing
5LO.792	115 N. 3rd Street	Key Bank	Key Bank	Noncontributing
5LO.793	117 N. 3rd Street	L & W Grocery, Bill's Red & White Grocery, et. al.	Pro Sports Building	Noncontributing
5LO.179	119 N. 3rd Street	Kellogg Building, Croft Drugstore, Conrad's, et. al.	Pro Sports Building	Noncontributing
5LO.180	129 N. 3rd Street, et. al.	Harris Building, Montgomery Ward	Harris Building	Noncontributing
5LO.794	130 N. 3rd Street	Bank of the West	Bank of the West	Contributing
5LO.800	202/206 N. 3rd Street	H. H. Ekart's Auto Shop, et. al.	Coldwell Banker Building	Noncontributing
5LO.795	212 N. 3rd Street	Albany Hotel	La Posada Hotel	Contributing

Downtown Sterling Historic District  
 Name of Property

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**Table 1 – List of Contributing and Non-contributing properties by address (continued)**

Site No.	Address	Historic Name	Current Name	Eligibility
5LO.796	214 N. 3rd Street	Brecht Building	Brecht Building	Contributing
5LO.797	216 N. 3rd Street	Dr. LaForce and Dr. Eliff Medical Offices	Flores Building, Birthright of Sterling Building	Noncontributing
5LO.823	129 S. 3rd Street	Wells Fargo Building	Wells Fargo Building	Contributing
5LO.786	201 S. 3rd Street	Bank of Colorado Building	Bank of Colorado Building	Contributing
5LO.184	110, 112, 114 4th Street	Telephone Exchange Building, Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Building	Dawn Building, Hoal Building	Contributing
5LO.183	120 N. 4th Street	Palmer's Garage, Sterling Sheet Metal and Roofing Company Building	Hoal Building	Contributing
5LO.785	122 N. 4th Street	Mitchell Pontiac Building, Bill's Motor and Body Shop	Morrow Building	Contributing
5LO.801	202 N. 4th Street	S. A. Parker's Filling Station, et. al.	Randy Caruthers State Farm Insurance Agency	Noncontributing
5LO.802	214 N. 4th Street	J. Hilderman Building	J. Hilderman Building	Contributing
5LO.803	220 N. 4th Street	Columbine Apartments	Northeast Colorado Housing Building	Contributing
5LO.804	104 S. 4th Street	Christ United Methodist Church	Christ United Methodist Church	Noncontributing
5LO.37	130 S. 4th Street	First United Presbyterian Church	First United Presbyterian Church	Contributing
5LO.469	210 S. 4th Street	Sterling Public Library, Carnegie Library	Former Sterling Public Library	Contributing
5LO.805	117 Ash Street	Mack Smith's Radio Service Building	O'Toole Building	Contributing
5LO.799	201 Ash Street	Komac Paint Store	Quilts-n-Creations Building	Contributing
5LO.788	207/211 Ash Street		T & K Building	Contributing
5LO.787	229 Ash Street	VFW #3541 Jake Uhrig Post 9890	Iglesia Puerto Del Cielo	Contributing
5LO.806	321 Ash Street	BPOE Sterling Lodge No. 1336	BPOE Sterling Lodge No. 1336	Contributing
5LO.807	327 Ash Street	Naugle Mansion, Mackey Mansion	Delgado Mansion	Contributing
5LO.188	109 N. Front Street	Sterling Union Pacific Railroad Depot	Sterling Union Pacific Railroad Depot	Contributing

Downtown Sterling Historic District  
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Logan County, Colorado  
 County and State

