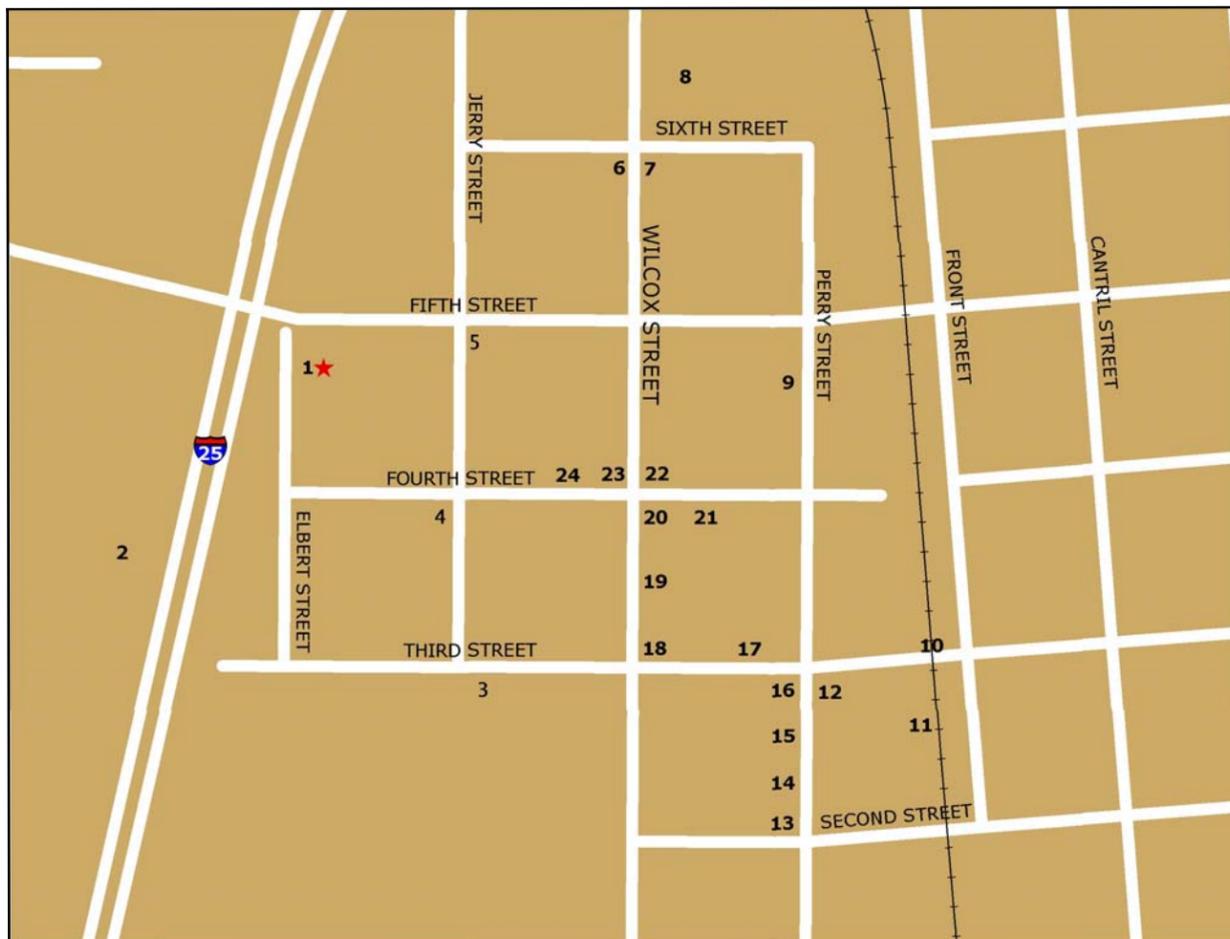


Properties in the Tour

- 1 Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Depot *
- 2 Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Depot
- 3 St. Francis of Assisi/The Old Stone Church Restaurant
- 4 Holcomb-Whitney Hardware Store
- 5 Victoria's House ++
- 6 Leonard House
- 7 522 Wilcox Street
- 8 Douglas County School District Offices
- 9 City Hotel ++
- 10 D & RG Railroad
- 11 Castle Rock Fuel and Feed Elevator
- 12 Douglas County Mercantile Lumber Warehouse

