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# Historic

POSTCARD  
 DOWNTOWN

T  
O  
W  
N



South Main  
 Sheridan  
 Walking  
 Tour



# IMPORTANT DATES IN SHERIDAN'S HISTORY

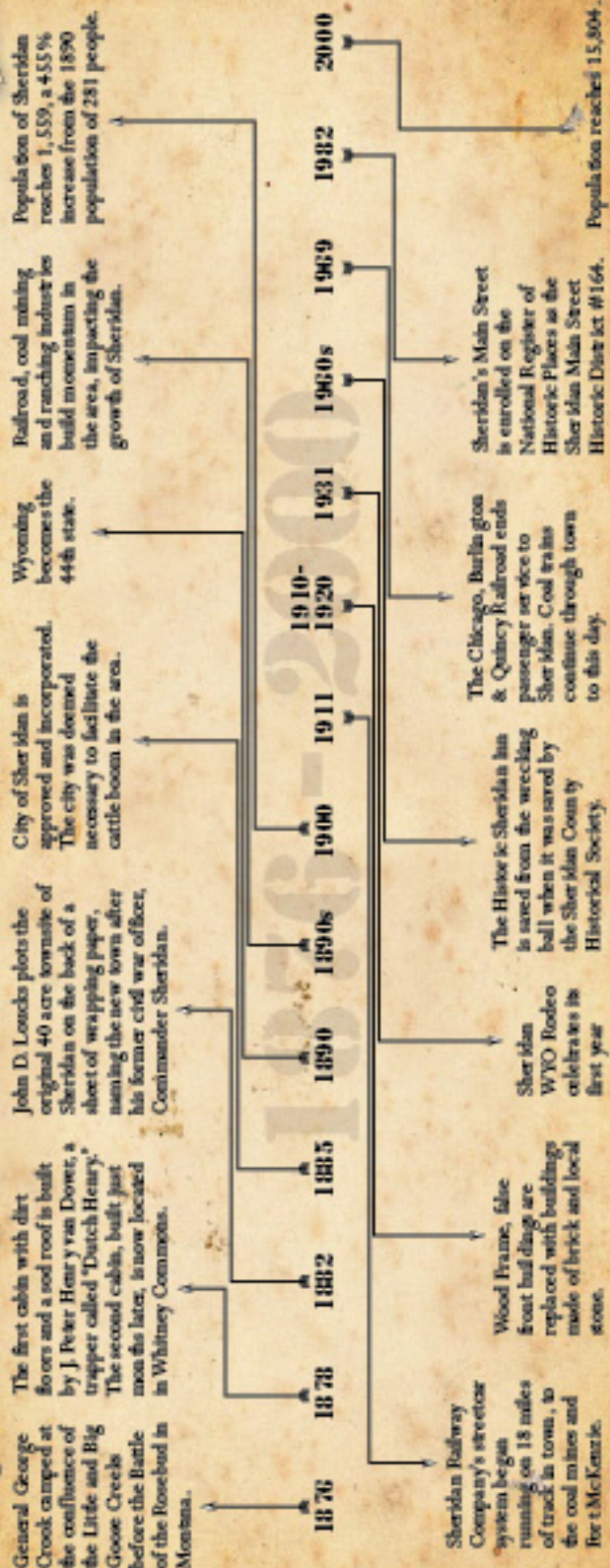


Photo Courtesy of Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library Wyoming Room

## Local history reflects the history of the West.

It shows the evolution of independent, isolated, self-sufficient communities increasingly becoming linked to the larger world through transportation, mining, and ranching. The Historic Downtown Sheridan Walking Tour traces these developments through our community by looking at the important historic structures in the Sheridan Main Street Historic District. This tour will focus on the most historically significant businesses and structures of Sheridan, reflecting upon their positions in the community over the years. The architecture of the district is typical of early Western towns. Mixed elements of classical styles are combined in individual buildings to produce what is called the "Plains Style," with each building having its own unique design. This style addresses the heritage of both the West and our own community's traditional businesses and citizens.

The photographs in this tour are courtesy of Marilyn Spear Bilyeu, the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming, the Rochford Studio CW Collection, Anita Nichols, and the Sheridan County Historical Society Museum, unless otherwise noted.

The 2010 edition of the Historic Downtown Sheridan Walking Tour is based in part on the original walking tour compiled by Christy Love with later research contributions from Linda Prill, Edre Maier, Jane Rice, Helen Graham, Linda Grosso, Misty Moore, and Molly Goldsmith.

## BEGIN THE TOUR AT THE INTERSECTION OF BROADWAY AND 5TH STREETS



1

201 E. 5th St.

### ORIGINAL WOOD DEPOT



This red wooden building was the original Sheridan depot for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. Built in 1892, the building was located just across the street from the Sheridan Inn, making food and lodging easily accessible for rail passengers. The depot was moved to its current location in 1910 to accommodate the new brick station and became the freight station. It was recently restored to reflect its original exterior and interior.

