

Architect: Dryden, David W.

Birth/Death Dates: 1861-1915

Practice Dates: 1880-1912 (Denver 1886-1912)

Biographical Information

David W. Dryden was born in 1861 and began his architectural practice in 1880. He came to Denver from Greenburg, Indiana, in 1886. During Dryden's early Denver years, his work included the Frank Taylor House (1900) at 945 Pennsylvania, a Denver Landmark. He also was the architect for 23 Denver public schools over a ten-year period. He assisted with the design for Villa Park, Cheltenham, Boulevard, Smedley, and Lincoln schools and was solely responsible for others, including Steele, Grove, Webster, Columbine, Alcott, Berkeley, and the old, demolished Gove Junior High. Evans Elementary and North High School are his most noteworthy structures.

Dryden retired from architectural practice about 1912 due to ill health. He died March 18, 1915, of Bright's disease in Denver's Mercy Hospital, which he had designed.

Credited Buildings

Building Name	Location	Site No.	Date	Assessment
Unnamed House	1331 Vine St., Denver		1891	Wyman Local HD
Unnamed House	1460 High St., Denver		1892	Wyman Local HD
Lincoln Elementary School (assisted in design)	715 S. Pearl St., Denver	5DV2070	1900	Denver Local Landmark
Smedley Elementary School	4250 Shosone St., Denver	5DV2072	1902	Denver Local Landmark
Frank Taylor House	945 Pennsylvania, Denver	5DV5403	1900	Denver Landmark
Unnamed Terrace Building	303-315 W. Irvington Pl./55-63 Cherokee St., Denver	5DV51	1904	Baker HD
Boulevard School (assisted in design)	2351 Federal Blvd., Denver	5DV346	1904	Witter Cofield Local HD
Steele Elementary School	3210 S. Marion, Denver	5DV2087	1913	Denver Local Landmark
Berkeley School (1923 addition)	5025 Lowell Blvd., Denver	5DV4904	1923	Denver Local Landmark
Evans Elementary School	1115 Acoma St., Denver	5DV155	1904	Denver Local Landmark
North High School	2960 Speer Blvd., Denver	5DV89	1911	National Register
Corona School/ Dora Moore School (addition)	846 Corona, Denver	5DV185	c. 1909	National Register

**COLORADO ARCHITECTS
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Undated Buildings				
Alcott School	41st & Tennyson, Denver			Demolished
Cheltenham School (assisted in design)	Denver			Demolished
Columbine School	Denver			Demolished
Gove Junior High School	Denver			
Mercy Hospital	Denver			
Villa Park School (assisted in design)	Denver			Demolished
Webster School	Denver			Demolished

Information Sources

Noel, Thomas J. and Barbara S. Norgren. Denver: The City Beautiful and its Architects, 1893-1941. (Denver: Historic Denver, Inc., 1987).

Site Files Database, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society, Denver.

Widmann, Nancy. The Baker Historic District. Denver: Historic Denver Inc., 1999.

Wilk, Diane. The Wyman Historic District. Denver: Historic Denver Inc., 1995.

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