**Table 1 – List of Contributing and Non-contributing properties by address (continued)**

Site No.	Address	Historic Name	Current Name	Eligibility
5LO.129	117 N. Front Street	Sterling Laundry Building	The Leader Store	Contributing
5LO.130	119/121 N. Front Street	Leader Store	G & L Woodcraft Building	Contributing
5LO.131	123 N. Front Street	Economy Store, Ace Store, Westemer Store	Meraz Building, Farmers Insurance Building	Contributing
5LO.132	129/131 N. Front Street	Sterling Sheet Metal Building, Mac's Tavern, et. al.	D & J's Electric Building	Noncontributing
5LO.133	137 N. Front Street	Commercial Hotel	Commercial Hotel, Bottoms Up Building	Noncontributing
5LO.147	120 S. Front Street	Stickney's Tire Shop, Stickney's Machine Shop	All American Glass Building	Contributing
5LO.148	122 S. Front Street	Piatte Valley Lumber Company Shop	All American Glass Building	Noncontributing
5LO.149	124 S. Front Street	Buck's Blacksmith Shop, Sincock's Blacksmith's Shop	Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Building	Contributing
5LO.150	138 S. Front Street	E. T. Hall's Agricultural Implements Store	Henry's Pub & Club	Noncontributing
5LO.151	202/204 S. Front Street	Alf Bundy Agncultural Implements Store, McKay Truck Lines Building, et. al.	Vail Building	Contributing
5LO.145	101 Main Street	Stickney Building	Stickney Building	Contributing
5LO.144	103/105 Main Street	Headrick Building	Headrick Building	Contributing
5LO.143	107 Main Street	Lyric Theatre, Rialto Theatre	Lyric Theatre Building, Rialto Theatre Building	Noncontributing
5LO.128	108 Main Street	Delzell Building	Delzell Building	Contributing
5LO.142	109 Main Street	Golden Rule Store, Coast to Coast Store	Carol's Sleep Shop	Contributing
5LO.141	111 Main Street	New Way Shoe Store, Vogel's Maytag Store, Help Yourself Laundry, et. al.	Colorado Division of Water Resources Building	Noncontributing
5LO.140	113 Main Street	Meyer Store, Haas Shoe Repair Shop, et. al.	Meyer Store Building	Noncontributing
5LO.127	114/116 Main Street	Cole Hotel	Cole Hotel / Curlee Building	Contributing
5LO.139	115/117 Main Street	Burke Radio & Record Shop, Edward's Café, Singer Sewing Machine Store, Sterling Liquor Store, et. al.	KPMX-FM 105.7 Building	Noncontributing
5LO.138	119 Main Street	Henderson Building	Henderson Building, Yost Building, The Clothes Lion Building	Contributing

Downtown Sterling Historic District  
 Name of Property

Logan County, Colorado  
 County and State

**Table 1 – List of Contributing and Non-contributing properties by address (continued)**

Site No.	Address	Historic Name	Current Name	Eligibility
5LO.126	118/120 Main Street	Henderson Block	Henderson Block, Sterling Computer Center	Contributing
5LO.156	201/205 Main Street, 106/118 S. 2nd Street	Dale's Jewelry Building, et. al.	Dale's Jewelry Building, et. al.	Noncontributing
5LO.163	202/204 Main Street	First National Bank	Shoe Tree Building	Contributing
5LO.162	206 Main Street	Public Service Company Building	Nelson Professional Building, Maverick Financial Building	Noncontributing
5LO.161	208 Main Street	Rominger Jewelry Store	Rominger Jewelry Store	Contributing
5LO.155	209/211 Main Street	Central Hotel, Southern Hotel	Southern Hotel Building, Fetzer Building	Noncontributing
5LO.819	210 Main Street	Waymire Clothing Store	P & P Properties Building	Noncontributing
5LO.160	212/216 Main Street	J. C. Penney Store	Delgado Building	Noncontributing
5LO.153	215/219/221 Main Street	Raabe Building, Woolworth's Store	Raabe Building, Woolworth's Store	Contributing
5LO.159	220 Main Street	Farmers National Bank, Commercial Savings Bank	Sterling Investment Building	Noncontributing
5LO.152	223 Main Street	I & M Building	I & M Building	Contributing
5LO.178	304 Main Street	Henderson Building	Henderson Building, Vandemoer Building	Contributing
5LO.820	310 Main Street	Gambles Store	Sager Building, Star of the East Building	Noncontributing
5LO.821	312 Main Street	W. C. Hardie's Barber & Beauty Shop, et. al.	Delgado Building	Contributing
5LO.176	314 Main Street	F. J. Henderson Abstract Company / Platte Valley Title and Abstract Company Building	Stewart Title Building	Noncontributing
5LO.35	315 Main Street	Logan County Courthouse	Logan County Courthouse	Contributing
5LO.175	316 Main Street	Simkins Grocery	Simkins Grocery	Contributing
5LO.174	318 Main Street	Boner Building, D & J Mabray Building	Picture This Building	Contributing
5LO.173	322 Main Street	Scofield Furniture Store	KC's Music & Electronics Building	Noncontributing
5LO.172	324 Main Street	B. F. Goodrich Building	Moore Flowers Building	Noncontributing