2

856 Broadway

### SHERIDAN INN

(1893 Grill & Spirits)



Photo Courtesy of Sheridan County  
Palmer Public Library Wyoming Room

... cont'd from #2

Built by the Sheridan Land Company and opened May 27, 1893, the Sheridan Inn played an important role in early Sheridan. It was the social center of the area, bringing together area ranchers, townspeople, and rail passengers, along with being a popular stagecoach stop. The Inn was well known for its association with Buffalo Bill Cody, its owner from 1894-1901, who is said to have auditioned acts for his Wild West Show on the large wrap around porch. The business was closed in 1965 until the Sheridan County Historical Society rallied the community to save the building and the dining room was reopened in 1967. In 1990 the Sheridan Heritage Center formed to save the historic site from the bulldozer once again. Now the Sheridan Inn is known for its connection to Buffalo Bill and its status as a National Historic Landmark.

## WALK WEST ON 5TH STREET AND TURN SOUTH ON GOULD

3

812 Gould

### SHERIDAN INN LIVERY STABLES



This block was the original site of W.F. Cody Transportation Company, Buffalo Bill's own stagecoach line to the Black Hills. The first building was built in 1894 for the business, which ran from this location from 1894 until 1901. It was also used for a long period of time as the Sheridan Inn's livery stables. In 1923 the old stables were torn down and today's building with its stone exterior and large windows was built just down the block to house a garage. While it has changed hands over the years, it has continued to be used for transportation purposes, including automobile repair and body shops, car sales, and as a bus stop, fulfilling the building's original purpose of bringing people into Sheridan.

**4****757 Gould****SHOTGUN HOUSE****(PK Custom Stained Glass)**

Built before 1903, this building has been both a restaurant and a private residence. It is most notable for its architectural style. Called the shotgun house, it is representative of narrow residences that have no hallways, only rooms connected with doorways in the same location throughout the house. These residences are called shotgun houses, because it is said that you could stand in the front doorway and shoot a gun through the house and not hit anything due to the aligned doorways. There are many shotgun houses located in this neighborhood, dating from the early 1900s and used as railroad housing.

**WALK EAST ON 4TH STREET****5****758 Broadway****THE BURLINGTON BEANERY****(VFW)**

While this building currently houses the VFW, it was originally deeply connected to the train station just across the street. Beginning in 1908, the original structure held stores frequented by rail passengers and customers of the Sheridan Inn across the street. From 1913 until the mid-1950s, the building housed the Helsberg Bros Restaurant and Billiards, also called the Burlington Beanery. This was a popular restaurant for both railroad passengers and workers alike. Due to this deep connection to Sheridan's history, the VFW is still often referred to as "The Beanery."

**CROSS BROADWAY****6****841 Broadway****BRICK DEPOT****(Rails Brews & Cues)**

Photo Courtesy of Coffee Pastard Collection, Sheridan County Fairer Public Library Wyoming Room

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad was both a freight and passenger service that began in the 1880's. The red brick, Classical-Revival style station was built in 1912 and incorporated several businesses over the years, including the addition of the W U Telegraph Co. in 1930. The building remained a passenger station until rail service was discontinued in 1969. The building has recently been converted to restaurant space.

**PROCEED SOUTH ON BROADWAY****7****303 Broadway****SHERIDAN COMMERCIAL CO.**

Photo courtesy of the Mordie Brubaker Collection, Sheridan County Fairer Public Library Wyoming Room

... cont'd from #7

Originally formed in 1892, the wood building was built in 1887 by Edward A. Whitney with a 1902 addition. The site contained a general store, with products ranging from groceries to hardware, even including its own butcher in the rear of the building. The upstairs contained rented rooms. Although the building kept its status as a general store, it hit hard times as more businesses like it opened in town. Ellsworth Gwinn was hired on three separate occasions to restore the business to good standing and became manager in 1911. The original building burned down in 1915. The Sheridan Post reported: "it was one of the most spectacular daytime fires that ever occurred in Sheridan and was witnessed by thousands of people who crowded in the street in all directions. Luckily there was but a small breeze, else several other buildings in the wholesale district might have gone with the Commercial." While the fire devastated the building, John Kendrick rebuilt the store in 1917, coming in as an investor. The building now features the Kendrick "K" in its frieze, connecting it to several other buildings in town. Not only does this building function as the oldest business in the same location, it also unites two important Sheridan families in one business.

## PROCEED WEST ON ALGER

8

107 E. Alger

### HAMMER CHEVROLET

Although this block once housed another automobile business in 1920, it is known now as the location of Hammer Chevrolet. The business keeps close ties to its past through the 1950s era signage and date of founding, 1937, present on the buildings exterior. The business began as Smith Close Farm Implements in 1936 before becoming Fuhrmeister-Engle Inc. Agricultural Implements, which was in business for a short period of time. The business was officially known as Hammer-Staunton Agricultural Implements and General Motors in 1942. The partnership ended in the late 1940s with the business transitioning strictly to automobiles.

## CONTINUE WEST ON ALGER

9

301-321 N. Main

### HELVEY HOTEL AND CADY OPERA HOUSE

(Sanford's)



This elaborate and massive stone building with its Romanesque architecture originally had a third story, which housed the Cady Opera House. It was built in 1893, but the third floor burned in 1906 and was never rebuilt. Ironically, the show playing at the time of the fire was entitled "The Runaway Match." Many businesses have occupied the street level space, such as a grocery store, the post office, and a temporary courthouse.