- 13 Saunders House ++
- 14 207 Perry Street
- 15 Owens House ++
- 16 Methodist Episcopal Church
- 17 313 Third Street
- 18 First National Bank of Douglas County/ Masonic Temple *
- 19 300 Block of Wilcox Street
- 20 B & B Café
- 21 Cantril Courthouse
- 22 Bank of Douglas County
- 23 Keystone Hotel/Castle Café *
- 24 Hackett Funeral Parlor

* On National Register of Historic Places
 ++ Locally Landmarked Property



story brick structure was built in 1925 on the site of Douglas County's original courthouse. Lighting fixtures date back to an early design popular during the first days of electrical illumination. The Café, which has been in business since the 1930s, prides itself on its onyx and marble bar, which came from a Leadville saloon, and on the bullet holes still visible in its pressed-tin ceiling, which serve as a memorial to Town Marshal Ray Lewis. The unarmed Marshal was shot and killed in 1946 by an escaped convict resisting arrest. Note: The building maintains its original brick façade and original window and door openings.

21. Cantril Courthouse – 324 Wilcox Street (1875)

At Fourth Street turn right and walk about 100 feet to Douglas County's first courthouse. Constructed at the corner of Wilcox and Fourth Streets in 1875 the two-story, wood-frame structure was moved to the rear of the lot around 1925 where it is still located. Original wood siding has been covered over with newer asphalt shingles. The original wood windows are tall, four-over-



four, double-hung units symmetrically arranged with a center entry facing Fourth Street. It is known as the Cantril Courthouse after William Cantril, the contractor that built it for \$1,350. In 1889, a new and larger

stone courthouse was built in the 300 block of Wilcox. Over the years, this building housed the Castle Rock Record Journal, the First National Bank, a general store, a restaurant, a judge's office and a shoe repair shop.

22. Bank of Douglas County – 402 Wilcox Street (1922)

Walk back to Wilcox and then north across Fourth Street to the former Bank of Douglas County at 402 Wilcox. This building represents one of several older brick commercial buildings designed with large display windows oriented to the street. For much of the mid 20th Century this bank was the ONLY bank in Castle Rock.

S. Miller, Lou Higby and Josef Winkler raised money to lease the Town Hall which opened as a bank again on August 28, 1939. As the Town grew after World War II, the bank expanded and added drive-through facilities. In 1972 the building was refurbished and tripled in size by expanding to the east and north. In March 1996 the Bank of Douglas County was acquired by FirstBank of Douglas County and continues to operate as a FirstBank branch.

23. Keystone Hotel/Castle Cafe – 403 Wilcox Street or 219 and 223 Fourth Street (1901)

Walk west across Wilcox Street to the old Keystone Hotel on the corner of Fourth and Wilcox Streets. Now known as the Castle Café, the structure was built in 1901 from Castle Rock rhyolite. It had thirteen rooms on the second floor with the Tivoli Saloon on the ground floor. A dance hall was built over the bar and during the 1920s, 30s and 40s, residents from around Douglas County attended monthly dances here. In 1996 it was restored and continues to operate as a restaurant with apartments on the second floor.

24. Hackett Funeral Parlor – 213 Fourth Street (1882)

From Wilcox, continue west on Fourth Street to the former Hackett Funeral Parlor at 213 Fourth Street. The two structures at this location, detached in 1900, are connected today by a narrow exterior stairway. Generally through the early 20th Century these buildings were used as adjoining residence and business establishments. The structures were built in 1882 with additions built in the 1970s. While best known as the Hackett Funeral Parlor or Hackett Undertaking, various other businesses have occupied these buildings including a cobbler in 1902. This establishment still retains much of its original appearance.

End of Tour

Continue west on Fourth Street, turn right on Elbert and back to the D&RG Depot Museum.



Start Tour ...



1. Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Depot – 420 Elbert Street (1875)

We begin our tour at the Castle Rock Museum at 420 Elbert Street, housed in the former Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Depot. This restored 1875 depot once handled the passengers and freight traveling to and from Castle Rock. Formerly located on the west side of the tracks, north of Third Street, the railroad depot building was moved to its current location in 1970. The cornice brackets are as elaborate as any seen in Castle Rock. The bay window provided the Station Master a view north and south along the tracks.

2. Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Depot (circa 1900)

From the west side of the Castle Rock Museum, look southwest across I-25 to see the remains of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Depot. This one-story, front-gabled, wood frame structure was built around 1900 in direct competition with the D&RG Depot. In the 1880s the AT&SF shared tracks with the D&RG. The AT&SF built its own tracks in 1887 from Pueblo to Denver on the west side of Plum Creek (west side of I-25).



3. Saint Francis of Assisi/The Old Stone Church Restaurant – 210 Third Street (1888)



Walk south on Elbert, turn left onto Third Street and on the right at 210 Third Street is The Old Stone Church. Saint Francis of Assisi,

Castle Rock's first Catholic Church, was built in 1888 by local stone masons. Dedicated on December 15, 1889, it became a religious center for Catholic families of Douglas County. The church is constructed in a Gothic Revival style of local rhyolite stone with a front gabled main roof and a conical roof over the nave at the rear. By 1966 the small church could no longer handle its growing parish and the congregation moved to a new location east on Highway 86. In 1975 the church was converted into a restaurant.

Incorporated in 1881, Castle Rock offers a charming historic downtown, along with great amenities and excellent shopping. We invite you to explore our community and our history.



Walking Tour Of Historic Downtown Castle Rock, Colorado



2006

Written by
the Town of Castle Rock Historic
Preservation Board

Photographs courtesy of the DCL Douglas County History Research Center and the Castle Rock Museum

4. Holcomb-Whitney Hardware Store – 321 Jerry Street (1887)

Walk north on Jerry Street to 321 Jerry and the site of the former Holcomb-Whitney Hardware store. Built in 1887 it included a loading platform and a boomtown false front. It once housed the Odd Fellows Lodge and the Baptist Church on the second floor. It was converted into a furniture store and later into apartments when damaged by fire. The small structure on the south side was once used for town meetings.



5. Victoria's House (Chamber of Commerce) – 420 Jerry Street (1889)

Continue north on Jerry Street to the Chamber of Commerce building known as Victoria's House. The rhyolite house was built in 1889. An addition was added to the south by the Chamber. Victoria Christensen, a teacher, was known as "a beautiful socialite and leader of women's groups." Her parents bought the house in 1896 and moved in with Victoria and her two siblings. When her mother died in 1917, the house was left to Victoria and her sister, Esther. Two days later Victoria became sole owner by a Quit Claim Deed. Victoria died in the house December 9, 1942.

6. Leonard House (Augustine Grill) – 519 Wilcox Street (1910-12)

Head east on Fifth Street and north on Wilcox to the Leonard House at 519 Wilcox. Despite the large new addition on the north side, the building still retains a popular Castle Rock device of using a drip cap with enclosed gables to prevent moisture damage and to hide the eight-foot line. The building also retains a patterned inverted triangular cut wooden siding.

George and Evelyn Leonard built this house in the early 1900s on lots purchased in 1875 by John Randel for \$2. In 1918 the property was sold to John and Anna Schweiger, owners of the original Happy Canyon Ranch. When John died in 1925, his property was divided among his wife and seven children. Rose, his eldest daughter who married Lester Tuggle, first street and water commissioner and night marshal for the Town of Castle Rock, then lived here. In 1964 Anne and William McConnell bought and restored the old house, converting it into a successful restaurant and gift shop, the Golden Dobbin. Its successor in 1993 was the French Bakery and then Augustine Grill in 1997.



7. 522 Wilcox Street (1912)

Across Wilcox, the building at 522 Wilcox should be noted for the chimney treatments, one decorated with varying levels of brick, the other protected by a metal spark container used to prevent roof fires. This building's shape, roof, windows and dormers represent a basic design found throughout Castle Rock's older homes. This home is similar to 704 Wilcox, varying only in the style of the porch. This former home now houses a cigar store.