Downtown Sterling Historic District  
 Name of Property \_\_\_\_\_

Logan County, Colorado  
 County and State \_\_\_\_\_

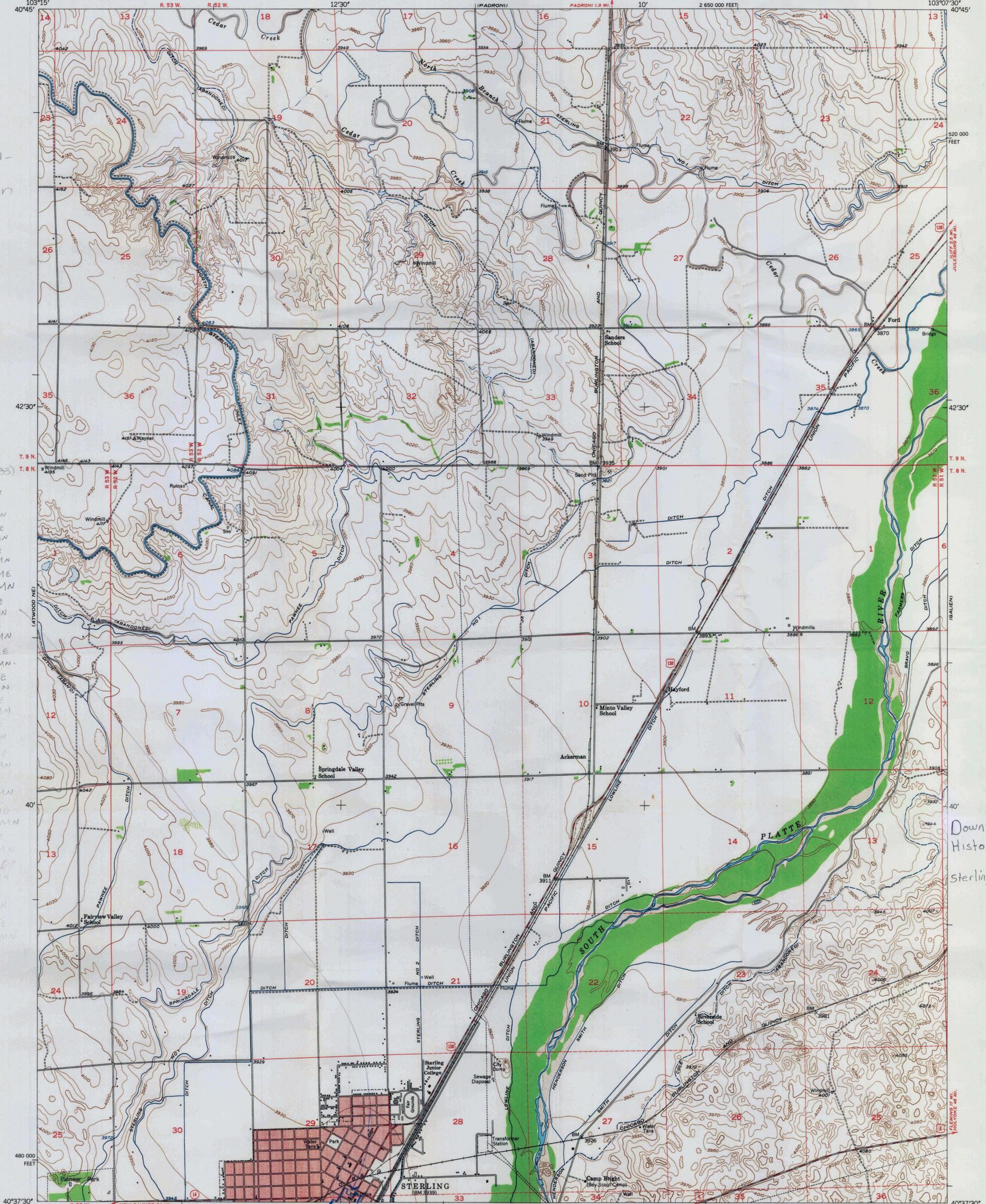
**Table 1 – List of Contributing and Non-contributing properties by address (continued)**