10

237 N. Main

### HISTORIC SHERIDAN PRESS BUILDING

(Multi-Tenant Building. Current Second Floor Tenants: Centennial Collaborative Inc. & Mountain View Building Inc. ("MVB"))



... cont'd from #10

The front page of the March 1, 1918 edition of the Sheridan Post announced the opening of the new City Furniture building built by John B. Kendrick on north Main St. Under the headline, "Establishment that Is A Model of its Kind," one traveler quoted, "I am simply astounded to find such an establishment in a city of this size. I speak conservatively when I say there is nothing to equal it between Omaha and Spokane." The speaker went on to say that not even in Denver could a structure as impressive be found. The building was described as "magnificent," "brilliantly lighted," "artistically conceived," and "a model of perfection." An exceptionally high ceiling allowed for a balcony to split the main floor, running the full perimeter of the room. City furniture occupied the structure until the year 1942 when Brouillette's furniture moved in for a short period of time, and later The Sheridan Press daily newspaper published from the building between 1945 and 1978. It was discovered in 1979 that the basement floor had been lowered to accommodate the tall printing presses.

11

221 North Main Street

### THE WHITE SWAN BARBER SHOP

The White Swan Barber Shop is in the first City Directory in 1907, but stories passed down by patrons put the shop founding at 1904. The White Swan Barber Shop has been in the same location since its founding. With barber chairs that were manufactured in the 1920's, the White Swan is still a place where you can get a shave with a straight razor and pass stories back and forth. For many Americans the image of a man tipped back in a barber chair with shaving cream spread on his face brings back memories of a simpler time, or of a carefree childhood. For a trip down memory lane to the golden age of barbering, visit The White Swan Barber Shop.

12

55 E. Grinnell Plaza

### CITY HALL



Photo Courtesy of Coffee Pursard Collection, Sheridan County Fairer Public Library Wyoming Room

... cont'd from #12

A handsome brick building with an entry flanked by pillars, Sheridan's City Hall was built in 1910. This building replaced the town hall at 112 N. Main, in a location near where the original wood framed city hall was located at the intersection of Grinnell and Main. The town hall continued to function as the fire station. The original fire bell from the old fire station and town hall now sits in front of City Hall as a testament to where the city government used to be located.

### RETURN TO MAIN STREET AND WALK SOUTH



13

171 N. Main

### IDEAL HOTEL

(Just Jaded, Foot of the Big Horns & Sheridan College  
Downtown)



In 1888 Peter Demple constructed a two story red brick building at this location for the newly formed county government. The courthouse offices were located on the main floor and the second floor was used for dances. Two years later, Demple and T.C. Diers opened the Citizen's State Bank at this location. The bank survived until 1923. Other businesses at this location were the Chinese Café in 1911, the Ideal Hotel and Café, and the Dutch Lunch Café. The Ideal Hotel was one of Sheridan's famous houses of "ill repute" until 1960. It was also scandalously rumored to have had ties to the mob, because a mysterious plane from Billings, Montana would fly in every week to pick up the receipts from the

Hotel. The current building was constructed in 1965.

14

151 N. Main

**MINT BAR**



In 1907 the Mint Bar opened for business in the heart of downtown Sheridan. At that time, ice was delivered in horse-drawn wagons to the bar's ice box, and bartenders wore long white aprons, serving drinks across a mahogany bar. During prohibition, a "speakeasy" was quietly operated in the back room. Upon repeal in 1933, the Mint Bar reopened and an addition was built on the back of the building to make room for slot machines, roulette wheels, and gaming tables. The Mint was completely redecorated in the late 1940s in the rustic style seen today. "Meet you at the Mint" is still the by-word of cowboys, ranchers, and dudes in Sheridan.

## WALK EAST ON LOUCKS

15

117-121 N. Main

**HOLSTEIN BLOCK**

(Davis Gallery & The Men's Shop)

One of Sheridan's oldest buildings and known as the Holstein Block, the property was purchased and the building was built by investor John Holstein in 1892. A variety of businesses have operated from the structure since. Most notably, these include Angiomette's Dress Shop, the Bison Bar, and The Men's Shop.

16

109 N. Main

**KENDRICK BUILDING**

(The Best Out West Mall)



John B. Kendrick, a governor and U.S. Senator, commissioned this building that became Sheridan National Bank in 1914, marking it with the distinctive Kendrick "K" at the top of the structure. Also known as the Jim Lamb building, it was used as a skating rink and dance hall. Later, the corner space was occupied by Woolworths. The structure had glass panels on the Brundage Street sidewalk to let light into the basement, which runs partially under the street. Be sure to notice the old clock on the corner of the building. It is a twin to one found on Santa Monica Blvd. in Hollywood, California.