8. Douglas County School District Offices – 620 Wilcox Street (1911)

Walk north across Sixth Street. In 1907 a brick High School was constructed in the 600 block of Wilcox Street to handle the growing student population of Castle Rock. In 1909 this brick school burned down and a new rhyolite one was constructed to replace it. In 1961, with another boom in student population, a new Douglas County Senior High School was constructed on Front Street and the school at 620 Wilcox retained grades four through six. After the new Castle Rock Elementary was opened in spring 1984, the Wilcox School became the home of the Douglas County School District's administration offices. During the mid 20th Century an addition of beige brick was added to most of the exterior of the building. The original rhyolite exterior of this 1911 building can still be viewed from the east side.



9. City Hotel – 415-419 Perry Street (1877)

Walk east on Sixth then two blocks south on Perry Street to the City Hotel at 415-419 Perry Street. The hotel was originally built by Thomas Harris in the Town of New Memphis (located where the Douglas County Justice Center now stands along East Plum Creek) in the early 1870s. In 1877 the building was

moved to its present location on what was the main thoroughfare of Castle Rock, only one block from the train depot. Known as the Harris Hotel in New Memphis, it became the Castle Rock Hotel. After Mayor Harris' death in 1884 (he was killed by a runaway steer in the streets of Castle Rock), Philip Crenshaw acquired the hotel and renamed it the City Hotel. Note the original main entryway under the front gable and the original double hung wooden windows evenly spaced on the front and north facades.



10. Denver & Rio Grande Railroad (1871)

Continue south on Perry and turn right onto Third Street. In front of you lie the tracks of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad which reached Castle Rock in 1871. By 1872 the railroad was constructed further southward along Plum Creek.

11. Castle Rock Fuel and Feed Elevator – 420 Third Street (circa 1905)

Facing the railroad tracks turn right to see the most noticeable landmark on the Castle Rock skyline - the Castle Rock Fuel and Feed elevator at 420 Third Street. Castle Rock's banker and benefactor, Philip S. Miller, started the fuel and feed business. There are still Castle Rock residents who remember the special train whistle that signaled that the grain car had arrived at the Fuel & Feed platform to be filled with funneled grain.



12. Douglas County Mercantile Lumber Warehouse – 400 Third Street (circa 1905)

400 Third Street is now "The Barn" and houses about 20 shops selling antiques, art, and collectibles. Built in 1905, the warehouse was the site of Douglas County Mercantile Company until 1942 when Clyde Richardson, a Parker lumberyard owner, bought the building and its contents to operate Richardson Lumber Company for the next 42 years. Later sold and renamed, the framework of the large "Douglas Lumber" sign can still be seen on the roof. This frame warehouse structure retains most of its original windows and doors as well as exterior finishes, wood trim and brick chimney. It is representative of early 20th Century business architecture in Castle Rock and is closely associated with the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad.

13. Saunders House – 203 Perry Street (circa mid-1870s)

Walk one block south on Perry and at Second Street cross over to the west side of Perry. The house at 203 Perry Street dates to the mid 1870s. The Town of Castle Rock was platted in 1874 and the newly created lots were sold at public auction that same year. A man named George Lord attended the sale and purchased two lots located at the northwest corner of Perry and Second Streets. The original house consisted of two rooms on the southeast side of the current structure. The house was purchased in 1882 by Wilbur Waller, one of the signatories to the Articles of Incorporation for the Town in 1881. Waller homesteaded 160 acres in what is now Founders Village and built a frame house on that property prior to 1889. Due to financial difficulties Waller lost his acreage and this house was moved to Castle Rock by 1890 and attached to the northeast side of the house at 203 Perry Street.

Ben Saunders, Jr., a longtime Castle Rock carpenter, and his wife, Bette, purchased the house in 1950. The Saunders added improvements over the years and occupied the house longer than any previous owner.