Site No.	Address	Historic Name	Current Name	Eligibility
5LO.171	326 Main Street	Iowa Light and Power Company Building	Brown & Hulbert Building	Noncontributing
5LO.170	328 Main Street	Red Front Store, Deluxe Cleaners Building	Remax Building	Noncontributing
5LO.822	330 Main Street	Dike's Conoco Gas Station	Hoal Building	Contributing
5LO.186	402 Main Street	McLain Chevrolet, Crosswhite Chevrolet, Bill's Motors Building	Hoal Building, Old Town Bistro	Contributing
5LO.825	214 Poplar Street	Sterling City Hall	Sterling City Hall	Contributing
5LO.39	306 Poplar Street	Sterling Post Office, Federal Building and Federal Courthouse	Sterling Post Office, Federal Building and Federal Courthouse	Contributing
5LO.181	313 Poplar Street	Fox Theater	Fox Theater	Contributing
5LO.826	316 Poplar Street	Piggly Wiggly Store, Reynolds Cafe	Earnhart Building	Noncontributing
5LO.827	322 Poplar Street	Plains Motor Company Building, Logan County Implement Company Building, Venohrs Auto Sales, et. al.	Carol's Furniture and Sleep Shop	Noncontributing

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CO-Logan-  
County-  
Downtown  
Sterling  
Historic  
District

- UTMs  
ZONE 13:  
(NAD 83)
- ① 651539 ME  
4498829 MN
  - ② 651708 ME  
4498739 MN
  - ③ 651864 ME  
4498648 MN
  - ④ 651789 ME  
4498576 MN
  - ⑤ 651622 ME  
4498269 MN
  - ⑥ 651293 ME  
4498412 MN
  - ⑦ 651237 ME  
4498604 MN
  - ⑧ 651397 ME  
4498672 MN
  - ⑨ 651750 ME  
4498687 MN
  - ⑩ 651480 ME  
4498181 MN
  - ⑪ 651452 ME  
4498148 MN
  - ⑫ 651344 ME  
4498106 MN
  - ⑬ 651336 ME  
4498334 MN
  - ⑭ 651364 ME  
4498375 MN
  - ⑮ 651400 ME  
4498432 MN
  - ⑯ 651420 ME  
4498420 MN
  - ⑰ 651440 ME  
4498484 MN
  - ⑱ 651416 ME  
4498456 MN



Downtown Sterling  
Historic District  
Sterling, CO

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey as part of the Department of the Interior program for the development of the Missouri River Basin Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs taken 1948. Topography by plane-table surveys 1951  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grid based on Colorado coordinate system, north zone  
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations

SCALE 1:24000  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

USGS  
Historical File  
Topographic Division

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty 4 LANE 6 LANE Light-duty  
Medium-duty 4 LANE 6 LANE Unimproved dirt  
U.S. Route State Route

STERLING NORTH, COLO.  
N4037.5-W10307.5/7.5"