17

55 N. Main

**DIEFENDERFER AND DINWIDDIE HARDWARE**

(Oliver's)

The hardware business of Brooks and Diefenderfer in Sheridan dates back to at least 1888, Dinwiddie later buying Brooks' interest and changing the name to Diefenderfer and Dinwiddie Hardware. Built in 1919, the stone Diefenderfer and Dinwiddie Hardware store was constructed on the site of the frame hardware store, and remodeled in the early 1960s, housing a clothing store and later Brown Drug Store. Restoration in the mid-1990s returned the building to its original design. Reminiscing on D & D Hardware, one of Sheridan's life-long residents was featured in Sheridan Press under the headline "Bats Swarmed About Kerosene Lamps that Lit Main St. Back in 1888": "... when evening came the men would take fishing poles from [the D & D Hardware] store front and knock down the bats that flew around those old kerosene street lamps that set up on posts."

18

**35 N. Main**  
**NEW YORK STORE**



Stevens and Fryberger originally started their dry goods business as the "New York Store" in 1895 at 360 N. Main. In 1908 Stevens and Frybergers moved their store to its current location and continued to operate it as the "New York Store," at what was considered to be one of the best pieces of property in the downtown at that time. The largest department store in northern Wyoming, the women's clothing selection was renowned for top fashions of the day. While Stevens Fryberger operated up until the mid-1990s, it continues to advertise in brickwork the classic reputation of the New York Store at the top of the building.

19

**1 N. Main**  
**GILLETTE BUILDING**  
**(P.O. News and Flagstaff Café, Kraft's Jewelry, and Special Occasions)**

The original Post Office Book and News Stand was located on Brundage before the Federal Building was built and the post office was moved. In 1907 the store was run by Emma V Shields, an unusual position for a woman at the time. When the Gillette Building was finished circa 1910, the Post Office News Stand and Cigar Store moved into the prime space on the corner of Main and Loucks. While the tenants of the other two properties located within the block have changed over time to include Tailor Fred Reineke, Sheridan Beauty College, Goar's Shoe Store, and Sheridan County Farm Bureau, the corner has always belonged to P.O. News.

**WALK EAST ON LOUCKS**



20

**45 E. Loucks**  
**THE FEDERAL BUILDING**  
**(Perkins Foundation & Sierra Club)**



Built in 1910 at a cost of \$210,000, the Federal Building replaced the earliest post office with this three story stone building. Its façade is reminiscent of a time when official buildings were beautifully built and inspired community and governmental pride. The building contained the post office, U.S. District Attorney's Office, District Court, U.S. Marshalls, Red Cross, the Forest Service, and the U.S. Civil Service Exam Board. The building was closed in favor of a newer post office, which is located just across the street from the old location. Now, the building houses various non-profits and offices.

**RETURN TO MAIN STREET, HEADING SOUTH**

**21****1 S. Main****J.H. CONRAD AND CO. GENERAL STORE****(Hospital Pharmacy)**

Constructed in 1883 and the only false front building remaining on Sheridan's Main Street, the structure originally served as Sheridan's first general store and is the oldest building in Sheridan's Historic Downtown District. The false front was typical for buildings in western pioneer towns. The building housed multiple general stores, including J.H. Conrad and Hanna & Henschke. At one time, it had a large blackboard claiming, "We sell everything from knitting needles to threshing machines." It was told, "Mr. Henschke always had a barrel of pickles and one of pickled fish, which lent a particular odor. . ." The Conrads were bankers, mercantilists, and cattlemen. They grazed thousands of cattle from the Platte River to the Yellowstone River. Bernard Thomas, a local artist who became well known throughout the country due to his murals, painted the current mural on the building.

**22****17 S. Main****ERNST'S SADDLERY****(Glitter)**

Started in 1902 by Otto F. Ernst, the saddle and harness shop required help from the entire family. In 1908 the business began its time at this location where the family business remained until 1976. With the rise of the automobile, Ernst thought the days of saddles and harnesses were numbered, so he converted a part of the building into a vulcanizing and re-treading plant and became a distributor for Diamond Tires. He featured the largest stock of automobile tires and accessories in Wyoming. In 1924 the tire business was discontinued, and he went back to catering to the traditional saddle and harness business with western clothing and

... cont'd from #22

sporting goods being added to the stock. For years Ernst's Saddlery drew ranchers, tourists, and dudes into its atmosphere of an old time saddle shop.

**23****105 S. Main****KEENAN BUILDING****(HUB-BHJ Insurance)**

This is the site of Sheridan's first hotel, the Grand Central. The grand opening of the original wood framed hotel was celebrated July 3, 1883 with a ball featuring wild turkey, bear meat and a dance that lasted from dusk well into the next day. The structure on site now was built in 1916 by Dick Keenan, president of a coal company in Dietz, Wyoming.

**CROSS MAIN STREET AND PROCEED SOUTH**

24

224 S. Main

**SHERIDAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

Placed on the National Register of Historic Places, this courthouse was built for a total sum of \$55,400.55 and was completed in 1905. The building located on the southwest corner of the property was added in 1913 at a cost of \$14,200 and served as the county jail and sheriff's residence. There is an underground tunnel that connects the jail to the courthouse.