14. 207 Perry Street (1875)

The next house at 207 Perry Street is perhaps one of the oldest houses in Castle Rock. Samuel M. Dyer built the structure in 1875. Dyer was one of Castle Rock's original settlers and a signatory to the Town's Articles of Incorporation. The house is a one and a half-story front-gabled vernacular structure and is in keeping with the style of early Castle Rock homes. Dyer sold the house in 1877 to James Frank Gardner, considered the "Father of Douglas County" and the founder of Frankstown (today it is Franktown) east of Castle Rock.

Over a dozen individuals have owned 207 Perry Street since the late 19th Century.

15. Owens House – 213 Perry Street (circa late 1870s)

The Owens House was built



in the late 1870s. David Owens, the third owner, purchased the house October 11, 1879. The previous owners used it as a primary residence. Situated on the main business street (Perry) and across from the D&RG Depot, Owens converted it into a fancy luxury hotel. Considered pricey at the time, Owens charged up to \$2 per night. He advertised the hotel as a health resort for people suffering from "lung disease." Owens sold the hotel to his sister in 1888. He died later that year and his funeral was held in the hotel. In 1892 under new ownership, the hotel was renamed the Cottage Hotel or Cottage House. The hotel went bankrupt in 1935. Eventually it was converted into apartments.

16. Methodist Episcopal Church - 221 Perry Street (1887/1922)

In 1887, the Methodists built the first church in Douglas County, which was originally located at the corner of Third and Wilcox. In 1904, the First National Bank of Douglas County paid to move the church building to 221 Perry Street and gave the congregation a \$125 bonus for vacating the lot on Wilcox. Later the wooden church was moved a yet again to the corner of Fourth and Perry, (today the site of the Reyn Rock Apartment complex), where it was eventually destroyed by fire. In 1922 the Methodists built a basement for a new sanctuary at 221 Perry Street, which stood unfinished for 25 years. The new church building was eventually dedicated in 1947. In 1977 a new Methodist church was built on South Street and the congregation moved. The Perry Street building has been subsequently occupied by other churches.

When the Methodists first moved to Perry Street, they built a brick parsonage at 316 Third Street, just around the corner. It has since been covered with stucco and is currently home to the Petit Ballet Studio.

17. 313 Third Street (circa 1908)

Turn west onto Third Street to the structure at 313 Third Street. This one-story frame single storefront with a front gable roof and a false front is a good example of a "boom town" storefront. The building is a colorful reminder of the appearance of most business structures once found in Castle Rock and the "Old West." The first owner of record (1905-19) was Phila Webster. Phila was postmistress of Castle Rock from about 1881 to 1909. The building retains much of its old west character. Note: A square, four-lite casement window on the west appears original.

18. First National Bank of Douglas County/Masonic Temple – 300 Wilcox Street (1904)

Continue west on Third Street to Wilcox Street. The elegant detail on the building at 300 Wilcox anchors the south end of this historic block. The two-story stone building constructed in 1904 was originally The First National Bank of Douglas County until it closed during the Depression in 1933.



In 1937 it was purchased and re-opened by the Masons for Douglas Lodge No. 153 AF and AM. The building features eaves with cornice boxed brackets and frieze decorations. All windows are rectangular with transoms.

Above the second floor windows are panels with a recessed fan design and radiating voussours. The building's walls were constructed of local rhyolite stone. There is a unique double Roman arched front entrance. The style is considered Richardsonian/Romanesque. Look for restoration of the cupola and windows.

19. 300 Block of Wilcox Street (1900 - present)

Continue north on Wilcox. Note the buildings located on the east side of the street from Third to Fourth. Known as the "300 Block of Wilcox," this key row of buildings forms the east side of the historic Town square and contains eleven separate structures. This block is the Town's most visually prominent and historically significant commercial block. This block of Wilcox Street gradually replaced Perry Street as the commercial center of Castle Rock after the stone Courthouse was built on the west side of the street in 1890. Anchored by the Masonic Temple at the south end, the block includes the B&B Café. The buildings between the Café and the Masonic Temple have seen considerable alterations but their uses, as offices mixed with bars, remain the same.

20. B & B Café – 322 Wilcox Street (circa 1925)

The B & B Café, at 322 Wilcox Street, accentuates the small-town atmosphere of Castle Rock. This one-