1951

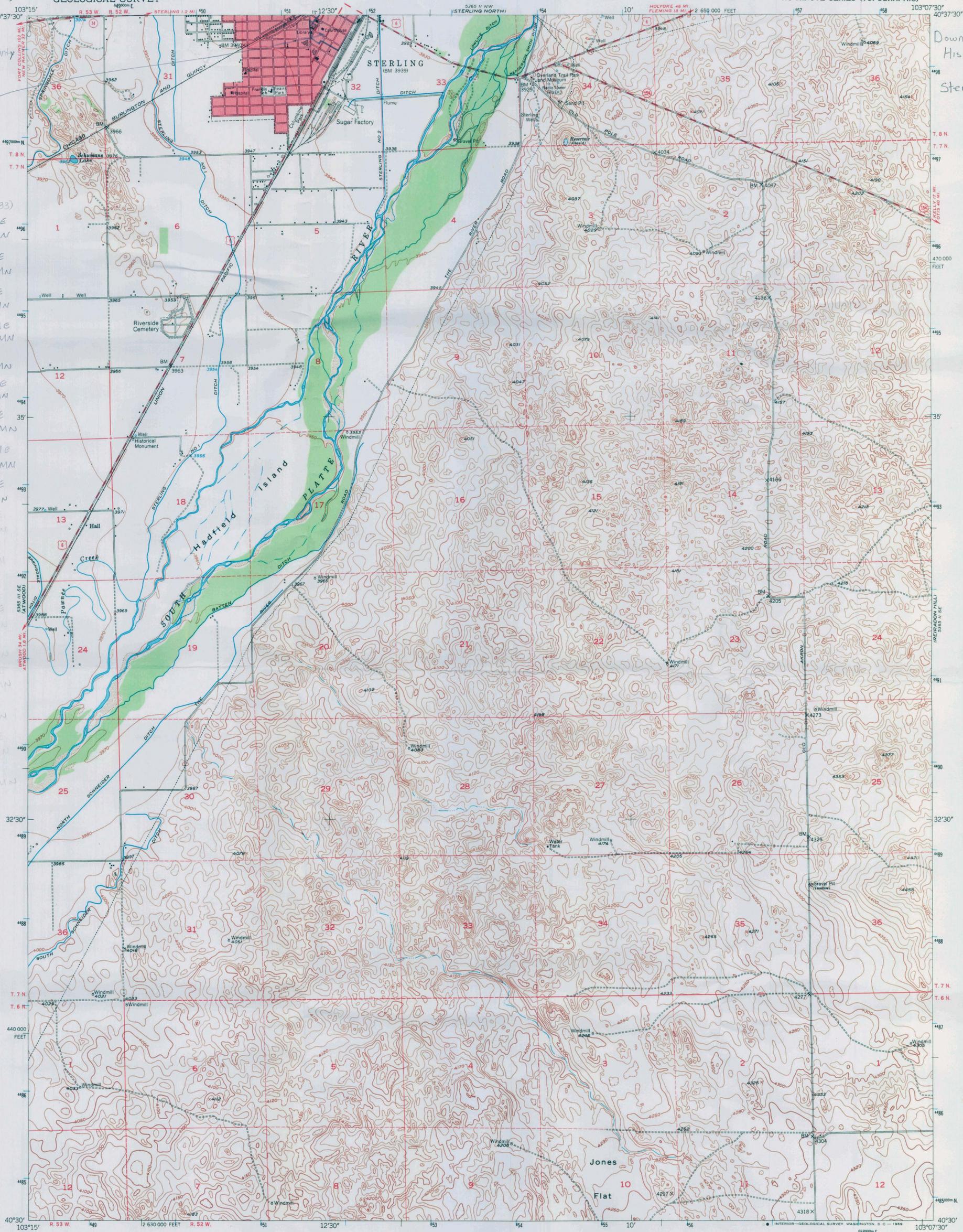
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OCT 17 1952 2100

CO. Logan County  
- Downtown  
Sterling  
Historic  
District

Downtown Sterling  
Historic District  
Sterling, CO

- UTMs  
Zone 13  
(NAD 83)
- 1 651539 ME  
4498829 MN
  - 2 651708 ME  
4498739 MN
  - 3 651864 ME  
4498648 MN
  - 4 651789 ME  
4498576 MN
  - 5 651622 ME  
4498269 MN
  - 6 651293 ME  
4498412 MN
  - 7 651289 ME  
4498604 MN
  - 8 651397 ME  
4498692 MN
  - 9 651750 ME  
4498687 MN
  - 10 651450 ME  
4498151 MN
  - 11 651452 ME  
4498488 MN
  - 12 651544 ME  
4498196 MN
  - 13 651536 ME  
4498384 MN
  - 14 651364 ME  
4498375 MN
  - 15 651700 ME  
4498432 MN
  - 16 651430 ME  
4498420 MN
  - 17 651440 ME  
4498484 MN
  - 18 651446 ME  
4498456 MN