**WALK NORTH ON MAIN STREET**

25

100 S. Main

**WESTERN HOTEL**

(Caterpillar Clubhouse &amp; Preschool)



Photo Courtesy of Sheridan County Public Library

A frame structure built in 1887, the Windsor Hotel was one of Sheridan's first hotels, and can be seen in most early pictures of downtown Sheridan. In 1896 James Birchby replaced the Windsor with the brick structure seen today. Ed Towns operated the building under the name Hotel Towns, and later the Great

... cont'd from #25

Western Hotel. Built from mining revenue, the Western Hotel once housed a saloon, barbershop, movie theater, and a spacious lobby. Sheridan's trolley car system operated from the Western Hotel, traveling to the coal mines and Fort Mackenzie.

**WALK WEST ON  
WORKS STREET**

26

100W. Works

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

First Congregational Church,  
Sheridan, Wyoming.

Photo Courtesy of College Park and Columbia, Sheridan County Historical Public Library WY Room

Built in 1892 on Courthouse Hill, the church was moved in 1902 to make room for the new courthouse. The old wood frame church was moved again in 1912 to become the Second Baptist Church. After it was moved, the current brick church was built and continues to be used as the First Congregational Church.

**CROSS WORKS AND PROCEED WEST**

27

215 W. Works

**FIRST METHODIST CHURCH**

Photo Courtesy of Sheridan County Public Library Wyoming Room

The First Methodist Church was built in the early 1890s. The current church was built with additional classrooms and a gymnasium in 1923. In 1890 The Sheridan Post building suffered a fire, and several of the Ladies of the Methodist Church entered the building to save newspaper property. This act of heroism caused the newspaper's insurance company to buy the bell for the bell tower of the new Methodist Church.

**RETURN TO MAIN  
STREET AND  
WALK NORTH**


28

4 S. Main

**THE COW BOY SALOON****(First Interstate Bank)**

The original building on this site was the Cow Boy Saloon. The building was then used as a drug store operated by Sheridan's first doctors Wilbur F. Green and B.F. Kuney. Edelman's drug store later occupied the frame structure and the final occupant was Kelly Tire Store. It was torn down to make way for the Whitney Trust Building. Built in 1925, the Whitney Trust Building was purchased by the Bank of Commerce in 1945 and "face lifted" in 1950. B.F. Perkins was the first president of the bank.

29

42 N. Main

**LOTUS THEATER****(WYOTheater)**

Originally called the Lotus, this theater opened in 1923. At one time, there was a Greek restaurant also named the Lotus adjoining it. This was only one of six theaters located in Sheridan. The Lotus was well known for the vaudeville acts that performed there. Its name changed to the WYO in 1941.

30

112 N. Main

**TOWN HALL AND FIRE STATION**

(Beaver Creek Saloon)



This building housed arched doors through which the horses and fire wagons passed can still be seen. The second floor was used for the police department and town courtrooms. Located behind the building was the early jail, built of corrugated iron. Prisoners escaped as fast as they were confined; consequently many considered the jail to merely be a "pest house." The building was originally topped with a large cupola including a bell and a flagpole, which was prominent in early photos of Main Street. One third of this building was originally chopped off so that Montgomery Ward could have two full lots.

CONTINUE NORTH



31

122 N. Main

**BANK OF COMMERCE**

(Sara Hurst Law Offices)



Built in 1892, The Bank of Commerce was located here from 1894-1904. The bank and the building to its north were built in 1894 as a block through an agreement with the bank and J. Frank Heald, a jeweler who came to Sheridan in 1887. It contains elements of the Beaux Arts Style, including the projecting pavilion entrance with columns.

32

138 N. Main

**PALACE CAFÉ**

The Palace Café has the honor of being one of the businesses to have remained in the same location on Main Street for the longest period of time, opening for business in 1910. Both floors were used as a restaurant. From photographs, it is evident that the establishment was rather elegant with white tableclothes and waiters dressed in white aprons.

**33**

172-176 N. Main

**METZ-LONABAUGH BLOCK**

(Java Moon, Over the Moon, &amp; Big Horn Mountain Sports)

Built by Judge Metz for his law office, the building was conveniently located across the street from Sheridan's original frame courthouse on the corner of Grinnell and Main. In 1926 the structure was occupied by a dress shop called the Toggery Shop. On November 1, 1926, Geneva Collett, sister to Sheridan's most famous "soiled dove," Madam Pearl, entered the Toggery Shop and shot Mattie Tidwell who was engaged to be married to the sisters' brother Robert. Geneva was the first woman in Wyoming to be sentenced to life in prison, where she died years later of a heart attack.

**34**

184 N. Main

**KING'S SADDLERY**

Founded in 1899 as Henn & Holland clothing, this site now houses King's Saddlery in the 1918 building. Internationally known for its ropes and saddles, King's Saddlery was opened in 1963 by Don King. His trophy saddles tooled with King's favored motif, the wild rose, can be seen in the Cowboy Hall of Fame, the Museum of the American Cowboy, and the ProRodeo Hall of Champions. In addition to several of the world's best cowboys, collectors of King saddles and other stamped leather items include Queen Elizabeth, Arab sheiks, and politicians like Ronald Reagan. In 1991 King was recognized as an artist by the National Endowment for the Arts alongside American Blues-figure B.B. King. Behind the saddle store is the King's Saddlery Museum housing wagons, old or famous saddles, historic photographs and posters, and leather-working tools and tack. The King Museum is open to the public at no charge.