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey as part of the Department of the Interior program for the development of the Missouri River Basin Control by USGS and USC&GS

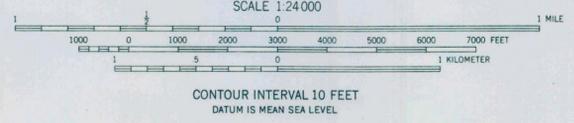
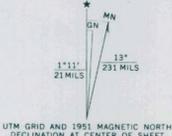
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs taken 1948  
Topography by plane-table surveys 1951

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Colorado coordinate system, north zone

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

Dashed land lines indicate approximate location

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 13, shown in blue



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

USGS  
Historical File  
Topographic Division

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TOPOGRAPHIC DIVISION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	2 LANE 6 LANE	Light-duty
Medium-duty	2 LANE 6 LANE	Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route		State Route

STERLING SOUTH, COLO.  
N4030-W10307.5/7.5  
1951  
AMS 5365 II SW-SERIES W87

1430

JUN 25 1950



# MARSAU'S

AUTO PARTS

United  
Delco  
AUTHORIZED WHOLESALER

PERFORMANCE  
ECONOMY  
POWER

AC

TYPED-RING  
SPARK PLUGS  
MARSAU'S

HONDA  
ENGINES

KOHLER  
engines





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**COMPUTER CENTER**  
SALES & SERVICE

MAIN ST

Happy Holidays

ANTI

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Candy

1001 N

A vintage, two-tiered sign for 'SIMKINS GROCERY' is mounted on a brick wall. The sign features the name in large, bold, orange letters on a white background. The top tier reads 'SIMKINS' and the bottom tier reads 'GROCERY'. The sign is set against a clear blue sky with some bare tree branches visible. The brick wall is made of reddish-brown bricks.

**SIMKINS**  
**GROCERY**



212 26  
**Picture This**  
*Custom Picture Framing*







N 3RD ST

POPLAR ST

LE POST OFFICE  
BERLING CO. 30751-2839

POST OFFICE

BERLING CO. 30751-2839



**ALL  
AMERICAN  
GLASS**

**RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL AUTO**

CALL US TODAY  
FOR AN ESTIMATE OF YOUR  
GLASS NEEDS

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GLASS NEEDS

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GLASS NEEDS

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FOR AN ESTIMATE OF YOUR  
GLASS NEEDS

WOODCRAFT

121

FARM/RANCH  
COMMERCIAL

LIFE/HEALTH  
LONG TERM CARE

HOME/AUTO  
FLOOD

ANNUITY  
BOND







119

OPEN

THE  
CITY OF  
MILWAUKEE  
TRAFFIC  
SIGNALS  
AND  
TRAFFIC  
SIGNAL  
POLES  
ARE  
PROPERTY  
OF  
THE  
CITY  
OF  
MILWAUKEE

24

I ♥ SAKY  
I ♥ SAKY  
I ♥ SAKY

N 3RD ST

BANK OF THE WEST

BANK OF THE WEST

BANK OF THE WEST



LA POSADA  
HOTEL  
DAILY WEEKLY MONTHLY  
RATES  
VACANCY 577 1824

212





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115



STERLI





Sweet  
Cravings  
Bake Shop

BAKE SHOP

OPEN

1000 N. 1st St.

CAVALLINI'S BAKERY



FIBER SPACE  
www.fiberspace.com

N 2nd ST

OPEN

WELCOME

TATTOO & PIERCING

BEWARE OF THE  
Invisible  
Cautions

ONE WAY  
←



Calder

JOURNAL OFFICE SUPPLY



S 4TH ST

STOP

ONE WAY



G & L WOODCRAFT  
Kitchens & Hardwood FINESTRY

WOODCRAFT  
GENERAL CONSTRUCTION and KITCHEN CABINETS

G & L  
Hardwood  
522-0251

G & L WOODCRAFT  
KITCHEN CABINETS

WOODCRAFT

WOODCRAFT







♥ ANTIQUE ♥

CURB

HEATING  
COND...



NO LEFT TURN



Rominger

210





TIMBER'S  
GROCERY

stewart

Stewart  
The South  
Mountain  
Center





RE/MAX  
Homestead, Inc.