**35**

206 N. Main

**MEYER-BARR BLOCK**

(Sheridan Stationery Books &amp; Gallery)

The Meyer-Barr Block was erected in 1901 and in 1908 housed a restaurant with furnished rooms above. Between 1910 and 1917, the Lobby Saloon was downstairs and the Eagles Hall above. 1923 saw the Sheridan Music Co. share the building with the Knights of Columbus, and from 1927 until 1954 the Heimann Commercial College was preparing young people for the work place. Sheridan Stationery Books and Gallery opened at this location in 1957.

**36**

226 N. Main

**PERET & LUCE**

Built by A.M. Halbert, one-time mayor of Sheridan, this building shows the decorative possibilities of cast iron. Looking for a fresh new look on a building, an owner could change the look of their structure by placing a new façade over the existing one. The Halbert Brothers' Sheridan Mercantile was located here in 1907. In 1910 Peret & Luce, a business operating in Sheridan since 1889, moved to the building.

**37**

254 N. Main

**ANTLERS ROOMS AND BAR**

(Brian's Boot &amp; Shoe)

Built in 1910 and remodeled in 1985, this building functioned as Antlers Rooms and Bar, as well as Paul Mitrenga Billiards in the 1930s. Among other hotels, Antlers Rooms was also a place from which one of Sheridan's many "madams" operated her business.

38

264 N. Main

**RAINBOW BAR**

This building was originally occupied by Oscar Nelson's Opera Saloon. The Nelson name can still be seen on the building façade. The Rainbow Bar and Elgin Rooms later opened and were operated very effectively in this location, along with other nearby hotels, by a "business woman" in one of the world's oldest professions. At the back of the Rainbow Bar was the last of Sheridan's two-story outhouses.

**WALK WEST ON ALGER TO EXPLORE THE SHERIDAN BREWERY EXECUTIVE HOMES AND WHITNEY COMMONS PARK OR CONTINUE WALKING NORTH ON MAIN**

39

300 Block W. Alger

**SHERIDAN BREWERY EXECUTIVE HOMES**

(Privately Owned)

This block was originally owned by Sheridan Brewery Co, which was located where Whitney Commons now is. The Brewery was founded by Arnold Tschgiri, George Paul, and Peter Demple in 1887. The original structures on this block were built between 1910 and 1922 as a part of the Farnham Addition. These properties provided housing for the brewery's managers who frequently moved between all of the houses. Most notable, Peter and George Demple lived in both 336 and 429 in the 1940s.

40

306 N. Main

**PERKINS BUILDING**

(Carroll Realty)



... cont'd from #40...

The Bucket of Blood Saloon was constructed in 1892 and was, at that time, the red light district where proper ladies feared to tread. However, in just a few years, society had changed and the new St. Nicholas Hotel opened (previously known as the Occidental). According to the Sheridan Enterprise in 1897, "The St. Nicholas opened under the new management New Year's night when a grand spread was made to which a large number of guests were invited. Over 130 covers were laid and the menu, which would have been a credit to any metropolitan hostelry, was highly appreciated and thoroughly enjoyed, together with the inspiring strains of music from the Sheridan Philharmonic Orchestra." After 1908, B.F. Perkins, president of the Bank of Commerce, built the building standing today. The Perkins Building, or Crescent Hotel, was well-known for its good restaurant, music, and dancing through the 1950s.

41

340-342 N. Main

**CARROLL'S FURNITURE**

Founded in September of 1919 by Bob Carroll and Bob Thirlwell, the furniture business operated under the understandable name of "Bob's Place," and from its current address since 1925. The needs of the people were foremost in the partners' minds, and, as some were pressed for ready cash during the depression, the Bobs found themselves taking in livestock, buggies, wagons, saddles, and other items for trade. For this reason, behind the store was a barn and corral from which livestock and equipment were sold. In 1925 Carroll purchased Thirlwell's interest; the business took on its current name, with sons Cliff and Bill Carroll taking over in 1931. The second floor became the home of KWYO radio station and Big Horn Broadcasting. Cliff recalls the days of trading furniture for livestock and tells the story of coming back to the office for lunch to find a goat eating from his wastebasket. In 1967 a fire devastated the building and its merchandise. More than 50 firemen from Sheridan, Big Horn, and Tongue River plus volunteers battled the fire for 38 hours.

42

348 N. Main

**HOTEL REX**

(ABC Signs)

Built in 1907, this structure was a bowling alley on the first floor and the second floor served as the Palm Theater, boasting a "canvas scenery curtain." In 1918 it became the Hotel Rex and was possibly the most well-known and longest running house of ill repute in Sheridan. With twenty rooms, a parlor, a communal

... cont'd from #42

bathroom, and the proprietor's headquarters, the Hotel Rex housed 3-5 working ladies under their Madam at all times. The hotel owes most of its fame to the legendary Madam Pearl Logan who owned the Rex for thirty years, making it the last operation to be shut down for "lewd conduct" in 1960. In spite of its reputation, the Rex was also a rooming house for ranch hands and sheepherders. These men would leave their money with Pearl rather than risk carrying it with them in local bars, many of which were noted for taking advantage of their customers.