328

326  
BROWN & HULBERT, LLC

Miss Jones



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



RIGHT LANE  
MUST  
TURN RIGHT





LACONS

RESTAURANT  
SPRINGER

112

113







WELLS FARGO

WELLS FARGO

ASH ST

S 3RD ST

←



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ONE WAY

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY     Downtown Sterling Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Logan

DATE RECEIVED:           6/28/13                   DATE OF PENDING LIST:   7/23/13  
DATE OF 16TH DAY:       8/07/13                   DATE OF 45TH DAY:       8/14/13  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000592

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:   N   DATA PROBLEM:   N   LANDSCAPE:   N   LESS THAN 50 YEARS:   N  
OTHER:    N   PDIL:            N   PERIOD:       N   PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:   N  
REQUEST:  Y   SAMPLE:           N   SLR DRAFT:   Y   NATIONAL:        N

COMMENT WAIVER:   N

ACCEPT     \_\_\_ RETURN     \_\_\_ REJECT     8-13-13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATION, REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



June 18, 2013

Carol Shull  
Acting Keeper of the National Register  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye "I" Street, N.W. 8<sup>th</sup> Floor (MS 2280)  
Washington, D.C. 20005-5905

Re: National Register Nomination for the Downtown Sterling Historic District, Roughly bordered by Poplar, Front, Ash, and 4th Streets, and Division Avenue, Sterling, Logan County, Colorado (5LO.829)

Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to submit for your review the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Downtown Sterling Historic District, Sterling, Colorado. In accordance with the new submission policy, enclosed please find:

- CD with a PDF nomination for the Downtown Sterling Historic District  
Note: **The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Downtown Sterling Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.**
- CD with TIF images
- Physical photos
- Two physical USGS maps
- Physical nomination with original signature page

The State Review Board reviewed the nomination at its meeting on May 17, 2013. The board voted unanimously to recommend to the State Historic Preservation Officer that the nomination met the criteria for listing in the National Register.

We look forward to the listing of this nomination. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (303) 866-4684 or at [heather.peterson@state.co.us](mailto:heather.peterson@state.co.us).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Heather Peterson".

Heather Peterson  
National & State Register Historian

Enclosures above noted

April 12, 2013



United States of America, Bureau of Land Management  
10200 W. 44th Avenue  
Wheatridge, CO 80033

Re: National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Downtown Sterling Historic District, roughly bounded by Poplar, Front Ash, and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets and Division Avenue (5LO.829), Parcel No. 999909750

Dear Property Owners:

We are pleased to inform you that the Colorado Historic Preservation Review Board will consider the Sterling Historic District for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and Colorado State Register of Historic Properties. The National Register of Historic Places is the Federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. The State Register is Colorado's official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture. These contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of the nation. Properties listed in the National Register are automatically listed in the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties. The State Register is Colorado's official list of historic properties deserving preservation.

Listing of a property or district provides recognition of a community's historic importance and assures protective review of Federal and State projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property. If the property is listed in the National and State Registers certain Federal and State tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions may apply. State Historical Fund grants may also be used for listed properties.

Listing in the National and State Registers does not mean that the State or Federal Government will place limitations on the property. Public visitation rights are not required of owners. The State or Federal government will not attach restrictive covenants to the properties or seek to acquire them.

We invite you to attend the State Review Board meeting on May 17, 2013, which will be held at the History Colorado Center, Auditorium, at 1200 Broadway in Denver. The National Register meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. during which public comments are welcome concerning the eligibility of nominated properties. We hope you can attend. A final agenda for the Review Board meeting will be available the Monday before the meeting date. If you plan to attend the meeting, please contact our office so that we may note your attendance in the agenda.

Should you have any questions about this nomination before the Review Board meeting, please contact Heather Peterson, National and State Register Historian, at 303-866-4684 or [heather.peterson@state.co.us](mailto:heather.peterson@state.co.us)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve W. Turner'.

Steve W. Turner, AIA  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures

- Tentative Agenda
- National Register Criteria
- National Register and Property Owners
- Rights of Owners to Comment
- Results of Listing
- State Register Entry