43

360-366 N. Main

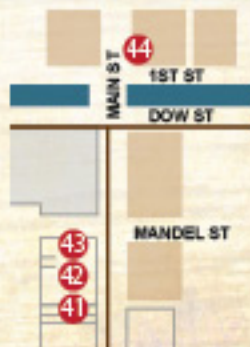
**ORIGINAL NEW YORK STORE**

(Alltel & Quiznos)



The New York Store was started at this location in 1895 and benefited greatly from being located between the railroad and the creek. All the girls from the nearby red light district were the best paying customers and Saturday night usually meant a sellout at the store. The girls would come in the store and excuse themselves to turn and fetch cash from their stockings. In 1908 the New York Store moved to 35 N. Main and continued to operate from a grander structure.

**CROSS MAIN STREET & PROCEED NORTH**



44

511 N. Main

**THE STORK BUILDING AND THE VALENTAN HOTEL**

(OK Corral)

Built in the 1910s, this building was home to the Stork family and the Valentan Hotel. Considered to be "pioneers" in Sheridan, the Storks made their way to Wyoming from England around 1900. Harry Stork opened a coal mine north of Sheridan. He died in the building in 1916, while his wife, Helen, continued to hold the property until 1945. Helen took in various boarders over the years, keeping furnished rooms on the property, occasionally used for various "ladies of the night" and their customers, along with a restaurant. This practice continued until the building was sold. Helen Stork died in 1948 at 87 years of age.

**CROSS MAIN STREET AND CONTINUE NORTH**



45

848 N. Main

**THE ICE CREAM FACTORY**

(Hocus Focus Tattoo)

Built in the late 1910s, this stone and brick building has housed a multitude of different businesses over the years. In 1920 it was the location of a creamery specializing in ice cream. This business returned to the site in the 1940s after turns as a warehouse for Marshall Transfer and Storage and a feed store with private residences.

**CONTINUE NORTH**

46

850 N. Main

**EAGLES BUILDING**

Originally, this site housed workers of the Marshall Transfer & Storage Co. This property was the residence of stage drivers, employees, and the owner. The space was convenient for the company housed on Scott with the location of the warehouse just next door. The Eagles Club moved into the space in 1933 and built the current building in 1949 in the Modern style.

**THIS CONCLUDES THE HISTORIC  
DOWNTOWN SHERIDAN WALKING TOUR.  
PROCEED EAST ON 5TH STREET TO RETURN  
TO THE TOUR'S STARTING POINT**

The Historic Downtown Sheridan Walking Tour encompasses only some of the historic sites in downtown.

Please enjoy the full list of sites below.

201 E. 5th/Original Wood Depot  
856 Broadway/Sheridan Inn  
812 Gould/Sheridan Inn Livery Stables  
757 Gould/The Shotgun House  
758 Broadway/The Burlington Beanery  
841 Broadway/Old Brick Depot  
648 ½ Broadway/Dis N Dat Second Hand Shop  
504 Broadway/Booras Grocery  
331 Broadway/Sawyer General Store  
321 Broadway/Sheridan Commercial Co.  
245 Broadway/Sheridan Creamery  
107 E. Alger/Hammer Chevrolet  
301 N. Main/Helvey Hotel and Cady Opera House  
237 N. Main/Sheridan Press  
55 E. Grinnell Plaza/City Hall  
171 N. Main/Ideal Hotel  
151 N. Main/Mint Bar  
241 N. Main/City Furniture  
129 N. Main/Chapek's  
117-121 N. Main/Holstein Block  
109 N. Main/Kendrick Building  
366 E. Brundage/Wyoming State Highway Department  
55 N. Main/Diefenderfer and Dinwiddie Hardware  
45 N. Main/Ewers & Son Meat Market  
35 N. Main/New York Store  
1 N. Main/PO News  
45 E. Loucks/The Federal Building  
1 S. Main/J.H. Comrad and Co. General Store  
17 S. Main/Ernst's Saddlery  
43 S. Main/Quick Printing  
49 S. Main/Dr. E.E. Levers' Office & Residence  
105 S. Main/Keenan Building  
104 S. Connor/First Christian Church  
111 S. Connor/Holy Name School  
329 Park/Church of the Living God  
1 S. Tschirgi/St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
20 S. Tschirgi/Sheridan Women's Club  
224 S. Main/Sheridan County Courthouse  
138 S. Main/Trail Hotel  
100 S. Main/Western Hotel  
100 W. Works/First Congregational Church  
215 W. Works/1st Methodist Church  
52 S. Main/Kutcher Building

44 S. Main/Davis and Cannon  
4 S. Main/Cow Boy Saloon/Whitney Trust/Bank of Commerce  
176 W. Loucks/Kalif Shrine  
137 N. Brooks/American Legion  
2 N. Main/First National Bank of Sheridan  
42 N. Main/Lotus Theater  
50 N. Main/Masonic Temple  
45 W. Brundage/Elks Lodge  
104 N. Main/Montgomery Ward & Co.  
112 N. Main/Town Hall and Fire Station  
122 N. Main/Bank of Commerce  
138 N. Main/Palace Café  
150 N. Main/Kibben Hardware  
160-166 N. Main/Leaverton-Small Block  
172-176 N. Main/Metz-Lonabaugh Block  
184 N. Main/King's Saddlery  
206 N. Main/Meyer-Barr Block  
226 N. Main/Peret & Luce  
252 N. Main/Antlers Rooms and Bar  
256 N. Main/Tomsik's Drug Store  
264 N. Main/Rainbow Bar  
334 Alger: Brewery Exec Home  
336 Alger: Brewery Exec Home  
374 Alger: Brewery Exec Home  
429 Alger: Brewery Exec Home  
306 N. Main/Perkins Building  
340-342 N. Main/Carroll's Furniture  
348 N. Main/Hotel Rex  
366 N. Main/Original New York Store  
511 N. Main/Stork Building & the Valentan Hotel  
545 N. Main/Schreibels Bakery  
528 N. Main/Eagle Grocery Co.  
803 N. Main/Bino's Grocery  
832 N. Main/Silver Spur Café  
848 N. Main/The Ice Cream Factory  
850 N. Main/Eagles Building

In addition to these sites, please visit these other historic sites in the Sheridan area including:

**The Trail End Historic Center**

400 Clarendon

This property, also known as the Kendrick Mansion, is now a Wyoming State Museum Site.

**Fort MacKenzie**

Northwest of Sheridan

Built in 1902, this former military base became a V.A. hospital after World War I.

**Bradford Brinton Memorial**

Big Horn

Built in 1892, this former ranch holds one of the most extensive Western art collections in the country.



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**To explore more of Sheridan County's history, visit the Sheridan County Museum.**

**Mention this ad for a special \$2/person admission PLUS a 10% discount in the Museum Merc.**

850 Sibley Circle - On E. 5th Street, Exit 23, off I-90 - 307.675.1150  
[www.SheridanCountyHistory.org](http://www.SheridanCountyHistory.org)

# The North Rim

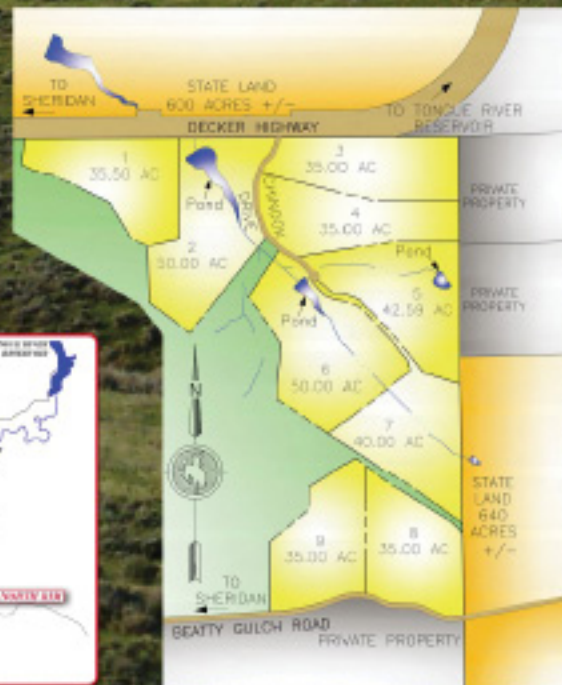
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## WHERE ARE YOU?

- 1 Original Wood Depot
- 2 Sheridan Inn
- 3 Sheridan Inn Livery Stables
- 4 Shotgun House
- 5 The Burlington Beasery
- 6 Brick Depot
- 7 Sheridan Commercial Co.
- 8 Hammer Chevrolet
- 9 Helvey Hotel and Cady Opera House
- 10 Sheridan Press
- 11 The White Swan Barber Shop
- 12 City Hall
- 13 Ideal Hotel
- 14 Mint Bar
- 15 Holstein Block
- 16 Kendrick Building
- 17 Diefenderfer and Dinwiddie Hardware
- 18 New York Store
- 19 Gillette Building
- 20 The Federal Building
- 21 J.H. Conrad and Co. General Store
- 22 Ernst's Saddlery
- 23 Keenan Building
- 24 Sheridan County Courthouse
- 25 Western Hotel
- 26 The Cow Boy Saloon
- 27 First Congregational Church
- 28 First Methodist Church
- 29 Lotus Theater
- 30 Town Hall and Fire Station
- 31 Bank of Commerce
- 32 Palace Café
- 33 Metz-Lonabaugh Block
- 34 King's Saddlery
- 35 Meyer-Barr Block
- 36 Peret & Luce
- 37 Antlers Rooms and Bar
- 38 Rainbow Bar
- 39 Sheridan Brewery Executive Homes
- 40 Perkins Building
- 41 Carroll's Furniture
- 42 Hotel Rex
- 43 Original New York Store
- 44 The Stork Building and the Valentan Hotel
- 45 The Ice Cream Factory
- 46 Eagles Building

Big Horn  
*Equestrian* center



[www.thebhec.org](http://www.thebhec.org)

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Rodeo Week in July  
Parade down Main Street in Sheridan  
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Farmers' Market starting in July  
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in Whitney Commons, downtown Sheridan

*Downtown Sheridan Association*



for more information go to [www.downtownsheridan.org](http://www.downtownsheridan.org)